

Pescadores Progress



The Best is Yet to Come- By Greg Purcell, Database

There is a common phrase that is said on just about every Tres Dias weekend. Any idea what it is? "It just gets better". When my sponsor, Ernie, kept telling me that, I got annoyed at first. We all probably did, even might have thought, yea sure, believe it when I see it.

I want to segway from that to another thought. I used to love eating at buffet restaurants, there was just so much to choose from. Can't quite do that anymore. Just about everyone will bring you a basket of bread. Some of my family love that. Myself, not so much. I'll end up filling up on bread and miss out on the better stuff. The restaurants probably do that on purpose which is pretty smart. I for one, desire for more than bread and sweet tea. I wanted all of the rest, the better food, than just bread.

In this walk of life, we can settle for the bread and sweet tea, or look for the better or even the best. Peter said in **1 Peter 2:11** "*Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;*". Paul said in **Phil 3:20** "*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;*". I for one can often forget where my citizenship is and focus too much on

this side of eternity.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying to be so heavenly focused that we're no earthly good. Until the Lord calls us home, we are to live here and do our best, with His strength and grace, to bring Him honor and glory. We live, we work, we play, and you can fill in the blank. Life can be good for us and I truly pray that yours is right now. You might even say, it couldn't get any better. Most probably wouldn't say that.

Yet, the best is yet to come. John wrote much about "the best" in the book of The Revelations. I believe that John used the best vocabulary he had to describe what he saw. Can you just imagine for just a moment what John saw, and then trying to put it in words? I think we would have several "Wow" moments and that would be all we could say.

To first see Jesus and know who He is. I tend to be an emotional kind of person. Knowing myself, I imagine there will be plenty of tears when I first see my Lord. To know how much He has lavished His love on me, blessed me with grace and mercy, and to know I truly did not deserve it. For Him to allow His enemy, me, to become His child. Truly amazing. And yet, the best is yet to come.

April 20019

GMTD #83 Men's:
May 30-June2, 2019

Rector: Jimmy Cash

Send-off:

Thurs., May 30 • 6:30 p.m.

Serenade:

Sat., June 1 • 6:30 p.m.

Arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Closing:

Sun., June 2 • 5:00 p.m.

GMTD #83 Women's:
June 6-9, 2019

Rector: Debra Franklin

Send-off:

Thurs., June 6 • 6:30 p.m.

Serenade:

Sat., June 8 • 6:30 p.m.

Arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Closing:

Sun., June 9 • 5:00 p.m.

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John said in **Revelations 21**: ² *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.* ³ *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.* ⁴ *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.* ⁵ *And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.* ⁶ *And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.* ⁷ *He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.*

Again, the best is yet to come.

As a pastor, I've had the honor of performing some funerals. When I went to my first church, I buried 3 people in the first few months. I questioned if there was going to be a church... Some that passed during my time there I wondered if they were actually able to say the best had come, or if they were in eternal torment. Yet, I had the awesome privilege of being with one member who was absolutely ready to go. She knew her time was short on this side.

I sat with her many times in those last days. She still had her mind about her, but was getting weaker and weaker. I watched as her family gathered around her, some even estranged. She wondered why God would not just go ahead and take her on home. Afterwards, I knew. God allowed her those extra days to make things right with the rest of her family. Once she did that, she was completely ready and it was only a couple of days before Jesus took her home.

In 2001 my last grandparent went to be with Jesus. His name was Luther Purcell. I loved my Pa. He called all of the grand kids buck, whether you were a girl or boy. He'd always say how are you buck. I traveled a good bit back then, but when I was home, I would try to always go by and spend some time with him. He even let me use some of his land to put a garden on. I had the most green

beans I've ever grown.

Just before he passed, the kids were trying to decide how they were go to take care of him. They asked me to stay with him for a few hours while they went out and discussed this. During that time I had the privilege of hearing his testimony for the first time. Don't get me wrong, Pa was a godly man and a deacon at the home church. Two of his sons and a grandson, became pastors. He had gotten saved during a camp meeting across from where Cornelia Elementary is now. He also talked about how God was giving him grace for what was going on. At first he was fearful of dying, but God had given him peace and grace. He knew the best was yet to come.

On one of my trips, I got the call that he had passed. I immediately caught the next flight back home. When I got home, my dad and uncle described the last minutes of his life. While he was in the hospital, and it was getting close, Pa starting calling out to Elizabeth, my grandmother. After a few minutes, he went home. We likened it to Pa was just looking for a place to cross the river. Jesus came and carried him home. He was finally seeing the best.

You see, this side is not home. Yes, we may have a place with a house where we live with family, a car, maybe even a dog or two that we call home. Yet, we're really just passing through.

