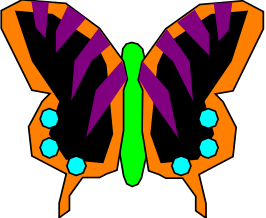


| | | |
|--|--|--|
| VIA DE CRISTO OF OHIO P.O. BOX 53081 CINCINNATI, OH 45253 | FIRST CLASS MAIL | PRESORTED <hr/> FIRST-CLASS MAIL <hr/> U.S. POSTAGE PAID CUYAHOGA FALLS OH PERMIT NO. 137 |
| | Mailed 05/10/04 | |
| Women's #51 Weekend May 20 - May 23 Columbus Sign up on the 72-hour Prayer Vigil for the Weekend. | <p style="text-align: center;">CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!!!!</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> | |

UPCOMING WEEKENDS AND EVENTS IN 2004

WOMEN'S #51 - MAY 20-23, 2004 Rectora - Mary Ann Sauer

MEN'S #54 - SEPT 23-26, 2004 Rector - Bob Sauer

WOMEN'S #53 - OCT 7-10, 2004 Rectora - Christy Brill

Above Weekends site Holy Cross Catholic Cursillo Center Downtown Columbus

MEN'S #53 - JUL 15-18, 2004 Rector - Skip Dodds

WOMEN'S #52 - JUL 22-25, 2004 Rectora - Anne Gsellman

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

ATTEND GROUP REUNION AND ULTREYA

GET ON THE WEB ==>

Ohio Via de Cristo Website
 National Via de Cristo Website
 Kairos Website

www.viadecristooh.org
www.viadecristo.org
www.kairosohio.org



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

De Colores!

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 2 (Rev 5/17/04)

May 7, 2004

From the Lay Director

Dear friends in Christ,

I must confess that this message is going to sound a bit preachy and very analytical, much like a college term paper but the subject struck me as so important that I needed to get my thoughts on paper... Please bear with me as I write this message.

I've been reading Dietrich Bonhoeffer's, "The Cost of Discipleship" and I was taken aback by a couple of phrases. The first phrase was, "Justification by faith alone." On the surface this statement was fairly clear to me. After all, isn't this what Martin Luther taught? Aren't we justified through grace in faith? Bonhoeffer was explaining that the misuse of this formula leads to the complete destruction of its very essence. This puzzled me for the longest time. Then, reading on I discovered what Bonhoeffer meant. He stated:

"At the end of a life spent in pursuit of knowledge, Faust had to confess, 'I now do see that we can nothing know.' That is the answer to a sum; it is the outcome of a long experience. But as Kierkegaard observed, it is quite a different thing when a freshman comes up to the university and uses the same sentiment to justify his indolence. As the answer to a sum it is perfectly true, but as the initial data it is a piece of self-deception. For acquired knowledge cannot be divorced from the existence in which it is acquired. The only man who has the right to say that he is justified by grace alone is the man who has left all to follow Christ. Such a man knows that the call to discipleship is a gift of grace, and that the call is inseparable from the grace. But those who try to use this grace as a dispensation from following Christ are simply deceiving themselves."

Luther said, "*Pecca fortiter, sed fortius fide et gaude in Christo,*" which means, "*Sin boldly, but believe and rejoice in Christ more boldly.*" Does this mean that we have free reign to commit any sin we desire, that we can be justified in doing so because we are justified by faith alone? If we take Luther's statement as a starting point, a premise if you will, then we are like the young freshman taking Faust's proclamation as a premise. That statement was not intended to be the premise for action or inaction, as the case may be, but the conclusion of a life-long pursuit of knowledge. Likewise, Luther's words were borne of a lifetime of pursuing Christ and living in Christ's grace. We should, like Luther, come to the conclusion that we are but sinful creatures and, by our very nature, unable to "pull ourselves up by the bootstraps." Even so, it does not give us license to forget living in Christ's grace, thinking that all we have to do is invoke the name of Jesus and our previous existence is justified. Taken as a premise, *Pecca fortiter* falsely acquires the characteristics of an ethical principle, which diametrically opposes Luther's intent. Luther was telling us to stop trying to be something we are not. Stop trying to deny the fact that we are sinners. But, all the more boldly, we must claim that, through Christ, we are saints as well! Bonhoeffer goes on to say that grace interpreted as a principle, sinning boldly as a principle, cheapens grace and, in the end, simply becomes more law. Law does not bring help nor does it provide freedom, only conviction and condemnation. However, grace as a living word, sinning boldly as our comfort in tribulation and as a **summons to discipleship** provides a costly grace, a pure grace that really forgives sins and gives freedom to the sinner.

