



Sunday

July 30, 2017

Volume 35, Issue 7

Preparing the Harvest – Warren (Butch) Seeley

Preparing the Harvest built upon two preceding presentations. The three presentations built upon each other to bring us from Preparing the Soil, to Pruning the Vine, and finally to Preparing the Harvest.

Pastor Cedric Earl Gibb began the series with *Preparing the Soil – Gaining Pastoral Support*. Preparing the soil begins with surveying the vineyard to determine where we are in our mission right now. Statements such as the following should be addressed: Be sure the soil is appropriate for the fruit you want to reap; Choose the right seed; The climate must be compatible; Even when the seed, soil and climate fit, they must all unfold during the right season, and It's God's harvest.

Have you invited a pastor to embark on the Via de Cristo Pilgrimage? How do you address a negative response? Pray for guidance prior to issuing the invitation. Be persistent, and remember, God is in control.

Pruning the Vine – A Prayerful Partnership between you and God was presented as the second in the series focused on the pruning necessary to produce good fruit. Ellick Morey charged us to look to what needs pruning, what isn't working or is no longer useful to us in our Secretariats. Change is sometimes a necessary part of pruning.

Butch Seeley presented the third topic in the series, *Preparing the Harvest*. Of note is that all three presentations fall on the Action leg of the three legged stool of Piety, Study, and Action.

Butch suggests we begin by surveying the vineyard through actions such as: Interviewing active and non-active cursillistas; Locate active churches. Look at who is sponsoring and who is being sponsored. Is the yield of the harvest going barren or is it fruitful? What kind of shape is your vineyard in?

Survey the laborers in the vineyard. Pastors are the key. Love and support pastors to assist them to stay involved or become involved in the movement.

Survey the community. Focus on rekindling the fire in the movement. Each Secretariat should have a 5 year strategic plan. Pay attention to sponsoring younger adults as survival of the movement depends upon it. Each Secretariat must provide positive leadership and momentum.

Butch recommends we prepare for the harvest through **HASK**. and **TNT!!**

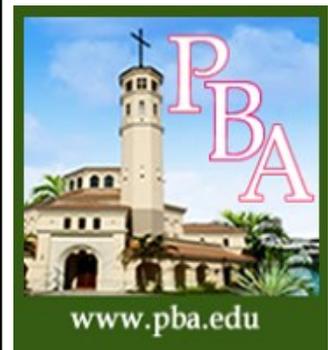
H – Habits, A – Attitude, S – Skills, K- Knowledge.



Save these dates:

July 26—29, 2018

**NLS/VdC Annual Gathering
Palm Beach Atlantic University
West Palm Beach, FL**



Business Meeting #3

Pr. Mark Marxhausen opened the business meeting with a prayer that the group's focus be on Christ and eternity during the meeting. This was followed by the music group leading the body in sing *Come Holy Spirit Song*. President Steve Gielda announced that Diane Purcell would serve as parliamentarian.

The first item President Gielda moved the Executive Committee's proposal to revise Article 6 of the NLS Constitution allowing a candidate put forth by the nominating committee to attend that year's Annual Gathering via video teleconference. Wording of the motion was amended and approved. The proposed motion was approved.

This action was followed by another Executive Committee recommendation to revise section 5.5 of the NLS By-laws relates suspension of a Secretariat by a vote of the NLS Executive Committee [President, VP Outreach, VP Administration, Treasurer, Spiritual Director and Secretary]; which would specifically enable the board to suspend a Secretariat that is not following the VdC "Essentials" that have been in place since it's inception. This By-law change was approved.

Next, President Gielda presented the Board's recommended change to By-law 8.2 adding verbiage clarifying The NLS annually ends its fiscal year as of May 31st. This By-law change was also approved.

A recommended change to Bylaw 5.2, regarding the number of delegates allocated to each Secretariat, was not approved.

Next NLS Secretary, Brenda Accola, presented the 2018 budget. The budget was approved as presented.

Regional coordinators for Regions 1, 3, 5, and 6 spoke briefly.

Elections took place for open positions on the NLS Board. On the ballot for President was Wendy Showalter (MN) and John Aclin () VP of Outreach was Kim Brownlow and Ellick Morey; and Secretary was Debbie Klatt. Election results were President-Wendy Showalter, VP Outreach-Ellick Morey and Secretary is Deb Klatt.

On behalf of the Board, outgoing President, Steve Gielda thanked Cantamos for the music after Vespers, as well as Brett Koceja and Bob Lewis and the entire host committee from Western and Eastern NC VdC communities for being such terrific hosts!

Here's how you can access the NLS Pastor's Video

1. Here is the link, or address, to access the pastors video:
www.viadecristo.org/Archives/2016/POCVideo4.mp4
* For the accompanying text, or letter go to:
www.viadecristo.org/Archives/2016/leave.docx
* These documents will also be found at:
www.viadecristo.org ~ and selecting the Video button
2. The following website site listing service on the locator page of the viadecristo.org Web sites of: Colorado Via de Cristo; Sonbeam Via de Cristo; Heart of Illinois Via de Cristo; Taste of Grace Via de Cristo; Vineyard Via de Cristo; Nebraska Lutheran Via de Cristo.
3. Please check your Secretariat's Web site to insure it's web address for accuracy. If it is wrong, please send the correct address to webmaster@viadecristo.org.

NLS 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.