

# El Tintero



**March 2006**

**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.

**CLAUSURA NOTE: The Closing Worship Service (Clausura) for Via de Cristo #68 starts at 3:30 pm, Sunday, March 19<sup>TH</sup> at Lake Sharon Retreat Center. Spread the word and invite your friends! Also, Clausura setup volunteers are needed! If you're able to come early to help, setup begins at about 2:30 pm.**

## **Letting God's Light Shine Through Us**

By Barb Guinn, Rector, Via de Cristo #68

The season of Lent has begun. The colors in the sanctuary have changed from green and white, to purple and black. The first station of the Stations of the Cross is hanging on the wall. The hymns had somber, searching melodies. It is a somber moment, a time to contemplate, as ashes are placed on our foreheads and we're told, “from dust you have come, and to dust you shall return.”

Isn't that the way each weekend starts? The staff meets and prepares. We laugh and get to know each other. The participants arrive, we get them settled, make them feel welcome, chat, and sing songs. The mood is kept light. Then we enter into the Silent Retreat, a darkened chapel, the stations of the cross and time to contemplate. This is how each weekend begins. Weekend #68 just happens to take place during Lent.

We suspend “the rule” of silencing the alleluias and the weekend unfolds, letting us further experience God's love in Christ's resurrection and the presence of the Holy Spirit. Often we want to stay on “this mountain top”.

This past Sunday was Transfiguration. I asked my 3rd grade Sunday School students what special place they would like to go with Jesus. Most of them answered, “heaven.” Two students had different answers. One was Red, Hot and Blue. The other was the ice cream shop. Isn't it that we are called to go with Jesus, not just to the mountain top but also to our everyday worlds? We continue on, renewed, changed from when we first arrived, to let God's light shine through us to the rest of the world.

We don't return to “go it on our own” but to a Christian Community to welcome us and help sustain us. As part of that 4th Day Christian Community, we invite you to support Weekend #68 in prayer, write palanca, and participate in Wake Up and Clausura on Sunday, March 19th. We look forward to seeing you there.

Ultreya!

Barb Guinn, Rector  
Via de Cristo Weekend #68

**PALANCA NOTES - VIA DE CRISTO #68 IS ALMOST HERE!**

Your palanca is needed! Remember first, that Palanca is really prayers. The written notes are reminders that prayers have been offered for the participants and staff of this weekend.

The palanca notes are delivered on all 3 days. 1-3 notes a weekend per participant or staff are all you really need to send. Sponsors need only send 3 to their participant. There are five palanca deliveries on a Via de Cristo weekend: Friday table, Friday bed, Saturday table, Saturday bed & Sunday. Please specify if palanca is to be delivered at a special time. If palanca is numbered, #1 will be delivered on Friday, #2 on Saturday and any other numbers will be delivered on Sunday.

Palanca needs to be a personal message. So if you send copied pages of stories or words of wisdom, include a personal note: it doesn't have to be long. If you are sponsoring someone or someone from your church is a participant or on staff, consider creating a hug gracemat. You know them better than we do and it would make their gracemat more personal. You can send this hug gracemat on Thursday night. Put it on the palanca table and they will receive it during the weekend. If you have any finished gracemats, please bring them to the weekend as well.

**LOVE TEAM - LOVE TEAM - LOVE TEAM - LOVE TEAM - LOVE TEAM**

**Harry Herd**, Love Team Rector for #68, is in the process of assembling his team. It's not too late to step forward to serve! If you would like to laugh, pray, share, worship, meditate, sing and serve on Love Team #68, please contact Harry at **817-267-7683** or send an email message to **harpioneer@aol.com**.

**ULTREYA ASSIGNMENTS**

**Ultreya:** Please provide the following support for VdC #68. Remember that home-baked cookies and brownies work best and veggies should be properly cut up and prepared. The "event assignments" listed below need your active participation. The more help we have, the sooner we can get to our homecoming parties. Please do what you can. We have never had too many helpers. Thank You!

<u>Who</u>	<u>When, What, How Many</u>
Calvary	4 people for Sunday evening Takedown; 2 batches of veggies and 2 batches of fruit
Central	2 people for Sunday afternoon Clausura Setup; 2 dozen cookies & 2 dozen brownies
KOG FW	3 people for Sunday evening Takedown; 2 dozen cookies & 2 dozen brownies
CT/Faith/Rejoice	2 people for Wednesday night Setup; 2 batches of veggies & 2 batches of fruit
Good Shepherd	3 people for Sunday afternoon Clausura Setup; 1 batch of veggies
KOG Dallas	3 people for Wednesday night setup and 3 people for Sunday evening takedown 2 batches of veggies & 2 batches of fruit
St. Luke's	2 people for Sunday afternoon Clausura Setup; 2 dozen cookies & 2 dozen brownies
POP, Arlington	Wednesday night chapel setup; 1 batch of veggies.

