

Amazed by Grace

September 2013



Fall Weekend Dates

Men's #59 Oct. 10-13

Women's #60 Oct. 17-20

How to Help

Food Palanca 4th Day Angel

Sign Bibles Prayer

(more information below)

Weekend Schedule For Angels

Thursday | 2:00 – 4:30 PM | Set-up for the weekend and/or bring food palanca

Friday | All Day | Sign Bibles, drop off palanca, & fellowship!

Saturday | Noon - 5:00 PM | Decorate for Agape Dinner

Saturday | After 5:00 PM | Agape Dinner serenade & kitchen team help

Sunday | 6:30 – 8:00 AM | Load the truck and reset the Church

Sunday | 1:30 PM | Lunch Serenade

Sunday | 3:00 PM | Clausaura

Sunday | All Day | Pack-up & Clean

For more information, please contact:

Men: John Mister at (801) 719-7170 or john1p8t@hotmail.com

Women: Steph Rhees at (801) 782-1166 or mom2nike@hotmail.com

Requested Food Palanca for the Weekends

coffee
cocoa mix
tea bags
bottled water
juice (8-12 oz.)
soda (12 oz.)

trail mix
nuts
fresh fruit
chocolate
cookies
muffins
chips

Prayer Renewal



You are invited to join us in praying for the Utah Via de Cristo Community
Monday, Oct. 7, 2013 | 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
In the Prayer Chapel
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
All are welcome!
Send prayer requests to
cathy@riccifamily.com.

National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting Report

July 25 – July 28, 2013

by Ruth Hanzlik

Meeting was held in Palm Beach, Florida, at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Weekend started on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. with Orientation and ended on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. after Sunday worship service.

Days were filled with eating, worship, small group sharing, regional meetings, dialogues, business meetings and evening vespers. This year everyone got to choose the dialogue meetings in which they were most interested. None of the dialogue subjects were repeated.

Some of the major issues at the business meetings were the gradual funding of a full time national Lutheran Secretariat executive director by 2016 plus the election of new national board members.

The Region breakouts were helpful. Salt Lake City is in Region 1 which covers about 25% of the western U.S. We discussed weekends and their costs, and it varied from a free weekend up to \$225 per weekend. The large difference is that the free weekends are funded by the VDC community through donations and fund raisers.

We discussed the importance of the sponsors' roles in knowing the weekender, praying for them, inviting them and then the post weekend follow through.

Financial assistance was generally available through the local Secretariats for any potential weekender who needed it.

Some of the fund raising ideas were:

- Asking for green palanca (cash) with full disclosure to the community that the funds were for the scholarship program.
- An annual love dinner held in January or February to raise money.
- Thrivent Financial to obtain funds.
- Trivia game night.
- Quarter auction with vendors invited to donate items, \$2 per auction paddle number, \$30 to reserve a table.
- Raffling off a dinner.

I had a conversation with Bev Arnt who is a Lay Director of the Gold Coast Secretariat. Below are listed some of the highlights from our conversation:

- National Lutheran Secretariat (NLS) representative on the local Secretariat to serve a 3 year term.
- Leadership (Servant) training held 2 times a year. Fourth day team candidate must attend one of these trainings before working a team.
- Local Secretariat keeps an up to date list of eligible team members. Names are selected by the Secretariat, prayed over and then lists are presented to the Rector/a for calling people to serve. This list also has an update of all teams worked by each person.
- A member of the Secretariat must be on site of the weekend at all times. This person can be any of the current Secretariat regardless of their job assignment. The Lay Director has the final say of anything that needs addressing. The on site Secretariat member (if not the Lay Director) and the Spiritual Director will confer with the Lay Director to bring any problems to a solution and final say for implementation.
- A past Rector/a is an on site weekend coordinator whose duty is to be the “runner” between the Rollo room, chapel and kitchen to keep the weekend on task and on time. This person must be a past rector/a because in the case of an emergency involving the rector/a that person can step in and continue on with the weekend duties of the rector/a.
- The assistant rector/as' only duty is to observe and interact with the weekenders. These assistants are in training to be a future rector/a.
- If overhead or powerpoint is necessary, there is a dedicated person in the Rollo room whose only duty is to be a computer assistant.
- All the rollos are given as the first practice rollo at the second week of training. There are two past rectoras per rollista to hear the talk and give positive critique. The two past rectoras will stay with the rollista until the

final practice rollo is given 4 weeks later to offer any assistance to the rollista. The final practice rollo is given to the entire weekend teams and the team members are then to provide the critique of the talk.

