



HEART OF ILLINOIS VIA DE CRISTO

2019 Fall/Winter Newsletter

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DeColores VdC Community,

Let me introduce myself, I am your Lay Director, Ann Caudill. I worship at Living Waters Lutheran Church in Peoria. I attended Women's Weekend # 13 in the spring of 2004 where I sat at the table of Lydia. I had a wonderful mountain top experience on my weekend and it strengthened my walk with our Lord and Savior.

I am looking forward to the spring weekend being held at Eagle Crest Camp in Washburn, Il. April 23-26, 2020 with Mark Cordes serving our Lord as your Rector for Coed weekend #8.

Please write this down! When you receive a call from Mark take some time to pray over the call and let Mark know as soon as possible if you can serve so that he can form his team. Remember, in all circumstances, pray 1st, last and always!

As you turn to page 42 please be in prayer on who God is laying on your heart to invite (again) to a VdC weekend. Remember to talk to God about man before talking to man about God.

This fall, as the children return to school to study, I want to encourage all of you to get involved in a Bible Study. It is going to be a long, cold winter with plenty of opportunities to let God speak to you through His written word.

"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciple, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8:31

God Loves You and so do I

THE NEXT WEEKEND WILL BE APRIL 23RD -26TH, 2020!

THINK ABOUT WHO YOU MIGHT WANT TO INVITE AND HELP THEM TO PLAN AN EXTENDED WEEKEND THIS SPRING!

CO-ED WEEKEND #8

A Different Kind of Message

Interesting title... I wasn't sure how to bring up a topic which can be very boring, very intimidating, very embarrassing, and even very interesting. God has given each of us different talents and gifts. I often wonder how I may contribute when I have not been bestowed with a great working knowledge of wood working, plumbing, electrical work, sewing, knitting, ... etc. Since I started on my Fourth Day journey, I have met so many wonderful and talented people. It can be quite intimidating to be surrounded by so many talented people.

For my brothers and sisters in Christ who I have not yet met, my name is Bryant Brace. I attended Men's Weekend 31 in April of 2015 where I sat at the table of St. Barnabas. I attend Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Washington, Illinois.

One of His gifts to me was my passion for technology. Currently, I am working in a Cyber Security position and enjoying my job and the people I work with. God has put me and others together for a reason and some of the timing has been nothing short of Divine Intervention.

I would like to share some tips, from time to time, to help you learn how to be more secure with technology.

Late Newsletter?

HOI Via de Christo Community:

I would like to express my apologies for the timing of this newsletter. It was supposed to come out in October, but obviously did not. I have been working on it slowly, but surely over the last couple of months but keep running into a busy schedule, lots of events, things that pop up and grab my attention, and many other reasons/excuses.

I hope that all of you have enjoyed this Christmas season and have celebrated the anniversary of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I was able to attend a "Live Nativity" performance by the members of Willow Hill Methodist church in Germantown. One of the most well-done scenes performed was when the angel visited Mary and then visited Joseph. The faith that they had despite the influence of their own families and friends during a time when the consequences could have left them apart from family, friends, and community if not having more dire consequences. The love that Joseph and Mary had for one another and the faith they showed in God was miraculous!

Through their love and faith, they helped to bring God's only Son to live with and like us so that He could speak to us and, in turn, teach us to speak to Him. If you are afraid, if you can't find the words, always remember hope and love starts out "Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be they name, ..."

The Basics of Online Safety

This text is from the Center for Cyber Safety and Education

<https://www.iamcybersafe.org/>

Never assume anything is safe online. If it looks too good to be true, it probably is! Never provide sensitive information on social media or via email. Be cautious of promises of money or rewards in ads and emails. Do not open attachments unless you are sure of the sender and purpose.

APPLY SECURITY UPDATES:

Security updates are a way for companies to patch up security holes hackers find in your software: antivirus, internet browser, operating system, device apps, and all other programs. Your software will prompt you to allow these updates. Simply follow the prompts or set the program to install updates automatically.

GET ANTIVIRUS AND KEEP IT UPDATED

Antivirus is software to defend your computer and laptop against the bad stuff. New operating systems may come with antivirus already built-in and will even update for security- you'll simply need to restart to apply updates.

BACK-UP YOUR DATA:

Computers crash and phones and devices break and get lost. Simply use an external portable storage device or cloud services to back-up everything that is important to you. If you do stumble across something and make a mistake infecting your computer, you'll still have your important family photos and documents backed up externally.

- Keep your computer and devices safe by installing and updating anti-virus and other programs.
- Back-up your pictures and documents.

ALWAYS STOP AND THINK

Think before you click on anything online, links, or open email attachments to avoid malware.

Heart of Illinois Via de Cristo Newsletter Prayer Requests



For Mary Hilding's friend, Lila LeBaron, whose family is from Mexico, and they were a part of the family which was killed by the cartel

For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one or a cherished friend

For those who need healing in mind, body, and/or spirit

For those who seek to establish a relationship with Christ or to re-establish their relationship during this time of hope, joy, and love

For safe travels during a busy time of year where we celebrate the birth of our Savior and the beginning of a new year

And finally, for our Heart of Illinois VdC board as they lead our community, Amen