

2024

FALL HARVESTER



The Currency of Peace: How wealthy are you?

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27

As sons and daughters of the King, we need to walk and operate in peace continually. Some would argue that isn't possible, haven't you seen what's going on in the world? I would argue back that, as a fruit of communion with Holy Spirit, peace is somewhat of a currency. The more time you spend in The Presence of Holy Spirit, the more you yield to Jesus Christ who is alive inside you the greater amount of peace you will have. At the same time, it can melt away imperceptibly in the middle of your distractions. You don't even know it's gone until you find yourself tangled in emotions, fighting frustration, or withdrawing in fear.

There are times in our lives when we find ourselves in the middle of conflict, turmoil, and turbulent waters. In that place true inner peace is 100% impossible unless you receive it from Jesus himself. “Peace I leave with you.” When our Lord speaks peace, He creates peace because the words that He speaks are always Spirit and life to us.

“My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you.” The best the world has to offer is a counterfeit peace which is any temporary fix or soother of emotions. We've all done it. This counterfeit peace can also come from well-meaning friends or our own mouths that offers a sympathy that feeds into feeling sorry for yourself instead of what God actually says about the situation. Beware of this kind of fleshy advice that leaves you feeling justified in your emotions instead of placing them at the feet of Jesus and grabbing hold of His Word that will produce lasting peace.

“Let not your heart be troubled, let it not be afraid.” says we have control over our emotions, over our thoughts, over our will. “Let” indicated we can, or we can't, it's a choice that we can if we decide to. Holy Spirit is the One who is always with us, never leaves us, He is our Comforter. He can teach us all things if we ask Him to help us take our thoughts captive. Jesus will guide our feet unto The Way of peace.

But when you are in the middle of the situation, it is not always easy to get a handle on the peace of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Recently I had to sit still. Very still. For a very long time. I desperately needed Jesus to show up and so I sat and waited. He came in quiet contentment and spoke to my heart as a friend.

Hebrews 12:2 says “Looking unto Jesus...” Looking in this sense means undivided attention, looking away from all distractions to fix one's gaze on one object. Having eyes for no one but Jesus. He is the author and finisher of our faith. Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame and has sat down at the right hand of the Throne of God. The work of Christ is finished, His work in us is dependent on us.

Ephesians 6:13 says “Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day and having done all to stand. To stand means...be still...settle down...be at peace. It’s only when we set our course to be still, settle ourselves down into His peace that we can stand against the enemy, bravely resist his schemes, and vigorously oppose what he is doing in our world and in our lives.

With the authority and spiritual weapons granted to us through the Blood of Jesus, we can withstand the enemy and have complete and total victory. We know this is scripturally true, but do we lay hold of it as truth for our own lives and the lives of those we care about?

The Word tells us to take up the whole armor of God in order to maintain the battle stance against unseen forces that try to steal your peace and trouble your mind. We know it’s not against flesh and blood we fight but beware of the many times a day the enemy gets you to set your thoughts on yourself instead of Jesus who wants to stand in the middle of your situation as the Prince of Peace.

So, if you find yourself in a battle....

1. Ask God to search your heart to see if there is something you need to repent of, remove or reconcile. If you are not right with God, you cannot turn your mind anywhere but on yourself.
2. Remember, allowing anything to hide Jesus’ face from you either causes you to become troubled or gives you a false sense of security. (Insert iPhone here....and realize the logo is an apple with a bite out of it for a reason)

It is not possible for us to worry ourselves out of a situation. Instead, ask yourself...have I spent the time needed to receive the quiet contentment from my Lord Jesus. Then look intently unto Jesus for as long as it takes. He will eliminate confusion in your mind. He will eliminate strife in your emotions. He will speak quietly to your heart and give you peace. Only from that place you can make wise decisions that honor the Lord with your life.

“You will keep in perfect and constant peace the one whose mind is steadfast (that is committed and focused on you in both inclination and character) because he trusts and takes refuge in you with hope and confident expectation.” Isaiah 26:3 Amplified Bible.

Jodi Feitz
Spiritual Director

Excerpts taken from My Utmost for His Highest, Oswald Chambers “Are You Ever Troubled?”



Dear DeColores Family,

We are excited to share with you the upcoming Men's and Women's Weekends that are fast approaching. These weekends are a special time for us to gather, grow, and strengthen our faith. It's a unique opportunity for both men and women to come together in fellowship, worship, and deepening our relationship with Christ.

As we prepare for these weekends #145 and #146, let's remember the importance of unity in the body of Christ. We are called to be one, supporting and encouraging each other as we walk this journey of faith together. Whether we are gathering as men, women, or as a whole church, our strength comes from our unity in Christ.

