

Connecting National and Local Secretariats

CONEXIONES

Winter Edition
Volume 21
Number 1
Jan. 2003

Official Publication of the National Lutheran Secretariat, VdC



"Christ's Grace – The Heart of it all"

As we focus on the theme for this year's gathering I am reminded of an acronym. **GRACE** can be viewed as God's Riches At Christ's Expense. As John 3:16-17 states, "For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." Like you, there are times I feel so unworthy of God's riches. After all I am a sinner and deserve nothing. Yet scripture is clear, Jesus died for my sins and yours. Yes, Christ's Grace is the Heart of it all! Take time to fill out the registration form and join us for a Grace filled weekend of renewal where Christ will be the center of all we do in Columbus, Ohio!

The 2003 National Lutheran Secretariat Meeting will be held in Columbus Ohio on **July 24 through 27** at Trinity Lutheran Seminary and Capital University. The Via de Cristo of Ohio and the Good News Secretariats will host our meeting.

The theme for the meeting will be *"Christ's Grace – The heart of it all."* For several years the Ohio tourism slogan was *"Ohio – The heart of it all."* In 2003 Ohio will be celebrating its bicentennial. Therefore it is only fitting that we modify the slogan. There will be many activities and festivities around the state due to the bicentennial. We encourage you to add some additional time to your trip to enjoy our state. Columbus is centrally located in Ohio and is within a 3-hour drive to all parts of the state. You can enjoy historical sites, a relaxing ride through Amish country, the Rock and Roll and Pro Football Hall of Fames, many theme parks, and much more.

The one thing we will definitely celebrate is Christ's Grace and what it has meant in our lives. We will also take time to celebrate the life and ministry of Oran Gough. So come join us as we worship, fellowship, share and meet to discern God's will for our movement.

A reminder that it is imperative that you register prior to June first, not only to receive the \$25.00 discount, but the Host Committee can not guarantee housing after that date. [Note: There will not be a Key Deposit.]

Inside

CONEXIONES

Remembering Oran Gough

page 3

NLS Board Minutes

page 4-5

President Corner & Welcome Bob Northrup

page 6

Registration & Misc.

Forms

pages 7-15

Bolivia Update & Survey

pages 16-17

Palanca & Weekend Dates

pages 18-19

NLS Executive Committee

President

Doug Burrows
5358 Ruth Amy Avenue
Westerville, OH 43081-8765
614-933-8930 (H)
614-891-9991 (O)
800-726-9991 (O)
614-891-3558 (FAX)
dwbagcy@aol.com

Spiritual Director

Rev. Larry Llewellyn
3210 Meadow Lark Lane
Kennesaw, GA 30152-2578
770-975-9215 (H)
770-422-0763 (O)
larryanddot@mindspring.com

Vice President of Administration

Tracy Ziemke
11461 Sylvania Avenue
Berkey, OH 43504
419-829-6463 (H)
419-874-2800 (O)
419-882-6488 (FAX)
TZVdC@aol.com

Vice President of Outreach

Ron Millard
1607 Greenfield Drive
Washington, IL 61571-2230
309-444-4225 (H)
309-497-3500 (O)
ron@ssi.net

Secretary

Lucille (Lucy) W. Hightower
404 Church Street
Mt. Pleasant, NC 29464
843-884-4276 (H)
843-849-7955 (FAX)
bhhigh922@aol.com

Treasurer

Diane Purcell
8303 Ingleside Avenue South
Cottage Grove, MN 55016-3236
651-459-7249 (H)
651-768-0624 (FAX)

NLS Distribution Center

Dick Emery
PO Box 07355
Ft. Myers, FL 33919
941-590-8958 (H)
ricisa@aol.com

NLS Newsletter Editor

Judy Laabs-Foss
4495 Margaret Street
White Bear Tsp, MN 55110-3773
651-429-6762 (H)
651-768-5607 (O)
800-214-1155 (NLS Fax-24 hrs)
jer2911@comcast.net

Palanca Coordinator

Mark Carnes
307 Hubbell Street
Berthoud, CO 80513
970-532-7337 (H)
303-924-7192 (O)
mcarnes@wi-comwireless.com

Web Page Coordinator

Bob Northrup
4317 Gallatree Lane
Raleigh, NC 27616
919-872-6754 (H)
bobnorthrup@mindspring.com

Host Committee Chair

2003 NLS Annual Meeting in Ohio
Jim Caldwell, chair
73 Nadine Place North
Westville, OH 43081
614-818-3975 (H)
jtcfms@aol.com

Subscribing to Conexiones

Note to subscribers: the number in front of your name on the last page of Conexiones is the last issue included in your subscription. The numbers before the period are the volume number and the numbers following are the issue numbers. This issue is 20.2. If no numbers appear near your name, you are receiving a complimentary subscription to Conexiones as a secretariat member, ELCA bishop, or a leader in another movement or denomination.

*Keep your copy of Conexiones intact. Please **copy this form** and use the **copy** to subscribe.*

I wish to subscribe to Conexiones in order to keep abreast of what's happening in the Via de Cristo world of Cursillo®.

Enclosed is my check, number _____, dated _____
in the amount of \$6.00 for a one-year subscription (four seasonal issues)
Make checks payable to: National Lutheran Secretariat.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

FAX Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ @ _____

Mail to: Conexiones Subscriptions
Diane Purcell
8303 Ingleside Avenue South
Cottage Grove, MN 55016-3236



Connecting National and Local Secretariats

Volume 21
Number 1
Winter 2003

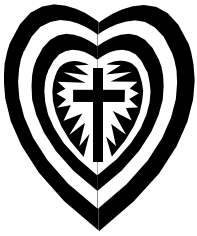
Official Publication of the National Lutheran Secretariat,
Via C

CONEXIONES is the official publication of the National Lutheran Secretariat, a national association of the Via de Cristo (Way of Christ) movement, representing over 67,000 who have participated in 34 movements across the U.S. Via de Cristo is a Lutheran expression of Cursillo®, a renewal movement developed within the Roman Catholic Church in the late 1940s. The Lutheran movement had its beginning in Florida and Iowa in 1972. The purpose of this publication is to inform all members of each NLS affiliated secretariat, ELCA bishops and the Directors of the Division for Ministry and the Division for Ministry in Daily Life about the activities of the National Lutheran Secretariat and its affiliated secretariats. Subscriptions to the above are free. If you know one of the above is not receiving CONEXIONES, call 800-214-1155(H).

Subscriptions for the general public are \$6.00 per year, and are available by sending your name, complete mailing address, and phone numbers to CONEXIONES Editor, Carroll Lang, 19903 225th Street, Fort Dodge, IA 50501; 800-214-1155; or by e-mail: cdlnlg@aol.com (please note there's no "a").

Material for CONEXIONES

If you have information for CONEXIONES, items, requests and/or information, address corrections, changes or additions - even inspirational bits - send them to the CONEXIONES Editor at the above address. DEADLINES: January 1 for February (Late Winter) edition; April 1 for May (Spring) edition; August 15 for September (Annual Meeting) edition and December 1 for December (Winter) edition.



