



Our Next Ultreya

Saturday, October 6th
Tanque Verde Lutheran Church
8625 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

- 5:30pm Fellowship
- 6:00pm Open Pot Luck
- 7:00pm Witness talks and Grouping
- 7:45pm Worship Service

THEME:

Palanca for the weekends!

Please contact your Parish Rep for food and supplies that you can donate



*Don't miss the LAST Ultreya of the year...
December 1st at Resurrection Lutheran
Church*

4th Annual Silent Auction

Please lift up this year's VdC weekends in prayer

Men's Weekend # 23

**Richard Krohn, Rector
October 18-21, 2007**

Women's Weekend # 24

**Betty Whaples, Rectora
November 1-4, 2007**

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Larry Paxton would love to hear from you! His 'snail mail' address is:

**c/o Evanjelicke Lyceum
Vuanovska 2
851 02 Bratislava
The Slovak Republic**

**or by e-mail:
wildcatlarry@gmail.com**

Leadership Training

Will be given starting at 1:00 pm on October 6.

Please contact:
**Michael Eckelbarger
834-2163**

Remember, Leadership Training is required to serve on team or to be a sponsor.



From the Editors:

If you have a story you'd like to see in this newsletter please email it to us for review. The deadline for October's newsletter is September 11, 2007.

(There is an underscore in there)

From Secretariat



Did you know?

Via de Cristo is funded solely by the generosity of its community. If each household in our current community donated \$10 per year, our weekends would be fully funded?

If the Lord is calling you to make a tax deductible gift, you may send it in the envelope provided to:

***Southern Arizona Lutheran
Via de Cristo, P.O. Box
18349, Tucson, Arizona,
85731-8349***

FYI - - Info & Address Changes

You can change your address or delete your name from the mailing list on the VDC web page at:

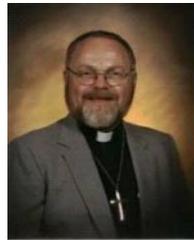
http://www.soazviadecristo.org/viadecristo/db_update.html

CONTACT US:

Due to an increased amount of spam, our email addresses have been eliminated from the newsletter and the website. If you'd like to contact us, go to the website and click on the word "email" under the respective member of secretariat that you wish to contact.

~Thank you

OUR NEW SECRETARIAT SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR PASTOR TOM DUNHAM



Pastor Tom Dunham graduated from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN in 1979 and has served six churches since that time. He is currently at STREAMS IN THE DESERT LUTHERAN CHURCH in Tucson.

Pastor Tom is married and has three children living at home; Lindsey, 26, Logan, 24, and Gavin, 21. Pastor Tom's wife, Sharon, is an award-winning journalist and photographer and currently works for TUSD as their Communications Specialist.

Pastor Tom attended Cursillo #93 in Phoenix. He served as head Spiritual Director of Via de Cristo #1 & # 5 Light in the Desert in Nevada. He also served as Spiritual Director for SALVdC #22 and is Head Spiritual Director for the upcoming weekend # 24. He is also a grateful recovering alcoholic with 12 years of sobriety.

Pastor Tom's strengths include **Worship Leadership** where he tries to make worship a joyful experience that uplifts people, (He also sings and plays guitar.) **Preaching** by using humor and stories to illustrate points and to clarify what the Bible is saying, **Teaching Adults** through encouraging an open discussion format in Bible studies, and **Inter-personal Climate** where he believes that the church should be a joyful place that people can't wait to return to and where everyone is made to feel important. He believes that much of the ministry done in a congregation should be done by the lay people in partnership with the Pastor.

Pastor Tom begins and ends every day in prayer as well as praying during the day as needs arise. He studies the Bible daily as a part of his work. He loves to play golf and tries to get out every week for relaxation and exercise. For relaxation each night, Pastor Tom enjoys reading mysteries. He enjoys yard work and repairing things.



