



September 2022



Two Sundays ago, we have an awesome experience at worship. A member of the church coded during the final hymn. A person behind them let them slowly down to the ground. Another member ran down the hall to stop a med-tech who attends our church. He came back into the Nave hit the person on the chest and their heart began to beat again. Other members kept the person comfortable and stable until they could be transported to the hospital. Tests showed nothing out of order, so they have been connected with a cardiologist for further testing. In the meantime, they are feeling terrific.

As I watched the activity I was awestruck how quickly and unexpectedly this gift of life can end. Secondly, it was the swift action of the right people who gave this person a new lease on life. What would have happened if any one who responded were not there that morning?

This is yet one way the church was being the church. Each person in this incident had a different gift and they used it to God's glory and the person is alive today because their gifts were used.

The church was truly the Body of Christ. When led by the Holy Spirit that community can bring back life.

When I was in seminary, I appreciated the fact every day just before lunch there was chapel. Chapel time gave me time to go off and finish some homework. But I started to notice one of my favorite professors went to chapel every day. Finally, I got up the courage to ask him why he was there every day. He told me that sometimes he needed a chance to worship with other people. At chapel they were there greeting, singing, praying, preaching the word, and sometimes sharing communion. Then there were other days he guessed his brother or sister might needed him.

Hearing that story, I started attending chapel a whole lot better. I believe that there is some advice for us in Via de Cristo. We need to get together for mutual support so that each of us might become better members of the body and more fulfilled in living.

I pray our renewal weekend at Agape, September 16-18 will provide that opportunity for our community to get started again after being shut down by Covid.

God loves you and so do I.

Pastor Bernie Hess

Hi Everyone!

Some changes have been made in the leadership of the ENCVdC and as a result, some of us have new positions. So...I am now the Pre-weekend Chair.

I began my VDC experience in October of 1996 during Mixed #27 at Camp Betsy Jeff Penn, along with my wife Diane. I was honored to sit at the Table of Ruth! My first team service was on Mixed # 30 at Camp Dixie as a table cha.

In November of 2007 I was Rector of Mixed #62 at Camp Dixie.

Having been a Rector, I remember well the Pre-weekend Chair welcoming the guests, their sponsors and the team to the opening of the weekend on Thursday night. It thrills me that I will now get the opportunity to do the same for upcoming weekends, beginning with Mixed #106!

As we approach Mixed #106, I want to remind you of the importance of Sponsors in this process. Christ Jesus calls us to share the Good News with the world. This call also includes asking us to reach out to friends and family that have not attended a weekend or are in need of a new relationship with Christ. Please remember that we need to talk to God about our friend BEFORE we talk to our friend about God. Also remember that you have to wait for a reply!

Once you have talked to God, and your friend, you may be in a position that you become the sponsor of a Guest. This is more than just taking them to the weekend and picking them up. It is vitally important that you stay in touch with the Guest well before the weekend, answer any questions honestly (while trying to keep a few surprises secret), and equally important is the follow up after the weekend. You will then be responsible for helping your new brother or sister to find a reunion group to be part of. Without a reunion group to support them, the weekend may well just turn in to a pleasant memory. Maybe you will even start a new group to help them get along. The point is that there is a lot that goes with sponsor- ship and it can be a totally rewarding experience for your brother or sister as well as you! So give the idea of sponsor ship some thought and help someone build a new relationship with Christ on Mixed #106!

GLYASDI,

John Colin

Pre-weekend Chair

## Renewal Weekend #4

Time is running out to register for the upcoming renewal weekend but if you haven't sent in your application there is still time. The deadline for having your application in hand **September 9<sup>th</sup>**. Applications can be sent to Doug Austin [118strings@gmail.com](mailto:118strings@gmail.com)

If you are unable to attend the renewal but you still want to be involved, you have a couple of opportunities.

