

# Living Waters Via de Cristo

Newsletter

July/August 2009 Issue 146

**ULTREYA**

**Saturday, August 1, 2009**

**St. James Lutheran Church**

**3145 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue**

**Rock Island, Illinois (309)786-0503**

Potluck supper begins at 5:30 PM

Singles/couples please bring one dish to share, families please bring two. Everyone please bring your own table service. Babysitting will be available for children up to 5. Coffee and water and ice are provided by the host church, any other drinks will need to be brought by the community.

## **DIRECTIONS:**

From I-74 W (US-6 W), take Exit 4A (IL-5 W, John Deere Rd) on right 0.3 mi., continue onto IL-5 W (John Deere Rd) 1.9 mi., take IL-5 W (Rock Island) ramp on right 0.4 mi., bear right onto IL-5 (Blackhawk Rd) 1.1 mi., turn right onto 30th St. 1.0 mi., turn right onto 31st Av. 0.1 mi., you are at 3145 31st Ave, Rock Island, IL 61201



**Upcoming dates;**

**Fall Mixed weekend will be held October 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>**

**ROCK RIVER CHRISTIAN CAMP**

**Polo, Illinois**

Please pray about that pilgrim God may want you to sponsor, and find the application attached to the newsletter, or at our website, [www.livingwaterviadecristo.org](http://www.livingwaterviadecristo.org)

## **FROM THE LAY DIRECTORS . . .**

As we accept this position of Lay Directors, we ask for your prayers to help us follow God's will and carry out what He wants the secretariat to do in the next two years. I often have to watch myself at times, because my first words tend to be "no I don't think I can, find someone more able." But I need to remember what Paul said in 1 Cor. 1:18 – 31. It is not our work, but God's. Jesus called ordinary men to follow Him and join Him with His work here on earth. Amazing, but that is what we are. All ordinary people with love for the Lord. To quote a devotion from Our Daily Bread; "He uses those of us who are flawed and frail, so that He can show His strength and grace. He wants those with a willing and available heart". We need to give Him our willingness and answer His call. Think about what you are being called to do for your congregation or LWVdC. Think about whom you can help take a closer walk with Christ. Be available for His call. As we look forward to the Mixed Fall Weekend, there are many ways that you can answer His call to help others experience the weekend. Sponsor a candidate, work team, attend the send off, serenade, or clausura, provide palanca, or pray. We all can do something Do what God calls you to do. Be available!

Pam and Gary Gross  
Lay Directors

## **FROM THE ASSISTANT LAY DIRECTORS...**

"Do You Ever Think Like a Turtle?"

As we walk along the canal walkway in Milan, we often see turtles swimming. Turtles have the blessing of enjoying the warm summer waters and the cool summer nights along the shore. Their lives seem to be quite complete because they literally have a shell for safety to use whenever it may be needed. Inside that shell, the turtle feels safe and secure in its surroundings. The shell protects the turtle from the elements and predators that come its way. When it feels safe and confident, it comes out to eat, meets other turtles, and explores its surroundings. If it senses any danger, it will immediately retreat back to its shell.

Sometimes, when asked to serve others, it's easy to think like a turtle. If I just stay in my shell and don't venture out into the world, I can stay confident and feel safe in what I do know. Once I allow myself to venture into an unknown endeavor, I don't know what will happen or what to expect. I won't feel "safe" anymore. But, an interesting fact to remember is the turtle really never leaves its shell. Even when it comes out of its shell, the shell is still there for protection. The turtle knows it can always retreat inside the shell. As Christians, we are assured that Christ is with us, and He will always be our protection. If you're asked to serve on a LWVDC weekend or try some new leadership role in your church or community, please remember that you are never alone. Christ is your shell, and he will help you in your new role. Get out and meet others and explore your surroundings. There may be times you need to retreat, but you may be surprised at the times you will be blessed when you go exploring.

Thinking like a turtle,  
Jim & Debbie Case  
Assistant Lay Directors

### **FROM THE RECTOR...**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

By the time you read this article, team selection for weekend 40 will already have begun. First I would like to say thank you to those who turned in a participation form to volunteer to be on team. Next I ask for all of you to continue to pray along with the Holy Spirit for team 40 as Debbie Case and I call asking several of our sisters and brothers in Christ to serve along side us on the weekend. Romans 8:26, 27 states, "In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans to deep for words, and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." So I know that through the Holy Spirit and your prayers the right choices will be made for those to serve with us on the weekend. As Paul writes in Philippians 4: 13 "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." God will strengthen all of us as we move forward to the weekend. Join all of us on weekend 40 as we celebrate God's love and Grace to all. Be a part of the weekend in whatever way you can. By praying, being at the send off, the serenade, the closure and being a friend, by bringing a friend to Christ. I look forward to seeing so many of you in October.

