

# *FOURTH DAY LIFE*



## *25th Anniversary*



October Marks the 25th anniversary of the Southern Arizona Lutheran Via de Cristo

Secretariat is working hard to come up with ways to celebrate, and bring joy after a rough year and a half!

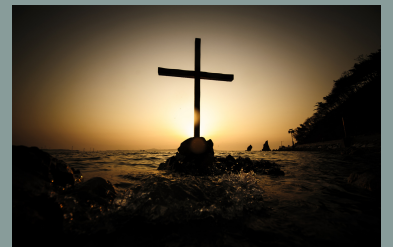
While there have been delays in VDC weekends we are thriving and more excited then ever to serve faith and this community.

Always remember:  
Jesus loves you and so do We!

### VERSE OF THE MONTH

"Look to the LORD  
and His strength;  
seek His face always"

-Psalm 105:4



### FUNDRAISING

As always, fundraising opportunities are available through Amazon smile and Fry's food stores

# FAR FROM USELESS

BY CHRISTIAN SHORT STORIES | AUG 17, 2020

People were talking all week long about the great time everyone had at the Barnwell's farm Saturday night. Dillard and Molly MacIntosh had all the kids, teens, and adults laughing so hard their sides hurt. Someone said her husband had just purchased a beautiful new automatic dishwasher for her birthday in addition to a very nice dinner for two at her favorite restaurant. Molly said she had the oldest car in the neighborhood, the oldest clothes dryer, oldest refrigerator, and oldest dishwasher. Wait a second Dillard said. What do you mean you have the oldest dishwasher, I wash the dishes in case you forgot! Molly had that funny little smirk on her face when she said, "that proves my point, just like I said I have the oldest dishwasher in the neighborhood".

Dillard laughed as hard as everyone else at Molly's quick wit before he said: well, at least I am good for something and not useless like some old worn out appliance. Molly looked at Dillard with the usual affectionate smile she has for him and said; "no dear, you are far from useless. I don't know of anyone that is more diligent serving the Lord by serving others than you!"

Molly continued to speak. She said no one is useless, God has a plan for every one of us. Once we have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord we are not instructed to sit back and rejoice knowing we will be with the Lord for eternity in heaven but instead we are to serve the Lord with gladness so the world might see Christ in us. The Lord equips all His children with talents and gifts for serving Him, and we are to use them to the fullest if we really know and love Him. Molly told us about a woman who suffered physically and mentally due to poor health to the point she was quite depressed, feeling totally useless. This woman apparently harbored resentment toward God. She envied people that were blessed with talents, gifts, and physical attributes she didn't have. When Dr. Malan from Switzerland was visiting her family, and asked her if she was saved, this young woman resented him for asking such a personal question and she was not bashful letting him know how she felt. A few days later she apologized to Dr. Malan, told him she was miserable and wanted to be saved but didn't know what she needed to do. Dr. Malan responded; "Why not come just as you are". His statement stuck in her mind and heart to the extent that after she accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, she sat down and wrote these words. Just as I am without one plea - But that thy blood was shed for me - And that thou bidd'st me come to thee - O lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am - These words written by Charlotte Elliot have been sung by countless millions around the world. Only God knows how many people gave their lives to Christ at Billy Graham crusades, in churches, at camps, or listening to Just As I Am in their home.

Molly MacIntosh said that she could not think of a better story than this one about Charlotte Elliot to illustrate how no child of God is useless. Regardless, it is just something you say to someone like Dr. Malan's words to Charlotte which inspired her to write one of the most sung hymns of the Christian faith, Just As I Am, a word of encouragement which we all appreciate, or washing dishes with a glad heart like her husband Dillard has been doing for years, all you have to do is be available. You might not know this side of heaven what impact you will have for the Lord but your reward will be great if you serve the Savior. Read 1 Peter: 4:10-11, knowing the Lord is the best way to know how truly valuable you are!

# WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS

BY JOANNA FUCHS

Lord, our troubles Are so great,  
We don't know what to do;  
The price for our iniquity  
Is finally coming due.

The world is crumbling All about;  
No safe place can be found.  
Right is wrong, Wrong is right;  
The change is quite profound.

Lord, we need Your guiding light  
To lead us out of here; We'll  
focus on Your Word, and prayer,  
To take away our fear.

Temptations of This dying world  
We'll rule out and let go; Give our  
burdens All to you, Shed all worldly  
woe.

That's how we'll Get through this,  
Lord, Fixed on heaven above,  
Assured of your protection, help,  
And everlasting love.



## Prayers of the Month



Any prayer concerns can be sent to  
[soazviadecristo@gmail.com](mailto:soazviadecristo@gmail.com).

You can list them as anonymous or you can say who they are for or from. , let's also continue to pray for everyone. We can all use each other's prayers. Pray for friends, strangers you haven't met yet and even those you will never meet.