(continued next page)

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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.

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

(continued from previous page)

From the Lay Director

A summons to discipleship ... Discipleship is not an offering man makes to God. Discipleship is something God calls us to... a grace to be a disciple, and to be disciplined in following Jesus. "Christianity without the living Christ is inevitably Christianity without discipleship, and Christianity without discipleship is always Christianity without Christ." Christianity without discipleship makes Christianity an abstract concept, something that looks good on paper, may even lead to martyrdom, but ultimately remains an abstract idea unable to make good on its promises. Discipleship without Jesus Christ is a mirage of our own creation that will be fully rejected by Jesus in the end. Since Jesus is the Christ, He makes clear that His word is not an abstract doctrine, but the re-creation of the whole life of man. It is a call from Jesus, a ***summons to be obedient***.

A summons to be obedient... "Only he who believes is obedient, and only he who is obedient, believes." Faith is only real when there is obedience, never without it, and faith only becomes faith in the act of obedience. Without obedience, our faith becomes false piety, and leads us to a cheap grace, a grace without cost. Something external, outside our control must occur. Jesus must call first. This calling invokes a reaction within us, within the limits of our human freedom, within the natural realm, and in the environment in which we can have the capacity to react. From Scripture we know that Peter was called. Peter could not bring about this calling. He could not bring about his own conversion, but required Jesus' calling him. Then, within Peter's own "sphere of influence," he could react. Peter dropped his nets and followed Jesus. From the Gospels we learn that this act of obedience radically changed Peter's life, his whole existence. We must also realize that this call from Jesus, this external action that causes an internal reaction, is not "in and of itself" salvation. The call cannot, of itself, bring man to Christ. We can give away all our possessions. We can pledge never to get drunk or do drugs. Our internal reaction may free ourselves from the bondage of greed, from alcohol and drug abuse, but it doesn't free us from the bondage to self. If we think that our first step is the pre-condition for faith and grace, we are already judged by our works and excluded from grace. If we deliberately take the first step with the intent of placing ourselves in a situation where faith is possible, even this possibility of faith is nothing more than another work. What this means is that we can only take this step aright if we fix our eyes not of the work we do, but on the word with which Jesus calls us to do it.

We read from Scripture that Peter knew he dare not step out of the boat on his own strength so he cried to Jesus, "Lord, bid me come to thee upon the waters," and Jesus answered, "Come." Christ first called Peter. Peter's first step could only be done if Jesus called him. This call is a grace call, one that drew Peter out from a life of death into a new life of obedience. But... once that call was made, Peter had no choice – Peter had to leave the boat and go to Christ. Peter's first step was an act of faith, faith in the calling of Jesus Christ. We miss the bat, no pun intended, if we think that there was no need for the first step. Faith was already present. Unless Peter obeyed, he could not believe. Likewise, if we do not obey, we cannot believe. I must say that I had the hardest time reconciling this statement, "He who believes, obeys. And he who obeys, believes." At first, this statement really grated on my conscience. Why? Because I continually parsed the phrases into two, separate truths. Yes they are both true, but they cannot be taken separately. When I separated the phrases, I could put anything I wanted in for the "who" to obey and the "what" to believe. Only when I stopped parsing the phrases, when I took them as inseparable could I finally get it. Only "**God**" and "**His commands**" satisfied the "who and what" of this statement. The phrase came to life for me...

