



# ABUNDANT LIFE TRES DIAS

**June 2014 Newsletter**

[www.rockfordaltd.webs.com](http://www.rockfordaltd.webs.com)

Be sure to check out the picnic photos, and note the contact information for our new Secretariat members. And read clear to the end; lots to learn. There may be a quiz. :o)

## Wishing away my life:

We've all sung that song: "This is the day that the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it." So how come I rejoice more over Fridays than I do Mondays or Tuesdays?

Show of hands now – how many of you work 30 or more hours a week? How many are retired? How many WISH to be employed, but aren't for one or more reasons? How many are not employed outside the home by choice? How many of the first category want to be in the last category? Me, me, me – do you see my hand waving??



I am sure I am not alone, as a full-time worker, to look with great anticipation toward weekends. So what's the secret to appreciating Mondays as much as Fridays? Attitude. And gratitude. I'm going to try to be grateful for every single day. As a breast cancer survivor, you'd think that would be deeply ingrained in me, but life just tends to steal away that joy, that awareness that each day is a gift – not only FROM God, but OF God. A day to walk with Him, to have that ongoing non-verbal conversation, to hear His voice in my ear (Is. 30:21). A day to appreciate that (a) I am healthy, (b) I have a JOB, (c) I get to enjoy not only God, but my family, my friends, my (fill in the blank). (Wednesdays it's Beefaroo Summer Berry Salad; Thursday mornings it's Starbucks chai latte extra hot no foam; Friday mornings it's a glazed crescent.)

Bottom line, EVERY day is a gift. Every day is to be savored. And if your day isn't going well or you are grieving a loss, or the medical tests brought bad news, take heart. We are all in this together, and God will **never** leave us or forsake us. Even on Mondays. Perhaps...especially on Mondays.

.....Anita Rogers <><  
Your Communication Chair

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Send prayer requests, information, etc., to [tresdiascommunication@gmail.com](mailto:tresdiascommunication@gmail.com)

## Farewell from your Palanca Chair .....

We would just like to say it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Tres Dias Palanca Chairs for the past 3 years. Palanca has been a great experience for us but we are now excited to pass our prayer scroll batons over to the new Palanca Chairs, Dan and Judy Piecha. We will pray for them as they take on their new responsibilities and can only hope that they will be as blessed as we were. Witnessing the outpouring of love, prayers and special notes sent from all around the world is both amazing and a blessing. As we say good-bye, we also wanted to say thank you to our community for all the support and total commitment that was shown when it was time to cover the men's and women's weekends in prayer.

Thank you all and God Bless,  
Benny and Becka Iler



The photo on the LEFT is the incoming Palanca Chairs, Dan & Judy Piecha, with outgoing Chairs Benny & Becka Iler. The photo on the RIGHT is the Weekend 31 Rectora/Rector with their spouses!



## Women's Weekend #31.....

Hello -

My name is Judy Piecha and I attended NITD #22 in the fall of 2003 where I sat at the table of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. I am honored to be called to serve as your Women's Weekend #31 Rectora. My best friend for over 30 years, Sherry Bunker, is my Head Cha. She attended NITD #20 in the fall of 2002 where she sat at the table of Deborah.

We are so excited to be in this ministry with all of you and to be a part of this ALTD #31! We have no doubt HE has marvelous plans for the women who will be attending the weekend.

I have the vision of HIM knitting HIS team together and placing each team member exactly where they are needed. The greatest blessing and joy I have received so far are stories from team telling me how the Holy Spirit revealed to them that they should be working on this team. It's such a confirmation!! I'm truly humbled to be part of this process.

The verse He has laid in my heart comes from *Jeremiah 31:3...* "The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying, 'I have loved you with an everlasting love. I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.'

