

Spiritual Directors Annual Report for 2025 – 2026

As of the Annual Gathering in July 2026, I will have completed my term as the National Spiritual Director to the National Lutheran Secretariat. I have served two two-year terms, and I cannot serve in that capacity again. I consider my time in serving Via de Cristo as a privilege and honor.

The role of the National Spiritual Director is to support, advise, and give counsel to the Executive Board regarding spiritual and theological matters under consideration.

During the years 2025-2026, I wrote a weekly devotion published on Facebook and email every Sunday. I also provided daily prayers for Monday through Friday that were posted to Facebook. That comes out to 52-weekly devotions and 260 daily prayers.

During the year I hosted 3 SD Roundtables on Zoom. These were open discussions regarding what was happening in the local Secretariats the SDs served on. Based on our conversations it sounds like many of the Secretariats are doing well on the number of weekends that are happening throughout Via de Cristo. We seem to have turned the corner after the Covid Pandemic that had slowed down the number of weekends that were held. VdC is alive and well.

I feel very positive about the future of Via de Cristo. We are not only assisting people to grow spiritually but we are also training leaders to serve the wider church in local congregations.

Thank you all for supporting the mission and ministry of Via de Cristo. Thank you for the encouragement and support I have received as the National Spiritual Director.

God loves you, and so do I.

Pastor G. Karl Gaston
NLS Spiritual Director