

# Good News Via de Cristo

Of Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio

May 2016

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## Prayers...

As each weekend comes to a close, we offer thanks to God for the participants, the team, and especially the leadership of the rectors!

You are asked to hold the 11 men and 9 women who were participants on weekend #58 in prayer. Please also join us with prayers of thanksgiving for all the work of Cindy Jurosek and Donald Miller to bring the teams for both Women's and Men's #58 together.

The next rectors have been called and will be commissioned by the secretariat soon. We also pray for them as they begin to call team to provide for weekend # 59.



## Upcoming Weekend Dates:

Men's #59  
October 13-16, 2016

Women's #59  
October 20-23, 2016

Both weekends will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church in St. Clair Shores, MI

\* Please remember that all applications are due ten days before the weekend begins.

## Ways to find GN!VdC

\* Visit [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org) and request a login to update your info and gain access to additional areas of the website

\* Join our Facebook Group: Good News! Via de Cristo

\* Follow the link on the community page of the website to opt-in to our email list through Constant Contact

## Are You Connected?

Communicating with our community is important to us! In order to keep you informed of what is happening within GN!VdC, we need your help to keep your contact information up to date.

There are three main ways you can stay informed about what is happening:

1.) Visit [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org) and request a login.

The website has much of what you need available. Download applications or brochures, check dates for weekends, or contact the secretari-

at. With a login name and password you can also view participant and team lists, or update your own contact information for our database.

2.) Join our Facebook Group

Search for the Good News! Via de Cristo group on Facebook. An admin will add you to the group (usually within 36-48 hours). This is a place to share prayer requests, get updates about events, and maintain a connection to the community.

3.) Join our Email List

Because we value your privacy, we do not automatically

add your email address to our distribution list. If you currently do not receive email, you can add yourself to our list by visiting [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org) and go to the community page. Scroll down until you see the link Join Our Email List and follow the instructions. Constant Contact will send you an email to confirm your address for our list.

Stay connected and get all the information you need to get involved with Good News!

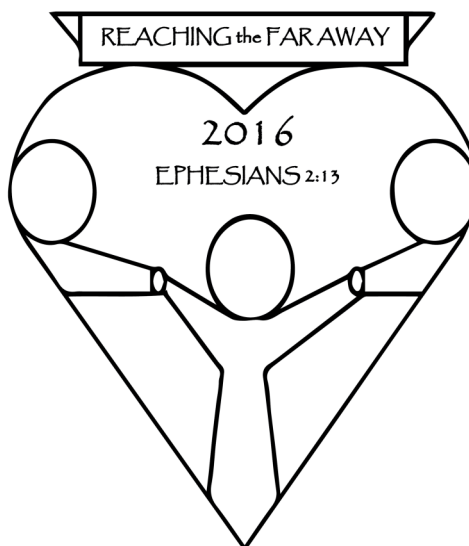
# National Lutheran Secretariat Gathering 2016

Good News Via de Cristo, Via de Cristo of Ohio and Region 5 would like to invite you to the 2016 Annual National Gathering at Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio — July 21-24, 2016!

If you have ever wondered what others around the country are doing within the Via de Cristo, this is a gathering you do not want to miss. We are making preparations for you to join us or serve with us in July and we would like to know if you are coming. You will find a registration form on the National Via de Cristo website.

You may be finding that now is the time to plan summer vacations. In case you would like to make the National Gathering a part of your plans, we are presenting you 2 options: 1) an opportunity to attend a national gathering as a visitor and / or 2) the opportunity to serve on the team that is being assembled, as we speak, to serve this upcoming weekend. We have openings for drivers, hospitality people, prayer warriors, people for a Saturday night serenade, office help, “go-fors”, etc. Volunteers can serve for the entire weekend or for half a day—whatever works with your schedule. **A full list of volunteer opportunities are available online at** [nls2016vol.blogspot.com](http://nls2016vol.blogspot.com), along with online sign-up links.

