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2009 Weekend Dates

Spring 2009 Weekends:

**Men's Commissioning Sunday April 19, 2009
4:30-8:00pm DFMC Church**

**Men's # 89 April 30 – May 3, 2009 at St John's
Episcopal Church, Detroit, Mi**

**Women's Commissioning Saturday May 9, 2009
4:30-8p.m. St. John's Det.**

**Women's # 90 May 14 - 17, 2009 at St John's
Episcopal Church, Detroit, Mi**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

OUR THEME FOR 2009

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
I hope and pray all is well with you. If you are registered on the DeColores website, you would know that the theme picked for our movement for this year is "Perseverance." This is a very powerful word and it can be used in all aspects/situations of our lives. The definitions for this magnificent word are:

PERSEVERANCE – Noun

1. Steady persistence in adhering to a course of action, a belief, or a purpose; steadfastness.
2. The Calvinistic doctrine that those who have been chosen by God will continue in a state of grace to the end and will finally be saved.

PERSEVERE – Verb

1. To persist in or remain constant to a purpose, idea, or task in the face of obstacles or discouragement.

These definitions pretty much describe what we need to be doing on our 4th Day journey. We truly are blessed.

Even with all of the problems we encounter with our movement and in life in general, if we put our trust in the Lord we can overcome anything but we have to do the work. This is what your Secretariat is trying to do. We do not always agree with one another but we are willing to agree to disagree and let the majority rule. I requested that if our Secretariat members should have a problem/situation not to let it fester and let it grow into a mountain but instead bring it to my attention and we will try and find a solution. I ask our community to do the same. We have much healing to do in our movement but all we have to do is forgive our brother or sister and then we persevere together. With Him we can do anything.

I recently read some quotes about perseverance to our Board members that I'd like to share with you too. I believe they cannot only help us in our movement but in our everyday life as well. The quotes are as follows:

"Perseverance is the constant and determined effort that breaks down all resistance and sweeps away all obstacles." Charles M. Bristol

" It doesn't matter if you try, and try, and try again, and fail. It does matter if you try and fail and fail to try again." Charles Kettering

"It's not the load that breaks you down, it's the way you carry it." Lena Horne

We are all in this together. Your Secretariat needs all your help, support, and prayers. Anyone who wants to join us for a Secretariat meeting is welcome or you can email me with your suggestions, questions, or comments at condor62657@yahoo.com. If you need to chat instead you can reach me at 734 / 844-1172.

God bless,
Mike

**FORTH DAY WORK SHOP
IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 28th 2009**

prayers and worship throughout the years surround us. What better place to experience the love of Jesus that surrounds us?

Do you remember the excitement of your first week-end? The Palanca? The Walk-in? I am praying that God will move all of you to be inspired by those memories and share the joy with our new Cursillistas by supporting them with your Prayers, Palanca and Presence at the walk-in.

We can never have too many candidates! Look around you prayerfully for people who are ready to find Jesus, or those that have misplaced Him in their lives and need to be re-focused. Contact Pre-DeColores or go to the website at www.decolores-sem.org to get applications and brochures. The cost of the week-end is \$125.00

I look forward to seeing every one of you throughout our weekend. Most of all, I rely on your prayers throughout our formation meetings, and especially during our weekend.

Our God is an Awesome God!. Praise to the Lord!. Blessings and love to you all.

DeColores,
Jeanette Bommarito
Rectoress DeColores Week-end # 90

FROM PRE DECOLORES

Greetings in the Name of our Living, Loving, Lord Jesus!

Our spring DeColores Ministries Weekends are fast approaching. Men's Weekend # 89 will be held on April 30-May 3, 2009 and Women's Weekend # 90 will be held May 14-17, 2009. The teams have begun formation and both teams are eager to present a wonderful God-filled weekend to all the candidates. Think about the weekend you were on and how it affected your life and consider sharing that experience with others. I'd like to encourage you to consider sponsoring someone for one (or both!) of the upcoming weekends and share that experience with those you know. Remember what was said in the Action Rollo: "Talk to God about your friend [and then] talk to your friend about God" as well as "Make a Friend, Be a Friend, Bring a Friend to Christ." Now is the time to start putting those cliché sayings into practice.

