



*"Christ is counting on You"*

# GOOD NEWS

*Lutheran Via de Cristo of Minnesota*

## Convener's Corner

Happy new year everyone! As I am writing this note to you, I am wondering what I can do better in 2025 than last year. Jesus tells us to spread his word, tell others about who he is, and why he came to this world.

One great way for us to do our part is to invite at least one person this year to a Via de Cristo weekend and/or also to work a weekend.

We are here to help grow leaders in the church. Most people who go through a VDC weekend are showered with love and grace and have a new spark in them to do more in their Christian lives.

I have seen and heard some amazing stories of weekenders who have gone through the VDC weekend. Some people become Sunday school teachers, some become elders in the church, some even go through seminary school to become a pastor. Most of our generous volunteers at our church have gone through a VDC weekend.

Through Jesus, we need to help plant a seed and see what grows inside of someone whom we sponsored. So whether you are a sponsor or a table leader, we all need to keep in prayer for our weekenders.

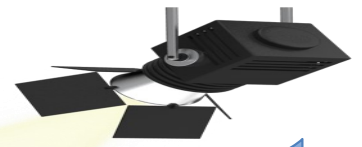
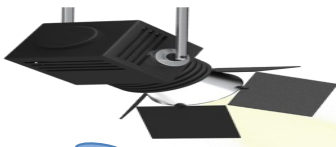
Join me in sponsoring someone and doing what Jesus wants us to do by furthering the kingdom of heaven. **Find a friend, Be a friend and bring a friend to Christ.**

God loves you and so do I,

Greg Thompson

### In this issue:

- ◆ Upcoming Weekends: **Metro 691 & 692** in February *and* **Unidos en Cristo** in March
- ◆ Called to the 5th Day.
- ◆ Feed My Starving children
- ◆ Where to obtain and send Weekender Applications.



# Council Member Spotlight

*MN Lutheran Via de Cristo State Council: Assistant Convener,  
Chris VanHofwegen*

**Home Church?** I have two home churches. My first is Resurrection Lutheran in Monticello. The other is Northgate in Ramsey.

**Weekend went through VDC?** I guess I went through on weekend 442.

**Which church did you go through?** It was at St. Stephen's in St. Paul.

**Verse for the weekend?** Romans XII: 4-5 "We are all parts of His one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others."

**Favorite Team to work on a VDC weekend?** I enjoy two teams, Kitchen and Palanca.

**What do you do outside VDC?** I work as a federal employee, Classifier for the Minnesota Army National Guard.

**What is your favorite hobby?** I have many favorite hobbies. Camping with MJ. Board games with my sons. Bike riding.

**What would you want people to know about you or something no one knows about you that you want people to know?** MJ and I have our Headstone ready to go. It will say, "TO BOLDLY Go!" Yep, we are Super Star Trek Fans!

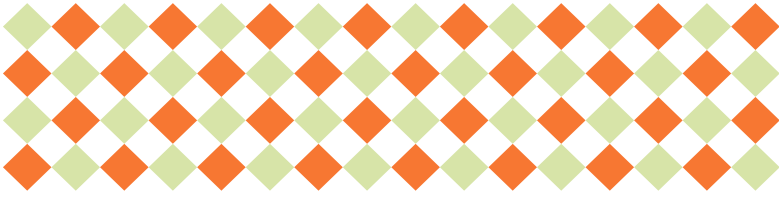
**What would you say to someone who was asked to go on a weekend and they asked what VDC was about?** I would tell them it is a weekend to experience a little of God's Grace here on earth. Just a taste, but what a wonderful taste!!

**What is your hope for the Movement?** That we continue to grow and show God's love for everyone!!

**How has Cursillo affected your life?** It was the change I needed. I gave me the boldness to share my faith and to get rid of the many masks I was wearing. To let me be the foo for Christ that I am and nor worry about what others thought of me. Human acceptance is not the goal. God's acceptance is what I strive for. That means that sometimes I come off a little strong for some. That is ok. One thing about me: I try not to be a lukewarm Christian. I want to be on fire for Christ. If that is too much for some, well that is an issue. Maybe my fire will light them up!!

# METRO EVENTS

Stay tuned for an upcoming Dinner Fellowship/Fundraiser in April—details will be posted on the Via de Cristo Website and in our newsletter as well as through email and Facebook.



**Men’s Weekend #691: Feb. 20–23, 2025**  
**Rector: Lonnie Isaccson**

**Women’s Weekend #692: Feb. 27–Mar. 2, 2025**  
**Rector: Lynn Stafford**

**Living Christ’s Mission Church (LCM)**  
**1200 69th Ave. N.**  
**Brooklyn Park, MN**

**Feed My Starving Children**

Simultaneous events in Coon Rapids & Eagan  
January 18, 2025  
Noon –1:45 PM

This is a 4th Day, Family & Friends event.

Register online at [mnviadecristo.org/fmssc-registration](http://mnviadecristo.org/fmssc-registration)



## 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.**

Pastor Paul Martinson	April 17, 2004
Lori Dolney	Sept. 17, 2017
Dr. Kathryn White	Oct. 16, 2017
John Antolik	May 21, 2022
Dolores (Dee) Lipe	June 3, 2022
Bob Sorensen	Oct 21, 2022
Karen Steahl	July 29, 2023
Carolyn Larson	Sept. 22, 2023
Steven Horazdovsky	Jan. 16, 2024

Bruce Meyer	Sept. 28, 2024
Thomas O’Donnell	Oct. 2, 2024
Tracy Magenau	Nov. 4, 2024
Jim Grimes	Dec. 8, 2024

\* Please contact Monica Voss at [acorn1squash@gmail.com](mailto:acorn1squash@gmail.com) with those people we may have missed. Thank you!

## OTHER CURSILLO EVENTS



### *Unidos en Cristo*

Co-Ed Weekend #303

March 20-23, 2025

Faith Lutheran Church  
12007 Excelsior Blvd.  
Minnetonka, MN

[www.unidosencristo.com](http://www.unidosencristo.com)



Blue Bunting & Sparrow, courtesy of Monica Voss (2024)



*Sponsor and Weekender applications can be downloaded at  
**[www.mnviadecristo.org](http://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.*