Remembering Oran Gough

April 3, 1937 - November 26, 2002



Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.
1 Corinthians 15:58

I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.
1 Timothy 4:7-8

As I understand it everything began on April 3, 1937. A spirit was born into the world we would come to know as Oran Gough. He would touch many of us in different ways but yet all the same. He had a heart for our Lord and a passion to make Him known in any and all ways possible. I knew Oran through Via de Cristo and through Kairos. He was a demanding and thoughtful person in all he did. His energy was unmatched when it came to helping Kairos and VDC with our web sites. He had a talent for the work and wanted to help everyone become a part of the message. Many times I would ask how and with a twinkle in his eye he would just do. God gave him talents and he used them. Something we should all strive for.

On November 26, 2002, his life with us ended. We will all miss his wit and energy for the Lord. There was a beautiful memorial service held at his home congregation, St. Matthews Episcopal in Westerville and I was able to be there. One of the songs that we sang during the service was The Servant Song. It begins and ends with the phrase, *Christian, let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you, Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.* I can think of no better way to remember Oran than in the words of that song. He only wanted to serve our Lord and each of us. And he did! Thank you Lord for allowing me and many of this community to participate in the life of Oran Gough. We are better for it.

Oran enjoy your fifth day. I am listening for the thunder of the race between you and Beverly. I just know the two of you will pull it off somehow.

Doug Burrows

Eulogy for Oran Gough

December 3, 2002

Today we are gathered to celebrate Oran's Ultimate Graduation, and the life he shared so generously with all of us. He was one of my true hero's and role models. He will be sorely missed. Oran's spirit of giving and serving of all the gifts he possessed was visible and appreciated. He could grasp and communicate any situation quickly and efficiently. Particularly when it involved the use of media technology in the ministry of Via de Cristo, his professionalism and can do attitude was outstanding. He was the driving force in the planning and production of the first video CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU, plus in the development and launching of the NLS Web site. Both of which are quality pieces of work.

He also demonstrated good stewardship by accomplishing both of those projects well within the budget capabilities of the NLS board. We can't begin to express the value and meaning of his mentoring and coaching of a number of us; who, like Oran, are Via de Cristo / Cursillo junkies. It truly was a gift. I know he was very active in leadership roles in KARIOS as well. I'm sure he will be missed by all of those he ministered to in that role. Those of us who attended the last several Via de Cristo annual meetings, are now smiling and recalling the meeting in Minneapolis in 2001; since Oran and Bev Appleby are now able to reprise their famous electric cart race. I love you MAN!

Tim Johnson

NLS Executive Board Meeting - Columbus, Ohio MidYear Meeting - November 16-17, 2002

Saturday Afternoon

At approximately 1:00 PM our president, Doug Burrows called the meeting to order and opened with a prayer. Others present were Tracy Ziemke, Ron Millard, Diane Purcell, Judy Laabs-Foss, and Lucy Hightower. Larry Llewellyn was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

Outreach: Ron reported that he is working on a "Letter of Intent" that he hopes to initiate with new secretariats. While this letter is not intended to be a binding agreement, it will provide a way to get intentions in writing. He plans to use two prior letters as a basis for composing the letter. Diane said that she felt that the Board should see a copy the letter before officially using it. Ron explained that the secretariats would be writing their own letters using the "priors" as a sample. He then reported on the following:
Taste of Grace, Chicago area: Close to organization. First weekends scheduled for April and May 2003.

Kansas City, Kansas: Ron is working with Rod Nygren; they are in hope that Rod's bishop will be attending a weekend.

Boxford, Massachusetts: Joanne Farley is interested in starting up in Boxford. Planning is in the early stages.

Hartford, Connecticut: Main contact is Terri Pangretic. Their group will include many who attended a weekend in Florida. Kirt Danielson (FL) is helping with the planning. Lisa Burrows is also interested in helping with the new startup.

Jefferson City, Missouri: Bruce Trouschell main contact and in early stages of dialog.

Venice, FL: Nothing new to report. Will delete this one from future correspondence.

Jacksonville, IL: Main contact is Pastor Jack Montgomery. Ron expects them to hold a weekend within a year. Much other work remains to be done before then.

Lexington, Kentucky: Bruce and Sandy Ostermeir are working on developing leadership there.

Las Vegas, Nevada: Las Vegas may be next to join NLS. John and Jeanette Jensen are working there, and it looks promising.

Seattle, WA.: Ron and Linda Becker, along with Pastor Ken Rynecken (LCMS) and a few others, are working on this. It will still

be awhile.

Maggie Valley, NC: No change since September report. Olynn and Jackie Gorbutt are the ones thinking about this.

Nebraska: They have a newsletter and are already holding weekends. Ron will stay in touch with them to see how their weekends went and what additional help, if any, is needed for NLS. We need to make sure that someone from that secretariat attends NLS 2003.

Northern Wisconsin (Tomahawk): No change since September report.

Southern Illinois/St. Louis, Mo.: New secretariat is meeting. First Ultreya is to be held in February 2003.

T.E.C.: Ron has been using a South Carolina contact (Jan Beaty) as a reference for inquiries from folks such as Charlie Ehlinger who is interested in TEC. Tracy said that she has a contact person in Toledo, Ohio. Diane said that Minnesota also has some contacts.

New York: The Leverenz's are getting ready to send people to Vineyard or Rainbow to make a weekend. Ron hopes to visit them in January.

Alabama: Not much happening at this time.

Montana (Yellowstone): Ron has been in contact with these folks. Doug inquired about the Whitewater area; Ron was not aware of any activity there. Yellowstone plans to re-incorporate, and they are getting ready to begin Leadership Training.

San Diego: They held their first weekend (Spanish speaking) with eight men and fifteen women. Ron is aware of some internal problems there and will report to the Board when he has more information.

Treasurer's Report: The books will be final after today's meeting. She will have a six-month report ready for publication in the next newsletter. Diane distributed a report from the Texas Host Committee. They have requested \$3000 to cover a shortfall. She has requested further information from Texas but has not yet received additional information. She is unable to reconcile the numbers at this point. After a discussion, Lucy moved that the Board pay Texas the differential on the housing of \$1205.40 less the \$300 that has already been sent: net amount would be \$905.40. Judy seconded.

Motion carried.

NLS Library: All of the editing has been done and there are enough notebooks to distribute to each of the Board members. A minor correction will need to be made to the "credits" prior to final printing. Doug reported that the printing was far more expensive than anticipated. It would cost us about \$40 per book to print and mail these out to each secretariat. The editing costs are not included in this figure. Doug proposes that we send letters to the various secretariats explaining this and offer them access to an electronic version that can be downloaded from the internet or retrieved from a CD. We will make a final decision when Doug has the costs finalized. Ron said that he could develop the CD's and make up a package for them. The Lay Talk Revision Committee has completed their work on the talks. We will have to decide on how these will be distributed as well.

At this point Jim Caldwell (Ohio Host Committee) joined our meeting. A discussion of the proposed rates for the July meeting followed. He proposed that the cost of registration per person be \$150 (double occupancy) for those who register by June 1 and \$195 for (single occupancy.) After June 1, the rates will be \$175 per person for double occupancy and \$220 for single occupancy. Registration includes room and meals. If an extra night is required, the cost will be \$32 per couple, not including meals. His hope is that Ohio will be able to pass along some "seed" money to Tennessee; they also have \$2000 in palanca from the Good News! Via de Cristo and Ohio Via de Cristo. Diane reminded Jim that Ohio needs to be very careful about licensing and/or permission for music that is used during the weekend. Pastor Larry will need to interface with the Spiritual Directors for the meeting and make decisions for printing worship plans in the notebook.

