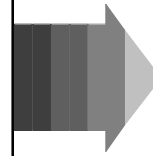


VIA DE CRISTO OF OHIO
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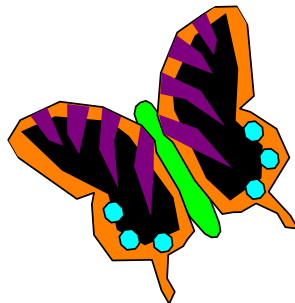
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**WOMEN'S #47
WEEKEND**
Nov. 7 - 10
Columbus

Annual Meeting
January 11th or
25th
2003
Trinity Lutheran
Seminary

**Watch the winter
newsletter for
final date
and
election ballot**



CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2002 :

WOMEN'S #47 - Rector, Jennifer Briner - - - NOV. 7 - 10
Above Weekend site: Holy Cross Catholic Cursillo Center Downtown Columbus

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2003

ANNUAL MEETING - Jan. 11th or 25th - Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus

SCHOOL FOR LEADERS - FEB. 22

MEN'S - APRIL 24 - 27 WOMEN'S MAY 8 - 11

MEN'S - SEPT 25 - 28 WOMEN'S OCT 16 - 19

Above Weekends site: Holy Cross Catholic Cursillo Center Downtown Columbus

MEN'S - JUNE 26 - 29 WOMEN'S - JULY 10 - 13

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

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT MEETING - JULY 24 - 27
at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus

PRAY FOR THE WEEKENDS, THE RECTOR, AND THE TEAM

— OFFER YOUR SERVICES

AND ASSISTANCE —

ATTEND GROUP REUNION

Sign up on the 72-hour Prayer
Vigil for the Weekends

AND ULTREYA

GET ON THE WEB====> Ohio Via de Cristo Website www.viadecristooh.org

National Via de Cristo Website www.viadecristo.org

Kairos Website www.kairosOhio.org



De Colores!

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 6

(Revised 11-01-02)

From the Lay Director

Dear Friends in Christ,

I agonize over this letter. Why? Because I need to write about the recent cancelation of the men's Fall weekend. One question continues to haunt my thoughts, "Why did we have to cancel this weekend?" I know what the guidelines say... that a weekend requires 12 pilgrims and we had only 7. So, "by the book" we made the guided decision... but was it the right decision? How could such a great movement go so wrong? Or did it?

After canceling the men's Fall weekend, the most troubling remarks I heard went something like this: "that the team had already approached all of their friends..." and "because most of the team members were 'veterans,' most of their friends have already been through Via de Cristo or similar movements." Why is it that the responsibility for getting pilgrims seems to fall on the team members? Why, at every team meeting, does the rector(a) have to emphasize that team members "need to get out there and get pilgrims?" Is this not a community responsibility?

We, as a community, did put out a plea through the prayer chain to "beat the bushes and look for pilgrims." From this plea, I received a great comment: "I take my sponsorship responsibilities very serious. I make it a point to sponsor one person a year." Did you know that over 1,700 Cursillistas have been through the Ohio Via de Cristo Movement? If each of us were so diligent to sponsor one person every year, could you imagine how long the waiting list would be? Have we stopped getting out "into the wilderness" to call people to Christ? Have we become comfortable in our Christianity? Do we have enough friends that we've stopped trying to make new ones?

It is like the old saying goes, "Even if you're on the right track, if you stop moving, you're gonna get run over!" That's why I like calling Via de Cristo a movement. Yes, we have elements of ministry. Yes, we have elements of retreat. But first, and foremost, we are the people of Christ, moving and on the move, restless and excited about getting His work done

- training other Christians that Christ's work begins with a deep desire for changing our lives for Him (piety),
- learning everything we possibly can about God so we can have a sure defense for His Gospel (study),
- that we can boldly proclaim God's love through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (action)

(continued on next page)

OHIO SECRETARIAT

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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.

