



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

De Colores!

VOLUME 38, ISSUE 5

June 1, 2017

Did you read this in Guideposts? **“Help is a prayer. And by Help, I mean Hello Eternal Loving Presence.”**
Michael Bernard, life coach

Prayer, the ultimate experience

God's Blessings to all:

As your Prayer Chain coordinator, I thank everyone for sending in their prayer requests and for helping to keep our prayer chain active. I believe in prayer with all my heart and have been witness to many answered prayers. It is through prayers that we become closer to the Lord and wait with anticipation for our answers.

I had the privilege of serving on the recent Co-ed #2 Weekend the end of April and I have to say that when Prayer Palanca was introduced and the list was shown to the Pilgrims of all the names of people praying for us on the Weekend, it was an overwhelming feeling, to say the least—not only for the Pilgrims but also for the Team. No matter how many teams I serve on, that same tremendous feeling of Grace was just such a strong emotional feeling.

The chas also brought out a huge paper chain with all the names of people praying which wrapped around the room with at least six people holding it. You cannot believe the look on the Pilgrims' faces when they visually saw this! There were names they knew as well as so many they didn't even know. I know the Pilgrims sitting at my table were just amazed that people they didn't know were praying for them. I am so thankful and blessed that I was able to experience that with the Pilgrims.

Serving on the weekends is a great reward, but if you are unable to serve, you have no idea what your Prayer Palanca means to someone else. Please continue to keep the Weekends in your prayers and when you get the chance, please choose a specific time to pray during a Weekend, and know that your prayers are touching the lives of so many people.

God loves you and so do I!

Vicky Sakala, VdCOhio Prayer Chain Coordinator
418-884-1573 or prayingforvdc@gmail.com

Dear Via de Cristo family,

This year I have been tasked with adding some more current songs into the VdC songbook. In an effort to respect where we have been, no song will be removed but instead there will be an insert created to give music chas more choices. When I went on my first weekend 23 years ago, a lot of churches didn't have contemporary worship services so the music in the songbook was something you only sang on a weekend. Contemporary worship is in most Lutheran churches now, as well as many others, and as a result, a lot of our pilgrims will be familiar with current Christian music. My goal for our music is to respect the songs of the past while appealing to a new generation of pilgrims with access to iTunes and Christian radio! I will be giving Secretariat my recommendations but wanted to add some of yours. Email them to me at jenbriner@yahoo.com.

God loves you, I love you
Jen

UPCOMING EVENTS

VdC Ohio Annual Meeting June 17, 2017 at Mt. Gilead State Park Pavilion #1
(See attached flyer)

VdC National Gathering July 27-30, 2017 at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem NC

Men's Weekend #75 August 3-6, 2017 at St. Leonard's Retreat Center in Avon
Rector Fred Gesell, wgesell@aol.com or 419-271-6031, is forming the Team.
Head Cha Doug Burrows, Spiritual Directors Pr. Paul Schmidlin and Pr. Gerry Gosnell

Women's Weekend #79 August 17-20, 2017 St. Leonard's Retreat Center in Avon
Rector Leslie Crowe, leslie.crowe@aol.com or 440-842-7409, is forming the Team.
Head Cha Alice Chadbourne, Spiritual Directors Pr. Thonda Gallagher and Pr. DarlaAnn Kratzer

Co-Ed Weekend #3 May 3-6, 2018 at St. Peter and Paul Retreat Center in Newark
Rector Bob Gsellman and Head Cha Sharon Gsellman

Clergy Experience #3 Monday October 1-Thursaday October 4, 2018
St. Peter and St. Paul Retreat Center, Newark
Rector Dick Brenneman and Lead Spiritual Director Pr. Doug Pretorius
Please mark your Calendar and invite some Pastors to introduce them to
Via de Cristo methodology and to love on them and show them Grace.

Further information for ALL of these will be in upcoming Newsletters

If you would like to be part of a Team, contact the Rector or Lay Director Butch Seeley

VdC Ohio Annual Meeting on Saturday June 17

The Ohio VDC Annual Meeting will be held this year on Saturday, June 17th at the **Mt Gilead State Park Pavilion #1** with fellowship starting at **1:00 pm**. The annual business meeting itself will begin at 2:00 pm followed by **Worship with Holy Communion**, and the **pot luck dinner** will begin at 3:00pm. The Ohio VDC Secretariat will be providing hot dogs, hamburgers and a selection of drinks. Please bring with you a side dish or picnic snacks or dessert to share. We will have 25 tables and there are a bunch of electrical outlets available. We will have music, live and digitized, to lift our praise and thanks to the Lord in **song**. The more **guitars and voices**, the merrier!

