



"Christ is counting on You"

GOOD NEWS

Lutheran Via de Cristo of Minnesota

Rebirth of a Newsletter

This is the rebirth of our "Good News" Newsletter of Lutheran Via de Cristo of Minnesota. It has been too long since our community has heard good news. It is our hope we can re-connect members and re-grow our community.

Join us, as we witness a rebirth and renewal of our Christian Community!

In this issue:

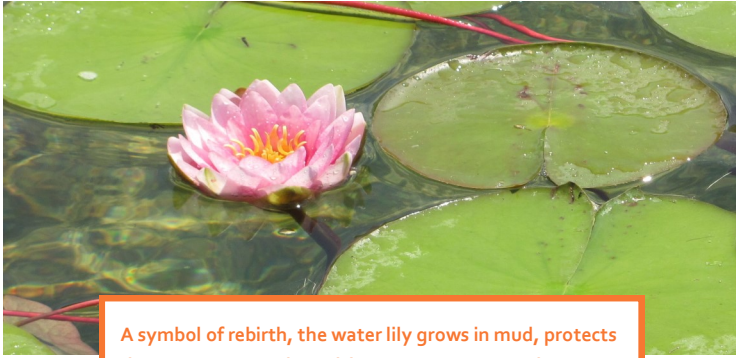
- ◆ Where to obtain and send Week-ender Applications.
- ◆ Upcoming Weekends: Metro
- ◆ New forms of communication.
- ◆ Council Representatives.
- ◆ New 4th Day Community.
- ◆ Called to the 5th Day.

A Message from Bill Schimmelman

Hi gang,

I can't believe it's November already. Well as we look forward to Thanksgiving, I want to remind you that we have so many things to be thankful for. We are able to worship freely and associate with our friends. We are so rich with benefits that are so numerous that they cannot be counted. The greatest gift that we so often take for granted is the gift of God's only Son who was sent to us to redeem us so that we may have fellowship with the Father and go to live with Him in heaven. All the blessings that we enjoy were paid by one man. He was sent to take on the sin of the world and offer His blood to atone for all our sins. So when we give thanks, let us remember from whom all blessings come. We, as Abraham Lincoln said, we have become conceited and think that our work and wisdom created our wealth and comfort. It did not. All blessings come from the Father and His Only Son. So as we prepare for our Thanksgiving celebrations, remember where our blessings come from, Make time to give thanks to Whom it is due. Remember that.

God loves you and so do I.



A symbol of rebirth, the water lily grows in mud, protects the eco-system and nourishes next year's growth.

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.
~Titus 3:4-7, NIV

PALANCA PARTY!

WHEN: JANUARY 1, 2024. 12 PM—5 PM

**Come for a short time or stay for all. Everyone is welcome!
Bring your own project or help finish another's project!**

**WHERE: Holiday Inn and Suites of Lake Elmo (next to the Machine Shed)
8511 Hudson Blvd. N., Lake Elmo/Woodbury, off Hwy 94.**

The following STATIONS will be set up for drop in's: Palanca cards; Placemats; Palanca crafts/items

Coffee, tea & cocoa provided. Also light pastries & snacks. Feel free to bring something to share.

Please email VDCweekenders@yahoo.com if you need electricity or special accommodations.

Lutheran Church of the Master, Brooklyn Center MN, Weekend #680

Welcome to the 4th Day!

- Kimberly Brinkman.....Lynnwood, MN
- Gary Drewa.....Pine City, MN
- Matthew Gonzalez.....Elk River, MN
- Bonnie Hable.....Columbus, MN
- Catherine Lanman.....Lakeville, MN
- Lisa Lodica.....Andover, MN
- Scott Lodica.....Andover, MN
- Lynn Sanders.....St. Paul, MN

CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Princeton, MN, Weekend #682

Welcome to the 4th Day!

John Perrin.....St John, Elk River
Constance Blockhus.....Immanuel Lutheran, Princeton
Jovita Romero..... Our Savior, St. Francis
Karen Randell.....Immanuel Lutheran, Princeton
Peggy Haines..... Woodbury Lutheran, Woodbury
Joann Nickels.....Bethlehem in the Midway, St. Paul
Steve Hendricks.....Bethlehem in the Midway, St. Paul
Deborah Thompson.....Bethlehem in the Midway, St. Paul
Marlom J. Corona Pacheco..... Christian Family Church, Edina
Marian C. Ramirez Suarez..... Christian Family Church, Edina

CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!

Bethel Lutheran Church, Hudson, WI Weekend #684

Welcome to the 4th Day!