We must continue being vigilant in this movement. We need to get the word out to every Christian we know, Lutheran or otherwise. We must not let Satan put pride, indifference, or inactivity in our way. We must not let Satan dilute the message of Via de Cristo nor can we let him take our eyes off the goal: Jesus Christ! We need to keep the weekend dates at our fingertips. Don't wait to get the registrations sent in. Get them in long before we have to make these gut-wrenching decisions.

Now, for a much more upbeat note, I am thrilled that we have eighteen registered women for the November 7 – 10 weekend! And... we have promise of at least five more, bringing the number up to 23! I know that this is not a numbers game, but we all know that numbers equal dynamics... a weekend grows at the tables. By the end of the weekend, the pilgrims have taken over the discussions and poster sessions. It is Christ's energy pulsing through them that makes the Decurias meaningful. Not enough pilgrims to carry through the weekend, at the tables, is a sure-fire way to fail at what we're supposed to do... Train Christians to spread the Word! So, the question I posed at the beginning... did we make the right decision? Only time will tell, but I do believe that we did. The limit of twelve for a weekend is prudent and wise, and is good stewardship.

We have an exciting time ahead of us... challenges for sure... obstacles to overcome with God's help and guidance. I'm issuing a challenge. Like the great comment I received, get out there and make a friend, be a friend, and bring that friend to Christ... even if it is only one a year. Sponsor your friend for a Via de Cristo weekend. Christ greets each and every one of us on a weekend... but you greet them long before that.

God Loves You and So Do We,

Kevin W. Ayer

Canceled weekends not new to movement

By Paul Swinehart, historian

We all have experienced the frustration when a weekend is canceled at the last minute. But that situation is not new. Read the minutes of the Secretariat back in 1981 when both the men's and women's fall weekends were canceled for the lack of pilgrims.

It is interesting that the rectors and head chas of those weekends agreed to take the next scheduled weekend the next spring. This same thing happened after the fall men's weekend was canceled this year. Roger Retherford has agreed to take the spring weekend as rector with most of his team agreeing to serve with him. This should prevent all the team formation and training work from being lost.

Back in 1981, Men's #6 and Women's #4 were struggling to sign up enough pilgrims. Suggestions were to write letters to all Lutheran churches explaining the movement and recruiting pilgrims. Suggestions also included visiting church council meetings and attending adult Sunday School classes. This sounds familiar. We had the same discussions in Secretariat meetings this year.

Apparently, getting information to pastors, church members and church councils in a continuing-education process.

Finances were a problem then as they sometimes are now. The 1981 Secretariat agreed that financial support would be sought from all possible sources so that Men's #6 would provide the funds to pre-pay Women's #4. Later Secretariat minutes recommended an entry fee of \$40 per person. Somewhere among the years, the decision was made that everyone at a weekend would be given the opportunity to contribute to the movement and that there would be no charge.

The recent donation of more than \$4,000 from an Ohio church has been a great help in continuing that policy.


Cursillistas who are potential sponsors are the key to getting pilgrims signed up and getting their applications in early enough to prevent weekend cancellations. The best way to recruit a pilgrim is to tell a friend how you have benefited from the weekend experience. In a future article, we will search Secretariat records on responsibilities of sponsors. Their efforts get the pilgrim to the weekend and bring in the palanca letters that mean so much to the pilgrim on Sunday.

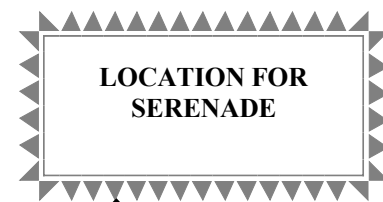
Ohio Women's Weekend #47
November 7, 2002

