



# The Taste

Newsletter for the  
**Taste of Grace VIA DE CRISTO**  
Community

w w w . t a s t e o f g r a c e . c o m

## MANY THANKS for Prayers and Donations

Good food and fellowship were not the only things the Via de Cristo community enjoyed as they participated in the March 1<sup>st</sup> Taste of Grace Ultreya. The event which was held at Shepherd of the Hills Church in Lockport, was an evening filled with generosity and celebration.

The greatest contribution was the prayers being offered for Men's and Women's weekends #1.

A beautiful communion set was given to Taste of Grace Via de Cristo and used for our service that evening. And the community donated many necessities as we gathered our supplies to meet the needs of the first Taste of Grace weekends.

Ed Walter gave the 4<sup>th</sup> Day talk and Music Chas kept us on key.

Thanks to everyone who took part in the evening of celebration and prayer!

*The Secretariat for  
Taste of Grace Via de Cristo  
cordially invites you to our  
Spring Ultreya*

**Date:** Saturday, May 17, 2003

**Time:** Potluck 5:00 p.m.  
Worship 6:45 p.m.

**Place:** Peace Lutheran Church  
101 Candlelight Lane  
Morris, IL

Bring a dish to share... beverages, plates and silverware will be provided. Babysitting will be offered during worship service.

**Our Theme will be:**

BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED

*"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven..."*

- Ecclesiastes 3:1

## From the Lay Director

*"The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."*

- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Dear Taste of Grace Via de Cristo Community,

Well, we all survived Taste of Grace Weekend #1. The Good Lord really did watch over us and made sure all the pilgrims had a meaningful and grace-filled weekend. I want to thank all of the secretariat, all the team members, the prayer warriors, those that signed the prayer scroll and prayed at some really strange hours, all those that just prayed quietly and without fanfare and the camp staff, for all your hard work and contributions to the success of our weekends.

If you didn't serve as a "swan or willow", you know if you are one, then we would love to see you at Taste of Grace Weekend #2. If you did serve, we would love to see you back too - and I promise next time will be easier for all the team. Team application forms can be downloaded from our website by going to: [www.tasteofgrace.com](http://www.tasteofgrace.com)

If you've never served on a team before, one of the prerequisites for doing so is a continuing ed class. We will be offering such a class directly before our July Ultreya. The exact date, time and place will be posted on our website by the end of May. Or you can contact our Leaders Chairperson, Loretta Volker, for more information.

I would also like to welcome to the secretariat our newest member, Cheryl Lovell. Cheryl will be our Post-Weekend Chairperson. If you would like to help with an Ultreya or need a list of reunion groups in your area, she is the one to go to. Ed Walter has taken on the task of Weekend Coordinator. His duties include camp coordination and setup/tear down of the weekend.

God loves you all and so do I.

Simon Prior  
Lay Director  
Taste of Grace Via de Cristo

## Taste of Grace Via de Cristo Secretariat

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Weekend Coordinator 815-254-0198	Ed Walter edward.walter@attbi.com
Post-Weekend Coord. 815-254-3614	Cheryl Lovell clovell@morrishospital.org

Prayer times available for fall weekend  
**72 Hour Prayer Scroll.**

Sign up now -  
call Christina Spiros at: 815-740-6369  
or send email to: [cspiros1101@attbi.com](mailto:cspiros1101@attbi.com)

*Be sure to check out our  
Prayer Vigil Resource at  
[www.tasteofgrace.com](http://www.tasteofgrace.com)*

## Food for Thought from our Spiritual Director

### “Alleluia! He is risen, He is risen indeed!”

It has been a long winter. As I look around at the landscape, the varying shades of dull, duller and dullest anesthetize the senses and test those tired-of-waiting places in the heart. But a day comes when the springtime hope of budding trees and emerging flowers caresses our faces and wakes up our sleeping hope.

Winterizing sin blows across the landscape of the human heart and withers the grassy slopes of the soul. Our spirits are blasted by the howling arctic trespasses of human failing. Technicolor living fades to dulled shades of khaki and gray.

