



Coming soon to a location near you!

## God's Weekend #80

And in the supporting roles:  
The loyal 4<sup>th</sup> Day Community, faithful Set-Up Teams,  
and an eager and dedicated staff.

I know the title of this article is a little different from the norm, but it fits doesn't it! For we know, celebrate and depend on the fact that these are indeed God's weekends and God is present and in control of each and every one of them. And by God's grace, the hundreds of us in supporting roles wind up greatly blessed by being allowed to participate in whatever God chooses to bring about on his weekends. It's quite an awesome, humbling adventure.

For several years now, I have watched the set-up crews, all the many behind the scenes folks, and the staff as they prepare for a weekend. Some of the preparation is just plain hard work. But it comes together like clockwork, and the atmosphere is always one of love, dedication, anticipation and total confidence that what they are preparing for is something so tremendously greater and far reaching than the physical setting they create.

The scripture I've chosen for the weekend is one that is probably familiar to all of you. I like it because for very few words it says so much.

...the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you;  
To do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

It seems to me that when we gather to help provide the opportunity for others to have a life changing experience with God, we are indeed walking humbly. We know this beyond our own strength even with the very best preparation and good intentions. Praise God that he invites and encourages us to keep a tight hold on his hand as we prepare for and take our individual part in these remarkable three-day experiences.

I imagine that most, or perhaps all rectors who prepare for this opportunity do so with a sense of gratitude, enthusiasm and excitement – but also accompanied by a huge dose of fear and trembling – fear of not being adequate for the task, and just really messing up somewhere between Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon. That precisely describes me! But I know without a doubt that our God is faithful and I cling to that familiar saying, "God doesn't call the equipped – God equips the called." So here I am, open to all the equipping I can get, knowing it will come, feeling quite blessed for the opportunity to serve, and remembering for now and hopefully longer, to walk humbly.

To all the North Texas Via De Cristo Community, please accept my deepest thanks for this opportunity to serve and for the prayers the I know are already being offered and will continue to be offered for weekend #80.

God's peace and JOY to each one of you,

Sybil Shuck, Rector, Weekend #80

**Via de Cristo #80 - Weekend Calendar**

**April**

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- 7 Wed 6:30 pm Setup for Weekend at Lake Sharon  
Food and Palanca Drop Off
- 8 Thu 6:45 pm Via de Cristo #76 Begins
- 10 Sat 1:30 pm Love Team Visitation

- 11 Sun 6:00 am Arrive For Wakeup
- 11 Sun 6:30 am Wakeup Begins
- 11 Sun 2:45 pm Clausura Setup
- 11 Sun 3:30 pm Clausura Begins
- 11 Sun 6:00 pm Homecoming Various Locations

**Participant:**

Atkins, Jim  
 Brandenburg, Karen  
 Brennan, Shelly  
 Brennan, Terry  
 Cleaver, Kari  
 Doely, Cheryl  
 Ficklin, Norma  
 Fountaine, Steve  
 Gray, Kathleen  
 Idrees, Kimberly  
 Luna, Ella Leal  
 Martinez, Jesse  
 Menke, Jim  
 Mikeal, Dorothy  
 Nyman, Rick  
 Pierce, LaRue  
 Robinson, Thom  
 Schmidt, Jane  
 Stelzl, Barbara  
 Stokes-Bell, Laurie  
 Tuman, Wanda

**Congregation:**

Village Church, Dallas  
 King of Glory, Dallas  
 Faith Lutheran, Flower Mound  
 Faith Lutheran, Flower Mound  
 King of Glory, Dallas  
 King of Glory, Dallas  
 Trinity Lutheran, Clifton  
 Faith Lutheran, Flower Mound  
 Faith Lutheran, Flower Mound  
 Prince of Peace, Carrollton  
 El Divino Salvador Meth., Sherman  
 First Presbyterian, Grapevine  
 Trinity Lutheran, Woodway  
 Faith Lutheran, Wichita Falls  
 Rejoice Lutheran, Frisco  
 Paramount Baptist, Amarillo  
 Rejoice Lutheran, Frisco  
 King of Glory, Dallas  
 Lamb of God, Flower Mound  
 Faith Lutheran, Flower Mound  
 Peace Lutheran, Hurst

**Sponsor:**

Donald Bollinger  
 Lynn Sullivan  
 Laura Talafuse  
 Tim Talafuse  
 Tim & Carolyn Johnson  
 Dori Weir  
 Beverly Goldman  
 Jerry Gray  
 Jerry Gray  
 Carol Welch  
 Carolyn Knudsen  
 Lynn Sullivan  
 Beverly Goldman  
 Mark Wilson  
 Jane Winge  
 Carol Van Buskirk  
 Sandra Gass  
 Lynn Sullivan  
 Carol and Rich Bruegg  
 Olin Knudsen  
 Karen Thompson

**Staff**

Rector Sybil Shuck  
 O/R Mike Eskew  
 S/D Pastor Olin Knudsen  
 S/D Pastor Vicki Taylor  
 Rectors Cha Carol Welch  
 Music Cha Carol Van Buskirk  
 Food Cha Karen Thompson  
 Food Cha Mark Wilson  
 Palanca Cha Kathy Shugarman  
 Palanca Cha Lawanda Wilson  
 Tech Cha Wayne Shuck

