

VIA DE CRISTO

Rediscover

GRACE!



Eastern NC Via de Cristo
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VIA DE CRISTO

In today's world, can Christianity penetrate the many areas of secular life? Can it live there? Can it grow there? Can it transform the world in a way that is more fruitful than the past, yet in keeping with the times? The Via de Cristo movement thinks so.

Scott Anderson, Seminarian

"Jesus calls us to proclaim the Gospel together, in community. Through Via de Cristo, I have a better understanding of community and my role in service to our Lord through community at my church, my office and my home."

Rebecca Maness, Alamance, Alamance

"When you are feeling burned out in your church, Via de Cristo can relight your fire and shine the way for you to see which direction God wants you to go. This internal glow continues to radiate and is mirrored back to you all over N.C....on the faces of your brothers and sisters in Christ."

Pastor Dick Little, Advent, Charlotte

"When was the last time you spent 72 hours away from all responsibilities of family, home, work, meal preparation...so that you could focus on nothing but your relationship with God? For most of us the answer is 'never.' And to do this in a community where you were surrounded by love. Via de Cristo is such a weekend. Why not treat yourself to such a wonderful experience!"

Pastor David Sloop, Good Shepherd, Raleigh

"What continues to impress me about the Via de Cristo is the invitation, in a loving and grace-filled environment, for adult Christians to reconsider life with God, others and self. It's three days well spent...Also, the food and jokes are filling!"

Pastor John Misenheimer, St. Paul's, Wilmington

"For years our churches have tried to grow by receiving more members, but Jesus' plan for church growth is making more disciples. This is what I see happening through Via de Cristo. I continue to be amazed at how, in one weekend, members of the church become more confident and faithful disciples of Christ."

Connie Woolard, Good Shepherd, Raleigh

"Via de Cristo: a weekend to stop time and live life in this world as Jesus would. Learning to trust in His love for you and to see His spirit in others. Fill your ears with the promise of His grace, fill your heads with the ideas of living in His grace and fill your hearts with the fruits of the spirit."

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I would like more information on Via de Cristo.

Please tell me how I can make arrangements to attend a weekend.

Eastern NC Via de Cristo
P.O. Box 80051
Raleigh, NC 27623-0051

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone Number () _____

Church _____

VIA DE CRISTO

**A VIA DE CRISTO WEEKEND
IS THREE DAYS
BUT IT LASTS A LIFETIME!**

A Via de Cristo ("Way of Christ") weekend begins on Thursday evening and ends Sunday afternoon—three busy but joy filled days. Participants live and study together with lots of singing, prayer and worship. Discussions center around inspiring talks given by both laity and clergy. These talks emphasize God's grace, its reality in your life, and how to share His grace with others. You'll also have the opportunity to participate in the daily celebration of Holy Communion and to deepen your understanding of the real presence of Christ in His body of believers.



Bishop Leonard Bolick, ELCA

"Rita and I attended Via de Cristo in the summer of 1993. It was a time for Worship, Prayer and Reflections. Hearing fellow Christians share their journey of Faith was uplifting and strengthening. The table where I sat was called St. John and, to this day, those of us who sat at that table pray for each other. That's powerful!"

WHO WILL BE THERE?

PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF—laity and clergy who are searching, discovering and growing in their Christian faith. Eastern N.C. Via de Cristo invites Lutherans, as well as those of other denominations, to experience this weekend in an atmosphere of love and caring, worship and study...and just plain fun!

Both couples and singles are welcomed—we encourage you to attend a Via de Cristo weekend with your spouse or a friend if possible. Relationships are often strengthened and deepened by sharing this experience. You can also expect to develop many meaningful new friendships.

The weekend does not teach any new doctrines, but simply presents those you've learned all your life in a fresh and inspirational way. You are not expected to behave in a certain way nor required to say anything—you simply are wrapped in an environment of caring, loving and joyful people. Through them you are gently led to re-explore your relationship with the caring, loving, joyful Christ.

Not everyone who attends a Via de Cristo weekend will have the same experience. But all who attend will be blessed and most will be strengthened in their desire to be a blessing in their churches and Christian communities.

"And let us consider how we may spur one another toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."
Hebrews 10:24-25

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE WEEKEND?

The weekend is only a beginning. What you learn and share during the weekend can be put into practice in your local congregation and community. You'll be supported by many others who have attended a Via de Cristo before or with you. There will be an opportunity for you to regularly meet with small groups to affirm and support one another in the Christian life in grace...larger groups of the Via de Cristo community gather occasionally to share fellowship, sustain and motivate one another. These activities inspire, challenge and encourage Christian action in your home, church and community.

"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."
Matthew 18:20



REDISCOVERING GRACE & CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY!

The experience of participating in this grace-filled weekend is simply unique. Sharing thoughts and ideas helps us better understand God's love for us and how to share His love in our daily lives.

The weekend is difficult to adequately describe, but those who attend find it to be a lively and joyous three days of examining their faith away from everyday distractions and in the company of people you will grow to love.