

Long Island Sound For Jesus

Spring 2017

Have a Blessed and Happy Easter

WWW.LITD.ORG

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Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 8th at 7:30 PM

April Men's Victory Secuela
Sr. Paul's Lutheran Church,
Amityville

Saturday, April 15th at 4 PM

Godspell—A Concert
Church of the Nazarene,
Massapequa Park

Saturday, April 16th at 6:00 AM

Resurrection (Easter) sunrise beach
service
Amityville Beach, Amityville
(End of S. Bayview Ave)

Saturday, April 22nd at 7 PM

Cup of Blessings Coffee House
Gracious Vine Concert
Ascension Lutheran Church,
Franklin Square

Saturday, May 13th at 7:30 PM

May Secuela—ELECTIONS
TBD

Saturday, June 10th at 7:30 PM

June Secuela
Church of the Nazarene,
Massapequa Park

Saturday, July 1st at 6:35 PM

LITD fireworks night at the
LI Ducks game
Contact Kathy Abdis for Tickets
(\$11.00)

For more information:
<http://www.litd.org/events>

Welcome New Pescadores!

Please welcome and pray for our new Pescadores from our March women's and men's weekends.

Don't forget to come say hello and welcome them at the next secuela!

Men's Weekend #83 Rector—John Vercelletto

- Justin Cuvelier
- Chris Fox
- Ted Hallen
- William Miller
- William Miller Jr.

Women's Weekend #86 Rectrix—Christine Walsh

- Alexis Acheson
- Theresa Bouzas
- Deborah Brown
- Ashley Marciszyn
- Rosemary Miller
- Mary Ozegovich
- Patricia Svitlik
- Tara Talmadge
- Diana Viera

It is not too early to start thinking about candidates for the weekends in March (we are skipping the fall weekends this year).

Please also pray about serving on the weekends if you are asked! You can also let the next rector / rectrix know if you are interested in serving. They will be announced soon.

If you can't join the team, pray that you can come and help with palanca or attend the opening and closing.

Trust in the Lord by Vicki Elfers

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

I joined the LITD Community in September of 2010 and my journey with God took a whole new path. When I was a new Pescador leaving Women's Weekend #76, I had no idea the amount of trust that God would build into my spiritual life. I can actually say that over the last 6 ½ years I have learned to trust God more, in many areas of my life. I have learned to not always listen to my head because

that is where my past and my hurts are pushed down into my subconscious, and I have learned to listen to my heart for that is where the voice and the love of God live within me. Trusting God with my heart has taken me on paths that I never would have dreamed of and never would be able to walk using my own insight. Trusting God has allowed me to grow in my relationship with myself, in my relationships with others, and most importantly in my relationship with God. There are many areas where we can grow in our relationship with God but I think that the most important area to start with is trust. When you begin to trust God above trusting yourself and others, life be-

comes more manageable, more positive and more filled with love. I pray that as I continue to grow that I will always find new areas of my life that I can turn over my trust to God and I pray the same for you.

PRAYER LIST

The prayer list is ever-changing. So we do not post a prayer list in the newsletter as it may not be up to date by the time it goes out. Please check the website and make sure we have your email as prayer requests are sent out as we receive them. Please contact Joe Ambrose if you wish to have something added to the prayer list. His email is litdprayerlist@gmail.com.

Touched by Jesus by Luann Pollizzotto

My name is Luann Pollizzotto and this is my story of how Jesus touched and healed my sinful and broken heart. Before I met Jesus I was afraid all the time of everything and everyone. Life always felt so scary & out of control... especially after my father abandoned me. I was 3 years old. We moved 15 times in the first five years of my life... I didn't know what stability, safety, or security felt like back then.

I had a lie. Based. Belief. The lie I was believing was "if my own father couldn't love me enough to stay, I must have no value or worth". When many other painful things began happening... that I couldn't understand... I got very angry. I blamed everyone, including God for what had happened and for how I was feeling. And I felt as though I couldn't express my feelings to anyone for fear of them abandoning me too. Needless to say it is true... In this world we will have trouble... But take heart he has overcome the world.

There was only one person that I knew had my back, back then, my grandmother, and she died unexpectedly. My grandfather hit her in the elbow with a hammer that was meant for me. It was then that I knew what Jesus had done for me. He took what was meant for me! Like my grandmother just did. It felt as if a piece of me died with her that day, in actuality, it felt as if my life was over. I was only 16. I had eaten so little that I lost 50 pounds in the following two months and couldn't sleep. I became addicted to the sleeping pills that were prescribed... and when the Dr. stopped prescribing them I began drinking alcohol instead. I tried everything... that I possibly could... on my own... to stop the emotional pain I was in. I told God... no; I begged God... on many occasions throughout my life... to make this pain I was feeling go away.

