


<b>VIA DE CRISTO OF OHIO</b> <b>P.O. BOX 53081</b> <b>CINCINNATI, OH 45253</b>		<b>FIRST CLASS MAIL</b>	PRESORTED <hr/> <b>FIRST-CLASS MAIL</b> <hr/> U.S. POSTAGE PAID CUYAHOGA FALLS OH PERMIT NO. 137
		<b>Mailed</b> <b>09/16/03</b>	
<b>Men's #51</b> <b>Weekend</b> <b>Sept 25 - 28</b> <b>Columbus</b>	<b>CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!!!!</b>		
<b>Sign up on the</b> <b>72-hour Prayer</b> <b>Vigil for the</b> <b>Weekend.</b>			

**UPCOMING WEEKENDS AND EVENTS IN 2003 & 2004**

<b>MEN'S #51 - SEPT 25-28</b>	<b>Rector - Ron Craig</b>
<b>WOMEN'S #50 - OCT 16-19</b>	<b>Rectora - Laberta Swinehart</b>
<b>MEN'S #52 - APR 29-May 2, 2004</b>	<b>Rector - Jim Caldwell</b>
<b>WOMEN'S #51 - MAY 20-23, 2004</b>	<b>Rectora - Mary Ann Sauer</b>
<b>MEN'S #54 - SEPT 23-26, 2004</b>	<b>Rector - TBD</b>
<b>WOMEN'S #53 - OCT 7-10, 2004</b>	<b>Rectora - TBD</b>

Above Weekends site Holy Cross Catholic Cursillo Center    Downtown Columbus

<b>MEN'S #53 - JUL 15-18, 2004</b>	<b>Rector - TBD</b>
<b>WOMEN'S #52 - JUL 22-25, 2004</b>	<b>Rectora - TBD</b>

Above Weekends site St. Leonard's Retreat Center - Avon, OH

**NATIONAL LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT MEETING - JUL 22-25, 2004**

At Johnson Bible College in Knoxville, TN

**SCHOOL FOR LEADERS - November 1 , St. Stephen, Stow**

**PRAY FOR THE WEEKENDS, THE RECTOR, AND THE TEAM**

---- OFFER YOUR SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE ----

**ATTEND GROUP REUNION AND ULTREYA**



Via de Cristo of Ohio Newsletter  
Affiliated with the National Lutheran Secretariat

# De Colores!

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 5 Rev Sept. 29

September 15, 2003

Dear friends in Christ,

## From the Lay Director

We just recently went through a very gut-wrenching time before the Fall Men's weekend and I have to tell you I, for one, am tired of going through this experience. I'm talking about not knowing if we have enough pilgrims to host a weekend. Well... we found out on our very last team meeting, at the very last moment before we had to make the decision, that we had twelve pilgrims. Yes... I agree... this is wonderful news! And we need to be ever mindful and prayerful of those pilgrims and their families. However wonderful as this news may be, it harkens to a much deeper challenge within the Via de Cristo Movement in Ohio. It begs the question, "What are we doing as sponsors that makes this so difficult?"

Now, I'm going to take us on a thought journey and the logic may seem a bit disjointed at times, but please bear with me as I attempt to address this issue. I submit to you that Via de Cristo is a discipleship movement intended to equip and train Christians to be more effective disciples, who then go into the world to be more effective evangelists. Individually, we are evangelists, but corporately, Via de Cristo is about discipleship: growing in faith, growing in our relationship with Christ, to be more effective leaders for Him. The Greek word for evangelist is eu-an-gel-ion, which means "messenger of the Good News." Why are we approaching other Christians about Via de Cristo as if it were the first time they've heard the Good News? Why is it that we place so much emphasis on making the friend, being the friend, and bringing that friend to Christ that we forget they are already in Christ? For the invitation to the weekend, shouldn't we be putting the emphasis on their continued growth as a Christian, on their continued training and equipping them to be more effective Christians? Whether or not they are a "friend" shouldn't be the issue. As Christians, we are already friends, friends in Christ.

This is not to say we should remove the evangelistic language from the training. Far from that: it is critical that the Christian pilgrims be trained in using this method of "make a friend, be a friend, bring the friend to Christ" as a means of evangelism. But should we apply this method to the way we approach the Christian pilgrim? Now, here comes a challenge. In congregations that already have an established Via de Cristo community, there are plenty of folks who could and should sponsor pilgrims, folks who know the pilgrims well enough to sponsor them. In congregations that are new to Via de Cristo, it is incumbent on the Cursillistas approaching those churches to contact the pastors, to get a sense of the congregational willingness to accept the call to a weekend... AND it is incumbent on the Cursillistas to take the risk and sponsor members from those congregations, even when we don't know them personally. In either case, should we wait until we know the people before we invite them on a weekend or should we take the risk, invite them to a weekend, then follow up with Reunion and Ultreya?

