

El Tintero



De Colores dear brothers and sisters in Christ!

Weekend #83 is almost upon us. As you know we are at a new location for the first time in many years. Camp Copass in Denton will be our home for this weekend. Where we are at isn't near as important as what we will be doing, fellowship, singing, praying and coming together as a community of believers.

I have to admit, the past couple of months have been challenging for me. Work, work, work, everything gets busy in your life all at one time. I think God moved the weekend's date ahead of normal for a reason. For me, that would be a time to focus back on God when I need it the most. A friend sent me a note recently reminding me to think about the important things in life, as he new how busy and stressed I had been. Then he gave me a big hug the next time I saw him. That kind of said it all, no more words were needed. I am very thankful for what God has given me. On top of friends like that he led me to this Via De Cristo weekend for a reason. Each person's reasons will be different but all have a unique purpose.

Our Saint for this weekend is St. Peter. He displayed our human faults in times of trial, yet God used him and through Peter's weakness, God showed his strength. "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" Matthew 16:18.



God also put together a great staff for weekend #83. I ask each one of you to pray for them as well as our participants and Love Team. We need your palanca and showing of Christ's Hands in Action to our participants. We also need help for set-up the take down. How many of you remember Sunday morning Wake Up? That is a special gift from the 4th Day that is always remembered and appreciated. Last but not least are Clausaura and the Ultreya homecomings. Please support the participants at this special time and see and hear what the weekend meant to them.

Thank you for all your support and prayers.

ULTREYA! Rector Jim

Via de Cristo Weekend 83

March		March	
9th * Wed, 6:30 pm	Setup at Camp Copass*	13 th Sun, 6:00 am	Arrive For Wakeup
	Food and Palanca Drop Off	13th Sun, 6:30 am	Wakeup Begins
10th *Thu, 6:45 pm	Via de Cristo #83 Begins	13th Sun, 2:45 pm	Clausura Setup
12 th *Sat, 1:30 pm	Love Team Visitation	13th Sun, 3:30 pm	Clausura Begins
		13th Sun, 6:00 pm	Homecomings at Various Locations

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Congregation</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
Matt Arnold	King of Glory, Dallas	John Harris
Mary Anna Callaway	Calvary, Richland Hills	Alice Allison
Frank Hustava	Lamb of God, Flower Mound	Kris Vaughn and LOG
Sylvia Hustava	Lamb of God, Flower Mound	Kris Vaughn and LOG
Jeanne Maxwell	Our Redeemer, Grand Prairie	Hattie Hammer
Gretchen Megowan	King of Glory, Dallas	Lisa Harrington
Becky Morales	Faith Lutheran, Wichita Falls	Lawanda Wilson
Cindy Price	Faith Lutheran, Wichita Falls	Steve Hogan
Kyle Rouze	Calvary, Richland Hills	Jerry & Carol Court
Chris South	Grace Lutheran, Ft. Worth	Della South
Pam Spadaro	Rejoice Lutheran, Coppell	Ginger Georgulas and Fred Behrmann
Brian Weaver	Faith Lutheran, Flower Mound	Steve Fontaine

Weekend #83 Staff

Rector** Jim Bingaman	Ideal/Table Leader** Janna Willardson
O/R** Dori Weir	Laity/Table Leader** Karen Brandenburg
S/D*** Pastor Kenneth Moerbe	Piety//Table Leader** Tim Talafuse
S/D*** Pastor Suzanne Guinn	Study/Table Leader** Dailey Taylor
Rectors Cha** Alice Allison	Leaders/Table Leader** Sarah Vick
Music Cha** Janet Thorp	Environ/Table Leader** Kathleen Talafuse
Food Cha** Karen Thompson	C. C. in Action /Table Leader** Doug Guinn
Food Cha** Mark Wilson	Fourth Day/Table Leader** Greg Hefner
Palanca Cha** Kathy Shugarman	Table Leader** Valerie von Bergen
Palanca Cha** Lawanda Wilson	
Tech Cha** John Harris	

Love Team Rector Wayne Shuck

From The Lay Director *****

As we look forward to weekend #83 I thank God for blessing us with the ability to handle the new challenges. At first I worried that we might not be able to start this new year with having a Spring weekend. Having to deal with a new location and a limited time schedule, I was amazed at how quickly things fell in place..... Just as God meant it to be.