"He who believes **God**, obeys **His command**. And he who obeys **God's commands**, believes **Him**."

Grace from God (The Call) giving Faith (Piety) to become His Disciple (Study) in faithful Obedience (Action), which perpetuates Faith (others hear the Call)... all entwined, all interdependent, all required. Pretty simple isn't it? Sometimes it takes me a little time to have things settle in, I guess...

God loves you and so do I,

Kevin



From the Rectora

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Women's number 51 is coming together with a great team. Many prayers have been answered as the team has come together. As we all know this is God's weekend and He has been showing me through many examples that He is in charge. It is such a wonderful experience to see God working in so many areas as the team has come together.

This year God's glory has shown so brightly in His creation. Each day of this spring the colors of the trees have been more beautiful than the day before. How can we see all of this and not give glory to God for all that He does for us.

Please pray for Women's number 51 as we finalize all our plans and as the Pilgrims come to see Christ in a special new way. Also pray that their fourth day will brighten the rest of their lives with a closer walk with Christ.

In Christ's Love,
Mary Ann Sauer

Ohio Women's Weekend # 51
May 20 - May 23 , 2004

Names received by Registrar as of May 17

| Women's Team # 51 | | | Pilgrims and Sponsors | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| Name | Position on Team | Home City | Pilgrim | Sponsor | Church, City |
| Mary Ann Sauer | Rectora | Kettering | Jennifer Broderick | Carol Pretorius | St. Paul Lutheran, Bellville |
| Carol Haroldson | Head Cha | Kettering | Ginny Derhammer | Rhonda Gallagher | Messiah Lutheran, Akron |
| Pastor Dick Burgie | Spiritual Director | Newark | Julie Kerns | Peggy Retherford | Living Word Lutheran, Westerville |
| Pastor Diana Seaman | Spiritual Director | Shiloh | Kathy Seim | Mary Ann Sauer | Good Shepherd Lutheran, Kettering |
| Deaconess Erma Murray | Spiritual Director | Dayton | Rae Ellen Douglas | Mary Miller | Christ Lutheran, Bexley |
| Sandi Troup | Chapel Cha | Miamisburg | Kay Roth | Carol Kromphardt | Abiding Christ Lutheran, Fairborn |
| Linda West | Chapel Cha | Faiborn | Mary Lou Lotito | Archie Pochard | Sacred Heart Catholic, Fairfield |
| Arlene Burgie | Music Cha | Newark | Lagemann | Jim Caldwell | Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus |
| Chris Albrektsen | Palanca Cha | Kettering | Andrea Nagle | Karen Sills | Linden Luth, Columbus |
| Maxine Yike | Palanca Cha | Kettering | Tomma Flint | Judith Neely | Galilee Lutheran, Russells Point |
| Marian Walsh | Gopher Cha | Grove City | Chris Tillman | Donna Gough | St. Matthews Episcopal, Westerville |
| Lynn Steffey | Head Kitchen Cha | Stow | Cathy Stockdale | Mary Ann Sauer | Good Shepherd Lutheran, Kettering |
| Marilyn Baker | Kitchen Cha | Bellville | Barbara Regginello | Debbie Kelley | Grace Lutheran, Columbus |
| Archie Pochard | Kitchen Cha | Hamilton | Bonnie DuMond | Karen Jackson | Grace Lutheran, Columbus |
| Julie Purner | Kitchen Cha | Westerville | Angela Jackson | Greg Zink | St. John's Luth, Zanesville |
| Norma Jackson | Kitchen Cha | Kenton | Jill Smith | Greg Zink | St. John's Luth, Zanesville |
| Cherie Craig | Kitchen Cha | Kent | Sally Sipperley | Greg Zink | St. John's Luth, Zanesville |
| Mary Miller | Hd. Rollo Room Cha | Columbus | Pam Rudolph | David Ridenour | St. Paul Lutheran, Glenford |
| Ann Hughes | Rollo Room Cha | Beavercreek | Beth Rose | Bob Rousculp | St. Paul Lutheran, Glenford |
| Carol Kromphardt | Rollo Room Cha | Fairborn | Flo Harlan | Kathy Glessner | Holy Trinity Lutheran, Mansfield |
| P.J. Musser | Rollo Room Cha | WPAFB | Leena Maki | Kathy Glessner | Holy Trinity Lutheran, Mansfield |
| Millie Becker | Rollo Room Cha | Westerville | Jean Gaunt | Dean & Caryl Gatton | Vineyard Christian Church, Columbus |
| Lucy Gesell | Ideal Rollo | Sandusky | Deborah Shinaberry | | |
| Gloria Kemmet | Laity Rollo | Beavercreek | | | |
| Lynn Ayer | Piety Rollo | Dayton | | | |
| Peggy Retherford | Study Rollo | Galena | | | |
| Kathy Sperling | Action Rollo | Canal Winchester | | | |
| Judie Evans | Leaders Rollo | Huber Heights | | | |
| Julie Overmeyer | Environment Rollo | Columbus | | | |
| Lori Hertlein | CCA Rollo | Carroll | | | |
| Rhea Mathias | Group Reunion / Gopher Cha | Reynoldsburg | | | |
| Christy Brill | Observing Rector | Columbus | | | |
| Jim & Wanda Stalder | Fourth Day Couple | Westerville | | | |

