

# GOOD NEWS! Via de Cristo

## OF SE MICHIGAN & NW OHIO

**Our Mission:** By Grace with the Holy Spirit, we challenge leaders to discover and achieve their personal calling, assisting them with a method for influencing their environments.

FEBRUARY 2011 • VOLUME 24

## What is Via de Cristo?

Via de Cristo, a Spanish phrase meaning "Way of Christ," is a spiritual method for the renewal of Christian Life.

The Via de Cristo method includes an inspirational three-day weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christians and bring them to a new awareness of living in God's grace.

The purpose of Via de Cristo is, above all, to see the world reconciled to Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:20). The Via de Cristo method assists individual Christians to actively be the church. Laypersons are encouraged to strengthen their partnerships with their pastors, to be "extensions," building up the body of Christ.

Via de Cristo is a movement within the Church of Jesus Christ. The focus is not on Via de Cristo, but on the local church – your church and my church. The objective of the movement is to

inspire, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and communities.

Through the Via de Cristo method, we are encouraged to persevere and grow in our faith, to become an effective channel of God's love to others, and to strengthen a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

With spring weekends quickly approaching have you been thinking about who could benefit from attending one of these weekends? Start with prayer and then look around your environment. Who is on your heart? Step out and invite that someone.

There is detailed information about the Via de Cristo weekend on our website: [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org) or you can call or email and request a brochure. Our toll free phone number is **888-468-3295** and our email is [info@gnvdc.org](mailto:info@gnvdc.org).



*Editors:*

Kevin & Joanne DeHetre  
(888) 468-3295

[communications@gnvdc.org](mailto:communications@gnvdc.org)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Upcoming Events.....Pg 2
Palanca .....Pg 2
Heel Marks.....Pg 3
Get The News Out .....Pg 4
Updating Your Info.....Pg 4
Secretariat Positions .....Pg 5
From Our Treasurer .....Pg 6
Application Deadline.....Pg 6
Procrastination.....Pg 7
Weekend Events .....Pg 8

## Upcoming Events

### SPRING WEEKENDS

#### Men's Weekend #48

March 31-April 3 2011

St. Michael Lutheran Church  
Ottawa Lake, MI

#### Women's Weekend #48

April 7-10, 2011

St. Michael Lutheran Church  
Ottawa Lake, MI

#### Post Weekend Ultreya

May 1, 2011

3:00 - 6:30 pm

St. Michael Lutheran Church  
Ottawa Lake, MI



### FALL WEEKENDS

#### Men's Weekend #49

October 13-16, 2011

Bethel Lutheran Church  
St. Clair Shores, MI

#### Women's Weekend #49

October 20-23, 2011

Bethel Lutheran Church  
St. Clair Shores, MI

#### Post Weekend Ultreya

November 6, 2011

3:00 - 6:30 pm

Bethel Lutheran Church  
St. Clair Shores, MI

## Palanca - Prayer Charts

Palanca is sacrificial prayer. The way we show the Participants who is praying for them during the Weekend, is by the Prayer Banner that is shown to them on Friday afternoon during the Grace In Action Rollo. Each ½ hour time slot will have an 8 ½" X 11" piece of colored paper with the name of the person praying written on it. These papers will all be taped together. This will make a large banner that will be put up in the Rollo Room.

How can you be a part of this? Go to [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org). Put in login and password OR get a user name OR use guest name. Then go to either Men's or Women's Chart and sign up for

a time slot. **Be sure to click on "Confirm Time Slots Selected."**

You also can have the time emailed to you as a reminder.

If you don't have Internet access, ask your Parish Rep from your congregation to do this for you OR call Karen 517-546-1509 and she can enter your time slot manually.

Deadline for Prayer Charts – For Men's Weekend – Sunday,

March 27th. For Women's Weekend, Sunday, April 3rd – 6 PM (through Men's Clausura.)

This is a good way to be able to help the Participants and the Team, even if you cannot be at Weekend events.

Karen Warsop,  
Palanca Chair



## Winter Ultreya – You're Invited!

**Come share in fellowship, song & prayer.**

When: Sunday, February 20th  
3:00-6:00 pm

Where: Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
34567 Seven Mile Rd.  
Livonia, MI 48152



Open to all. Bring a dish to pass for our pot-bless dinner. Starts at 3:00 pm. Please contact Toni Patterson with any questions at (248) 477-4145. Babysitting will be provided.