*(continued next page)*

## OHIO SECRETARIAT

**Lay Director** -----Kevin Ayer  
937-255-0128 [ayer4ce1@yahoo.com](mailto:ayer4ce1@yahoo.com)

**Asst. Lay Director** ----- Ron Craig  
330-678-5135 [rcraig3@neo.rr.com](mailto:rcraig3@neo.rr.com)

**Secretary** ----- Mary Ann Sauer  
937-439-9742 [MASAUER@AOL.COM](mailto:MASAUER@AOL.COM)

**Treasurer** ----- Warren Seeley  
740-892-3835 [Wseeley751@aol.com](mailto:Wseeley751@aol.com)

**Spiritual Director** ---- Laurel Bobb  
330-689-1045 [Lgbobb@aol.com](mailto:Lgbobb@aol.com)

**Palanca Chair** ---- Barb Ostermeier  
513-860-9378 [ostermeier@fuse.net](mailto:ostermeier@fuse.net)

**Historian** ---- Paul Swinehart  
614-476-5979 [Pauls2303@yahoo.com](mailto:Pauls2303@yahoo.com)

**Logistics Coordinator** -----Doug Hertlein  
740-756-7066 [lhertlein@greenapple.com](mailto:lhertlein@greenapple.com)

**Registrar** ----- Kevin Hoch  
513-931-8797  
[Kihoch@prodigy.net](mailto:Kihoch@prodigy.net)

**Archivist** -----Lori Hertlein  
740-756-7066  
[lhertlein@greenapple.com](mailto:lhertlein@greenapple.com)

**NLS Delegate** ---- Fred Schneider  
513-729-0945  
[KMASCHNEIDER@juno.com](mailto:KMASCHNEIDER@juno.com)

**NLS Delegate** ---- Jim Caldwell  
614-818-3975 [JTCFMS@aol.com](mailto:JTCFMS@aol.com)

**Weekend Rector Development** --- Chris Albrekton 937-298-0031  
[JC4Vdc@aol.com](mailto:JC4Vdc@aol.com)

**Leaders School** ----- Chris Albrekton  
937-298-0031 [JC4Vdc@aol.com](mailto:JC4Vdc@aol.com)

**Documentation** ----- Donna Gough  
614-899-1210 [Goughdonna@aol.com](mailto:Goughdonna@aol.com)

**Newsletter Editor** ---- Dan Steffey  
330-688-9019 [dsteffey@neo.rr.com](mailto:dsteffey@neo.rr.com)

**Prayer Chain** ---- Chris Albrekton  
937-298-0031 [JC4Vdc@aol.com](mailto:JC4Vdc@aol.com)

2793 Galewood St.  
Kettering, OH 45420

Note: If you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to call any of the Secretariat members. Also, anyone from the community is welcome to attend the Secretariat meetings.

Via de Cristo of Ohio  
P.O. Box 53081  
Cincinnati, OH 45253

Let me ask you this: would you invite your hand or your foot to be part of your body? No. They are already parts of your body. But, if you wanted your body to learn how to be a better football punter, wouldn't you ask your hands to train with your feet... to learn when to drop the ball, to be in coordination with the foot so you could actually kick the ball? Just as we would train our bodies to work in coordination with each other to kick a football, Via de Cristo trains Christian friends, encourages the body of believers to grow, mature, and be more effective for Christ. We invite other Christians to Via de Cristo not to bring them to Christ. We invite Christians because they are already friends *in* Him and God wants them to be more effective disciples *for* Him.

Via de Cristo is good news, but not in the sense of eu-an-gel-ion. Via de Cristo is good news because, finally, there is a "well thought out, disciplined, tried and true" method by which we can train, equip, and sustain fellow Christians in this battle against "princes and principalities."

Let me conclude with these final thoughts and questions: Sponsorship is ultimately your decision and you must dig deep into your heart and head to find the answers to these questions. Is the message of Via de Cristo worth the risk of asking a fellow Christian to attend, even if you don't "know" them personally? Could you find someone from the Via de Cristo community that would take the risk of sponsoring the Christian if you were uncomfortable being their sponsor? Are you willing to invest the time and effort in a fellow Christian to help them grow and mature in their walk with Christ? If you answered yes to any of these questions, maybe its time to start talking to your Christian brothers and sisters about Via de Cristo, wherever you may find them.

