



De Colores!

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 11

December 15, 2012

Merry Christmas from the Ohio Spiritual Director

Over the years, I've shared the following "catechism" with many people. Written by a clergyman in a time when the Church was suffering much persecution, it was a way for the students to learn the Christian faith without being "under suspicion". Today we can still enjoy this delightful carol, and remind ourselves and all around us of God's wonderful love. God loves you and so do I! - Pastor Lisa Peterson

My true love	God Himself
A partridge	Jesus Christ
<i>(A mother partridge will feign injury to decoy predators from helpless nestlings)</i>	
Pear Tree	the Cross of Christ (& the "tree" of Adam's fall)
2 Turtle Doves	The Old and New Testaments
3 French Hens	The Trinity; The Three gifts of the Wise Men; and, Faith, Hope and Love
4 Calling birds	Four Gospel Writers - Matthew, Mark, Luke & John
5 Golden Rings	Pentateuch - First 5 Books of the Holy Bible
6 Geese a-laying	6 Days of Creation
7 Swans a-swimming	7 Petitions of The Lord's Prayer
8 Maids a-milking	8 Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-11)
9 Ladies dancing	9 Fruits of the Holy Spirit, (Galatians 5: 22) or, 9 Gifts of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12: 8-10)
10 Lords a-leaping	10 Commandments
11 Pipers piping	11 Faithful apostles
12 Drummers drumming	12 Tenets of the Apostles' Creed

Sing out. . . and re-tell the story of Christ and our faith!



And have a blessed New Year!

Letter from the Lay Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Do you remember the Christmas excitement as a child? Excitement about the Christ Child being born, the beautiful trees decorated with lights and ornaments and presents underneath? Sometimes as adults we get caught up in the decorating, shopping, wrapping and parties that we forget to enjoy the reason for the season: the Birth of our Lord.

Another year is just about finished. Have you practiced the Piety, Study and Action Method that Via de Cristo has given you? I find I am strong in one or two practices but that third one often eludes me. My goal is to work on my weak method for next year.

Where are you in your faith walk? Do you remember your weekend? Please see Donna Gough's article in this newsletter.

We have many choices in life and being involved in Via de Cristo is one of them. It has been a great sense of joy for me and has also been a great sense of sorrow. The sorrow is with weekends canceled but the joy is when the weekends happen, as well as when I practice the Via de Cristo Method.

We cannot control everything; we must continually look to the Holy Spirit to help us do the work the Lord wants us to do. Often times, it is not easy but we continue to do his work in our own homes, our congregations, our workplaces, among our families and friends, as well as on Via de Cristo weekends.

Weekends are coming next year, the men's in April and August and the women's in May and August. Whom has the Lord brought to mind for you to ask to attend?

I want to thank our Current Assistant Lay Director Raleigh Sandy and Treasurer Kip Kanya for their service. Kip will be stepping off the secretariat as he is unable to run again (term limits). Raleigh has agreed to run again. Others are praying about opportunities to serve the Lord. Please pray for Secretariat, upcoming rectors, teams and all of us involved with Via de Cristo. Pray for our Community who come to send off, serenade us with songs on Saturday and Sunday morning as well as the Community who attend closings. We need you! There is no Community without you.

I wish you all a Blessed Christmas and much health in the New Year.

Blessings,
Cathy Doering, Lay Director



Thanks to these members of the VdC Community for their donations in November

Bonnie Holzbauer	Paula Quinn	Amy Tuvell	Kim Harris
Chuck Fahnestock	Ann Hughes	Kevin Hoch	Beverly Willis
Sean Quinn	Donna Gough	Cathy Doering	

Get on the Web – Ohio Via de Cristo

www.viadecristooh.org

National Via de Cristo Website

www.viadecristo.org

Kairos Website www.kairosohio.org

Via de Cristo ANNUAL MEETING !

Via de Cristo of Ohio Annual Meeting is Saturday, January 26, 2013, at 12:00 noon
 Messiah Lutheran Church, 1200 Waggoner Road, Reynoldsburg

Pot Luck Lunch at noon (bring a dish to share and your table service)
 Speaker, Election of Officers, discussion of revitalizing Ultreyas and Reunion Groups
 Worship with singing and Holy Communion

SAVE THE DATE and look for more information in January’s VdC Newsletter

National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting, July 25-28, 2013, West Palm Beach, Florida

UPCOMING VIA de CRISTO WEEKENDS

Men’s Events	Scheduled Date	Location	Registration Open Date	Last Registration Date *
Men’s #71	April 18-21, 2013	Holy Cross Cursillo Center Columbus, Ohio	NOW!	April 4, 2013
Men’s #72	August 8 – 11, 2013	St. Leonard’s Retreat Center Avon, Ohio	NOW!	July 25, 2013
Women’s Events	Scheduled Date	Location	Registration Open Date	Last Registration Date *
Women’s #75	May 2 – 5, 2013	Holy Cross Cursillo Center Columbus, Ohio	NOW!	April 18, 2013
Women’s #76	August 15-18, 2013	St. Leonard’s Retreat Center Avon, Ohio	NOW!	August 1, 2013

*“Last Registration Date” is to facilitate communication to Pilgrims from the Registrar and to aid Team planning

Has your Reunion Group considered being co-sponsors of a Pilgrim?

