



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

De Colores!

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April 5, 2016

Charles Stanley's Life Principles to Live By

1. Our intimacy with God—His highest priority for our lives—determines the impact of our lives.
2. Obey God and leave all the consequences to Him.
3. God's Word is an immovable anchor in times of storm.
4. The awareness of God's presence energizes us for our work.
5. God does not require us to understand His will, just obey it, even if it seems unreasonable.
6. You reap what you sow, more than you sow, and later than you sow.
7. The dark moments of our life will last only so long as is necessary for God to accomplish His purpose in us.
8. Fight all your battles on your knees and you win every time.
9. Trusting God means looking beyond what we can see to what God sees.
10. If necessary, God will move heaven and earth to show us His will.
11. God assumes full responsibility for our needs when we obey Him.
12. Peace with God is the fruit of oneness with God.
13. Listening to God is essential to walking with God.
14. God acts on behalf of those who wait for Him.
15. Brokenness is God's requirement for maximum usefulness.

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Contact Butch for info @ open positions.

Secretariat meetings are held the third Saturday of each month. You are welcome to attend. Contact Lay Director Butch Seeley for the place and time of each meeting.

God loves you and so do we!

Rector:	Jeanne Gaston	Linden Lutheran Church	Columbus
Head Cha:	Mary McGinnis	Upper Arlington Lutheran Church	Columbus
Music Cha:	Open		
Chapel Cha:	Jen/Steve Briner	Living Word Lutheran	Galena
Table Chas:	Phyllis Wahl	St Paul Lutheran	Westerville
	Melissa Stitt	Trinity Lutheran	Girard
	Open		
	Open		
Observing Rector:	Carol Kohs	Messiah Lutheran	Reynoldsburg
Kitchen Chas (Servers):	Open		
	Open		
Palance Cha:	Jeri Sobel	Trinity Lutheran	Girard
Gofer Cha:	Dick Brenneman	St Paul Lutheran	Bellville
Spiritual Directors:	Rhonda Gallagher	Trinity Lutheran	Girard
	Orinda Brinkley	St John Lutheran	London
	Karl Gaston	Linden Lutheran Church	Columbus
Ideal:	Sandy Moller	St John Lutheran	London
Laity:	Bill White	Linden Lutheran Church	Columbus
Piety:	Wendy Seeley?	All Shepherd's Lutheran	Lewis Center
Study:	Erline Sager	Christ Lutheran	Bexley
Apostolic Action:	Jane Koch	St Stephen Lutheran	Stow
Leaders	Norbert Peiker	St Paul Lutheran	Bellville
Environment:	Warren Seeley	All Shepherd's Lutheran	Lewis Center
Christian Community in Action:	Open		

A Message from the Rectora of Co-ed Weekend # 2

I'm not much for giving inspiring speeches or writing down truly inspiring words that will make everyone look up and take notice. I do believe that I am spirit lead and so is this Via de Cristo movement. That is why I accepted the call to be Rectora for the spring women's weekend which has now become the spring Co-ed Weekend #2. Everything happens for a reason. In putting a team together (and you can see it is not totally put together yet), I have called some because I know their stories, others because I have heard about their stories, and others because I want to know more about their stories and how God and Via de Cristo have impacted their lives.

If you have or have not been a part of a team, pray about it. If you feel God is urging you, call the rector for the weekend. If you have been called to serve you realize

how much you get out of serving as a vessel of God pouring out grace on the pilgrims who have been called to a weekend. I pray for two things: 1. That the servants God wants for the team on this weekend will accept the call to serve, and 2. That the Pilgrims God calls to this weekend will accept the call to come.

If a rector calls and leaves you a message or emails you, please be respectful of their time and respond. Take time to pray and reflect and let the rector know you are praying about it. If it is not a time for you to serve, we all understand. In my mind that means you weren't really supposed to be on the weekend. It doesn't always work the way we think it should. Be mindful that it is difficult to ask others until a response is received from someone already asked. If you know of Pilgrims who should be invited to the weekend pray first, then invite. Pray about whom you should invite. If God calls you to invite someone, please contact that person soon.

Please keep all the team members in your prayers and those yet to become team members for the upcoming weekend. We on the team will do the same for the rest of the Via de Cristo community.

