



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

De Colores!

VOLUME 36, ISSUE 1

January 25, 2015

Christ is counting on us, and we on him. Ever hear that before?

Sponsoring Pilgrims for Weekends and serving on Teams is NOT the only thing for which Christ counts on us! **Every one of you acts on your faith and your calling from Christ in other ways, big and small, near or far, quietly or loudly.** Please share with the VdC Community things you do and some ways you use to follow our call. Together we can celebrate sharing Jesus, if we know about how people are doing it. Perhaps someone will get a good idea from what you do if they see it in this Newsletter.

You needn't be eloquent—what you have to say is more important than how you say it. (And I can polish your prose if you want me to.) Please send by email to vdnewsletterohio@gmail.com or by snailmail to 4025 Andrews Road, Bellville, OH 44813. Phone me if you'd like to talk about it at 419-886-4420.

Joy! Nancy Martin, Editor

Here's a short story about **faith in action**—it's a big step of faith by a small group quite far from Ohio.

Pastor Denise Sager here in Dallas Texas, where we still have Buckeye fever after our city hosted the big OSU vs. Oregon championship football game!

February 1st I head to India, where Christianity is sweeping the nation. The Holy Spirit is working and now there are 30,000 Christians for every pastor.

Many Christian leaders who have become deputized as pastors have not had for seminary training, so willing pastors from this country are voluntarily traveling to teach what was given to us in theological training to pass on to others. I will be in Bangalore and Delhi for several weeks. The program is "India Transformed" and works with the United Evangelical Ministries of India.

We request prayers for safety for all those who will be traveling, as well as health and wellness while staying in a populous nation with tremendous potential as well as crushing poverty and deadly diseases.

We also request prayers that the Holy Spirit guide the words, lectures, and sermons shared by stateside pastors.

*Serving Christ with you,
Denise*

Secretariat

Lay Director	Warren (Butch) Seeley (614) 332-1357 harleyrider751@ymail.com
Asst. Lay Director	Raleigh Sandy (937) 885-1868 sandyjr@donet.com
Secretary	Donna Gough (614) 948-3833 goughdonna@aol.com
Treasurer	Chuck Fahnestock (937) 238-6170 charles.fahnestock@wright.edu
Spiritual Director.....	Pastor G. Karl Gaston (614) 364-3110 jgaston550@yahoo.com
coach	Butch Seeley (614) 332-1357 harleyrider751@ymail.com
Logistics Coordinator	Ken Riling (419) 886-2437 kriling07@aol.com
Fourth Day Shepherd	Dave Lann (330) 296-6929 vdclann@yahoo.com
Prayer Chain	Jane Koch (330) 688-0581 prayersforvdc@gmail.com
Music Adviser	Jen Briner (614) 901-0896 jenbrinner@yahoo.com
Palanca Cha	Sherryl Patterson (740) 751-4057 dcsfp20@the-franklins.net
Registrar	Kevin Hoch (513) 931-8797 khoch@cinci.rr.com
Documentation	Donna Gough (614) 948-3833 goughdonna@aol.com
Leaders' School	Fred Schneider (513) 729-0945 fschneider@fuse.net
Weekend Rector Development	Dick Brenneman (740) 398-0945 dbbrenneman@embarqmail.com
Technology Media Specialist	Christy Brill (614) 899-7429 goosebrill@msn.com
Newsletter Editor	Nancy Martin (419) 886-4420 vdnewsletterohio@gmail.com
Columbus Area Representative	open
Northern Region Representative	Ken Riling (419) 886-2437 kriling07@aol.com
Southern Region Representative	Open

Contact Butch for info @ open positions.

Secretariat Meetings are held the third Saturday each month. You are welcome to attend. Contact any member for place and time of the monthly meeting.

God loves you and so do we!

Christianize our Environments

“ ‘Come, follow me,’ Jesus said, ‘and I will make you fishers of men.’ ” Matthew 4:19

“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.” Romans 1:16

Recently, in one of the group reunions I attend we made a commitment to return to the basics. In our group reunion we were spending most of our time in fellowship, socializing, and discussing various topics. All enjoyable good stuff, but we honestly spent little time talking about our piety, our study and our action. As disciples of Jesus Christ we are called to so much more...

