



Tri-State Tres Dias



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MEN'S #83 WEEKEND

Date:
March 14-17

Rector:
Steve Simmons

Assistant Rector:
Dana Selke

WOMEN'S #83 WEEKEND

Date:
April 4-7

Rectora:
Kim Ellis

Assistant Rectora:
Lorilei Findley

Thanks, Fourth Day, for inspiration

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

We come to the end of another year of working for the Lord in His kingdom. I thank the Lord every day for the inspiration that you, the Fourth Day, give me. You have had another great year of serving as team leaders, team members, Secretariat members, providing palanca, and being prayer warriors serving the Lord and His Tres Dias movement that is so important to us.

We have celebrated with 111 new pescadores this year. The leadership of Audrey Selke, Keith Findley, Melanie Atwood, Chris Naas and the Lord's teams that they assembled, did a wonderful job inspiring us all.

As with every year, Lay Leaders owe such a debt of gratitude to the Secretariat members. I am not an exception; I thank those in the Secretariat, and for their hearts of service to the Lord's mission through Tres Dias.

We forge on now, with the race before us to bring more people forward into a much more involved, and joyous role in His Kingdom. I pray that you continue to be active and prayerful in our servant roles.

Thank you again, and may the Lord bless you, and keep you. May He lift up his face upon you and provide you with a joyous peace!

Craig Butler
Lay Leader

Tristate Tres Dias #48, from the table of St. Andrew

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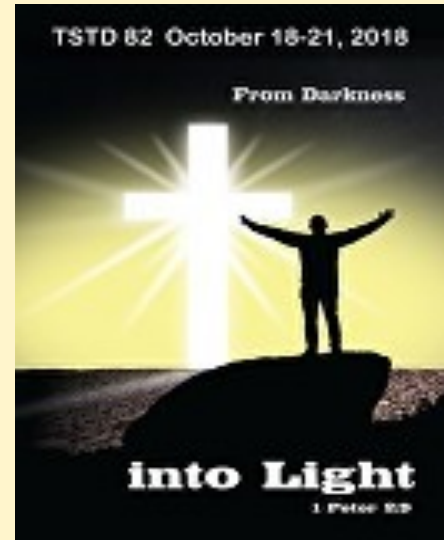
Rector's Note From Men's Tres Dias Weekend #82

To the 4th Day,

God bless you all! What an amazing weekend we experienced October 18-21 at Sarto. Lives were transformed. I wish that I could express each man's thoughts, both from the team and the Pescadores. I believe that if I did, it would be "Thank you, Father; thank you, Jesus; thank you, Holy Spirit. He once again showed each one of us how mighty and awesome He is. To Him be honor and praise and glory forever and ever! Amen. Thank you again for all the love and support you showed all of us.

Chris Naas

Rector, Tri-State Tres Dias #82



Pescadore Reaction To Men's Tres Dias Weekend #82

Best experience in my life other than when the Lord blessed me with my son! I was tangled in the evil spirit since I was a child. I thought it was going to be like that for the rest of my life. Jesus Christ answered my prayers and filled my soul with his Holy Spirit. By doing so, it smothered the devil out of my body! God is always on time and He always wins! My shackles were broken and now I'm free!!!! God bless you all.

Danny Simmons

Pescadore, Tri-State Tres Dias #82

Rectora Note, Pescadore Reaction from Women's Tres Dias Weekend #82

Women's TD82 was filled with three days of overflowing joy as walls came tumbling down by the power of the Holy Spirit at work! God whispered and He Roared ... truth, love, peace and joy.

We rose together in bravery, strength and fierce courage and are spreading His light to our community.

#bravestrongfierce #td82willrise

Melanie Atwood

Rectora, Tri-State Tres Dias #82



It was a blessing to sit at the feet of Jesus with other sisters and learn the importance of intention and speaking His Word aloud.

*A Pescadore
TS Dias #82*

God told him he was going to witness. But how?

A Fourth Day Testimony ***By Dan McDonald***

I was praying on Monday after my candidate weekend, “God, is this it? Was it just a mountaintop experience, or has my life indeed changed?”

I was back in the valley and I had to drive to a shop in Wisconsin to help install a machine I sold. As I walked in and was greeted by my loyal customer, Larry, I heard God say, “You’re going to witness to him today. I said “OK.”

I apologized to Larry for being late and explained that I had just returned from a three-and-a-half-day retreat. “What kind of retreat?” he asked. “A Christian retreat,” I said.

He gave me a disparaging look, to which I replied, “Do you believe in God?” The question elicited an emphatic negative response. So, I thought, “God, how is this going to happen?”

