



# River's Edge Via de Cristo

Mission Statement:

By grace with the Holy Spirit we challenge leaders to discover and achieve their personal calling, assisting them to influence their environments with the Gospel.

VOLUME 14 | ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2016

## SECRETARIAT MEMBERS

### Lay Director

Gail Voss

### Spiritual Director

Pr. Krista Stokke

### Secretary

Kelly Casey

### Treasurer

Sue Dunham

### Music Director

Laurie Hensley

### Weekend Director

Diane Maertens

### Communications Director

Pam Statler

### Palanca Director

Carol Maertens

### Physical Arrangements Dir.

Kathy Carr

**Come, all who  
are thirsty,  
come to the  
waters...**

~Isiah 55:1

## Lay Director's Message

*Isiah 43:2a "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you."*

This verse immediately follows the verse chosen by Carol Maertens, Rectora for upcoming weekend #26. I confess that I am terrified of water. Even thinking about it causes me to feel overwhelmed. Events happen to all of us that can easily cause us to feel like we are sinking...hopeless and about to drown.

But that isn't the end! The next words in the verse are God's promise to not only be with me but also to prevent me from being swept away and lost. At the September Ultreya in Eureka, Pr. Ron Schuette helped us focus on God during challenging times. We belong to God; we don't have to be afraid or discouraged! So how do we reflect the love of God who has rescued and redeemed us?

Consider how you are being called to ask someone to attend the next weekend. Keep asking! Consider how you are being called to be part of the team. Consider how you are being called to serve the community by serving on the Secretariat. Knock with your prayers, seek God's will with your heart. The way will be open for you.

God loves you and so do I!

~Gail Voss, Lay Director

## A Reflection on Attending the National Gathering

Carolynn Henning, Sue Dunham and I attended the Gathering at Lourdes University, Sylvania, Ohio in July. This is the third Gathering for me and each has been a blessing. I was able to connect with people I've met in the last few years as well as with new friends. We were encouraged to "own the Fourth Day lifestyle-build relationships and discover our oneness in Christ. Make Friends, Be Friends, and Live our Friendships in Christ."

The overall theme was "Reaching the Far Away." We were invited to consider that people very close to us could be far away! Every date had a different focus and we engaged in lively worship and fellowship as we explored "Joy Unspeakable," "Faith Unsinkable," "Love Unstoppable," and "Anything is Possible!" Just like we do on weekends, we gathered around tables to meet folks from all over the country to discuss what we learned through the speakers.

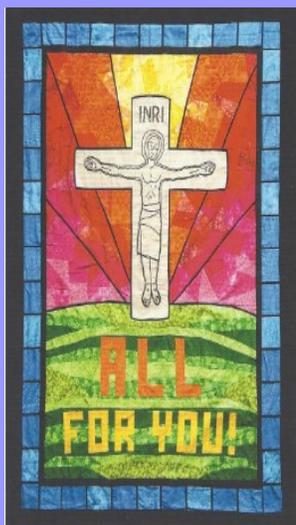
Is Via de Cristo still alive? Oh YES! Two brand new Secretariats were joyfully celebrated: Great Plains of N. Dakota and Lake Gaston of North Carolina/Virginia. There is also interest outside the US both in Canada and Indonesia.

I invite you to put July 27 - 30, 2017 on your calendar now! That's when the next National Gathering will be held at Lake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC. River's Edge VdC pays the registration fee for one lay delegate. Wouldn't it be exciting to have a group of us attend and learn from others around the country. It's not too early to start making plans! Let a Secretariat member know if you would like to be our delegate.

I look forward to showing some pictures I took while attending the Gathering at the next Ultreya in November at Calvary, Belleville. One is next to this message.

I also want to thank all of you for your prayers and concerns. Johnnie Tucker and I were involved in a four car collision on our way to the Ultreya in Eureka. We didn't make it to the Ultreya but God be praised that no one was injured and vehicles can be repaired.

~Gail Voss



## Rivers Edge Via de Cristo

Rivers Edge Via de Cristo is the local secretariat serving residents of eastern Missouri and western Illinois. Come join us in our walk with Christ!

