



Harvester Fall 2019

Dear DeColores Community,

Laurie and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers and support offered up over these past eight months. The Lord has stretched us through this experience like none other, and your prayers are most assuredly needed, so again, we thank you.

In just a few short months our term as your current President Couple comes to an end, and looking back, we would like to share some thoughts on our experience. Back when we prayed about committing three years of our lives to the secretariat board, never did we imagine the joy and satisfaction that we would experience. However, time and time again GOD has shown that He honors sacrifice and blesses obedience, and He has done just that!

It has not been without challenges mind you, but through an attitude of prayer and an open heart as to what God would want done, and doing it as unto Him, we were able to meet those challenges as they arose. We are reminded of Philippians 4:13 that states "we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us."

This community of believers is full of the most amazing people, from those serving on the current board to the community at large, so again, we thank every one of you.

As far as the board is concerned, we are still currently seek individuals willing to serve to consider filling some area representative positions that are vacant. The board is also seeking nominations for the next Vice-President couple/single along with nominations for future Rector/Rectoress positions. Please remember that candidates for these positions must meet certain requirements which can be found on the website at <http://www.swmi-decolores.org>. make sure to check it out.

The final two weekends of the year are approaching fast, and we would like to remind you to lift the teams and candidates that will be in attendance up in prayer, because as you all know prayer is the engine that drives this wonderful ministry.

At the beginning of the year we were challenged by Stan Dudka, your secretariat board Spiritual Director on the concept of unity. We can say without a doubt that we have seen this happen firsthand during our board meetings working together as many decisions have been made in unity!

As a final thought, we would like to encourage you all to challenge yourselves to become or continue to be involved through prayer and servanthood, sharing DeColores as you share Christ with the world around you.

Yours in Christ

Michael and Laurie Kempisty

President Couple DeColores 2019

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Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.



I SURRENDER

LETTER FROM #131 RECTOR

Dear DeColores Family,

First of all I want to thank the community for giving me this opportunity to serve as Rector of the Fall weekend. My life and walk with Christ has been changed and made better by God's power through this ministry. Throughout my life I have struggled with surrendering fully to God. So this was the theme God gave me for weekend 131. God's pretty awesome like that! I have learned that surrendering to God is an every day choice. Some days it's an every minute choice and some days even an every second choice. I have learned that fully surrendering and living in God's will is a marathon and not a sprint. We are continually being conditioned for this. What better place than to be in His will for your life! What a wonderful community we have to help us on this marathon! We need community to encourage us all along the way sharing struggles, joys, and lessons we have learned from His word.

The host church, Faith United Methodist in Buchanan, Michigan, has been truly hospitable. They have been praying for all of us corporately for several months. It is very encouraging that the host church shares in our excitement for what God is going to do. It appears that a few of the candidates may also be from the host church.

Please continue to lift us all up in prayer for God's will and to make sure that we all remember it's God's weekend and surrender to Him in all we say and do. We are requesting that you specifically pray that through our community we can create an atmosphere where God can work to change lives in both candidates and team members alike.

As we learn together to fully surrender, may God remind us of Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Humbly together in His service,

Steve Whiting

Rector Weekend #131

DeColores Men's Weekend #131

September 19-22

Faith UMC 728 N Detroit St, Buchanan, MI 49107

Theme: "I Surrender"

Scripture: Galatians 2:20

Theme Song: Here I stand amazed, The Kingsman

INSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Rector:	Steve Whiting	(269) 240-8812	Swhiting1957@gmail.com
Co-Rector:	Vern Hochstetler	(574) 250-2790	v.hochstetler@yahoo.com
Spiritual Directors:	Denny Soule	(574) 213-4123	dennysoule@gmail.com
	Len Bailey	(269) 362-7550	lenbailey52@att.net
Head Coordinator:	Chris Winkelmann	(979) 716-1167	wink911@gmail.com

OUTSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Kitchen Help Coordinator:	Chris Thompson	(269) 362-0348	ccchriscross@comcast.net
24-Hour Prayer Coordinator:	Shelby Trusty	(574) 335-9818	strusty28@gmail.com
Clean Up Coordinator:	Doug Barth	(574) 329-0055	d_n_mbarth@comcast.net
Guard Duty Coordinator:	Tori Mallard	(574) 300-8086	vicjmallard@gmail.com

