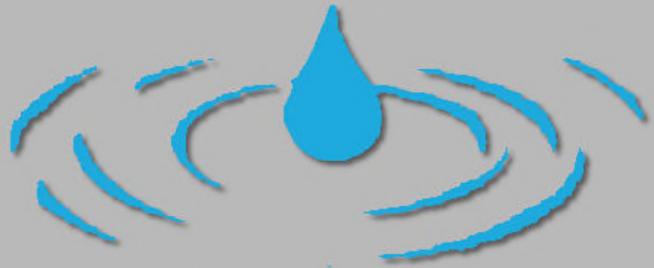


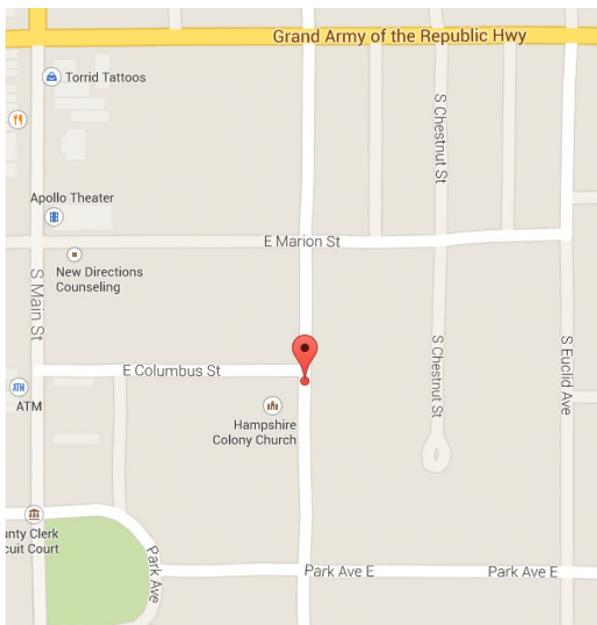
Via de Cristo
Come to the
Living Water



Issue 178

January – February 2015

Ultreya!



Saturday, February 7, 2015

Hampshire Colony Congregational Church

5:30 PM

604 South Church
Princeton, IL 61356
309 764-5614

Couples bring one dish to pass, families please bring two. Coffee, water and ice are provided by the host church, but any other drinks will need to be brought by the community. Babysitting will be available for children up to 5.

Directions:

Take exit 56 for IL-26 toward Dixon/Princeton. Turn south onto IL-26 N Main Street. Turn left onto E Peru Street at the stoplight. Take the 1st right onto S Church Street. Hampshire Colony Congregational Church is two blocks down and on your right.



From the Lay Director

Greetings and Happy New Year!

The team positions for Weekend #51 are almost filled up, and the first team training is in the planning stage. It is now a good time to be thinking about which candidates to ask (again) and keep them in your prayers.

As previously reported, Living Water VDC conducted a Rediscover and Recommit VDC workshop back in August 2013. The workshop material from the National Secretariat has been updated, so it is appropriate to offer this workshop again. This workshop will be held on May 2, 2015 in the Princeton, IL area. More information will be provided in the next newsletter. Save the date!

The secretariat has decided to resurrect the church coordinator position. The intent is to have a contact person at each of the churches where there is a Living Water VDC presence. This person will be asked, from time to time, to share communications with the VDC population in their church on a more personal level. More information will be coming in a separate email.

The plans for hosting the 2015 National Secretariat are progressing nicely. Information about this event will be communicated by Pam and Gary Gross. Several volunteers will be needed during July 23-26, 2015. Please plan to attend or help out at this event.

Please remember to support the recent candidates in any way you can, such as helping them to find reunion groups, inviting them to Ultreyas, encouraging them to work on teams, and keeping them in your prayers. There is a list of current reunion groups in previous newsletters.

As always, please contact me, or any Secretariat member, with any questions or comments.

Thanks.
GLYASDI

Greg Johnson
Lay Director, LWVDC

From Spiritual Director

7 for 7

It could be a hot streak for a baseball hitter, obviously not one from a Chicago team; wouldn't happen. Or it could be a hot streak for a quarterback passing; again, ditto on the Chicago thing. But what I am referring to is a suggestion on how to stay healthy spiritually. Experts in the medical field recommend 30 minutes of moderate exercise 3-5 times a week. It's an ongoing process to get our bodies healthy and to stay healthy. The same goes for our spiritual life. I am suggesting 7 hours of activity every 7 days (that's a week). 1 hour of worship in a community of faith is essential; to hear the Word of God preached truly and to receive strength in Holy Communion amongst other believers. There is often an opportunity to study 1 hour a week in a large group setting either before or after worship services at your church. This gives you the opportunity to hear participate in more in-depth learning with others. Also important is 1 hour of small group sharing each week. This could be in a traditional reunion group, working through the "green card" or it could be a small group bible study. Some of Lisa and my most treasured memories come from our first involvement in a small group in Hutchinson, MN. We continued by forming a small group at St. Matthew's when we moved to Princeton. I also suggest 2 hours a week (20 minutes a day) in private devotions and prayer which gives you time to "unhook" from your worldly anxieties and to re-attach yourself to the One who created you, the One who saves you, the One who strengthens you for Kingdom work. And that would be the final 2 hours-Kingdom Work. The challenge with pietism, exercises to grow closer to Christ, is that we might think that the close relationship we have developed is all we need, is all God wants from us. Jesus prayed to The Father for us in John 17:18, "As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them (us) into the world". To really experience fully the presence of Jesus in our lives, we need to follow him and complete the work of making His name know to others through our love. Spend 2 hours a week in Apostolic Action. It could be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, or sorting items at the local pantry, or helping a neighbor with yard work. And when you do it, do it in the name of the Lord.

