



January 2023



## 2023 looking forward

I hope everyone's Christmas and New Year's celebrations were surrounded by family and those you love. It is easy to let those special times slip through our fingers. For me my extended family includes members of this community that would not be part of my life without that Grace-filled weekend 20 years ago.

Secretariat is busy. Our annual planning retreat is in a couple of weeks. This will be the first retreat in three years. Like everything touched by COVID, there are cobwebs to be cleaned off and new tasks to tackle. Eleven of our thirteen retreat attendees are rookies. As one of those rookies, I'm not sure how we prioritize and focus as we plan for the year.

Looking ahead we have two weekends scheduled for 2023:

Mixed #106  
February 16-19  
Camp Agape  
Rector: Jim Bailey

The team has their final meeting on 1/14. There is room for more guests. Make plans to attend serenade and sign-up for the prayer banner. More details on both opportunities as we get closer.

Mixed #107  
September 14-17  
Camp Agape

Rectora: Bonnie Clinton

Bonnie is currently calling her team. Prayerfully consider how you can support this weekend. Bonnie's email address is: [bonnieclinton@hotmail.com](mailto:bonnieclinton@hotmail.com)

Ultreyas and reunion groups are the backbone of the community. It keeps us engaged and accountable between weekends. Look for those opportunities to be together and make time to re-connect and stay connected. Reach out to those old friends you haven't seen and invite them to attend. COVID has greatly impacted our churches and this community. For the coming year we need your prayers, a servant's heart, and your physical presence.

There will be some bumpy roads as we march into 2023. Keep our community and the secretariat in your prayers. Special prayers for Terry and Judy Park and Chuck and Cindy Wolfe.

GLYASDI

Doug Austin

Here to wish you a very Happy New Year! We hope your holidays were filled with precious new memories and great joy!

January brings with it the promise of fresh start, new beginnings and new commitments for most of us. We are hoping that in that spirit you may be considering renewing your commitment to Via de Cristo and the Via de Cristo community. Don and I have been working together to develop liaisons and ambassadors in your communities to help all Via de Cristo members be informed and engaged in helping to plan Ultreyas, recruit team members, sponsor guests and continuing being His light in this world. Our prayer for the New Year is that you will be eager to renew your commitment to VDC as well. Won't you make it a part of your new year commitments to become a liaison or ambassador in your community today?

Here is where we stand currently:  
Regional Liaisons and Congregation Ambassadors:

*Greenville Region Liaison – Susan Beck-Frazier*

*Our Redeemer, Greenville – Susan Beck-Frazier*

*Lakeside Lutheran, Littleton – Scott Miller*

*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*

*Holy Trinity, Raleigh – Amy Keyworth*

*St. Paul's, Durham – Judy Schlegel*

*Cary/Fuquay-Varina Region Liaison – Lynne Hoffman*

*Abiding Presence, FV – Debbie Worden*

*Resurrection, Cary – Lynne Hoffman*

*Holy Cross, Clayton – Lizy Coleman*

*St. James, Fayetteville – Tonie Neal*

*Christ the King – Vicki Gallagher*

*Greensboro/Burlington Region Liaison – vacant*

*Prince of Peace, Greensboro – Brett Koceja*  
*First Lutheran, Greensboro – Bob & Peggy Terhune*  
*Charlotte Region Liaison – vacant*  
*Advent, Charlotte – Abby Bostian*  
*Kimball Memorial, Kannapolis – Lindsay Daugherty*  
We are still in great need of Liaisons and Ambassadors for the following church's:

A Mighty Fortress, Charlotte  
Christ, Concord  
Christ, Greensboro  
Grace, Boom  
Abiding Savior, Durham  
Kure Memorial, Kure Beach  
Calvary, Concord  
Community in Christ, Cornelius  
Macedonia, Burlington  
Holy Trinity, Raleigh  
St. Matthew's, Wilmington  
Good Shepherd, Elizabeth City

*If you are able to serve as a Regional Liaison or Congregation Ambassador, please contact Don Seeber or Lynne Hofmann (Outreach), or Leslie Aschemeier (4th Day).*

## God with Skin On

Grace and peace to you and your loved ones as we embark on 2023. I am not one for New Year's resolutions because I have often been too lofty or unrealistic in my goals and end up feeling bad that I fell short. This year, I am focusing on hope.

One of my hopes is for our VdC community. My hope is that we can live more tangibly rather than virtually. My hope is that we can experience God and God's grace through our senses - witnessing God at work through creation, through others, and most importantly, through us. God came down to earth to live among us. Jesus was, and is, God with skin on.

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

Sometimes I know that I have needed a way to experience God in tangible ways, human ways. A simple touch, looking into another's face, hearing their voice, being in community face-to-face. We are Christ's body here on earth. We are the embodiment of Christ, Beloved. Through us, others may experience God's incredible love and grace. In Christian fellowship and conversation, over a talk, a meal, the touch of a hand, the look of empathy, we meet and share Christ with each other. We encounter God with skin on.

Mixed 106 is coming very soon. My hope is that you will join in prayer and come to serenade to be an incarnational witness to God's grace for those at Camp Agape. My hope is that if you are not active in a reunion group, that you consider how to rekindle the bonds that come through face-to-face gathering centered in Christ. My hope is that you consider serving on a team, regardless of how long it has been since you attended. My hope is that God may use me in tangible ways to share God's love with a world desperate for new life -- one face, one touch, one meal, one conversation at a time. What do you hope for in 2023?

God loves you, my siblings in Christ, and so do I!

Pr. Carolyn Remaklus

I cannot believe it is 2023!! Remember 1999 when we thought computers and phones were just going to stop working because we were going into the 2000's. Happily that did not happen and it is now 23 years later. WOW!

I just want to remind you of the wonderful things that are happening this year. Two wonderful weekends, one in January and one in September, where we will welcome new members.... Can you say babe chicks anyone?

### January 2023

It looks like Jim has his team together and is ready to start.... if you know anyone that needs a weekend please let Jim know at [mjbailey58@ec.rr.com](mailto:mjbailey58@ec.rr.com)... He will let you know if he still has room

### September 2023

September weekend is just starting to gear up and anything you want to know about please contact Bonnie Clinton at [bonnieclinton@hotmail.com](mailto:bonnieclinton@hotmail.com).

Please prayerfully consider joining a team or if you know of someone that needs a weekend please contact either Jim or Bonnie

Marcia

Secretary and Communications for the Secretariat

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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.
- Please pray for our President Terry who is having health issues.
- Please pray for Chuck Wolfe who is also having health issues.

## Secretariat Dates to Remember

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|             |                             |                |
|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Jan 14 & 15 | Retreat                     | whole weekend  |
| Feb 21      | Virtual Secretariat Meeting | 7 pm - 8:30 pm |
| March 18    | Secretariat meeting         | 9 am - 12 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   | Elisabeth Lockley       | 336-212-1165      |
| 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       | 919-339-9076      |
| Operations             | Heather Whitehead       | 919-796-9206      |
| Outreach Co-Chair      | Lynne Hoffman           | 919-703-7538      |
| 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 Dale Cline       | 980-777-2426      |