



**"Welcome Happy Morning,  
Age to Age Shall Say"**

***Happy and Blessed Easter, 4th Dayers!***

### A Lenten Study on the Way to a Blessed Easter

#### What If There Is No Resurrection?

On a very cold November afternoon, I sat under a green tent with my mother's coffin in front of me. How many times had I stood in cemeteries, offering comfort and the Word of God to those who had lost a loved one? But this was my first experience of being on the other side of the casket. As I sat there, a shocking thought suddenly popped into my head: This idea was quickly driven away by my faith and confidence in Christ. But it had lasted just long enough for me to feel the despair and hopelessness of such a belief.

To help us appreciate Christ's victory over the grave, let's consider what the outcome of life and death would be without resurrection. First of all, Jesus would still be dead. That means our faith in Him would be worthless, and our message to the world would be a lie. Not only that, but Jesus Himself would be proved a liar since He claimed that He would rise from the dead.

There would be no forgiveness of sins, no possibility of reconciliation with God, and no hope of heaven. Even the believers who have died throughout history would have perished, and we would have no hope of reunion with our loved ones. Without the resurrection, everyone's destiny after death would be hell.

Thank God, none of these scenarios are true. Our Savior lives, our sins are forgiven, death has been defeated, and believers in Christ have assurance of eternity in heaven. After considering how hopeless we would be without a resurrection, let's rejoice all the more in the greatness of our salvation. *From In Touch by Dr. Charles Stanley -- based on 1 Corinthians 15:12-19.*

### Weekend #83 at Camp Copass Was a Success

The Weekend was very comfortable for everyone on the whole. The logistics team was quite happy and relieved with the ease of all the behind the scenes operations. There were, of course, some glitches to work out, but by and large it could be a nice place for us. So, Camp Copass will stay on the list of possible permanent home sites for our Weekends. Next up is Briarwood in November.

**Yes, there will only be two Weekends this year** – We just couldn't find an open date for the summer Weekend – **BUT** -- don't quit recruiting! Ideally we should have 20-25 participants for each weekend (that's 5 participants for each of the 5 tables plus 2 table leaders at each table.) Wouldn't it be great to have that many for every Weekend? We can if we all get busy recruiting. By example as well as with words, we can invite others to share with us the Via de Cristo life of fun, work and worship to glorify God and be His hands and feet to further His work here on earth.

**Our VDC Communication System**

**The El Tintero:** This newsletter is used mainly by the Secretariat to conduct VDC business and facilitate the Weekends. It is published via the website.

**The El Tinterito:** This newsletter is intended to be used to conduct the business of the Ultreyas. It can publish flyers of activities, share recruiting ideas, dates of special activities of interest to the 4th Day community, etc. This newsletter is also published on the website.

**Individual Ultreya Email Systems:** Each Ultreya conducts the business relevant to its own group via email or phone. Personal announcements and invitations should be extended via these Email systems to the intended people.

**Website:** The website ([www.ntls.org](http://www.ntls.org)) is our "post office" of choice. You can find out almost everything there is to know about us on this website. You will find dates, meetings, ultreya meetings, VDC staff members, Weekend staff members, old and current issues of the newsletters, and more. **If you do not find what you are looking for on the web then it probably has not been released for publication or decided on yet.**

Please send information you would like to publish to [momtvdc@gmail.com](mailto:momtvdc@gmail.com). Please include your email address and your phone number. Below is a schedule of publishing dates to help you plan ahead to announce activities in a timely fashion. The deadline for newsletter articles is one week before the publishing date.

**2011 Publishing Schedule:**

**The El Tinterito** --April 22, 2011, July 22, 2011, Sept. 22, 2011

**The El Tintero** -- Nov. 9, 2011

The webmaster, Patrick Hunt, has worked very hard to update our website to make it a valuable tool for information gathering. The site is adding more areas of interest and information all the time. Please get in the habit of checking the website regularly.

**The National VDC Newsletter Link**

DeColores My Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The latest edition of the CONNEXIONES can be accessed at the following web address:  
<http://www.viadecristo.org/Archives/NewsletterArchives.htm>

In Christ's Service....  
Jim Ryan  
NLS Database Servant.....

p. s.: HAPPY EASTER FROM THE NLS -

**Grande Ultreya**

*We are called to be Christ "Hands and Feet". We can do this through our actions in our churches and our community. We can keep each other focused through Small Group and study. We can also encourage each other through Ultreyas praying, worshipping and having fellowship together and finally Grand Ultreya with more Food, Fellowship and worship together.*

***Next Grande Ultreya – May 21, 2011  
At King of Glory – Dallas  
6411 LBJ Freeway  
Dallas, TX 75240***

***Bring a covered dish for all to enjoy  
and join us for fellowship!***

***You Can Help Make the Evening Memorable***

***Participate In King of Glory Ultreyas***

***ROOSTER SHARE***

**What is a Rooster Share??**

***A suggestion was made by a person who had been to an Ultreya function where all the tables had roosters on them for centerpieces. The suggestion grew and got embroidered upon AND even got named the "Rooster Share."***

***The way it works is that everyone who has a rooster of centerpiece size would bring it to the meeting and place it on a dinner table. If you bring one, please put your name on your rooster and take it home with you after the meeting.***

***Please email Bette Morris if you plan to bring a rooster.  
Her email is [bettekaymorris@verizon.net](mailto:bettekaymorris@verizon.net)***

***Ultreya and God's Peace  
Bette Morris, Post Weekend Rep***

***See and use the attached flyer for your bulletin boards, etc.***

Curt Thompson is the new Logistics Rep. He would love to have a list of volunteers for some of or all of these jobs. Please help him by marking your preferences and emailing them to him at [thomkmc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thomkmc@sbcglobal.net) Come on, all you Ultreyas – get together, share the workload, and share the fun!!!!

