

2024 Region 3 Annual Report

Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas (LVDCNT)

LVDCNT held a weekend in August 2023 and in March 2024. Weekend #111 is scheduled for August 2024. Reservations for two weekends at the retreat site are on the books for 2025.

LVDCNT made some adjustments to logistics as needed at the new retreat location. Due to an incident with a participant, LVDCNT set new policies in place to assure the safety and well-being of participants. Procedures are being set in place as to who to call and how to handle such incidents in the future if the need arises. They are asking for more specific information on registration forms about the extent of medical needs and to make sure that participants have the necessary medical equipment with them. A participant attended that probably wasn't healthy enough to attend, and didn't bring what they needed medically, and LVDCNT was not aware of their dietary needs. LVDCNT will also stress the purpose of attending a weekend is to develop leaders. It's not because the person would enjoy the weekend, or because you want to sponsor a person.

LVDCNT is having a celebration in July 2024 to honor the retirement of one of our Spiritual Directors, Pastor Phil Heinz, who has served LVDCNT for over 30 years. LVDCNT is struggling to find enough Spiritual Directors, as some have moved and others have reached an age, or for health reasons, are no longer able to serve.

Texas Lutheran VDC

Texas Lutheran VDC held weekend #103 in March 2024 at Ebert Ranch in Harper, TX with nine new Pilgrims. Weekend #104 is scheduled for August 22-25, 2024 at Camp Chrysalis in Kerrville, TX. Weekend #105 is tentatively scheduled for January 9-12, 2025 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Seguin, TX. In January 2024 they are inviting anyone, but concentrating mostly on college age group Pilgrims 18+, and holding it at a church to bring the cost way down. They will determine after this "test" weekend how to move forward on future weekends. They continue to have Ultreyas in Seguin, TX on the 4th Monday of each month and in Austin, TX the 4th Saturday of most months.

Arkansas-Oklahoma (A-OK) VDC

A-OK has not had a weekend since 2019 (pre Covid). They have had a couple of ultreyas with small numbers in attendance. They had a weekend scheduled in April of 2023, but had to cancel due to low interest.

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Texas Gulf Coast (TGC) VDC

Texas Gulf Coast has had two weekends since the 2023 Annual Gathering. They are currently in the planning stages of their fourth weekend at Camp Lone Star Pines in Tomball, TX, near Houston, TX. Weekend #7 was held on September 14-17, 2023, and they had 10 Pilgrims and 43 team members. They had an Ultreya on October 15, 2023 with over 30 in attendance. On February 1-4, 2024, they held weekend #8, and had 6 Pilgrims and 43 team members. They held an Ultreya on March 3, 2024 with over 35 in attendance.

They are enjoying and settling into their new camp home. They hope the price doesn't increase too much more. They are currently working on planning weekend #9 on September 12-15, 2024. The Rector is hard at work building the team.

TGCVDC has strived to send out newsletters to our 4th Day at least three times a year. Sometimes they make it four. They update the fourth day on all the happenings in the Secretariat and the upcoming events. They also send out update emails throughout the year if the need arises. They try to post different bits of information on its Facebook page. They try to keep the Fourth Day members updated on what is happening around TGCVDC.

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