Both weekends will be at St. John's Episcopal Church in Detroit, on the corner of Woodward and

the Lodge Freeway. The spring weekends' price was reduced to \$125, which should make this more affordable for some people.

The secretariat is looking at modifying the application, but one is available on the website to download. While you're at the website, you might want to sign up to get the newsletter electronically. That way too, you'll be kept posted of any upcoming information regarding DeColores Ministries. Our theme this year is "PERSEVERANCE." We intend to communicate as much as possible with the community and the internet is a great way to do so, but if you don't sign up, we can't reach you.

www.decolores-sem.org

Weekend # 89 Dennis Barnett Rector
Steve Baab Co-Rector
Theme: Iron Sharpens Iron

Weekend # 90 Jeanette Bommarito Rector
Kris. Davis Co-Rector
Theme: Jesus Lover of My Soul

Share this experience with others. It may be the best gift you could give anyone!

ULTREYA!

Kris. Davis
Pre-DeColores

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FROM THE UPCOMING RECTOR

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has begun. DeColores team # 89 has started formation and is coming along well. The core team consists of Steve Baab as Co-Rector, Tim Schabeck and Yusef Qualls are the Spiritual Directors, Andy Kittle is Head Coordinator and John Barge is Head Cha-Cha. The remaining team members are Gary Bjornrud, Ross Smith, Bob Bailey, Bert Wilson, Andre' Smith, Mark Reid, Ron LeHue, Mark Bommarito, Bob Kirby, Darron Patterson, Rick Totin and John Lawrence.

The weekend theme is Iron Sharpens Iron, which comes from Proverbs 27:17, which happens to be the scripture for the weekend. This means a lot to me as this is the motto of my grouping partners and me.

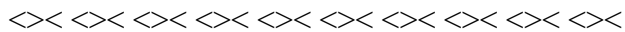
We have been meeting at Dearborn Free Methodist Church on Telegraph in Dearborn and that will also be the site of our team commissioning. The

commissioning will be held on Sunday April 19th at 4:30 p.m. We will start with a potluck meal.

The address of the church is 2801 S. Telegraph Dearborn Heights, 48125. Although the church sits on Telegraph Road you have to enter from the side street at the rear of the building. We can't wait to see you on the 19th.



God bless,
Dennis Barnett



NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Weekend/Yearly Expenses and New Facilities

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Your Secretariat has put a lot of time and effort into these topics by forming a Finance Committee to take a look at our yearly expenses that have a large impact on our weekend expenses and what we have to charge for a weekend. It was not an easy process with the sketchy records and our yearly expenses (last four years) fluctuating greatly. We are going to use this year for a baseline for future years. After reviewing the past expenses, we are going to charge \$125.00 for our two spring weekends at St. John's Episcopal Church in Detroit.

There has been a lot of concern expressed about going to Detroit for our weekends. If we remember, Detroit is the city where our roots started. St John's is located in the Entertainment District and has a gated and well - lit parking lot. It is very accessible for our community with three different freeways converging close to the church. We've already experienced a very successful men's weekend there, not to mention it's very affordable for our movement in these tough economic times.

Last year, in my VP role, I looked for new facilities and I contacted and visited many. I also asked other people to join me in this venture. Many facilities have just what we are looking for, however, pricing continues to be an obstacle. The prices seem to constantly go up and, believe it or not, most of these facilities are already booked for 2009. The VP has a book made up for future calls and visits to continue the search.

- St Paul of the Cross - \$225.00 per person
- St Mary's (Lapeer, Mi) – Booked until 2010
- Echo Grove (Leonard, Mi) -
- Camp Copnenconic (Fenton, Mi) - \$145.00 negotiated, up to \$180.00 in the future
- St. John's in Plymouth –
- Howell Nature Center -

Remember, added onto these prices is approx. \$30.00 to \$40.00 for yearly expenses of our movement. We, as your Secretariat, have discussed future prices. We have also come up with a Scholarship Form to try and help some people who have fallen on hard times, but unfortunately, our funds are limited. We need to find a way other than our weekends to raise a little money so that we can be a strong viable movement and help out our fellow Christian men / women.