# Via de Cristo #68

Thursday, March 16 to Sunday, March 19  
 Lake Sharon Christian Center, Corinth, Texas

**Participants**

Raelene Gibbons  
 Carol Griffith  
 Joshua Grubbs  
 Shirley Harmes  
 Kerstin Hedlund  
 Wendi Hoffman  
 Rebecca Jefferson

**Congregation**

Christ the Servant Lutheran, Denton  
 Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic, Arlington  
 Calvary Lutheran, Richland Hills  
 St. Helen's Catholic, Georgetown  
 Calvary Lutheran, Richland Hills  
 King of Glory Lutheran, Dallas  
 Ridgeview Pres. Farmer's Branch

**Sponsor**

Lilly Gholston  
 Ellen Slezak  
 Ricky Grubbs  
 Gerald Stout  
 Melissa Herring  
 Roger Anders  
 Carolyn Knudsen

**Staff**

Rector  
 Observing Rector  
 Spiritual Director  
 Spiritual Director  
 Spiritual Director  
 Rector's Cha  
 Food Cha  
 Food Cha  
 Music Cha  
 Palanca Cha  
 Palanca Cha  
 Love Team Rector

Barb Guinn  
 Beverly Goldman  
 Pastor Olin Knudsen  
 Pastor Suzanne Guinn  
 P.L.M. Vickie Clark  
 Ellen Slezak  
 Christy Gibson  
 Steve Rossiter  
 Robert Stone  
 Lilly Gholsten  
 Mollie Harris  
 Harry Herd

Ideal  
 Laity  
 Piety  
 Study  
 Action  
 Leaders  
 Environments  
 CCIA  
 Fourth Day  
 Table Leader

Amy Anders  
 Jon Allred  
 Kathy Dickson  
 Bruce Hanson  
 Mike Mayo  
 Brian Mueller  
 Peggy Fleming  
 Susan Eaton  
 Roye Moore  
 Dean Dahlin

## Via de Cristo #68 - Weekend Calendar

**March**

<b>15</b>	<b>Wed 6:30 pm</b>	<b>Setup for Weekend at Lake Sharon Food and Palanca Drop Off</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Thu 6:45 pm</b>	<b>Via de Cristo #68 Begins</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun 6:00 am</b>	<b>Arrive For Wakeup</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun 6:30 am</b>	<b>Wakeup Begins</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun 2:30 pm</b>	<b>Clausura Setup</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun 3:30 pm</b>	<b>Clausura Begins</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun 5:30 pm</b>	<b>Takedown &amp; Cleanup</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Sun Evening</b>	<b>Homecoming, Various Locations</b>

**FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR****A Thank-You and Request for Financial Assistance Received From Lake Sharon Christian Center**

The following letter was received from Debbie Burks, Director of Facilities, Lake Sharon Christian Center. I would like to add my thanks to the members of our Via de Cristo community who participated in the December work weekend. I would also like to encourage you to consider a donation in any amount to assist in covering the cost of the new beds which have already been installed in the lower dorm rooms.

In His Service,  
Bruce Hanson  
Lay Director  
NTLS

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“To the Guests of Lake Sharon Christian Center,

We wish to thank all of our participating communities that helped with the Lake Sharon Christian Center work weekend in December.

We were able to repair walls and paint most all of the rooms in the main building. The sliding doors that were broken off track were replaced by a new door and framed in. This makes that room useable as a meeting room again. We had some gentlemen that repaired the ceiling in lounge and installed lighting over the mantle. Also a team of men cut down numerous dead trees on the property.

We also have some ladies that have donated and are making new sheers for the windows in the lounge. I believe this will make that room look much more appealing and help cover some of the construction still going on around Lake Sharon Christian Center.

We still have some ongoing projects that we hope will help spruce up Lake Sharon and help the center to be more welcoming to you and your groups.

One project we could really use help on is our need for new mattresses in the lower dorm. Anyone that stayed in that dorm knows how sad those mattresses were. As of last Friday morning, Donny Forson, Chairman for Lake Sharon Christian Center, had delivered new sets for this dorm. This is truly a welcome sight to all who are assigned the lower dorm during your visit here.