At the business meeting, we'll vote for Assistant Lay Director and Treasurer, each for a two-year term. Biographies of the candidates follow this article. Nominations will also be open from the floor; consent of the nominees is required.

The fun can go all evening! We will be setting up activities for everyone before the fellowship and after the dinner. If you have corn-hole boards, bocce, basketballs, Frisbee golf discs, etc., please bring them to share and enjoy. We have a nice fireplace in the pavilion where we can roast marshmallows and sing around the fire into the evening hours.

The Mt. Gilead State Park is located east of the City of Mt. Gilead off of route 95 (west from I-71). Address: 4119 State Route 95, Mount Gilead, OH 43338-9586, Phone Number 419-946-1961.

The Park has 59 camping sites available if you would like to make a weekend out of the meeting. The very nice web site for the park is <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/mountgilead>. From there you can get directions, a park map and make your reservations for your camp site if you'd like to stay overnight. (Some families have already reserved.)

GLYASDI

Mark Ludrosky, Logistics Coordinator

Candidate for Via de Cristo-Ohio Assistant Lay Director



My name is Christine Gosnell Brill, and I attended VdC-Ohio Women's Weekend # 36 at the Cum Christo Center in downtown Columbus in the fall of 1998 where I sat at the table of Rebeccah (I never did figure out how it was spelled that weekend). I currently attend St Andrew's Anglican Church in Lewis Center, Ohio with my husband Dan Brill, who attended Ohio Men's Weekend #44 also at the Cum Christo Center in April 2001 (the weekend before we were married).

Both Dan & I have been active with Via de Cristo of Ohio since attending our weekends. Personally, I have served on 14 different teams in several different roles, with the most recent being the Leaders professor for Clergy Experience #2 that was held this past October. I had the honor to be called as Rector to VdC-OH Women's #53, and Dan and I have been blessed to be the 4th Day Couple on four different occasions. In addition to assisting with Leaders' School (now "Weekend Orientation") over the years, we also participate as much as possible by attending Ultreyas, Serenades, and Closings (at all of which Dan is often seen with a guitar strapped to his back).

I was first asked to be a member of Secretariat 8 years ago by Cathy Doering when I took on the role of Archivist. Four years ago, Warren "Butch" Seeley asked me to stretch myself and serve as the Technology Media Specialist, which means I am basically in charge of all things involving the Web site, Facebook, and the official VdC-OH Roster. My greatest achievements as the Tech Specialist are the re-design of the vdcOhio.org Web site with the assistance of Katrina Bruns, and the launch of our official VdC-OH Facebook page (have you "liked" our page Facebook yet?).

Besides VdC, Dan and I are active in our home congregation. Having both participated in the Worship Band for the past 7 years, I recently took on the role of Handbell Choir Director which has been a very humbling experience. Additionally, I assist with the flower garden ministry, have helped with the youth ministry, and am a member of a small singing group with Dan and 2 other couples that presents special music every couple of months.

Last year, I left corporate America, and currently I work part time as acting-CFO and Office Manager for Dan's small contracting business and am also a marketing professional for a local Thrivent Financial representative. Both jobs afford me the opportunity to work from home most days and allow me to spend time on my hobbies of nature photography, bird watching, and Social Media (although if you're friends with me on Facebook you know I would rather spend all my time birding).

As the Assistant Lay Director of Via de Cristo of Ohio, my goals will be to establish a team to help in the continued development of our Web site and social media presence, to recruit new members to serve on Secretariat or be members of sub-committees/teams, and to update the weekend experience to entice the younger generations to attend weekends and become involved.

Candidate for Via de Cristo-Ohio Treasurer Raleigh Sandy

I sat at the table of Luke at the Ohio Men's Via De Cristo #51 at the Holy Cross Center, Columbus, OH, on September 24-28, 2003. I have served a number of weekends on teams and served as Assistant Lay Director for the Ohio VDC and Rector for VDC #6. I am now serving my first term as Treasurer.

I attend Abiding Christ Lutheran Church in Fairborn, Ohio, where I serve on the staff as the Director of Lay Ministries. The congregation is currently actively supporting worship each Sunday for two services and a Wednesday evening service that provides lay ministry support to the community through outreach to meet the hunger, health, housing, transportation, and benefit counseling needs in the congregation and community.

My reunion group meets every Monday at noon to break bread and share our fourth day commitment. I left the group for a while to make an effort to get other groups started. Hopefully these groups will develop into lasting groups as our Monday group which has existed since the spring of 2003.

