



PalancaPress

News of Unidos en Cristo Minnesota



CONVENOR'S CORNER

By Mari-Lynn O'Brien (convenor@unidosencristo.com)

I pray you are all doing well. I am excited to tell you about all that council has been working on.

Survey Feedback

We have been looking at all the feedback that we got this last winter from both handing them out at the closuras and emailing them out to the 4th Day community. Jim Dibley has gone through all of the responses, and we have included a report on the feedback from that. I am so grateful that so many people participated and gave us such honest feedback.

As your council we are striving to hear you and see ways that this ministry can grow and continue to serve the Lord in such a powerful way.

Summer Ultreya

We are not going to have a summer weekend and I know that is such a big disappointment for many. Council discussed how important is it to meet as a community and to be able to worship together. We have planned an Ultreya for this summer so that we can come together as a community and worship, eat, and take communion together. We would love to see as many as possible come together and join us. We will be meeting at Lake Phalen in St. Paul. Parking is limited so please try to Carpool together. Children are welcome, but there will be no childcare or programming provided.

Upcoming Weekends

Teams are forming for our Co-Ed weekend that will occur Oct 31- Nov 3rd at Faith Presbyterian in Minnetonka. If you would like to be on team be sure to get your application in to Del. This weekend will be Co-ed but will have separate Men's and Women's tables and team will be coed as well. Sleeping will be by gender not by team. Please feel free to reach out to council if you have any questions we would love to help out.

Council

I want to thank all those on Council that have given of their time and heart to this ministry that are going off Council this Fall. Thank you to Cathy Colman for all your hard work as Convenor Advisor, Phil Schmidt for all your leadership and guidance as you have helped to place Clergy for weekends, Norma Lund for your diligence in calling and finding Rectoras for weekends, Mark Turgeon as you have worked tirelessly to Train Leadership, and to Chad Olinger for all your hard work with the Communications stuff. (believe me it's a lot.) You are all appreciated and if you see them around be sure to thank them as well.

I hope that I get to see lots of people come out to join us for a wonderful evening of Worship, prayer, Food and Fellowship

Blessings,

Mari-Lynn O'Brien





WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

By Diane Swaback, Weekend #296 Rector

The Women's weekend at the Main Street UMC was a very blessed weekend. Although it was a rough/slow start in requiring of team members we had a full compliment of team members at the start of the weekend in February, 2019. We also had a nearly full weekender roster, too! We were very blessed.

There was a lot of excitement from the team members as the weekend started on Thursday night. The anxious energy was overflowing and by the time the weekenders arrived with their sponsors everyone was well fed and ready to let the weekend begin! The sleeping quarters were tight for both the team and our guests, but everyone was very accommodating. There was little spare room for all and the spirit of grace was apparent. The Rector's and Assistants were confident and that overflowed to the team members. The verse for the weekend was, "I can do all things through Him who gives us strength." Philippians 4:13. I can say that was true for our weekend.

Main Street Church was very excited to host the weekend and Pastor Ralph was at the church the entire weekend! The 4th Day Community from Main Street Church and the surrounding area was out in force! I would recommend that subsequent weekend be held at Main Street! Maybe yearly! Many expressed their excitement at a weekend being held in the northern tier!

Stations of the cross were beautifully done and was meaningful to both the weekenders and the support teams. There was a lot of positive comments.

The Agape Dinner was breathtaking and the food was restaurant quality. There was a feeling of awe from those that attended! The cross was beautiful and the room was stunning. All came away overwhelmed at what they experienced! There was a buzz in the Rollo Room after the Agape Dinner.

The Rollo's were beautifully written (except for one that I had a problem with!) and presented with strength and conviction. Power points were nicely done and presented.

The tables in the Rollo room were nicely divided and diverse. The Table Leaders were exactly that, they were led by the Holy Spirit. The Music team was slow to start, but quickly came together and was presented well.

The Sunday morning serenade was a challenge, due to the widespread sleeping arrangements and the number of weekenders, but was accomplished with 3 flute players!

The comments from the weekenders were very positive at the Closures! There were a lot of 4th dayers in attendance, too! (Remember it was a February Weekend!)

We held our Ultreya several weeks later and the attendance was huge and it was basically standing room only.

UEC Weekend #297

Faith Presbyterian Church

Minnetonka, MN 55343

As always, watch for the 4th Day signs directing to the proper entry door.