Yours in Christ,
Jeanne Gaston

Jgaston550@yahoo.com or 614-364-3112

Co-ed Weekend #2 Set For Thursday, May 19 – Sunday, May 22, 2016 At Camp Otyokwah outside Butler, OH

Rectora Jeanne Gaston and Head Cha Mary McGinnis are finishing the formation of the Team and conducting the Team Meetings. It's time to pray to ask God whom you should invite to attend. They may be individual women or men or married couples. Look in the May Newsletter for Jeanne's article with the theme and other information as well as the Team Roster. Attached with both this and May's Newsletters there will also be copies of the registration forms for both you (the sponsor) and your Pilgrims. (The sponsorship fee is \$15).

Future Rectors Wanted

.....Have you worked at least four weekends? And given at least two rollos and worked as a Cha for two weekends?.....if you have, then you could be a Rector.....or Rectora (but we'll call both of them Rectors from now on).

Being a Rector is a lot of rewarding work.....just ask anyone who has been called to lead a weekend! It involves lots of prayer.....planning.....prayer.....discernment.....prayer.....and an ability to lead a spiritual weekend using the talents that God has blessed you with, and the Via de Cristo Rector's Manual, as well as calling others to join God's team as you prepare for the Pilgrims that will also be called to the weekend!

Being a Rector is a humbling experience as you see a team develop during the team meetings.....as you see the interaction of the team with the Pilgrims.....as you watch God at work during the entire process. It is indeed a blessing!

Being a Rector is a calling from God. You know, God calls us to do many things....perhaps he might be calling you to consider being a Rector. Take some time to pray about your involvement in Via de Cristo, what positions you have filled during past weekends, how you could use that to further serve God.

Currently, the Rectors for 2017 have been called. We are looking for Rectors for 2017 and beyond. Pray about being a Rector.....If you have questions, or would like to be considered as a Rector, or if you would like to be put on "The Rector preparation track" please contact either Rector/Weekend Orientation Developer Dick Brenneman at (740) 694-1755 (dbbrenneman@embarqmail.com) or Lay Director Butch Seeley at (614) 332-1357 (harleyrider751@ymail.com).

"Being a Rector.....is an awesome experience! " And you become a Rector by getting the qualifications above. Contact Dick Brenneman and he can help you become a Rector by helping you target your service experience on teams.

As a reminder, all Rectors are approved by the Secretariat before being called to lead the weekend.

GLYASDI

Dick Brenneman

Rector/Weekend Orientation Developer



A Message from Secretariat Music Cha

"How Deep the Father's Love For Us" was written by Stuart Townend. Many people think it is an older song but it was written in 1995 with a classic hymn feel, instead of as a modern praise song. Mr. Townsend has this to say about the pitfalls in more contemporary styles of worship. I think these are very wise words!

"The danger now is that we are so focused on the experience, our worship can become self-seeking and self-serving. When all of our songs are about how we feel and what we need, we're missing the point. There is a wonderful, omnipotent God who deserves our highest praise, and how we feel about it is in many ways irrelevant! I want to encourage the expression of joy, passion and adoration, but I want those things to be the by-product of focusing on God – I don't want them to become the subject matter. I'm trying to write songs that refer to us as little as possible, and to Him as much as possible!"

In approaching this song, Townend wanted to write about the crucifixion from the Father's perspective, in particular what it cost the Father to give up his beloved Son to a torturous death on a cross. He even thought about his own part in Christ's death in the line, "It was my sin that held Him there." The melody was easy but the words took a lot of tweaking to get them just right!

I first heard this song on a Via de Cristo weekend when Judy Pochard sang it in chapel. It was very impactful for me and still continues to be to this day. My church just sang in on Easter Sunday! Mr. Townend lives in Brighton, England and has written many worship songs, including "In Christ Alone".

God loves it when you make a joyful noise and I do too!!

