

Prayer, the ultimate experience

What a friend we have in Jesus! It is truly a significant opportunity to take it all to the Lord in prayer.

To confidently approach the throne of grace is a gift, and a powerful one at that. What weighs on your heart? What is weighing on our Christian brothers' and sisters' hearts? We can take it to the Lord in prayer.

Is it a health challenge, is it a relationship, is it financial, a career, a child, a parent, a marriage, a habitual sin, a hardened heart, a lack of forgiveness, a church, a decision, and the list goes on and on.

Sometimes I find myself praying for and I am a little light on the "thank you Lord" and praise.

Scripture is clear on the matter: take it to the Lord in prayer, for us, and for others.

I don't know about you, but I sometimes take for granted what an awesome privilege we have in prayer.

I pray that you and yours are blessed!

Jesus is Lord,

Butch

(Warren "Butch" Seeley, Lay Director, Via de Cristo of Ohio)

Co-Ed Weekend #2....aka CE2

CoEd 2: The "Best Weekend Ever!" (until the next one).

The Pilgrims (and new 4th Day) of CoEd 2 agreed that the weekend was a success. When given the opportunity to speak their hearts to those in attendance at the Clausura, 14 of 16 took advantage, telling of the many changes they had experienced.

Members of the 4th Day Community who were in attendance were deeply affected by the witnesses offered.

Camp Otyokwah was an ideal host site in many ways--even with nearly 20 hours of unremitting rain from Friday afternoon to Sat. morning. Dave Lann was everywhere -- seemingly at one time -- as the team learned on the fly how to get the most from the site.

The euphonious bell was safe because a) it was seldom needed; and b) it could be replaced by a much bigger and louder bell if necessary. We experienced many occasions of grace as we learned to re-orient our lives around the Ideal using Piety, Study, and Apostolic Action as the tools. We learned that we can each be a Leader in our own Environments. We learned the value of "regular Christians" (Laity) in Christian Community and saw how the weekend experience forged bonds that will endure through the rest of our lives in the 4th Day.

Let us go forth into the glorious 4th Day, fully alive in Christ and living in grace!

Mike Meier, Rector, CE2

UPCOMING EVENTS

VdC Ohio Annual Meeting June 17, 2017 at Mt. Gilead State Park Pavilion #1 (See attached flyer)
VdC National Gathering July 27-30, 2017 at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem NC
Men's Weekend #75 August 3-6,2017 at St. Leonard's Retreat Center in Avon Rector Fred Gessell, <u>wgesell@aol.com</u> or 419-332-8398, is forming the Team. Head Cha Doug Burrows, Spiritual Directors Pr. Paul Schmidlin and Pr. Gerry Gosnell
Women's Weekend #79 August 17-20, 2017 St. Leonard's Retreat Center in Avon Rector Leslie Crowe, leslie.crowe@aol.com or 440-842-7409, is forming the Team
Co-Ed Weekend #3 May 3-6, 2018 at St. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark Rector Bob Gsellman and Head Cha Sharon Gsellman
Clergy Experience #3 Monday October 1-Thursday October 4, 2018 St. Peter and St. Paul Retreat Center, Newark Rector Dick Brenneman and Lead Spiritual Director Pr. Doug Pretorius Please mark your Calendar and invite some Pastors to introduce them to the Via de Cristo methodology and to love on them.
Further information for ALL of these will be in upcoming Newsletters
If you would like to be part of a Team, contact the Rector or Lay Director Butch Seeley

VdC Ohío Annual Meetíng on Saturday June 17

The Ohio VDC Annual Meeting will be held this year on Saturday, June 17th at the Mt Gilead Sate Park Pavilion #1 with fellowship starting at 1:00 pm. The annual business meeting itself will begin at 2:00pm followed by Worship with Holy Communion, and the pot luck dinner will begin at 3:00pm. The Ohio VDC Secretariat will be providing hot dogs, hamburgers and a selection of drinks. Please bring with you a side dish or picnic snacks or dessert to share. We will have 25 tables and there are a bunch of electrical outlets available. We will have music, live and digitized, to lift our thanks to the Lord in song. The more guitars and voices, the merrier!

The fun can go all evening! We will be setting up activities for everyone after the dinner. If you have corn-hole boards, bocce, basketballs, Frisbee golf discs, etc., please bring them to share and enjoy. We have a nice fireplace in the pavilion where we can roast marshmallows and sing around the fire into the evening hours.