Website: [www.riversedgevdc.org](http://www.riversedgevdc.org)

Prayer Request Email: [prayer@riversedgevdc.org](mailto:prayer@riversedgevdc.org)

[Please join our closed group Facebook Page: Rivers Edge VdC](#)

Are you Grouping?

Are you sharing  
Christ's love?

Are you serving in  
your church?

Remember, Christ is  
counting on you!

## Other Weekends to Pray For

Date	Type	Secretariat
10/13	M640	Minnesota VdC-Northern MN
10/20	W93	Gold Coast VdC
10/27	M95	Wisconsin Sunrise VdC
11/3	W96	Wisconsin Sunrise VdC
11/10	W115	Sonshine VdC of Southern FL
11/17	W67	Sonbeam VdC

## Opportunities to Serve In River's Edge Community

*“Creating God, thank you for the part you ask me to do today, and keep me from turning away. Amen”*

This was the prayer for a devotion I recently read. We are commanded to love God and to love our neighbor. There are many ways to express love. Being a part of the Fourth Day is an incredible way to both receive the love of God through others and to give that love. Meeting regularly with my sisters in Christ enables me to be intentional about my piety, study, and action!

The positions of **Lay Director, Treasurer, Weekend Director, and Palanca** are open for election. Be willing to be led by the Holy Spirit! Let a Secretariat member know if you would like more information about or would like to run for any of these positions. Elections will be a topic of discussion at the Ultreya in November at Calvary.

**Is God asking you to serve on the Secretariat  
and to help guide our community?**





But they that  
wait upon the  
Lord shall  
renew their  
strength; they  
shall mount up  
with wings as  
eagles; they  
shall run, and  
not be weary;  
and they shall  
walk, and not  
faint.

~Isaiah 40:31

## Via de Cristo Weekend #26 February 23 ~ 26, 2017

### Rectora's Message

*Scripture Verse for the weekend:*

*"I have called you by name, you are mine. You are precious in my sight and I love you."*

**Isiah 43:1b, 4a**

**Our weekend is fast approaching! Please prayerfully think about who you would like to invite as pilgrims to the weekend at:**

*All God's Children Camp*

*5919 Antire Road*

*High Ridge, MO 63049*

**Applications are available online at [www.riversedgevdc.org](http://www.riversedgevdc.org) to serve on team or participate in the retreat as a pilgrim or you can receive a hard copy of an application by calling me at (618) 277-3646.**

**Thank you to all who have said yes to serving on the team. We are praying for those who are still in discernment.**

~Carol Maertens, Rectora

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

**"Weekend #27 is scheduled for October 12 - 15, 2017  
at All God's Children Camp in High Ridge.  
Mark your calendars and start inviting now! It's never too early!"**



# 2016~2107

## Calendar of Events

### 2016

- November 4 - Secretariat Meeting at **Calvary**
- November 13 - Ultreya 3:00pm-6:00pm at **Calvary**  
A-J Main Dish    K-S Salad/Side Dish    T-Z Dessert

### 2017

- Jan 28 - Training #1 for Weekend #26 9:00am-3:00pm at **TBD**
- Feb. 11 - Training #2 for Weekend #26 9:00am-3:00pm at **TBD**
- Feb. 23 - 26 - VdC Weekend #26 CO-ED at **AGCC**
- July 27-30 - Via de Cristo National Gathering at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC
- Oct. 12 - 15 - VdC Weekend #27 at **AGCC**

#### Location Key

**AGCC**-All God's Children Camp, 5919 Antire Rd.; High Ridge, MO

**Calvary**-Calvary Lutheran Church, 6606 West Main St.; Belleville, IL

**CCv'S**-Congregation Chai v'Shalom, 6327 Clayton Ave.; St. Louis, MO

**Hilltop**-Hilltop Manor, 11 Hilltop Village Center Dr.; Eureka, MO

**LCLC**-Lutheran Church of the Living Christ, 2725 Concord Dr.; Florissant, MO

**TBD**-To Be Determined

**Zion**-Zion Lutheran Church, 123 Carson Rd.; Ferguson, MO



## Family Picnic

# Family Summer Picnic

Our third annual Family Summer Picnic was held on June 25th. It was way too hot to be outdoors but we played games and had fun indoors at Living Christ in Florissant. We had good food and great fellowship. Be on the lookout for a picnic date for this summer!