My favorite moment during a VDC weekend was shared by my table of Luke when I was a pilgrim. Several men at the table had never had an experience with Christ and became aware of His presence during the weekend. We had to leave the rollo room several times to visit the chapel to pray and comfort our fellow table members. Most of these members have now served on subsequent weekends.

I see a weakness in our effort as leaders to lead and assist our members in their fourth day commitment. I feel there is a need to find a way to follow up with our members, supporting their efforts to participate in reunion groups and become accountable to themselves, their congregation, their community, and to the Lord.

I am a retired Air Force officer, a certified tax practitioner, and certified substitute teacher. I am very active in the Boy Scout Program and serving as Chairman on the Central District National Eagle Scout Association Scholarship Committee.

Editor's note: The goal of Via de Cristo is to strengthen people of faith and to equip people of faith to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in their environments. That takes on many forms! Most Cursillistas (that means people who've been on a VdC Weekend as Pilgrims) become more active in their churches; many start new groups such as for Bible study or teaching children or serving their community; some boldly witness to strangers on the street or in a store; some become Christian mentors to family members or co-workers. They stay connected to VdC through Reunion Groups and/or Ultreyas. Some become very active as Team members or Secretariat members. Some stay connected with the website, on Facebook or reading the Newsletter. Most value their connection by prayer. I don't know all the possible ways that Christ is counting on you and you on Him. But I would love to hear your version, your story, and share it with the Community. Tell me! Email to vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com or send by USMail to 4025 Andrews Rd., Bellville, 44813.

Joy! Nancy Martin

Ultreya News

June Ultreya in the Cincinnati Area

This Saturday June 3 at 6:30 (but time is subject to change—check with Kevin)

Cincinnati area Ultreyas are usually the first Saturday of each month at 4:30pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mt. Healthy. Address is 1553 Kinney Avenue, Cincinnati 45231. For questions, please **call Kevin Hoch, 513-931-8797**.

June Ultreya in the Parma/Cleveland Area

A Spring Ultreya is planned on **Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 3PM** at Divinity Lutheran Church, 11877 Blossom Avenue, Parma Heights, 44130. We will have a small group Bible Study led by Pastor Doug Gunkelman and Holy Communion will Potluck to follow. Bring a dish to share. Meat will be provided. All are invited. See attached flyer. Call Leslie Crowe at leslie.crowe@aol.com, 440-263-4552 or Judy Junker at JudyJJunkmail@aol.com, 440-537-0867 with any questions. God loves you and so do we.

July Ultreya in the Bellville Area

The next Bellville Ultreya will be **Sunday, July 30 at 3:00pm** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 48 Church Street, Bellville 44813. There will be Worship, Holy Communion, and Potluck with table service and drinks provided. Call Ken & Josie Riling, 419-886-2437, or Paul & Vicky Sakala, 419-884-1573 for questions.

Bellville Ultreyas will be the second Sundays of January, April, July and October

North Dayton Ultreyas are usually the third Saturdays of every month at 7pm at the United Christian Church, 8611 Hoke Rd, Clayton, OH 45315. (Bring snack to share.) For questions, please call Wes Scoates at 937 533-7605.

COLUMBUS ULTREYA

Once each quarter, From 5:30pm-8:30pm, at All Shepherds Lutheran Church, 6580 Columbus Pike [RT 23], Lewis Center, Ohio. 43035. The next ones are Saturday September 23, 2017 and Saturday December 9, 2017 For more information contact Warren [614.332.1357](tel:614.332.1357) or Wendy [614.332.1352](tel:614.332.1352) Seeley.

KENT Area Ultreyas

Ultreyas in the **Akron-Kent area** of Ohio are often the third Saturday of a month at Trinity Lutheran Church, 600 S. Water Street at 4:30 pm. There will be Worship with Holy Communion, a topic for discussion, and potluck will follow with table service and drinks provided. For more information, please call Dave Lann, 330-296-6929, or Pr. Doug Fidler, 330-673-5445. For June, the Annual Meeting/Grand Ultreya will be the third Saturday. (See attached flyer.)

For assistance to find or form a Reunion Group for your Pilgrim—or yourself—contact Fourth Day shepherd Dave Lann, vdclann@yahoo.com or 330-296-6929. He can look in the VdC Archive for names of people in your area and give you their most recent contact information. But some of the info in the Archive is out of date. If you know people who haven't received a Newsletter or heard from a VdC friend in a while, please send their new contact information to **Secretariat Webmaster and Data Collector Christine Brill** (goosebrill@msn.com or 614-579-8586), or **Newsletter Editor Nancy Martin** (vdnewsletterohio@gmail.com or 419-886-4420).