Co-Ed UEC #297

October 31st - November 3rd, 2019

Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.."

Isaiah 41:10

Cathy Colman weekend Rectora

Palanca Co-Rector/a Kory & Dan Everson

Kitchen Co-Rector/a Nancy Sundeen & Jerry Low

4th day Co-Rector/a Steve Stalloch and Shelley Schuenke

By Eddie O'Brien Weekend #295 Rector

It was such a joy and honor to be a part of the UEC Men's weekend, #295. It was held in an area (North Branch) that hasn't hosted a weekend in some time. We were privileged to be hosted by Mainstreet Church, hosting their first UEC weekend. The support from that church and the surrounding communities was amazing. The hard work, energy and enthusiasm made my role as Rector easy.

We had twenty men go through, and it was such a joy to get to know them. The team and weekenders meshed quickly and I can confidently say that the Holy Spirit was present and at work. I know the men of 295 would agree, IT WAS THE BEST WEEKEND EVER!



WELCOME NEW 4TH DAY MEMBERS

UEC #295 & #296 Weekenders - Main Street Church

Lois Anderson
First UMC – Lindstrom

Michelle Anderson
First UMC - Lindstrom

Emily Applen
Redeemer Lutheran

Laura Bauer
Access

Sam Bauer
Access

Troy & Donna Benson
Main Street Church

Deb Borg
The Journey North

Andy Boubey
Main Street Church

Kathy Brannon
Woodland Hills

Brian & Penny Brown
Alliance Church of the Valley

John & Cathy Buchanan
St. Henry's

Toni Clark

Davey Eidsvaag
Eden Prairie A.G.

Lois Elliot
CrossRoads

Randy Ericson

Joshua & Macayla Fryc
CrossRoads

Mike & Elizabeth Hagen
Alliance Church of the Valley

Bob & Heather Hanson
Mora UMC

Greg Hanson
Trinity Lutheran Church

Micah Harris
Church of the Way

Wally & Linda Heidelberger
Main Street Church

Susan Hernick
First UMC – Lindstrom

Pat McDermott
First UMC - Lindstrom

Pearl Olding
Maranatha

Cindy Onasch
Mora UMC

Lori Onasch
Mora UMC

Melodie Paulsen
Wyoming UMC

Lori Perkins
St. Patricks Catholic

Maria Poeschl
Beth Immanuel

Bret & Angela RempelEwert
First UMC - Lindstrom

Don Ripperton
Mora UMC

Greg & Tara Stein
Forest Lake Maranatha

Sid & Faye Sutton
Alliance Church of the Valley

Lucas & Heather Swager
Alliance Church of the Valley

Chris Sycks
Wyoming UMC

Kevin Videen

Jacque Webster
Eagle Brook

Tony & Mandy Wessinger
Hope Lutheran Church

Ken & Dawn Zuber
Shepard of the Valley

Ben Ziegler
Main Street Church

Andy & Amy Zylstra
Riverwood



PRAYER GROUPS

Did you know that Unidos en Cristo of Minnesota has a Prayer Group? The group consists of both “seasoned” and new UEC members. This group of prayer warriors prays for weekenders as they prepare for an upcoming weekend and while they attend, for Rectors and Rectoras as they build their teams, for UEC Council leaders, for individual UEC members, and for other “Cursillo-type” weekends around the world. If you are interested in joining UEC’s Prayer Group, email the Palanca and Prayer Coordinator at prayer@unidosencristo.com. The Prayer Group Guidelines will be emailed to you along with a request for you to reply back if wish to be added to the Group.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is the inherent delight and right of every child of God. The effectiveness of our prayer doesn't depend on our personal connectedness or status within our churches, or with how many UEC teams we've served on. Prayer helps us build our relationship with Jesus, overcome temptation, and determine God's will. It accomplishes God's work and is a weapon of spiritual warfare. Above all, prayer is valuable to God. We are powerless apart from prayer. God answers prayer. He delights to do it! He longs to hear His people pray. "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done." Phil 4:6

UEC of MN has a Prayer Group that is ready to pray for you and alongside you. Prayer requests can be sent to the Palanca and Prayer Coordinator by emailing prayer@unidosencristo.com or by clicking on the Submit a Prayer Request button located on the main UEC Website page. Please include your contact information if you want to be contacted by the prayer group. Be aware that even if you do not get a personal response, the prayer team is praying on your behalf.



