



Newsletter

Issue 211

September - October 2020



Our next Ultreya is planned to be held in February 2021 and as of right now, we plan to have it at St. John's Lutheran Church in Peru, IL. Because of the uncertainty of whether we will be able to gather together due to COVID-19, more details will follow as that date gets closer.

St. John's Lutheran Church
2000 Luther Dr.
Peru, IL 61354
815-223-1144



****For specific directions, please click on the map to be routed from your current location.**

**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.**

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Community in New Ways

“Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.” 1Th 5:11

Hello friends! While I am starting a new term as Spiritual Director for Living Water, I’m not really new to the position having served on the secretariat before. However our situation has changed greatly since then. The coronavirus is making it difficult to hold group reunions, ultreyas, and weekends. I last met with my reunion group in March, due to some of my reunion brothers having health concerns that make them more susceptible to the virus. The secretariat has also postponed ultreyas and weekends until it is safer to meet. This diminishes our sense of community, which suffers when we can't gather in person.

Community is important in our Christian faith. Community is the way we lift up and support each other, as St. Paul wrote in his first letter to the Thessalonians above. But how are we to do this when we cannot meet? When we put our minds to it, we realize community can be formed and maintained in different ways. This is why I propose the following idea.

Living Water can form a private group on Facebook made up of those who have attended a weekend. Why a private group? Because it would provide a means of sharing 4th Day videos and support while we don't have ultreyas. It can also be a way of offering 4th Day Continuing Education remotely. It can be used as another way of getting prayer requests. While we can still send out email prayer requests, posting one on Facebook offers a chance for feedback, via the comments. In these ways, a private group for Living Water can add a new dimension to our sense of community during this difficult time.

This private group is under construction at the moment, but will be ready soon. Please watch for more information. Once it is formed, you can join by accepting an invitation or by requesting to become a member. There will be administrators who accept members and monitor posts for appropriate content. But the most important benefit this offers is the ability to encourage one another and build each other up, as St. Paul states. In the meantime, keep the faith, love one another, and continue to pray for Living Water, for the church, for an end to this pandemic, and for each other!

GLYASDI, Pr. Randy Willers

FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR

FROM THE ASSISTANT LAY DIRECTOR

The 2020 Annual Gathering was held virtually this past month and was a different experience indeed. If you did not take part in it you can still view the videos for the event. Opening and closing worship, keynote speaker, and 3 forums are on the web site. The easiest way access this information is by going to www.viadecristo.org and clicking on the newsletter box. Then select the Annual Gathering 2020 Conexiones. There you can read about the event and watch the videos by clicking on the titles highlighted in blue. I think you will be inspired by the speakers. Next year this will be held in Texas so you have time to plan to be a part of the Gathering.

Pam & Gary Gross

FROM THE LEADERS CHAIR

What is Your Miracle Story?

I recently listened to a podcast by Christine Caine, The Miracle on Malta, about how Paul was heading to Rome but was shipwrecked on Malta. While there he demonstrated his faith and healed those who came in response to his miraculous acts. This was not on Paul's "agenda" as they were only concentrating on going to Rome. Are we, as Christ followers, focusing on the long-view (Rome) or the immediate opportunity (Malta).

During this pandemic I have experienced several "Malta" opportunities to shift my long-term plans to more immediate needs of others whom I have encountered. Leadership is knowing the value of a ship-wreck moment and taking advantage of the chance to share the Gospel.

You are challenged to take out your "green card" and refresh your commitment to the practices that strengthen faith and encouragement in the event of a personal "shipwreck". Along the way we, like Paul, will have a chance to experience something miraculous.

Grace and Peace,
Janet and Jim Larson
Leaders Chair

FROM THE PRE-WEEKEND CHAIR

FROM THE WEEKEND CHAIR

FROM THE POST WEEKEND CHAIR

This story written by a Mom says a lot, especially in light of how the recent pandemic lock-down and riots in our streets have affected so many of us:

"My son and I were looking around a craft store when he spied a ceramic wall plaque featuring the word, "Grace". He asked me what I thought. I said "Well, it's broken" and I started looking for one that was intact. He said "No, that's the point. We're broken and then grace comes in". We decided to purchase it, then got to checkout where the clerk said "Oh man, this is broken." My response, with my throat beginning to tighten, was "Yeah, but so are we."

Broken people saved by the grace-filled sacrifice of a perfect Savior. Excuse me while I sit in a puddle of tears...such grateful tears.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

What are we doing TODAY to pass on His overwhelming gift of Grace to other broken souls?

Jesus Only...

Gary and Jan Morse, Post-Weekend Chairs

FROM THE RECTOR/A

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## FROM THE SECRETARY CHAIR

The Living Water Via de Cristo Secretariat board has continued to meet monthly this summer via Zoom meetings.

If current team members who have already paid their deposits for the Spring 2020 weekends and know that they will not be able to serve on the Spring 2021 weekends, they may receive a refund of their deposit, if they wish. Please contact Bob Groene, LWVDC Treasurer for your refund.

There are plans for an online Continuing Education seminar this fall. Anyone in the 4th Day community may take advantage of this information. Look for details being announced soon!

The Palanca position on the LWVDC Secretariat board has a vacancy. If a person or a reunion group would like to fulfill this board position, it would be greatly appreciated!

The LWVDC Secretariat board welcomes Pastor Larry Conway and Pastor Randy Willers as our new Spiritual Directors. We appreciate their dedication of service to God and our Living Water community.