Letter from Rector Fred Gesell, Men's #75

I have spent much time recently in reflection of my life. My wife of 47 years recently died and one of my grandsons just left for the Navy. One tends to review life's events at these times. I remember my wedding and the birth of the grandchildren and the birth of my children, all of these significant things which are life changing events. One of those things is my Via de Cristo weekend. Also, I remember serving on a team for the first time. I remember most of those whom I sponsored and became involved with in a group reunion. These things changed not only my life, but also the lives of others.

I mention this to remind you that that your weekend was likely a life changing event for you as well. You have an opportunity to share this experience with someone. I would like to ask you for the next two weeks in your daily prayers to ask God to reveal someone to you who needs to know Christ better. You will be surprised what happens when you pray earnestly.

We have an outstanding team of men who have committed their time and talents to this weekend. Please pray, as we are, for the people who need to be with us on this journey. You are the only one who knows their name as God reveals it to you. When I think about those I have sponsored and how they have helped and encouraged me in my life, I can only praise God for them. They are only there for me because of the Weekend experience. Do not miss this opportunity to be a friend.

Also, there a few team positions available; contact me if you wish to serve (wgesell@aol.com or 419-271-6031).

If God is calling, please answer!

In Christian love

Fred Gesell, Men's #14

Men's Weekend #75 Team

Role	Name	Role	Name
Rector	Fred Gesell	Ideal Rollo	John Dagg
Head Cha	Doug Burrows	Laity Rollo	Ron Craig
Spiritual Director	Pr. Paul Schmidlin	Piety Rollo	Dan Paterson
Spiritual Director	Pr. Gerry Gosnell	Study Rollo	Dan Brill
Chapel Cha	John Glass	Apostolic Action Rollo	Bob Gsellman
Music Cha	Stuart Smith	Leaders Rollo	
Palanca Cha	Walt Frasher	Environment Rollo	Tony Paradiso
Head Kitchen Cha	Skip Dodds	Christian Community Rollo	Norbert Peiker
Kitchen Cha	Les Bigalow	Reunion/Ultreya Rollo	Fred Gesell
Kitchen Cha	Ray Wasson	Rollo Room Cha	Kevin Larkins
Kitchen Cha		Rollo Room Cha	Sandy Mueller
Kitchen Cha		Rollo Room Cha	
Go-fer Cha		Rollo Room Cha	
4 th Day Couple		Rollo Room Cha	

Letter from Rector Leslie Crowe, Women's # 79

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As I am in the process of completing the Team for Women's Weekend #79, I find that I am blessed to have so many women say yes to the call to serve. It started with Alice Chadbourne who said yes most enthusiastically to serving as Head Cha. Having filled that role on a previous week, I know that it can be daunting and I clapped when she said yes. Pastor Rhonda Gallagher has answered the call to be lead Spiritual Director and we pray for another to join her in this essential role. Pastor Rhonda is also enthusiastic about serving. I thank God for her.

In fact I sang a song of praise to God for each woman who said yes to the call to serve. I want to publically say thank you to each of you. There are a few openings but I am counting on God to help me fill them. If you hear His call, please get in touch with me. My phone number 440-842-7409 or email leslie.crowe@aol.com.

Please keep in mind that we will call on the greater Ohio Via de Cristo family for support to be praying for this weekend. Please, men and women, look at your environments—family, friends, church members, fellow employees and neighbors--to see women you can encourage to attend this weekend. Pray about it and then invite her. Talk to your reunion sisters or brothers and see what you might do to support the weekend by taking a prayer time when asked. Perhaps you can supply palanca in the form of food, table palanca or other things if asked. We are a Community and as such we are called to support one another.

Again we ask for continued prayer for this weekend, prayers for pilgrims and team alike. "Here Am I, Send Me"

Peace, Leslie Crowe

Rectora, Women's Weekend #79

Team Roster

Role	Name	Role	Name
Rector	Leslie Crowe	Ideal Rollo	Fran Dieter
Head Cha	Alice Chadbourne	Laity Rollo	Kathy Deily
Spiritual Director	Pr. Rhonda Gallagher	Piety Rollo	
Spiritual Director		Study Rollo	Jane Koch
Chapel Cha	Lana Gray	Apostolic Action Rollo	Cathy Doering
Music Cha		Leaders Rollo	Marilyn Sesock
Palanca Cha	Beth Minton	Environment Rollo	Nancy Schuman
Palanca Cha/Escort Cha	Chris Dieter	Christian Community Rollo	Judy Junker
Head Kitchen Cha	Jill Clark	Silent Profesor	Janet Schoch
Kitchen Cha	Diane Conroy	Rollo Room Cha	Jeri Shobel
Kitchen Cha	Linda Grand	Rollo Room Cha	Andrea Anderson
Kitchen Cha		Rollo Room Cha	Susan Weber
Kitchen Cha		Rollo Room Cha	Melissa Stitt
4 th Day Couple	Bob and Sharon Gsellman	Go-fer Cha	

