

EL TINTERO



JULY-AUGUST 2008

NORTH TEXAS LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT

"El Tintero" is Spanish for "the inkwell." Legend has it that Martin Luther threw an inkwell at Satan who tempted Luther while he was writing.

Favorite Flavor? Rocky Road!

Miles Holder, Rector

Grace and Peace to you, fellow Pilgrims!

It has been a rocky road for weekend #75 of the North Texas Lutheran Via de Cristo. We remember and lift up our brother and sister, Wayne and Sybil Shuck, coping with Wayne's sudden affliction with Guillain-Barre Syndrome as they both prepared to serve, he as Observing Rector on #74 and as Rector of this weekend #75, and she as Rector's Cha on #74. Two faithful servants who continue to witness to the love of Jesus Christ even as they persevere through Wayne's illness.

Yes, there's been other stuff, too trivial to mention, but part of the challenges that go with any weekend. Yet through it all, we can all be reminded of what an absolute gift this Via de Cristo is. Weekend #75 will be like every other Via de Cristo weekend. The Holy Spirit will be present in power, on that we can rely. And it will be unique. People's lives will be changed, blessed in ways only they will know in the fullness of time. God has gifted us with something truly powerful and truly precious, and as we go forward each weekend it is good to reflect on what the Via de Cristo has meant to each of us, personally, and how we owe it to those who come after to preserve this instrument of God's blessing for them. From the vessel of Via de Cristo the blessings of God's Holy Spirit are poured out upon His people, transforming lives and transforming environments for the sake and in the name of Jesus Christ!

As you reflect on how Via de Cristo has blessed you, I ask you to consider your palanca, your sacrifice of time, prayer, participation and praise, for the sake of the Pilgrims on #75, for the sake of your Via de Cristo and for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

+Peace+

Miles

NOTES FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR

Dear 4th Day Community,

A Via de Cristo weekend is to remind us of several things including God's amazing grace, how to share God's love in our daily environments, to understand what our apostolic action is to be and most of all, how being part of a larger community holds us up to be able to do all these things.

Each one of us has experienced our own weekend as a participant. Many of us have served as staff on weekends since. All of us know these weekends cannot happen without prayer, staff training, many weeks or months of preparation and then the actual labor to make it happen. It becomes a matter of logistics to make everything flow as it should.

For weekend #75 the staff has spent four weekends in training, rollos have been written, food is being prepared, palanca is being written, leaders have led the staff in activities for team building. That part of the weekend is ready.

Now it is your turn to participate in weekend #75. There are many needs which require attention. First we will need a team to meet the Rector and the CHAs to set up on Wednesday evening July 30 at 6:30. We need people who will help set up tables, the living room, the chapel, the sound system, the palanca room, bedrooms for the Spiritual Directors and the dining room. There is much to be done on Wednesday, **but many hands make lighter work, plus it is more fun.**

On Sunday afternoon we need to prepare for Clausura. The staff and participants leave the building at 2:30. At that time the 4th day is needed to get in to take down the rollo room; it becomes the sanctuary. We need rows and rows (and rows) of chairs for participants and lots of 4th day attendees. While some of you are setting up the sanctuary with chairs, the altar and the area for the musicians, others can be taking down the chapel, putting away the LBW, taking down beds in the SD rooms and storing away those things which will not be used during Clausura.

After the worship ends, the service begins. Our work is not over when the chairs are put away. If the boxes with seat cushions, hymnals, table cloths, artwork supplies and all the other items it takes to make the weekend happen have not been stowed away someone has to stay to do these things. **Again, many hands make lighter work and again, it is more fun!**

For weekend #75 many of the people who normally come out to do set up and take down are serving on staff. This means that they will not be available to help on Sunday afternoon with Clausura setup; **you are much needed.** They will also be very tired from a long, yet incredible, weekend and not have as much energy for take down; **you are much needed.** We each have many commitments to our time; can you commit to doing one part of what it takes to make the logistics of a weekend happen? Please, please prayerfully consider adding this service to your action plan for your week of July 28 – August 3; **YOU ARE NEEDED.** Many hands make lighter, more fun work.

The worship ends and the service begins.

Blessings,
Alice Allison
Lay Director

Via de Cristo #75

Thursday, July 31 to Sunday, August 3, 2008
Lake Sharon Christian Center, Corinth, Texas

Participants:

Janet Adams

Meshel Bartle

(F)

Fred Behrmann

Melissa Court

Lanny Ford

(M)

Judy Gilbert

Irene Hoeldtke

Deb Loudin-McCann

Debbie Thomas

Nancy Watts

Quinta Wilkinson

Congregation:

Walnut Hill Lutheran, Dallas

King of Glory Lutheran, Ft. Worth

Rejoice Lutheran, Coppell

Calvary Lutheran, Richland Hills

Our Redeemer Lutheran, Grand Prairie

Faith Lutheran, Wichita Falls

Our Savior's Lutheran, Clifton

St. Pau Lutheran, Farmer's Branch

Calvary Lutheran, Richland Hills

Faith Lutheran, Flower Mound

Faith Lutheran, Wichita Falls

Sponsor:

Ginger Georgulas

Pat Carr

Dick Jones

Libby Buuck

Patrick Hunt

Jon Krueger

Jill Winkler

Stephanie Varnum

Jennifer Isernhagen

Vickie Wagner

Stephanie Mudge

Staff:

Rector

Observing Rector

Spiritual Director

Spiritual Director

Rector's Cha Cha

Food Cha Cha

Food Cha Cha

Music Cha Cha

Palanca Cha Cha

Palanca Cha Cha

Ideal

Laity

Piety

Study

Action

Leaders

Environments

Christian Community

Fourth Day

Table Leader

Love Team Rector

Miles Holder

Hattie Hammer

Pastor Phil Heinze

Pastor Suzanne Guinn

Kathy Rogers

Sally Krueger

Linda McMillan

Mike Mayo

Michael Miller

Debi Gebhardt

Russelle Wade

Greg Hefner

Vickie Clark

Nancy Cage

Curt Thompson

Becky Clark

Stephanie Mudge

Bob Mock

Bill Mooney

Elsie Kroussakis

Cid Smith

Via de Cristo #75 - Weekend Calendar

July	30	Wed 6:30 pm	Setup for Weekend at Lake Sharon; Food and Palanca Drop Off
	31	Thu 6:45 pm	Via de Cristo #75 Begins
August	2	Sat 1:30 pm	Love Team Visitation
	3	Sun 6:00 am	Arrive For Wakeup
	3	Sun 6:30 am	Wakeup Begins
	3	Sun 2:45 pm	Clausura Setup
	3	Sun 3:30 pm	Clausura Begins
	3	Sun 5:30 pm	Takedown & Cleanup
	3	Sun Evening	Homecoming, Various Locations

Questions about the Love Team?

I have served on several Love Teams since “my” Via de Cristo Weekend in the 1990s. Each Love Team, just like each Via de Cristo, is separate and perfect in its own way and I am always blessed in new and exciting ways each time I serve.

If you have been thinking you might like to revisit the spiritual renewal you experienced on your Via de Cristo Weekend, one way to do so is to serve on an upcoming Love Team. As a Love Team member, you will be as richly blessed as any participant or staff member.

The Rector of the Love Team for Weekend #75 is Cid Smith, the NTLs Post-Weekend Rep. You can reach Cid, whether to ask questions or to sign up, at cidcs@msn.com.

ULTREYA!
Linda Sims

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Coming Attractions

Staff Training School – September 6, 2008
9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
King of Glory Lutheran Church, Dallas

Grand Ultreya – October 18, 2008
St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Hurst

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Financial Support

Although our Grace weekends are free to the participants, they are not “free.” We rely on donations from the 4th Day to finance these gifts of grace. **Send donations to support our Grace weekends to Jim Bingaman, NTLs Treasurer, 1401 Lakeview Blvd., Denton, TX 76208.** Please make checks payable to **NTLS**.
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Greetings All,

Jesus once said, "As you go, proclaim the good news, The kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 10:7, NRSV). The Fourth Day Community helps us remember those words through small groups, our local Ultreyas, and of course the exciting Grand Ultreya. The Reign of God becomes real and alive as we share experiences in our piety, study, and our recent apostolic action. In a personal way, that is one of the greatest gifts of the Via de Cristo movement and the Fourth Day Community.

Each Via de Cristo provides valuable support for the importance of our Fourth Day Faithfulness. As we engage the lever that lifts each weekend group (palanca), let us also challenge ourselves to be very intentional about praying always for the established Ultreyas. By that I mean, let us "name" the Ultreya groups that our own Ultreya is praying for so that we remain faithfully connected through method and prayer.

Praise God for the Holy Spirit who fills our hearts for upcoming weekends, and kindles in us the fire of God's own love for each participant and staff member. Praise God for the palanca and support that the upcoming weekend will receive from our Fourth Day Community. Praise God for each of you as your own spiritual growth leads you to bear witness to the Reign of God in your own circumstances. Praise God for the new beginning promised in each Via de Cristo, and for the faithfulness of our Fourth Day Community. Praise God that indeed, "the kingdom of God has come near."

Peace to you all,

Pastor Ernie Barr, #67
SD, Secretariat



We want to keep in touch and hope you do too.
If you move, change phone number, email address or change church membership, you can get it on record by sending a note to Pat Carr or sending an email to her at pvcarr@sbcglobal.net.



Email Address Request!

If you are receiving the El Tintero by regular mail and also have an email address, please send us your email address to help reduce the cost of paper and postage. We promise not to fill your inbox with endless communiqués from us. When the El Tintero is ready, you will receive by email a link to the El Tintero online, which will contain the same information you have received in the past by regular mail.

Please send your email address to our Database Administrator,
Pat Carr at: pvcarr@sbcglobal.net