Other items of concern were notification ahead of time if there is a key deposit requirement and special dietary concerns. Jim was advised to contact Linda Borchert about getting a copy the database of those attending the last meeting. Ohio plans to digitize the registrations as they come in and will send copies via e-mail to Doug, Lucy and

Tracy. There will be one offering (Friday night) and it will be designated for Outreach.

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting were approved. (Ron/Judy) Lucy reminded everyone to let her know if they have need of NLS envelopes for mailing.

Newsletter: Judy is getting acclimated; she asked about frequency and schedule of publication. The Board would like to have it published four times per year. She also inquired about the database that Pastor Carroll has been using; it contains names other than the “official” database that Lucy keeps. Ron will be in contact with Pastor Carroll and ask him to send a copy of his database. Ron will check it for compatibility with Access. Our budget needs to include the cost of both Pagemaker and Adobe Writer; these programs are needed by Judy in order to produce the newsletter.

At this time we recessed for a short tour of the seminary facilities and supper. We will reconvene at Living Water Lutheran Church.

Committees: There was a general discussion of the committees that will be meeting in July. A suggestion was made to change the name of the Publications Committee to Communication. Doug suggested that Judy gather several people to help monitor the newsletters of the various secretariats with the idea of including interesting information in the *Conexiones*. Ron thought that perhaps a page might include news items from the state level. Doug suggested that we include some information along with the registration form to explain what the Communication Committee is doing; Ron suggested that we ask for volunteers to serve as reporters from local secretariats.

Judy needs to know who will be helping with the newsletter at the convention. She will need people to serve as reporters and to do data entry. She will also need technical support.

At this point we began a discussion of the schedule for the July meeting. The keynote address will be on Thursday afternoon. Tracy asked about the difference between a forum and a seminar. Doug explained that a forum is longer than a seminar and the subject is considered important enough that everyone should hear it. No committee work is scheduled during the forums. After a discussion of topics for the forums and seminars, the meeting was recessed until after church service on Sunday.

Sunday Afternoon

Doug opened with a prayer and discussion and finalization of the schedule continued. There was a brief discussion of whether the old records of both the secretary and treasurer should be archived. It is expensive to ship these records each time the officer changes. Lucy asked if anyone had Leona’s mailing address; Leona has not responded to an e-mail.

Judy needs the name of the communications person on the Host Committee as soon as possible. We will call this the “Media Center”, as this is different from the Information center for the Host Committee; hopefully, this will reduce confusion over the terminology. A refreshment center will be outside of the meeting room. We will also publish a “syllabus” in the *Conexiones* so that attendees will have some knowledge of what kinds of work is being done in each committee.

Long Range Planning Committee: Chairperson Ron Millard will contact the members to remind them of what needs to be done. Planning for the future.

Newsletter: Judy Laabs-Foss, chair. Topics will include how to be a reporter at the national meeting; sharing of information about your secretariat for the National newsletter; does your local secretariat have a newsletter; how do you put more meat into a newsletter; and would you like to start one or improve yours.

Website: Bob Northrup, Chair. Visit the National Website with Bob; how do secretariats create a website; information and resources available on the national website.

Audio/Video Power Point Presentation: Bob Northrup, Chair. Ongoing specific project.

Finance: Diane Purcell, chair. Create a budget for the coming year; line item budget discussion; discussion of all kinds of budget work.

Spiritual Directors Dialog: Larry Llewellyn, Chair. Open to all pastors. Spontaneous dialog regarding Via de Cristo.

Constitution and By-Laws: Fred Schneider, Chair. Audit only (Observers welcome, no active participation.)

Palanca: Mark Carnes, Chair. Help create take-home posters for local secretariats. Be a part of the prayer teams.

Meeting recessed for supper.

In response to a suggestion made at the

last meeting, we would like to have a “Share Table.” Attendees would be encouraged to bring items from their local secretariats—enough to share with those who are interested. This would provide an opportunity for people to exchange information and thoughts with others from across the country.

The deadline for newsletter articles is December 15.

Small Group Discussions: After a lengthy discussion, the questions for the breakout groups will be as follows: **Thursday night-** What does the term actual grace mean to you. Share some personal examples. Further reflection (if time): What have been some of your obstacles to grace? How can you overcome these obstacles? **Friday night:** Discuss how your secretariat chooses its leadership.

Constitution Revision: In accordance with Article 9 of our constitution, the Executive Committee will need to have the final draft in hand at least three months (90 days) prior to the annual meeting to ensure time for final review. Fred’s deadline to get this to us is March 1, 2003. Lucy is to mail a copy to each affiliated secretariat no later than April 1.

Nominations: Doug will be in contact with Randy. Positions to be filled are Secretary, President, and Vice President of Outreach. Only the Vice President of Outreach (Ron Millard) is eligible for reelection.

Other Business: Jim Caldwell will need to send an article to Judy for inclusion in the Newsletter. The Registration Form will need to be revised to incorporate the desired changes and an accompanying letter prepared and to include in the mailing. Doug will send the Host Committee and members of the Executive Board a copy of the tentative schedule; Jim needs to get the database from Texas from Linda Borchert.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Hightower, NLS Secretary



From the President

Grace and Peace to you from our Lord Jesus the Christ. As we await the coming Holiday Season and as I reflect on the Midyear meeting just held this November. I am reflecting on what it is that we are about as Christians. At the last NLS gathering this theme was also present but I have been thinking of Paul and his work compared to the VdC. Let me reflect on my thoughts for a few minutes.

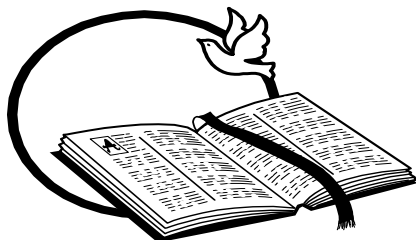
In Galatians 4:4&5 we find that at just the RIGHT TIME God sent his Son. I was thinking at just the right time God is so much in control of everything that He does all in His time. What confidence I receive from that thought. As I reflect on the VdC I think of the timing of the Holy Spirit and of our work. Isn't great to know it is in His right time. All we need to do is to proclaim Christ and God will do the rest. A simple task and a light load for us if you think about it.

Then I think of Romans 10:14 & 15. How will they know if no one is sent to tell? Here again I find myself reflecting on the message of the last NLS meeting. We are to equip and encourage the Saints to be about God's work where they are. How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news. I do hope you will all take the opportunity during this coming season of Christmas to share that good news. God has done it all for us in His time. Can we do less?

Our Mid Year meeting was a good meeting in that we were able to set the stage for July. We will be hearing our Key note from Pastor Al Sager whom many of you already know. For those of you who do not know him you're in for a treat. We will also have two forums this year. One from Pastor Gene Hermier who was at the beginnings of our movement in Iowa, and the second from Mike Swecker of Minnesota. These two men promise to be encouragers for all of us, as we seek to try and stay in contact with all that is happening in our movements. Please remember Judy Laabs-Foss is our new Conexiones Editor and you will find she is very responsive. She is already requesting copies of the local newsletters to glean for interesting news articles of our people across the country. Help her out if you can.

God bless and keep all of you until we meet once again either over the keyboard or in Columbus.

Doug Burrows, NLS President



Welcome

New Web Site Manager

Please join me in Welcoming **Bob Northrup** to the Web Site Manager position. He has been appointed by the NLS President, Doug Burrows, and his position will then be ratified by the board in the near future. This was done so that there wouldn't be a break in our NLS web site service to our communities.