I have asked through e-mail blasts for fresh new ideas, but that only reaches those who have registered. I hope and pray that more of our community signs up on our fantastic web site. It allows us to get info out to you and also is a way for you to communicate your thoughts to the Secretariat.

God Bless, Mike

FROM THE WEBMASTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters of DeColores: Have you visited the DeColores Ministries of Metro Detroit and SEM website lately? Please visit our redesigned website and register today!

WWW.DECOLORES-SEM.ORG

DeColores,
Bob Meyering, Webmaster

NEWS FROM THE HISTORIAN

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Most of you don't know me. I made my weekend over 26 years ago in October of 1982, and although my 4th Day has been a faithful walk with Christ, I have not been involved in DeColores Ministries. . . . that is until now!

I am very pleased to be a member of the Team for Women's Weekend # 90, and just last month I was confirmed by the Secretariat to serve with them as the movement's Historian for the next two years.

As Historian, I will be responsible for storing all materials and records with historical significance, and I am charged with recording all information pertinent to the history and growth of the Organization.

More specifically, that includes maintaining the central file with names, duties and term of office for the members of the Secretariat, all the information and specifics from the Weekends, dates and pictures of Grand Reunions and Picnics and any other social events, and making sure that the Bible is updated with the names of the past Rectors and Rectoresses.

In addition to my recent commitment to the ministries of DeColores, I also belong to two religious orders, The Daughters of the King and the Franciscan Order of the Divine Compassion.

My home parish is St. John's, Detroit, where I am currently blessed to serve on the Vestry and as Jr. Warden.

On a more personal note, I am single, have worked for the City of Dearborn in Economic & Community Development for the past 14 years, and I have been a resident of Dearborn for the past 27 years. I share my home with my 2 dogs, Alex and Sheba, and my 35-year-old Amazon Parrot - Cecil.

In closing, I look forward to meeting as many of our membership as possible and getting to know you all better! And should you happen to have information or photos relevant to the history of the DeColores movement I'd be very happy to include them in our archives. (see the article in this newsletter; **Please - Can YOU help the Historian?**)

DeColores!

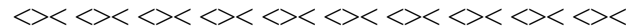
Cindy Grimwade

Please - Can YOU help the Historian?

Your help is needed to fill-in the blanks of our Weekend history files. Please review the list below, and if you have any of the missing information, please make a copy and send it to the Historian, Cindy Grimwade at 4051 Bingham, Dearborn, MI 48126. Thank you!!!

- All are Welcome # 55 – team List
- Righteousness # 58 – photo & candidate list
- Love One Another # 59 – photo & team list
- Come Follow Me # 60 – photo & candidate list

- Shine Jesus Shine # 62 – photo & candidate list
- Jesus is My Best Friend # 64 - photo & candidate list
- Stand Firm # 65 – candidate list
- One Spirit Many Gifts # 66 – candidate list
- Child of the Light # 68 – team list & candidate list
- Just as I am # 69 – photo
- He Delights in Me # 72 – photo, team list, & candidate list
- Hear Our Praises # 74 – candidate list
- And Still I Rise # 82 – photo & candidate list
- _____ # 83 - missing everything; theme, photo, program, team list, and candidate list
- Voice of My Tears # 86 - photo, program, team list, and candidate list
- May We Be One # 87 – photo & candidate list



NEWS FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

PERSEVERANCE AND PALANCA

Perseverance

St. Augustine (354-430AD) talked about perseverance in one of his many documented sermons. He said, "People change for better and for worse. We are alternately encouraged and saddened by seeing the changes in people every day. We are cheered by people who live good lives and are saddened when people wander away. That's why the Lord did not promise salvation to those who begin well but rather says 'Whoever perseveres to the end is the one who will be saved'."

Author Donald Burt, writes in his Day by Day with Saint Augustine that even when Augustine was seventy-four years old, he worried whether or not he would persevere to the end. As Augustine said to his friends, "A perseverance whereby a person perseveres clinging to Christ is a very great gift of God".