We installed the machine and all went well. At the end of the meeting we met in the office to go over the safety manual. Larry said, “I told my guys don’t be putting their hands in the grinder; safety first!”

I pulled up my pant leg and showed him my prosthesis. “I’m the same way. I lost my foot in my dad’s lawnmower when I was three.”

He looked at me like he wanted to punch in the face. “Are you messing with me?”

“No,” I said, “It’s a prosthesis.” He asked, “Do you know my story?”

I didn’t. He told me that he ran his son over with a lawnmower when the boy was two years old, causing Johnathan to suffer a double, below-the-knee amputation. I heard God say, “I told you that you were going to witness to this man today.”

We talked. I cried, and we shared stories about the tough experience I and his son had learning to live with prosthetics. “I used to go to church,” he said, “and my son’s accident is part of the reason I stopped going. When this happened, not one person from my church came to visit me.”

God gave me a word and said, “Remind him that’s not *My* church.” Then God said, “Why not pray with him?”

To my surprise, he bowed his head and prayed with me.

God is indescribable. He used me to relate to another human being in a way that only I could. Then he had me share the gospel. My friends, the day after that third day is only the beginning!



Placing the focus on grace, not on teaching doctrine

Tres Dias is a Christian ministry that revitalizes Christian men and women in their walk with Christ by encouraging them to:

- Impact their home and work environments for Christ
- Maintain their own relationship with Christ through small group sharing
- Return to their home churches with a renewed desire to be a Servant Leader.
- Most attendees are Protestant although all Christians who accept the Tres Dias “Statement of Belief” are welcome.

We focus on God’s unqualified love for each of us through grace, with the goal of coming away from the weekend with a refreshed and empowered relationship with God through Christ. Importantly, Tres Dias does not “teach” doctrine. We try to stay away from doctrinal discussions/debates; choosing instead to stress the things that the Christian denominations have in common while respecting things which are different.

Making Room for Jesus

A Christmas meditation by Rev. A. Charles Allen

A brief history of Jesus' birthplace and home can help us understand the meaning of Christmas.

He was born in Bethlehem but lived in Nazareth. The name Bethlehem first occurs in I Samuel 16:4. It is the town where the Lord sent the prophet Samuel to anoint one of the sons of Jesse to replace Saul. That son was David. Micah, one of the four great prophets in the eighth century b.c., said that a new David would arise from Bethlehem to rule in a future age (Micah 5:2).

Nazareth was an obscure agricultural village in southern Galilee, not even mentioned in Hebrew Scriptures, in the Talmud, or by the Jewish historian Josephus. Joseph, a carpenter by trade, may have settled in Nazareth, near Sepphoris where Herod Antipas was reconstructing his capital. During his public ministry, Jesus visited Nazareth only a few times. He was not cordially received there, perhaps because of the outrage he caused in the local synagogue when he declared that he was the fulfillment of prophecy (Luke 4: 16-27).

Both towns would likely be no more than footnotes in the margins of history were it not for the extraordinary events that happened there.

His birth is the most glorious event that Heaven has ever witnessed. An angel proclaimed the glad tidings. A choir of angels sang celestial music praising God. A bright star guided some wise men from the East to find Jesus and bring gifts to him. A small group of shepherds heard the angels' sermon and believed it. The birth of Jesus changed the whole course of human history.

But of despite all that God has provided for us in time and eternity, vast multitudes will celebrate Christmas without Christ. This will be true for millions who have never heard the story of Jesus, and sadly for many who have heard, but for one reason or another have failed to believe in the miraculous birth. Many who call themselves Christians will be the least Christian during Christmas. They will prepare elaborate feasts, and then shut the door in face of the Guest of Honor, Christ.

The innkeeper shut the door on Joseph and his young wife because there was no room in the inn, or so he said. Why do so many people not make room for Jesus? There are many possible reasons.

First, some fail to make room for Jesus because they are not expecting him. This is the case of multitudes today. They see the story of his birth and death as ancient history, and they have lost their expectancy of Jesus coming back, even if at one time they believed he would.

Second, some shut the door in the face of Jesus because they do not recognize him. I do not know in what guise the Lord will knock at your door (and mine) this Christmas season. In some fashion, he is sure to come.

Third, still others do not open the door because they do not want him. This is certainly the case for many people. They desire Jesus as a guest if they could have him on their own terms. To them Jesus is an embarrassment.

What guest will you entertain this Christmas? If we are expecting him, we will likely recognize him. If we accept him on his terms, as Son of God, as Lord and giver of Life, as light of the world, as a pouring out of God's love for all, we will know the wonder of Christmas.



The Rev. A. Charles Allen serves as spiritual advisor to the Policy Committee on the TDI Secretariat.