EVENT INFORMATION

Mealtimes:	<i>Kitchen Help: Please Arrive At Least 20 Minutes Early</i>		
Friday:	Breakfast: 7:15 am	Lunch: 11:45 am	Dinner: 5:15 pm
Saturday:	Breakfast: 7:00 am	Lunch: 12:15 pm	Dinner: 7:00 pm
Sunday:	Breakfast: 7:30 am	Lunch: 12:15 pm	Dinner: 5:30 pm

Palanca Drops:	1 st Drop: 2:00 pm	2 nd Drop: 5:15 pm	3 rd Drop: 9:15 pm
Friday:			
Saturday:	4 th Drop: 8:00 am	5 th Drop: 1:05 pm	6 th Drop: 4:30 pm

Set-Up: Wednesday, Sept 18th @ 6:30 pm

Sponsor's Chapel: Thursday, Sept 19th @ 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Holy Hour: Friday, Sept 20th @ 7:00 pm
Journey Church 12100 Adams Rd, Granger, IN 46530

24-Hour Prayer Begins: Friday, Sept 20th @ 9:00 pm @ Host Church

Rector/Rectoress Serenade: Saturday, Sept 21st @ 7:15 am - All Past Rectors/Rectoresses are invited

Clean-Up Sunday: Sunday, Sept 22nd @ 6:45 am – Entire Church for Sunday Service
Sunday, Sept 22nd @ 3:15 pm – Rollo Room Only
Sunday, Sept 22nd after closing – Entire Church Final Clean-Up

Church Service: Sunday, Sept 22nd @ 11:00 am

Serenade: Sunday, Sept 22nd @ 5:45 pm with **closing** immediately following

CHECK OUR SWMI DECOLORES WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.swmi-decolores.org



LETTER FROM #132 RECTORESS

Dear DeColores Community,

What an honor it is to be chosen as Rectoress for week-end #132.

It has been an a exciting journey so far. My Co-Rectoress, Deb Soule, is the perfect match for me. I am so glad God has brought her and I and the rest of this team together.

I have no doubt that this weekend will bring many closer to Jesus, not only the candidates but the team as well. The weekend theme, Hand and Hand We Soldier On, will prove to show what a strong community DeColores is.

Thank you for choosing me. I am looking forward to what the Lord has in store in the coming months.

Thank you for all the prayers and continued prayers and support.

In Jesus,
Debbie Shirrell
Rectoress #132

Psalm 118:13-14

I was pushed
back and about
to fall, but
the Lord helped
me.

The Lord is my
strength and my
defense;
he has become
my salvation.



DeColores Women's Weekend #132

October 17-20, 2019

First Church of Christ-Christian 2240 Yankee St, Niles, MI 49120

Theme: "Hand and Hand We Soldier On"

Song: "Battle Song"

Scripture: Psalm 118:13-14

INSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Rectoress:	Debbie Shirrell	(269) 277-3771	Buffdt925@aol.com
Co-Rectoress:	Debbie Soule	(574) 213-4124	Deborahsoule@gmail.com
Spiritual Directors:	Venita Massey	(574) 220-9569	venilynn@gmail.com
	Desiree Szymczak	(574) 310-0922	Desert.rain219@yahoo.com
Head Coordinator:	Mechelle Celie	(269) 845-5882	Jamcelie@gmail.com

OUTSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Kitchen Help Coordinator:	Pat Huttenstine	(269) 369-2540	none
24-Hour Prayer Coordinator:	Pam Aviles	(269) 838-5668	ptaviles@yahoo.com
Clean Up Coordinator:	Denny Soule (AM)	(574) 213-4123	dennysoule@gmail.com
	Bill Dickson	(574) 784-2639	bdickson@cressy.com
Guard Duty Coordinator:	Bill Fitzgerald	(269) 228-0313	bfitz1401@gmail.com