These "exercises" will help to keep you spiritually healthy and will provide strength for you in your times of need. Remember Jesus final words to his disciples before he ascended (Matthew 28:10-NIV) "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

God love you and so do I

Pastor Gene

From the Rector

Continuing Education

"I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

What are God's plans for you? In what way will you become God's servant? It's quite amazing the many ways that God can choose to use and equip us to do a variety of tasks. Many times we find we are able to do things that we would never have dreamed of doing, before being aided by the power of the Holy Spirit. As Christians God gives us all we need to live for Him, and bring Him glory. One day we will stand before Him and He will inspect our lives and all we have done. What a joy it will be to hear Him say "Well done, good and faithful servant!" What work has God given you? Ask Him and He will bless your work as you glorify Him.

As team formation begins, I ask that you pray for the Secretariat leaders and Spiritual Directors. Pray for the team members who God will choose as His messengers for Weekend #51. Pray for courage and discernment, so you would boldly and joyfully invite to the weekend those who God touches through you. Pray for the candidates who will be invited, and pray especially for those who are looking for obstacles to keep them from attending.

Finally, pray for your Rector and Rectora, that we may be given God's Holy Spirit to serve Him and bring honor to Him in the weeks to come.

Thanks be to God.

God Loves you, and so do I.

Jim Hansen
Rector Living Water Via de Cristo #51

As I am sitting here trying to write this, I am reminded of the love that we share as brothers and sisters in Christ. In my wildest dreams, I would have never thought that God has such a sense of humor to ask me to be the head of the upcoming Woman's Weekend # 51. Jeremiah 29:11-13 became my life verse on my Weekend #8; "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you, not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your whole heart."

When I received the call to consider this position, I did seek the Lord, asking the question, "Why me Lord?" Then I read a chapter in the Purpose Driven Life said that our purpose on Earth is to serve Christ and others, trusting Him to provide all we need to do what He has asked of us.

Since my Weekend #8 in 1994, the Lord has had me on a journey full of Grace and Mercy. I am truly humbled to take this role as His representative for Weekend #51. As Linda and I pray for the Lord's guidance in selecting this team, we know the Lord will hand pick the women He chooses to serve the new "babe chicks" that will be attending HIS weekend.

With the support of this awesome community, the power of prayer and the Holy Spirit, Linda and I look to Christ as we prepare for this journey. The Lord doesn't choose the prepared, He prepares who he chooses. As God prepares us for this journey, I am asking for your prayers of guidance and protection!
God's love and ours!

Charisse Jesiolowski VDC #8

Linda Fine VDC #8

Humbly your Rectora and Head Cha for Weekend #51

From Palanca

Hola my brothers and sisters in Christ,

Feliz Navidad y un ano Nuevo (*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*)

I hope you all had a wonderful and memorable holiday. I can honestly say George and I sure did. Someone told me years back that there is no such thing as a bad day if we learn from it. And I can surely say I learn a lot from my bad days. So let me say that I had a lot good days and I some great days.

One of my many great days is the help from my great servants of VdC community and with the Grace of God I made my first six months of being part of Living Water Via de Cristo as your Palanca Chair. But this is a team effort, so I would like to thank the Secretariat of VdC for showing a lot of good days. What a great up lift when I went bananas with my first assignment and am sure some of you can relate; it's learning how to enter data online and schedule prayer vigil. But I made it.

Now let's remember that Weekend #51 is starting in March 19-22, 2015 for the men's and March 26-29, 2015 for the women's. Let's get fire up with lots of prayers and Palanca letters for great encouragement and support. Let us start thinking and praying about our future candidates, rector/a as well as our spiritual leaders. Let's lift them up to Christ and for the Holy Spirit be in their hearts and soul. If you like, am also open for prayers too.

I like to request to you all that it's not only our community that am asking for your prayers but other surrounding community as well. George and I had the privilege of participating with Taste of Grace VdC in their Serenade right after weekend #50 and it was a **great day** to continue the love and Grace I learn from my weekend and serving as team member and now part of Secretariat. Please don't think am putting a guilt trip on you, am not. I just wanted to let you know what I learned as a candidate and as a servant for Christ, am just asking about planting some spiritual seeds to others around us.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can contact me at 815.894.9309 (h) or 815.325.7493 (c) or egggauden@hotmail.com. I am open for suggestion to improve my service for you, Por que, Dios te ama y yo tambien (Because, God loves you and so do I).

