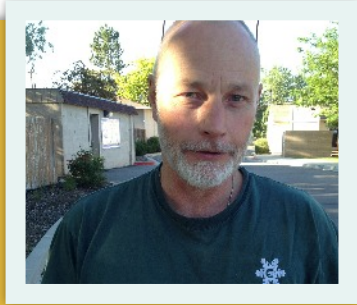


Amazed by Grace



Utah Via de Cristo Newsletter

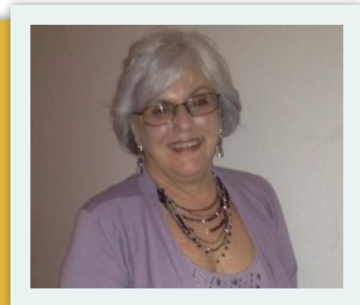
July 2012



Kerwin Knutson
(Weekend #32)

Fall Rector and Rectora

Congratulations to Kerwin Knutson and Carolyn Drain! Kerwin will be Rector for Men's #55, and Carolyn will be the Rectora for Women's #56. Please be praying for Kerwin and Carolyn as they pray for God's leading for the weekends.



Carolyn Drain
(Weekend #14)

Fall Training & Weekend Dates

Men's Weekend #55

September 27 - 30

Women's Weekend #56

October 4 - 7

As 4th Day Community members, God may call you to serve the weekend, angel the weekend, or sponsor a weekender. Please be praying and listening to God's call for you. Remember, if you are working a weekend, it is important to attend ALL the training dates which are as follows:

Sat Jul 21	Leadership	8:30 am - 12:30 pm	Grace
Tue Aug 28	Team Training	6 pm - 9 pm	Grace
Sat Sep 8	All Day Team Training	9 am - 4pm	Grace
Sat Sep15	All Day Team Training	9 am - 4 pm	GSLC
Fri Sep14	Prayer Walk	6 pm - 9 pm	GSLC

Next Ultreya

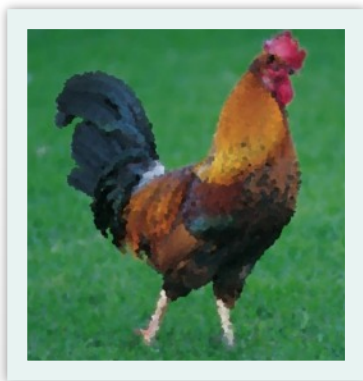
August 19th, 2012

3pm - 5pm.

St. Luke's in Park City

Please bring a dish to share, Weekend badge to help with names, and Abrazos for all !!!!

There is no Ultreya in July.



The Hebrew word for repent is nacham, which means to turn around, or change one's mind. On the highway of sin, there is only one destination. Repentance takes us in the opposite direction, to the road that leads to life.

HIGHWAY EXIT

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.
- MATTHEW 7:13 NIV

Do You Believe In Miracles?

By Pastor Rick Ehrheart, Mountain of Faith Lutheran Church



Miracle. It's a term we throw around loosely these days. But when you experience an honest-to-goodness miracle, it takes your breath away.

Mountain of Faith Lutheran Church has recently experienced a true miracle and it's a story worth sharing.

Mountain of Faith was founded to proclaim God's Word and serve the Tooele Valley in the mid 1990's. Like any church, it's had its ups and downs. But, through it all, a very faithful core group has persisted despite the fact they never had a church home of their own. Through the years, Mountain of Faith has worshiped in a community club house and shared worship space with Episcopalians and Methodists. The thought of owning our own church building seemed remote at best.

But, it seems as if God has something else in mind for us. At a recent Church Council meeting, a question was asked to which nobody had an answer, "Does anyone know anything about the church building at the south end of town on Main Street?" Nobody did. We wondered if it was being used at all.

I told the Council I would go and check it out. Finally, the Friday before our March Council meeting, I was getting the guilts because I had not followed up as I said I would. So, I drove there and pulled into the parking lot. I knocked on the door but no one answered. I tried knocking at a couple different doors and was disappointed that nobody seemed to be there. Finally, as I was leaving, a diminutive, sweet lady opened the door and waived to me. My first encounter with Pastor Joan...

I walked back and began to introduce myself, "I'm Pastor Rick Ehrheart from Mountain of Faith Lutheran Church..." I was no more than 20 or 30 seconds into my introduction when Pastor Joan said to me, "Are you here to buy the building?" I was shocked – and a little speechless. All I could stammer out was, "Well, maybe..." Pastor Joan smiled and immediately asked me if I wanted to look around. Of course I did!