Each weekend we work, we know not the time we or the candidates have left on this side of eternity. However, I want to encourage you to continue to pray over each one and keep pressing that "the best is yet to come", or as we like to say, "it just gets better".

Secretariat Spotlight-Spiritual Director

The Constitution and By-Laws of GMTD set the following qualifications to be Spiritual Leader. The Spiritual director is a male who is an ordained or fully licensed pastor, elder, minister (senior, associate, or youth, education or counseling) by any Christian organization approved and recognized by Georgia Mountain Tres Dias. The Spiritual Director may serve consecutive terms, if willing, by a vote of confidence of the Secretariat. The Spiritual Director will help schedule team meetings dates for the team and train the rector on Policy, Procedures, essentials, Team Selection and Team Formatting by providing training materials in these areas. He will work with the rector in approving each team member selected. The Secretariat Spiritual Director represents the clergy in this lay-led movement. He gives pastoral guidance and counsel to the Secretariat in this capacity, striving to remain Christ centered regarding decisions and activities of GMTD. He is responsible for maintaining an ecumenical environment that is welcoming to the body of Christ, regardless of denominational affiliation. It is his responsibility to maintain a database of eligible clergy to serve this community, and assign from this list those who are willing to serve on the appointed weekends of GMTD. It is also his responsibility to recruit, and add to this list, or if necessary delete from this list. Either of these actions requires Secretariat approval. As an active member of the Secretariat, he should familiarize himself with the Tres Dias essentials, the GMTD Constitution and By-Laws and the GMTD Practice and Policy Manual and encourage all affiliated clergy to do the same. Attend the second team meeting and provide instructions and encouragement to the team. Participate in overall guidance and planning of Tres Dias activities.

Your Current Spiritual Director

Ron Glaze



Ron and his wife Dale are the parents of Ivana Dalton and Seth Glaze, and the grandparents of five. Ron and Dale attended GMTD #38, in August of 2004. They have pastored Homer Church of God since July of 1992. Ron also operated a small construction and grading business for a number of years. My decision to take on the role of Secretariat Spiritual Director was my way of giving back. So many testimonies of lives changed forever and the realization that these lives would impact their local church for years to come. Also, the stark reality that all of us can so easily put our spiritual lives on 'autopilot' and just cruise along. My weekend gave me a new perspective on His Body beyond our own denominational setting.

COC Fundraising Information

On behalf of the Camp of Colors, the new Chairman, Charlie Shultz, would like all Communities to know that they are currently forming a Fundraising Committee.

TDNG and Rich Croco's donations and hard work led to the beautiful dining room. The ceilings were painting, new fans and barn doors were installed. The floors were redone in a herringbone pattern as well.

The intention of the COC is to keep this momentum moving forward with fundraising opportunities and participation from all communities.

- This fall, we are hoping to introduce an auction at the CoC.

Donated items and services

A fun day of an Auction (w/Auctioneer) and maybe a low country boil.

- Brick Engraving donations – all communities

Lay donated bricks with your name/loved ones name
Possibly, beginning at back double doors by the rollo room.

Cataloged for reference

- Fundraising Dinner Gala – aggressive approach – all communities pull together can make it happen

July 6th hosted by the CoC at the CoC –“sit or serve”
Looking for all communities to give of their time, treasures and talents.

The dinner event itself will be from 5p.m. - 9p.m.

To put this together we will need a staff of many!

Event Planner

Head Chef and staff

Head Dining Décor and staff

Head Kitchen/servers and staff

Head Valet and staff

Head Dorm and staff

Head Childcare and staff

Head MC and entertainment (tech& data)

Head Donations Coordinator

Head Marketing

Head Accounting

Head Ministry and Chapel

Head photo booth

It is our vision to use the weekend to not only set up the fundraising dinner, but also for us to use our time treasure and talents. Those who serve will have the blessing of fellowshiping together while serving for a good cause. We will spend the first part of the weekend preparing for the weekend, and after the event have a chapel service together and breakdown the camp.

Interested? Email

coc.fundraisers@gmail.com



An Open Letter to the GMTD Community

One of the activities that we as a Community can help with now is a Fund Raising Banquet to be held at the COC. Charlie Shultz COC Chairman, has asked GMTD to sponsor two tables for the July 6, 2019 Fund Raising Banquet. Essentially, he needs two couples from GMTD to volunteer to be the hosts for two tables. The responsibility of being a host would be to assemble six other people from our Community to sit at the table with you (a total of eight) the fee to sit would be a donation to the COC. There will be food, fellowship and entertainment and most importantly you and your guests will be donating to a great cause. Below is a link that will take you to the banquet fundraising page. We are searching for two couples (or individuals) from the GMTD Community to consider sponsoring a table. If you are interested please register at the link below and email Fletcher Holliday at fholliday3@gmail.com to let him know you are interested.