The emergency phone # at the center is :

614-221-1809

THURSDAY & FRIDAY
May 20 & 21

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

SUNDAY May 23

Gather In Kitchen 5:45 AM **QUIETLY!!!**
 Wake-up Serenade - 6:00 AM


Environment 9:15 AM
 Life of Grace 10:10 AM
 Christian Community in Action 11:35 AM
 4th Day 1:00 PM

**Closing - 5:00 PM At Grace Lutheran in
 Columbus on Refugee Rd.
 (Directions next page)**

SATURDAY
May 22

Study 9:00 AM
 Day in the Life 10:20 AM
 Apostolic Action 1:15 PM
 Obstacles to Grace 2:55 PM
 Leaders 4:30 PM

Serenade Practice 5:00 PM
At Livingston United
Methodist in Columbus.
(Directions on next page)



Serenade 6:00 PM

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 (317 S). Bear right onto Hamilton road and proceed as in Cleveland directions..

Directions to Livingston

**SATURDAY SERENADE PRACTICE
LIVINGSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 E. Livingston Ave, Columbus**

From the North. Take I-71 South to Columbus. Take the US-23 / Fourth St exit (100B). Stay straight to go onto E. FULTON ST. Turn LEFT on to 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 (100B), towards FOURTH ST.

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.**

Emphases and Purposes of Clergy Rollos on a Via de Cristo Weekend

The first rollo comes following the ideal talk. On Thursday night we have focused on our sin. We realize that we have fallen far short of our own ideal for ourselves, not to mention God's ideal for us.

Through the first "Grace" rollo, we learn of God's ideal of love for humanity. We hear that Jesus perfectly fulfilled that ideal, and that through him, God showed his perfect love for all of humanity. We emphasize that God's grace is sufficient for everyone, no matter how great the sins they have committed. This grace has been shown throughout all of history, but most clearly in Jesus' death and resurrection.

God's love is supernatural. We don't understand how or why God loves, or the method of salvation God has chosen, but we accept it as a given, because that is what the biblical witness teaches us.

God loves because God chooses to love. God's grace is habitual; God is in the habit of showing love and mercy to God's creation, especially to that part of creation which was made in God's image.

