



El Tintero

Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas
March, 2012

Greetings to all you 4th Dayers!!

Welcome to the 85th Weekend of Via de Cristo in North Texas! We will be at Camp Copass for the second time so we now have tradition on our side! The camp is located at 8200 East McKinney St., Denton, TX 76208 and their website is campcopass.com. We will be in the Angels Motel/Conference Building.

This weekend will be different from the others because of the human personalities present. It will, however, be the same, as God is unchanging in what His Holy Spirit will do in all of us on this Weekend...when we get out of His way. When we listen to God's voice and let that be our direction, He does great things through us.

We all, the participants, staff, 4th Day helpers and the worldwide Via de Cristo movement, have a part in this upcoming Weekend #85. All of us at Camp Copass this weekend need your prayers beginning right now.

Our Saint for this Weekend is St. Luke. When he was inspired by the Holy Spirit to write Acts, he let us see how Christ's Church began. We can use that today to strengthen and renew our lives in Christ and our walk with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Our Scripture is Eph 5: 8: "For you were once darkness, but now are light in the Lord. Live as children of the light."

Please come help us share the love we receive from Jesus Christ
by participating in Weekend #85.

Join us in helping set-up on Wednesday evening, or visitation Saturday afternoon.

Wake-up on Sunday morning and Clausura on Sunday afternoon are real special
And don't forget helping with tear-down and put-away after Clausura either.

The Homecoming at your local Ultreya is a way to share the experiences of the participants.
If you can only come for one part, you'll be glad you did,
I know I always have been!

Thank you for your prayers and your help, and your love.

ULTREYA,
Rector Curt

Via de Cristo Weekend 85

March

14th * Wed, 6:30 pm Setup at Copass
Food and Palanca Drop Off
15th *Thu, 6:45 pm Via de Cristo #83 Begins
17 th *Sat, 1:30 pm Love Team Visitation

March

18th Sun, 6:00 am Arrive For Wakeup
18th Sun, 6:30 am Wakeup Begins
18th Sun, 2:45 pm Clausura Setup
18th Sun, 3:30 pm Clausura Begins
18th Sun, 6:00 pm Homecomings at
Various Locations

Participant

Congregation

Sponsor

Cynthia Carrell	Prince of Peace, Carrollton	Barb Schlack, Kathy Dickson
Eslyn Chapman	Advent, Arlington	Dolores Trokey, Carol VanBuskirk
Robert ("Bob") Cornwell	King of Glory, Ft. Worth	Vickie Clark Cornwell
Merrye Dalluge	Rejoice, Frisco	Jane Winge
Gloria Davidchik	Grace Lutheran, Carrollton	Lorraine Markwardt
Tanya Erdmann	Rejoice, Frisco	Carolyn Knudsen
Patricia Everett	King of Glory, Dallas	Jane Schmidt
Don Holmes	Calvary, Richland Hills	Bob Thomas
Alex Hoops	Calvary, Richland Hills	Ed Kviz
Sean T. Scruggs	St. Paul, Plano	Rick Nyman
Kim Silva	Faith, Flower Mound	Kathy Shugarman
JoAn Stanley	Grace, Carrollton	Lorraine Markwardt
Scott Zimmerer	Grace Lutheran, Carrollton	Kimball Markwardt

Weekend #85 Staff

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|-----------------------------|---|
| Rector**Curt Thompson | Ideal/Table Leader**Al Bem |
| O/R**Bob Mock | Laity/Table Leader**Jane Winge |
| S/D**Pastor Olin Knudsen | Piety//Table Leader**Greg Hefner |
| S/D**Pastor Suzanne Guinn | Study/Table Leader**Di Piatt |
| Rectors Cha**Lawanda Wilson | Action/Table Leader**Harry Herd |
| Music Cha**Carey Newton | Leaders/Table Leader**Lee Lacy |
| Food Cha**Jenni Gebhardt | Environ/Table Leader**David VanBuskirk |
| Food Cha**Tom Wiese | C. C. in Action /Table Leader**Tim Fuston |
| Palanca Cha** Pat Carr | Fourth Day/Table Leader**Christy Gibson |
| Palanca Cha**Cynthia Bem | Table Leader**Mary Anna Callaway |

Love Team Rector—Tim Talafuse

***** FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR *****

Greetings to the 4th day.

We are once again edging to the beginning of another Weekend Retreat at Camp Copass. You have once again provided us with a new group of participants to experience how God can Bless our lives with Grace thru Meditation, Song and Fellowship.

A Quote by Max Lucado

“You weren’t an accident. You weren’t mass produced. You aren’t an assembly-line product. You were deliberately planned, specifically gifted, and lovingly positioned on the earth by the Master Craftsman.”

You are the corner stone that keeps this movement growing by reaching out to all of those wanting to be a part of Gods children, sometimes losing our way, but always wanting to reconnect.

In Matthew 16:18 he tells us:

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Help us Bless this weekend with your Prayers. You can also be a part of the success by providing goodies, helping with setup and teardown, coming to Wake-up and Clausura.

Experience once again seeing the light shining in the eyes of our new and upcoming 4th day members. Remember how much Love you felt on your first weekend.

I hope to see you all at Camp Copass soon!

God Bless you all for everything you do to spread God’s Love.

Gerald Stout
Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas
Lay Director

This newsletter, the El Tintero, is distributed by email only. If you know of 4th Dayers who do not receive or use email please print off a copy for them. If possible, please place a copy on your VdC bulletin board at your church.

WEEKEND #85 – BACK TO CAMP COPASS

The basic structure of the Via do Cristo weekend will not change – BUT the logistical structure supporting the weekend will change significantly. We will be in the Angel Hotel, the dining hall for meals and the Love Team will have separate quarters. We will not know for sure just how the Plan A setup will work out – Plan B may become an option in some cases.

