



# The Abraco

Vermont Tres Dias Newsletter

March - April 2014

Visit [www.vttresdias.org](http://www.vttresdias.org)

## Secuelas

**April 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Haverhill Methodist**

**May 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**St Paul's Methodist**

**June 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Jericho Ctr. Cong**

**July 19**  
**Tres Dias Picnic**

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**... the light shines in the  
darkness, and the darkness  
did not comprehend it.  
John 1:5 (NKJV)**



## Presidents Letter

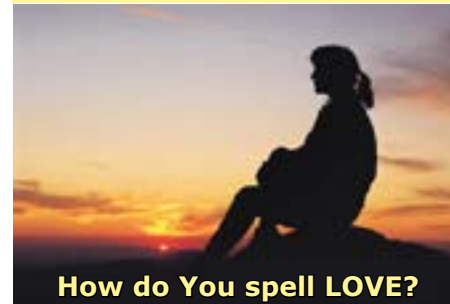


Dear Community, Our Lords hands are upon us, Fall Rectors are now praying to form their teams and seeking out the Fathers Heart for guidance and wisdom for the upcoming weekends. You may receive a call to be on team; pray and know in your heart what you should answer and remember God opens doors to the willing heart. I get excited talking about weekends - they have always been such a blessing to our community. If you are a team member, the preparation for it makes it a double blessing. Be praying for the Lord to show our hearts the ones He wants to renew and be ready to sponsor if He asks of you. Sponsorship is vital, you become the candidates lifeline to the weekend answering his/hers questions taking care of their worries of getting away from life in general as they know it. Behind the scenes is always fun and a great blessing to boot; whether it be serving meals, cooking,

baking pies , providing the DeColores cake, wrapping up the Wildflower or setting up and taking down the chapel at closing, oh and don't forget the palanca, a lot of Christ's love is to be shared by all. Great times for a Great King. The signup boards will be at the sequela at some point so be looking for them. If you cant find them call one of the kitchen chiefs they'll get your name on board. Sequela attendance has been down mostly due to weather and just plain Winter It seems its been the snows preference to fall on the weekends. I've missed seeing you all and look forward to better weather - I think we all do A big thanks to our officers for the job they did keeping and chairing the secretariats. Thanks guys, yur great. Think spring, "keep your eyes on the prize" our Lord, and pray. Nothing happens without it; we are Gods hands and feet on this earth empowered by His Spirit.

Decolores,  
*Richard Chamberlin*

## Reflections



**How do You spell LOVE?**

*by Bernadette Tracy*

As we enter the obligatory season of hearts, flowers, chocolates and sweet "I love You's", we once again set our hopes high. Our hearts await a special gift or passionate words that might bring us assurance that we are deeply loved and valued. Although, often times, they fail to deliver in meeting our great expectations.

There is a natural bend in all of us to reach out to others to sooth the ache within our souls. And that is God given. We were made for each other. But human love, despite its greatest efforts is imperfect and falls far short of our deepest longing. Our paths in life, though varied, teach us hard lessons about the frailty of human love. My path started in a home void of love, which left an ache

that I tried desperately within myself to fill. My attempts, even since becoming a Christian, have left me short of realizing God's love for me. You see, in my eyes love is spelled FAIR, as in I operate the scales of justice in my life. Love is spelled EASY, as in I get to decide how hard it gets. I want love to be spelled ANSWERS, as in I get them all up front before I obey God.



I want love to be spelled YOU FIRST, as in I will love you only if you love me. And lastly, I want love to be spelled NO RISKS, as in I will not give you my whole heart God, my trust, until you promise that I will never face hurt and disappoint-

*(Continued on Page 4)*

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ment in You or others again. I am sure many of you have spelled love in similar ways.

That is the problem with viewing love through the eye of human perspective. Because of sin and its deception we often have a wrong view of both God and His love. Often we ex-



pect to "feel" love in order to accept it as fact. God does not operate on the basis of feelings. He doesn't change. God is Perfect, as is His Love. If we could fully define God, then we could fully define love. I believe God spelled His love for us by means of the cross. "For God so loved the world." I believe we spell our love for God through such words as obedience, surrender, and trust.

Perfect Love cannot be contained or explained by red

heart boxes. It cannot be fully defined or fully comprehended in human terms. It is a gift, freely given as we lay down our own ideas before Him and open ourselves to an intimate, eternal embrace with the lover of our souls. He created within each of our delicate hearts an intentional void knowing that only His Love would be a Perfect fit.