As I entered, Pastor Joan began to tell me her story and the story of the beautiful church building she literally called home. Pastor Joan had been attending this very church since she was a teenager. Now, fifty years later she was pastor. But her church family had dwindled to only 6 or 7 worshippers on Sunday morning.

She and her husband had been living in a little apartment in the basement of the church for over 16 years. They worked hard to keep the building up – and it showed. It was spotless – inside and out. Pastor Joan went on to tell me that they worried about keeping the church up because her husband had become ill and was not able to do the upkeep as he had done in the past. She told me they had tried at different times to sell the building, but it never worked out. Finally, Pastor Joan said she just turned it over to God, trusting that when the right folks came along she would know it. ...And here I stood after walking in off the street!!

The miracle of this encounter continued as I climbed the stairs and entered a simple, but beautiful sanctuary. Gold light streamed in through colored glass windows and just seemed to envelope me. I sat down on the back pew and recognized I was on holy ground. This space had been

filled up with the prayers of faithful people for over fifty years – and I could feel it. I could also feel the love and tender care this building had received from Pastor Joan and her congregation. It was a God moment for me. Sensing this was a "Kairos" moment, I asked if our Church Council could see the building the next day. Pastor Joan seemed pleased.

Needless to say when the Council officers saw the building the next day, they were as enthralled as I had been the day before. Pastor Joan continued to usher us around – her sweet spirit as sweet as I remembered. She seemed intent on selling the property to us and said she would pray on it and let us know her final price. We all said our "Goodbyes" and agreed not to pester her until she called us with the price she was looking for. Those may have been the longest 5 days of my life.

Finally, Pastor Joan called and told me that after much prayer, the congregation had decided to sell the building to Mountain of Faith for \$80,000! Again, I was speechless – totally humbled by the power of God working in our lives. If the price were not enough of a gift, Pastor Joan said, Christian Faith Church would be willing to carry the financing if we needed them to. The very next day, our Church Council met and agreed to call a congregational meeting to authorize a \$120,000 fund raising drive for the purchase of the building and the establishment of an emergency fund.

Which brings us to today... Most capital appeal campaigns play out over two to three years. Mountain of Faith seeks to raise the \$120,000 we need in three weeks. Any...literally any

VIA de CRISTO is based on the fundamentals of Christianity, concentrating on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The focus is not on VIA de CRISTO itself, but on the environment of the community of believers. The objective of the movement is to inspire, challenge and equip people for Christian action in their homes, churches and communities.



contribution you can make will be of great help to us. The members of our church council have stepped up to the challenge. Each person anonymously put forward the total amount he or she would contribute by April 22, 2012. The eight pledges totaled \$45,000! The Mountain of Faith Congregation will be asked to do their part at a Congregational Meeting scheduled for Palm Sunday, April 1. We anticipate a generous response. In the event we are blessed to receive over \$120,000, any excess will go into the building fund for the care, upkeep and modernization of the building.

Mountain of Faith, like the servants in the parable of the talents, has been faithful in "a little." Now it seems as if God is working to "set us over much." Moving into our own building will enhance our ministry opportunities. What a blessing that the building itself will not become our mission! Instead, it will be a base from which we can pursue our mission of proclaiming God's Word and reaching out to those in need! It seems as if God has put all the pieces in place. With your help, Mountain of Faith will be poised to be a blessing to the entire Tooele Valley. Please contribute whatever you can. We will put your gift to good use in the Kingdom of God.

Blessings and Joy!

Pastor Rick Ehrheart
Mountain of Faith Lutheran Church
<http://mofutah.org>

July 8, 2012

Mountain of Faith

Building Consecration Service &
Community BBQ



Please join us Sunday, July 8, 2012 at 3:00 PM for a special service to bless our new building at 560 S. Main Street in Tooele. Friends of Mountain of Faith, clergy and the whole surrounding neighborhood are invited to join us for this special service. We will pray for God's continued blessing on this wonderful place of worship and ministry. After the service, we will have a community BBQ - open to the public. There will be games and activities for both kids and adults. It will be a wonderful opportunity to introduce ourselves to our neighbors.



Stay Connected

With technology and gadgets today, there are so many ways to keep informed as to what's going on. People - Places - Events can all be found by using any of the following ways.

Utah VDC Website:	www.utahvdc.org
National VDC Website:	www.viadecristo.org
Face Book Page:	Utah VDC
Prayer Request & Praise Report:	John Bradford - joab@xmission.com
Prayer Meetings/Groups:	Cathy Ricci - cathy@riccifamily.com