Thanks Bob for stepping forward to continue the work that Oran had began. We look forward to hearing more from you in the next issue.



23rd Psalm at work

The Lord is my real Boss, and I shall not want. He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me. He gently reminds me to pray before I speak and to do all things without murmuring and complaining. He reminds me that He is my Source and not my job. He restores my sanity every day and guides my decisions that I may honor Him in everything I do.

Even though I face absurd amounts of e-mails, system crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks, gossiping coworkers, discriminating supervisors, and an aging body that doesn't cooperate every morning, I will not stop-for He is with me! His presence, His peace and His power will see me through.

He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me. He claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let me go. His faithfulness and love are better than any bonus check, and His retirement plan beats every 401K there is! When it's all said and done, I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer and for that, *I Bless His Name!*

Return Address

Place
Stamp
Here

NLS Distribution Center

Richard Emery
PO Box 07355
Ft. Myers, FL 33919

NOTE: These photo-ready pages are printed on white paper so that you can make copies of the material as needed. Use the *copies* to order or register.

Order Form

National Lutheran Secretariat Distribution Center

Richard Emery, PO Box 07355, Ft. Myers, FL 33919
 941-590-8958 (H); E-Mail: ricisa@aol.com
 Make checks payable to: **NLS/Via de Cristo**

Secretariat or movement name		Date needed by	
Contact Name		Home	
Work		Telephone	
Mailing Address			
City		State Country	Zip Code
Qty	Description	Price	Total
	Pilgrims Guide	.50	
	Group Reunion Card (package of 100)	5.00	
	Spiritual Director Manual ('99)	5.00	
	Candidate Brochure (package of 25)	3.75	
	Clergy Brochure (package of 25)	6.25	
	Lay Talks (eleven in set)	20.00	
	Fourth Day Manual	1.00	
	Way to the Cross According to St. Luke	1.00	
	Way to the Cross Art Posters(set of 14)	5.00	
	Essentials of the Via de Cristo	12.00	
	Transcripts of all audio tapes 1991-95	12.00	
	Via de Cristo Decals (package of 25)	43.75	
	Via de Cristo Bumper Stickers (package of 25)	43.75	
		Subtotal for above merchandise:	
		Add 10% for postage and handling (\$3.00 minimum):	
		Total amount of order:	

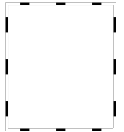
Note: Prices are subject to change based on our costs

Tape Order Form

National Lutheran Secretariat Distribution Center
 Richard Emery, PO Box 07355, Ft. Myers, FL 33919
 941-590-8958 (H); E-Mail: ricisa@aol.com
 Make checks payable to: **NLS/Via de Cristo**

Secretariat or movement name		Date needed by	
Contact Name		Home	
Work		Telephone	
Mailing Address			
City		State Country	Zip Code
Qty	Description	Price	Total
		Subtotal for above merchandise:	
		Add 10% for postage and handling (\$3.00 minimum)	
		Total amount of order:	

Return Address



NLS 2003 Registration

Registration Committee
7456 Wethersfield Drive
West Chester, Ohio 45069-5508

Preliminary Travel Information

(This will help us send the right information to you)

Are you: _____ flying? _____ driving?

Housing Information

Special Housing Needs: _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____



National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting

Thursday, July 24 through Sunday, July 27, 2003

Trinity Lutheran Seminary / Capital University, Columbus, Ohio

Phone 614-235-4136

Phone 614-236-6833

Hosted by the Via de Cristo of OH and the Good News Via de Cristo of MI Secretariats

Christ's Grace - "The heart of it all"

Official Registration *(One form required for each person attending. Please print using ball point pen.)*

Name: _____ Name Tag 1st Name _____
 Address: _____ Male Female
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone: (_____) _____ Work Phone: (_____) _____
 Cell Phone: (_____) _____ E-Mail: < _____ >
 Secretariat: _____ Position: _____

I am a member of: *Church*: _____
 Please enter my registration as: Lay Delegate Clergy Delegate NLS Board
For Lay Delegate formula, see NLS Bylaw #4 Lay Visitor Visiting Clergy Speaker
 Have you attended a National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Mtg before? Yes No How many? _____

Please list your choices for Committee assignments: 1 for first choice; 2 for a second in the appropriate box

Constitution & Bylaws Long Range Planning Spiritual Director's Dialogue
 Newsletter Finance / Budget A/V PowerPoint Presentation
 Palanca & Posters Website I choose NOT to serve on or attend a committee

Note: Committees & Seminars may run concurrently; attendees not required to serve on committees.
 Have you served on committees before? Yes No
 In what capacity have you served? _____

Registration Fees *Register by 6/1/2003 and receive a \$25.00 discount*
(Host Committee cannot guarantee housing after June 1)
(Refund requests in writing postmarked before July 14: \$25 of fee is non-refundable)

Delegate / Visitor...(\$150 before June 1) \$175.00
Registration includes meals and double occupancy lodging. Total Registration: \$ _____

Upgrade to a single room (Limited availability) \$15.00 per night
 Additional night: \$40 Double-- \$50.00 Single Thur Fri Sat Sun
 Single day registration (**Meals only**):...\$25.00..... Which day(s)

I will room with: _____ Assign me a roommate
 Mode of travel: Fly Drive Other _____
 Special Diets required: _____
 Special Housing required: _____

PLEASE RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO:
 NLS 2003 Annual Meeting
 Registration Committee
 7456 Wethersfield Drive
 West Chester, Ohio 45069-5508

Please Leave Blank

Postmarked Date: _____
Reg # _____
Check# _____ **Amt** _____

Make checks payable to: Via de Cristo of Ohio-National Meeting

National Lutheran Secretariat Annual Meeting

Thursday, July 24 through Sunday, July 27, 2003

Trinity Lutheran Seminary / Capital University in Columbus, Ohio

Phone 614-235-4136

Phone 614-236-6833

Hosted by the Via de Cristo of OH and the Good News Via de Cristo of MI Secretariats

"Christ's Grace – The Heart of it all"

2003 Annual Meeting, Forum and Seminar Tentative Schedule

Thursday	11:00 a.m.	Orientation
	12:00 p.m.	Lunch
	1:00 p.m.	Opening Worship
	2:15 p.m.	Business Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Keynote – Al Sager
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner
	6:45 p.m.	Small Group Breakouts
	8:00 p.m.	Vespers
	8:45 p.m.	1 st timer Photo
	9:00 p.m.	Fellowship
Friday	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
	8:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Forum – Mike Swecker
	11:15 a.m.	Business Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	Lunch
	1:15 p.m.	Seminar #1 and #2
	2:15 p.m.	Repeat - Seminars #1 and #2
	3:15 p.m.	Committee Work and Spiritual Director dialog
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner
	6:45 p.m.	Small Group Breakouts
8:00 p.m.	Formal Worship	
	9:00 p.m.	Fellowship
Saturday	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
	8:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Forum – Understand the NLS
	11:00 a.m.	Open Discussion
	11:45 a.m.	Break
	12:00 p.m.	Lunch
	1:00 p.m.	Business Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner Celebration
	8:00 p.m.	Worship and Installation of Officers
	9:00 p.m.	Fellowship
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	Breakfast
	8:30 a.m.	Worship

Deadlines: Registration – July 1, 2003 (Early Registration Discount – before June 1, 2002)

CAMINO DE CRISTO NEWS FROM BOLIVIA

In the summer of 2001, a team of 23 men and women from the United States ventured to Bolivia to hold the first men's and women's Camino de Cristo weekends. Since that time more weekends have been held and the following is a recent report of the January 2003 weekends from Shel and Sharon Groff. For more information check out their web site - ssgroff@mail.megalink.com

Men's Camino de Cristo Weekend

Dear Faithful Pray-ers,

Thank You so much for praying!! Praise the Lord! He did it all, in spite of all our weaknesses and problems. It was a wonderful weekend, and the men who attended were deeply touched.