EVENT INFORMATION

Mealtimes:	<i>Kitchen Help: Please Arrive At Least 20 Minutes Early</i>		
Friday:	Breakfast: 7:15 am	Lunch: 12:05 am	Dinner: 5:15 pm
Saturday:	Breakfast: 7:00 am	Lunch: 12:00 pm	Dinner: 6:30 pm
Sunday:	Breakfast: 7:00 am	Lunch: 12:15 pm	Dinner: 5:00 pm

Palanca Drops:			
Friday:	1 st Drop: 2:30 pm	2 nd Drop: 6:20 pm	3 rd Drop: 9:45 pm
Saturday:	4 th Drop: 8:00 am	5 th Drop: 12:40 pm	6 th Drop: 4:30 pm

Set-Up: Wednesday, October 16th @ 6:30 pm

Sponsor's Chapel: Thursday, October 17th @ 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Holy Hour: Friday, October 18th @ 7:00 pm @ New Beginnings Ministries, 1256 East Main, Niles, MI

24-Hour Prayer Begins: Friday, October 18th @ 9:00 pm @ Host Church

Rector/Rectoress Serenade: Saturday, October 19th @ 7:15 am - All Past Rectors/Rectoresses are invited

Clean-Up Sunday: Sunday, October 22nd @ 6:45 am – Entire Church for Sunday Service
Sunday, October 22nd @ 3:15 pm – Rollo Room Only
Sunday, October 22nd after closing – Entire Church Final Clean-Up

Church Service: Sunday, October 22nd @ 10:30 am

Serenade: Sunday, October 22nd @ 5:45 pm with **Closing** immediately following

CHECK OUR SWMI DECOLORES WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.swmi-decolores.org

Rector/Rectoress 4th day

#121

My original weekend was #89. I didn't really want to go on the weekend but being there I truly realized God answers prayers and has a plan for all of us. I knew in my heart that I wanted to be an active member of the DeColores community.

In my heart and mind I wanted to be a Rector from my original weekend. When I qualified to become a rector I put my name in the hat, not knowing what a journey I would take to becoming the Rector of DeColores #121. My name was in the hat for 2 years. I was denied three times like Peter.

After being denied the second time I started to question if this is what God wanted me to do. Why haven't I been picked? I'm doing all the right things, going to church, being active in the church, being active in the community. God, why don't you want me to be a Rector? The answer was simple but a life lesson. I wanted it for meouch.

I had to be humbled and remember who is really in control and it would happen in God's time not my time.

It was a humbling experience and when God opened the doors and I changed my heart to give God total control, my prayers were answered with weekend #121.

Since that weekend God has blessed me beyond measure. When God took control and I let him have control everything about that weekend was totally God's. I have been living that 4th day every day since. Some days are better than others but I know God is in control and I need to let God have the control. I praise Him and thank Him everyday. Lesson learned, get out of the way, die to self, let God have control and give Him the glory and honor He deserves.

Thank you to God's team, candidates, and the community for allowing me to be Rector of #121.

Facing Your Giants

Jeff Celie Rector #121

#130

Team Jesus is in the Harvester!

On this road we call life, there are many blessings we can miss out on, however I thank God DeColores #130 is NOT one of them.

God is STILL working in each and everyone of our lives. Lasting relationships are being built - just as God intended!

Thank you DeColores Community for entrusting me with weekend #130 and thank you Sheila Winkelmann and Leigh Bishop for your love, kindness and patience and service.

We are all on Team Jesus!

