

VdC Weekend #27

SALVdC's First Co-ed Weekend

October 15-18, 2009

Tanque Verde Lutheran Church

**"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." (John 17:3)**

Mañanitas: October 18th

Palanca signing - 5am

Mañanitas Service - 5:30am in the Sanctuary

Clausura: October 18th, 4:30pm in the Family Life Center

**You can still serve on the weekend by being part of Community.
Contact Dave Strong (760-3075) to volunteer.**

More info available at www.soazviadecristo.org - check it out!!

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October Ultreya

Saturday, October 3, 2009

Streams in the Desert Lutheran Church

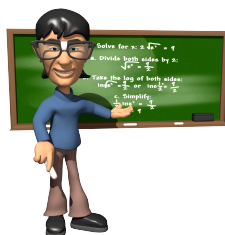
5360 E Pima Street

(one block west of Craycroft Rd.)

5:30pm Fellowship/Potluck Dinner

followed by witness talk, music and communion.

The 4th day service project is bringing school supplies to help students in need. Even though the school year has started, the need for supplies continues throughout the year.



Annual Silent Auction at Reunion Ultreya

The VdC Secretariat is soliciting submissions for the Silent Auction to be held at the Reunion Ultreya at Resurrection Lutheran Church on December 5, 2009. Get your creative juices flowing and share your God given talents at the largest Ultreya of the year.

Please mark your suggested opening bid price on the item/s you submit. All proceeds go to support the VdC weekends. Contact Betty Whaples at 721-4299 if you have any questions.

Here are some ideas to get you started . . .

basket making . . beading . . candle making . . card making . .
glass art . . knitting . . crocheting . . cross stitch . . macrame . .
quilting . . sewing . . soap making . . weaving . . baked goods

Ministry or Job?

Some people have a job, position or duty in the "Church". Others invite themselves into a ministry.

If you are doing it just because no one else will, it's a job. If you are doing it to serve the Lord, it's a ministry.

If you quit because someone criticized you, it's a job. If you keep on serving, it's a ministry.

If you'll do it as long as it does not interfere with your other activities, it's a job. If you are committed to staying, even if it means letting go of other things, it's a ministry.

If you quit because no one thanked you or praised you, it's a job. If you stick with it even though no one recognized your efforts, it's a ministry.

It's hard to get excited about a job. It's almost impossible not to get excited about a ministry.

If your concern is success, it's a job. If your concern is faithfulness and service, it's a ministry.

If God calls you to a ministry, don't treat it like a job!

Newsletter News

Due to our desire to be better stewards of our funds and to “go green”, we will no longer be sending the newsletter by regular mail. It will only be distributed electronically, via e-mail and on the website (www.soazviadecristo.org). However, there are two exceptions: the November Reunion Ultreya newsletter and the January Annual Meeting notification will be sent by regular mail.

If you know someone who does not have email and/or internet access, please print out a copy for them so they can stay in our loop!!

Tirosh Update

The Task Force decided to address Tirosh on two fronts: citywide youth gatherings and the Tirosh weekend.

On the first front, Streams in the Desert is hosting Desert Fire 2009 on October 24th, from 3 - 10pm. There will be talks, live music, food, fun and games, and a service project to help Youth On Their Own. Contact Pam Robinson, Youth Director at Streams, with any questions.

On the second front, Dorothy McLean is seeking to get the Tirosh Committee going again. If you are interested, please contact her at dotcalm44@yahoo.com.

A Little Humor



FOOD PANTRIES

Food pantries always need food and cash donations. Give to the pantry at your local church, Abounding Grace Lutheran Church, or the Community Food Bank. You can contact CFB at 622-0525 or visit their website: <http://communityfoodbank.org>



WWW.KIVA.ORG

Kiva is another way for us to live out our 4th day. Here is a little information about Kiva's mission:

"Kiva's mission is to connect people through lending for the sake of alleviating poverty. Kiva is the world's first person-to-person micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend directly to unique entrepreneurs around the globe."

For more info, click on the link above or paste it into your web browser.

FUNDRAISERS



FRY'S GIFT CARD

5% of everything you purchase with the card is donated to SALVdC.

For more information, contact Virginia Reymer at 331-9313



DONATIONS

SALVdC 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 to Southern Arizona Lutheran Via de Cristo, PO Box 18349, Tucson, AZ 85731-8349.

National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting

Virginia Reymer attended, as the SALVdC delegate, from July 26-29th in Miami, Florida.
Her report to the community is below:

....that they all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us; so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17:21

The theme of this weekend was “One in the Son” taken from the 21 verse of John 17. “We are together as one, united by the cross of Christ. Lifting hands in worship and praise.” This was taken from the first verse of a song written for the weekend by Janet Cunningham.