And then. ...a green blade rises from within the khaki-colored doldrums of winter lawns and the bare trees are pregnant with promising nubs on their branches. In the midst of winterized death comes a gentle, but insistent springtime promise. And into the midst of our own paling world of despair and dullness, the green blade of Easter hope rises. Alleluia! He is risen. He is risen indeed.

Christ is risen to bring new life to you and me. He is risen to bring hope and promise to those who do not yet know him, as well.

As this article is being written, we at war with Iraq. West challenges East. Battle lines have been drawn. It is a time of high anxiety and fearfulness. What is our future? What is our fate?

The old Lutheran classic, in Christ, there is no East or West is playing itself out in my mind right now. We need the hope of

the Resurrection in this friction-frayed world of ours. Jesus has overcome death and the grave so that the world might have eternal life. His kind of eternity begins with a loving contentment that floods like a river into one's being and overflows into other's lives. His love ushers in peace... let us reclaim the Easter promise of peace and pray in the power of the empty cross.

In the words of Emmet Fox, "There is no difficulty that enough love will not conquer; no disease that enough love will not heal; no door that enough love will not open; no gulf that enough love will not bridge; no wall that enough love will not throw down; no sin that enough love will not redeem. It makes no difference how deeply seated may be the trouble; how hopeless the outlook; how muddled the tangle, how great the mistake. A sufficient realization of love will dissolve it all. If only you could love enough, you would be the happiest and most powerful being in the world."

Let us all pray that the Easter love of Jesus Christ, a love that has overcome sin, the flesh and the devil, will overcome the heart of tyranny, terrorism and oppression as well.

God's Peace,

Pastor Kathy Flores  
Spiritual Director  
Taste of Grace VDC



## Evangelism – Outreach

"People are searching for it! People are looking for ways to get closer to God! More is needed than just sitting on a hard, wooden pew for one hour."

This quote was taken from the keynote address Pastor Kelly Fryer delivered at the Northern Illinois Synod Annual Congregational Resourcing Event which was held Saturday, March 15, 2003, at Kishwaukee College in Malta, Illinois.

Some of you reading this may have been in attendance as this dynamic, enthusiastic pastor told of her experiences with people wanting to learn more about Christ and His church.

As she progressed through her half-hour I realized that much of what she said would be a wonderful script for selling Via de Cristo to people. What we accomplish in Via de Cristo is what she was asking for.

After her presentation my wife, Loretta, and I spoke with her briefly, explaining that Via de Cristo was her answer. She said she was aware of our spiritual renewal program and thought that some of her church members might attending an upcoming weekend. Naturally, I took the opportunity to invited her also. Hopefully, sometime in the future she will attend.

During the resourcing event Loretta and I presented two workshops, explaining, promoting, and inviting lay-people and their pastors to attend Via de Cristo. Quite a bit of interest was shown.

In our morning session, one gentleman sat alone in the rear of the room listening.

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## Grace given to equip the Saints (Leaders)

As the youngest secretariat in Illinois, Taste of Grace Via de Cristo was blessed with many generous, seasoned team members for ist first pair of weekends. Members with many years experience came forward to disciple the new brothers and sisters in their efforts to re-Christianize their various environments.

Most new secretariats are able to call on nearby Via de Cristo folk and with their help and that of the National Lutheran Secretariat past and present leaders, soon develop their own numbers of leaders and increase the size of their 4<sup>th</sup> day communities.

We are grateful for all of those who cam forward to help with Taste of Grace #1. Some of the many Via de Cristo communities that were represented on our first Men's and Women's teams were: Living Water VDC, Heart of Illinois VDC, Gold Coast VDC, Rainbow VDC, ECCO and many other Cursillo communities - plus the prayer support of over 37 communities who offered prayers and palanca letters for both weekends.

Taste of Grace secretariat in fielding it's first teams was also developing it's various guidelines, manuals and strategies for outreach and growth in this new Chicagoland territory.

Leaders in Action transfigure a weekend or secretariat by transforming ordinary circumstances into extraordinary Grace for all who attend the weekend. God prepares leaders and calls them to serve.