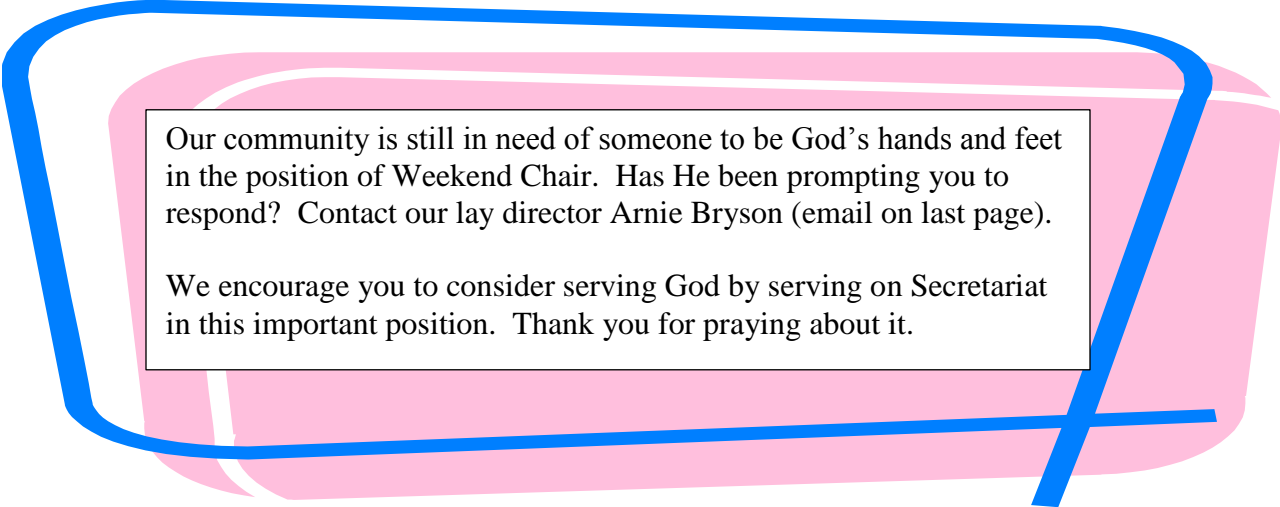
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” I pray the women on this weekend will feel and see how much He just wants to lavish His love on us.

Again, we covet your prayers as we start preparing for the upcoming team trainings.

In Him,  
Judy Piecha & Sherry Bunker



Our community is still in need of someone to be God's hands and feet in the position of Weekend Chair. Has He been prompting you to respond? Contact our lay director Arnie Bryson (email on last page).

We encourage you to consider serving God by serving on Secretariat in this important position. Thank you for praying about it.

### *Men's Weekend #31 .....*

We would like to let the ALTD Community know that the Men's Weekend #31 is coming together nicely. We are asking for your prayers, and our mission is that God will be honored and glorified in every possible way. We are still in the selection process and God is helping us form the team that will serve His desires. We are blessed, honored, and most of all humbled by this opportunity to serve our Father.

Weekend Verse - Psalm 115:1 "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to Your name give glory."

God Bless,  
Benny Iler & Randy Weltzien

## A note from your community SD....

As many of you may know my 3 year term as your ALTD community Spiritual Director has come to an end. It has been an honor and privilege to serve you and I will cherish our memories together till eternity! Thank you for so much heartfelt love, perseverance, and service! I consider many of you my closest friends in life and have been richly blessed. I will continue to serve on the ALTD Spiritual Director advisory Board but will pass the baton to Gretchen Hammeke of Westminster to become your next community SD! Gretchen is very dear to my heart and I can't think of a better community SD! She is an amazing servant and has a heart devoted deeply to His service. I am honored to be involved in her new role through ALTD! Please keep Gretchen and our entire secretariat team in your prayers as we serve together.

"Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God." – Col 3:16

Ryan Bensheimer

## *How are Rectors and Rectoras selected??*

*From Karen Weis, your Leaders Chair*

There are certain requirements that need to be met, as outlined in ALTD's Policies and Procedures (See [www.rockfordaltd.webs.com](http://www.rockfordaltd.webs.com), Applications / Documents.) The Rector/a requirements are stated after the requirements of all team members. (See Pages 1 through 3)

ALTD currently has 15 men qualified to serve as Rector (meaning they have given at least three rollos, served as a Cha at least twice outside the Rollo Room, and served in at least one Head position). We currently have 10 women qualified to be considered as Rectora, but each weekend brings a few more candidates to be qualified as Rector/Rectora as they give a rollo or serve in a needed position. Team experience is recorded in the ALTD community roster following every weekend.

A preliminary ballot in alphabetical order with team experiences and last team served is prepared and voted on by members of the Secretariat. Couples serving in a position on Secretariat each receive one vote, often the man votes for the men and the woman for the women. It is a private ballot with ranking the top choice as #1, all the way to the highest number as their least choice. This private ballot is tallied by the Leaders Chair. Out of the preliminary votes, the top ten choices are then voted on again by members of the Secretariat and the last two Rectors and Rectoras. These private ballots are again tallied by the Leaders Chair.

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The Leaders Chair then calls the first choice on each list and they are given a time to consider and pray about accepting the position. If the time is not right for them to serve, the next person is called, and so forth until a qualified person accepts the position.

It is very evident that the Holy Spirit calls the next leaders of the weekends through this process. Our community is blessed to have so many men and women who have already met the requirements to be considered ready to serve if and when they are called by God.

Please let me or any member of Secretariat know if you have any questions about this process of how our weekend leaders are chosen by God to serve in this important capacity.



## “Getting to know you”

This feature is an ongoing look at the people who have volunteered to serve on Secretariat. This issue features **Vicki Hunt**, who chairs the Post-Weekend position along with her husband Todd.

**Your name, church, city and family:** Vicki Hunt, Heartland Community Church, Rockford; husband Todd & daughter Sydney (18)

**Why did you say “yes” to serving on Secretariat?** Love to throw a good party!! No, really, I agreed because we love serving in this community. We have been blessed to have met so many wonderful people who are walking in the same direction as we are. To help this community grow people to leadership and have a stronger faith in God is such a wonderful feeling.

**As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? How did that turn out for you?**

Well at the age of 8 I had decided I wanted to be a hairstylist. My mom was one and I wanted to do hair better than she. And it will be 29 years this August that I have been in the salon industry.

**What was your first paying job, and what did you learn from it?** Well, DQ was it. I was 16 and on no account was I motivated to do much. I had to be asked/told to even clean the tables. So, to much dismay, they fired me. Of course, if you ask any of my family, it was because I couldn't make the little curly Q's on top of the ice cream cones.

**If you had a \$10,000 gift card for travel, where would you go and what would you do there?**

I would see as many states as possible. To go to all the national parks in each state would be awesome!!

**What has surprised you lately?** That our daughter made it to “18” and she is more motivated than ever about her interests in the theater. I am truly excited for her. Surprised also at myself that I really haven't cried as much as I thought I would have through her senior year and her upcoming departure for college.

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**If you had one chance for a “do over,” what would it be?** To have really paid attention in school.

**What would be on the dead-bang bottom of your list of places to travel? Care to say why?**

Really, anywhere outside the U.S. There is a lot wrong with this country but so much good still. The amazing beauty that is here just astounds me.

**As in the movie “City Slickers,” describe your best day ever (wedding day, day of salvation, and births of children are excluded).**

One I can think of, 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2007. Laurel, Montana - Most impressive fireworks display ever!! You can Google them if you want, this past year they let off more than 20,000 shells. Amazing!!

**Favorite genre of music?** Christian, but really love me some country twang.

**Worst food encounter?** A bad mix of hotdogs, pineapple, green peppers, carrots, and Kraft french dressing. My Uncle Maynard was into cooking those days. Eh, not so much.

