

Good Day to all from the Iowa Secretariat. This is my first year as Lay Director and hoping you are all ready for this! I honestly had no idea there was a National Secretariat until this year and have been in contact with that group. They have an annual meeting, along with quarterly zoom calls that Justin Spieker and I will try to be involved with going forward. It's been a few years since 'The Rooster Crows' has been done so we are hoping to change that and get you all informed and geared up and excited for VDC 2023.

The dates for 2023 are: Men's: January 12th – 15th Women: January 19th – 22nd In order to gain some enthusiasm for this movement called VDC, which has changed literally, most of our lives, we are starting up this publication. We want everyone to know that EACH of YOU MATTER!! We need you and we hope you can join us this coming January to serve and be served.

1 Peter 4:10 tells us: As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace

Mark 10: 42-45 Jesus said: "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

In order for us to find joy in the service, we need to show up. We each have been given gifts that we can share with each other and with the Pilgrims. I personally have received so much joy from so many of you! I appreciate and thank those of you who have been a part of my weekends at VDC and in my life. I am blessed to serve and hope you are too.

The past few years have been a bit challenging. With COVID forcing a 'skip year' in 2021 and then a delay of a month to the dates of the 2022 weekend, the numbers were down for those attending to serve as Palanca. We are praying this writing finds you all doing well and thinking of arranging your schedules to be able to attend all or part of the weekend.

Another pray we continually ask is that we all seek to share this wonderful weekend with others. To invite Pilgrims to attend and be blessed with the love of Jesus Christ our Lord. One great way to do this is INVITE!

We held Ultreya in June up at the camp and it was a beautiful day! We had one male and one female pilgrim from 2022 speak to us about their experience. What a wonderful job each of them did and we all were so blessed to have been there. If you were unable to attend, please think about coming next year. We will do it all again. It's a great way to connect with friends from past weekends and to make friends with the recent attendees. We are so grateful that we have the Ingham Lutheran Okoboji Bible Camp to host these events. A special place, Jesus is there!!!!!!!!!

Humbly serving as you Lay Director Patty 'Awesome' Ellsworth



Mens Weekend Jan 12-15

Womens Weekend Jan. 19-22

Set up Jan 8th 2-4

