



River's Edge Via de Cristo Newsletter

Volume 6 Issue 4

May 2008

Weekend #10 – Men's

The recent Men's Weekend (May 1-4) was a great success according to Rector Wayne Ball. The team worked diligently to present an awesome weekend to the seven weekenders.

We welcome Skip Eder, Mark Fischer, Bob Liebmann, Tom Mengel, Denny Sneeringer, Don Wright, and Kevin Wynn into the River's Edge Via de Cristo Community.

First Ultreya after the Weekend: Everyone was so excited that Mark Fischer, Denny Sneeringer, and Kevin Wynn attended their first Ultreya on May 18. Guests Angie Fischer, Sandy Wynn, and Dorothy Kaiser joined their husbands at the Ultreya. Please pray that these women will be able to attend a Women's Weekend.

Ultreya Date Change

September 21 Ultreya has been canceled.

Ultreya has been rescheduled for September 28 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Hilltop Manor, Eureka, MO.

Growing a VDC Community

I think we can all agree that the Via de Cristo (VDC) weekend experience is something that we cherish. Are we keeping it to ourselves? Maybe yes, maybe no. We do have some members of the VDC Community who are

members of other churches; but right now most brothers and sisters of our VDC Community are members of just two churches. We are pleased to have everyone in our community.

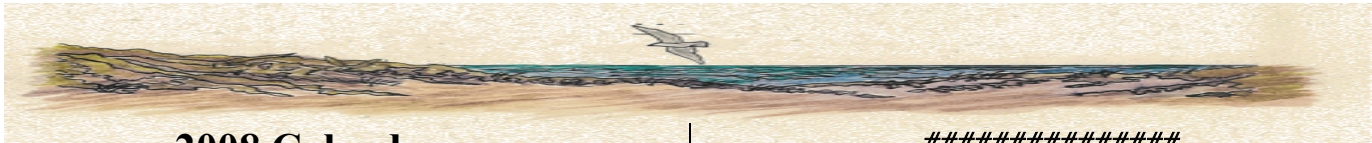
Members of the Secretariat are convinced that our community will never be what it could be unless we expand it to include members who belong to churches other than Zion and St. Mark's. In discussions about how to grow our community, this topic was given a great deal of attention.

Who can do something about this? We all can. How do we start? **We concentrate on a friend who is a leader in a church to which we do not belong.** That's right; invite someone who does not attend your church to attend a weekend. The Via de Cristo Expression is open to all faiths, not just Lutherans.

Make a plan. Give serious thought to a Christian that you know who belongs to a church you do not attend. Once you have identified the person, invite them to go on a VDC weekend with you. If they say "no" the first time, don't be discouraged. Ask again the next year. Work hard to bring success to your plan. Remember to "pray first" and then extend the invitation.

How will our community grow and expand? If each of us identifies a leader in another church -- and brings them to a VDC weekend! Discussions by the Secretariat will not increase the diversity of our community. Each of us must do our part to help the process.

Bob Wardenburg, Lay Director REVDC



2008 Calendar...

August 24 – Ultreya, Zion, Ferguson, MO.
 Food for Fellowship: A-J Salad, K-S Dessert, T-Z Main Dish.

September 4-7 –Weekend #11 – Women’s -- at LaSalle Retreat Center, Eureka, MO.

September 28 – Ultreya, Hilltop Manor, Eureka, MO **(NOTE: Date Change)**. Food for Fellowship: A-J Dessert, K-S Main Dish, T-Z Salad.

November 16 – Ultreya, Zion, Ferguson, MO.
 Food for Fellowship: A-J Main Dish, K-S Salad, T-Z Dessert.

2009 Calendar...

January 11 -- Ultreya

April 30 – May 3 – Weekend #12 – Men’s -- at LaSalle Retreat Center, Eureka, MO

October 29 – November 1 –Weekend #13 – Women’s -- at LaSalle Retreat Center, Eureka, MO

2010 Calendar...

April 29 – May 2 – Weekend #14 – Men’s – at LaSalle Retreat Center, Eureka, MO

September 30 – October 3 – Weekend #15 – Women’s – at LaSalle Retreat Center, Eureka, MO



Pray for the Success of our Weekends and Ultreyas!

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Love is more than a characteristic of God; it is His character.

...the Lord your God...is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him...

Deuteronomy 7:9 NIV

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News From Your Secretariat

Much news is shared at the Secretariat Meetings. There are items brought to Secretariat and votes taken. We'd like to share this information with you each month.

