



*Via de Cristo of Ohio Newsletter*

*Affiliated with the National Lutheran Secretariat*

# De Colores!

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VOLUME 40, ISSUE 6

July 20, 2019

Hello Community,

Due to unforeseen circumstances with the Rector situation, on top of only having one pilgrim signed up we will not be having the women's fall weekend. I will talk to anyone whose applications that happen to come in and let them know of future weekends when we get them.

On the same thought we only have one men's application, and we need seven more by Sept. 7.

I was asked to recap what I talked about during the Ultreya at our annual meeting and picnic. I passed out a trifold pamphlet that explains Via de Cristo. Went over key words from different sections describing the who, what, where, why and when. I mentioned that VdC is a living Christian community while emphasizing UNITY in the word community.

I then talked about two more words. The first one was wait. The second was want. I then had them break off in three groups, each to discuss three questions.

1. Why do we wait?
2. Whose want is it?
3. Does your church post Via de Cristo events in bulletins, flyers, etc.?

The "wait" part discussed overall why we as humans wait. Some things mentioned were fear of something not happening, or waiting to see what else comes along before making a commitment. With regard to VdC, we should be talking to pilgrims about VdC Weekends for the future, and then invite them as Weekends become available. Get the applications in early so we know there is a real interest in being part of it instead of just going to make numbers.

The "want" part entailed whose want is it. When we invite anyone to anything, is it because you want them to do it or would they really want to do it. As far as VdC when we invite them for a weekend, is it because we want them or do they really want to find out about it. One comment that really stood out was asking them what they expect from the Weekend. If it's about away

time in a basic retreat setting of relaxation, it needs to be explained that VdC is a short course of study with time being planned out for the whole weekend. It can't be properly described without living it. If the interest is still there, get the applications in.

The last is we need to be visible. Does your church support VdC by letting people know what it is, and posting things about it? We need to be careful to remember that we are there to be part of our churches, not to be a church within the church. Work with your pastors, not against them.

We as a community need to remind ourselves that Christ is counting on us.

God bless,  
 Dave Lann, Lay Director, VdC Ohio

**VdC Events for 2019**  
 Offered for your prayer and planning

<p align="center"><b>July 25-28</b>                  Thursday-Sunday</p>	<p align="center"><b>National Lutheran Secretariat                  Annual Gathering</b></p>	<p align="center">University of Indianapolis                  1400 East Hanna Avenue                  Indianapolis 46217</p>
<p align="center"><b>November 7-10</b>                  7 pm Thursday to                  6 pm Sunday</p>	<p align="center"><b>Men's Weekend #76</b></p>	<p align="center">Akron Rotary Club                  4460 Rex Lake Drive                  Akron 44319</p>

DC Prayer Chain is [prayingforvdc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.vdcoho.org](http://www.vdcoho.org)

National Via de Cristo Website [www.viadecristo.org](http://www.viadecristo.org)

Kairos Website [www.kairosohio.org](http://www.kairosohio.org)

## A letter from Christy Brill, Rector of Co-Ed #4

### CO-ED #4 FINAL WORDS from the RECTOR

It's been just over a month since Co-Ed #4 concluded, and on one hand it seems like just yesterday we were all gathered in the chapel at Sts. Peter and Paul, while on the other hand it seems like eons ago. I, for one, have fallen back into my normal day-to-day activities but know that the weekend was able to "renew a right spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10b)

Every weekend is different. Every weekend has its own vibe. Every weekend bestows different blessings to the participants. Every weekend withstands an onslaught of challenges from Satan. And Co-Ed #4 definitely had its memories, starting with our Head SD along with 4 other team members being pulled over for going a "tad" too fast while taking the scenic route to get to the center, and ending with our brave chas, "Batman & Robin," hunting and successfully capturing the "bat in the belfry". We bonded, we sang, we laughed, we cried, we learned, we grew, and we (well, not me, but everyone else) clapped off-beat. Through it all, we developed as Christian leaders, grew deeper in faith, and now share the common bond of Co-Ed #4 that can never be taken away from us. For that, I am extremely thankful to God.

New this Weekend was the use of the website SignUpGenius.com to organize our 72-hour Prayer Palanca Chart. Hopefully those of you who signed-up to pray for Co-Ed 4, found it easy to use as well as beneficial. This web site allowed us to:

- 1—reach more cursillistas who may not have otherwise been asked to pray,
- 2—automatically send reminders to those who signed-up with valid email addresses, and
- 3— email to prayer warriors the participation list, tentative times of activities, and a prayer tip sheet.

Due to the positive feedback received thus far, Secretariat has agreed to use SignUpGenius for Weekends going forward as a supplement to the Prayer Palanca sheets used by team members, and hopefully we will be able to use it for other sign-ups in the future such as food donations.