Decolores, In His Love,

*Bernadette*

**Documents Online**

Don't forget, you can get important documents like applications, sponsor forms and brochures on the website: [www.vttresdias.org](http://www.vttresdias.org), under the "Info" tab. or by contacting Peter and Janet Smithers, phone 728-9639, or email [pj\\_smithers@comcast.net](mailto:pj_smithers@comcast.net)



# Vermont TD Web Site

[www.vttresdias.org](http://www.vttresdias.org)

Visit the link, check it out. Get monthly information about Secuela sites, and maps for directions. Find PDF files of Brochures, Applications, and Sponsor forms. Send your feedback to [pj\\_smithers@comcast.net](mailto:pj_smithers@comcast.net) We would love to hear from you!!

**He became what we are  
that He might make us what  
He is.**





## Holy Blood

He walked the way to the garden -  
And blood fell in that place;  
Bounded before the rulers,  
His blood streamed down His face.

No mercy, grace or pardon  
Was granted to Him, here.  
But, God was, then, providing  
The price for all the years!

My sins were there, upon Him;  
Blood red, then sparkling white!  
My hope in Him, eternal,  
Brought Heaven into sight!

How can that bright red blood  
make white?  
I do not understand.  
But this I know, we'll never need  
Another sacrificial lamb!

He is so very beautiful,  
More worthy than any words.  
I cannot think of the abyss,  
Were His name never heard!

The tomb is but a vacuum,  
Drawing earthly souls to Him!  
The blood has done it's mighty work  
And we are cleansed from sin!

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## Meet the Rectors

**Men's Rector, Jim Guiel** made his weekend in the fall of 2008 on weekend #43. Jim and his wife Donna live in Essex Junction and attend Essex Missionary Alliance. Jim is a retired Allstate Body Insurance Claim Analyst. Since his retirement, he has volunteered at the Burlington Emergency Center, Fletcher Allen Hospital Pastoral services, Good Samaritan at Fanny Allen Hospital. He and Donna host bible studies in their home and he started the Single Again ministry at Essex Alliance. They have 2 granddaughters in Florida, which they just spent 6 weeks with, and it was difficult to leave them. Jim is looking forward to serving this community.

**Women's Rector, Cindy Baily** made her weekend in the fall of 2007 on weekend #47. Cindy lives in Swanton and attends Georgia Plain Baptist Church. Cindy has worked as a housekeeper for many years. Her ministry, and this is where her heart lies, is in helping others with facilitating support groups, one for caregivers and one for individuals who

have suffered a loss. Cindy is the proud Mama of a thirty-two year old daughter who lives in Boston, MA. To celebrate her daughter's hard work as a Nurse Practitioner, and promotion to Lieutenant in Public Health, they just went on a cruise in the Caribbean. Cindy is eager to get her team together and serve the community as rector.

## Haverhill Secuela

The April secuela marks the first time Haverhill Methodist Church has hosted Vermont Tres Dias. In part, VTD will be there to support those who have attended a Walk to Emmaus weekend in that region but do not have a local community to have a secuelas-like reunion group. Walk to Emmaus is a similar three-day experience like Tres Dias. Let's show our support for them, and for one another by joining them on April 19. Break out of those cabin fever doldrums! Check the web site for directions: [www.vttresdias.com](http://www.vttresdias.com)

## Weekend Dates Set

Unlike some years, the weekend dates are set early, making it possible to give potential pilgrims plenty of time to schedule time off for a life changing weekend. Now is the right time to get those applications in hand.

Men's Weekend #49  
Oct. 30 - Nov. 2

Women's weekend #54  
Nov. 6 - Nov. 9

## Ottawa Weekend

Over recent years, VTD has been blessed with a number of Canadian pilgrims and team members who have demonstrated great faithfulness to Christ and our community. Luc Legault, a VTD pescadore will be the rector for Men's Ottawa Tres Dias #8. Weekend dates are May 22-25 for the men and June 5-8 for the women. Keep them in prayer throughout the team meetings and subsequent weekends.

Several men from VTD will be members of the team. Pray for safe travel and a blessed weekend for all!

## Resurrection Rolls

Recipe and Instructions for Easter Rolls that tell the true meaning of Easter which is the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is an inspiring family project that can be done on Easter Morning.

