



You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.

(Psalm 86:5)

January / February 2016

The Newsletter of the Northern New Jersey Tres Dias Community

The purpose of **TRES DIAS of NNJ** is to glorify God through Jesus Christ by developing Christian leaders who will influence their environments to be more Christ-like.

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A message from our President

Dear friends;

As of today, we are fourteen days into the year 2016. New Year's Day has always been one of my favorite holidays for no other reason that it offers all of us a clean slate, a chance at a new beginning. In 2 Corinthians we read "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" Our faith allows all of to no longer be held by the past, whatever that may look like, but to be renewed in Him on a daily basis.

It is always exciting to look towards the future, and anticipate what God may have in store for us. I believe that the future of Tres Dias of Northern New Jersey will be as filled with God's grace as our past has been. We can look back at our past and see two hundred and twenty nine of "the best weekends ever". I have no doubt that there are many more of these weekends in our future.

As you know, these weekends do not happen by chance. There is a lot of planning, praying, and action that goes into each weekend. My prayer is that each member of our community would be a part of the upcoming weekends by taking part in planning, praying, and taking the action needed to support all of our upcoming weekends.

Men's weekend # 117 will take place April 28th through May 1st. John Crandall will be serving as Rector. Women's weekend # 114 will take place May 19th through May 22nd. Glenda Haase will be serving as Rectrix. Please keep John and Glenda in your prayers as they prepare for their three day adventures! Getting candidates, especially for the men, has been a challenge lately. Let's all do our best to fill Sacred Heart with men and women who will certainly grow closer to Jesus because of these three days. There is no better gift we could give.

Stay warm, and God bless you all,

Bruce

Bruce Kemmerer,
President, Tres Dias of Northern NJ

Welcome our new pescadores from Men's # 116 (Fall 2015)

Dear Community,

Tom Bloodgood and the team of Men's #115 just completed the "best weekend ever," welcoming six new Pescadores into our community. They are:

- **Mainor Dormond** – sponsored by Jarene Pagliarulo
- **Jimmy Giordano** – sponsored by John Crandall
- **Robert Andersen** – sponsored by Lee & Glenda Haase
- **Jimmy Madden** – sponsored by Gary Taylor
- **Dan Scarano** – sponsored by George Gillmore
- **John Govel** – sponsored by Danny McCullough

Please do your best to welcome them into the larger community. Look for them at secuelas, and invite them to your share groups.

And welcome our new pescadores from Women's # 113 (Fall 2015)

I'm sure these twelve wonderful women would also appreciate your greetings, your prayers, and your love. Please look out for them and reach out to make them welcome, as I'm certain Karen Hunte and the rest of the team did on their weekend.

- **Candace Charles** - sponsor Denise Miller
- **Andrea Pusey** - sponsor Denise Miller
- **Ruth Oley** - sponsor Susan Wittig
- **Patricia Garcia** - sponsor Anna Janette Guy
- **Marjorie Randall** - sponsor Anna Janette Guy
- **Marie Carrington** - sponsor Claudette Reid
- **Cynthia DeLeon** - sponsor Brigitte Pincelli
- **Gladys Cabrera** - sponsor Lisa Markus
- **Alissa Dworkin** - sponsor Jennifer Mahoney
- **Barbara O'Donnell** - sponsor Anita Damiani
- **Carol Dineen** - sponsor Anita Damiani
- **Maria Triana** - sponsor Luis Fernandez

God has blessed our community with an abundance of new members from these weekends. With his help, these people will have not only the best weekend ever, but also the best fourth days.

A message from our Applications chair -

Dear Community,

The Lord has already chosen those called for our upcoming weekends. Please prayerfully seek His will as to whom will benefit from a weekend. Applications should be submitted in advance of the scheduled dates for the weekends, allowing for all to share the good news and to prepare Palanca in advance. It also allows me, as Application Chair, sufficient time to send information to the candidates. And allows the candidates to prepare themselves for the weekend.