If you want to attend because you have never been to a national gathering, please fill out a registration form ... the earlier ... the better. We are offering a discount if your registration comes to us by May 1st. (Forms are available at [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org)) Registration covers food and housing from 11 am Thursday to Sunday 11 am. If you want to serve, look for more information on Facebook, at Ultreyas, team meetings or show up at King of Glory in Sylvania, OH the second Saturday of the month at 10 am. You can also contact one of the team leaders listed below to volunteer for a specific area directly. Team members who want to serve just for a day, do



not have to pay the registration fees.

We are also offering T-shirts with this year's logo and theme verse, beautiful rainbow scarves and necklaces made by some of our very own community! These items are not only fun to have, but also will help us fund the gathering. They will be offered at a special “team price” (even if you are only able to be at the serenade); or a “pre-weekend” price for attendees, if ordered before July 1st. Please do pre-order as the price will go up at the gathering.

Questions? Please feel free to contact me: [TZVdC@aol.com](mailto:TZVdC@aol.com)

God Loves You and So Do I!  
Tracy Schmidlin

## National Lutheran Secretariat Team Leaders

Contact any of these team leaders to volunteer at the National Lutheran Secretariat Gathering!

Hospitality	Ray & Patti Blashill	<a href="mailto:pblashill@hotmail.com">pblashill@hotmail.com</a>
Office Admin	Klaus Doll	<a href="mailto:werwonxone@att.net">werwonxone@att.net</a>
Music	Mary Doll	<a href="mailto:mjdoll121@gmail.com">mjdoll121@gmail.com</a>
T-Shirts	Mary Doll	<a href="mailto:mjdoll121@gmail.com">mjdoll121@gmail.com</a>
Facilities	Amy Frysinger	<a href="mailto:adfrysingerr@gmail.com">adfrysingerr@gmail.com</a>
Transportation	Cindy Getzinger	<a href="mailto:cgetzinger@roadrunner.com">cgetzinger@roadrunner.com</a>
Worship	Randall Ginardi	<a href="mailto:rpginardi@hotmail.com">rpginardi@hotmail.com</a>
Palanca	Terry Grundy	<a href="mailto:theresagrundy@aol.com">theresagrundy@aol.com</a>
Fundraising	Scott Koenig	<a href="mailto:skoenig@bex.net">skoenig@bex.net</a>
Housing	Diane Lupo	<a href="mailto:dianejlupo@gmail.com">dianejlupo@gmail.com</a>
Registration	Debbie Maxwell	<a href="mailto:mrsdebbie228@msn.com">mrsdebbie228@msn.com</a>
Treasurer	Tom McFadden	<a href="mailto:thomas.p.mcfadden@gmail.com">thomas.p.mcfadden@gmail.com</a>
Co-chair	Tracy Schmidlin	<a href="mailto:TZVdC@aol.com">TZVdC@aol.com</a>
Meal Liasons	Butch & Wendy Seeley	<a href="mailto:harleyrider751@ymail.com">harleyrider751@ymail.com</a>
Spiritual Director	Pr. Jim Wenger	<a href="mailto:jwengerfaith@icloud.com">jwengerfaith@icloud.com</a>

## Do you shop at Kroger?

Good News! Via de Cristo is a participant organization in the Kroger Community Rewards program. For every person who registers your reward card with our organization and shops at Kroger, GNVDC receives a portion of your purchase total to use toward weekend expenses. **If you have enrolled in the past, please check and make sure you are currently signed up as Kroger requires an annual renewal for our group to receive credit.**

Visit [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com). You will need your reward card number and our non-profit organization number 84232.

## A Word About Sponsoring...

The Via de Cristo is an instrument of renewal in which a specific method is developed. Through this method there is one objective: the Christian renewal of society.

The task of selecting participants is of greatest importance. How we select and invite individuals makes a difference in how the weekend flows and the impact Via de Cristo can have on the greater church.