We made a decision that we would cancel the weekend if we had fewer than ten. Eleven came, but we lost one on Friday morning. That was hard for us all when we had so few, but he never felt comfortable from the first moment. He would leave to go outside to smoke, and he just didn't seem ready for this experience. In order to get ten we had to bend our rules for who can attend. However, those who came really benefited from the experience. Five of the ten were pastors, and we really need pastors in this movement. One person said he had been in the church for 23 years and had never experienced anything like this before. Another was a pastor who was in the pits of discouragement (after abandoning the pastorate in Santa Cruz) and said this weekend really helped to encourage him.

The social unrest in the country could have caused serious problems and made it impossible to carry out the weekends. Hundreds of protest marchers arrived in the city, but we managed to go around them on our trip to El Alto above La Paz to set everything up, our trip back down to the church for the team meeting and registration, and our bus trip up with the weekenders. One person who was supposed to give one of the talks, cancelled out at the last minute because he had to travel for his work. (Someone else had to use his talk, insert his own experiences, and finish writing it during the weekend!) The irony is that person's plane left him behind,

because he couldn't get to the airport during the weekend because of marchers. Yet we took that same route several times without problems. Several men who planned to come from other parts of the country couldn't come. For awhile there was a meat shortage in La Paz with meat trucks stuck on the road because of the blockades and heavy rains that prevented meat planes from flying. We thought the retreat center might cancel saying they couldn't get meat to serve meals. Then just before we left for the weekend, we heard that the government was thinking of declaring a state of siege, which means that no meetings of any kind (including church meetings) are allowed and that no more than two or three people can be together. Thankfully, that didn't happen—yet. In spite of all of these problems, we were able to have our weekend without problems. The Lord is good!! Please pray that the problems and blockades will end, because they are causing serious problems for many people. Jenny, who works for Paul and Jay Mikaelson, wants to come so badly from Caranavi for the Women's Weekend, but unless the blockades are lifted, she can't get here.

The team worked together in unity and did a great job in spite of their lack of training. Those who had previous experience were invaluable, even if they had attended few team meetings. Everyone survived Shel's jokes and added their own!

Micky and Cuca, our enthusiastic leaders who left the Camino de Cristo Movement and the church, arrived for the closing service which was held in the church. A true miracle and an answer to many prayers!!! Micky has been ready to return for quite some time but not Cuca. Now they have both agreed to come one day during the weekend to help us out, although not officially as part of the team. Please keep praying that they will serve on the team again in the future..

We appreciate your prayers SO much! The Men's Weekend was proof that God indeed does answer!!

With deep gratitude for your prayers, Sharon (and Shel)

"...Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD Almighty."
Zech 4:6

Women's Camino de Cristo Weekend

Dear Faithful Pray-ers,

Thank you SO much for your prayers for our women's Camino de Cristo weekend. I am happy to report that God worked in powerful ways during that weekend. One girl invited Christ into her life for the first time. A woman struggling with cancer said it was the best gift she had ever received. Several youth leaders said they were drifting away from the Lord and are now determined to work in their churches with new zeal. A woman with severe family problems "just happened" to sit at the table of a leader who also has very serious problems in her family. When we gave each table of women a private room where they could "bare their souls" with each other, we decided to allow each group to talk as long as they wished at the end of the evening. One group talked for three hours!! We assume it was a time of much needed healing. During the special dinner we had, almost everyone was moved to tears and cried openly. I can personally testify to at least two instances of reconciliation between people who held resentment against each other and for whom I had prayed so much. I suspect and hope there were more.

For me, the greatest joy was the arrival of Micky and Cuca, our former leaders who had left the Camino de Cristo Movement. They were not on the team, but they came to help us on Saturday and Sunday morning. They participated joyfully and announced that they will be back with us. What a victory and what an answer to SO many prayers. Thank you to those of you who prayed for that.

We sensed the power of God in so many ways during our weekend. Again, bad weather and road blockades did not affect us, except for those who couldn't attend because of roadblocks. We had only 14 women, even though we expected 30. Yet, the lower numbers were easier to handle in many ways.

The Lord is faithful!! I had to ask Him for forgiveness for my lack of faith. He made this weekend a tremendous success in spite of our many doubts and trials beforehand.

We are deeply grateful for all your prayers!
In Him, Sharon (and Shel)

Tape Catalog

Please order these tapes on the Tape Order Form

1991 Audio Tapes - New Braunfels, Texas

- #1 - Role & Duties of the Local Secretariat 5.00
- #2 - Pastor's Role in Via de Cristo 5.00
- #3 - Dynamics of the Via de Cristo Weekend 5.00
- #4 - The Role of the Rector 5.00
- #5 - The Fourth Day 5.00

1992 Audio Tapes - Stone Mountain, Georgia

- #6 - Back to the Basics 5.00
- #7 - The Pastor's Role in Via de Cristo 5.00
- #8 - Keynote Address (Rev. Nate Lundgren) 5.00
- #9 - 20th Anniversary Celebration 5.00

1993 Audio Tapes - Carmel, Indiana

- #10 - Unleashing the Power of the Laity 5.00
- #11 - How to Get Pastors Involved in VdC 5.00
- #12 - Keynote Address (Rev. Nate Lundgren) 5.00
- #13 - Team Formation and Training 5.00

1994 Audio Tapes - Leesburg, Florida

- #14 - The Pastor's Role in the Fourth Day 5.00
- #15 - Reunion Groups 5.00
- #16 - Ultraya 5.00
- #17 - Keynote Address (Rev. Nate Lundgren) 5.00

1995 Audio Tapes - Rock Island, Illinois

- #18 - Keynote address (Rev. Peter Setzer) "The Reunion Card" 5.00
- #19 - Forum 1, "Piety" 5.00
- #20 - Forum 2, "Study" 5.00
- #21 - Forum 3, "Action" 5.00

VHS Video Tapes

- #1 - NLS Video (VHS) "Christ Is Counting On You" 15.00
- #2 - 95 Keynote address (Rev. Peter Setzer) "The Reunion Card" 15.00
- #3 - 95 Forum 1, "Piety" 15.00
- #4 - 95 Forum 2, "Study" 15.00
- #5 - 95 Forum 3, "Action" 15.00
- #6 - 96 Dallas: Keynote Address - Rev. Peter Setzer 15.00
- #7 - 96 Dallas: "The Cross" - Beverly Appleby 15.00
- #8 - 96 Dallas: "Sponsoring" - Fred Schneider, Dan Bobst, Pat Dever 15.00
- #9 - 96 Dallas: "Music" - Yohann Anderson 15.00
- #10 - 97 Hickory: Keynote Address - Rev. Richard Dow 15.00
- #11 - 97 Hickory: "Successful Secretariat" - Ray Homrich 15.00
- #12 - 97 Hickory: "Sunday Call to Go Forth"-O. Gough, R. Walter 15.00
- #13 - 99 Saginaw: Keynote Address (Rev. Nate Lundgren) 15.00
- #14 - 99 Saginaw: "Progression of the Weekend" (Ed Kutay) 15.00
- #15 - 99 Saginaw: After Dinner Address (Dr. Randy Mullin) 15.00