Ingredients:

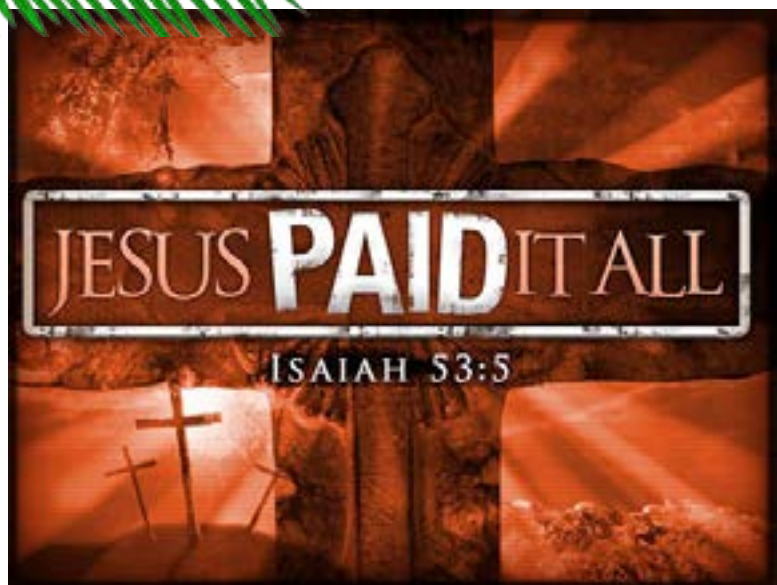
1 pkg. Crescent Roll dough  
Melted butter  
Large marshmallows  
Cinnamon  
Sugar



Directions:

Preheat Oven to 350 degrees Give each child one triangle of crescent rolls. Explain that the crescent roll represents the cloth that Jesus was wrapped in. Read Matthew 27: 57-61

1. Give each child a marshmallow. *This represents Jesus.*
2. Have him/her dip the marshmallow in melted butter. *This represents the oils of embalming.*
3. Now dip the buttered marshmallow in the cinnamon and sugar. *This represents the spices used to anoint the body.*
4. Then wrap up the coated marshmallow tightly in the crescent roll (not like a typical crescent roll up, but bring the sides up and seal the marshmallow inside.) *This represents the wrapping of Jesus' body after death.*
5. Place all in a 350 degree oven for 10-12 minutes. *The oven represents the tomb--while you are waiting for the rolls to bake, read Matthew 27:62-66.*
6. Remove rolls from oven and let them cool slightly. Now the children can then open their rolls (cloths) and discover that Jesus is no longer there! HE IS RISEN!!!! (The marshmallow melts and the crescent roll is puffed up, but empty.) ~ Now read Matthew 28:1-10 Enjoy your warm rolls as you rejoice at the good news of Easter! And then go and tell someone else the good news today!





## International News

Dear Community,

On March 6th Ron and I flew to Texas. We attended the March Tres Dias International Secretariat meeting which was hosted this year by the Sabine Creek Tres Dias community. This trip will be a bit unusual as the meeting will be held at a location where this community holds their men's and women's weekends. The name of the facility is the Lake Lavon Baptist Camp in Princeton Texas. This is a 45 minute ride from the airport we flew into, which is DFW, in Dallas. I was excited to meet and fellowship with all our brothers and sisters from the MANY Tres Dias communities in the US and around the world.

I am currently the Chairperson for our Policy Committee. This is both a rewarding and challenging position. Ron is a voting member of the Executive Committee. Pat Maynard who was a long time International Delegate from Vermont, serves on the Administration Committee. Pat will not be traveling with us and she will be

missed. She is a very committed member of our community and of International.

At our March secuela in East Randolph, I was able to share with the community what is currently happening with International. If you have questions about International or would like to attend a meeting with us, please contact Ron, Pat Maynard or myself. We will be happy to share our love and experiences with Tres Dias International with you.

DeColores!

*Barbi Langdon*

## Find us on Facebook

or connect via the VTD web site at: [www.vttresdias.org](http://www.vttresdias.org)



## Upcoming Events



# Clip & Save

**Secretariat at 5:30 PM Secuelas at 6:30 PM**

### Secuelas:

- April 19** Haverhill Methodist Church  
Haverhill, New Hampshire
- May 17** St. Pauls Methodist Church  
St. Albans, Vermont
- June 21** Jericho Ctr Congregational Church  
Jericho Center, Vermont
- July 19** Tres Dias Picnic at Kenyons

(Maps and directions may be found on the web site)

**Carpool to Secuela . . . its great fun and fellowship**



# Decolores!

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