God Loves You and so do I

Gary Gross Rector Weekend 40

### **FROM WEEKEND...**

Greeting to the LWVDC community:

First, let me take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Paul Baker and I attended LWVDC weekend number 34. I attend St. John's Lutheran Church in Peru Il., with my wife Kathy and two children Ross and Allison. I was elected to the Secretariat in June to the position of Weekend Chair. Our community means so much to me and it is an exciting time for me as I begin serving you in this new way. I want to thank Nels Lindell for all of his help in my transition into this position.

I know we probably hear this a lot but the weekend is just around the corner. One of my responsibilities is getting the camp set up before the weekend and getting everything packed back up after the weekend is over. Of course I cannot do all of this on my own. So I need the help of the community to get all of this done. The camp is set up on Thursday afternoon of the weekend and everything is packed back up on the Sunday afternoon of the weekend. The dates for the fall weekend are October 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to serve on team for the fall weekend please know that you can still serve in many other ways. One of those ways is in helping on Thursday or Sunday afternoon setting up or packing away. Please feel free to contact me at my home (815-223-2095) or by email ([ptb1818@gmail.com](mailto:ptb1818@gmail.com)) if you have any questions about serving on Thursday or Sunday.

Our God is an Awesome God and it is such a joy to be able to serve Him. It is true; it just keeps getting better and better.

God Loves You And So Do I

Paul Baker

Weekend Chair

### **FROM POST-WEEKEND...**

DeColores Community,

As new Post Weekend Chairs, one of our responsibilities is to find hosts for Ultreyas. In an attempt to get organized, we need your help! We would like to update this list. If your church as ever hosted an Ultreya, please e-mail us that information along with the current VDC contact person's name, telephone number and/or e-mail address.

If your church has NEVER hosted an Ultreya, but might be INTERESTED in hosting one, we would like to have that information, too. Please e-mail or phone us with your church and contact person.

We are excited to serve our Lord and our VDC community in this new capacity and appreciate your assistance.

In Christ,

Bruce and Valorie Daniel

Post Weekend Chairs

LWVdC Weekend #24

[grdma1@hotmail.com](mailto:grdma1@hotmail.com)

309-798-9495

### **FROM COMMUNICATIONS...**

God's peace and love to all of my brothers and sisters of the LWVdC community. I would like to thank you all for your prayers and patience as I am learning this new position to serve our community. I would especially like to thank Linda Berry and Bob Frank for helping me to make this transition as easy possible. And also, Don Riggle for his computer expertise.

**Please note the changes** for e-mail prayer requests, joys and concerns to be shared with the community. E-mails should be sent to Cindy Hart at [prayers@livingwaterviadecristo.org](mailto:prayers@livingwaterviadecristo.org) or [gcharts@att.net](mailto:gcharts@att.net). For those without e-mail, concerns may be mailed to, Cindy Hart 3611 Friendship Farm, Road East Moline Il. 61244. If needed my home phone number is 309-792-9030.

Also, be sure to check out our website [www.livingwaterviadecristo.org](http://www.livingwaterviadecristo.org)

I look forward to the challenges ahead.

Yours in Christ,

Cindy Hart

Communications Chair

**Living Water Via de Cristo**  
Application for the Lutheran Spiritual Renewal Movement  
Affiliated with the Illowa Lutheran Coalition

**I. Applicant Information** *(Please print. Return application to sponsor when completed.)*

Full name \_\_\_\_\_ Age (18 minimum) \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Name or nickname you would like on name tag \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home church \_\_\_\_\_ Denomination \_\_\_\_\_

Church address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor's name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person *(other than spouse)*: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about your current church involvement - activities, positions held, etc. *(Attach sheet if needed.)*

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Please note any special medical or dietary needs, physical limitations, or sleeping arrangements needed:

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Marital Status: Single \_\_\_ Divorced \_\_\_ Widowed \_\_\_ Married \_\_\_ Spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