Details on the applications process can be found here: <http://www.tresdiasnj.org/how-to-attend-a-weekend/>. Please use only the new editions of the Candidate and Sponsor applications; these can be downloaded from the Tres Dias Northern New Jersey web site (www.tresdiasnj.org). I can provide copies to you; if you prefer. Please send me your request through email (bduncans@verizon.net). Completed applications should be mailed, together with any funds being remitted to:

Bruce Sinclair, Applications Chair
848 Woodmere Drive
Cliffwood Beach NJ 07735

Regarding Palanca

Fellow Pescadores,

For those of you who would like to provide general palanca letters or individual cards for the weekends, but are unable to bring them yourself to the weekend, Paul Markowitz (our palanca chair) has graciously offered to bring them to the weekend for you! Simply mail the palanca to his home, and Paul will deliver it to Sacred Heart. His address is:

Paul Markowitz
307 Ashley Ave,
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
pmarkowitz@comcast.net,
or call: (908) 852- 2680

SECUELAS

7pm Food &
Fellowship
7:30 Music &
Meeting

SECUELAS!

Wear your
name tag &
Pilgrim's
Cross!

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another (Hebrews 10:25a). From the Spanish word meaning “sequel,” the Tres Dias term secuela refers to regularly scheduled meetings of the community as part of the fourth day.

We all agree it is great to meet together! Secuelas are an evening of fellowship, worship in song, a fourth day speaker, and of course food! It truly is like a “mini-weekend”. Small group discussions are a great part of the Secuela that offers a time to focus on the scripture and fellowship with others

Come out to a Secuela and be encouraged! Be strengthened in your Fourth Day walk with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We look forward to seeing you at **our Valentine's weekend Secuela on Feb 13th at the Rockaway Reformed Church, 115 Main Street, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889.** No fundraiser dinner this time out, so please come for 7:00pm food and fellowship. The meeting will start with music (God willing) at 7:30pm.

Then, in March we'll be gathering **on Saturday, March 12th at Jacksonville Chapel, 264 Jacksonville Road, Lincoln Park, NJ 07035.**

Hosting a Secuela is a great opportunity for you to provide a place to meet for our community. If you would like to host a Secuela, please reach out to Marcia Brands or Lee Haase (lfhllc@verizon.net).

Here's the upcoming Secuela schedule:

Date	Church	Town
April 9th	High Bridge UMC	High Bridge, NJ
May 14th	Morristown UMC	Morristown, NJ
June 11th	St Peter's Episcopal Church	Perth Amboy, NJ

In memory of Papa Joe -



As I'm sure you've heard by now, Papa Joe - Joseph McCullough, age 89, passed away on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. Here are some memorials to this man who has touched so many lives, in our community and through his talks at nursing homes. So without further ado...

In my mind, the patriarch of Tres Dias of NNJ. A shining example of how God's love can transform us when we dedicate our lives to Him!!! Salt of the earth! My love and prayers to his family. P.T.L.
Albert Barker

Papa Joe will be missed. I can't remember a man who embodied the very soul of Tres Dias more than Papa Joe. His love of the Lord and his willingness to spread the Word was inspiring to say the least. Joe's message was clear, consistent and to the very point of Christian life. "You must walk the walk, not just talk the talk". Truer words have never been spoken. I wish I had a nickel for every time Joe said those words in a Rollo and another for every time someone else quoted Joe. Papa Joe will be missed by his family to say the least. It is never easy losing a loved one. Joe was a real patriarch if ever there was one. Take comfort in that we share your grief and share in the belief that Joe is home to the Father, the one true patriarch of us all.

Others will miss Papa Joe. His work in the nursing homes must be legendary. Joe took great comfort in knowing that he carried the Word to the "old people" in the homes. What a comfort for those who heard Joe speak.

The Tres Dias Community will miss Papa Joe. He was a true servant of the Lord. I had the privilege to serve with Joe as a table leader at Men's Weekend #116 last fall. I am a better man for serving with Joe. The new Pescadores are also better men having gotten to know Joe over the weekend. The humility Joe expressed in his manner and words will be sorely missed. Sometime we tend to over-state the key points of living a Christian life. Joe on the other hand understated things like his love for the Lord, but spoke volumes with his actions.

