

Via de Cristo
Come to the
Living Water



Issue 188

September - October 2016

Ultreya!



Saturday, October 1, 2016

Leaders Training: 4:00pm

Potluck : 5:30 p.m.

Messiah Lutheran Church

302 11th St

Port Byron, IL 61275

(309) 523-2421

Pastor Wayne Melaas-Swanson

Leader's training for anyone interested in serving on a weekend or first time team members serving on Weekend #54. Worship and 4th day talk will follow the potluck.

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 five.

Directions: Take I-80 W toward Davenport. Take exit 1 for IL- 84 toward E. Moline/Savanna. Turn right onto IL 84 N. (signs for Savanna). After 3.5 miles, turn right on to 11th St. Messiah Lutheran will be on the right.



From the Spiritual Director

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25, NIV)

One of the essentials of the Via de Cristo experience is walking in your 4th day, that is, the rest of your life on earth. This is the purpose of the 3 Days—to walk with Christ on your 4th Day. And you have all heard the write down, “an isolated Christian is a paralyzed Christian.” We need each other and we need to “spur” (the NRSV uses “provoke”) each other on to meet together because it is not in our nature to be dependent on others, to need others in any part of our life, especially in our spirituality. But indeed we need each other, we need to have a group of people who will encourage us in our walk with the Holy Spirit’s guidance and who will lovingly “provoke” us when we stray, helping us see that we are indeed straying and helping us to get back on the 4th Day path of growing in Christ and growing more Christ-like, before we stray so far we do not know where that path is. This is where the reunion group comes into play; having those people we meet with on a regular basis. Reunion Groups are vital, that is “life giving” to our walk as individuals and to the spiritual health of the Living Waters Via de Cristo Community as a whole. Kate Webster, the lead for the Post-Weekend has worked on a plan to help encourage and strengthen Reunion Groups in the LW VdC. Please watch your Newsletters and emails for her ideas and help her to help us to “not give up meeting together”. God loves you and so do I. Pastor Gene

From the Lay Director

This will be short as Im in the wilds of NY and do not have access to a computer...this is from my phone.

First, Greg Johnson and crew are busy investigating area camps that we will have an objective comparison of whats available and their costs. We are contracted at Mennohaven through next spring, and maybe beyond.

Next, Kate Webster is working toward strengthening reunion group and Ultreya participation...please contact her if you'd like to help or have an idea.

And, finally, Living Water started sometime in the very early 1990s...thus its probably time to celebrate our silver anniversary....so what do you think of holding a very special Ultreya where the 4th day will be a panel.type discussion presented by as many of our founders and weekend #1 participants as we can find??? Maybe the final Ultreya of 2016.

His blessings abound. Bob Groene

From the Rector/Rectora of 54

Dear Via de Cristo Brothers and Sisters,

The time is flying by for the mixed weekend #54 October 27 – 30 at Camp Menno Haven.

We are asking for prayers from all of the community. We have already faced a few bumps in the road. But, nothing God wasn't able to guide us through and handle.

We ask specifically for health, for team and family, safety and protection from the evil one who so wants to destroy all things good especially those things that glorify our Lord. John 10:10

We know and can feel that God has big plans for this weekend and we so look forward to stepping back in prayer and watching the Holy Spirit breathe through the entire camp everything we will need and then watch it all come together.

Now it is your turn to have a peek into Weekend #54. You know that person, or persons that God has placed on your heart, maybe a very long time ago or several times. Well it's time to Pray to God first about sharing this Grace filled weekend with them. Please Pray first and then run don't walk to them and ask. Time is going by quickly and we don't want even one of God's precious sheep to miss out on one more day of knowing the deep love He has for us and how wonderful all this Grace feels, that we don't deserve and can not earn, but He FREELY, FREELY gives from the love He has for each and everyone of us.

Remember your weekend and share, share the love and the feeling of being served by what may have felt Christ like at times.

Mighty Team #54 is smoothing off our rough edges as we have the overnight training at Calvary Lutheran Moline September 23rd& 24th and our last meeting on the 15th of October at St. Matthews in Princeton. We will finally be honed instruments of Christ's. Prepared hands and feet here on earth to serve, show and share His love and Hospitality.

Romans 12:13

Greg and Cindy Hart Rector and Rectora

Kevin McAnally Head Cha

http://livingwaterviadecristo.org/wp/?page_id=133 (Pilgrim application)

From Post Weekend

When I attended the 2015 National Gathering for Via de Cristo last year at Augustana College, we discussed how we needed to get away from the model of just having weekends to have more weekends. We needed to do a better job of stressing the importance of being in an active reunion group. We learned that reunion groups can look different- some may meet in person, others may use Skype, or Facebook. I have tried to do a better job of keeping track of active reunion groups and I appreciate those that have shared their information. However many of those groups have been established for a while and may not be as open or flexible to new members.

We need a way to get people together geographically that may lead to potential reunion groups. It should not add extra pressure to existing reunion groups, but I want to make it easier for new groups to form. For those seeking a group, maybe they need a little less pressure than going to an established meeting where everyone else is at a different level of comfort and trust than new people may be at their first time attending.

I am interested in sharing thoughts with others in our area on how to make it easier to get reunion groups started or make existing reunion groups stronger. I have some thoughts on setting up a mentoring program for new groups, but think this would be more successful with support from the greater Living Water Community. If reunion groups are important to you and you would be willing to share ideas or time working on fostering reunion groups please contact me at 815-992-9036 or katewebster56@gmail.com.

GLYASDI,

Kate Webster

Post Weekend Chair

Find a Reunion Group

This list is a work in progress, but I pray that it can be the start of accurate information that can continue to grow. If you have a group to be added or changed, please email Kate Webster (Post Weekend Chair) at katewebster56@gmail.com. You can also call or text 815-992-9036. If you had a reunion group listed on the previous list that is still active, please notify me so that I may add you to the current list. If you are in need of a reunion group, but don't see one in your area or time frame, please contact myself or another member of the secretariat. We can connect you with other Living Water Pilgrims in your area. GLYASDI, Kate Webster Post-weekend Chair Please remember that the ideal reunion group size is 3 to 5 members. If your reunion group seems large, please consider splitting off to allow new members to join. It can be difficult for new or inexperienced pilgrims to start a reunion group, consider being that mentor. **WEBMASTER NOTE: To maintain security for the contacts in this list, I have added images of the tables to their own pages, to which I referred in my article. You can access the lists at [this link](#).**

Living Water Via de Cristo Secretariat Members 2016-2017			
Position	Name	Phone	Email
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Spiritual Director	Pr. Gene Vincent	309-236-5699	micahsixeight@comcast.net
Treasurer	Charlotte Gustafson	309-714-5203	charlotte12165@gmail.com
Secretary	Charisse Jesiolowski	815-590-5160	hospicesw2010@yahoo.com
Pre Weekend	Barb & Clyde Wray	630-672-3209	barbeesw@hotmail.com
Weekend	Jim Whitten	815-894-9315	whtt5@frontier.com
Kitchen	Mike & Lori Turner	309-764-4554	docmat1@aol.com
Post Weekend	Kate Webster	815-992-9036	katewebster56@gmail.com
Leaders	Jeff Whalen	815-674-7722	jeffreywhalen@sbcglobal.net
Palanca	Missy Silfies	815-915-5035	melissasilfies@gmail.com
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