As illustrated in the diagram, our environments are so much more than our already “Christianized environments”, like our church, bible study groups, Via de Cristo community, etc. During the weekend we are challenged to recognize our ideal, and ultimately proclaim the gospel and Christianize our non-Christianized environments.

The perseverance tool of group reunion calls us out. It’s uncomfortable at times, but then again there is a cost of discipleship.

Your Brother in Christ,
Warren (Butch) Seeley # 28, Lay Director

<h2 style="color: blue;">The Seven Ports of Life</h2>	<h2 style="color: blue;">Christ is Counting on You</h2>
<p>How can we transform our environments for Christ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study the environment and develop a change strategy. ▪ Study the spirit being generated. ▪ Study the people and their place in the environment. ▪ Respect the reality of religious pluralism in the United States. 	<p>Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Christianity is community. ▪ We do not do this work by our own strength. ▪ Christians who have been change by God’s grace and love and who share this good news with everyone around them will transform their environments.

Via de Cristo Ultreya and Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 31, 11:00 – 2:00
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Bellville

11:00 Gathering and Greeting
11:20 Worship and Holy Communion
12:00 Potluck Lunch
Election of Officers, Business Meeting, and Speaker

Please enter this on your 2015 calendar now, and make plans with your Reunion brothers and sisters and friends to attend. You'll see other VdC friends there!

Beverages and table service will be provided for the Potluck Lunch, but no one else can make your favorite dish but you, so please bring it.

This year we elect an Assistant Lay Director and a Treasurer. Running are Chuck Fahnestock for Assistant Lay Director and Raleigh Sandy for Treasurer. As is common, nominations may be made from the floor, with the consent of the nominee.

Bio as submitted by Chuck Fahnestock:

Attended Ohio Men's VdC weekend #53, table of John
 Served on 10+ men's weekends doing three Rollos and all cha positions
 Rector for Clergy Experience #1
 Ohio VdC Treasurer 2013-15

Member of Arise! in Christ Lutheran church in Donnelsville, OH
 Served as president of church council
 Served as congregation treasurer

A BRIEF BIO as submitted by RALEIGH SANDY:

I sat at the table of Luke at Ohio Men's Via De Cristo #51 at Holy Cross Center, Columbus, OH, on September 24-28, 2003. I've served a number of weekends on team and served as Assistant Lay Director for Ohio VDC and Rector for VDC #65.

I attend Abiding Christ Lutheran Church in Fairborn, Ohio, serving on the staff as 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 share our Fourth Day commitment. I left the group for awhile to help get other groups started. I hope these groups will become lasting groups as ours has, existing 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 serve as Vice Chairman on the Central District National Eagle Scout Association Scholarship Committee.

ULTREYA NEWS

Cincinnati 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.

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.

The 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](tel:9375337605).

Please share with us any information you have about Ultreya near you. Send the information about any 4th Day Group Ultreyas to vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com or to Editor Nancy Martin at 4025 Andrews Road, Bellville, OH 44813.

From Kevin Hoch, Registrar:

The beginning of the year is a great time to make a resolution to talk to your friend about attending a Via de Cristo weekend. The next men's weekend is April 23 – 26 and the next women's weekend is May 14 – 17 so it's not too early to get pilgrims committed to attending the weekend. Please pray about whom you should ask and then follow through. It would be fantastic if we could present our Rectors at their first team meetings with a list of Pilgrims who have sent in applications. If you need application forms or have any questions about the registration process, just let me know. My e-mail is khoch@cinci.rr.com and phone is 513-931-8797. I wish you all a great 2015. God's Blessings - Kevin

Men's Weekend #74 April 23-26, 2015, Columbus	Women's Weekend #78 May 14-17, 2015, Columbus
Co-ed Weekend is coming in mid-summer, 2015. Exact date and location TBA.	Clergy Experience #2 is coming in fall 2015. Date TBA but location will be St. Peter and Paul Retreat Center.

The will be a Leaders' School on February 21 - St. Paul Bellville, OH. Doors will open at 8:30 AM and we begin at 9:00 AM. Lunch about 12 noon and done between 3:00 and 3:30 PM. Cost is \$10.00.