Brandi Mayer



NEW SECURITY PROCEDURES FOR 24H PRAYER



- 1) Guard duty insures the safety of the team, candidates, and people coming into pray. It also protects against vandalism and theft during the 24 hour prayer time.
- 2) Guard duty begins at 11pm Friday night after Holy Hour on both Men's and Women's weekends. It will continuing through the night until 5am Saturday morning, as the doors of the entire church will be locked during this time.
- 3) Schedule two (2) people for two hour shifts of guard duty (11pm-1am, 1am-3am, & 3am-5am)
- 4) For those coming in for 24 hour prayer you will need to wear your DeColores name badges. If one is not available, a temporary badge will be made out and give to you. If anyone comes to pray that isn't known to the guards your ID will be required in order to match your name to the master list. Names will also be checked with 24 hour prayer coordinator's list.
- 5) Parking needs to be in designated areas only. These areas will be clearly marked.
- 6) Only those participating in 24 hour prayer, kitchen help, or guard duty are allowed to be outside of the 24 hour prayer area.
- 7) The head coordinator will assign the door you will be stationed at for guard duty. All other doors will be locked. Do NOT patrol the perimeter of the church.
- 8) Reminders to volunteers must be sent out 24 hours before shift.
- 9) Post a schedule with names and phone numbers of personal on duty.
- 10) Remind guards to keep things quit during sleep times..
- 11) Women can now serve on men's weekends.

"We must love one another as God loves each one of us. To be able to love, we need a clean heart. Prayer is what gives us a clean heart. The fruit of prayer is a deepening of faith and the fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service, which is compassion in action." ~ Mother Teresa



Cursillistas Corner

Before DeColores, I felt lost and like I did not have much of my faith left to hold on to. I felt discouraged and like God had left me.

While on the weekend, I was able to experience God's love in such a tangible and new way! It changed my perspective and my path! I am now full of joy through the trials and have a hunger to go deeper with God. I've made friendships I hope to have my whole life!

Thank you community!

Erica Holdren

DeColores #130

Peter Sando (P J) #129
My fourth day:

I made weekend #129, not knowing what to expect. I knew the Lord but, on the weekend, I really developed a stronger relationship with Christ. When I went home my fourth day began. There was a fire for the Lord that really started to burn within me. I felt like I did not have a choice I felt like I had to share the Lord with everyone, and what He did for me.

I work in a small Christian café where everyone really loves the Lord. We do Bible studies and pray daily. The best blessing about my work is that not a week goes by where the Lord does not guide people into the café and I get a chance to pray over them and be a witness for Christ. Just seeing the tears of joy coming down their cheeks and the feeling I get in my heart is just amazing. It is all God and I give Him all the Glory. I just can not put into words the experiences God has allowed me to be a part of.

I feel DeColores has really helped equip me for this journey that I am on and I thank Him daily.

I want to thank my sponsors Larry and Joan Litke for sending me through the weekend and I am forever grateful for everything DeColores has done for me.

As my fourth day continues, I pray God continues to use me, where ever I go and in what ever I do.



WE NEED YOU!

SWMI SECRETARIAT

OPENINGS:

Every year new people are needed to fill positions on the Secretariat Board. If you'd like to be more involved with SWMI DeColores this is a great way to serve the community and our Lord. One great benefit to being on the Secretariat is that you will be more visible in the community which means you'll get asked to work more weekends!!! Interested? Contact the president couple or any secretariat member.

Please feel free to come to the secretariat meetings - we'd love to have you and your input is important to us! Times and directions are located on the "Secretariat" page.

SECRETARIAT BOARD

- *President Couple: Mike and Laurie Kempisty
- *Vice President Couple: Jeff and Mechelle Celie
- *Past President Couple: Rick and Barb Erickson
- *Spiritual Director: Pastor Stan Dudka
- *Secretary: Gwen Hochstetler
- *Treasurer: Leigh Bishop
- *Pre-DeColores (Registration) Victoria Mallard
- *In DeColores (Trailer): Ron & Elayne Hayden
- *Post DeColores: Steve Whiting
- *Historian: Harold Davis, Sr.
- *Website Coordinator/Newsletter Editor: Chris Winkelmann
- *Palanca Coordinator: Devon Floor
- *National Representative: Joan Litke
- *S. Central Michigan Area Rep: VACANT
- *Central Michigan Area Rep: VACANT
- *S. West Michigan Area Rep: Chris Thompson
- *N. Indiana Area Rep: Sheila Winkelmann
- *West Central Michigan Area Rep: VACANT
- *2020 Vice President/Couple—VACANT
- *Spring 2020 Rector/Rectoress—VACANT

Save those stamps!

Reminder when paying for fees online you must add service charge. They are posted on the website before you click "Give".

Also ALL forms are available online. You can submit from the website.