Please be in prayer over weekends #145 and #146, that they may be a time of renewal, growth, and deeper connection with our Lord and with each other.

In Christ's Love,

Chris and Sheila Winkelmann

DeColores President Couple

SWMI DeColores secretariat board is looking to fill the following 2024 positions:

Vice President or Vice President Couple

Qualifications:

1. Have either completed at least three (3) DeColores weekends as a team member or completed at least two (2) DeColores weekends and one (1) substantially similar weekend in the Cursillo tradition as a team member.
2. Have been a coordinator on a DeColores weekend or completed a Fourth-Day (Leadership Training) Workshop.
3. Have been a Rollista on a DeColores weekend.
4. Have been a member of the Southwestern Michigan DeColores community for at least three (3) years at the time of nomination.

Please see any current board member if you have any questions or would like to serve in either of these positions.

It's Your Time to Shine

DeColores Weekend #145

Dear DeColores Community,

You all Rock! I want to thank you for being my family and support system for the last six years.

When I was a youngster, all I wanted was a family that loved, cared for, and encouraged one another. The Lord gave me that with you all. Every one of you holds a special place in my heart.

I couldn't ask for a better group of people to spend my life with.

From the time I joined the DeColores community, it has helped me grow and mature into the leader that I would become. Without God and your prayers, none of this would've been possible. I will never forget the evening of the women's closing. How loud the cheers, the round of applause. And the standing ovation that I received when my name was announced as the Rector for the fall men's weekend. It was a moment that I will never forget for the rest of my life. Since becoming Rector, it has changed my life for the better and given me an outlook on life that I would never have imagined.

Please keep both men's and women's weekends in prayer. That they will be powerful and impactful weekends, with lives being changed and transformed. Once again, thank you to the DeColores community for the opportunity to lead God's weekend. This community is a true representation of God's family. You all have been a wonderful blessing to me. I love you all.

Eric Thompson



In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16 NIV

DeColores Men's Weekend #145 September 19-21, 2024

Coalbush UMC, 15977 Jackson Rd, Mishawaka, IN 46544

Theme: It's YOUR Time to SHINE Song: Lights, by Cade Thompson Scripture: Matt 5:16 KJV

INSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Rector:	Eric Thompson	574.849.4412	erict2000@hotmail.com
Co-Rector:	Pat O'Keefe	269.357.5222	patokeefe31@gmail.com
Spiritual Directors:	Mike Smith	574.276.3289	michaeltsmith63@gmail.com
	Andy Abrams	269.779.8179	metalcaster@live.com
Head Coordinator:	Ron Hayden	816.206.6263	rghayden63@gmail.com

OUTSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Kitchen Help Coordinator:	Ray Doyle	269.506.2239
24-Hour Prayer Coordinator:	Gail Fitzgerald	574.386.4568
Clean Up Coordinator:	Denny Soule	574.213.4123
Guard Duty Coordinator:	Rick Lary	269.240.0680

EVENT INFORMATION

Mealtimes: (approx. times)	<i>Kitchen Help: Please Arrive At Least 20 Minutes Early</i>		
Friday:	Breakfast: 7:15 am	Lunch: 11:45 pm	Dinner: 5:15 pm
Saturday:	Breakfast: 7:00 am	Lunch: 12:15 pm	Dinner: 6:45 pm
Sunday:	Breakfast: 7:15 am	Lunch: 12:00 noon	

Palanca Drops: (approximate times)

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

Set-Up: Wednesday, September 18th @ 6 pm

Sponsor's Chapel: Thursday, September 19th @ 8:15 pm in Sanctuary

Holy Hour: Friday, September 20th @ 7:00 pm
@ Living Stones Church, 718 Donmoyer Ave., South Bend, IN 46614

24-Hour Prayer Begins: Friday, September 20th @ 9:00 pm

Past Rector/Rectoress Serenade: Saturday, September 21st @ 12:15 p.m. (Lunch)

Church Service: Sunday, September 22nd @ 10:00 am

Clean-Up Sunday: Sunday, September 22nd
@ 6:30 am – Tear Down and reset for Sunday Church Activities
@ 3:00 pm Rollo Room Plus
After Closing – Final Clean-Up of Entire Church

Serenade/Closing: Sunday, September 22nd @ approximately 4:30 pm

CHECK OUR SWMI DECOLORES WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION

www.swmi-decolores.org

Be Doers of the Word

DeColores Weekend #146



To our Blessed DeColores Family,

It is with a grateful and excited heart that I come to you. I wanted to give you a status report on the women's weekend #146. Thank you for your love, support, and prayers as we work toward a phenomenal weekend.