If the measure of a man's greatness is how much he is missed, Papa Joe is a giant among men. If we could send Joe a message now, it would say, "Joe, you have walked the walk like few others have done. Take rest in your deserved place at the feet of Jesus Christ."

"Bubba" John Crandall

When I heard about Papa Joe's passing, I experienced genuine sadness that I wouldn't see him anymore on this side of eternity. However, this was quickly followed by a real sense of joy, both for him since he now is in the presence of the Lord he loved, as well as a joyful remembrance for all of us who served with him on so many weekends. I am sitting here looking at the cover of the folder he gave me as a team member of Men's 93 of which he was Rector. He hand-prepared each cover with the weekend verse, John 14:6, and then added a personal message. He wrote, "When you love GOD, you love all things." We often ribbed Joe about not finishing his many stories, but that sentiment he wrote is truly the finish of the story of his life with Christ. Thanks, Papa Joe.

Your brother in Christ,

Bill Nicklas

In Romans 12:2 we read "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Transformed, not a word that I would use lightly, but one that would describe Papa Joe. A lot of folks talk about the light; Papa Joe became the light. We can only hope to be as open to God's spirit as he was. On one hand I am glad he is in a better place, on the other, I will miss him. De colores my friend. - Bruce Kemmerer

*I first met Papa Joe on my Tres Dias Weekend Men's #99 at Emmaus House in Perth Amboy. Papa Joe was the weekend's Prayer Warrior! Saying he made a great Impression on me would be a huge understatement. The man was much more than a warrior. His diligence, dedication and passion demonstrated to me how important prayer was to maintaining one's personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Since then I've met his family and extended family and have grown to love and respect them all. Most of all he taught me, through his own testimony and actions, how a man can positively effect and touch all those around him by "living" his faith. He also had his own very personal method of preparing for and delivering a Rollo. It was surely only by the Grace of God, that he was able to keep his notes in order and read his own writing!!! He has most definitely played a huge part in making me a better follower of Jesus Christ. Papa Joe is greatly missed, but we can rejoice in knowing he's finally home! De Colores.....**Joe Marcello - Men's #99***

*The first thing I remember about Papa Joe was his favorite verse, which he must have told me a hundred times. So Lord knows how many times he recited it to everyone else. "Jesus is the way, and the truth, and the light. No one can come to the father except through him." It's a testament to the man that this is what he spent years doing – leading people to Jesus. The next thing that goes through my mind is how Joe would often say "I can't believe that God can still find use for me at age 86, then 87, and so on." Papa Joe was a true disciple of Jesus, and he was humble about it. A good lesson for all of us. **Wayne Reese***

Tres Dias email prayer chain

Would you like to know what's happening in Tres Dias of Northern NJ? If you are not one of the 410+ Pescadores who are already members of the Tres Dias of Northern NJ YahooGroups, join now! You can sign up by emailing:

George & MaryAnn McGehrin at georgemaryann@hotmail.com

To join, please include your full name, email address, your phone number, & what weekend you made (mm/yy & Number). Do this, and you'll be enrolled directly in the Tres Dias of Northern NJ Yahoo Groups. The following guidelines apply to use of the Tres Dias of Northern NJ YahooGroups:

The Tres Dias Prayer chain will be used only for Specific prayer concerns and requests, distribution of information about upcoming Secuelas, distribution of information about upcoming weekends & other information that has been approved by the Secretariat.



Tres Dias on Facebook



Facebook is another exciting way to interact with other member from Tres Dias. **Nan Acevedo** is our Tres Dias Facebook administrator. Our Facebook page is used to share your joys, announcements, your trials, concerns and prayers.

If you are a current Facebook user and know someone who has made a Tres Dias Weekend and is on Facebook, have them friend Nan, and she will be happy to add them. If you have any questions please feel free to e-mail her at acevedonanette@yahoo.com, or private message her at the Tres Dias Facebook page.