**Name one item from your bucket list:** To see every national park.

**Favorite subject in high school?** Loved math.

**LEAST favorite?** Science. Who needs to know how to dissect a frog when you're going to beauty school? There are no frogs sitting in my chair!!

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ALTD men's weekend #31: November 6 ~ 9, 2014;  
Inspiration Center; Benny Iler, Rector  
ALTD women's weekend #31: November 13~16, 2014;  
Inspiration Center; Judy Piecha, Rectora

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Team AND candidate applications available on the website



Annual picnic at Wallers' farm – Saturday, June 21, 2014 .... We had about 70 people, but in all the eating and talking I did not remember to take enough photos to fully memorialize all the fellowship, sorry.



Brock Sampson with Terri Weber, Ellen Gibbs and Jen Sampson



The kids made good use of the playground equipment.



The bread, the wine – taken in remembrance of Him.



Ahh, the food line! We had plenty to enjoy.



Brad Champeny between Tammy and Ken Templeton (Ken was our other Fourth Day Speaker)



Renee Budwick, one of our Fourth Day Speakers



Alison Soto, incoming Secretary, with Jean Lisk, outgoing Secretary

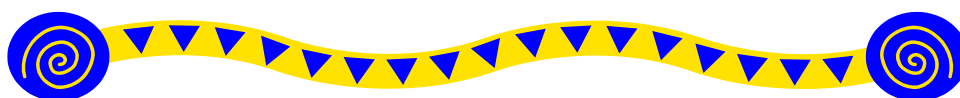


Todd Hunt assisting Ed Davis, our main man for pulled pork!



Gretchen Hammeke, our new community spiritual director

"Fear is how we lose our life....a little bit at a time.  
What we give to fear, we take away from faith."  
Mitch Albom



## Prayer Chain

I am pleased and grateful to those of you who replied "Yes" to my plea for prayer chain members. Of course, prayer requests for our ALTD members and families (and occasional requests for NITD or Credo) go out to the entire community, but now the prayer needs for co-workers, neighbors, friends of friends and so on, will be sent to at least 48 of you to lift up to God Almighty, Who hears and answers every prayer. (Some answers are "not yet," and some "no, beloved" but some are "yes.") As with other Tres Dias traditions, what is shared on the prayer chain stays with the prayer chain. You will be blessed. Thank you..... Anita Rogers, Comm.Chair

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Reminder: our community's Secretariat members are included on the last page,  
with contact info.

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ALTD SECRETARIAT MEMBERS		
Arnie Bryson	Lay Director	<a href="mailto:ambryson@charter.net">ambryson@charter.net</a>
Gretchen Hammeke	Spiritual Director	<a href="mailto:hammekewi@att.net">hammekewi@att.net</a>
Karen Weis	Leaders Chair	<a href="mailto:karenweis@comcast.net">karenweis@comcast.net</a>
	Weekend Chair	
Kevin Busker	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:tkbusker@comcast.net">tkbusker@comcast.net</a>
Terri Weber	Pre-Weekend Chair	<a href="mailto:theresarose3@charter.net">theresarose3@charter.net</a>
Dan & Judy Piecha	Palanca Chair	<a href="mailto:danpiecha@yahoo.com">danpiecha@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:judypiecha@charter.net">judypiecha@charter.net</a>
Todd & Vicki Hunt	Post-Weekend Chair	<a href="mailto:olman1963@yahoo.com">olman1963@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:vixter82009@yahoo.com">vixter82009@yahoo.com</a>
Alison Soto	Secretary	<a href="mailto:furniture1tech@gmail.com">furniture1tech@gmail.com</a>
Michael Dustman	Reunion Chair	<a href="mailto:kmdust@genevaonline.com">kmdust@genevaonline.com</a>
Anita Rogers	Communication Chair	<a href="mailto:tresdiascommunication@gmail.com">tresdiascommunication@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:justanita1010@yahoo.com">justanita1010@yahoo.com</a>

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