**The Via de Cristo is not for everyone.** Inviting participants without careful thought, discernment, and prayer is not ideal. While Via de Cristo seeks to be inclusive, a blanket invitation in your congregation is not the most effective way to involve people in the movement. Individuals are not randomly pulled from the crowd. Instead, Christian leaders are called into an experience for growth. Although there may be authentic experiences of conversion that occur at Via de Cristo from time to time, these weekends are intended for Christian renewal. The Via de Cristo is not a place to send people to solve their problems. Often the participant's pastor can give helpful guidance. Via de Cristo makes the biggest difference when a participant is ready to receive the message and apply it to their life.

The Via de Cristo must never be concerned primarily with increasing its membership rolls, but must see its role in building and renewing Christian Leaders, so that they might more effectively transform their environments. The goal is to select those who are leaders and potential leaders, in order to equip them for the work of the church.

## A Check-List for Sponsors

### About the participant:

- Does he/she desire to grow as a Christian?
- Have potential for leadership in his/her environment?
- Have the capacity for careful listening and understanding?
- Seriously open to change and spiritual growth?
- At least 18 years old, mature, responsible, and in good emotional health?
- Physically capable of fully participating in the weekend?
- Understand that Vía de Cristo is more than just attending a weekend?
- Really want to attend a weekend?
- At a relatively stable place in their life?

Before you invite someone to a weekend,  
use this checklist as a guide.

## Finding a Reunion Group

Group reunion keeps us connected and accountable to a Christian Community. By meeting regularly with other Christians we can continue to evaluate our faith journey of piety, study and action.

If you do not have a reunion group, a list of current groups is available at [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org). You can also contact the post weekend chair ([postweekendchair@gnvdc.org](mailto:postweekendchair@gnvdc.org)) for help in locating a group. If you can't find one—start one!

A reunion group does not need to be made of all people who have made a weekend. Any group of Christians committed to growing together will enrich your walk. Are there people at your church you know and trust to meet with? Maybe you have friends or neighbors looking to grow in faith? Whoever you meet with, use the green card as your guide.

## Raise Funds For NLS and Have a Great Time!

To continue raising funds for the National Lutheran Secretariat meeting, our group will once again be working the concessions for Toledo Mudhens games. Volunteers are needed. Contact Scott Koenig ([skoenig@bex.net](mailto:skoenig@bex.net)) for more information.

Online sign up is available here: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10COB49A9AC2BABFA7-2016](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10COB49A9AC2BABFA7-2016)

### About you as a sponsor:

- Have you been living the fourth day and understand the goals of Vía de Cristo?
- Prayed for guidance before taking action to sponsor this participant?
- Spoken to the participants pastor?
- Told the participant about the fourth day?
- Ensured that he/she really wants to participate and is not just doing you a favor?
- Offered to assist the participant with baby/pet/house sitting, etc.?
- Offered the participant transportation to and from the weekend?
- Agree to support the participant through prayer, written palanca, and your presence at the sendoff and the closing?
- Agree to actively assist them join a reunion group?
- Agree to support the participant in their fourth day for at least six months after the weekend?
- Shared with them about the \$100 suggested donation that will be discussed at the end of the weekend?

## Good News! Via de Cristo

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Find us online!  
[www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org)



### **Spring Ultreya**

Sunday, March 15

3:00-6:00 p.m.

Epiphany Lutheran Church

915 N. Reynolds St.

Toledo, OH

**Please note this is a change of  
location from the initial publicity.**

Join with others from around our GNVdC Community for encouragement, fellowship, prayer—and, of course, food.

Bring a dish to share for our meal.  
Contact Penny Jongeward for more information at:  
[postweekendchair@gnvdc.org](mailto:postweekendchair@gnvdc.org)

### **Summer Ultreya:**

**Sunday, August 7, 2016**

**3:00-6:00 p.m.**

**St. Michael Lutheran Church**

**7000 N. Sheldon Rd.**

**Canton, MI**