The Mt Gilead State Park is located east of the City of Mt. Gilead off of route 95 west from I 71. The Park has 59 camping sites available if you would like to make a weekend out of the meeting. The very nice web site for the park is http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/mountgilead. From there you can get directions, a park map and make your reservations for your camp site if you'd like to stay overnight. (Directions will also be printed in a later Newsletter.) This web site is very well done so you can see which sites are available and where they are located if you want to reserve close to each other. The camping sites are \$25/ night and have electric only or full camper hook ups. There are two cabins but only one is available since I have one booked already for my family over the weekend. It is \$32 per night. Everything is first come first serve, so reserve your campsite right away! Those who pray together should also play together! GLYASDI

Mark Ludrosky, Logistics Coordinator

Ultreya News

May Ultreya in the Kent Area

There's a Spring Ultreya at Trinity Lutheran Church, Kent, on **Saturday, May 20 at 4:30 pm**. at 600 S. Water Street. There will be Worship with Holy Communion, a topic for discussion, and potluck will follow with table service and drinks provided. For more information, please call Dave Lann, 330-296-6929, or Pr. Doug Fidler, 330-673-5445. Ultreyas in the **Akron-Kent area** of Ohio are often the third Saturday of a month.

June Ultreya in the Parma/Cleveland Area

A Spring Ultreya is planned on **Sunday, June 4,2017 at 3PM** at Divinity Lutheran Church, 11877 Blossom Avenue, Parma Heights, 44130. We will have a small group Bible Study led by Pastor Doug Gunkelman and Holy Communion will Potluck to follow. Bring a dish to share. Meat will be provided. All are invited. See attached flyer. Call Leslie Crowe at <u>leslie.crowe@aol.com</u>, 440-263-4552 or Judy Junker at <u>JudyJJunkmail@aol.com</u>, 440-537-0867 with any questions. God loves you and so do we.

July Ultreya in the Bellville Area

The next Bellville Ultreya will be **Sunday, July 30 at 3:00pm** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 48 Church Street, Bellville 44813. There will be Worship, Holy Communion, and Potluck with table service and drinks provided. Call Ken & Josie Riling, 419-886-2437, or Paul & Vicky Sakala, 419-884-1573 for questions. **Bellville** Ultreyas will be the second Sundays of January, April, July and October

Cincinnati area Ultreyas are usually the first Saturday of each month at 4:30pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mt. Healthy. Address is 1553 Kinney Avenue, Cincinnati 45231. For questions, please call Kevin Hoch, 513-931-8797.

North Dayton Ultreyas are usually the third Saturdays of every month at 7pm at the United Christian Church, 8611 Hoke Rd, Clayton, OH 45315. (Bring snack to share.) For questions, please call Wes Scoates at 937 533-7605.

COLUMBUS ULTREYA

Once each quarter, From 5:30pm-8:30pm, All at All Shepherds Lutheran Church, 6580 Columbus Pike [RT 23] LewisCenter, Ohio. 43035.Saturday March 11, 2017Saturday September 23, 2017For more information contact Warren 614.332.1357 or Wendy 614.332.1352Seeley.

For assistance to find or form a Reunion Group for your Pilgrim—or yourself—contact Fourth Day shepherd Dave Lann, <u>vdclann@yahoo.com</u> or 330-296-6929. He can look in the VdC Archive for names of people in your area and give you their most recent contact information. But some of the info in the Archive is out of date. If you know people who haven't received a Newsletter or heard from a VdC friend in a while, please send their new contact information to **Secretariat Webmaster and Data Collector Christine Brill (goosebrill@msn.com or 614-579-8586), or Newsletter Editor Nancy Martin (vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com or 419-886-4420).**

Letter from Rector Fred Gesell, Men's #75

As I prepare for the upcoming Men's Weekend #75, I realized that I attended number 14 and that was 32 years ago. It does not seem possible. I have been in numerous reunion groups and worked a number of weekends. However, the most satisfying thing I have done is to sponsor others. Via de Cristo for most of us has been a life changing experience, one that we can live again by sharing the gift and bring our friends to a stronger relationship with Jesus.

Think about it. Isn't there friend or family member that could benefit from this weekend? What is keeping you from inviting them to attend? It has been awhile since we have had a men's weekend. Take advantage of this opportunity. Also, just because you have not been called to the Team does not mean you are not part of the Team. Many of the most important parts of the weekend involve your participation. We need your prayer support most of all. Also the Sendoff, the Saturday Serenade, the Sunday Wake-up, and the Closing keep you connected to the Weekend. These are very important elements for demonstrating GOD's grace to the Pilgrims.