The question we pose over the next few days to the pilgrims is, "What are you going to do about the fact that you are so loved and forgiven?" Having been made aware of the extent of God's grace we are challenged to think about what difference that might make in our lives. We are living in a different reality from those of the world. Can anyone tell? Assured once again that we don't earn God's grace and favor, we are invited to live out God's ideal and grow in our faith and love toward God and our fellow humanity.

*Pastor Laurel Bobb
Spiritual Director of Ohio VdC Secretariat*

**Treasurer's Report 2003
Ohio Via de Cristo
Fiscal Year 2/1/03 - 1/31/04**

Beginning Balance **\$6,700.45**

| <u>Income</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Donations | \$5,122.58 |
| Registrations | \$1,610.00 |
| Pilgrim Offerings | \$1,263.00 |
| Team Offerings | \$5,454.00 |
| Leaders School | \$145.00 |
| Interset Earned | \$10.32 |
| Memorial Gifts | \$151.00 |
| Reimbursement from weekends | \$0.00 |
| Team Manuals | \$158.00 |
| Other | \$25.00 |

Total Income **\$13,938.90**

| <u>Expenses</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| US Post Office | \$2,741.88 |
| Printing | \$3,480.85 |
| Food | \$0.00 |
| NLS Supplies | \$813.13 |
| NLS Dues | \$0.00 |
| NLS Meeting | \$0.00 |
| Leaders School | \$0.00 |
| Royalty (CCLI) | \$0.00 |
| Telephone | \$0.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$662.39 |
| Insurance | \$600.00 |
| Photographer/Photos | \$897.08 |
| Pastor's Transportation | \$0.00 |
| State Ultreya | \$0.00 |
| Bus Transportation | \$755.00 |
| Facilities | \$4,710.00 |
| Office Supplies | \$2,197.61 |
| Weekend Advance | \$0.00 |
| Internet Fees | \$0.00 |
| CD | \$0.00 |

Total Expenses **\$16,857.94**

Ending Balance **\$3,781.41**

Respectfully Submitted 1/17/04 Warren W. Seeley

Pilgrim's Registration Form

One for each Person

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS FULLY SO THAT WE CAN PROVIDE A MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE FOR YOU
PLEASE PRINT



DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

| | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| NAME: <i>Please list any nicknames, maiden names, or other titles you wish to be called</i> | | |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| Street Name and Number | City & State | Zip Code |
| PHONE: Home | Work | Fax |
| Area Code - Number | Area Code - Number | Area Code - Number |
| E-MAIL: <i>If you have multiple e-mail addresses, please list those at which you wish to receive Via de Cristo related electronic messages</i> | | |
| DATE OF BIRTH: | SEX: (Male or Female) | EDUCATION: (Highest Level) |
| MARITAL STATUS: | SPOUSE NAME: (If Applicable) | HAS YOUR SPOUSE ATTENDED Via De Cristo? (If Applicable) |
| YOUR OCCUPATION: | ARE YOU A BAPTIZED CHRISTIAN? | |

CHURCH INFORMATION

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| CHURCH: | |
| Name | City & State |

PERSONAL INFORMATION

| |
|---|
| Food Allergies or Dietary Requirements – For examples: allergic to certain vegetables or nuts. Vegetarian, Low Cholesterol, or Low Sugar |
| Special Medications and/or Medical Requirements – For Examples: Need insulin every morning., C-PAP machine, Needs to sit upright to sleep, etc. |

Please indicate your weekend preference:

First Choice: 1, Second Choice: 2, Third Choice: 3

| | | |
|------|--------|--------|
| Fall | Summer | Spring |
| | | |

SIGNATURES

NOTE: Please prayerfully consider signing this registration form. By signing, you indorse this person as mentally, physically, and spiritually fit to attend the Via de Cristo Weekend in Ohio.

| | | |
|------------|-------|---|
| SPONSOR: | | |
| Signature | Date: | |
| CLERGY: | | COMMENTS: |
| Signature | Date: | |
| CANDIDATE: | | COMMENTS: Special Interests, Activities (Church Service, Community Service, etc.) |
| Signature | Date: | |

Cursillo is a tested and valid renewal movement beginning in the Roman Catholic Church and is now active in many Protestant denominations. The Lutheran expression of this movement is called Via de Cristo (Way of Christ). It is designed for baptized Christians the age of 18 or older who wish to strengthen and nurture their commitment to Christ. Via de Cristo does not provide solutions to serious personal problems, nor does it diminish the importance and necessity of corporate worship through the church. There is no prescribed manner to respond to the Via de Cristo experience.