Pilgrims and Sponsors

Women's #47 Team		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Position on Team</u>	<u>Home City</u>
Jennifer Briner	Rector & GR/Ult	Bexley
Christy Brill	Head Cha	Westerville
Pastor Darryl Larson	Spiritual Director	Columbus
Pastor Tim Kuenzli	Spiritual Director	Cincinnati
Amy Ramey	Chapel Cha	Johnstown
Sheena Guthrie	Palanca Cha	Granville
Lisa Burrows	Asst. Pal/Gopher Cha	New London, CT
Barb Wynkoop	Music Cha	Carroll
Lisa Lang	Ideal	Newark
Cathy Doering	Laity	Wadsworth
Irene Hoch	Piety	Cincinnati
Hilde Hildebrandt	Study	Buckeye Lake
Jean Mabry	Apostolic Action	Okeana
Debbie Hagedorn	Leaders	Reynoldsburg
Wilma Keller	Environment	Newark
Nancy Channel	CCA	Newark
Carol Haroldson	Silent Professor	Kettering
Minda Bickley	Silent Professor	Gahanna
Rhea Mathias	Head Kitchen Cha	Reynoldsburg
Terri Root	Kitchen Cha	Hilliard
Sharon Gsellman	Kitchen Cha	Stow
Patricia Leonard	Kitchen Cha	Wadsworth
Cyndie Murray	Kitchen Cha	Columbus
Linda Green	Kitchen Cha	Pickerington
Vickie Delynko	Head RR Cha	Newark
Linda Murray	Rollo Room Cha	Alexandria
Anne Heughebart	Rollo Room Cha	Alexandria
Lyn Reed	Rollo Room Cha	Bexley
Jeweltee Smith	Rollo Room Cha	Norton
Teri Wilson	Rollo Room Cha	Dayton
John & Suzy Patterson	Fourth Day Couple	Carmel, IN

<u>PILGRIM</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>CHURCH, CITY</u>
Kelly Burns	Cathy Doering	Concordia Scandia Parish, Glyndon, MN
Phillis Wahl	Lynette Wahl	Linden Lutheran
Kay Larson	Gerald Larson	Trinity Lutheran
Eleanor Helfrey	Lynette Wahl	Linden Lutheran
Sandy Moller	Minda Bickley	Grace Lutheran, Columbus
Stacey Anderson	James Caldwell	Augustana Lutheran, Cumberland, Wisc.
Anne Benson	James Caldwell & Oran Gough	Trinity Lutheran Seminary
Marie Wood	Wilma Keller	St. John, Newark
Ann Ness	Jim & Wanda Stalder	Living Word, Westerville
Susan Kannenwischer	Jim & Wanda Stalder	Living Word, Westerville
Renae Schondel	Ann Towne	St. Paul Luth., Sharon Ctr.
Lisa Mellott	Connie Anderson	St. Stephen Luth., Stow
Sandy Fisher	Beth Minton	Good Shepherd Luth., New Castle
Kathy Karlson	Patricia Leonard	St. Paul Luth, Wadsworth
Lise Puskas	Karen Jackson	Grace Lutheran, Columbus
Kristin Kyser	Amy Ramey	Emmanuel Church, Pataskala
Nancy Raabe	Darryl Larson	Gethsemane, Worthington
Cheryl Huner	Douglas Hertlein	St. Luke, Gahanna
Jan Clark	Carol Bowman	Grace, Columbus
Arlene Drumm	Carol Bowman	Grace, Columbus
Kim Kirk	Amanda Hiles	St. John, Newark
Bonnie Peltomaa	Doug Pretorius	St. Paul, Bellville
Diana Seaman	Doug Pretorius	St. Paul Belleville

THURSDAY & FRIDAY Nov. 7 & 8	SATURDAY Nov. 9
Thursday Send Off - 7:30 PM at Grace in Columbus Friday Ideal 10:00 AM Habitual Grace 11:15 AM Laity 1:40 PM Actual Grace 2:55 PM Piety 4:45 PM	Study 9:00 AM Sacraments 10:20 AM Apostolic Action 1:15 PM Obstacles to Grace 2:55 PM Leaders 4:25 PM Serenade Practice 5:15 PM (Livingston United)  Methodist Church



SUNDAY
Nov. 10

Gather In Kitchen 5:45 AM	QUIETLY!!!
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	1:05 PM
Closing - 4:45 PM (at Grace in Columbus)	



SEND-OFF & CLOSING
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 4500 Refugee Road, Columbus (map on next page)

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.