- There is no person other than the rollista and the weekend Rollo room attendees allowed in the Rollo room for the talk. Other community members can meet with the rollista before the talk in the chapel to pray for the rollista. They will remain in the chapel to pray for the rollista during the talk.
- The location of the NLS meeting in 2014 is not known at this time and will be announced as soon as plans are made to host this convention.

It was a privilege to represent the Utah Secretariat. Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this way.

Ruth Hanzlik

From the Secretariat

by Linda Casteel, Convener



My Dear VDC Community,

During the Rediscover and Recommit Workshop, the Secretariat was made aware of the fact that some members of our community may not be aware of the various responsibilities of the positions people hold in the Secretariat. This is the first of several letters informing you of our current positions and the responsibilities of these positions.

As the Convener, the purpose of my position is stated as "Glorify God in the leadership of the Via de Cristo Movement". When I read this, it is with hope that I say, I pray we all glorify God in everything we do! Thus, this is an extension of how we should be acting on a daily basis.

The requirements to be the convener are that you must have served on the Secretariat for at least one year and be elected to this position by the incoming body of the Secretariat at the first meeting after elections in February. The term for the convener is one year.

The responsibilities of the convener include setting the agenda for and presiding over the Secretariat meetings. As such, the convener is not a voting member unless there is a tie vote. The convener assigns special duties or Ad Hoc committees as necessary. The convener serves on the finance committee, but does not chair it. The convener participates in all committees as a voice without vote and does not lead any committees except the Executive Committee. According to the guidelines, additional duties may be assumed based on the special gifts of the Convener. The selection of the Rectors/Rectoras for each weekend is decided by the Executive Committee of the Secretariat. With that being said, the last few Rectors/Rectoras have actually been chosen through the recommendation of the entire Secretariat body. It is also the duty of the Convener to oversee the ongoing scheduling of the upcoming weekends . We are blessed in having been able to schedule the upcoming weekends a few years in advance. This information is available to you on the Utah VDC [website](#).

When Leadership Training is presented, the convener is to give and/or delegate Secretariat talks. The convener is also assigned the task of giving or assigning talks/announcements from the Secretariat at Clausuras and Ultreyas. In terms of the Newsletter, the Convener is asked to contribute a message from the Secretariat when it is deemed necessary. The Convener is also asked to encourage active 4th Day Member participation in the community.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is composed of three voting members: The convener, the assistant convener and a Spiritual Director . At this point in time these people are: Convener-Linda Casteel, Assistant Convener-Candace Hockett, and Spiritual Director-Pastor Neil Arnold. The following is a list of the responsibilities of this group. The convener acts as the chair of the committee. The assistant convener acts as the secretary of this group. Minutes of the Executive Committee are taken for the purpose of communication . The Committee is assigned the tasks of recruiting lay leadership (Rector/Rectora) for the weekends, taking action to resolve problems which arise between council meetings. This includes, but is not limited to, problems which occur during the weekends. Thus the Rector/Rectoras have the readily available support of the Executive Committee. We are also to guide the establishing of future weekends in coordination with the person holding the Allocations position (currently, Bonnie Knudson) and with the person holding the Communications position (currently, Mark Hollier). We also act as a liaison with other "Cursillo" type organizations in the area.

Having shared all of this, with you, I hope you feel a little more familiar with these positions and the associated responsibilities . It has been a pleasure for me to serve on the Secretariat, both as the Secretary and now as Convener . I have been blessed to work beside several people on this body (current and past members) who have been very dedicated to and active in the Utah VDC Community. Pray that the Lord continues to bless our community with willing and capable servants.

God's Blessings to all of you!

GLYASDI,
Linda Casteel, Convener

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.



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[Prayer Request & Praise Report \(John Bradford\)](#)

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