Finally, a few notes of gratitude:

- Thank you to the entire Via de Cristo community! If you were a sponsor, prayer warrior, serenader, palanca giver, or family member who supported us anytime from the team building process throughout the entire Weekend and the Closing, much appreciation is given.
- Thank you to the team members! You took time out of your busy schedules for several months to help build God's team. To you I bestow God's blessings and love.
- And last but absolutely not least, a huge shout out to my very special Head Cha Dick Brenneman, Dick's wife Bonnie, Head SD Rhonda Gallagher, and my Music Cha & always devoted husband Dan Brill. You kept reminding me that God is in control and to stop sweating the little (and especially the big) stuff. Without you, I would not have been able to be the leader God called me to be. To you, I owe my deepest gratitude and honor.

Remember: Christ is Counting on You!

And I am definitely counting on Christ!

Christine Gosnell Brill

DC-OH Assistant Lay Director

Rector, DC-OH Women's #36 & Co-Ed #4



Via de Cristo of Ohio  
Co-Ed Weekend #4, May 30-June 2, 2019

## **A Note from The Registrar**

The next scheduled Women's and Men's Weekends are quickly approaching. Yes, the Weekends themselves are not until October 3-6 and November 7-10 respectively, so that makes it seem like there is plenty of time. But remember, a Weekend will not proceed unless there are 8 applications in the Registrar's hands two months in advance of the Weekend's scheduled date. And that deadline is just around the corner. Those deadlines are August 3 – that's right, August 3 - for the Women's Weekend and September 7 for the Men's Weekend. So, the time to invite your friend to a Weekend is now.

Is there someone you've been thinking about lately that you feel God is leading you to ask to attend a Weekend? Perhaps it's someone from your church or perhaps it's a neighbor or a coworker. Whoever it may be, now's the time to say a prayer and ask that person. Please don't wait until you know the Weekend is going to happen before asking your friend to attend. Ask them now. It could be that your friend's application will be the one that makes the difference between the Weekend happening and the Weekend being cancelled.

Here's some advice I have given before but I think is worth repeating. When asking your friend to attend a Weekend, tell them the scheduled dates. Obviously, they need to know those in order to plan their schedules. However, I suggest that you tell them up front that there is a minimum number of Pilgrims required to hold a Weekend so it's possible that these dates may change. The important thing is that you get a commitment from your Pilgrim to attend a Weekend, so that if, by chance, the next scheduled Weekend is cancelled, your Pilgrim can look forward to attending a Weekend at a future date.

The address for the Weekends is Akron Rotary Club, 4460 Rex Lake Drive, Akron 44319.

Sponsor's and Pilgrim's applications are available on our website [www.vdcoho.org](http://www.vdcoho.org). They can also be requested from Editor Nancy Martin by email from [vdcohionewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:vdcohionewsletter@gmail.com) or by US Mail at 4025 Andrews Rd., Bellville 44813.

Return the completed applications to Registrar Kevin Hoch at 2691 Altura Drive, Cincinnati 45231.

Remember, Christ is counting on us.

God's Peace.

Kevin Hoch, Registrar

## Reunion Groups—and a Special Request

Just like people, Reunion Groups come in all shapes and sizes . . . and locations.

I received an email from a VdC friend, Judy Back, requesting a connection to an unusual Reunion Group, **a virtual Reunion Group conducted via social media**. She is a faithful Christian who believes the words on the back of her cross and the response she made when she received it on her weekend. (Do you remember yours? “Christ is counting on you,” it said, and I hope you responded “And I am counting on Him.”)

Judy and Jim Back are full-time co-drivers for Fed Ex Custom Critical which has taken them all over the country with little time at home. Read on for her request.

**“Jim and I are still over the road (8 years now). I have been a part of a couple Facebook groups and thought about our reunion groups. I would like to see if I could be a part of a group; the difficulty is that I would need to do it via phone, FaceTime or video conferencing. Would you happen to know any active groups that might be willing to give it a shot or I would be glad to start one. I just haven’t stayed up with everyone since I’ve been on the road. I’d appreciate any input you might have.”**

Well, I have no input to give her. That is until YOU give me some input about whether you are part of such a group that she may join or would like to join with her to form such a group. It sounds intriguing to me—how about you? Contact Judy at [judyback85@gmail.com](mailto:judyback85@gmail.com) or me at [vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com](mailto:vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com) .

By the way, Judy also promised to send me some Faith Stories about things she’s encountered on the road. I’ll share them with you in upcoming Newsletters. I’d also love to share Faith Stories that you send me. They would lift all of us closer to our Holy God!

Joy!

Nancy Martin, VdC Ohio Newsletter Editor

### **A Message from Dick Brenneman, Head Cha for Co-ed Weekend #4**

FOUND!

Are you missing a plate? It’s a brown cafeteria-tray-type. It was left at our annual gathering at Mount Gilead State Park in late June. To claim, please contact Dick or Bonnie Brenneman at [dbbrenneman@gmail.com](mailto:dbbrenneman@gmail.com) or 740-694-1755.

## Secretariat

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<p>Contact Lay Director Dave Lann with your interest in serving on Secretariat or to reach people in your area of Ohio to encourage them for Reunion Groups and Ultreyas. Secretariat meetings are held on the third Saturday of each month at different locations. You are welcome to attend. Contact Lay Direct Dave Lann for the place and time of each meeting</p>		