SATURDAY SERENADE PRACTICE
LIVINGSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 200 E Livingston Ave Columbus (614)224-2006

From the North. Take I-71 South to Columbus. Take the US-23 / FOURTH ST exit, exit number 100B. Stay straight to go onto E FULTON ST. Turn LEFT onto US-33. US-33 becomes E LIVINGSTON AVE.
From the South. Take I-71 North to Columbus. Take the US-23 NORTH/ LIVINGSTON AVE exit, exit number 100B, towards FOURTH ST.

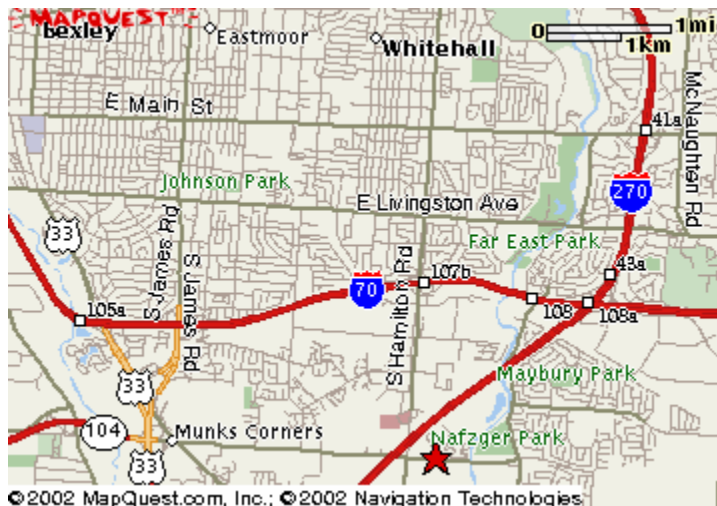
**OHIO WOMEN'S WEEKEND #47
SEND-OFF & CLOSING
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4500 Refugee Road, Columbus**

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.

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Women's Via de Cristo #47 - November 7-10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's hard to believe that the fall weekend is already here! God's beauty is all around us in the changing of the leaves and the crisp, freshness of the air. Team #47 has been hard at work these last couple of months trying not to get "lost in the details". Now is about the time where we stop stressing about these details and leave this weekend in the Lord's hands. This is where you come in. Maybe you sent some candy, trinkets, pillow palanca or table palanca and that all contributes to the fun of a weekend, and we thank you. But the prayers of God's people are POWER and, second to that, the individual palanca letters from the community are what leaves the lasting impression and allows these pilgrims to actually feel God's love from this community. This is what we need the most.



We have been talking a lot about prayer, total dedication to God, servanthood and obedience at our meetings. We made a list in September of 50 "potential pilgrims" we would like to see attend this weekend. For our part, we actually had to ask them to come! It was then up to the Lord to send them if it was their time. God is so faithful when we seek Him and lift up His people. This weekend we will have five tables and I can't stop praising the Lord for His bounty and goodness! (I think the "Baptist-contingent" on the weekend is getting to me!) Please lift the team and pilgrims up in prayer, sign up to pray during the vigil, attend the serenade and wake-up, and send in those palanca letters. It is also important to attend the clausura. As I sit and listen to the new cursillistas, I never fail to get a little of my weekend back. The clausura is our chance to meet these new sisters, welcome them, and show them our love. After all, we are a community in action.