During our opening worship Pastor Stuehrenberg reminded us about the power of God’s love and we often take His love for granted. The Via de Cristo movement helps to fall in love over and over again with God.

In Bishop John Millers Keynote address we were asked;

1. “What do people see in us?”

2 “Are we ready, willing and able to go forth and share the light of Christ with the dark and dying world?”

One of the things Bishop Miller said made think. “God is of no earthly use to you without a relationship with His Son Jesus Christ”

I attended four seminars;

1. Birthing a new community. Growth: The Big Picture.
2. Focus on the Fourth Day
3. Corporate Nuts and Bolts
4. Training Panel

I was especially interested in Growth; the Big Picture because of the interest in expanding Via de Cristo into New Mexico. What I heard was enticing and scary at the same time. There is National Secretariat help in developing a new community. There is money in the budget in Outreach to send a representative to help organize a new movement. It was also suggested Phoenix contact the churches in Northern New Mexico for interest to expand around the Albuquerque area.

In the seminar “Focus on the Fourth Day” we learned that all secretariats are having trouble keeping the fire alive after the weekend. In many secretariats less than 10 per cent of the members attend the Ultreyas and are grouping.

Again, more was learned in the Region-to-Region breakout meetings. These meetings were a chance to see what other secretariats in our region are doing—what works—what doesn’t.

One of the topics discussed during the seminars and also in the small group meetings and again in the Region-to-Region breakouts was Co-Ed weekends. Since we at Southern Arizona Via de Cristo are hosting our first Co-Ed weekend I tried to absorb as much information as possible. I don't remember if these discussions were always available or if now, I have an interest in learning all that I can from these discussions. Other secretariats have different names for this type of weekend; couples, mixed co-ed, combined and paired. Other Via de Cristo communities have the men and women together for meals and social times but the Rollo's are given in separate rooms. Similar to our Tirosh weekends as far as I can tell. This entails two modified core teams, Rollo and cook teams. One Pastor said "Men are from Mars, and Women are from Venus so don't have the talks together." Pastor Betts said he couldn't imagine giving a Rollo to men AND women. Another Pastor said "having men and women at the same table----BAD IDEA. Other groups have the couples sleep together---another BAD IDEA was the consensus.

Some of the ideas shared in the Region-to-Region groups were language. We sometimes refer to positions by different names; as cha's for cooks, helpers, community etc., head cha, Palanca cha, head cha for head cook, Prayer cha etc. and professors for table leaders. We confirmed that the language was sometimes different but we all had the same goal. A result of the Region-to-Region is two members of each secretariat have been invited to Las Vegas in February of next year. Probably over Presidents Day weekend. The members of the Nevada secretariat are opening their homes for us.

Ron Millard, the historian and archivist for the National Secretariat is asking each community to write a history of their movement, how they were formed and any other pertinent information. When is our 15th anniversary?

The officers for the year August 2009 thru July 2010 are Tracy Schmidlin, president; Bob Northrop, Treasurer; Katie Sistar, secretary; Steve Gielda, Vice President of Outreach; and Doug Givan, Spiritual Director. The office of Vice President of administration is open due to the resignation of Nu Helgager.

I continue to be on the finance Committee. It was suggested annual dues be raised in the near future but no decision has been made as of now.

Thank you again for allowing me to be the delegate from Southern Arizona. I also want to thank everyone for all of your prayers for my family as well as my participation for the weekend.

In Christ. Virginia Reymer

Secretariat

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721.4299

Secretary

Dorothy McLean
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Pastor Tom Dunham
982.7115

Pre-Weekend

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745.3052

3 Day

Bill Wardle
529.2629

Post-Weekend

Laura Eskridge
579.5720

Communications

Linda Kress
721.7181

Palanca

Cindy Stein
579.0083

Parish Representatives

Abounding Grace

Virginia Reymer

American

Pastor Kim Taylor

Community of Hope

Cindy & Amy Ostrander

Dove of Peace

Darla Petering &
Sandy Ahlers

Faith (Tucson)

Dale & Jane Schlak

Lord of Grace

Richard Krohn

Mount Zion

Bob & Rhonda Warner

Our Saviour's

Laura Eskridge

Resurrection

Mike Skilsky

Streams in the Desert

Scotty Gulbrandson
Betty Whaples

Tanque Verde

Joanna Jongsma

Address Changes

Phone & Mailing address: contact Ralph Jensen @ 721-7843

E-mail address change or to remove yourself from the SALVdC database: go to

www.soazviadecristo.org/viadecristo/db_update.html

If you have trouble making your changes on the website, contact Ralph Jensen (721-7843) or Scott Schaffer (721-1790)