



Christ is counting on you

November 2016

"What will you make of me today Lord?"

I just returned home from Sunday morning worship. This was one of those times when the Pastor's message was exactly what I needed to hear and even though there were many others listening to the same message, I felt the message was directed at me. Coincidence? Perfect timing? God at work? Regardless of the reason why the message resonated with me personally, it did, and I think it's a message for all of us who attended a VDC weekend. The message ended with a challenge to all of us in attendance; each of us is to start our prayers this week with the question *"What will you make of me today Lord?"* The hope is that if we pray this prayer and then open our hearts and minds to God's answer, most likely we'll be made into a person who better resembles Christ by what we do, what we think, and how we love.

For many of us, our VDC weekend brought us face to face with the meaning and reality of God's endless and unconditional grace and love. We left our weekend on fire for Christ and armed with tools to share our enthusiasm with others. Time marches on, our lives return to busyness, our weekend excitement becomes a thing of the past. We fall back into a comfortable routine that might not look much different than our routine before attending our VDC weekend. *What will you make of me today Lord?*

Every year, Via de Cristo of Minnesota, sends out an annual appeal letter asking for your financial support. This year, in addition to asking for your financial support, we're asking for each of our 4th day members to support VDC by re-energizing yourself in this ministry. How? By implementing what we were taught: Make a friend - Be a friend - Bring a friend to Christ. I truly believe that if we start our day asking God *"What will you make of me today"* and then living our lives according to the VDC motto, our VDC ministry will be vibrant, powerful, and life changing.

Is God nudging you to reconnect or recommit to VDC? If so, spend a few minutes on our website www.mnviadecristo.org and check out the many ways that you can. Take note of the dates and locations of upcoming VDC weekends. These are your opportunities to sponsor a weekender or work on a team. Reread the GOODNEWS newsletters and the Convener's Corner articles for updated VDC information; Check out the Council News to see who currently serves on the state council of Lutheran Via de Cristo of Minnesota; Check on the dates of an upcoming Ultreya to reconnect with other past weekenders and team members. Please know that just as important as supporting our organization financially, we need your engagement in VDC to continue our mission of bringing a friend to Christ.

Our financial needs continue to exist. Our yearly budget is in excess of \$100,000 and we need to raise at least \$40,000 of this through our annual appeal. But more importantly, we need your support by sponsoring a weekender and by working as a weekend team member. Minnesota Via de Cristo needs the support of each and every one of you.

Financial support can be made by mailing a check to the VDC office in the enclosed self-addressed envelope. You can also use your credit card on the secure donation page of our website (mnviadecristo.org); or by designating funds to VDC through participation with the Greater Minneapolis/St Paul United Way. Thank-you for your prayers and financial support that enable this ministry to reach out and share the love of Christ with those in our communities. With your continued support and with God's grace, we pray for well-attended, well-staffed weekends in 2017.

What will you make of me today Lord?

Merlin Bruns
Finance Director
Lutheran Via de Cristo of Minnesota

Via de Cristo of Minnesota 2017 Schedule

<i>Weekend</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Location</i>
644	Men	January 12-15	Bethel Lutheran
645	Women	January 21-24	Hudson, WI (Metro)
646	Men	March 2-5	Calvary Lutheran
647	Women	March 9-12	Bemidji, MN (North)
648	Men	March 9-12	Trinity Lutheran
649	Women	March 16-19	Madelia, MN (South)
650	Men	June 8-11	Discover Lutheran
651	Women	June 15-18	Brooklyn Park, MN (Metro)
652	Men	October 12-15	Grace Lutheran
653	Women	October 19-22	Mora, MN (North)

More weekends will be scheduled soon!

Please check the web site for updates
www.mnviadecristo.org

Via de Cristo Newsletter

Via de Cristo newsletters are posted on our web site when they are published. If you are interested in receiving an e-mail notification when it is posted, you can register on the web site (<http://www.mnviadecristo.org/forms/newsletter.php>).