- You can sign up for the prayer banner using the following link - <https://signup.com/go/CsrnErs>
- Join us on Saturday at 5:00 PM for serenade and fellowship.

Dates: September 16-18 (Friday - Sunday)

Times: Start 3PM (Friday) / End early afternoon Sunday

Location: Camp Agape

Cost: \$175/person

Guests: 40-64

Theme: Via de Cristo "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow"

Team:

Spiritual Directors: Carolyn Remaklus, Dale Cline

Head Cha: Steve Buch

Rector: Doug Austin

## OUTREACH

We would like to help your congregation grow in its participation in the Via de Cristo movement, or just learn about it. But we need to hear from you to know of any interest.

Please contact Don Seeber at [hermitage@bellsouth.net](mailto:hermitage@bellsouth.net) if you would like to talk about a visit to your congregation.

If you don't see your church listed here and you are able to serve as a Regional Liaison or Congregation Ambassador, please contact Don Seeber or Leslie Aschemeier (Outreach and 4<sup>th</sup> Day).

### **Greenville Region Liaison** - Susan Beck-Frazier

*Our Redeemer, Greenville - Susan Beck-Frazier*

### **Wilmington Region Liaison** - Don Seeber

*Lutheran Church of Reconciliation, Ogden - Leslie Aschemeier and Karen Aune  
St. Paul's, Wilmington - Lynda Shell and Betty Huggins  
St. Peter, Southport - Susan Collins*

### **Raleigh/Durham Region Liaison** - Allan Dickson

*St. Philip, Raleigh - Howard Cunningham  
Grace, Raleigh - Tim Hess  
Good Shepherd, Raleigh - Kris Sloman*

### **Cary/Fuquay-Varina Region Liaison** - vacant

*Abiding Presence, FV - Debbie Worden  
Resurrection, Cary - Lynne Hofmann  
Holy Cross, Clayton - Lizzy Coleman  
St. James, Fayetteville - Tonie Neal*

### **Greensboro/Burlington Region Liaison** - vacant

*Prince of Peace, Greensboro - Brett Koceja*

### **Charlotte Region Liaison** - vacant

*Advent, Charlotte - Abby Bostian  
Kimball Memorial, Kannapolis - Lindsay Daugherty*

## More News from Outreach

- Join our team!

POSITION OPEN: Outreach CO-chair for ENCVDC Secretariat.

QUALIFICATIONS: Any individual who has completed a Lutheran Via de Cristo Weekend, or other recognized Cursillo Method Weekend and who, by participation in the activities of this movement, indicates a concern for its objectives and, -Enjoys communicating one-on-one.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES:

With other Co-chair, responsible for organizing and assisting with meetings/temple talks at churches to help inform others of the Via de Cristo movement and provide churches and pastors with current information about the movement.

Attend monthly meetings of the Secretariat, normally Thursday evenings online and, occasionally, Saturday mornings in person.

OFFICE LOCATION: Work remotely from home.

WORKING HOURS: Self-imposed.

COMPENSATION: Self-realized, with a little help from the Holy Spirit.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Yours truly splits time between Raleigh and Southport. While not a requirement, it would be ideal for someone living in the area from Durham westward to be the other Co-chair. This would facilitate face-to-face meetings in a relevant geographical area. However, if you are "Down East" and interested, we can adjust and share. This is a 2-year enlistment with option to extend another 2-years.

QUESTIONS: Contact Don Seeber at [seeb2974@gmail.com](mailto:seeb2974@gmail.com)

Peace,  
Don Seeber  
GLYASDI

## Update from the Health and Welfare Task Force

A lot has changed since we last reported to you: weekends postponed, weekends added, Ultreyas conducted, new CDC guidelines and metrics. It's difficult to be current when we only publish monthly and perhaps meet every two months. But the good news is that things seem to be settling into a more predictable routine even if the COVID virus continues to thrive. Because of the success of vaccines and treatments, *if you are vaccinated and boosted* it is not as scary as it was this time last year. It is still a very real threat for serious illness for the unvaccinated, especially older adults.