Again Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Thank you,

Your Palanca Chair

Elaine (Elana) Gauden

Weekend #40

NLSAG

NLSAG July 23 - 26, 2015 It is just 6 ½ months away until we host delegates from around the country at Augie. It is time to put this committee into full gear. We are starting to call people to serve during the event. If you get a call, please consider saying yes. Remember, that with this team, you can work just part of the weekend or full time. We will need many people to serve and be a part the gathering. If you are interested in volunteering, please give us a call.

We are also getting close to our amount of funds needed to help with the costs. We are planning one more fund raiser, hopefully in February, so please watch for that information in the future. If you are interested in making a donation to the 2015 NLSAG, you can send funds to LWVdC and make a note that it is for the 2015 host committee.

Gary and Pam Gross
309-797-5561
ggross@qconline.com

Find a Reunion Group

Sisters In Faith

Meets 2nd, 4th, and 5th Mondays at Panera in Moline at 5pm
Debbie Case – Group contact and organizer 309-787-4895

Lazarus Reunion Group

Meets every Monday at St. John's Lutheran Church in East Moline at 6:00pm
Duane Little – Group Contact and Organizer 563-349-6814

Calvary Lutheran Church, 2900 Ave of the Cities, Moline on Tuesdays at 6:30pm
Greg Johnson Group Contact 309-236-3394

Perry Memorial Hospital Chapel - Two groups

Womens at 4pm on Mondays contact Dianne
Men's at 7pm Mondays contact Jim

Hyvee Rock Island Cafeteria - Fridays at 7:00 am

Bob Frank, Dennis Miller, Gary Allen, Myron Yoeckel, Dan Tollerud, Doug Hoffman, Pr. Randy Willers

McDonalds - Ave of the Cities Moline on Wednesday at 12:30 Luncheon

Barb Geerts 563-940-4933 Group Contacting

Calvary Lutheran Church - 2900 Ave of the Cities Moline - Ladies Group

Saturdays at 7:00 am

Pam Gross 309-797-5561

Grieff's Auto Tech - Princeton IL - Thursdays at Noon

Greg Grieff, Phil Kaufmann, Tom Nelson

LALIC Group - Meeting fluctuate

Jim and Stacy Whitten 1-815-894-9315

Others to contact for group information

Tim Oloffson - 815-303-1725 - Big Apple Resturant in Princeton on Wednesday at 8:00am

Linda Berry - 815-878-9567 - St. Matthews in Princeton on Mondays at 6:30pm

Kim Bush - 309-714-0085 - Panera Bread in Moline on Wednesdays at 5:00pm

Linda Storm - 309-944-3317 - Barneys in Geneseo on Thursday at noon

Victoria Manor in Geneseo on Tuesday at 8:15 am

Jeff Whalen - 815-674-7722 - St. John's Lutheran in Peru Wednesday at 5:30pm

Mike Goer - 309-231-4221 - Evangelical Covenant in Princeton Tuesday at 6:30pm

John Verworn - 309-441-6585 - Township Hall on Wolf Rd Geneseo, Thursday at 6:30am

Carol Ploch - 815-202-3338 - St. John's Lutheran in Peru Tuesday at 9:00 am

Illowa Lutheran Coalition
 Augustana College
 639 – 38th Street
 Rock Island, IL 61201

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Rock Island, IL 61201
PERMIT NO. 224

Living Water Via de Cristo Secretariat Members 2013-2014			
Position	Name	Phone	Email
Lay Director	Greg Johnson	309 796-0858	gregjohnson575@gmail.com
Assistant Lay Director	Tim & Carol Ploch	815-202-3338	ploch70@yahoo.com
Co Spiritual Director	Pr. David Schweppe	309-299-2790	dlschweppe@yahoo.com
Co Spiritual Director	Pr. Gene Vincent	309-236-5699	micahsixeight@frontier.com
Treasurer	Jeff Whalen		jeffreywhalen@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Nyla Krabbenhoft		nylasuek@yahoo.com
Pre Weekend	Barb & Clyde Wray	815-872-1054	barbeesw@hotmail.com
Weekend	Jim Whitten	815-894-9315	whittn5@frontier.com
Kitchen	Mike & Lori Turner	309-764-4554	Docmat1@aol.com
Post Weekend	Kate Webster	815-992-9036	katewebster56@gmail.com
Leaders	Clark Stojan	309-792-3431	cstojan@w-slaw.com
Palanca	Elaine Gauden	815-894-9309	egggauden@hotmail.com
Communications	Adam & Amanda McMillin	309-644-0942	communications@livingwaterviade Cristo.org