Cross Order Form

NLS Cross Distribution Center

Symbols, Inc., Karen Bennefeld
 213 South 4th Avenue
 Avenal, CA 93204
 (559) 386-0501; e-mail: karon@gocalnet.com

Secretariat or movement name _____

Contact Name _____ Date needed by: _____

Work _____ Telephone _____ Home _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State Country _____ Zip Code _____

Qty	Description	Price ea	Total
	Cast Cross (thick)	3.00	
	Gold Cast Cross (thick)	4.50	
	Stamped Cross (thin)	3.00	
	Gold Stamped Cross (thin)	4.50	
	Prison Cross (1" high, cast)	3.00	
	22" double-link chain	.75	
	30" single-link chain	.75	
	Gold 22" double-link chain	1.25	
	Gold 30" single-link chain	1.25	
	Cherry or Maple Wood Cross (with chain)	4.50	
Subtotal for above merchandise:			
Shipping and Handling: Less than \$300 - add 10% \$300 to \$674 - add 5% \$675 and over - add 2%			
Total amount of order: _____			

Make checks payable to: **Symbols, Inc.** (in Memo: VdC)

Custom chain lengths are available upon request; please call for ordering information.

Return Address

Place
Stamp
Here

NLS Cross Distribution Center
Symbols, Inc., Karen Bennefeld
213 South 4th Avenue
Avenal, CA 93204



National Lutheran Secretariat
Conexiones-on-the-web
E-Mail Notification Request Form

E-Mail Notification

**Please notify me by E-Mail when the latest edition of
Conexiones has been posted on the NLS Web Page**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Fax Phone: (____) _____

Name of Secretariat: _____

Position on Secretariat: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ @ _____

Write in large letter - be very clear, computers rely on EXACT information.

Simply fold on dotted lines (on back), add a return address and stamp, and mail.

Return Address

Place
Stamp
Here

Conexiones Editor
E-Mail Subscription Requests
Judy Laabs-Foss
4495 Margaret Street
White Bear Township, MN 55110-3773



A Message from Outreach: What Does Via de Cristo Mean to You?

What does Via de Cristo mean to you? Obviously it will mean different things to different people. It means a lot of things to me, with the most important being a strong Christian community that helps build up the body of Christ through increased church participation and leadership.

On the other hand, a non-Christian community, such as most recreational, cultural and political groups lack what is basic to their needs, and fail as a Christian community. Why? Because there is little sharing, loving, and self-giving. Without these attributes, a true Christian-based community cannot be formed.

For example, the Nauvoo, Illinois community, after the Mormons abandoned it in 1846, was taken over by a socialistic group; the Icarians. The leader was a Frenchman, Etienne Cabet, who during his exile in London had studied the writings of Robert Owen. He envisioned a utopia, a perfect communistic society. But like other idealistic experiments, it failed, and by the 1890's the rest of its communities in Missouri, Iowa, and California were also abandoned. Among the reasons that can be cited for these failures is the fact that imperfect people—people burdened with the sins of greed, lust, laziness, and the like—cannot create a perfect society. It is impossible to organize gardens of Eden where wealth is equally distributed, perfect justice prevails, love is fully practiced, and all uphold their end in a common life.

What a contrast. Fortunately, we follow the teachings of Christ and not those of false prophets. So, now you're asking, "What in the world does this short example have to do with my position on outreach?" Just this. As those of us who have been involved in this movement for some time know, it takes a lot of sharing, loving and giving by other communities to help new communities get started and then to be successful. That's where I need your help. When I announce the birth of a new movement, I would like to see the following happen:

--- I need the lay director from each secretariat to announce at an ultreya, news about the new movement being started.

--- I need everyone from each secretariat to be praying for the new movement.

--- I need the palanca chair on each secretariat to gather the needed contact information for the movement and make sure they receive palanca.

--- If your secretariat has a banner you are no longer using, donate it to the new movement.

We currently have new movement inquiries or activity (in different stages) in the following parts of the country:

Northwestern Wisconsin, Las Vegas, Lexington KY, Maggie Valley NC, Hartford CT, Boxford MA, Seattle, Jacksonville IL, New York City, Boise ID, greater St. Louis area, Florida panhandle, Kansas City KS, San Diego (English-based), Jefferson City MO, and Lansing MI. Taste of Grace Via de Cristo in the Chicago suburbs will be signing the NLS constitution March 1, and their first weekends are set for April and May. Their rector and rectora have already been called. Check their web site at www.tasteofgrace.org for information on where palanca letters can be sent.

I invite you to visit the NLS web site and follow the links for new movement startups for further information on all these new movements. 2003 promises to be a year of growth for the NLS. See you in Columbus!

Submitted by Ron Millard
VP of Outreach



Annual Survey Reports Due

Each year NLS sends each affiliated secretariat a request for information regarding how many pilgrims made a weekend during the prior year and how many weekends each secretariat held during that same time period. In **January, 2003** the NLS secretary, Lucy Hightower, will be mailing out the surveys.

Normally, she sends the form to the Lay Director of each secretariat unless otherwise directed. Please be on the lookout for these forms and return them just as soon as possible. When returning the Survey Form, please attach an up-to-date roster of your secretariat members. This will enable NLS to maintain an accurate mailing list so that all secretariat members can receive a copy of the *Conexiones*—our national newsletter. The desired information is as follows: position, name, address, home telephone, and e-mail if available.

Many of our people are now choosing to receive their newsletters by e-mail in order to help NLS reduce the cost of printing and mailing. You can indicate this choice when you return your secretariat roster or notify our new newsletter editor, Judy Laabs-Foss (jer2911@comcast.net) directly.

Watch for the survey and return it as soon as possible. Don't let your secretariat be among the missing when we report the results in the Spring /Summer newsletters.

Palanca Important to Weekends

Recently, I have heard from some of the Palanca Coordinators for various Secretariats that they are having trouble getting general palanca for weekends. I wanted to make sure that each of you, not just coordinators, were aware of the resources available to help in sending palanca from you or your secretariat.

The key resource for obtaining information on weekends is the web site. The web site is www.viadecristo.org. Once in the site you can follow the links to the palanca page. The site is updated as I receive new information but usually at least monthly. The web site has a listing of weekends throughout the country and occasionally other countries. Listings are for 2003 and 2004. You can easily prepare palanca in advance since many of the dates are quite far out. Occasionally, I get a late weekend and that may be difficult to react to. You should check the site frequently to make sure you have the last minute updates. These listings include the dates, type of weekend, Secretariat and the palanca contact; allowing you to easily send palanca for any of these weekends. Coordinators need to make sure they request palanca for their local weekends when sending palanca. In most cases the request will be honored.

Each of you can help Secretariats receive palanca by creating some. Creating palanca is a lot of work and that is one of the things that make it so very significant, but making things is not enough. The other important factor is that the process is driven by prayer. I am sure that each of you received palanca for someone that you didn't know. When people see palanca from someone they don't even know, it has even more significance. If you wonder about the real meaning of palanca, there is a button on the palanca site labeled "What is the real purpose of Palanca?" Reading this article should reinforce what you need to do to make palanca for a weekend and not just a gift.