~Important Information for New Cursillistas and a Reminder for Seasoned Cursillistas~

Community support is a vital part of the DeColores weekend, and the weekends could not run without it. The prayer and service of the Community is an important part of a successful DeColores weekend. Please take to heart the following information:

*The community members who come to support the weekend for Kitchen Help, 24 Hour Prayer, and praying for a Rollista are to remain in the areas designated for those purposes. The kitchen, dining hall, 24 hour prayer room and Rollista prayer room are the only areas that non-inside team members can be. (Exception: photographer during the pictures on Friday, President Couple, and person giving the going home talk on Sunday, and only during their talks).

*Please respect and uphold the guidelines of the weekend as it has been designed so the Candidates and the Inside Team can bond and be undistracted. Walking around the halls, around the sleeping rooms, and outside the Rollo Room is not allowed.

*Only the inside *Team Members* and the new Cursillistas are to attend the Follow Up meetings held after the weekend. If you bring the person you sponsored to the Follow Up and do not want to leave and come back, please find another place in the church to spend time. The follow-up meeting scheduled for the Ultreya is your chance to get to know the new Cursillistas and fellowship with them.

*Serenade and Closing are open only to those who have completed a DeColores weekend. Please, children are not allowed to attend.

Thank you for your support; we look forward to seeing you during the upcoming weekends.



Ultreyas are changing!

Starting in 2020, Ultreyas will be held 4 times a year! Yes, you heard me correctly!

FOUR TIMES A YEAR!

Ultreyas will now be on the third Saturday of February, May, August and November. Every weekend will have a theme, guest speaker, and worship music. Meat will be supplied and everyone can bring a side dish, dessert, or both to share.

Mark your calendars now, God has BIG things in store for 2020.

National DeColores

DeColores Family,

We are in need of a 2020 Southwest Michigan board representative for the National board. If you are interested please let us know as soon as possible.

You all are loved,

Larry Litke, National President

<http://decoloresnational.wixsite.com/national>



Indiana Secretariat Vision

God has given many
in our community a
vision to expand the
ministry into
Indiana. Please be in
prayer about this
possibility. We are
seeking Gods
wisdom and
guidance through
this time.

Greetings DeColores Community,

Where did the Summer go? The Fall weekends are upon us, weekends #131 and #132. Thank you for all the ways that you serve from the inside team to the outside team and all the community support. It is through your acts of service unto the Lord that the candidates feel an expression of love that they may have never felt before.

At my original weekend closing, I remember there was not a person sitting when all the areas of involvement were announced. That was a feeling I hope all the candidates feel at their closings.

Prayer is the engine that moves the DeColores weekends through. Thank you for your prayers. Please pray for each team member of the upcoming weekends. Please pray for each candidate as the weekends draw near.

Thank you Lord for the entire DeColores Community,

Pastor Stan Dudka,

Spiritual Director of the SWMI Secretariat Board

IN LOVING MEMORY

To all our Brothers and Sisters that
have gone home in 2019.

The Last Word

This is our newness. This is the new commandment. “Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.” Yes. But not by copying my fruit, but by connecting to my vine. You don’t mainly imitate. You participate. Your love for each other is not a simulation of mine, but a manifestation of mine. You are the branches. I am the vine. If you abide in me, you can bear fruit, and prove to be my disciples (John 15:8). This is how all people know you are truly my disciples.

So the reason the love we have for each other shows that we are truly Jesus’ disciples, is that it is only possible because we are grafted into the life and love of Christ. We love as he loved, because we love with his love.

So, Bethlehem — “my little children!” — in these crucial days, these historic days in the life of our church, this is what Jesus is calling for among us. “Just as I have loved you, that you, Bethlehem, love one another.” Go low in foot-washing-like service to one another. Lay down your lives, your privileges, for one another. Love your brothers and sisters across all racial and ethnic lines. Love the weakest and oldest and youngest. Love the disabled. Love the lonely trouble maker. It is certain when you love that you cannot atone for anyone’s sin. But you can do something like it, because “Love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8). How blessed the church — especially the church in transition — that loves like this!

DeColores!

Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries

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