IN LOVING MEMORY

We joyfully celebrate the life and resurrection of each friend in Christ who has entered the Fifth Day:

Verdell Blokzyl Campbell, Darlene Julin, Ione Folwick, Beverly Stenlund, Doris Shepersky

If you know of a Cursillista who has entered his or her 5th Day, please e-mail information to the Palanca Press Editor palancapress@unidosencristo.com for inclusion in the newsletter. You may also use the form on the website, unidosencristo.com, on the 4th Day Community page and use the 5th Day button. Others in the 4th Day Community may have no other way of knowing that their friends in Christ have entered His presence. If you provide the name and address of family, a sympathy card will also be mailed to the family. Memorials given in memory of Cursillistas will be acknowledged in the Palanca Press, unless otherwise requested.

Send them to: Unidos en Cristo, 5108 W. 74th St., P.O. Box 390321, Edina, MN 55439



**I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With Him at my right hand,
I will not be shaken.**

Psalm 16:8



SURVEY RESPONSES

The UEC Council would like to thank all those who took the time to respond to our recent survey. Almost 300 people took part, and we appreciate the many thoughtful insights. The questions asked what barriers people faced in sponsoring new weekenders, in serving on teams, and for their church in hosting weekends. The number one barrier cited was “my pastor has not attended a weekend”. Other common answers were time, age and the lack of visibility of UEC. Some folks encouraged the idea of a co-ed weekend, while an almost equal number thought the idea of such a weekend would never work.

We are going to give some of the suggestions a try. This fall we will have a co-ed weekend, with separate tables for men and for women, served by a co-ed team. We will be using some of the time saving ideas during the team meetings, such as having two practice rollos going on at the same time. Also, we will discuss having a text blast or mass email to publicize upcoming weekends. In summer 2020, we will have a gathering for clergy and spouses to experience UEC. I say “gathering”, because it will be from a Tuesday night through Friday night, so as to avoid the barrier of having to be away on a Sunday. We have at least one additional church to add to our list of possible hosts.

The overwhelming majority of responses were positive. We feel that God speaks in many ways, including the ideas of a group of committed believers listening for that still, small voice. As we go forward, we will continue to work to discern God’s will.



FIRST CO-ED WEEKEND

Our next UEC weekend is a Co-Ed Weekend that will be held at Faith Presbyterian Church in Minnetonka. God is doing something new with UEC as we hold this first Co-Ed weekend. Although this is a Co-ed weekend, it is not a couples weekend, though couples are welcome! It is a Co-ed weekend, but there will be men's tables and women's tables in the Rollo room, no co-ed tables. It is a Co-ed weekend, and will be served by a Co-ed team, and we will have men's sleeping rooms and women's sleeping rooms.

The UEC Council did some research with our sister cursillo organizations, who have been hosting Co-ed weekends for awhile, so we have some tips, suggestions and lessons learned from them. Based on this, we are leveraging an experienced leadership team for this first co-ed weekend, so that they can focus on the nuances of a co-ed weekend, while already being familiar with their leadership responsibilities.

The team is being formed now and already has begun to meet. Please be in prayer as potential sponsors as to who you might invite to experience this weekend. Be in prayer for those being called to serve on the weekend, or to gift their time and palanca to the weekend, and for the team as it enters the time of preparation. If you feel called to sponsor start praying now and working with the person God has put on your heart and get their weekender applications filled out and sent in. It is especially helpful for this weekend to get weekender applications in as early as possible to ensure we have room layouts all set.



UNIDOS EN CRISTO

Wants to invite you to an Ultreya

UEC Ultreya – July 28th – Phalen Picnic Pavilion – 1600 Phalen Drive, St. Paul

We have the pavilion from– 5:00- 8:00

There are 72 parking spots in the lot closest to the pavilion.
There are three other lots nearby. Carpooling is encouraged.

Children are welcome, but please be aware there is no scheduled programming
or supervision provided.

Bring a dish to pass, your own table service, beverage, folding chairs.

Also bring your songbook (since we won't have a screen to look at) and your
name tag & cross.

A to I – salads, appetizers or bread
J to S – entrees, sides, or vegetables
T to Z – desserts