Fred Schneider is the contact person and would like an email or phone call from prospective attendees so that the appropriate numbers of materials can be on hand. Contact Fred at fschneider@fuse.net or 513-729-0945.



Via de Cristo of Ohio is now on Facebook!

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

Our new VdC Ohio website is "under construction." Log on to see how it's coming along. Check out the other two as well.

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

(Our VdCOhio website is currently under re-construction. Look for the new site soon.)

A Message from VdC Ohio Music Advisor Jen Briner

Lanny Wolfe was born and raised in Columbus Ohio. (Anyone know he was a Buckeye?!!) His mother sang and played guitar in church revivals and that was where Lanny developed his love of music. Not realizing he could make a living as a church musician (he played piano by ear with no formal training), he got his business degree from Ohio State in the 1960's. After college he took a job at the suggestion of a friend teaching music at a Bible College in California. Not feeling adequate to the task, Lanny decided to take some music classes at a local college. In a very short time he graduated, started teaching junior high school music, found out he and his wife were expecting their first child and got drafted to Vietnam one month before his 26th birthday (when he would have aged-out)! Lanny put his trust in God through this difficult and scary time. He ended up not having to go to war (flat feet and a pregnant wife!) and got a job as the Dean of Music at a Bible College. It was there he met two other musicians and formed "The Lanny Wolfe Trio".

The Trio performed all over the US and it was during this time that Lanny wrote two musicals. He had an idea for a third musical but his publisher was not in agreement about the subject matter. Lanny was instructed to write a Christmas-themed musical instead. There was a song he felt very strongly about, but his publisher felt just as strongly that "he could write a better song". Lanny stuck to his guns and the song, "More Than Wonderful" went on to win a Grammy for Sandi Patty and Larnelle Harris and won Song of the Year in 1984 by the Gospel Music Association.

Now that you have some background, on to how "Surely the Presence" came to be about! The Lanny Wolfe Trio was scheduled to provide the music for the dedication service for a new church auditorium. Before the trio got up to sing, the Lord (in Lanny's words) "dropped a tune and some lyrics in my mind". The strange part about the situation is that the music went in a certain progression that he would not ordinarily go in. But when it was time for the trio to sing, he stepped to the piano and sang through the chorus, just as the Lord gave it him. Next, he taught it to the audience. Lanny then sang the song through completely. This song came to be known as "Surely the Presence" and it has never been changed in any way to this day!

Do you have a song you would like researched? Let me know: jenbriner@yahoo.com

GLYASDI.
Jen Briner

WEEKENDS around the USA and the WORLD

Jan. 28-31, 2015	Men's #93	Ragusa, ITALY	Information shared by
Jan. 29 - Feb. 1	Men's #1154 (Spanish)	Juncos, PUERTO RICO	Secretariat Palanca Cha
Jan. 29 - Feb. 1	Men's #588	Yuma, AZ	Sherry Patterson
Jan. 30 - Feb. 1	Cursillo de Cursillos	Arlington, VA	So that you may pray
Jan. 30 - Feb. 1	Secretariat Retreat	Big Bear, CA	For these Weekends

Taste of Grace VdC Ultreya & Annual Meeting - January 31, 2015 in Lockport, Illinois

Good News VdC - Women Spring Team Meeting - February 7, 2015 - Plymouth, MI

#83 Women of Lutheran VdC of Cental Michigan - January 29 - Feb. 1, 2015

Women's Lutheran VdC of Minnesota - January 29 - Feb. 1, 2015

Keryz (formerly Kairos of Michigan) Keryz means a Herald that proclaims the unaltered word of the King. .

.Carson City OTF #25 - Feb. 13-16, 2015

If you or someone you know has changed a street address or phone number(s) or e-mail address, please send the information to Technology Media Specialist/Archivist Christy Brill at goosebrill@msn.com or 614-899-7429 and to Newsletter Editor Nancy Martin at 419-886-4420 or vdcnewsletterohio@gmail.com

If you know someone who DOES NOT get the Newsletter (but would like to), please give Nancy their contact information.

See you at Annual Meeting on January 31!