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*"Life on earth is just a brief encounter on our journey to wider fields of usefulness where we can work together forever in the vineyard of the Lord."* -Helen Steiner Rice

## From our Rector

Come and see! Come and see! And that's just what 15 Christian men did as they answered Jesus Christ's call to spend three days with him walking in His path.

Working with a seasoned team was a great blessing. God chose those men as His representatives and we ended up with a crew that had served in a variety of roles previously. The Chas were great. Every area needing attention was covered... promptly and properly. What can I say about the veteran rollistas? Such a blessing to listen to the many powerful, personal journeys with faith that these devoted Christians have taken. Wow!

Speaking of strength, Chuck Stiles, our sole music cha, persevered throughout the weekend though suffering much back pain. Like any professional musician, Stiles realized the music must go on.

Now I want to mention the reason for the weekend...the Pilgrims. Wow ?? What a great group of enthusiastic, Christian men. Truly leaders in their careers as well as in their churches.

One of the highlights for me on a weekend is the Decuria. I enjoy watching and listening to the interpretations of what each table perceived from the rollos. These men were creative and ingenious in their artwork and presentations. I think they all enjoyed the experience. I know they got the messages. It's obvious to me these men were strengthened in their pursuit to live as the "skin of Christ" here on earth.

(continued on page 10)

## From our Rectora

*Isaiah 9:6 " For unto us a child is born, and unto us a Son is given."*

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The passage from Isaiah was the one I used back in January when I wrote my first article as Rectora for Taste of Grace #1. I remember thinking of this first weekend as giving birth to a new community, and I really feel that is what we did. All of the weeks and months of preparation, then Thursday May 1st the labor begins. So many thoughts were going through my head that day; do I have everything, is everything in order, am I prepared, will I, with the help of God be able to do this? And the answer; take a deep cleansing breath and remember, Isaiah 12:2 "Surely God is my salvation; I will trust in Him and not be afraid."

From the very beginning we learned to be "Willows". We bent and swayed when we needed to. We were

**W**arriors  
**I**lluminated by  
**L**ove of the  
**L**ord and His  
**O**bedient  
**W**illing  
**S**ervants

The success of the weekend goes to a wonderful team of women & man who served our Pilgrims every need. They arose to every situation and I'm sure took care of many things I'm not even aware of.

(continued on page 6)

## prayer habits

With Taste of Grace Weekend #1 having just come to a close we all realize the importance of prayer, not just for our weekends but in our every day lives too. For this issue of "The Taste" we asked the secretariat members to share with us a little about their personal prayer time. Here is what they told us:

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*Pastor Kathy, Spiritual Director:* I started prayer journaling in 1987. It is my habit, the last thing at night to write a "Dear God" entry in my journal and pour out the day's frustrations, praise Him for the blessings in the midst of them, and close with written prayers for those people who He brings to mind in my heart that night. There are times, of course, when I have lapsed in the journal, but praise the Lord, the habit is stronger than the lapses, and I am always called back to this prayer discipline.

*Simon, Lay Director:* My personal prayers are normally one or two liners dispersed throughout the day... a prayer of thanks and praise when I see a thing of beauty, prayers of concern for friends and a "sorry" to God when I screw up (which happens often).

*Michele, Secretary:* I have quiet time every morning on the way to work for about 30-45 minutes and do a lot of praying then. I also do flash prayers throughout the day. I'm reading "The Purpose Driven Life" and find myself praying then too. I also consider singing praise songs a form of prayer and listen to 106.7 The Fish all day at work. Not that I sing all day long, but it does fill my down time with up-lifting reminders of God's love for me and my commitment to Him.

*More "prayer habits" on page 12*

## From our Rectora

(continued from page 5)

My faith continues to grow stronger with every team I serve on, as I see the Holy Spirit at work. This time Charlotte and I were the instrument the Lord used to make the calls, He was the one who put the names before us. The Lord also put a wonderful pair of Spiritual Directors on this team. We were all truly blessed.

I am so very proud to have been part of this first weekend for Taste of Grace. Now I can sit back, watch it grow and remember that I was one of many who were blessed to serve on this team.