Some in our VdC Community have been deeply involved since their weekend, some not so much, and some not at all. I ask you to reflect on your experience and to get involved. I know there are a thousand other things you are involved with, but how many will connect others to Christ? Remember at your closing a Spiritual Director told you Christ was counting on you. That is just as true today as it was then. Take this to heart and get involved.

GOD loves you and so do I.

Fred Gesell, Men's #14

Letter from 4th Day Shepherd Dave Lann

Hello Fourth Day Community,

The first thing we would like to do is welcome the pilgrims from Co-ed # 2 to the fourth day. This is your own walk with Christ and hopefully in the Via de Cristo community. If you desire to be in a reunion group, talk to your sponsor about getting in one or starting a new one.

Next, we would like to thank all those who helped on Co-ed #2. Thanks for those who came in to pray, those who serenaded, those who helped in other support, those who took prayer spots for the 72 hour prayer chart, and those who gave personal palanca or table palanca.

The last thing is the annual meeting on June 17. We will have a short meeting, a grand Ultreya and picnic. This will include worship, food and games. There will be some of us camping Friday and Saturday nights. Come join us for fellowship with your Brothers and Sisters in Christ. You can go to the Mt. Gilead State Park website to make reservations for camping.

We hope to see you at this event and look for Ultreyas happening in your area.

God bless you, Dave Lann Fourth Day Shepherd

Editor's note: The goal of Via de Cristo is to strengthen people of faith and to equip people of faith to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in their environments. That takes on many forms! Some Cursillistas (that means people who've been on a VdC Weekend as Pilgrims) become more active in their churches; some start new groups for Bible study or teaching children; some boldly witness to strangers on the street or in a store; some become Christian mentors to family members or co-workers. Some stay connected to VdC through Reunion Groups and/or Ultreyas. Some become very active as Team members or Secretariat members. Some stay connected with the website, on Facebook or reading the Newsletter. Most value their connection by prayer. I don't know all the possible ways that Christ is counting on you and you on Him. But I would love to hear your version, your story, and share it with the Community. Tell me! Email to <u>vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com</u> or send by USMail to 4025 Andrews Rd., Bellville, 44813.

Letter from Rector Leslie Crowe, Women's # 79

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As I am in the process of completing the Team for Women's Weekend #79, I find that I am blessed to have so many women say yes to the call to serve. It started with Alice Chadbourne who said yes most enthusiastically to serving as Head Cha. Having filled that role on a previous week, I know that it can be daunting and I clapped when she said yes. Pastor Rhonda Gallagher has answered the call to be lead Spiritual Director and we pray for another to join her in this essential role. Pastor Rhonda is also enthusiastic about serving. I thank God for her.

In fact I sang a song of praise to God for each woman who said yes to the call to serve. I want to publically say thank you to each of you. There are a few openings but I am counting on God to help me fill them. If you hear His call, please get in touch with me. My phone number 440-842-7409 or email leslie.crowe@aol.com.

Please keep in mind that we will call on the greater Ohio Via de Cristo family for support to be praying for this weekend. Please, men and women, look at your environments—family, friends, church members, fellow employees and neighbors--to see women you can encourage to attend this weekend. Pray about it and then invite her. Talk to your reunion sisters or brothers and see what you might do to support the weekend by taking a prayer time when asked. Perhaps you can supply palanca in the form of food, table palanca or other things if asked. We are a Community and as such we are called to support one another.

Again we ask for continued prayer for this weekend, prayers for pilgrims and team alike. "Here Am I, Send Me"

Peace, Leslie Crowe Rectora, Women's Weekend #79

Team Roster Leslie Crowe Rectora **Divinity Lutheran, Parma Heights** Lead Spiritual Director Pr. Rhonda Gallagher Trinity Lutheran, Girard **Spiritual Director** _____ Head Cha Alice Chadbourne St. Paul Lutheran, Berea Fran Dieter Ideal Rollo St. Stephen Lutheran, Stow Laity Rollo Kathy Deily Divinity, Parma Heights **Piety Rollo** _____ Study Rollo Jane Koch St. Stephen, Stow **Apostolic Action Rollo** Cathy Doering St. Paul Lutheran, Sharon Center Leaders Rollo Marilyn Sesock **Divinity**, Parma Heights **Environments Rollo** Good Shepherd Episcopal, Lyndhurst Nancy Schuman **Christian Community in Action Rollo** Judy Junker Divinity, Parma Heights Silent Professor Janet Schoch **Divinity**, Parma Heights Palanca Cha **Beth Minton** Prince of Peace Lutheran, Poland Palanca Cha/Escort Cha **Chris Dieter** St. Stephen, Stow **Rollo Room Cha** Jeri Shobel Trinity, Girard **Rollo Room Cha** Andrea Anderson Trinity, Girard Susan Weber **Rollo Room Cha** Cornerstone, Akron Rollo Room Cha Melissa Stitt Trinity, Girard Head Kitchen Cha Jill Clark Divinity, Parma Heights Kitchen Cha Diane Conrov **Divinity**, Parma Heights **Kitchen Cha** Linda Grand **Divinity**, Parma Heights Chapel Cha Lana Gray **Divinity**, Parma Heights Music Cha _____ Go-Fer Cha _____ Fourth Day Couple Bob and Sharon Gsellman Resurrection, Stow