Your 2007

Lay Director

Sue Jensen

Assistant Lay Director

Michael Eckelbarger

Treasurer

Linda Kress

Secretary

Dorothy McLean

Spiritual Director

Pastor Tom Dunham

Three Day

Steve MacLellan

Palanca

Joe Smothers

SALT

Jim Kress

Pre-VIA de CRISTO

Virginia Reymier

Post-VIA de CRISTO

Laura Eskridge

Communication

Barry and Jennifer Noyce

From Secretariat

From Our Lay Director—Sue Jensen

IT'S ALL ABOUT... THE FOURTH DAY

New Cursillistas often have ideas on how to change and improve Via de Cristo, and VdC old-timers typically respond, "The more you know about VdC, the less you want to change it." Over time we come to realize that change for the sake of change or the use of VdC for purposes other than those for which it is intended are dangerous to the health of our community.

Where is our emphasis in SALVdC? Sometimes we see new Cursillistas on fire for Jesus at Clausura, but find out later that they don't group or attend ultreyas; that is disheartening. We have been given the Great Commission and we can only accomplish it in community, that is, in group reunion and ultreya. We don't group so that we can hold Weekends - we hold Weekends so that we are able to group and ultreya as a community of committed Christians.

"Houston, we have a problem." Jim Lovell's calm statement to ground controllers from aboard Apollo 13 was one of the greatest understatements of the U.S. space program. You might be saying something similar to yourself about our VdC community. A general decline in interest in and participation in Fourth Day formation is a concern for all of us. While our community has over 450 members, we find ourselves pleased when perhaps 10% of them attend an ultreya! We know that it's really not about numbers, but we miss our friends who no longer attend.

SALVdC is not the only community thinking about and working to improve participation in the Fourth Day; other communities have had similar experiences. It appears that the communities which survive and thrive are those that emphasize the importance of Group Reunion and Ultreya. Where this emphasis is pronounced strongly and consistently, new Cursillistas are supported for weeks and months, not just for three days! Sponsors not only bring their participants to the weekend but also follow up afterward: they remain in contact, they bring their participants to ultreyas, they make sure that there is a reunion group open to these new folks. And the rest of the community doesn't assume that only the sponsors need to do this - *everyone* assumes responsibility for new people and finds opportunities to reinforce to them the same important message: Your Fourth Day matters to all of us.

When Cursillo began, the original leaders asked each other "How can we help people find groups? What can we do to keep reunion groups from becoming isolated? What can we do to help them stay true to their mission of evangelizing their environments? How can we help them to avoid turning inward?"

Our questions today are really not so different, and the answer is the same as it was in those early days: Ultreya. Ultreya was the last piece of Cursillo to be put into place. It is intended to be a short event where Christians come together to share their lives with one another. Through community and the power of the Holy Spirit, we strengthen our understanding and relationships with God, ourselves and each other. We have the opportunity to mix and share in the diverse experiences of the larger Christian community. The witness talk is intended to inspire and encourage us to be more faithful servants of Christ, and the Ultreya is an ideal place for people without a group to find one.

The purposes of the Ultreya are:

- To assist us in perseverance, to continue to live what we learned on our 3-day weekend.
- To form a Christian community, so that piety, study and action can be fostered and encouraged among all of us.
- To provide an atmosphere of unity; this creates a dynamic community of love and service.

The prayer of the Secretariat is that attending Ultreyas will be something we all want to do. Following the suggested format for Ultreyas will keep the ultreya short but intense, simple but with substance, a place where we can meet with our brothers and sisters to share who we are. The Ultreya is also a place for new people to be welcomed and for those not in a reunion group to meet and make friends as a preliminary step to forming a group.

So how can you get involved and support the SALVdC Ultreyas?

- Attend! Make a commitment to show up and be part of this community in the future.
- Encourage your grouping brothers/sisters to attend.
- Invite someone to attend who has not attended recently, and give them a ride.
- Offer to host an ultreya at your church, or volunteer to help those who have already done so.
- Say "Yes" if you are asked to give a witness talk.

We look forward to seeing you at the Ultreya on October 6 at Tanque Verde Lutheran Church.

(This article is adapted from the August 2007 newsletter of the Lutheran Cursillo Movement of Arizona.)

Our VDC Community News



ATTENTION CRAFTERS!!!

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN...

FOR SOUTHERN ARIZONA LUTHERAN VIA DE CRISTO'S 4TH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION AND REUNION ULTREYA

ALL TALENTED PEOPLE OF VDC ARE NEEDED!!