So, based on all that, we have updated our expectations of participants on weekends, including the Renewal Weekend in September. We will not be requiring vaccination status, nor will we be doing daily temperature and symptom checks. ***We have also eliminated the Participation Agreement and just ask that, if you are participating in a weekend event, you take reasonable precautions to avoid exposure to the virus ahead of the weekend, and that you ARRIVE HEALTHY.***

“ARRIVE HEALTHY” doesn't just apply to COVID infections, but should be a general mantra for all gatherings. Let's take care of each other.

Ultreia y suseia! (Onward and upward!)

Dear Via de Cristo Brothers and Sisters,

Just think back to when you made your very first Via de Cristo weekend, and remember your overwhelming feelings as you were totally bathed in God's encompassing love and amazing grace. Was it life-changing? Soul-recharging? Heart-expanding?

You can provide that experience to those who need it (And who doesn't?!) by signing up to be a Team member for Mixed #106, February 16-19, 2023. You can help strengthen and grow the Via de Cristo movement here in North Carolina! This will be our first full weekend in years, and you are needed to be a part of it!

Please prayerfully consider applying on the ENCVDC.org website, and/or email to [mjbailey58@ec.rr.com](mailto:mjbailey58@ec.rr.com), or text Jim at 910-512-3528. Also please forward or copy this to others in your church whose emails may have changed.

God Loves You and So Do We,

Jim Bailey, Rector  
Linda Evans, Head Cha



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# Palanca

## Remember in Prayer

- Those caring for aging family members.
- Those who have lost loved ones,
- Those struggling with chronic illness.
- Those living in war-torn parts of the world.
- All refugees and families left homeless by war, poverty, or crisis.
- Victims of natural disasters.
- Victims of the multiple mass shootings in the past year.
- Victims of the War in Ukraine, specifically.
- Everyone who is impacted by Covid-19 in one form or another.
- Anyone impacted by the multiple fires in the west.

## Secretariat Dates to Remember

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|           |                             |                |
|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Sept 20th | Virtual Secretariat Meeting | 7 pm - 8:30 pm |
| Oct 18th  | Virtual Secretariat Meeting | 7 pm - 8:30 pm |
| Nov 15th  | Virtual Secretariat Meeting | 7 pm - 8:30 pm |
| Dec 20    | Virtual Secretariat Meeting | 7 pm - 8:30 pm |

**Eastern North Carolina Via de Cristo Secretariat  
2022-2023**

| <b>Position</b>        | <b>Name</b>             | <b>Cell Phone</b> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| President              | Terry Park              | 276-791-1999      |
| Vice-Pres              | Doug Austin             | 919-235-8476      |
| Secretary              | Marcia Driscoll         | 910-899-7090      |
| Treasurer              | Marie Lewis             | 336-580-0717      |
| Archivist – Database   | Elizabeth Lockley       |                   |
| Archivist – Web Master | Charissa Aclin          | 240-286-5446      |
| Leaders                | Steve Buch              | 919-349-7536      |
| Music                  | Doug Austin             | 919-235-8476      |
| Communications/WEAVE   | Marcia Driscoll         | 910-899-7090      |
| Fourth Day             | Leslie Aschemeier       | 910-782-9107      |
| Operations             | Heather Whitehead       | 919-796-9206      |
| Outreach Co-Chair      | John Aclin              | 301-356-7337      |
| Outreach Co-Chair      | Don Seeber              | 910.540.2974      |
| Palanca                | Judy Park               | 276-791-2000      |
| Pre-Weekend            | John Colin              | 919-616-3912      |
| Spiritual Director     | Pastor Dwight Shellaway | 336-317-4452      |
| Spiritual Director     | Pastor Carolyn Remaklus | 919-345-4646      |
| Spiritual Director     | Pastor Bernie Hess      | 336-501-2841      |