I am interested in being part of the following teams:

Please check all applicable boxes.

<b>Food: **</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide bottled water <input type="checkbox"/> Provide sodas <input type="checkbox"/> Provide baked goods <input type="checkbox"/> Provide veggies <input type="checkbox"/> Provide paper products (plates, napkins, etc.)		<b>Music:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Music CHA on weekend <input type="checkbox"/> Play for wakeup <input type="checkbox"/> Play for Clausura <input type="checkbox"/> Set up equipment for weekend and / or Clausura	
<b>Altar Guild:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Care for linens <input type="checkbox"/> Set up for Clausura <input type="checkbox"/> Make bread (for weekend & Clausura) <input type="checkbox"/> Provide individual cups for communion**		<b>Setup / Take Down:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday night <input type="checkbox"/> Clausura setup <input type="checkbox"/> Take down	
<b>Provide Supplies: **</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Art table <input type="checkbox"/> Comfort table		<b>Ultreya Organization:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Will head Ultreya group in my congregation <input type="checkbox"/> Will make reminder calls for weekend duties <input type="checkbox"/> Help set up and take down Love Team chapel	
<b>Palanca:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Help sort <input type="checkbox"/> Make gracemats <input type="checkbox"/> Make general palanca with Ultreya			
<b>Email: Other:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Assemble Participant Crosses <input type="checkbox"/> Repair / Maintain Banners <input type="checkbox"/> Other: describe service below			
<b>Name :</b>			
<b>Telephone contacts:</b>		<b>Home:</b>	
		<b>Cell:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>			
<b>City:</b>		<b>State:</b>	<b>Zip:</b>

\*\* All Provided items may be reimbursed or you may request a donation receipt.

*A Big "Thank You" to the Fourth Day Community!*

*Dear Fourth Day:*

*Let me extend my special thanks to all of you in the Fourth Day Community, especially to those who have stepped forward with a number of very generous donations to LVDCNT since January 1, when I became Treasurer.*

*The suddenly-forced move from Lake Sharon and the quest to quickly find new locations for our Weekends, starting with # 83, presented us with a number of financial challenges, in addition to the many logistical ones. This was reported to you in mid-January, and I must say that you have responded most generously. The donors have ranged from "old-timers" to brand new Cursillistas from the last couple of Weekends, and have included both our lay and clergy members. I've personally been amazed at what a broad cross section of people have chosen to donate to this cause!*

*I understand that we are one of only a very few Via de Cristo chapters in the country who offer "Grace Weekends" to all participants. Obviously, the cost paid to the facility for each participant has to come from somewhere, and this is where the Fourth Day, including the sponsors, become so invaluable. In case you didn't know, the direct cost per Weekend # 83 participant that we paid to Camp Copass was \$155 per person, and we know that future Weekends will have comparable or higher costs.*

*We will continue to have financial challenges as long as we continue to have Grace Weekends--and I don't know of anyone who would be in favor of seeing them stop!*

*As a reminder, LVDCNT is a fully registered and fully exempt Sec. 501(c)(3) "Public Charity", so your donations are fully tax-deductible.*

*With thanks and blessings to all,  
John Harris, Treasurer*

*Save The Date!!!*

***Who: Entire 4<sup>th</sup> Day Community and Family***

***Where: Calvary Lutheran Church, Richland Hills***

***When: Saturday, June 11, 2011 – TBD day/evening event***

***What: Regional Grand Ultreya with Oklahoma/Arkansas South Texas and Louisiana 4<sup>th</sup> Day communities***

*Watch for more information via email and the website*

## Gracemats

Gracemats are another way that you can participate in Via de Cristo weekends. You don't have to be an artist, a great wit, or a great preacher to make a special memory.

Gracemats can help establish community on the weekend. They're great ice breakers and can help to set a joyous tone and bring a unique flavor to the weekend. Gracemats also contribute to the weekend by reinforcing the rollos, telling of God's love and his messages, bringing wondrous laughter and telling of the 4<sup>th</sup> day community's love.

Gracemats need to be neat, bright, easily visible and tasteful. That doesn't mean they have to be perfect or a masterpiece. Size should be no larger than 9" x 15".

Gracemat pictures may be enlargements of cartoon, "clip art", photo-copies or traced pictures from coloring books, pictures from bulletins, calendars, and magazines. Be open to ideas and use your imagination.

Look for clever sayings, thoughts and wondrous messages on church marquees, in cards songs, sermons, Christian books and of course scripture.

Hug Gracemats are special gracemats given to all on the Week-end. It's great if these are made for the participants and staff from your ultreya. Hug mats brought out on Thursday of a weekend will still be placed on the table. Only one hug mat is given per person at the table. If there is more than one, others are given as bed palanca.

Gracemats are needed from each Ultreya. This helps show the love and extent of the 4<sup>th</sup> day community. It's time to dust off your markers, colored pencils and crayons and get out your glue and scissors. Put on your imagination caps and have a gracemat party with your ultreya. You don't have to wait.

Gracemats are a wonderful ministry. They bless all that touch them. They bless the one who makes them and the one who receives them. And yes, oh Lord, they bless the one who sorts them.

If you have any questions give me a holler.

Barb Guinn

Palanca and Gracemat co-coordinator