The team is getting more excited with each passing day. God assembled quite a team. He chose me to lead these ladies, and it has truly been an extraordinary honor. We feel the presence of the Lord at each meeting and each altar call.

Our verse is found in James 1:22 NLT, "But don't just listen to God's Word, you must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves." The theme is "Be Doers of The Word" and the theme song is "Do Something" by Matthew West. During these trying times, we must do what He says. His Words are timeless!

What a Co-Rectoress we have. Serenity Whiting is a true steward of The Lord. Her sense of humor is contagious, and she is so intelligent about The Word. She lives in The Word! I am so blessed to have had God put us together! I love you Serenity!

I am asking for your continued love, support, and prayers as we continue working on the weekend. We know that the women who will be attending will be blessed beyond measure. It is God's will for us to spread His Word throughout the Michiana area.

It is a very humbling experience to be chosen as Rectoress for a women's weekend. I have not taken this responsibility lightly. I thank everyone who has openly shared their experiences with me. I have used your stories to aid in leading this team.

Rectoress of DeColores #146

Deb Braniff

**But don't just listen
to God's word. You
must do what it
says. Otherwise
you are only fooling
yourselves.**

James 1:22 NLT



DeColores Women's Weekend #146

October 3 thru 6, 2024

Adamsville Road Church of God, 51287 CR 7 N, Elkhart, IN 46514

Theme & Song: "Do Something"

Scripture: James 1:22 NLT

INSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Rectoress:	Deb Braniff	574-250-1558	deb_braniff@yahoo.com
Co-Rectoress:	Serenity Whiting	269-240-8341	renni1276@gmail.com
Spiritual Directors:	Jodi Feitz	574-612-7718	jodi.feitz@gmail.com
	JoAn Haney	574-850-5533	jhaney1945@icloud.com
Spiritual Director IT:	Whitney Hogan	574-850-0752	witty725@comcast.net
Head Coordinator:	Brandi Mayer	269-252-9986	brandimayer2@gmail.com

OUTSIDE TEAM CONTACTS

Kitchen Help Coordinator:	Debbie Shirrell	269-277-3771	debbieshirrell315@gmail.co
	Annie Adams	269-357-3514	
	Cathy Zavoral	269-362-2546	cat1125@aol.com
24-Hour Prayer Coordinator:	Anne Vande Zande	269-240-6577	choirnotes10989@gmail.com
Set/Clean up Coordinator:	Tom & Deb Traversa	574-952-5293	debtraversa@gmail.com
Guard Duty Coordinator:	Steve Whiting	269-240-8812	rennie1276@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: 6:45 pm
Sunday:	Breakfast: 7:30 am	Lunch: 12:15 pm	Dinner: 5:30 pm
Palanca Drops:			
Friday:	1 st Drop: 2:00 pm	2 nd Drop: 5:15 pm	3 rd Drop: 9:15 pm
Saturday:	4 th Drop: 8:00 am	5 th Drop: 1:05 pm	6 th Drop: 4:30 pm
Set-Up:	Wednesday, October 2 @ 6:00 pm		
Sponsor's Chapel:	Thursday, October 3 @ 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary @ Host Church		
Holy Hour:	Friday, October 4 @ 7:00 pm @ Journey Church, 12100 SR 23, Granger, IN		
24-Hour Prayer Begins:	Friday, October 4 @ 9:00 pm @ Host Church		
Rector/Rectoress Serenade:	Saturday, October 5 @ 7:15 am - All Past Rectors/Rectoresses are invited		
Clean-Up Sunday:	Sunday, October 6 @ 6:45 am – Entire Church for Sunday Service Sunday, October 6 @ 3:15 pm – Rollo Room Only Sunday, October 6 after closing – Entire Church Final Clean-Up		
Church Service:	Sunday, October 6 @ 10:30 am		
Serenade:	Sunday, October 6 @ 4:30 pm with Closing immediately following		

Men's Military Veterans Weekend

When: October 24 – 27, 2024

Location: 2nd Reformed Church
Grand Haven, MI

If you are a military veteran and are interested in serving on the weekend or know a veteran that you would like to sponsor, please contact Larry Grennan at 231-286-0572 or email grennanlawrence@gmail.com



2024 Ultreya Schedule

Saturday February 17th @ First Baptist Church
1146 E. Main St.
Niles, MI 49120

Saturday May 18th @ Huntly Memorial Baptist Church
1139 Huntly Rd.
Niles, MI 49120

August 17th, November 16th (voting Ultreya)
@ First Baptist Church
1146 E. Main St.
Niles, MI 49120