Last April (2008), I wrote about the "conversion" that many have experienced on the 3-day DeColores weekend. The conversion is best described as a process (referred to as metanoia) of moving from aversion (separation from God) toward a permanent and dynamic state of union with God. It involves a change in our state of being, in our mental attitude,

and in our interaction with God. This metanoia helps us to increasingly move away from our "old self" to become more aligned with God the Father, and His Son, Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The primary objective of the Post DeColores is to provide a means for each person to continue the conversion process and to persevere.

Generally, when a weekend is over, the palanca stops. That should not be. Palanca is needed even more to support the new Crucistas as they leave the cloistered Christ-centered atmosphere and return to their own environments. All of us need to support each other with palanca to help us persevere on our conversion pilgrimage to a closer union with God.

We all know that many people today are facing some very difficult situations due to the economy. We need to prayerfully offer palanca to help lift the burdens from our brothers and sisters who are hurting. We need to help them persevere.

St. Paul, in Romans 12: 8-13, provides some "palanca and perseverance guidance" for us.

"When you give, you should give generously from the heart; if you are put in charge, you must be conscientious; if you do works of mercy, let it be because you enjoy doing them. Let love be without any pretence. Avoid what is evil; stick to what is good. In brotherly love let your feelings of deep affection for one another come to expression and regard others as more important than yourself. In the service of the Lord, work not half-heartedly but with conscientiousness and an eager spirit. Be joyful in hope, persevere in hardship; keep praying regularly; share with any of God's holy people who are in need; look for opportunities to be hospitable."

God's Grand Reunion

Over the past couple of months, two of our dear Spiritual Directors have gone home to the Lord - Fr. Bob Miller on Dec. 13, and Fr. Lowell Schlanbusch on Feb. 8. Both of these men of God were active in the Cursillo/DeColores movements for many years. (Bob and I made the same weekend together - #207, December 1976.)

I can envision Jesus welcoming Bob and Lowell into His kingdom with an embrazio – and saying to each of them, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

May the Spirit of the Living God watch over the families and friends of Bob and Lowell and give them peace.

DeColores,
Fr. Tim Schabeck

Spiritual Director
tschabeck@charter.net

NEWS FROM THE PALANCA CHAPEL

I would like to remind everyone that there is a Palanca Chapel on site at St. John's Detroit for the next two spring weekends. Because of having the spring weekends at St. John's there are some logistical issues which will not allow us to take Palanca after Saturday night. Also because of space issues, gift Palanca will not be taken. You can come down any time during daylight hours to visit the Chapel and drop off or write palanca. If you wish to help out in the Palanca Chapel, contact Steve Baab prior to the weekends. We also have 24 hour prayer clocks for each weekend. You can contact Steve Baab at smbaab@yahoo.com if you would like to sign up for an hour of prayer on either the men's or women's weekend.



NEWS FROM EN-DECOLORES

My brothers and sisters,

I love very much what DeColores does for me and allows me to do for others. I particularly love to be on the weekends where the "rubber hits the road." On the weekends it is very easy to feel that we are doing God's work. I have been on several weekends and never gave much thought to all the effort required to allow it to even take place. I have judged those efforts without thinking of where they originate. I have always said that I am not the kind of person to join organizations, but I have always been the kind of person who can critique them while enjoying their efforts. I have given that premise some thought. I was not called to become the En DeColores representative for our community. I made a prayerful decision to take action for the community that I love so much. I intend to represent you with some effort, lots of love, much Palanca, and a joyful heart. I have huge shoes to fill as John Barge has given so much. I am fortunate that John's nature and loving ways make him an excellent mentor. The transition is evolving and I am looking forward to seeing all of you throughout my time of service. It is the community that serves and I will always appreciate your loving help hauling the boxes. You go out and Make a Friend, Be a Friend, and Bring that friend to Christ, and I'll make sure those friends have poster board and markers when they get there.

Be with God now and always.
Your brother in Christ,

Joe Carron