Letter from VdC Music Adviser Jen Briner

"How Great is Our God", by Chris Tomlin was released in 2004. It's still wildly popular in 2017 and is sung by many congregations across the country. It made it into the Via de Cristo songbook when we had the last update (somewhere around 2014).

I'll let Chris Tomlin tell you in his own words how he was inspired to write this song:

"I wrote that song when I was living in Austin, Texas. I remember sitting on my sofa in my little apartment. Psalm 104 was the psalm I was looking at. It said, 'You our Lord are very great. You're clothed with splendor and majesty, wrap yourself with light as with a garment' – through those opening verses and just describing a little bit of God, the glory of majesty, that little chorus came out. I started singing the chorus and, man, I had no idea, I thought the chorus was just a little simple thing . . . and it was. And I had no idea it would become such a song in the church, and a song that finds its way in so many different cultures, different languages. It's so transferrable, so accessible. I had no idea that it would ever become that.

I remember I had the song, I thought it was finished. I didn't have a bridge to the song, and I met Ed Cash who produced that record. He says, 'This 'How Great is Our God' song, I think it's pretty good, but it's not finished.' And I'm like, 'What are you talking about? Who do you think you are?' I remember him grabbing his guitar and he just started singing, 'You're the name above all names, you are worthy of our praise.' When you open up and let somebody else sneak in, it just makes the song even better. And that's when we knew it was taking it to another level."

God Loves You and So Do I, Jen Briner

Secretariat			
Lay Director Warren Seeley	Logistics Coordinator Mark Ludrosky	Rector/Weekend Orient Dick Brenneman	
(614) 332-1357 harleyrider751@ymail.com	(330) 882-4244 mludrosky1@neo.rr.com	(740) 398-0945 dbbrenneman@gmail.com	
Asst. Lay Director Chuck Fahnestock	Fourth Day Shepherd Dave Lann	Technology Media Specialist Christy Brill	
(937) 238-6170 charles.fahnestock@wright.edu	(330) 296-6929 vdclann@yahoo.com	(614) 899-7429 goosebrill@msn.com	
Secretary Kevin Hoch	Prayer Chain Vicky Sakala	Newsletter Editor Nancy Martin	
(513) 931-8797 khoch@cinci.rr.com	419-884-1573 prayingforvdc@gmail.com	(419) 886-4420	
Treasurer	Music Adviser Jen Briner	vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com	
(937) 885-1868 sandyjr@donet.com	(614) 901-0896 jenbriner@yahoo.com	Columbus Area Representative Open	
Spiritual Director Pastor G. Karl Gaston	Palanca Cha Sherry Patterson	Northern Region Representative Open	
(614) 364-3110 jgaston550@yahoo.com	(740) 262-0563 dcsfp20@the-franklins.net	Southern Region Representative Open	
coach	Registrar		
(614) 332-1357 harleyrider751@ymail.com	(513) 931-8797 khoch@cinci.rr.com	Contact Butch for information on Open	
		Positions.	

Secretariat meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month. You are welcome to attend. Contact Lay Direct Butch Seeley for the place of each meeting. For 2017, they will be in person at 10am in March, May, July, September and November. They will be by conference call at 10am in February, April, June, August and October.

VdC Prayer Chain is <u>prayingforvdc@gmail.com</u> or by phone at 419-884-1573. Vicky Sakala is Prayer Chain Cha.

If you know someone from the Via de Cristo Community who has changed their street address or email address or telephone number, or does not get the VdCNewsletter but would like to, please send the new information to Newsletter Editor Nancy Martin at 419-886-4420 or vdsnewsletterohio@gmail.com or 4025 Andrews Road, Bellville, OH 44813.