GLYASDI

Jan Curry, Rectora

Taste of Grace Women's Weekend #1

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## Grace given to equip the Saints (Leaders)

(continued from page 4)

Someone lead you... are you the special someone God is calling to lead another to Him through your service to Taste of Grace Via de Cristo? God's paybacks are... well, out of this world!

Applications are now being taken for Taste of Grace Men's and Women's Weekends #2. Please pray about joining the team and using your God-given abilities to show others the Grace we are so freely given.

Loretta Volker

Leaders Chairperson

Taste of Grace Via de Cristo

*The announcement was made at each closure for Taste of Grace weekend #1 and the prayers have begun. Now it's time for you to meet your Rector and Rectora for weekends #2...*

Rector for Taste of Grace VDC Men's Weekend #2

## Larry Herman

Attended Living Water Via de Cristo Weekend # 5 at St. Marks Lutheran Church in Davenport, IA in the Fall of 1992.

**Church:** Our Savior Lutheran Church in Seneca, IL

**Family:** Wife, Deborah, and 2 sons: Tyce, 12 and Grant, 9

**Hobbies:** I enjoy gardening, reading, and activities with the kids.

**Something you'd like to share with the readers:** I believe that the Good Lord through men's team #1 and the secretariat set an excellent example of what not only "Tasting Grace" but "Feasting on Grace" can be like. The comment/response below certainly was true for our first ever weekend.

C: "God is good" ...

R: "all the time."

C: "All the time"...

R: "God is good."

With God's help and this strong foundation as a base, weekend #2 holds the possibility of being equally exciting. To see God's love take hold in those first candidates was truly a miracle to behold and I am eagerly looking forward to having these enthused men participate on team for Taste of Grace #2. This is a strong community anchored in faith through prayer and embolden by His power. The prayer support was marvelous and I would ask that you keep it up for weekend #2. I would also ask that each one of you pray about inviting at least 1 new candidate for weekend #2 and I will pray that God would open their hearts so that when you ask them they accept this invitation to Taste His Grace. I have been praying about team selection and candidates to attend the weekend. I saw the secretariat work tremendously hard to make weekend #1 the success that it was I would invite the community to support them in prayer and ask what can I do to help. With God's help and our willingness to serve Him I am truly excited about the possibilities of weekend #2.

Rectora for Taste of Grace VDC Women's Weekend #2

## LaDonna Strakis

Attended Living Water Via de Cristo Weekend #14 at Pilgrim Park in Princeton, IL in the Spring of 1997.

**Church:** First Lutheran in Princeton, IL

**Family:** Husband, Steve and three sons: Jacob Joseph and Jesse

**Hobbies:** I spend most of my time chasing after my four boys (Steve included), singing and playing my guitar.

**Something you'd like to share with the readers:** I am very humbled to be called to serve as Rectora for Taste Of Grace women's weekend #2. Sue Scruggs will be my Head Cha and we are asking for everyone to keep us in your prayers.

## Calendar of Events

### **Taste of Grace VDC Ultreya**

May 17, 2003  
Peace Lutheran Church  
101 Candlelight Lane  
Morris, IL 60450  
5:00 pm - Potluck (bring dish to pass)  
6:45 pm.- Worship Service

### **Upcoming Weekends**

9/25/03 – Taste of Grace Men’s W/E #2  
10/2/03 – Taste of Grace Women’s W/E #2  
Palanca – Christina Spiros  
1101 Highland Avenue  
Joliet, IL 60425

Check out [www.viadechristo.org/palanca](http://www.viadechristo.org/palanca) for other VDC weekend dates and contact information.

### **Secretariat Meetings**

May 17, 2003 – Prior to Ultreya at Peace Lutheran Church, Morris

### **Continuing Ed Training**

July 2003 - date, time and place will be posted on the website by the end of May.

### **NLS Annual Meeting**

July 24-27, 2003 - Columbus, OH  
Representatives from the Taste of Grace Secretariat will be attending the National Lutheran Secretariat event so look for exciting reports in our fall issue of "The Taste."



Check out our website for  
up to date Calendar of Events...  
[www.tasteofgrace.com](http://www.tasteofgrace.com)

## **From our Menu PIETY STUDY ACTION**

Each issue of "The Taste" features an article based on the Via De Cristo "tripod".