God Loves You and So Do I,

Kevin

## FROM THE RECTOR



Another weekend: what does it mean?

To us it should mean everything we have, given to us by God. We believe that God is the center of our faith and from God we receive His grace.

But, just a second here. Have you heard how many people don't have time to spend with God? We hear it every day: *"I'm too busy to commit to my faith."* *"I have too many things going on."*

Well, recall your weekend and remember how we thought about the GRACE God showed us in his world. I truly believe in living our fourth day this way. That feeling of the grace should continue to be a force in our life.

Grace is found in the Bible in the books of Isaiah, Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Ephesians, Hebrews and 1 Peter, among others. If grace is documented throughout the Bible and is God's gift to us, should we not want to give it to our best friends? It's free to give.

Let's use this weekend to look at our own lives, to look at the Cross, and to know that Jesus Christ is Lord.

God's

Riches

At

Christ's

Expense

Grace to you,

Ron Craig - Rector

**Ohio Men's Weekend #51**  
**Sept 25 - 28 , 2003**


Names received by Registrar as of Sept. 23

<b>Men's Team #51</b>			<b>Pilgrims and Sponsors</b>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position on Team</u>	<u>Home City</u>	<u>Pilgrim</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Church, City</u>
Ron Craig	Rector	Kent	Mark Fisher	Ralph Minton	Good Shepherd Lutheran, New Castle, PA
Larry Evans	Head Cha	Huber Heights	Bill Beck	Ralph Minton	Christ The King Lutheran, St. Clairsville
Pastor Doug Fidler	Spiritual Director	Cuyahoga Falls	Steve Webster	Ron Craig	Trinity Lutheran, Kent
Pastor Jim Stalder	Spiritual Director	Westerville	Ben Berger	Jim Stalder	Living Word Lutheran, Westerville
Rev. Ron Feister	Spiritual Director	Westerville	Raleigh Sandy	Craig Fourman	Abiding Christ Lutheran, Fairborn
Dan Steffey	Chapel Cha	Stow	Steve Kerns	Dick Retherford	Living Word Lutheran, Westerville
Geoff Miller	Music Cha	Dayton	Donald Piddock	Peter Kruse	First Evangelical Lutheran, Donnellsville
Ralph Minton	Palanca Cha	New Castle, PA	Ken Hacker	Dave Chapman	St. John Lutheran, Petersburg
Dan Brill	Go For Cha	Columbus	David Ridenour	Bob Rousculp	St. Paul Luth., Glenford
Tony Latessa	Head Kitchen Cha	Englewood	Josias Ndaribamare	Roger Retherford	The African Christian Church, Columbus
John Schalip	Kitchen Cha	Sunbury	Todd Longendelpher	Rick Hinger	Zion Lutheran, Dayton
Dave Chapman	Kitchen Cha	Poland			
Thad Ness	Kitchen Cha	Westerville			
Bob Rousculp	Kitchen Cha	Glenford			
Kevin Hoch	Kitchen Cha	Cincinnati			
Matt Kromphardt	Kitchen Cha	Fairborn			
Mel Hall	Head RR Cha	Westerville			
Rick Delynko	Table Cha	Granville			
Mark Ludrosky	Table Cha	Streetsboro			
Bill Evans	Table Cha	Huber Heights			
Mark Kannenwischer	Table Cha	Westerville			
Paul Crooks	Table Cha	Stow			
Doug Ramey	Table Cha	Johnstown			
Dave Lann	Ideal Rollo	Kent			
Doug Hertlein	Laity Rollo	Carroll			
Kevin Ayer	Piety Rollo	Dayton			
Dick Retherford	Study Rollo	Galena			
Ken Thompson	Action Rollo	Cincinnati			
Mike Lindahl	Leaders Rollo	Westerville			
Dean Gattton	Environment Rollo	Westerville			
Pete Bolig	CCA Rollo	Cincinnati			
Paul Swinehart	Silent Professor	Columbus			
Scott Padgett	Silent Professor	Columbus			
Bill Fitts	Silent Professor	Stow			
Ron Craig	Group Renion & Ultreya	Kent			
Dave & Jackie Lann	Fourth Day Couple	Kent			