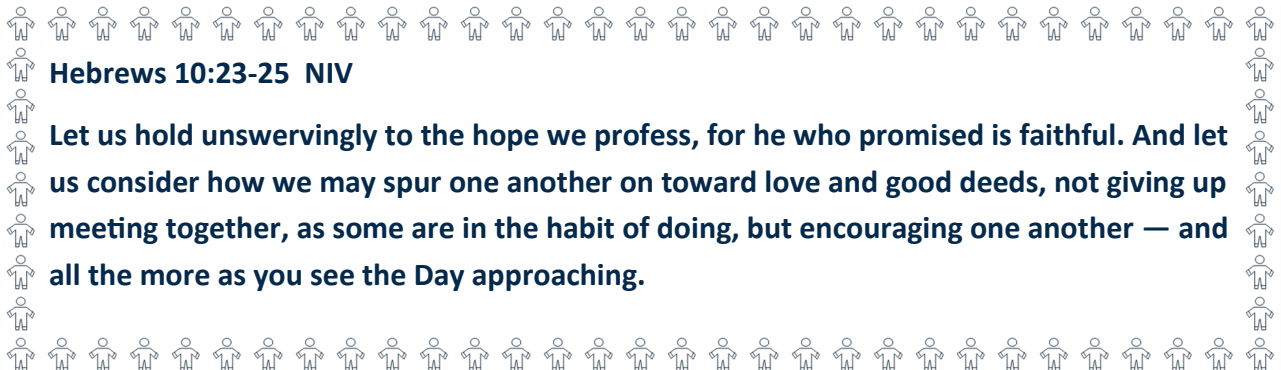
Time: 6:00pm

Bring a dish to pass and your own table setting.

Please RSVP @ www.swmi-decolores.org

The Ultreya is a reunion of any and all members of the DeColores Community. It is an enjoyable time of food, fellowship, singing, and prayer, with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

It is an excellent way to stay in touch with those you have met on your candidate weekend or those you have met while serving together on past weekends.

A decorative border of small human icons surrounds the text. The icons are arranged in a rectangular frame, with a single icon at each corner and a row of icons along each side.

Hebrews 10:23-25 NIV

Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Interested In Serving?

Rector/Rectoress Nominations

If you have a nomination or would like to express your willingness to serve in these positions, please contact any board member.

Requirements for Rector or Rectoress are as follows:

1. Have completed at least three DeColores weekends as a team member. Or completed at least two DeColores weekends and one similar weekend in the Cursillo tradition as a team member.
2. Have been a Rollista on a DeColores weekend.
3. Have been a coordinator on a Decolores weekend or completed a Fourth Day (Leader Training) Workshop.
4. Have been a member of the Southwest Michigan DeColores community for at least three years.
5. Be a person whose life exemplifies the DeColores ministry.

A written resume of the nominee's qualifications shall be presented at the time of nomination.

Servant Survey

Servant surveys are used by the Rector & Rectoress as a tool to build their Inside Team as well as their Outside Team. If you have a desire to serve on a weekend in any capacity the survey is a wonderful way to get involved. If you have not filled out a survey in the last year, please take a moment to do so. The survey form can be found under the serving tab on our website at swmi-decolores.org.

2024 Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries Secretariat Board Members

President Couple: Chris & Sheila Winkelmann wink911@gmail.com
sheilawink1977@gmail.com

Vice President Couple: Open

Past President Couple: Simeon & Rebekah Paulson Simeonpaulson@gmail.com

Spiritual Director: Jodi Feitz & Venita Massey jodi.feitz@gmail.com
venilynn@gmail.com

Secretary: Deb Traverse debtraversa@gmail.com

Treasurer: Leigh Bishop 65lambishop@gmail.com

Pre-DeColores: Jason & Christy Pruett jasonpruett812@yahoo.com
christypruett918@yahoo.com

In-DeColores: Josh & Faye Curtis jwfmcurtis@gmail.com

Post-DeColores: John Smith & Vern Hochstetler smith.john59@gmail.com
v.hochstetler@yahoo.com

Historian: Marcia Pedzinski cotamarsh@yahoo.com

Website Coordinator: Carrie Wack hotpinkcarrie@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Cindy Ruminer cruminer79@gmail.com

Social Media Manager: Brandi Mayer branmayer@aol.com

Palanca Coordinator: Gwen Hochstetler pcenthrmony@live.com

National Representative: Tammie Peffley tammiepef@yahoo.com

Board Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Location: Redeemer Church
1234 Fulkerson Rd., Niles, MI 49120

Southwest Michigan DeColores Ministries
P.O. Box 225
Niles, MI 49120
Email: info@swmi-decolores.org