Jen Briner

Ultreya News

<p>Ultreyas in the Akron-Kent area of Ohio are often the third Saturday of a month, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kent, at 4:30 pm at 600 S. Water Street, and potluck will be included. For more information, please call Dave Lann, 330-296-6929, or Pr. Doug Fidler, 330-673-5445.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Bellville Ultreya will be the second Sundays of January, April, July and October at 3:00pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 48 Church Street, Bellville 44813. Worship and Holy Communion are followed by Potluck, table service and drinks provided. Call Ken and Josie Riling with questions, 419-886-2437, or Paul and Vicky Sakala, 419-884-1573.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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PALANCA: THE HEART AND LIFEBLOOD OF THE VIA DE CRISTO WEEKENDS!

You're invited to pray for the Pilgrims and Teams of these **UPCOMING WEEKENDS:**

April 7-10 Men's #65 Rainbow Via de Cristo of VA/DC/MD
 April 7-10 Men's #634 Lutheran VdC of Minnesota
 April 14-17 Women's #635 Lutheran VdC of Minnesota
 April 14-17 Men's #73 Western North Carolina VdC
 April 14-17 Women's #69 Rainbow Via de Cristo of VA/DC/MD
 April 21-24 Women's #92 Florida Gold Coast VdC
 April 21-24 Co-ed #5 Heart of Illinois VdC
 April 21-24 Mixed #17 Tennessee Notes of Grace VdC
 April 21-24 Co-ed #14 VdC of Western Washington
 April 28-May 1 Co-ed #30 Atlanta Lutheran VdC
 May 2-5 Kairos Inside Short Course #7 Acacia Prison of Perth, Australia
 May 12-15 Men's #66 Florida Sonbeam VdC
 May 19-22 Women's #66 Florida Sonbeam #66

Blessings,
 Sherryl F. Patterson, VdC Ohio Secretariat Palanca Cha

Clergy Experience #2 Set for Monday September 26 – Thursday 29, 2016

At St. Peter and Paul Retreat Center, Newark, OH

Talk to a Pastor you know about it

What is a story of faith you could share with others? (You don't have to write it perfectly—I can fix it if you like.) You know how you feel when you read the stories in the Newsletter. Help someone else to feel that way. Send your story by email to vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com or by US Mail to 4025 Andrews Rd., Bellville, 44813.

A Personal Testimony on Prayer Journaling

Believing that God wants His children to pray, I began writing my prayers in April 1990. For several years, I had resisted praying in this manner. Being a fun-loving individual, I felt that writing my prayers would be time consuming to say the least. At that time, my prayer life was not something I found pleasant or rewarding; I felt five minutes was a long time to pray. My thoughts would begin to wander and before I knew it, I was planning the day ahead. I had attended seminars on prayer for years. I thought some secret formula must exist that would make me a mighty prayer warrior.

The greatest benefit I have received from writing my prayers is the total focus on praying while I am writing. My mind is focused because it is difficult to write and think of other things at the same time. Also, the Holy Spirit directs my praying when my mind is tuned in to God. My faith grows tremendously as I go back through my journal and highlight the many answers to prayer in my life.

God has taught me many truths through journaling. I have learned to praise Him in all things. Trials in my life may seem like roadblocks to me, but God sees these trials as stepping stones to victory and spiritual growth. Journaling has taught me that God hears and answers all my prayers. When I pray within the framework of God's will, His answer is always a resounding yes! When God tells me no, He does so because I have asked something contrary to His will for my life. Many times His no is only "Wait, my child—the timing is not yet right."

Another lesson I learned when writing my prayers is how the Holy Spirit brings to mind sin that hinders my fellowship with God. Sin in me affects everyone I meet. I have learned that by confessing and turning from my sin, I am immediately restored and able to be used in God's service.

Thanksgiving is a very important part of my prayers. While praise is expressing gratitude for who God *is*, thanksgiving is gratitude to God for what He *does* in my life.

God has also taught me the importance of intercession in my life as a Christian. The Holy Spirit often breaks loose in others' lives as a discernable result of the prayers of believing Christians. What a joy to see healing and restoration take place in the lives of those we love and know.

Because of what God can do in your life, I recommend that you begin writing your prayers. My prayer is that God will use this process to help you focus your attention on Him as you pray.

Carole Lewis

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

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 vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com or 419-886-4420 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>

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National Via de Cristo Website www.viadecristo.org
Kairos Website www.kairosOhio.org