**The emergency phone # at the center is :**  
  
**614-221-1809**

<b>THURSDAY &amp; FRIDAY</b> <b>September 25 &amp; 26</b>	
Thursday	Send Off - 7:30 PM at Grace Lutheran in Columbus on Refugee Rd.
Friday	
Ideal	10:00 AM
Habitual Grace	11:15 AM
Laity	1:40 PM
Actual Grace	2:55 PM
Piety	4:45 PM

<b>SUNDAY September 28</b>	
Gather In Kitchen 5:45 AM	<b>QUIETLY!!!</b>
Wake-up Serenade - 6:00 AM	
Environment	9:15 AM
Day in the Life of Grace	10:10 AM
Christian Community	11:35 AM
Group Reunion / Ultreya	1:45 PM
<b>Closing - 5:00 PM</b>	<b>At Grace Lutheran in Columbus on Refugee Rd. (Directions next page)</b>

<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>September 27</b>	
Study	9:00 AM
Sacraments	10:20 AM
Apostolic Action	1:15 PM
Obstacles to Grace	2:55 PM
Leaders	4:25 PM
<b>Serenade Practice 5:00 PM</b>	<b>At Linden Lutheran in Columbus. (Directions on next page)</b>
	
<b>Serenade</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>

## Directions to GRACE

**SEND-OFF & CLOSING  
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4500 Refugee Road , Columbus**

**From Cleveland** - Take I-71 South. In Columbus, take I-270 East and continue to the I-70 exit. Take I-70 West exit to next exit, Hamilton Rd. exit. Turn left onto Hamilton and proceed past Eastland Mall to Refugee Road. Turn left onto Refugee Road. Grace Lutheran is on the left about 1/4 mile.

**From Cincinnati** - Take I-71 North. In Columbus, take I-270 East and proceed as in Cleveland directions.

**From Eastern Ohio** - Take I-70 West past the I-270 outerbelt. Proceed to Hamilton Road exit and proceed as in Cleveland directions.

**From Western Ohio** - Take I-70 East . Proceed through downtown Columbus and continue to Hamilton Road Exit. Turn right onto Hamilton road and proceed as in Cleveland directions.

## Directions to LINDEN LUTHERAN

**SATURDAY SERENADE PRACTICE  
LINDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1230 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus**

From I-71 use Exit #114 (N. Broadway),  
Going East on N. Broadway, turn left on Maize Rd.  
Turn Right on Oakland Park Avenue.  
The church will be on your left.

**Serenade Practice - 5:00 PM Saturday  
Send Off - 7:30 PM Thursday  
Closing - 5:00 PM Sunday**

## PALANCA LETTERS

**Please.....Mark all letters: Sponsor, Spouse, Family,  
Friend, or Community**

**Remember the blessings of Palanca mail - sent from the  
community, but inspired by the Lord.**

# Via de Cristo School for Leaders

## November 1, 2003

School for Leaders will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2003. The purpose of this school is to provide a better understanding of all aspects of Via de Cristo.

Topics covered include:

Theology of the Weekend

Dynamics and Psychology of the Weekend

Team Roles and much more.

Attend to gain a fuller understanding of your weekend experience. You must attend the School for Leaders to serve on a Via de Cristo team.

The school will be offered November 1st at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 3725 Kent Rd., Stow, Ohio. The school starts at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, running till 5:00 p.m. You can register by using the form below. Cost is \$10 per person.

---

---

### SCHOOL for LEADERS REGISTRATION

for  
November 1, 2003

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (      ) \_\_\_\_\_ Request Friday Night Housing (Yes or No) \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Attended: Via de Cristo (   ) Other \_\_\_\_\_ Weekend Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check payable to **Ohio Via de Cristo (\$10 per person)** and send it with this form to **Chris Albrektson, 2793 Galewood St, Kettering, OH 45420** email: [JC4VDC@aol.com](mailto:JC4VDC@aol.com)

# ULTREYA!



For further details on these and other Ultreyas in Ohio, contact: Paul Swinehart 614-476-5979

[Pauls2303@yahoo.com](mailto:Pauls2303@yahoo.com)

## **Cincinnati** - Monthly

First Saturday, 7:30 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, Mt. Healthy, contact Kevin Hoch, 513-913-8797

## **Columbus** - Monthly

Fourth Tuesday, 7:30 PM at Linden Lutheran Church, 1230 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus, contact Paul Swinehart 614-476-5979 or Darryl Larson, 614-262-4420 at the church or 614-865-0469 at home.

## **Dayton Lutheran Ultreya** - Monthly

Third Tuesday, 7:30 pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 901 E. Stroop in Kettering.