Several of our groups, and individuals, have in the past expressed a desire to help with this purchase. We are asking that, if possible, you as a group could contribute and/or possibly put out in your newsletters and web sites that we would willingly accept donations to help defray the cost. The price for the sets (box springs and mattresses) is \$145 a set. As there are 42 beds in a dorm room, the cost is quite large. We will certainly give a tax donation form to everyone that donates. Please send donations to Lake Sharon Christian Center, P.O. Box 369, Lake Dallas, Texas 75065 or contact us with any questions or arrangements (940-321-4521).

We love serving all our groups that come here and really appreciate your help and devotion to Lake Sharon Christian Center. We at Lake Sharon Christian Center are committed to service and to continuing to provide a place set apart for God and God's people.”

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP - NTLs CONTRIBUTIONS**

Please remember to include our VdC community in your giving plans. Whether \$5, \$50 or \$500, any contribution is always appreciated and used to God's Glory. Contributions can be sent to Jim Bingaman, Treasurer NTLs, 1401 Lakeview Blvd, Denton, TX 76208. Checks should be made out to NTLs.

**NORTH TEXAS LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT STAFF**

Lay Director	Bruce Hanson	817-354-1547	<a href="mailto:lay_director@ntls.org">lay_director@ntls.org</a>
Pre-Weekend	Mark Sullivan	972-774-1342	<a href="mailto:pre_weekend@ntls.org">pre_weekend@ntls.org</a>
Weekend Rep/Logistics	Alice Allison	817-281-6306	<a href="mailto:weekend_rep@ntls.org">weekend_rep@ntls.org</a>
Post-Weekend Rep	Cid Smith	972-418-1035	<a href="mailto:post_weekend@ntls.org">post_weekend@ntls.org</a>
Treasurer	Jim Bingaman	214-289-6764	<a href="mailto:treasurer@ntls.org">treasurer@ntls.org</a>
Spiritual Director	Olin Knudsen	972-997-9943	<a href="mailto:clergy1@ntls.org">clergy1@ntls.org</a>
Secretary	Becky Clark	469-293-6129	<a href="mailto:secretary@ntls.org">secretary@ntls.org</a>
Training	Vickie Clark	817-925-8401	<a href="mailto:training@ntls.org">training@ntls.org</a>
Historian	Sandra Gass	972-491-7224	<a href="mailto:historian@ntls.org">historian@ntls.org</a>
Communications	Greg Borchert	214-783-7599	<a href="mailto:greg@glborchert.com">greg@glborchert.com</a>
Palanca	Lilly Gholston	940-387-0445	<a href="mailto:palanca@ntls.org">palanca@ntls.org</a>
Registrar	Kathleen Talafuse	469-293-6230	<a href="mailto:registrar@ntls.org">registrar@ntls.org</a>
Music Coordinator	Janet Thorp	214-789-7653	<a href="mailto:music@ntls.org">music@ntls.org</a>
Web Servant	Mark Fox	972-256-1904	<a href="mailto:web-servant@ntls.org">web-servant@ntls.org</a>
Database Manager	Pat Carr	817-457-0176	<a href="mailto:db-admin@ntls.org">db-admin@ntls.org</a>
Happening Liaison	Carol Pierce	817-451-3102	

**INTERESTED IN SPONSORING OR SERVING?**

Via de Cristo doesn't happen without YOU! Please keep your Via de Cristo community in your prayers. Pray also about those who God might be calling you to sponsor on a Via de Cristo and about the ways you personally might be called to serve. The dates for our next weekend is: #69, August 10 - 13, 2006. YOU ARE NEEDED!

**STAFF AVAILABILITY FORM FOR AN UPCOMING WEEKEND**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (required) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check all weekends you could serve: August \_\_\_\_\_ November \_\_\_\_\_ April \_\_\_\_\_

Your Weekend Information: Community \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Will you serve on a music team? Sing? \_\_\_\_\_ Play an instrument? \_\_\_\_\_

Cut out and send completed form to:

**Vickie Clark,  
Via de Cristo Training Director  
2100 Oak Hill Road  
Fort Worth, TX 76112  
[training@ntls.org](mailto:training@ntls.org)**



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**VIA DE CRISTO #68 IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER.**

The Via de Cristo of North Texas currently sponsors three weekends each year:

**Via de Cristo #68: March 16, 2006 through March 19, 2006**

Via de Cristo #69: Aug. 10, 2006 through Aug. 13, 2006

Via de Cristo #70: November 09, 2006 through November 12, 2006

**El Tintero**

North Texas Lutheran Secretariat  
973 Fall Creek  
Grapevine, Texas 76051-8248

**To:**