A gentle reminder from a friend removed any remaining doubt that it should and would happen. Through your prayers and diligence we see how God is always paving our way even when we are unsure of the path. We are blessed once again with the chance to touch many new Hearts and reenergize existing ones.

Matthew 7:7-8

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

This passage from Max Lucado reminds me of how we sometimes feel when we can't find that perfect answer in an imperfect world. In these times of trouble and chaos we still have to remember he loves us even with our imperfections.

GOD IS IN YOUR CORNER by Max Lucado

When I was seven years old, I ran away from home. I'd had enough of my father's rules and decided I could make it on my own, thank you very much. With my clothes in a paper bag, I stormed out the back gate and marched down the alley. (But) I didn't go far. I got to the end of the alley and remembered I was hungry, so I went home.

Though the rebellion was brief, it was rebellion nonetheless. And had you stopped me on the prodigal path.... I just might have told you how I felt. I just might have said, "I don't need a father. I'm too big for the rules of my family."

I didn't hear the rooster crow like Peter did. I didn't feel the fish belch like Jonah did. I didn't get a robe and a ring and sandals like the prodigal did. But I learned from my father on earth what those three learned from their Father in heaven. Our God is no fair-weather Father. He's not into this love-'em-and-leave-'em stuff. I can count on him to be in my corner no matter how I perform. You can, too.

Do you remember throwing a rock into a body of water and watching it create a round ripple effect? We are that ripple and God is the rock that starts us moving. The larger the ripple the more people we affect.

Lets us rededicate ourselves and try to make this world better.

God Bless

Gerald Stout

WEEKEND #83 – THE BIG MOVE 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. 9th; Sunday Clausura setup, Mar. 13th; and Take Down after the Clausura.

***Please call or email Curt
at 817-267-7017 or thomkmc@sbcglobal.net
to help in some or all of the following ways:***

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

If you will volunteer to be on call to deliver items needed during the weekend.

If you will help at Wed, night set-up – 6 pm, March 9th –Angel Hotel, Camp Copass

If you will help with Clausura set-up – 2:45 pm Sunday, March 13th

If you plan to help after Clausura with Take-Down

More Ways to Participate

Weekend #83 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 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 at 1:15 to sing to the Participants,
Come back Sunday for Wake-Up at 6:30 AM and,
Clausura Sunday afternoon at 3:30.

Help Support the "Grace Weekend Gifts" Program

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 John Harris, LVDCof North Texas Treasurer, 9519 Hillview Dr., Dallas, TX 75231. Please make checks payable to LVDCNT or Lutheran VdC of North Texas.

Our Grace Weekends offer us still yet another way to participate in the Weekends. More importantly these gifts offer reassurance to the whole 4th Day that the VdC love we all know and treasure really does exist after the Weekend.

Supporting this program reinforces that the 4th Day and their ultreyas are the backbone of the movement. It is the ultreyas that offer ways for us all to grow in piety, study and action

We Are Now

A Registered 501(c)(3) Non Profit Corporation

All this past year the Secretariat under the leadership of John Harris, "Specail Counsel to the Secretariat", has worked very diligently to incorporate and apply for our 501(c)(3) It took many hours of discussion and even a retreat to accomplish our goal but we have now succeeded!

AND We Now Have a New Name:

Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas

Thank you, John, for all your hours of work not only for the application but also for the love and long hours you give to God, Via de Cristo, and the Secretariat!

Shirley & Marcy

A mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe.

So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

She said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day, the neighbor and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor girl he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the two walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally she said to Timmy, 'Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week?

Do you know her?'

Timmy nonchalantly replied, 'Yeah, I know who she is.'

The little girl said, 'Well, who is she?'

'That's just Shirley Goodnest,' Timmy replied, 'and her daughter Marcy.'

'Shirley Goodnest? Who the heck is she and why is she following us?

'Well,' Timmy explained, 'every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much.

And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today and always.