SEE THE INFO ON THE NEXT PAGE TO SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP WITH OUR LARGEST FUND RAISER OF THE YEAR!



Parish Representatives

American

Pastor Kim Taylor (acting rep)

Church of the King

Virginia Reymer
(Also the Tirosh rep)

Community of Hope

David & Ruth Mathews
(Sydney Corbett is the Tirosh

Dove of Peace

Darla Petering & Sandy Ahlers
(Marci Hill is the Tirosh rep)

Faith (Tucson)

Dale & Jane Schlak

Lord of Grace

Richard Krohn
(Also the Tirosh rep)

Mount Zion

Rhonda & Bob Warner
(Also the Tirosh reps)

Our Saviour's

Laura Eskridge

Resurrection

Michael Eckelbarger
(Also the Tirosh reps)

Streams in the Desert

Scotty Gulbrandson
(Sandy Holm are Tirosh reps)

Tanque Verde

Joanna Jongsma

Trinity Lutheran

Nancy Taylor
(Also the Tirosh rep)

Our VDC Community News



THE 4TH ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION AND REUNION ULTREYA

The Via de Cristo Secretariat requests your participation in an auction. We are soliciting any and all of you to submit a piece of your art /craft work or services for silent auction at the December 1st Reunion Ultreya to be held at Resurrection Lutheran Church. Get your creative juices flowing and share your God-given talents at the largest Ultreya of the year!

Bidding at the auction will begin with a minimum amount that you will suggest as appropriate for your project, so be sure to mark a 'beginning bid' price on your item to help us with the bidding process.

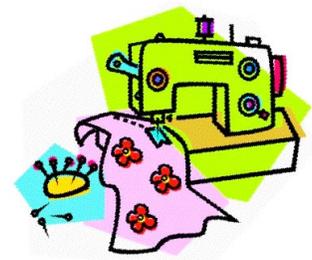
Thank you all in advance for your help.
If you have any questions, contact:

Here are some ideas to get you started...

Basket Making
Beading
Candle Making
Card Making
Carving
Christmas Ornaments
Clock Making
Cross Stitch
Crocheting
Drawing
Embroidery
Glass Art
Glass Etching
Glass Painting
Knitting
Macrame
Metal Working
Mosaics

Painting
Photography
Pottery
QuiltingSculpture
Sewing
Soap Making
Stained Glass Art
Stamping
Weaving
Wood Crafts
Wood Burning
Wooden Toys

You can also donate:
Services (house cleaning, landscaping, handywork, auto repair, etc.) Baked Goods, Time Shares, Tickets for upcoming events, and the list goes on and on...



Our VDC Community News



From the Recotor SALVdC #23

My name is Richard Krohn, Rector for Southern Arizona Lutheran Via de Cristo #23. I went through Cursillo #57 in October of 1995 in Phoenix Arizona.

After accepting the call to be the Rector for this years men's retreat, I began to pray for a weekend verse. I felt that God was directing me to a few different topics. The final decision came down to answering the question "What do I really like (after God)?"

I was always a sports fan. It even goes back to my childhood. By checking many resources, I was led to many bible verses. The verse Philippians 3:14 kept coming back to me. Definitely the words press, goal, win and prize could be associated to sports.

I can remember, as if it were yesterday, riding in our vehicle to church. I opened the bible right to that verse and felt the Holy Spirit say to me "This is your weekend bible verse".

Since making the final decision there have been many incidents (Holy Spirit directed) to back up choosing this as the weekend verse. I will tell you one of those incidents.

Returning from Texas, my wife and I stopped overnight in Fredericksburg, TX. Because it is a German city, we decided to have lunch at a German restaurant. We had 5 or 6 to choose from, so I (or God) picked one. Once we were seated on the patio, this particular male started to sing. I completely ignored him until he sang a Christmas song. The bottom line is that he (Bob Villa) had CD's available to purchase and one of them was all Christmas songs that Bob wrote and sang. On one of the CD's was the song "Eyes on the Prize". I decided that this would be the song for the men's weekend.

In the real world today those words from Philippians 3:14 could mean a great deal to sports minded people. In my life the real prize that means anything at all, is being with God in heaven.