For details, call Bob & Mary Ann Sauer at 937-439-9742 or Email: [MASAUER@aol.com](mailto:MASAUER@aol.com)

**Kent** - Call for dates and time: Contact Pastor Doug Fidler (330) 673-5445

## **Marysville Area** - Monthly

Third Sunday at First English Lutheran, 687 London Avenue, Marysville. Call Judy Hurl 513/642-4621 or Jeanne Haynes, 513/642-4701

## **Stow** - Quarterly

Contact Gracia Luoma (330) 686-8807

## **Western Lake County** Periodic joint Lutheran-Episcopal Ultreya.

Hook up through George Cyphers, 216-951-2906

## **Western Reserve** - Monthly

Second Saturday 7:00 pm, Brecksville United Methodist Church, call Martha Mallen (216) 257-0254

## **Urbana** - Monthly

First Friday 6:30 pm at Church of the Epiphany, corner Scioto and Kenton, Urbana. Joint ultreya with Episcopal, Roman Catholic, Methodist, and now Lutheran! Contact Dick or Marv Swan, 513/484-3189.

**The following is reprinted from the Linden Luthuan Leader, September, 2003**

### **Ultreya going well**

The Ohio Via de Cristo Secretariat wishes to thank Linden Lutheran Church for providing space on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month for the Greater Columbus Ultreya. They have been well attended. Linden Lutheran Church is at 1230 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus, just a few blocks off of Interstate 71

The VdC movement, which offers three-day weekend renewal retreats, provides attendees a deeper insight into the Grace of God and provides a close encounter with Jesus Christ. After attending a weekend, most attendees become better church members and become more involved in evangelism.

We want to again invite members of Linden Lutheran—and anyone who professes Jesus Christ to be his/her savior—to join with us at those monthly events. We tell about our Christian experiences, we sing, we worship and we support each other's Christian life. People come from many Central Ohio Christian Churches. One gentleman, asked why he attended, said, "I like this kind of people."

Come and see what we are all about. You might want to attend one of our weekends. We usually have snacks and drinks, but now and then we go for a full potluck.

The fourth Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. And thanks again for providing space for us.

--Paul Swinehart, VdC Secretariat historian

Reprinted from the Linden Luthuan Leader, September, 2003

# Please Write That Down!!

By Paul Swinehart, historian

How often have you heard that? It happens time after time on a weekend. It follows a well-established theory that you will remember something if you write it. That is the reason you took lots of notes in school. It helps pilgrims remember important points in a Rollo.

In his book, *The Purpose Driven Church*, Pastor Rick Warren recommends that a pastor make an outline of his sermon, including the text of Scripture passages he is using. He says it helps him remember his own message.

Pilgrims also can write down other important phrases that they want to remember.

We have learned that 90 to 95 percent of what we hear is forgotten within 72 hours.

That is, by Wednesday most of the sermon or Rollo message is gone unless we take notes. People can review the points later, maybe at a Bible study.

Pastor Warren told about a science teacher who was called when his daughter wrecked her car. She was not hurt, but the car was totaled and it was her fault. He remembers sitting on the curb waiting for the tow truck getting angrier by the minute that his daughter had been so careless. Then he saw a piece of paper in the gutter. He picked it up and it turned out to be the outline of one of Pastor Warren's sermons—"Defusing Your Anger." To this day, he keeps that piece of paper in his wallet. Maybe one of your write-downs will stay with you and influence you over time.

On our weekends we hear that request several times in each Rollo. We even joke about it sometimes in our conversations, we say, "Please write that down." But don't laugh. This is serious. When we and the pilgrims take the time to write it down, we are more likely to remember, because it gets written into our brains that way.

How many times have you fished out your notebook from your weekend to review one of the Rollos? It can bring back a flood of information that might have been lost. Reading your notes and the write-downs can put you back up on that mountain top with the Amazing Grace and the Blessed Assurance that we heard back then.

If you plan to give a Rollo, you can refer back to your notes on that same subject. There is no harm in using a quote or an idea from someone else's Rollo, as long as it gives honor and glory to the Lord.

---

**GET ON THE WEB and check out the Via de Cristo & Kairos sites**

**Ohio Via de Cristo Website**

[www.viadecristooh.org](http://www.viadecristooh.org)

**National Via de Cristo Website**

[www.viadecristo.org](http://www.viadecristo.org)

**Kairos Website**

[www.kairosOhio.org](http://www.kairosOhio.org)