These are other 4th Day Weekends in North America for which you might pray:

June 1-4, 2017	Women's #190(Spanish)	San Diego, CA
June 1-4,2017	Men's #894 (English/Filipino)	Pomona, CA
June 1-4, 2017	Women's #172 (English)	Newark, NJ
June 1-4, 2017	Men's #282 (English)	Toronto, Ontario (Canada)
June 1-4, 2017	Men's Cursillo (English)	Boise, ID
June 1-4, 2017	Men's Cursillo (Spanish)	Harrisburg, PA
June 1-4, 2017	Men's 1 (Spanish)	Evansville, IN
June 1-4, 2017	Cursillo Conference (English)	Grande Prairie, Alberta (Canada)

“VDC Weekend Materials on the Move”

Now that the Ohio VDC no longer uses the Columbus Center, our weekend materials must be stored and available to go anywhere. Since the last article on this topic went out, a new covered trailer has been purchased and was used for the Coed Weekend #2. All went very well with the first use of the trailer. We are now able to store all of the weekend materials and the portable wall panels which are used for room separation. The Secretariat had a large donation to pay for most of the cost of the unit, but we are still collecting donations towards the trailer to help pay for the remainder which had to come out of our normal expense account. Any support in this regard is appreciated.

GLYASDI,
 OVDC Logistics Coordinator,
 Mark Ludrosky
 (330) 882-4244 mludrosky1@neo.rr.com



PS You notice it’s shiny and plain. Any volunteers to paint it with VdC identification and “pretty it up”??

Secretariat

<p>Lay Director Warren Seeley (614) 332-1357 harleyrider751@ymail.com Asst. Lay Director Chuck Fahnestock (937) 238-6170 charles.fahnestock@wright.edu Secretary Kevin Hoch (513) 931-8797 khoch@cinci.rr.com Treasurer Raleigh Sandy (937) 885-1868 sandyjr@donet.com Spiritual Director Pastor G. Karl Gaston (614) 364-3110 jgaston550@yahoo.com coach Butch Seeley (614) 332-1357 harleyrider751@ymail.com</p>	<p>Logistics Coordinator Mark Ludrosky (330) 882-4244 mludrosky1@neo.rr.com Fourth Day Shepherd. Dave Lann (330) 296-6929 vdclann@yahoo.com Prayer Chain. Vicky Sakala 419-884-1573 prayingforvdc@gmail.com Music Adviser. Jen Briner (614) 901-0896 jenbriner@yahoo.com Palanca Cha Sherry Patterson (740) 262-0563 dcsfp20@the-franklins.net Registrar Kevin Hoch (513) 931-8797 khoch@cinci.rr.com</p>	<p>Rector/Weekend Orient Dick Brenneman (740) 398-0945 dbbrenneman@gmail.com Technology Media Specialist. .. Christy Brill (614) 899-7429 goosebrill@msn.com Newsletter Editor. Nancy Martin (419) 886-4420 vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com Contact Lay Director Warren “Butch” Seeley with your interest in serving on Secretariat. Contact 4th Day Shepherd Dave Lann with your interest in reaching out to people in your area of Ohio to encourage them for Reunion Groups and Ultreyas.</p>
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Secretariat meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month. You are welcome to attend. Contact Lay Direct Butch Seeley for the place of each meeting. For 2017, they will be in person at 10am in March, May, July, September and November. They will be by conference call at 10am in February, April, June, August and October.

VdC Prayer Chain is prayingforvdc@gmail.com or by phone at 419-884-1573. Vicky Sakala is Prayer Chain Cha.

If you know someone from the Via de Cristo Community who has changed their street address or email address or telephone number, or does not get the VdCNewsletter but would like to, please send the new information to Newsletter Editor Nancy Martin at 419-886-4420 or vdsnewsletterohio@gmail.com or 4025 Andrews Road, Bellville, OH 44813.



Via de Cristo of Ohio is now on Facebook!

We hope you will “like” our new Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/viadecristooh>

Get on the Web – Ohio Via de Cristo www.vdcOhio.org
 National Via de Cristo Website www.viadecristo.org
 Kairos Website www.kairosOhio.org