



"Christ is counting on You"

GOOD NEWS

Lutheran Via de Cristo of Minnesota

State Council would like to send a **HUGE THANK YOU** to the following people:

Greg Thompson—for being our State Convener and leading the State Council. Greg is handing the torch to Chris Van Hofwegen.

Loren Van Pelt—For years of keeping the State Council in order and re-writing the bylaws.

Carol Hellen—for leading Metro Council the past year as Director. Carol has built out the calendar, created extraordinary resources and teachings, fostered a movement to identify Church Liasons, gathered valuable information and so much more. Carol passes the torch to Brian Rath.

Kirstin Gonzalez—for taking on the heavy tasks of Director and Past Director. Kirstin has brought the laughter and love to so many events and continues to sit on council, going out to churches to spread the Via de Cristo message.

Wayne Meyer—for organizing our Ultreyas in the 4th Day community.

Pete McCloy—for taking care of the trailer and storing it at his house.

LouAnn Skillings—for her many years of secretarial duties on Metro Council.

Thank you!

A mighty big WELCOME to the following people on Metro and State Councils:

Chris Van Hofwegen—taking on the role of State Convener.

Brian Rath—taking on the role of Metro Council Director.

Suellen Dickhausen—our new Metro secretary

Peggy Olivier—handling our Metro Ultreyas.

Envy, or FOMO (for those younger)

Envy may well be one of the greatest sins of the twenty-first century. To be sure, our generation is not the first to struggle with this sin. Envy is the product of discontentment and pride, as we will see, and certainly no one generation has a monopoly on these two things. I believe that envy has become so widespread in the twenty-first century because new purveyors of this sin have become part of the fabric of our culture, most especially through the smartphone and the use of social media. People in every generation have undoubtedly struggle with being content with themselves and with the things that God has given to them. But smartphones and access to social media have exacerbated these struggles in our own day by constantly bombarding us with reminder after reminder of what we aren't (but others are) and of what we don't have (but others do).

Envy is nothing more or less than greed aimed at what someone else has. It is covetousness, which is forbidden in the tenth commandment (Ex. 20:17; Rom 12:9-10). It arises from the seed-bed of discontentment, which perceives that God has not given us what is best for us, and finds its full expression in the belief that He has actually given what is best for us to someone else. As the Apostle Paul says in Galatians 5:26, envy flows from pride. It puts ourselves in God's place and finds His providential allocation of our strengths and weaknesses, relationships, gifts and abilities, and resources and material goods to be wanting.

As Christians, we are called to "put away" envy (1 Peter 2:1), not only because it flows from pride and discontentment but also because it strikes at the heart of the gospel message. Ever since the beginning, God's great promise to His people has been summed up in the words, "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (e.g., see Ex. 3:12; Deut. 31:8; Josh. 1:5, Isa. 41:10). This promise is ours only in Christ Jesus. It is because Christ was forsaken on our behalf on the cross that you and I who believe in Him will never be. When Hebrews 13:5 tells us, therefore, that we are to "be content with what [we] have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you,'" it is reminding us that our real possession is God Himself. Because of what Christ has done, we have God both now and forevermore. Envy strikes at the heart of this message, because it says that God, and all that God is for us in Christ, is not enough. It says that what we really need is God plus someone else's body, personality, strengths, or possessions. Only when we remind ourselves of what is ours in Christ Jesus will the cords of envy, which have so entangled us, begin to loosen and fall away. Only when our love for Christ increases will our envious desire for other people's things fade away.

"Tabletalk: Commonly Tolerated Sins", by Rev. Jeremy Walker. *Tabletalk Magazine*, May 2023. Article provided by Chris Van Hofwegen, excerpt on page 7. tabletalkmagazine.com

A thought to take away today.....

In today's conversations, we sometimes hear the acronym "FOMO". Fear. Of. Missing. Out. Never fear missing out. God has given all we need through Christ Jesus.

~Monica Voss

METRO EVENTS

MAKE A FRIEND, BE A FRIEND, BRING A FRIEND TO CHRIST.



Annual Ultreya Marty's Farm

Bright Lake Farm 1461 50th St., Somerset, WI

Date: August 2, 2025

Time: 3 PM

Bring: Your songbook, yellow book, name badge, cross & cup.

Potluck: BRING A DISH TO SHARE! (refrigeration & outlets available)

Last names A-H: Salad

Last Names I-M: main course

Last names N-Z: desserts

RSVP welcome to Kathy's # 715-220-0796. Or connect with Kirstin Gonzalez or Veronica Van



CALLED TO THE 5TH DAY*

We celebrate the lives of those who have entered
into their 5th Day and are now in the Lord's
glorious presence.

Gene Wiersma May 31, 2025

• Please contact Monica Voss at
acorn1squash@gmail.com with those people we may have missed.

Upcoming Ultreya at
Bethlehem in the Midway

June 21st, 5-7PM

436 Roy Street N.

St. Paul

Metro Council Events Continued.....

Upcoming Co-Ed Weekend: #693

**August 14-17th, 2025
Immanuel Lutheran
Princeton, MN
Rector: Bob Everhart**

5th Sunday “Out & About”

**Sunday June 29th
More information coming in the future.**

*Sponsor and Weekender applications can be downloaded at
www.mnviadecristo.org*

Click on the FORMS tab at the top of the page to drop down a list.*

**FORMS also includes “Work a Team Applications, Sponsorship information and the Feed My Starving Children Registration.*

The Metro Council is seeking team members to fill open positions on Metro Council.

If interested, please contact Brian Rath, Director.

Positions open include a Director Elect & Trailer Keeper.

Director: This is a 3 year term. First year is Director Elect. Second year is Director of Metro Council. Third year is Past Director.

Trailer keeper : Responsible to maintain supplies on the trailer, haul the trailer to locations and store the trailer at times.