# Heel Marks in the Parking Lot

I think there might still be heel marks in the parking lot at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Ottawa Lake, where I was dragged into GNVDC weekend #44. Little did I imagine that my entire view of the Body of Christ would be altered by what I was about to experience.

I attended my weekend at the invitation of my friends Greg and Keith. Greg had been pretty persistent for several months in his insistence that I really needed to attend this weekend. I thought I had come up with enough logical excuses to deter him until Keith entered into the fray (Greg would say as, "God's confirmation"). I soon realized that the struggle was lost. The rest is history, and has become part of my personal testimony - how Jesus reached out and touched me, and prayed for me, and served me, and bent over backwards to give me everything I might possibly need throughout

the four days of weekend #44, through the words and actions of Brothers that I didn't even know I had.

Throughout that weekend, every time I thanked someone or commented on the amount of love and service I was receiving, I was told, "It's all about you," or, "God loves you and so do I." Since you are reading this article, you more than likely have had a weekend experience of your own, and so you know the rest of the story. By Thursday evening's chapel service I had morphed from reluctant, to curious, to eager participant, and by Friday morning I would ever after be Joe Bonno, St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton, MI, GNVDC weekend #44, where I sat with my Brothers at the table of Nicodemus.

My Fourth Day reaches into every single day, with my Wife Kathy and my Sister Diane (who both attended Women's

weekend #44), my reunion brothers, and all of you that make GNVDC what it is, a family of love and service and faith. And the story just continues to grow. I pray that you will all know the awesome love that our Savior has for you, and how He desires to use you to love and serve Him by loving and serving others. This is what GNVDC is really all about, isn't it? I will forever be grateful.

Hallelujah!

Joe Bonno

Weekend #44

Table of Nicodemus



## Congratulations to our Spring Rectors Weekend #48

Men's Rector

**Keith Penski**

Weekend #30

Table of Jeremiah

Women's Rector

**Heidi McFadden**

Summer #4

Table of Ester



*Please pray for our new Rectors as they devote so much of their time and talents preparing for this special weekend.*

## Updating Your Information

We need your help in updating our database. Please take a few minutes to update or verify your information. There are several ways to update your information.

### WEBSITE

www.gnvdc.org  
log-in (under community)  
go to "update your profile"  
(NOTE: If you do not have a password, please request one on the website and one will be emailed within 24 hours.)

### BY E-MAIL

communications@gnvdc.org

### BY MAIL

Kevin & Joanne DeHetre  
30434 Bock St.  
Garden City, MI 48135

### BY PHONE

Kevin & Joanne DeHetre  
(888) 468-3295

### BY FAX

(888) 468-3295

We will have **change of information forms** available at team meetings, on the website, at Ultreyas, at Serenades, and other GNVDC events.

## Get The News Out!

Hi Everyone,

Just wanted to let you know that we have plenty of resources to help get the word out about GNVDC!

We have new Via de Cristo brochures, new Pastor and Congregational informational booklets, a 12 minute DVD, posters for the church bulletin board with upcoming Via de Cristo dates, and people that are willing to come to your church and let them know what Via de Cristo is all about! If you need any materials or are interested in a temple talk, you can email me at [accolbeck@comcast.net](mailto:accolbeck@comcast.net) or call me at (734) 453-3105.

The new Via de Cristo brochures and applications for participants can also be found on



the website: [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org) and can be downloaded and printed to give to people.

Please pray to see if God would have you ask someone to attend a Via de Cristo weekend or tell a pastor about GNVDC.

GLYASDI,  
Angie Colbeck  
Weekend #24  
Outreach Coordinator

## Willing to Serve?

There are many opportunities to serve. If you are willing to serve on a team, please go to our website at: [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org) and log-in, go to "update your profile", and select yes or no next to the question "willing to serve". This will then be updated in our database.

Maybe your are not able to serve on a team but would like

to help out in someway. Below are a few ways you can help:

- Palanca - Prayer
- Pre-weekend setup
- Post-weekend tear-down
- Attend Send Off
- Attend Clausura
- Attend Serenade
- Food Donations

Contact Kevin or Joanne DeHetre at (888) 468-3295 for more info.

# Warm Weather Is Just Around the Corner

The weather forecast for tonight includes falling temperatures and 4 to 6 inches of snow. My sister in-law Mary called this morning giggling with delight. She enjoys making snow angels and building snow men. She loves the beauty of the falling snow and the way it covers the evergreens and the rooftops. I guess I do too. It's just that I like the view from the inside, with the warmth of the fire place near-by. As I get older, the seasons seem to fly by so I'm hoping spring is just around the corner.