Naming the Weekends

We will now refer to the River's Edge Via de Cristo weekends as
 Weekend #11 - Women's
 Weekend #12 - Men's
 etc.

The weekends now won't look as if we have had 11 Women's Weekends, 12 Men's Weekends, etc.

Ultreya Change

The September 21 Ultreya is cancelled.

The September Ultreya will be scheduled for September 28 at Hilltop Manor in Eureka.



REUNION GROUPS

Are you a member of a reunion group? If not, you are missing a really good thing! Better than that...one of the best things in life!

The Reunion Group keeps your VDC weekend experience alive. Being accountable to others for your Piety, Study and Action is a blessing. Reunion Groups are the “backbone” of any VDC Community. Having close friends who will pray for you and listen to you is priceless. You can find that in a Reunion Group.

To better help our REVDC community, get involved in a Reunion Group. Existing Reunion Groups are identified below. All Reunion Groups have “openings” for you to join. If you cannot attend an existing Reunion Group, contact Bob Wardenburg at r_wardenburg@yahoo.com or 636-394-3422 to start your own group. All you need to start a group is a Pilgrim’s Guide or green card and one other person. It is that simple.

Existing Reunion Groups:

- North County, weekly, Fridays 7:30 p.m. **Women only.** Contact Doris McCall 314-521-8349.
- Maryland Heights, weekly, Thursdays 7:00 p.m. **Men only.** Contact Paul Twillmann 314-599-5759.
- North County/Florissant, Fridays 7:30 p.m. **Women only.** Meet at Dott Twillmann’s house, 12320 Space Drive, Florissant 63033. Contact Gail Voss 314-522-3842.

- Eureka at Hilltop Manor, bi-weekly, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 8:00 a.m. **Women only.** Contact Marilyn Wardenburg 636-394-3422.
- Eureka at Hilltop Manor, monthly, 4th Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. **Men only.** Contact Bob Wardenburg 636-394-3422.
- Eureka in the Prayer Chapel at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, monthly, 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. Contact Bob Wardenburg 636-394-3422.
- Litchfield, IL at Denny’s, weekly, Tuesdays, 12:00 noon. **Co-ed Group.** Contact Marilyn Hamblin 217-324-5215.

Join a Reunion Group or start your own. You will receive an added Blessing from God by doing so!



Thanks to Pastor Ron and Sandy Schuette for organizing the May 18th ultreya. The program on The Holy Spirit was most inspiring!

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News from Community...

A note from Erik Loza, previously a member of our REVDC Community:

Ulmira and I are in Van Nuys, CA. Van Nuys is a suburb of Los Angeles. I am serving at First Lutheran Church of Van Nuys at a small congregation that wants to reach out to the mostly Hispanic neighborhood. We are so blessed to be here.

Ulmira and the children will soon fly to Bolivia for two and a half months. Ulmira is from there. She hasn't seen her dad and brother for about six years so it will be quite a reunion. On top of that, her other brother who lives in Missouri will also be flying out, in July, with his family. So it will truly be a big event. I plan to fly out in late July for three weeks. I have my uncle, aunt and cousins out there, too.

Please tell those who know me that I said hi. I still get the VDC emails, so I will continue to pray for future weekends.

God's continued blessings,

Erik

(Editor's Note: Some of the community may want to communicate with Erik...
erikloza@yahoo.com.)

VDC National Gathering

The "National Gathering" of Via de Cristo is being held in Phoenix, AZ from July 24-27. The format of this National Gathering is like a VDC weekend on a grand scale. It is being held on the campus of the Grand Canyon University. All rooms are private and air-conditioned. Cost is \$170 before June 1, and \$195 after June 1. Go to www.viadecristo.org to find an application. Click on "Annual Meeting."

Ultreyas

Will take a break for summer.

The next Ultreya will be

Sunday, August 24

3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Zion Lutheran Church,
Ferguson, MO**

**Mark your calendars,
plan now to attend!!**

Have a terrific summer!



It's Not Too Early

Rectora Pam Statler is gathering women for the Weekend #11 Team. Contact Pam at 314-921-8077 or pstatler@charter.net.

Mark your calendars – September 4-7.

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Why Am I Here, Lord?

To pray for Community.

To pray for growth in River's Edge VDC!

To pray without ceasing!

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Remember, God Loves You...

And So Do We!!