By the grace of God I met my husband... he was the only man in my life back then that was willing to take the time to see the real me hear what I had to say and believe me when I spoke. We have been married 37 years thanks to many Christ centered marriage enrichment weekend retreats... Unfortunately, my pain continued.

Before having our two beautiful girls we had had two miscarriages and feeling like a failure as a woman I thought of ending my life. I found a pamphlet in church the Sunday just before my second miscarriage. I called the suicide hotline on it and this began 30 years of therapy with various counselors. Being very prideful, it took courage for me to ask for help.

Jeff and I were married for 12 years when during a sermon on Good Friday 1991... I suddenly was convicted by the Holy Spirit that I was a sinner... & that I needed a Savior. I asked Jesus to be Lord of my life & I asked him to forgive me of my sins and self centered ways. I also prayed to have him show me those that I had hurt... to ask for their forgiveness. For the first time in my life I felt compassion for others that I had hurt.

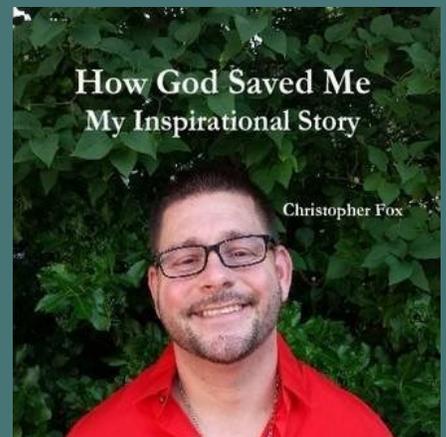
I have had multiple cancer scares, and worried that my husband may possibly abandon me like my dad did. There is so much that God has done for me since being saved... he has helped me overcome a host of fears... because His perfect love casts out fear... He healed our daughter of Hodgkin's Lymphoma and gave me the strength through various trials to keep on going when I wanted to give up. My life verse is: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

A year ago October when I confessed to Jesus... that I truly believed I had no value or worth... I heard him say: Luann, I died for you. It was then that I began to lit-

erally feel his presence... in my heart... all the love he had for me suddenly came rushing in.

Christ is counting on me to share His Gospel of love, peace and healing with those He places in my life... and I am counting on Christ to lead me according to his will to do so.

In this past year God has drawn me closer to him than I ever thought possible through the encouragement of his people. I no longer feel I have no value or worth. That lie has come to an end. It is finally over. He died for me and he loves me... He always has... He always will.... He will never leave nor forsake me. He has shown me in scripture: see: I am doing a new thing... and today I can truly say that I know he is!



CHRIS FOX

Chris is a comedian with Tourette's Syndrome and was a candidate on Men's 83. Check out his book "How God Saved Me" on [Amazon](#)

Hello Spring by Vicki Goodwin

Hello Spring and hello to my Tres Dias Community. I would like to share a little piece of my journey with you.

I made my Tres Dias weekend in February 1997. It was the BEST weekend ever!! From that weekend on has been an amazing journey. After I made my weekend I knew this was something I wanted to be a part of.

Tres Dias has been a big part of my life since my weekend. I have been blessed with an amazing community who is always there for me. They have lifted me up and come beside me, they have prayed for me and with me. They have shared my smiles and laughter, my joys and sorrows. And I have been blessed and privileged to be able to do the same for many of them. I have served on team, served as rec- trix, and on secretariat as Weekend Chairperson and my most recent 1st Vice President.

With saying this, I also would like to share how important Tres Dias has been in my life. Tres Dias has been a part of the person I am today. As we learned about piety, study and action and how important that is for our fourth day, we also learned about

God's love and how important it is to share that love. I know Tres Dias is not for everyone, but I can't help but think how could anyone not want to experience God's love in this way. I just want to give back all the love I felt on my weekend and many week- ends after that. I love serving God and being a blessing to others, and that is how I choose to continue to live my fourth day. Share God's love and live out my piety, study and action and when I do get the chance, share with others and invite them to experi- ence Tres Dias with me.

As I come to the end of my time serv- ing on secretariat, I would also like to say thank you for the privilege to serve the Tres Dias community as your 1st Vice President these past 6 years. I pray that you would continue to grow in your walk with our Lord and stay connected with your Tres Dias community. May God Bless you today and all your tomorrows!! See you at the secuela and around all the community events!!

DeColores,

Vicki Goodwin.
1st Vice President

Gratitude a note from Deborah Brown

A note of gratitude to my LITD Community:

It truly is great when we stop for a moment and engage our senses to experience the presence of God at work in our lives. I had allowed myself to slip into a way of life in which I was running from here to there with no time for listening and paying attention. Back in 2014 I prayed a simple prayer and begged God to show up in my life. Being distracted and caught up in the every- day commitments and occasional chaos, I was unable to pay attention to the presence of God already in my life. There was a burning bush in my backyard and I was "busy being distracted" that I never no-

ticed the beautiful flame.