Prayer has been the theme of this issue of "The Taste" and we cannot ask for a better prayer or template to use in our daily life than the one that Jesus taught His disciples .. The Lord's Prayer. This was a pattern to prayer that includes all the ingredients for a healthy and satisfying relationship with God.

I recently read the book "Praying Like Jesus" by James Mulholland. "Prayer today bears little resemblance to the kind Jesus taught. For many, it has become a means of personal success and material gain, taking the form of a shopping list rather than a transforming spiritual discipline." In the book Mulholland shows us how authentic prayer will lead us away from self-interest and toward the compassion, sacrifice and love that are hallmarks of the kingdom of God.

So let's apply these thoughts to our "tripod":

Study: Use your Bible to find many examples of prayer, or try praying the Psalms. There are also many, many books on prayer and an abundance of prayer resources on the internet.

Piety Create your own personal prayer space in your home or try an altar visit, journaling or singing praises.

Action: Pray with your family, friends, or maybe even start Prayerwalking.

However you choose to prayer, whatever time, place or method works for you, just remember...

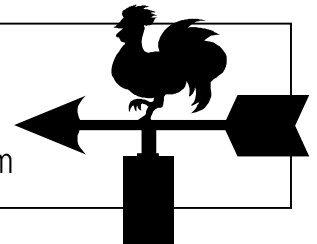
PRAY 1<sup>ST</sup>, last and always!

God Loves You and So Do I...

Donna Weaver  
Living Water VDC #22

*check out our  
website*

[www.tasteofgrace.com](http://www.tasteofgrace.com)



## PRAYERS & PRAISES

- Please pray for Taste of Grace Men's and Women's Weekend #2... the secretariat, rector, and rectora for continued guidance and direction, team members as selection begins, sponsors as they bring others to Christ & pilgrims they make a commitment to grow in their relationship with Christ.
- Continued prayers for our country, people in the military, our president and all of the leaders in our continuing fight against terrorism.
- Please remember the family of Rosa Ochoa in your prayers, especially our Brother in Christ, Jorge.
- Prayers for those graduating this spring. Make their futures be bright and filled with the light of God's glory!
- Please keep the following members of "His Hands Puppet Ministry" from Peace Lutheran Church, Morris in your prayers: Ken, Bonnie, Vicki, Kirsten, Steven, Mike, Lexi, Don, Kristen and Karen. Their ministry is taking them on a trip this summer to the east coast. They are looking for God's continued guidance and blessings as they continue reaching out and being the "hands" of Christ to others.
- Increased vocations to the religious life... more seminarians... gentle care and treatment of budding ideas in minds of our youth to the need for clergy and our gentle care and treatment of the dedicated ordained clergy serving and retired.
- Please continue to keep Living Water Via de Cristo Weekend #28 rector/rectora and team members in your prayers. Also, the sponsors and candidates – that God will call those who need to be there.

### Like to cook...

(or maybe just collect recipe books)

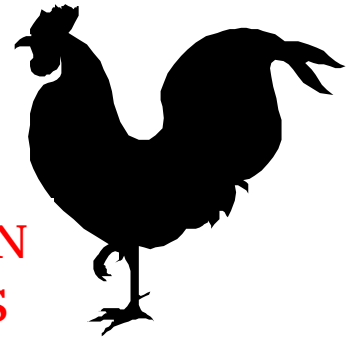
...well guess what?

This is the very last call for recipes to be included in our Taste of Grace Via de Cristo cookbook. The final deadline has been extended until June 1, 2003. We have been receiving recipes from Via de Cristo communities all over the USA but there is still time to have your recipe included in our "Potluck & Prayers" Cookbook.

It takes a lot of funds to start up a new secretariat and host a weekend, so one of our first fundraisers will be a personalized cookbook with all profits going to Taste of Grace Via de Cristo. The beautiful spiral bound cookbook will feature recipes from the Via de Cristo community nationwide. Each recipe will feature the donor's name, weekend # and favorite scripture verse. The books will be approximately \$8.00 each.