Via de Cristo weekends begin at 7:00 PM Thursday and end about 8:00 PM on Sunday. The weekend consists of a sequence of inter-dependent events **requiring that each pilgrim be present for the entire weekend**. Couples are encouraged to complete registration forms at the same time, and also encouraged, but not required, to attend the same set of weekends. There is no set charge to attend a weekend, but each pilgrim will be given the opportunity to contribute. Via de Cristo receives no direct financial support from the Lutheran Church.

You will be informed when your registration has been received and processed. At that time, you will be given further information to prepare for your weekend.

Please Check Your Registration Form For Completeness And Accuracy And Give This Form To Your Sponsor(s)

Sponsor's Registration Form

One for each Person



PLEASE BEFORE SPONSORING ANYONE, PRAYERFULLY REVIEW THE "Sponsor Guidelines" PRINTED ON THE BACK OF THIS REGISTRATION FORM
PLEASE PRINT

SPONSOR INFORMATION

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| NAME: | | |
| ADDRESS: | | |
| Street Name and Number | City & State | Zip Code |
| PHONE: Home | Work | Fax |
| Area Code - Number | Area Code - Number | Area Code - Number |
| E-MAIL: <i>If you have multiple e-mail addresses, please list those at which you wish to receive Via de Cristo related electronic messages</i> | | |

SPONSOR CHURCH INFORMATION

| | |
|---------|--------------|
| CHURCH: | |
| Name | City & State |

PILGRIM INFORMATION

| |
|--|
| PILGRIM'S NAME: |
| Why is this person a good candidate for a Via de Cristo weekend? |
| Did you discuss Via de Cristo with the pilgrim's spouse (if applicable)? (Circle One: Y N) Will both attend a weekend? (Circle One: Y N) If both will not attend, please briefly explain the circumstances? |
| Briefly state the pilgrim's attitude toward Via de Cristo? |
| How, <u>SPECIFICALLY</u> , will <u>YOU</u> support the pilgrim in the 4 th day? |
| Any other pertinent information about the pilgrim? |

I have prayerfully considered sponsoring this pilgrim and believe this pilgrim to be mentally, physically, and spiritually stable and capable of experiencing the weekend fully. I understand my responsibilities noted in the "Sponsor Guidelines" printed on the back of this registration form and with the Lord's help, I will do my best to honor them.

| |
|-------------------------|
| Sponsor(s) Signature(s) |
| Sponsor(s) Weekend(s) |

Complete **BOTH** sides of this form and mail with the completed Pilgrim's Registration and your \$15.00 check payable to "Via de Cristo of Ohio" to

Via De Cristo of Ohio
PO Box 53081
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253

Incomplete Registration Forms will be returned to the sponsor(s)
The \$15.00 Registration Fee is **NOT** refundable

Pilgrim Checklist – Does/Is the pilgrim:

Check as Appropriate

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Desire to grow as a Christian and has been baptized? | | |
| Have potential for leadership in his/her environment? | | |
| Have the capacity for careful listening and understanding? | | |
| Seriously open to change? | | |
| Mature, responsible, and in good emotional health? | | |
| Physically capable of fully participating in the weekend? | | |
| Understand that Via de Cristo is much more than just a weekend experience? | | |
| Able to live in a close community with others? | | |
| Really want to attend a weekend? | | |
| Currently experiencing a crisis (family, marital, health, job, etc) *** SEE BELOW*** | | |