When the call for extra help for #81 went out the 4th Day responded, saved the day, and had a great time doing it.

Your Logistics Director, Curt Thompson, is asking for the 4th Day's help again for Wednesday Night Setup, Mar. 14th; Sunday Clausura setup, Mar. 18th; and Take Down after the Clausura.

Ways to Get That “VdC Love” Again

Weekend #85 is almost upon us, so get busy being God's hands and feet by writing Palanca, making gracemats, cooking up batches of brownies and cookies, and saying prayers for the staff and participants for the Weekend.

Remember the love you felt because of the love being given to you when you were a participant? Now it's your turn to give that love back – and receive a lot of love and hugs in the process. You always get back more love than you can ever give away!!!!

Come, share and receive this love once again

Come out Saturday afternoon (March 17th), at 1:15 to sing to the Participants,
Come back Sunday (March 18th), for Wake-Up at 6:00 AM and,
Clausura Sunday afternoon at 3:30.

***Please call Gerald Stout at 1-800-845-7681
to volunteer to help in some or all of the following ways:***

What kinds of Palanca food and when will you be delivering to Camp Copass?

Will you volunteer to be on called to deliver items needed during the weekend?

Will you help at Wed, night set-up – 6 pm, March 14th –Angels Motel, Camp Copass?

Will you help with Clausura set-up – 2:45 pm Sunday, March 18th?

Will you help after Clausura with Take-Down?

“By the Grace of God.....”

What a blessing is God's grace to us, and what a joy it is on our Via de Cristo Weekends to actually feel the weight of guilt and despair lifted from our hearts as we recognize that God has granted us that grace!

Our Via de Cristo group once charged a fee to Weekend registrants, but for some years now, we have waived the fee for participants so this blessing is not restricted to those with ready funds. We all believe strongly in making this opportunity a “Grace Weekend.”

But did you know each Weekend costs us about \$7,300 in facility and food costs alone, of which a little over half is covered by Staff and Love Team members' fees? Sometimes a sponsor will donate the costs related to a participant, but often that \$155 payment is fully absorbed by our treasury.

Maybe you aren't sponsoring someone for Weekend #85, but you can make a contribution (fully tax deductible) to Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas to aid us in our desire to personally deliver the experience of God's grace.

Checks payable to “LVDCNT” or “Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas” can be placed in the offering at the #85 Clausura, or mailed to John Harris, Treasurer, 9519 Hillview Drive, Dallas, Texas 75231.

Wake-up Renews You Over and Over Again!!

Wake-up is contagious. While you are helping the participants discover their larger 4th Day family, you just can't help but be filled again with the fire of the Holy Spirit you received on your own weekend. Our 4th Day activities are a way to remember our own weekends and renew our resolve to grow in piety, study, and action.

*The participants are assured and you are reassured that this love and community can be replaced and continued in their own environments through their own small groups and active participation in their ultreyas. **Wakeup and Clausura do not have to be one time experiences** -- they can go on and on just as God's love for us never ends.*

*The meditations and rollos have prepared the participants for the return to their environments. The participants turn to the lessons they have learned and, hopefully, will go forth with renewed vigor eager to serve God. **Wake-up is a chance to renew your vigor to go forth and serve where his service calls you.***

**A Good Lenten Meditation from *Grace for the Moment, Volume I*
A Comparison and Blending of two Max Lucado Meditations on the Beatitudes**

Meditation 1: *Sacred Delight, the selection for February 16th:*

“Those people who have great spiritual needs are happy, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.” Matthew 5:3 (NCV)

Meditation 2: *Radical Reconstruction (of the heart), the selection for September 26th:*

“Rejoice and be glad because you have a great reward waiting for you in heaven”. Matt 5:12 (NCV)

Sacred Delight

God promises (sacred delight). And he promises it
To an unlikely crowd

The poor in spirit. Beggars in God’s soup kitchen

“Those who mourn.” Sinners Anonymous
bound together by the truth of their introduction
“Hi, I am me. I’m a sinner.

“The merciful.” Winners of the million dollar
lottery who share their prize with their enemies.
As we grow closer to him, we become more like him.

“The pure in heart.” Physicians who love
lepers and escape infection.

“The peacemakers.” Architects who build
bridges with wood from a Roman cross.

“The persecuted.” Those who manage to keep
an eye on heaven while walking thru hell on earth

It is to this band of pilgrims that God promises
a special blessing, A heavenly joy.
A sacred delight.

Radical Construction

In the Sermon on the mount, ...what Jesus promises
is not a gimmick to give you goose bumps nor a
mental attitude that has to be pumped up at pep
rallies. No. Matthew 5 describes God’s radical
reconstruction of the heart. Observe the sequence.

First we recognize we are in need (**we’re poor in
spirit**)

Next we repent of our self-sufficiency-**we mourn**
we quit calling the shots and surrender control
to God (**we’re meek.**)

So grateful are we for his presence that we yearn
more of him. (**we hunger and thirst.**)

We forgive others (**we’re merciful.**)

We change our outlook (**we’re pure in heart.**)

We love others (**we’re peacemakers.**)

We endure injustice (**we’re persecuted.**)

It’s no casual shift of attitude. It’s a demolition
of the old structure and a creation of the new, the
more radical the change the greater the joy. And
it’s worth every effort , for this is the joy of God.

These two meditations are presented in their entirety for the purpose of
comparison and/or a blending of the two meditations to enrich a study of the Beatitudes.
Both meditations are excerpts from Max Lucado’s *Applause of Heaven*