The 30th anniversary for Living Water will be postponed until next summer or fall. If anyone knows of contact

information updates for people in our 4th Day community, please email those updates to the Communications Chair, Carol Ploch.

There was a successful Via de Cristo National Gathering the end of July held virtually. At viadecristo.org under the Annual Gathering tab, portions of this event can still be viewed by clicking on the "2020 Annual Gathering Binder."

All Ultreyas for the rest of 2020 have been canceled.

With so many of the Living Water plans changing, along with so many of our own daily plans, we need to know that God is in control.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always. Psalm 105:4

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

Please stay safe! Peace and blessings to you all!

Linda Fine

Secretary

## FIND A REUNION GROUP

To access Reunion Group Listings please click [HERE](#). This list of both Men's and Women's Reunion Groups is up-to-date with the most current information that has been submitted to the Secretariat board. If there are additional groups meeting (or any other changes to be made), please email Gary or Jan Morse (Post Weekend Chairs) at [soiled111@yahoo.com](mailto:soiled111@yahoo.com). Or you can call 815-223-0765.

**Remember these important parts of a 4th Day Reunion Group:**

- **The ideal group size is 3 to 5 members**
- **Accountability and total confidentiality are absolutely essential**
- **Meeting weekly at the same time and place is the most productive**
- **The groups that stand the tests of time stick very closely to the VdC Service Sheet ("green card")**

**If there isn't a current group that fits your life or needs, START YOUR OWN! The VdC Reunion Group is a wonderful and extremely effective method of growing our Christian maturity in the areas of Piety, Study, and Apostolic Action.**

**GLYASDW,**

**Gary and Jan Morse**

## Living Water Via de Cristo Secretariat Board Members 2020-2021

| Position           | Name              | Address                                  | Phone        | E-Mail                                                                       |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lay Director       | Andey Koresko     | 977 Highway 94 Aledo, IL 61231           | 309-738-4181 | <a href="mailto:andykoresko@gmail.com">andykoresko@gmail.com</a>             |
|                    | Carol Koresko     | 977 Highway 94 Aledo, IL 61231           | 309-738-4181 | <a href="mailto:cskoresko53@gmail.com">cskoresko53@gmail.com</a>             |
| Asst Lay Director  | Gary Gross        | 3810 32nd Ave. Moline, IL 61265          | 309-797-5561 | <a href="mailto:gdgross144@gmail.com">gdgross144@gmail.com</a>               |
|                    | Pam Gross         | 3810 32nd Ave. Moline, IL 61265          | 309-738-2385 |                                                                              |
| Spiritual Director | Pr. Randy Willers | 4915 N Fairmount St, Davenport, IA 52806 | 309 292-0881 | <a href="mailto:randy.willers@gmail.com">randy.willers@gmail.com</a>         |
| Spiritual Director | Pr. Larry Conway  | 617 Cherry Ct. Colona, IL 61241          | 309-912-8652 | <a href="mailto:chaplainconway@gmail.com">chaplainconway@gmail.com</a>       |
| Treasurer          | Bob Groene        | 305 Hickory Hills Geneseo, IL 61254      | 309-441-5544 | <a href="mailto:bgroene47@gmail.com">bgroene47@gmail.com</a>                 |
|                    | Cindy Groene      | 305 Hickory Hills Geneseo, IL 61254      | 309-738-1316 |                                                                              |
| Secretary          | Linda Fine        | 1014 S. Main St Princeton, IL 61356      | 815-875-6026 | <a href="mailto:onefineteacher230@yahoo.com">onefineteacher230@yahoo.com</a> |
| Pre-Weekend        | DeeAnn Heuer      | 434 5th Avenue Drive Princeton, IL 61356 | 309-253-7584 | <a href="mailto:gracemae164@comcast.net">gracemae164@comcast.net</a>         |
| Weekend            | Hal Gustafson     | 8 Hickory Heights Geneseo, IL 61254      | 309-945-7021 | <a href="mailto:hsgconst@gmail.com">hsgconst@gmail.com</a>                   |
| Post-Weekend       | Gary Morse        | 301 7th St. LaSalle, IL 61301            | 815-223-0765 | <a href="mailto:garygem32@yahoo.com">garygem32@yahoo.com</a>                 |
|                    | Jan Morse         | 301 7th St. LaSalle, IL 61301            | 815-223-0765 | <a href="mailto:soiled111@yahoo.com">soiled111@yahoo.com</a>                 |
| Kitchen            | Kim Bush          | 109 14th Ave, Moline, IL 61265           | 309-714-0085 | <a href="mailto:kimkonitzer@gmail.com">kimkonitzer@gmail.com</a>             |
| Leaders            | Jim Larson        | 11281 N. 1800th Ave. Geneso, IL 61254    | 309-945-2557 | <a href="mailto:jlars6931@gmail.com">jlars6931@gmail.com</a>                 |
|                    | Janet Larson      | 11281 N. 1800th Ave. Geneso, IL 61254    | 309-507-2997 | <a href="mailto:jslarson6931@gmail.com">jslarson6931@gmail.com</a>           |
| Palanca            | <b>OPEN</b>       |                                          |              |                                                                              |
| Communications     | Carol Ploch       | 2 Park Rd. Oglesby, IL 61348             | 815-202-3338 | <a href="mailto:ploch70@yahoo.com">ploch70@yahoo.com</a>                     |

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