If you ever have questions on palanca, please contact me via email at mcarnes@wi-comwireless.com.

Mark Carnes, NLS Palanca Coordinator



HOW COLD IS IT?

It's so cold that Phil Lustig wore socks for THREE days!!

I don't know if you've met Phil. He's from one of the Florida secretariats and has been involved with NLS for many years. He was treasurer before I was elected, and he plans to be in Columbus this summer. His wife Peg was the contact for registration the year before Minnesota's turn to host in 2001. I've been told that Phil NEVER wears socks!! Not with shorts - not with Khakis - not with dress clothes!! The man lives in sandals or slip ons!! When I spoke with him today, he said that he can't remember the last time he wore socks. He had to go rent some!!

YSIC

Diane Purcell, NLS Treasure

From the Editor

In one of Paul's letters he writes; *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4: 6-7) Now Paul, I am wondering, how can you say not to be anxious? Didn't you struggle with deadlines and goals to do a good job like I have? I too have prayed for God's help and feel his direction, but being human, at times I also feel stressed out. As I write this, I know that I'm not the only one who has a busy life; from the deadlines at work, a home to take care of, along with various volunteer commitments, plus relationships to nurture.

Then my Father comes to me in a prayer and says; *"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with my righteous hand."* (Isaiah 41:10) I feel humbled and forgiven as I give back to God what is rightfully his, my life of deadlines and goals as I seek His acceptance. My Lord teaches me patience and how to seek others to help me. It's been a BIG transition for me to take on the role of your editor. **YES**, Carroll Lang's shoes are hard to fill! I thank you for your patience and understanding as this first edition is now in your hands. I seek your opinions and ideas on how to mold the Conexiones into what you want it to be. I also seek your prayers in this transition and hear again God telling me. *"Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."* (1 Peter 5:7)

My prayer is that you too will find the encouragement of God's peace and direction in wherever life is leading you. I know that my God is the same yesterday, today and forever. His word is my solid foundation and I can trust in his direction in all that I do. **Yes**, *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."* (Philippians 4:13)

In His Service, Judy Laabs-Foss



Looking for Articles from your Secretariat

As your new editor, I am anxious to learn more about the different movements and see that happening in a few different ways. First I would like to have you send me your newsletter, either by email or snail mail. Then, with your permission, I'd like to include any articles that you find noteworthy in your section of the country.

You may be asking, "what can I send in?" Be creative and as some say, think outside of the box. For example, the sharing in a witness talks provides spiritual growth for all of us. To know that God has used you in a mighty way encourages each of us to keep striving for that goal. An original poem, a recipe used on a weekend, or a story that we all can learn from.. Please note that all articles are subject to editing, but the content of your "news" will be held to the utmost integrity.

Send your news to: **Judy Laabs-Foss (jer2911@comcast.net)**
4495 Margaret Street
White Bear Township, MN 55110-3773

Palanca!!

For Future weekends
All pending weekends for the next six months from publication will be printed in each Conexiones

January 2003 - Iowa: **Iowa Via de Cristo**, Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp, Milford, Ia, Men's: January 9-12; Women's January 16-19. Send palanca to: Newell Bowers, 1610 Lincoln Drive, Atlantic, IA 50022.

January 2003 - Michigan: **Lutheran Via de Cristo of Central Michigan**, Midland Reformed Church, Men's #58: January 9-12; Women's #58: January 23-26. Send palanca to: VDC Ann Kazanowski 209 Hubbard St. Midland, MI 49640

January 2003 - New York: **Damascus Road VDC of Central NY**, Men's #4: January 9-12; Women's #4: February 6-9, 2003. Send palanca to: Liz Haskins 2541 State Highway 80 Georgetown, NY 13072

January 2003 - Florida: **Sonshine VDC of South Florida** Men's #89 January 16-19, Send palanca to: Tony & Debbi Basone 9129D S.W. 20th Place Ft Lauderdale, FL 33324

January/February 2003 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-Metro**, Gustavus Adolphus, St. Paul, Men's #405 Jan. 30-Feb. 2, Women's #406: February 6-9. Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119

February 2003 - Indiana: **Trinity Great Banquet**, Men's February 6-9, Send palanca to: C/O Trinity Lutheran Church 8540 E 16th St Indianapolis, IN 46216

February 2003 - South Dakota: **South Dakota VDC** Men's February 6-9, Send palanca to: Margaret Sivitak 86238 559th Ave Randolph, NE 68771

February 2003 - North Carolina: **Eastern NC VDC**, Mixed February 13-16, Send palanca to: Vicki McCombs P O Box 760 Rockwell, NC 28138

February 2003 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-North**, Faith, West Fargo, ND, Men's #407 Feb. 13-16, Women's #408: February 20-23. Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119

February 2003 - Texas: **North Texas VDC**, Coed #58 Feb.13-16, Send palanca to: Lilly Gholston 401 Campbell Ln Denton, TX 76209-4580

March 2003 - Colorado: **Colorado VDC**, Men's #13 March 6-9 & Women's #13 March 13-16, Send palanca to: Gerry & Karen Givens 5440 Silver Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80918

March 2003 - Florida, **Gold Coast VDC**, Men's #66, March 6-9 Women's #66, Mar. 20-2, Send palanca to: Dawn Ellis 383 NW 22nd Ave Boca Raton, FL 33486

March 2003 - Iowa/Illinois, **Living Water VDC**, Men's #27, March 6-9 & Women's #27 March 13-16, Send palanca to: Tim & Theresa Oloffson 122 E. 2 ND St Box 207 Wyanet, IL 61379

March 2003 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-South**, First Baptist Church, Clarks Grove, Men's #409, March 6-9 & Women's #410: March

13-16. Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119

March 2003 - Indiana: **Indiana VDC**, Men's #43: Mar.13-16, Women's #44: Mar. 20-23, Send palanca to: Perry Powers 621 N. Main St. Monticello, IN 47960

March 2003 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-Metro**, St. John's, Mound; Men's #411, March 13-16 & Women's #412: March 20-23, Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119

March 2003 - South Carolina: **South Carolina VDC**, Men's #24, March 13-16 & Women's #25: March 27-30, Send palanca to: Rosemarie Doucette 3120 Columbia Road Orangeburg, SC 29118-2062

March 2003 - Tennessee: **TN Luth. VDC Mixed #9**, March 13-16, Send palanca to: Debra Wainner 100016 Gate Post Way Knoxville, TN 37931

March 2003 - Florida: **Sonshine North VDC**, Men's #43: March 19 & Women's #43: March 26, Send palanca to: Tom Collinge 1974 North River Drive Jacksonville, FL 32211

March 2003 - California; **So. California & the Central Valley VDC**, Coed #16: March 20-23, Send palanca to: Chuck Mattson 1201 Forst Knoll Ridgecrest, CA 93355

March 2003 - Arkansas-Oklahoma: **A-OK Lutheran Sec**, Coed #7: March 27-30, Send palanca to: Becky Del Rio 18115 Fawn Tree Dr. Little Rock, AR 72209

April 2003 - Maryland/Virginia: **MD/VA Rainbow VDC** Men's #42: April 3-6 & Women's #45 April 24-27, Send palanca to: Karen Schatz 9530 Sea Gull Winter Park, FL 32789