<p>YOU MAY SPONSOR A PILGRIM FOR ONLY \$15</p> <p>CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU, BUT NOT JUST TO SPONSOR A PILGRIM. THERE ARE OTHER WAYS HE COUNTS ON US AND WE ON HIM. YOUR PIETY AND STUDY—AND LISTENING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT—WILL LEAD YOU TO THE ACTION THE LORD WANTS YOU TO TAKE FOR HIM.</p>	<p>The newly-established Scholarship Fund is available for you to use for your Pilgrim or for you to increase with your donation for future Pilgrims. To use the fund, mark your Sponsor’s application accordingly. To donate to the fund, make your check to VdC of Ohio, mark it Scholarship Fund, and mail it to PO Box 53081, Cincinnati, OH 45253.</p>
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Leaders’ School will be Saturday, February 16 in the Columbus area. See January Newsletter for more.

NEW! Trifold Brochure, Bookmark and Calling Card



Left, **Trifold Brochure** which explains Via de Cristo: its mission statement, purpose and history; what happens on a weekend (not the surprises) and in the Fourth Day; and who should attend. There's space to put local contact information as well as the website and P.O. Box. Make these available in your church and hand them out yourself.

Center, **Bookmark** for VdC Cursillistas—that's anyone who's attended a weekend—to use. The back side has dates of coming weekends and space for the names of people God and you are considering inviting. They will be reprinted as new weekend dates are set.

Right, **Calling Card** for you to hand to anyone to whom you've spoken about attending a weekend, along with a Brochure. Put your contact information on it. They will be reprinted when new weekend dates are established.

For more information or to order (free), contact "coach" Warren Seeley, harleyrider751@ymail.com or 614-332-1357.

We need information about ULTREYAS anywhere in the state of Ohio to publish in the De Colores Newsletter. Please contact editor Nancy Martin at vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com or at (419) 886-4420 or (419) 571-6315 with information or with the name of someone else who might have the information. **If you would like help to organize an Ultreya in your area,** contact Warren Seeley.

If you have not served on a Weekend but would like to in the future, or have not served recently, please contact Lay Director Cathy Doering at Cdoering1@aol.com or (330)239-0027. (You must attend Leaders' School before serving on a weekend.)

WHAT HAPPENED ON “YOUR” WEEKEND?

Please take your mind back to “your” special Via de Cristo weekend for just a moment. What is the FIRST thing you see? On Thursday at the Sendoff, people are applauding as you begin this special weekend! They are the COMMUNITY, there for YOU, in prayer and in person! Next, think of all the PALANCA you see.... the goodies to eat, the bookmarks, the little expressions of prayer and sacrifice, food at the meals! They were made for you by COMMUNITY, to signify that person’s praying blessings upon your weekend!... those who love Christ, and see this as a way to pass along the blessings THEY received on THEIR special weekend! The Prayer Vigil covered YOU with the blessing of the Lord... the Serenade... the Wakeup... the Closing! Each step of the way, SOMEONE ELSE, blessed by God, was praying and sacrificing and BEING THERE for YOU!

Our Lord Jesus Christ asks the gift of YOUR presence to bless future Pilgrims on this weekend adventure with Him! Are you passing on the gifts YOU received? What happens to Via de Cristo if NO ONE SHOWS UP? What would the impact have been on YOUR weekend if COMMUNITY wasn’t there? Kind of a dreary consideration, isn’t it? One of the main themes of Via de Cristo is that “Christian COMMUNITY in Action” works... is a way to evangelize the world, to SERVE the Lord Jesus Christ, and not alone!

Why is this article being written? Because our COMMUNITY needs to be reminded of this wonderful way to bless others! If you are in even slightly-inconvenient reach, we ask YOUR presence to send off pilgrims and pray for them, at the Holy Cross Center in Columbus, and St. Leonard’s Retreat Center in Avon Lake. Likewise the Serenade, the Wakeup, and the Closing! This is prayer in action! Help put what we SAY into DEEDS... for pilgrims and for Jesus Christ!

This could be a **Christ**-mas gift you give throughout the year!

Love in Christ
Donna Gough

God LOVES you and so do we!

Secretariat Members

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NOTE: Questions or suggestions--please call any Secretariat member. Anyone from Community is welcome to attend Secretariat meetings. The next meeting is January 26 at 9:30 am at Messiah Lutheran Church in Reynoldsburg.

Via de Cristo of Ohio
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