

2021 Region 3 Annual Report

Greetings from Region 3:

- Arkansas-Oklahoma Secretariat
- Heart of America Via de Cristo
- Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas
- Texas Lutheran Via de Cristo
- Texas Gulf Coast Via de Cristo



All of us extend our peace and love to each of you. This year, as we all know, has been a very trying and different year. Each one of the secretariats in region three has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, some in the most horrific ways and some just by not being able to meet in person. It has caused a lot of isolation and depression. I have tried to keep in touch through email, calls and texts.

The one thing I learned from the past year's pandemic is how much we need each other. One of the things I love about Via de Cristo is that we are one big family with all the love and hugs. Each Ultreya I attend is like a family reunion. I missed the hugs and fellowship with my brothers and sisters in Christ. Isolation is no joke and checking on our family, friends and neighbors is important all the time, but more importantly during a pandemic. This pandemic has taught us above all that we need each other. Region 3 continues to pray for each of you as we know you are praying for us.

Throughout 2021, Lutheran Via de Cristo of North Texas and Texas Gulf Coast Via de Cristo held Ultreyas and 4th Day Retreats via Zoom. A-OK and Texas Lutheran Via de Cristo were hit hard with the pandemic and barely kept our heads above water. We are all excited about what the rest of the year holds for us as most of the Texas secretariats are holding their first weekend in over a year this fall. A-OK will be holding their first weekend in the spring of 2022.

Region 3 had the privilege of hosting the Annual Gathering in 2021, but because of the pandemic the National Secretariat made the decision to do another virtual meeting. Therefore, the Annual Gathering will be hosted by Region 3 in 2022. What a great year that will be! We already have a lot of exciting events lined up and we will continue planning to make it a great in-person Annual Gathering. We'll all be ready for those hugs, renewing friendships and just sharing God's love together.

Please continue to pray for each other and I can't wait to see each of you virtually in July and in person in 2022.

God loves you and so do I,
Cindy Perkins
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