April/May 2003 - Florida: **Heart of Florida VDC** Men's #28: April 24-27, Women's #28: May 1-4 .Send palanca to: Sheila Bender % St John Lutheran Church, 1600 S. Orlando Ave Winter Park, FL 32789

April/May 2003 - Florida: **Indian River VDC**, Men's #41 : April 24-27 & Women's #41: May 22-25, Send palanca to: Alan Gettleman 2225 Tanglewood Lane Merritt Island, FL 32953-4287

April/May 2003 - Florida: **Lighthouse VDC**, Men's: April 24-27 & Women's: May 1-4, Send palanca to: Jeanne Constable P O Box 1717 Smyrna Beach, FL 32170

April/May 2003 - Illinois: **Taste of Grace VDC**, Men's #1: April 24-27 & Women's #1: May 1-4, Send palanca to: Christina Spiros 1101 Highland Ave. Joliet, IL 60435

April/May 2003 - Indiana: **Indiana VDC**, Men's #1: April 24-27 & Women's #1: May 1-4, Send palanca to: Perry Powers 621 N. Main Street Monticello, IN 47960

April/May 2003 - SE Michigan/ NW Ohio: **Good News VDC**, Men's #32: April 24-27 & Women's #32: May 1-4, Send palanca to: Kathy Jurrus 10 1/2 Vineyard Drive Rossford, Ohio 43460-1350

April/May 2003 - Texas: **TX Luth VDC**, Men's #47: April 24-27 & Women's #47: May 1-4, Send palanca to: Mark Clayton 181 Notchleaf Cibolo, TX 78108

May 2003 - California & the Central Valley VDC, Men's #17: May ?, Send palanca to: Chuck Mattson 1201 Forest Ridgecrest, CA 93355

May 2003 - Florida: **Sonshine North VDC**, Coed #17: May ?, Send palanca to: Mike & Anna S. Kennesaw, GA 30144

May 2003 - Texas: **North Texas VDC**, Coed #59 May 15-18, Send palanca to: Lilly Gholston 401 Campbell Ln Denton, TX 76209-4580

May 2003 - Florida: **Sonshine VDC of South Florida** Women's #88 May 22-25, Send palanca to: Tony & Debbi Basone 9129D S.W. 20th Place Ft Lauderdale, FL 33324

June 2003 - Colorado: **Colorado VDC**, Coed #14 March June ?, Send palanca to: Gerry & Karen Givens 5440 Silver Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80918

June 2003 - Texas: **TX Luth VDC**, Coed #48: June 12-15, Send palanca to: Mark Clayton 181 Notchleaf Cibolo, TX 78108

June 2003 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-Metro**, Calvary, Golden Valley; Single Men's #413, June 13-16 & Single Women's #414: June 26-29, Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119

June/July 2003 - Ohio: **VDC of Central OH**, Men's #51: June 26-29 & Women's #49: July 10-13, Send palanca to: Barb Ostemeier 8227 Baytree Ct. West Chester, OH 85069

July 2003 - SE Michigan/ NW Ohio: **Good News VDC**, Men's #4: July 9-12 & Women's #4: July 9-12, Send palanca to: Kathy Jurrus 10 1/2 Vineyard Drive Rossford, Ohio 43460-1350

July 2003 - Florida: **Sonshine VDC of South Florida** Men's #90 July 17-20, Send palanca to: Tony & Debbi Basone 9129D S.W. 20th Place Ft Lauderdale, FL 33324

July 2003 - Indiana: **Indiana VdC**, Men's #45, July 17-20 & Women's #46: July 24-27, Send palanca to: Perry Powers 621 N. Main St. Monticello, IN 47960

July 2003 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-North**, Atonement, St. Cloud; Men's #415, July 17-20 & Women's #416: July 24-27, Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119

August 2003 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-Metro**, First, St. Cloud; Men's #417, Aug 7-10 & Women's #418: Aug 14-17, Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119

August 2003 - North Carolina: **Eastern NC VDC**, Men's August 14-17, Send palanca to: Vicki McCombs P O Box 760 Rockwell, NC 28138

August 2003 - Texas: **North Texas VDC**, Coed #60 Aug 14-17, Send palanca to: Lilly Gholston 401 Campbell Ln Denton, TX 76209-4580

September 2003 - Florida: **Sonshine VDC of South Florida** Women's #89 ?, Send palanca to: Tony & Debbi Basone 9129D S.W. 20th Place Ft Lauderdale, FL 33324

September 2003 - Indiana: **Indiana VdC**, Men's #46, Sept. 11-14 & Women's #47: Sept. 18-21, Send palanca to: Perry Powers 621 N. Main St. Monticello, IN 47960

September 2003 - Florida: **Sonshine North VDC**, Men's #44: Sept. 17-21 & Women's #44: Sept. 24-28, Send palanca to: Tom Collinge 1974 North River Drive Jacksonville, FL 32211

September/October 2003 - Illinois: **Taste of Grace VDC**, Men's #28 & Women's #2: Oct. 2-5, Send palanca to: Christina Spiros 1101 Highland Ave. Joliet, IL 60435

September/October 2003 - Ohio: **VDC of Central OH**, Men's #51: Sept. 10-13, Send palanca to: Barb Ostemeier 8227 Baytree Ct. West Chester, OH 85069

NLS Distribution Center

Richard Emery, Director Phone: 941-590-8958
E-MAIL: ricisa@aol.com

Annual Meeting Items Available

Dick Emery announces that all the material that was available at the 2001 Annual Meeting and video tapes from the meeting are available from the Distribution Center, as well as the shirts and the material that are on the order form.

Vivisted our Web Site Lately?



Oran Gough (Ohio),
NLS Website Mgr.



Improving Communication -

Flow of Info

At the 1996 NLS Annual Meeting, it was suggested that more articles and information be shared both from local secretariat newsletters in Conexiones, and also articles from Conexiones reprinted in local secretariat newsletters.

It has always been the policy to grant permission to any secretariat wishing to reproduce an article from Conexiones in its newsletter, in fact, it is encouraged. The NLS Executive Board only asks that you print the article as is and list the author and source (Conexiones, or credit at end or beginning of article).

I am willing to save you re-typing by sending the articles to you at your request via e-mail. If you, as editor of your newsletter are not online, find out who, in your movement, is online, or ask a computer friend for help.

This communication can be done two ways, too, and your editors could provide the articles via e-mail to the myself at jer2911@comcast.net.

- Judy Laabs-Foss, Editor

Thank You Oran!

This space is dedicated to the memory of a Man who will long be remembered for his love and service to the Lord.

As God told Paul, *“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. that is why, for Christ’s sake, I delieght in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”*

2 Corinthians 12: 9-10

Permission to Reprint

Any original article appearing in Conexiones (that is not re-printed from another newsletter) may be reproduced in any local member secretariat’s newsletter without calling or writing for permission, provided



the article is reproduced in its entirety without revision and credit is given at the end or beginning of the article. Permission to reproduce an article that is reprinted from a member secretariat’s newsletter must be obtained from the editor of that movement.

— NLS Executive Board

High Returns Cost

Returned Conexiones newsletters cost up to \$1.01 each. Please notify us of any changes in address on a post card or in a letter. Include complete information, including complete address with Zip+4, Secretariat and position, if applicable, and both home and work phone numbers. If you no longer want the newsletter, please let us know.



Judy Laabs-Foss
4495 Margaret Street
White Bear Township, MN 55110-3773

DATED MATERIAL, PLEASE EXPEDITE

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 563
St. Paul, MN