With that in mind, I'd like you to help with some important preparations for May. There will be several positions opening this summer on the Good News Secretariat, due to term limits. Jack Eggenberger is Nominating Committee Chairman this year and will be serving with several other members of the Secretariat. Each secretariat member will make his/her best effort to consider folks who are active and have a love for the Via de Cristo movement. We

will pray about who we believe God is calling us to suggest and make recommendations to the nominating committee.

This is where you can help! If you feel a calling to become more involved in serving the Good News Via de Cristo community or have someone in mind that displays a love for the movement and has leadership and organizational skills, please contact Jack Eggenberger. He will share the job descriptions of the positions available and answer questions you might have. More information will also be available in upcoming electronic newsletters. Elections will be held May 19th with new member commissioning in June.

We learn on our VDC weekend that we are all leaders. We grow as leaders as we serve on every team. Perhaps it's time to consider trusting God to help you step into a position to guide our ministry of service into the future.

In His service,  
Jim Nicolai

---

---

For more information, please contact:  
Jack Eggenberger at 734-397-1787  
email: jackegg1@gmail.com

---

---

## Secretariat Openings and Brief Descriptions

### Lay Director

Responsible for leading the Good News Secretariat and will represent the Secretariat when dealing with other organizations or bodies. Convenes and conducts meetings and retreats, oversees the training of secretariat members and coordinates the work of the members and committees. Initiates scheduling the time and dates of weekends and other events and serves on the Leaders Committee.

### Secretary

Responsible for taking minutes at Secretariat meetings, processes all official Secretariat correspondence and maintains official Secretariat records and archives.

### Leaders Chair

Convenes the Leaders Committee, develops and maintains team and leaders training materials, receives and directs availability forms and conducts leaders training workshops. Assists in rector selection, training, support and with team selection as needed.

### Supplies Chair

Maintain an inventory of all materials used on the three day weekend, assuring their proper care and storage (excluding food preparation materials and supplies.) Responsible for delivery of materials and supplies to weekend sites and oversight of setup and teardown.

### Spiritual Director

Responsible for providing leadership on matters of faith and spirituality. Selects or delegates the spiritual directors for the weekends and ultreyas.

## From our Treasurer



Happy New Year to all,

We your Secretariat, first want to thank each and everyone who may donations to GNVDC. Because of your generosity and weekend giving, we were able to meet our current expenses. However, current economic conditions have and are still impacting our revenue and cost of running a ministry.

Donations certainly help relieve the stress of being able to pay upcoming weekends and forthcoming expenses.

If any of you would like to make a donation: Please make check out to: Good News Via de Cristo, mail it to: c/o Marge Herrman, 30966 Bramley Cir., New Hudson, MI 48165-9645.

Sincerely, Marge Herrman

Here are semi-annual figures  
July 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010:

Beginning balance	\$11,105
<b>Income</b>	
Weekend Giving	\$8,475
General Contributions	966
Kroger	367
Total Income	9,808
<b>Expenses</b>	
Weekend	3,541
Other	4,360
Total Expenses	7,901
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 13,012</b>

## Sponsorship DVDs

A couple years ago, the Leaders Committee created a light-hearted DVD on the importance of good sponsorship practices. Since that time, we have included a copy of the DVD in participant's palanca packets and have shown the film at first team meetings as part of Leaders training. On Weekend #47, I forgot to provide the DVD's to palanca chas for distribution to participants. If you attended Weekend #47 as a participant

and would like to receive your copy, please contact me so that distribution can be arranged.

If you made your weekend prior to the DVD's creation, and would like to have a copy, they will be made available for the nominal cost of \$5 at future Ultreyas.

Marilyn Taulbee,  
Leaders Chair  
(248) 442-9144  
taulbeem@sbcglobal.net

## SPRING APPLICATION DEADLINES

### Reminders from our Registrars

With another set of weekends approaching, it is important that our application process runs smoothly.

#### Sponsors, please note:

- Applications need to be filled out completely.
- Pastors signatures must be included.
- Neatness counts! We want to have accurate information for our participants, so please take time and print legibly.

#### Deadlines for Weekend #48 applications:

(10 days before the weekend)

- Men's - March 21, 2011
- Women's - March 28, 2011

The PO Box address and the fax number are on the application.