Sponsor Checklist – Do/have you, as sponsor(s):

Check as Appropriate

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Been living the 4 th Day and understand the goals of Via de Cristo? | | |
| Prayed for guidance before taking any action toward sponsoring the pilgrim? | | |
| Told the pilgrim about the 4 th Day? | | |
| Ensured that pilgrim really wants to participate, not just do you a "favor?" | | |
| Offered to assist the pilgrim with family support (babysitting, house-sitting, etc)? | | |
| Offered the pilgrim transportation to and from the weekend? | | |
| Agree to support the pilgrim through prayer, palanca, and your presence at Closing? | | |
| Agree to actively assist the pilgrim to join a Reunion Group and participate in Ultreya? | | |
| Agree to support the pilgrim in the 4 th Day for at least six months after the weekend? | | |

Before you approach your pilgrim: Note that a maximum of eight from a given church may attend any given weekend. This is to ensure that the table discussions are varied and that all congregations have an opportunity to send pilgrims to any given weekend

1. The Via de Cristo movement is Christian and provides renewal opportunity for baptized believers in Jesus Christ. The weekend is an emotional and deeply spiritual experience that is not suited for everyone. Your pilgrims should be mentally, physically, and spiritually able to experience the weekend completely and MUST have the endorsement of clergy that know them well enough to provide such endorsement.

2. Clergy endorsement cannot be overemphasized! Check with the endorsing clergy BEFORE approaching a prospective pilgrim to ensure endorsement is forthcoming. Failure to do so can cause serious problems. The clergy may know something about the prospective pilgrim that makes that pilgrim unsuitable for a Via de Cristo weekend at the time you approach them. This does not preclude you from approaching them once the situation is rectified or the clergy is willing to provide endorsement.

When you approach your pilgrim:

3. Once you have clergy concurrence, approach the prospective pilgrim. Answer any questions they may ask. If asked, let the pilgrim know that their weekend has been paid for by those who have gone on previous weekends, by the community, or by the sponsor. Let the pilgrim know that a free-will offering will be received in the spirit of giving. Assist the pilgrim in filling out the Pilgrim's Registration Form to ensure accuracy and completeness.

After your pilgrim agrees to attend:

4. For each registrant, mail the fully completed Pilgrim's Registration AND associated Sponsor's Registration along with the non-refundable \$15.00 (payable to Via de Cristo of Ohio) to the address on the front of this form.

5. Stay in contact with your pilgrim and give your support. Both registrants and sponsors will receive acknowledgement of registration and instructions for the weekend.

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

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 (440) 257-2235.

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 Newsletter by e-mail in 2005

5 more newsletters left in 2004 (after this one)

Starting with the newsletter for the Men's Spring weekend in 2005 ,Ohio Via de Cristo will be going to an all-electronic newsletter.

Included in this newsletter is the 2003 Treasurers Report. You will notice that OUR EXPENSES EXCEEDED INCOME. We really need to reduce our newsletter printing and mailing costs.

The electronic version of the newsletter is free. To read or print it, you must have Adobe Reader, which is a free download from www.adobe.com. **There are 2 ways to get the newsletter electronically:**

- 1) e-mail
- 2) the Ohio Via de Cristo website.

If you are already receiving the newsletter by e-mail, you need do nothing.

TO START RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL → Send an e-mail to Dan Steffey, dsteffey@neo.rr.com indicating that you wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

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For those who must receive the newsletter by regular mail, we will continue to mail the newsletter to you at a cost of \$5 per year.

To receive the newsletter by regular mail, fill out the form below and mail by March 15, 2005:

For newsletter delivered by the Post Office

Name (s) _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please enclose a check payable to Ohio Via de Cristo (\$5 per year) and send it with this form to:

Via de Cristo of Ohio
Warren W. Seeley, Treasurer
3615 Johnstown-Utica Rd.
Johnstown, Ohio 43031