Richard Krohn, Rector
SALVdC #23

From the Recotora SALVdC #24

A friend loves at all times and a brother is born for adversity.

Proverbs 17:17

Before I chose this passage, I searched the Bible for love, and this jumped out at me!

If people would show more love as Jesus wanted us to do, there would be less evil in the world. In this day of war and pestilence, evil abounds. Murder and identity theft are two examples. It just doesn't seem to get any better. Every time you listen to the news or read the newspaper, the main topic is negative.

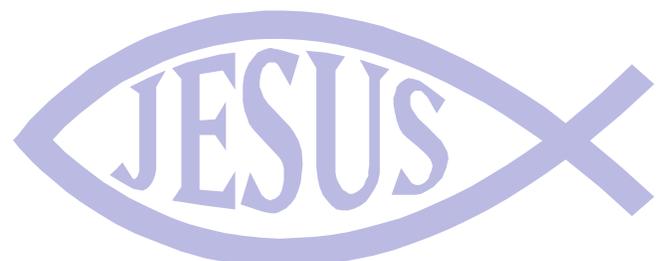
Love has many facets- there love of a mother for her child, the love between a man and a woman, the love of a pet, and also the love of friends and neighbors.

God's plan for us and he created us this benevolent concern for us is to love others as he loves us. We Christians know empathetically that Jesus loves us and wants us to spread that same love to others. This is my hope for this upcoming weekend; that the participants will feel God's love around them and carry that love with them into their 4th day, and spread it into *their* environment.

As a young nurse, one of the first things that I was taught was to love others through Christ and to help them in their time of need.

This would be a much better world if people would truly love one another as God wants and to help people in their time of need.

Betty Whaples,
Rectora, VdC #24



Apostolic Action



To others, through others

Every day in 35 countries, Lutheran World Relief works to combat the causes of poverty and the dignity it robs from people's lives. We advocate for Fair Trade that helps farming families and artisans earn a better income. We teach people to better care for themselves, their communities and the environment. We teach people how to be less vulnerable to natural disasters. We advocate with and for them for policy change that more fairly represents them. We counsel them after manmade and natural disasters, and help them recover with material aid. We do all of this exclusively with partners from the communities we serve. Our partners help us remain incredibly efficient and effective. Our partners let us help people help themselves...for a day when they won't need us at all

Contributions by Cash, Check, or Money Order may be sent to:

Lutheran World Relief
PO Box 17061
Baltimore, MD 21298-9832

Telephone credit card donations: 800-LWR-LWR-2 (800-597-5972)

Or online at: <http://www.lwr.org/giving/>

Food Pantry

Many of our churches have food pantries that are always in need of non-perishable food.

If your church doesn't have one, call around to find one that does

or you can contribute to the
Community Food Bank Of Tucson.

They can be contacted at
<http://communityfoodbank.org>

or
622-0525



Apostolic Action



Global Health Ministries

Helping the Hands that Heal

What is Global Health Ministries?

We are an instrument through which your love and compassion are channeled for the health and hope of God's children around the world!

GHM is:

- A response to the Good News of Jesus, the "Great Physician"
- Sharing our abundant resources to impact the lives of disadvantaged children and adults in other parts of the world
- Direct involvement by individuals and congregations in Christ's healing ministry

"Helping the Hands that Heal"

GLOBAL HEALTH MINISTRIES

7831 Hickory St NE
Minneapolis, MN 55432
<http://www.ghm.org>



Mission Statement

"Global Health Ministries continues the healing ministry of Jesus Christ by enhancing health care programs of Lutheran churches in other countries."