Beverly Tavernier..... Cross Winds Community
Brenda Bomstad.....Cross Winds Community
Dori West..... Woodbury Lutheran
Jared LaCasse..... CLC Lake Elmo
Douglas Dickhausen
Suellen Dickhausen
Donna Herzfeld

CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Princeton, MN Weekend #686

Welcome to the 4th Day!

Susan Bartholomew....Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Princeton
Douglas Pries.....NKBS Church, Ramsey
Marsha Weidner.....New Life Church, Oak Grove.
Donna Wickstrom.....North Presbyterian, N. St.
Paul

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Upcoming Metro Weeends:

- Men's #688, January 11-14, 2024
Rector: Steve Kallevang,
St. Stephen's, West St. Paul
- Women's #689, January 18-21, 2024
Rector: Helen Hull
St. Stephen's, West St. Paul
- Summer 2024 Men's #690 TBD
Lord of Life Lutheran, Maple Grove
- Summer 2024 Women's #691 TBD
Lord of Life Lutheran, Maple Grove

*Applications can be downloaded at
www.mnviadecristo.org/forms-applications.*

Or contact: Kim Heilmann

Or: VDCweekender@yahoo.com



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.

Bruce Schlueter May 1, 2021

Ruth Carlson November 14, 2021

Jody Anderson October 15, 2022

Jonathan Issacson April 12, 2023

Dennis Lashinski August 31, 2023

Dave Biedermann June 13, 2023

Michael Weyers November 9, 2023

James Skjonsby May 27, 2021

Brian Hilden December 31, 2021

Ron Machel December 16, 2022

Jim Packer January 17, 2023

Leroy Nyhlen April 18, 2023

Martin (Ben) Imbertson September 6, 2023

Brenden Pirece November 26, 2023

* Please contact Monica Voss at acorn1squash@gmail.com with other people we may have missed. Thank you!

~ Convener's Corner ~

Hello from the Minnesota Via de Cristo State Council!

It has been quite awhile since we did anything with a webpage, newsletter or other form of communication. We have been trying our best since losing our past Director/ Convener/ All Around "Doer", Dave Biedermann in May. Taking over from him, I have had to learn many things from setting up a 40 minute ZOOM meeting to fixing a webpage to writing newsletters to finding new people with help from Kirstin Gonzalez for both Metro & State councils. Janine has taken over the Treasurer and administrative positions. She has been doing a fabulous job recovering and updating our website information.

We are getting ready for January Weekends in the Metro at St. Stephen's in West St. Paul. We are planning a Valentine's Dinner fund-raiser in February again. Watch for more information on participating.

We held a Co-Ed weekend in May at Immanuel Lutheran in Princeton and brought four new 4th Day members in to the Via de Cristo community. We held an Ultreya Training Session in October at St. Stephen's in West St. Paul. We had three great break out sessions on Liasons, Sponsorships and Renewal Groups. We also heard from 2 incredible speakers, had a great meal, and participated in several activities.

Unfortunately, the North Council/District has struggled since Covid. They held an Ultreya in Brainerd in 2022 and had approximately 60 people. They do have other Ultreyas planned with the hope to spark interest and growth.

The State is looking for new volunteers for Metro & State councils, as well as sub-committees. Please help us rekindle the fire of Via de Cristo. If interested in volunteering or helping in any way, please contact me, Greg Thompson.

~ God Love You and So Do I ~

2023-2024 State Council

Elected Executive Board

Greg Thompson—Convener

Open—*Spiritual Director*

Rosanna Chambliss—Secretary

Chris Van Hofwegen—Finance Director

Veronica Van Pelt—Communications Chair

Loren Van Pelt—Operations Chair

Janine Schimmelman—Treasurer

Monica Voss—State Newsletter Editor



Metro Council

Kristin Gonzalez—Metro District Director

Carol Hellen—Metro District Director-Elect

Louan Skillings—Secretary/Treasurer

Stephanie Christianson—Palanca

Jason Christianson—Music

Wayne Meyer—Ultreyas

Joe Remley—Liasons

Kim Heilmann—Allocations

Pete McCloy—Trailer & Supplies

Open—Site Selection

Council Members—Leadership Training

Please submit messages, Ultreya, Clausura, 5th Day, new 4th Day, Palanca requests, upcoming weekends, & other events for newsletter publication to:

Monica Voss at acorn1squash@gmail.com

We would love to hear your *Good News!*

Our hope is to publish at least once a quarter.



Northern Council

Unfortunately, Council recently received word the North district is no longer active and has no scheduled weekends.

If any 4th Day person in the north would like to sponsor a new member or work a team, please contact the Metro Council for information regarding sponsorship, dates and locations.

Where to find MN Via de Cristo:

Website: <https://www.mnviadecristo.org/>

Facebook: Lutheran Via de Cristo Minnesota

Instagram: [lutheran_mn_vdc](#)