As I paid attention to God's pres- ence over my Tres Dias Weekend, what I heard was surprising and clarifying. The friendships made as a result of this weekend are treas- ured and lifelong. I am thankful to each and every person I met and who worked so hard on the front lines and behind the scenes to make this weekend one of the most pre- cious memories and experience of my life. Words are not enough to express my deep gratitude to every- one for those wonderful time.

De Colores,

Deborah Brown WWE #86
(The BEST WEEKEND EVER!)

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Resurrection by Carol Arnold

Recently I was told that The Passion Of The Christ is a Jesus snuff film. How sad that so many have never bothered to read what scripture says about the enormity of His suffering. Betrayed. Deserted by those He loved. Tortured beyond recognition. *Isaiah 52:14*
"There were many who were appalled at Him. His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and His form marred beyond human likeness." We all read the New Testament account of what happened, but we need to spend time going back to the Old Testament and read Psalm 22:14-18 and Isaiah 53:10-12. The descriptions are heart wrenching. He who had no sin was made sin for us. Can one even begin to imagine the spiritual agony when God turned His face from His Son? By His wounds we are healed. This was the only way we could be saved. Humbled by this knowledge, being LOVED so completely - I wish everyone a soul searching walk through this time and a Joyous, God Praising, Blessed and Beautiful Resurrection Sunday!!

DeColores and Love for our Precious Savior, Carol Arnold, 2nd VP

Rev. Dr. John H. Krahn's Book Is Now Available.

It is predicted that as many as one third of Christian churches will close in the next ten years. Today 80% of our churches are either declining or merely holding their own. Pastor Krahn's latest book, *From Surviving to Thriving – A Practical Guide to Revitalize Your Church*, addresses this critical problem facing Christianity today and provides many ways to combat it discovered by Dr. Krahn in over 50 years in the ministry. This book is a must read for all clergy and lay leaders.

Some who have read his book also find it helpful to them personally as many of the ideas presented can also be applied to their individual lives. One reviewer on Amazon wrote, "I personally found it a helpful tool for life's journey. The principles he discusses can be applied both to his intended audience and more broadly to everyday life. A great work imparting wisdom, inspiration, and determination."

The book costs only \$12.95. Those living in New York must pay sales tax which brings the total price to \$14.10. You can

obtain one or more copies from Pastor Krahn by sending your check to 15 Pheasant Run Lane, Dix Hills, NY 11746. He'll ship it to you for free. It is also available on the internet from either CSS Publishing Company, Cokesbury Publishing Company, or Amazon. For more information and reviews, go to Amazon.com.



Reunion Groups by Doug Magnifico

I have been having difficulty communicating with the community to help coordinate our Reunion Group function in LITD. Partly, it's my fault for being so busy that I couldn't put the needed effort in, and I sincerely apologize for this, but I also have gotten very little feedback from the community.

I would like to first speak to those who are already in a Reunion Group. I would like to establish an archive of all Reunion Groups on Long Island.

The criteria I would need are as follows-

1. Area (Western Nassau, Central Suffolk, etc.)
2. Membership (Men, Women, Couples, etc.)
3. Frequency, Day, Time of day (i.e. Weekly - Tues - AM)
4. Availability (Open - room for more / Closed - full)

5. Contact number or email (one only please) Once I create a list I can ask for updates (yearly?)

This will make it easier to direct new people to available groups.

Please send info to the email below.

Next, I would like to address those who would like to be part of a Reunion Group but don't know where to start. Once I have a catalogue of groups on Long Island, I can help you find a group in your area. Until then, I would like to refer you back to your weekend. Remember the Leaders talk? The first Reunion Group I was in was started by three men after a weekend. Try contacting people you met on your weekend, especially those at your table, preferably if they live in your area.

Get together and decide how you would like to run the group. There are no hard and fast rules. Once you let God influence your Piety, Study, and Action, you

will wonder how you ever got by without a Reunion Group.

So go ahead - take a step of faith.

De Colores

Doug Magnifico
Reunion Groups Coordinator
litgreuniongrps@gmail.com

NOTE from John Vercelletto, Rector of Men's weekend #83

I am starting a new reunion group in the Babylon Area. If you are interested, please contact John via text/phone at 631-357-2911 or email at john@johnhv.me

The group will be either Thursday nights at 7:30 or Saturday mornings as a men's breakfast. We will focus on piety, study, and action not just study. Contact John ASAP if interested or for more info.