We do this by:

- Funding approved health care projects, scholarships, support for charity patients, capital improvements, development of appropriate technology, and more
- Gathering and shipping useful donated health care equipment and supplies to countries where such materials are not available or are very expensive
- Communicating to groups and congregations the opportunities and needs of the church's overseas health care programs
- Praying for the church's health care missionaries and those they serve
- Recruiting nurses, dentists, doctors, surgeons, and allied workers for overseas service through Lutheran mission boards
- Advising mission boards, synods and other groups on health care mission issues out of the rich reservoir of knowledge and experience of GHM supporters

Fry's Giftcard Fundraiser

- You must get the card from a VdC representative
- Gift Cards have an initial value of \$5.00. You only need one card.
- You can recharge the Gift Card at any time. The card can be recharged at any register in the store or at the Customer Service Center for any denomination between \$5 and \$500. You can use cash or a credit/debit card to recharge the Gift Card.
- When you make a purchase using the Gift Card, the balance remaining on the Gift Card will be printed at the bottom of the register receipt
- If the magnetic strip on the back of the card will not work and the card number cannot be keyed in at the register, contact the Fry's Consumer Services Department (1-800-828-5235) and you will be issued another card for the balance that is on the original card
- Recharges to the card need to be done before the cashier starts to ring up the order, so that your purchases go towards supporting VdC

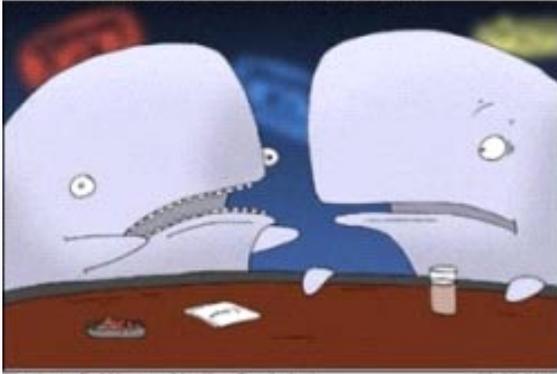
Gift Cards are like cash; if they are lost or stolen, they will not be replaced

All well and good but where do we get our money from?

5% of everything you spend using that card comes back to Via de Cristo.

A Little Humor

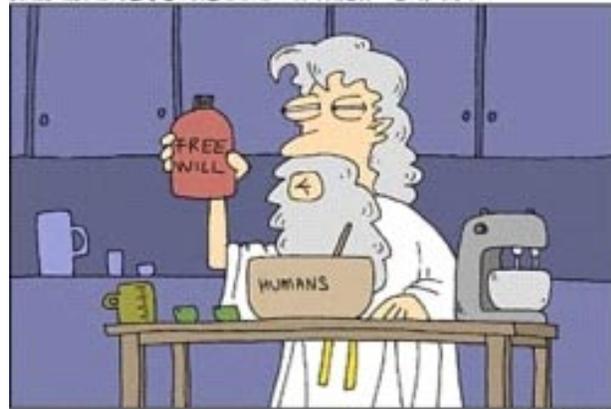
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Thanks to Dad Hengereid (See Jonah 1-4) 07-25-2007

SO THERE I WAS, WITH CAPTAIN AHAB TANGLED ALL AROUND ME IN THE HARPOON LINE ... AND YOU SHOULDVE SEEN THE LOOK ON HIS FACE WHEN I BARFED JONAH OUT ONTO THE BEACH!

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09-07-2007

EVER WONDER IF GOD HAD ANY SECOND THOUGHTS?

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Thanks to Mikael Rice 07-23-2007

I'M TELECOMMUTING TODAY

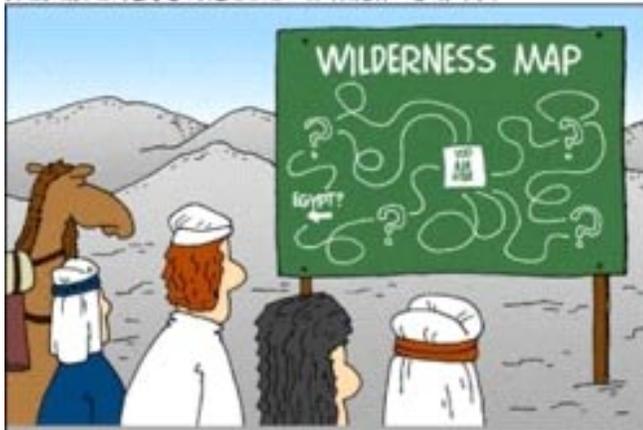
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08-27-2007

"BUMMER", THOUGHT SAMSON'S BARBER, AFTER EXPERIMENTING W/ SAMSON'S HAIR CLIPPINGS

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08-01-2007

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09-14-2007

HE'S FROM TEXAS