**Rollos:**

Ideal/Table Leader Jerry Gray  
 Laity/Table Leader Jim Bingaman  
 Piety/Table Leader Doug Guinn  
 Study/Table Leader Libby Buuck  
 Action/Table Leader Tim Talafuse  
 Leaders/Table Leader David Lillard  
 Environments/Table Leader Beverly Goldman  
 Christian Comm/Table Leader Sharon Richardson  
 Fourth Day/Table Leader Alice Allison  
 Table Leader Bette Morris

Love Team Rector Carolyn Knudsen

## **Obstacles to Christian Community... or What are you doing to stay connected?**

What are YOU doing to stay connected in Christian Community in the 4th Day? Are you meeting in a small group regularly? Have you found an Ultreya of which to be a part? Did you attend the most recent Grand Ultreya? Have you gone out to the retreat center to help with set up, attend Wake-Up, or attend Clausura?

If you answered no to any of the above questions, why not? In the 4th Day talk we remind participants that we cannot do this alone, that we are strengthened in our faith and in our walk when we do it in community.

Is your small group attending Ultreya together? If you are not part of a small group find someone in your congregation who is already a part of or also looking for a group; with two then you only need one or two more to make a great reunion group. Then you and your reunion group are ready to be part of the larger Ultreya.

If there is not an Ultreya in your congregation or area will you help start one? Several of the active Ultreyas in our community are made up of multiple groups coming together from a common area. Ultreyas are being creative as to meeting times and locations. In Wichita Falls the Ultreya meets on Saturday morning. King of Glory Ft Worth Ultreya often meets in the home of a member if their church fellowship hall is being used by another group. There is no set place or time to have an Ultreya. The Post Weekend team will be very happy to help you with ideas on how to get an active Ultreya started in your area.

There are Ultreyas meeting throughout our community. What are the obstacles which keep YOU from attending? Time is an issue for all of us; it is difficult to get away on a busy weekend to attend one more function. We have homes to maintain, children and / or grandchildren to take places or do things with etc., etc., etc..

How can you overcome those obstacles? Make it a date night. If Ultreya begins at 5:00 it will last until about 7:00; go for dinner, fellowship, sharing and worship and then take your “date” out for dessert or the evening movie. What about the kiddos?? Take them along, bring a larger dish to share for potluck and have dinner as a family. Work out with others in your Ultreya someone who will watch the smaller one during sharing time; take turns with that job. The older ones may form a group of their own; take turns planning activities for them. Perhaps one day they will be inspired to attend a Happening Weekend.

Living together in this Via de Cristo community is blessings in which I hope you are taking full part. I have found such strength here and pray the same for each of you.

Peace, Blessings and Joy,  
Alice Allison, Lay Director

## A LITTLE BOY'S EXPLANATION OF GOD

*It was written by an 8-year-old named Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista, CA .. He wrote it for his third grade homework assignment, to 'explain God.' I wonder if any of us could have done as well?*

'One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies.

I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.'

'God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.'

'God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.'

'Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista . At least there aren't any who come to our church.'

'Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.'

His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important..'

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**A Little Boy's Explanation Of God Continued from page 4**

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.'

'If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.'

'But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime e pleases.

**And...that's why I believe in God.'**

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**VDC STAFF TRAINING SCHOOL**  
**Saturday, April 24, 2010-- 9:00am – 5 pm**  
**Calvary Lutheran Church—Richland Hills**  
**7620 Baker Blvd., Richland Hills, TX 76118**

**Registration Deadline: April 17, 2010**

**Note:** The school will not meet unless 8 or more people have registered by the deadline, Apr. 17th.

**Bring your own sack lunch**

**To register: fill out this form, copy it, and email to [momtvc@gmail.com](mailto:momtvc@gmail.com)**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Emailaddress \_\_\_\_\_

VdC Weekend # \_\_\_\_\_ (if you attended elsewhere, give location and date – Ex. – FL.-1999) \_\_\_\_\_

## God is in Control

More than ever, it seems as if we are bombarded with negativity these days. Turn on the news and it's another story about a shooting rampage, wars in the Middle East, job losses, illnesses, or another natural disaster affecting hundreds of thousands of lives. It is easy to get caught up in the negativity of it all and start to feel helpless. But remember – “Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God” (Psalm 146:5. God brought each one of us into this community of believers we call Via de Cristo. Now, more than ever, we should turn to each other and “see Christ on the face of your brother or sister”. We are called to be in communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Via de Cristo has just the tools for this!

**Small Groups**: Through a small group you can pray together, deepen your relationship with Christ through study, and challenge each other to “be Christ to the world” through your apostolic action.

**Ultreyas** – Gathering monthly to worship together, pray together, and fellowship together is another way to strengthen your walk with the Lord.

**Grand Ultreyas** – Food, Fellowship, and worshipping together – does it get any better??

***Next Grand Ultreya -- May 15, 2010***

***Held at Faith Lutheran in Flower Mound --- from 5:30 – 8:00.***

***Dust off that casserole cookbook and join us for the fellowship.***

***See you there!!***

God is bigger than even the biggest problem we could have. I leave you with this thought from Oswald Chambers: “When there are competing concerns in your life, be sure you always put your relationship to God first.”

God's peace,

Cid Smith