**To submit a recipe**, just fill out the form enclosed in this newsletter. **To reserve your copy of our Taste of Grace Via de Cristo "Potluck & Prayers Cookbook"**, send an e-mail to [donna\\_a\\_weaver@hotmail.com](mailto:donna_a_weaver@hotmail.com)

### REUNION GROUPS



If you belong to a reunion group we need to hear from you. We would like to compile the following information:

- day, time & place your group meets
- names of people in your Reunion Group and their original VDC weekend

Please send to: Cheryl Lovell,  
Post-Weekend Chairperson

Email: [clovell@morrishospital.org](mailto:clovell@morrishospital.org)  
or Mail to: 2605 Canyon Drive  
Plainfield, IL 60544

## From our Rector

(continued from page 5)

The "Coach"! What can I say about my "Coach", Dr. Randy Mullin?" Randy was the "straw-that-stirred-the-drink" on this Weekend. Always on the clock, like as if the official timer for the Indianapolis 500 race. Meticulous with details and the encyclopedia for Via de Cristo tradition.

I want to thank the women from the various Cursillo communities who came to sing at the Serenade and then carry out the wonderful tradition of the Catholic Cursillo which is the candlelight Aisle of Lights, as we walked back through to the rollo room. This was a first for me to experience from a Via de Cristo led community and quite a "tear-jerker". And to realize 51 ladies traveled 7618 miles... just for us!

In closing, I want to thank the Taste of Grace Secretariat members who tirelessly worked for months in planning the weekend and all the community that worked behind the scenes hours and hours to help make sure things were there when needed. To every-one I owe much gratitude and thanks...more forms of GRACE.

I consider Taste of Grace Men's Weekend #1 a success. I hope Jesus Christ, God, and the Holy Spirit do also.

I feel humble, honored, and proud to have had this opportunity for servanthood. I'll always remember it. The real test of success will be to see the harvests of the Pilgrims going forth sowing the seeds in family, friends, and members of their churches.

God's grace be with you!  
Dick Volker, Rector  
Taste of Grace Men's Weekend #1

## Evangelism - Outreach

(continued from page 4)

After our talks and showing the Via de Cristo video, I asked if anyone had questions. There were several, but what I was very appreciative of was that this man said, "What they have told you is exactly true. I went through Tres Dias in Rochelle and everything you've been told I experienced on that Tres Dias weekend. I'm here to learn where and when Via de Cristos' are being held so I can sponsor my brother." Wow! Do you know how much that meant to us - the power of that third-person's testimony? We hope that our presence stimulated an interest which will be reflected in future Taste of Grace VDC weekends.

In addition to publicizing VDC we still need the one-on-one contact and that is where YOU are so valuable in selling the weekends. Each of you should prayerfully consider someone to sponsor for a weekend and then talk to them with an invitation. I encourage each Cursillista to "Make a friend, Be a friend and Bring that friend to Christ!" He's counting on you!

Dick Volker  
Evangelism Chairperson  
Taste of Grace Via de Cristo

***"Taste and see  
that the Lord is good;  
blessed is the one who  
takes refuge in Him."  
- Psalm 34:8***

## Sponsors Are Needed

We are asking everyone to consider being a sponsor for the upcoming weekends. We all need to look if there is person we could possibly sponsor. The first step is to pray to God if the person should attend the weekend before we ask the person. If God leads you to asking the person you believe should attend, great. May the person accept and you then take the next steps of sponsorship.

What if you do not have anyone in mind: there is the possibility for being a sponsor.

We found for the Taste of Grace Via de Cristo #1 Weekends there were possible candidates, but no sponsors. For some we were able to find sponsors, but it was at the last minute and time was critical.

We are preparing for the upcoming Taste of Grace Via de Cristo fall weekends in September 25 - 28, 2003 is the Men's Weekend #2 and October 2-5, 2003 is the Women's Weekend #2. We know weekend #1 was just completed. Yet for the members of the Secretariat, we need to start looking at the fall weekends in 2003 and also at the spring weekends of 2004. It is called planning.

Being a new Secretariat, we gain experience by doing. We found that in some areas we over-planned, in some areas the planning met the needs, and in some areas the planning came up short.