Jesus Loves You, I Love You,

Jennifer Briner

PALANCA LETTERS

**Please.....Mark all letters to Pilgrims and Team:
Sponsor, Spouse, Family, Friend, or Community**

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



For further details on these and other Ultrereyas in Ohio, contact:
Paul Swinehart
614-476-5979
Paul2303@aol.com

Reprinted from Conexiones June, 2002

Cincinnati - Monthly

First Saturdays, 7:30 pm - Trinity Lutheran Church, Mt. healthy,
contact kevin Hoch, 513-913-8797

Columbus - Monthly - Lutheran-Episcopal 4th Fridays, 7:30 pm.
Contact Dick Logan at 614-965-9420 or Donna Gough at 614-899-1210

Dayton Lutheran Ultrereya - Monthly

Third Tuesday, 7:30 pm. For details, call Bob & Mary Ann Sauer at
513/294-3940, or Email: 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

Newark/Heath - Monthly

4th Sunday, 7:00 pm. St. John's Lutheran Church, Linneville Road,
Newark. Contact Pam Paynter. 614-323-0207

Stow - Quarterly

Contact Gracia Luoma (330) 686-8807

Western Lake County

Periodic joint Lutheran-Episcopal Ultrereya. Hook up through George
Cyphers, 216-951-2906

Western Reserve - Monthly

Second Saturday, Epworth 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 ultrereya with Episcopal, Roman Catholic,
Methodist, and now Lutheran! Contact Dick or Marv Swan, 513/484-
3189.

Call for subscription donations

Dear friends in Christ,

As our church enters the Consecration Season, we are being paced by temple talks and a whole host of information concerning stewardship. One very important part of the Via de Cristo movement is communications. And one of the most effective ways we've passed information to our community is through the De Colores Newsletter.

In the past, we've been blessed to have a minimum cost for postage and printing. Unfortunately, with postage and copying increases, we are facing a dilemma... we cannot continue to sustain the distribution of this vital communications tool without requesting some compensation.

If you can find it in your personal budgets to send in a minimum of \$5.00 a year for postage, copying, and handling, it would be greatly appreciated.

An option to the \$5.00 donation is to let us know that you desire to download your personal copy from the Ohio Via de Cristo website (www.viadecristooh.org). That way, we can take you off the hardcopy mailing address and save the postage, copying, and handling costs.

If you choose to continue on the hardcopy mailing list, mark your donation "DeColores Subscription" and send to:

**VIA DE CRISTO OF OHIO
P.O. BOX 091005
COLUMBUS, OH 43209**

If you choose to download from the Via de Cristo website, please email Tony Starn, who maintains the address list.

Tonystarn@aol.com

2003 National Lutheran Secretariat Meeting July 24 - 27 at Trinity Lutheran Seminary

It is hard to believe, but the NLS annual meeting in Columbus is only 9 months away. A lot of the planning is already underway. What we truly need right now is your time, talent and treasure.

Time

There will be need for a lot of your time in July but what we could use the most of right now is for your time in prayer for the success of the meeting and for all the preparation.

Talent

There is still room for help in planning of the event on several committees. I still need an audio-visual person who can tape and produce videos of the sessions. Please let me know if you want to help out in any way.

Treasure

The annual meeting will cost over \$20,000 to hold. Most of that cost will be for housing and food for the participants which will be covered by a registration fee. The desire of National is to keep the registration fee low so more people will be able to attend. Therefore, the Ohio Secretariat will need to cover some of the expense for hospitality, logistics and supplies. We need your help. Considering that it is close to year end, please consider a donation to the Secretariat to cover these expenses. Please note on your check that the donation will be for "NLS Annual Meeting" and send to:

VIA DE CRISTO OF OHIO
P.O. BOX 091005
COLUMBUS OH 43209

Thank you in advance for all you will do to make the 2003 NLS meeting a blessing to all.

Jim Caldwell
JTCFMS@aol.com
614-818-3975

National Palanca

We will need many pieces of table Palanca for the National Convention next summer.

If your reunion group would be willing to make about 175 pieces of Palanca please email me at

masauer@aol.com

Let me know what you are planning to make so that we don't have duplicates.

Thanks,

Via de Cristo School for Leaders

February of 2002

School for Leaders will be held on Saturday, February 22, 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 February 22nd at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 901 E. Stroop Road, Kettering, 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
August 10, 2002

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 Albrekton, 2793 Galewood St, Kettering, OH 45420 email: JC4VDC@aol.com