Thank you,

GMTD Secretariat

<http://campofcolors.org/fundraiser-banquet.html>

As a Community, GMTD has been asked to refurbish one of the dorm rooms. We need donations of goods and of services. There will be opportunities for people to help clean and paint and we will need specialized tradesmen, such as plumbers and electricians.

If you are willing to help in any way, please reach out to a Secretariat member by going to GMTD.org and e-mailing them your contact information.

Announcements & Reminders

GMTD SECRETARIAT

The next secretariat meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 3, 2018 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at United Community Bank in Dahlonga, GA

GMTD APPLICATIONS

GMTD applications may be downloaded at www.gmt.org. Please mail to:

GMTD Pre-Weekend Couple
Kevin & Holly Salisbury
3910 Argentite Way
Cumming, GA 30040

Please call Holly at 770-876-4059 or email at gmtapps@gmail.com with any questions.

GMTD weekend fee is \$110 per person.

PALANCA GUIDELINES

(Burning CDs of copyrighted music is a violation of copyright laws, and burned CD's of copyrighted music cannot be accepted as palanca.)

Table Palanca – 6 tables, minimum of 65 individual items.

Bed Palanca – 45 for candidates, 81

for team. Team members may receive individual bed palanca. Palanca for specific candidates will be placed in their Sunday bags.

Kitchen Palanca – 125 place settings.

Oven Palanca – Please drop off at the Palanca room, not the kitchen.

Palanca Letters – Write the candidate's name on the letter and in the left upper corner write who the letter is from: sponsor, husband, wife, friend, etc. Letters from family and friends need to be at the camp no later than Saturday night. The earlier the better.

PESCADORE'S PROGRESS

Subscribe to the Pescadore's Progress at www.gmt.org. To receive your Pescadore's Progress in the U.S. mail, please send your name, address and weekend attended to:

Kim Echols
95 Crystal Creek Way
Jasper, GA 30143

SPONSORS

Please remember to stay with your

candidate until they have been completely checked in during their weekend and all information and fees have been provided.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO!

If your address, phone number or e-mail has changed, please notify GMTD Database Manager, Greg Purcell at gregpurcell@gmail.com. *The database is confidential and for GMTD use only to contact sponsors, team members, rector nominees, secretariat nominees, and for general GMTD purposes.*

REMINDERS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Weekend rosters are confidential and are not to be used for solicitations or anything other than Tres Dias. The Secretariat would also like to remind you that it is inappropriate to bring children to send-off, closing, serenade, or secuelas. We appreciate your understanding and compliance with these Tres Dias requirements.

GMTD Secretariat Members

Chairman	Fletcher Holliday	770-401-0308
Database	Greg Purcell	706-768-6897
Food Supply	Debbie Turco	770-656-7378
Food Supply (In Training)	Bill and Casandra King	678-591-2195
Fourth Day	Raymond & Donna Posey	706-973-0757
Leaders-A	Kevin & Mickey Hill	706-768-5301
Leaders-B	Rick & Mary Martinez	470-248-8719
Newsletter	Kim Echols	678-378-5335
Palanca	Glen & Donna Nix	770-654-7611
Pre-Weekend	Kevin & Holly Salisbury	770-235-6619
Secretary	Layne Frantz	706-692-6267
Spiritual Director	Ron Glaze	706-499-7846
Spiritual Director (In Training)	Sam Snider	706-889-4096
Treasurer	Brian & Diana Cartwright	706-244-4173
Webmaster	Brad Whitener	706-499-2790
Weekend	Chris & Chrissy Owenby	706-768-5325
Worship Director	Todd Pealock	706-949-4251

Find e-mail contact info at www.gmt.org

Georgia Mountains Vida Nueva

Vida Nueva is a weekend retreat for young men and women ages 15-20. Vida Nueva is Spanish for "New Life" and like the Tres Dias, VN weekends are intended as an encounter with Jesus Christ. The weekends are similar to the structure of a Tres Dias weekend with certain changes to make it more relevant for teens. VN weekends begin on Friday evening and end on Sunday evening. The cost to sponsor someone on a VN weekend is \$80. If you have a teenager who you would like to sponsor, you can download an application at the web-site www.gmvn.net. A group of teens who have made a Vida Nueva weekend recently put together a video to tell what VN has meant to them.

The video can be found at www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DNV99f2Hko. Georgia Mountains VN currently holds two sets of weekends a year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The next set of weekends are October 17-20, 2019 for the Young Women and October 24-27, 2019 for the Young Men.