We found one area we came up short in was having willing sponsors for candidates who did not have a sponsor. To correct this possible problem for the fall 2003 weekends, we are starting early looking for people who are willing to sponsor candidates. All interested people who are willing to sponsor a candidate, but have no one in mind; please contact us as soon as possible. The goal is to find willing sponsors early on so when applications and inquiries come in and a sponsor is needed, we will have a list of people to match a candidate to.

A lot of people may be asking why so early and why do you need sponsors. For the Taste of Grace #1 weekends we had candidates hear about the weekend at their church. One individual got an application, filled it out, and turned it in. We thank God the individual had the courage to follow God's calling. We found a person just a few days before the weekend that would sponsor this individual. At times we receive inquiries about the weekend and it would be extremely nice to have community members willing to sponsor a candidate lined up ahead of time.

Question 1 – Are you willing to be placed on a list of possible sponsors? Yes or No

Question 2 – Would you prefer to sponsor a male candidate, female candidate, or either male or female candidate?

Question 3 – From your home address, what would be the maximum distance in miles that you would be willing to travel to sponsor a candidate?

Please pray about being a sponsor and see if God calls you to share His love and grace with a brother or sister in Christ.

You can contact any Secretariat member and given them your name, location, telephone number and email address if you would. You can directly contact the **Pre-Weekend Coordinator**: Harry Benner, 100 Glenwood Lane. Morris, IL 60450 Telephone 815-942-1751  
Email [bennerhj@theramp.net](mailto:bennerhj@theramp.net)

I've been informed that we have 3 to 4 potential candidates for the fall weekends and need sponsors for these candidates.

We thank everyone who considers being a sponsor and may God bless you.

Harry Benner, Pre-Weekend Coordinator

## prayer habits

(continued from page 5)

*Ed, Weekend Chair:* With 4 children ranging in age from 13 down to 2, I don't seem to have much along time when the sun is up. I get up at 5:00 a.m. to go to work with a commute of close to an hour. I find this a good time to talk with God. Some days the sunrise is so beautiful and inspiring! It's a great time to think about our creator. But more so than this, I feel it's very important to be in touch with God in prayer throughout the day. Just little things, here and there, as they come to mind. No place is the wrong place to pray!

*Donna, Communications:* I belong to the Presidential Prayer team and receive a weekly update on the prayer concerns for our country... this is my way of being reminded to pray for the needs of our nation and it's leaders. I also keep a prayer journal which is divided into sections for different prayer concerns and days of the week.

*Loretta, Leaders Chair:* My main discipline is praying scripture three times a day as did Daniel while in captivity. Our first grandchild was born as we concluded our first team service with LWVDC... one of the "lessons" for that Sunday was from Daniel and the baby was named Joseph Daniel. He's now eleven... so I've had many years of thanking God for the blessings of family... mine, those of scripture etc.

All newsletter items, prayer concerns and praises can be e-mailed to me at:

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**June 15th is the deadline  
for Summer newsletter items.**

## Message from the Editor

On the last Monday in May, we celebrate Memorial Day. Originally, Memorial Day was called Decoration Day from the practice begun during the Civil War of decorating the graves of war dead. As Decoration Day was extended to include the dead of all wars, it was given the name Memorial Day.

Memorial Day gives us an occasion to remember the great sacrifice of the brave men and women who died for our country. A memorial is defined as "something that keeps remembrance alive." It can be a monument, keepsake, celebration, or memento. It is a commemoration of an important person, place or event.

The apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 tells us that, "The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "his cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me. For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

In the upper room, Jesus used unleavened bread and a glass of wine and created a memorial that has lasted for two thousand years. This celebration keeps alive the great sacrifice Jesus made as He, being without sin, became sin for us, and paid the ultimate price on the cross.

On Memorial Day, we honor the courage of those who died in the service of their country. At communion time, we remember the courage of Jesus as He died so that we might have freedom from sin and live with Him eternally. May we never forget the price that was paid for our independence.



*Shalom,*

Donna Weaver, Editor

*(Message from the editor taken from the book,  
"A time to speak, by Henrietta Gambill)*