

# Get Excited with the ALTD Community!

Weekend #44 is coming soon...

Men's: March 17 - 20, 2022

Women's: March 24 - 27, 2022

# Lutherdale is the **NEW LOCATION!**



N7891 US-12 Elkhorn, WI 53121

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

- Prayer Scroll information
- A message from our Spiritual Director
- A message from our Lay Director
- Covid Protocol

A great way to support the weekend is by signing up for the prayer scroll. Please click the link below to get the time slot that best fits your schedule.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4ca8a72da5f85-altd

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d4ca8a72da5f85-altd1

If you'd like to sign up on prayer scrolls for other communities please visit the <u>ALTD International website</u>

## A Message from our Spiritual Director

by Dr. Will Ryan

Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4 NASB

This is an interesting weekend for me. As you probably know my life journey has been a mosaic called expedition44 and this is weekend 44. I don't think it's any coincidence that Mike Payne (the mens rector) picked Psalm 37:4 for his men's weekend, which is also my life verse since I was 9. The women's weekend verse is Romans 12:2 which has also in many ways been a mantra of mine in bearing the light of Jesus.

Psalm 37:4 exhorts us to delight ourselves in the Lord which culminates in your heart. Romans 12:2 in a similar fashion, urges us to be transformed so that we may be living proof of God's complete love for us.

Both of these verses have something in common, actually they have quite a bit in common but I want to focus on one of them particularly. They are both circular in Hebraic thought patterns. To say this very simply, God gives to us and expects that we in turn give what's been given to us to others; and eventually it will be presented back to God.

The first word in Psalm 37:4 is to delight. This verse isn't about getting what you want, that is, unless what you want has been transformed by what God wants!

'Anog is the Hebrew word used for delight. It means soft and delicate. I chuckle that our men's weekend is to spur each other to be soft and delicate! Not usually what you think of for a men's weekend! However in the tense it's written, it's geared for the reader to treat God this way. I bet

you have never considered the idea of treating God delicately! In our culture we think of the word delight with gladness or entertainment or maybe charm; maybe that warm fuzzy feeling that something gives you!

But the author of Psalms is trying to get us to consider that we have likely broken God's hearts through our actions. Have you ever considered God's desperation to bring people back into covenant living with him that have given themselves to what is contrary to him, the world? Unfortunately too many people think of God as a warrior God who is all about control. But the picture the Psalmist gives us is much different than that; what God desires is a tender heart turned to Him.

The Bible isn't about us. It's about God desiring us. He is the central figure in the story, the one most affected by the other characters. Shifting our focus from "genie" to "lover" and "healer" might enable us to recognize how hurtful we have been and how careful we must become in regaining a lost relationship with Him.

Later in Romans, the author takes a very similar Hebraic attitude. He begins by saying do not be conformed to the world. In Greek this is the word syschematizo and is our word "schematic." It means don't let the world blueprint you to think and live like them. A culture is much more than an idea, it is a way of life; and this way of life (of the world) is countercultural to the kingdom of God. They are rival kingdoms.

This is also a circular thought, that being renewed of your own mind can result in the mind of Christ; but to get there your heart first has to tenderly long for what is good and perfect (complete, whole) before the Lord.

Both of these verses share a circular trend towards holiness. Where do we start to get into the circle? God has given you plenty of gifts to honor Him and He asks that you take those gifts and put them at his feet as a living sacrifice. He in turn, will take those gifts again and continue to give them back. Approaching the tender heart of the Lord in a relational manner, not only shows humility before a mighty God, but displays that we have a discernment for what is acceptable before him.

Going into weekend 44, I pray that we might meet the tender heart of God with a humble heart for God, that is ready to give all that you have been given and ask that God receives this sacrifice and respond with the desires of His heart back into your heart. That He might take what you have offered and do immeasurably more. Beyond your wildest expectations. This is the circular dance of Grace. By offering to Him our complete hearts, we might give glory to the Lord, over and over again as humble, tender servants wholly given to His Kingdom and bring others into the relational circle of grace in Jesus.

## A Message from our Lay Director

by **Jeff Ingersoll** 

Happy Birthday to me. On this morning of my birthday, I reflect upon all the incredible ways God has blessed my life. One of my biggest blessings is you, the ALTD community. The love and support I have experienced and witnessed through this family of believers is truly remarkable. I thank God for you and continue to pray for His direction in your environments. May you seek daily His word and live it out to the fullest.

During this season of the winter Olympics, I am inspired to see competitors come together despite what our world leaders are doing. It reminds me of what our weekends are like. Despite what our political, religious, and personal beliefs are, we come together for the betterment of the weekend and provide the team and participants "The Best Weekend Ever". You can do this by praying for them and signing up for a time on the prayer scroll. Another way to encourage them is to plan on attending the sendoff, serenade, and closura. If attending, we ask you to follow our recently adapted protocol for the protection of everyone. It is posted for all to review and adhere to. Thank you for your diligence in supporting and caring for all in attendance.

If you do plan on attending a sendoff, serenade, or closure, we will be having our retreat at Lutherdale (Retreat Center) in Elkhorn, WI. We are excited to have our weekends at his beautiful setting. Their staff has provided everything we could ask for to accommodate our retreat. The men's weekend is March 17-20 and the women's on March 24-27. We do not know if we will be able to meet at Inspiration Ministries Center ever again but we are grateful for the many options we have in securing future facilities. Please pray for the secretariat as we seek the best location to provide our accommodations for our future weekends.

I would also like to take this time to thank Tom Miller for representing ALTD as our delegate to Tres Dias International. You truly are a blessing to us and represent us well. As Tom's term comes to an end, I am seeking nominations for the secretariat to vote on for our next TDI delegate. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone to serve in this 3-year term, please contact me at altdjeffingersoll@gmail.com. I can go over the job description with all nominees.

Gods blessings to you all, and may you be a blessing to someone else.

God Loves You and So Do I, Jeff Ingersoll ALTD Lay Director

### **COVID 19 Protocol**

#### **ALTD Covid Protocol/Policies**

#### Pre-weekend

During training, masks are HIGHLY encouraged when 6 ft of distance can't be maintained. (Not mandated, unless the state and/or facility mandates) Individual communion packets will be how we participate in communion. If a team member or a participant shows symptoms of sickness, they will not attend a training or the weekend. If someone cannot attend the weekend due to sickness, then his/her weekend fee will be reimbursed.

#### **During the weekend**

During the weekend, masks are HIGHLY encouraged when 6 ft of distance can't be maintained. (Not mandated, unless the state and/or facility mandates) Individual communion packets will be how we participate in communion. As we have done in previous weekends, if someone becomes symptomatic of communicable sickness on the weekend, they must isolate themselves. If the symptomatic person doesn't get better, then they would need to go home.

#### Post-weekend

If someone tests positive after the weekend, they must be ok with sharing that information with everyone on the weekend so that others may get tested as well. This can be shared with either the Rectora/Rector or with the Lay Director

#### Community during Send-off/Serenade/Closura

Any community that will be coming for send-off, serenade, or closura will not be in attendance if he/she has any symptoms of communicable sickness.

### To Donate to our Pay It Forward program click here!

Just \$5 a month will bless someone greatly.

Also, are you **sponsoring** someone? Have them watch this introduction to Tres Dias video.

Watch our video

For all things ALTD, including participant and team applications, please see our website: Abundant Life Tres Dias



Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you.