Secretariat meetings

- Tues, Feb 9, 2016 at Jacksonville Chapel

Meetings will be on **Tuesdays** going forward, alternating between Jacksonville Chapel and High Bridge United Methodist Church.
All members of Tres Dias are welcome and encouraged to attend Secretariat meetings. Meetings start at 7:30 and run until no later than 10:00 PM. For more information, please contact Bruce Kemmerer @ brckem@yahoo.com

Members of the Secretariat

Bruce Kemmerer – President
Tom Bauer – 1st VP
Marcia Brands – 2nd VP
Carolyn Jackson - Secretary
Meyer Pincelli – Treasurer
Lee Haase & Marcia Brands–Secuelas
Ed Grasley - Nominations
Tom Bloodgood – Education
Jim Leeming - Outreach
Wayne Reese - Agape Newsletter
Judy Fadden – Member at Large
Carol Goodrich – Member at Large

Mary Gallinot – Women’s Team Selection
Rich Cantwell – Men’s Team Selection
Claire Gallagher - Women’s Spiritual Director Selection
Denny Wene – Men’s Spiritual Director Selection
Nancy Bloodgood - Membership
Herb Eigenrauch – Purchasing
Paul Markowitz – Palanca
Kris Hoffman - Trailer
Anne Tummey – Reunion Groups
Michelle McKeown- Communications
Marshall Turner – Housekeeping
Bruce Sinclair – Applications

Upcoming Weekends

❖ **Spring 2016 – at Sacred Heart, Newton**
Men’s #117 April 28 – May 1, 2016
– rector: John Crandall

Women’s # 114 May 19 – 22, 2016
- rectrix: Glenda Haase

Fall 2016 – at Sacred Heart, Newton
Men’s # 118 November 3 – 6, 2016
- rector: Kevin Mahoney

Women’s # 114 November 10 – 13, 2016
- rectrix: Michelle McKeown

Note that the fall weekend dates have changed.



If your contact information changes:

Email Nancy Bloodgood at: tomnanc@embarqmail.com
Or call 973-875-8765, or mail information to:
115 Wantage Ave. Branchville, NJ 07826

*Married couples: be sure to include home, work, email addresses for both husband and wife.

*Newly married women: include your maiden name, as it will be a helpful reference.



A note from the new editor –

Dear friends;

First, I want to express my gratitude for the years of service that Laurie Market gave to our community as the editor of the Agape. We've come a long way under her stewardship, including having a "mail chimp" account to do the distribution. Laurie always put out an excellent newsletter that was both attractive and informative. Recently, she decided that she needed to step back from this assignment.

Our president and my share group brother, Bruce, asked if I had any ideas who might be willing to take on the editorship. God seemed to be putting it on my heart to volunteer. So, after some prayer and discussion with my cute wife, Tina, I'm picking up the editorship. Lisa Loper has also graciously agreed to help produce the Agape. Thank you, Lisa, for your willingness! Expect to see articles from her in the near future.

Since accepting this position, I've come to realize two things:

- 1) There's a lot more work – make that **A LOT** more – than I realized to put an issue together. So now I appreciate all the more Laurie's work. Thank you, Laurie, for everything you've done for us!
- 2) This is a newsletter, not a blog. I'll be attending secretariat meetings and picking up whatever news I can to include in upcoming issues. But Lisa and I would also appreciate knowing what topics you'd like to see included in the Agape going forward. So please do send me an email or talk to Lisa or myself if you have any suggestions.

We'll do the best we can to make the Agape a valuable source of news for the community.

De colores,

Wayne Reese

Men's # 60

Cinco colores de alcoiris (Five colors of the rainbow)



Check out our web page at: www.tresdiasnj.org – this is Northern NJ’s website. Check out www.tresdias.org for the International Tres Dias website.

In His Service, Wayne Reese and Lisa Loper, Editors

Agape
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