If married, spouse: has \_\_\_\_\_, will \_\_\_\_\_, will not \_\_\_\_\_, attend(ed) a Via de Cristo or similar weekend  
*(Spouses are encouraged to attend consecutive weekends.)*

Weekend you wish to attend \_\_\_\_\_ Would you be available on short notice if a cancellation occurs? \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Pastor's Signature** *(See information on back.)*

As the applicant's pastor, I offer my support and prayers for my parishioner's participation in this opportunity for growth as a Christian leader.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Sponsor's Information** *(To be filled in by sponsor.)*

Sponsor's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Are you involved in a reunion group? \_\_\_\_\_

Date & location of your VdC or other weekend \_\_\_\_\_ Weekend number \_\_\_\_\_

**Note to the applicant's pastor:**

This member from your congregation has applied to attend an upcoming Via de Cristo weekend sponsored by the Illowa Lutheran Coalition. These weekends are designed to provide faith renewal for Christians by grounding them more fully in God's grace and in the disciplines of prayer, study and service. It is our hope that participants in the weekend will return to their home parishes renewed and better equipped to serve their church as leaders. Therefore we expect participants in the weekend to be active members of their church. Like Marriage Encounter, which seeks to strengthen healthy marriages rather than heal troubled ones, Via de Cristo is designed to strengthen faith rather than provide spiritual conversion for a struggling Christian.

In addition, it is our hope that married persons will be able to attend consecutive weekends so that they can share the experience together. This can be a very positive thing. If one partner is unable to do this, but could at a later date, we encourage the couple to wait. If one partner simply doesn't want to attend a weekend and is unlikely to ever do so in the future, then we wish to know whether or not you as their pastor have any concerns about the impact of the weekend on their marriage.

If you do not have any concerns about your parishioner's involvement in this weekend, we ask for your signature of support. If you have any apprehension, we would appreciate hearing from you in writing. If you wish to talk further to one of our spiritual directors concerning Via de Cristo call Pastor Randy Willers at 309-764-5614. Thank you for taking this under consideration.

**Sponsor's Checklist:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ The applicant's portion of the application (Part I) is complete.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The applicant's check is attached.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The applicant's pastor has signed the application (Part II).
- \_\_\_\_\_ I believe this applicant will benefit from a Via de Cristo weekend.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I have read the responsibilities of the sponsor and agree to abide by them.

Sponsor's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed application, along with a non-refundable deposit of \$25 (make checks payable to Living Water Via de Cristo), to the Pre-Weekend Chairs:

Jerry and Krista Hanson  
1624 S. Main  
Princeton, IL 61356  
815-875-2359

The deposit will be applied to the suggested contribution of \$110.00. Financial assistance is available when needed. **If possible applications should be sent at least five weeks prior to the weekend.**

*Thank you for helping to expand the reach of the VdC movement.*

Illowa Lutheran Coalition  
 Augustana College  
 639 – 38<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Rock Island, IL 61201

<b>NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION</b> <b>U.S. POSTAGE PAID</b> <b>Rock Island, IL 61201</b> <b>PERMIT NO. 224</b>
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Return Service Requested

Living Water Via de Cristo Secretariat Members 2009-2010

Lay Director: Gary and Pam Gross	309-797-5561	ggross@qconline.com
Asst Lay Directors: Jim & Debbie Case	309-787-4895	debjim1277@gmail.com
Spiritual Director:		
Spiritual Director: Pastor Randy Willers	309-764-5614	rwillers@qconline.com
Treasurers: Lisa Vincent	815-875-9123	Glvin922@verizon.net
Secretary: Margie Olson	309-582-7885	Dolson2@winco.net
Pre-Weekend: Jerry and Krista Hanson	815-875-2359	jandkhanson@msn.com
Weekend: Paul Baker	815-223-2095	ptb1818@gmail.com
Kitchen: Augie and Kim Calsyn	319-391-6126	akcalsyn@msn.com
Post-Weekend: Bruce and Valorie Daniel	309-798-9494	grdma1@hotmail.com
Leaders: Arnie and Anne Faber	815-872-1178	alfaff@verizon.net
Palanca: Jeff & Heidi Elkins	309-736-0013	elkins2k@mail.com glyasdi1@live.com
Communications: Cindy Hart	309-792-9030	prayers@livingwaterviade Cristo.org