Via de Cristo of Ohio is now on Facebook! We hope you will "like" our new Facebook Page at

https://www.facebook.com/viadecristooh

Get on the Web – Ohio Via de Cristo <u>www.vdcohio.org</u> National Via de Cristo Website <u>www.viadecristo.org</u> Kairos Website <u>www.kairosohio.org</u> Page 6

These are other 4th Day Weekends around the US and world for which you might pray:

```
May 08-12, 2017 Men's Kairos Inside
     #13---Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre / Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
May 11-14, 2017 Coed Anglican Cursillo
     #25---York Anglican Cursillo / York, England
May 11-20, 2017 Coed Face to Face
    #?---Garden State Face to Face / Palmyra
May 11-14, 2017 Women's Catholic Cursillo
     #384---MCC de la Diocesis de Leon, Gto. Mexico / LEON, GTO. MEXICO
May 11-14, 2017 Men's Anglican Cursillo
      #9---Jamaica Anglican Cursillo Movement /
May 11-14, 2017 Men's Tres Dias
      #14---Lehigh Valley Tres Dias / Lehigh Valley, PA, USA
        Other Weekends: Women's Tres Dias #15 (May 18-21, 2017)
May 11-14, 2017 Mixed Anglican Cursillo
      #43---Leicester Anglican Cursillo / Leicestershire, England
May 11-14, 2017 Men's Cum Christo
    #?---Big Sky Cum Christo / Billings Yellowstone Montana USA
                Other Weekends: Women's Cum Christo (May 18-21, 2017)
May 12-14, 2017 Young Men's Catholic Challenge
   #?---Cape Breton East Cursillo Movement / NEW WATERFORD
May 18-21, 2017 Men's Tres Dias
     #77---Georgia Mountains Tres Dias / Dahlonega, Lumkin, Ga. US
                 Other Weekends: Women's Tres Dias #77 (May 25-28, 2017)
May 18-21, 2017 Coed Episcopal Cursillo
     #327---Dallas-Fort Worth Episcopal Cursillo - "Spanish Speaking" / Dallas-Fort Worth
May 18-21, 2017 Men's Kairos Inside
      #8---Central Florida Reception Center / Orlando, Florida
May 18-21, 2017____Men's Walk to Emmaus
      #94---Brisbane South Community / Brisbane, QLD, Australia
                           Other Weekends: Women's Walk to Emmaus #95 (May 25-28, 2017
May 18-21, 2017 Women's Tres Dias
      #15---Lehigh Valley Tres Dias / Lehigh Valley, PA, USA
        Other Weekends: Men's Tres Dias #14 (May 11-14, 2017)
May 18-21, 2017 Women's Cum Christo
    #?---Big Sky Cum Christo / Billings Yellowstone Montana USA
        Other Weekends: Men's Cum Christo (May 11-14, 2017)
May 18-21, 2017 Men's Kairos Inside
     #61---New Hampshire State Prison for Men / Concord, NH, USA
May 19-22, 2017 Men's Credo Recovery
     #25---Credo Recovery of IL - Salvation Army / Rockford, Winnebago, IL, USA
May 19-21, 2017 Coed Koinonia
  #K-123---Rochester Koinonia / Rochester, NY, USA
May 19-21, 2017 ____ Women's Kairos Outside_
     #29---Kairos Outside West Rand
May 19-22, 2017
                Mixed Anglican Cursillo
       #1---Leeds Anglican Cursillo / Leeds
                                             England
May 19-21, 2017 Youth Kairos Torch
       #7---St. Charles Illinois Youth Center / St. Charles, Kane, Illinois, USA
May 19-21, 2017____Women's Koinonia_
 #K-126---Koinonia of Lake County / Painesville, Lake County,Ohio, USA
May 22-26, 2017 Men's Kairos Inside
     #14---Mid North Coast Emmaus / Kempsey, NSW, Australia
May 25-28, 2017 Mixed Anglican Cursillo
     #54---Chester Anglican Cursillo / Cheshire, England
May 25-28, 2017 Mixed Anglican Cursillo
     #28---Chichester Anglican Cursillo / Chichester Diocese, Sussex, UK
May 25-28, 2017 ____ Women's Tres Dias__
      #77---Georgia Mountains Tres Dias / Dahlonega, Lumkin, Ga. US
                       Other Weekends: Men's Tres Dias #77 (May 18-21, 2017)
May 25-28, 2017 ____ Boy's and Girl's Chrysalis Flight_
       #7---Chrysalis Deutschland / Beilstein Castle near Stuttgart
```