**Applications are available on our website:**  
**[www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org)**

God's blessings to you,  
Bob and Nancy Rieck  
Registrars

# PROCRASTINATION



Procrastination. Now that is an odd title. I found two definitions for procrastination: 1) to put off intentionally and habitually and 2) to put off intentionally the doing of something that should be done. Ouch!!!! Procrastination is not considered a positive attribute, especially in our spiritual lives. Where is this going you may ask? Procrastination can impact morning devotion (piety), participating in a bible study (study), or writing a letter to a sick friend (action). However, I want to focus on sponsoring participants for upcoming weekends. Recently Good News VDC weekends have not been fully subscribed. These vacant chairs represent men and women within your environments who have missed an opportunity to participate in this potentially life changing weekend and the 4th day which follows. After a weekend, participants, team members, and members of the community are generally filled with a desire to sponsor someone for the next weekend. The Holy Spirit has likely given you specific names. Have you followed through? Have you answered His call? If the person was not immediately open to the invitation did you follow up on a regular basis? Have you

asked reunion brothers or sisters to also approach the person with their testimony? Have you been a positive role model demonstrating how the weekend changed your walk? In addition to the excellent materials about sponsorship in the team manual, the following may be of help.

- Pray intentionally as to who specifically God wants you to sponsor. We should have several names under consideration at all times. Make a friend, be a friend, invite your friend to a weekend. (A flexible use of a VDC tool)

- Start early. Most participants need many weeks to make a decision and sufficient time to reserve the date. This is especially true for the fall weekends. Recruiting for fall weekends should begin way before summer, maybe even as early as immediately following the completion of the spring weekend.

---

### ***Don't Wait Until It's Too Late...***

Deadlines for Applications:

Men - March 21st

Women - March 28th

---

- Be aware of the cutoff date for submitting applications. The cutoff dates have been established to facilitate an orderly weekend and must be honored. Get applications in

early – only 30 participants can be accommodated. You don't want to be left out.

- Don't be discouraged by an initial rejection. Plant the seed, keep watering it and let God work. Several weekends may pass before your candidate finally agrees to attend.

- Recruiting for GNVDC is a year round process. Carry slips of paper in your wallet with the dates for upcoming weekends and the [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org) website address. Use these notes as reminders and a way to encourage friends to learn about the weekend from the website.

- Some participants will feel more comfortable if they know a friendly face will be on the weekend with them. Team members have a special opportunity to sponsor participants.

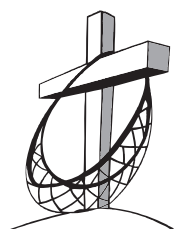
- Tell your reunion group who you have or intend to invite. Ask for their support and encouragement in holding you accountable.

- Keep praying.

The key for GNVDC sponsorship is responding to the call of the Holy Spirit. Don't procrastinate.!!!

God Loves You and So Do I,  
Greg Anderson  
Weekend #43,  
Table of Matthew

GOOD NEWS! Via de Cristo  
OF SE MICHIGAN & NW OHIO  
Newsletter Editor  
c/o DeHetre  
30434 Bock Street  
Garden City, MI 48135



# GOOD NEWS! Via de Cristo

## OF SE MICHIGAN & NW OHIO

**Our Mission:** By Grace with the Holy Spirit, we challenge leaders to discover and achieve their personal calling, assisting them with a method for influencing their environments.

## Weekend #48 Events

### Join us!

Mark your calendar for the upcoming events for Men's and Women's GN!VdC #48.  
For maps and more information, go to our website: [www.gnvdc.org](http://www.gnvdc.org)

#### **Men's Weekend #48**

March 31-April 3 2011  
St. Michael Lutheran Church  
Ottawa Lake, MI

#### **Set-Up**

Wednesday, March 30  
7:00 pm\* (approximate)

#### **Send Off**

Thursday, March 31  
7:30 pm

#### **Serenade**

Saturday, April 2  
6:00 pm

#### **Clausura & Clean-up**

Sunday, April 3  
4:30 pm

#### **Women's Weekend #48**

April 7-10, 2011  
St. Michael Lutheran Church  
Ottawa Lake, MI

#### **Set-Up**

Wednesday, April 6  
7:00 pm

#### **Send Off**

Thursday, April 7  
7:30 pm

#### **Serenade**

Saturday, April 9  
6:00 pm

#### **Clausura & Clean-up**

Sunday, April 10  
4:30 pm