

The Abrazo

The newsletter of Maryland Episcopal Cursillo

Winter 2010

A Palanca Memory

Earl Buffaloe, Southern Representative, MEC

This was my third team so I knew what to expect – as well as anyone knows what to expect when the palanca is distributed! So I settled down, gave a prayer of thanksgiving, and began the wondrous journey through the ever widening Cursillo community that I am so grateful to be a part of. Each note was a blessing. Each trinket brought a smile. But the overwhelming sensation was that God was at work through each of us, encouraging one another, loving one another, living out The Great Commission.

When I got to this note from Jenny Moulton (it's OK, I asked her if I could write about this!), who I served with on MD91, I was particularly touched. As many of you know, the Cursillo teaming process is such a special time and the memories of that shared time and space are precious. So, remembering back to that time I thought of Jennie and how special she had been as a member of that team and how humbled I was to serve with brothers and sisters like her. So began my journey.

Her note spoke of a late September stroll on the beach where she was trying to enjoy her walk. And she would have had it not been for the stones and rocks that littered the beach. So as she thought about how much better the beach would be without them, she noticed that her friend was really enjoying them. So Jennie decided to look a little closer at the stones and was amazed at the different colors, textures, shapes, and sizes. Then she thought about how these rocks reminded her of God's people – "vast in number, like the quarried beach, annoying and painful and often getting in the way" – that when we stop and are intentional about our relationships with one another "we can see the meaning, the beauty, the love in every single person. Like the stones and rocks, we are each unique, be it red, black, white, yellow, large, pretty, plain, shiny, dull, smooth, rough, lumpy, bumpy.... God made us each different, unique, beautiful, perfect, and worthy of love. And yet we have one common purpose: to reflect God's unconditional love and pass it on, unconditionally, to one another."

"Did you know you are beautiful? Do you know you are loved? God made you perfect in every way. God loves you unconditionally and perfectly in every way. No matter your appearance, your journey, your place in life, you are beautiful and you are loved."

Amen, Jennie. Amen. That note, from my Cursillo sister, summed up everything that palanca is meant to be. In her closing she mentioned that she was holding me in prayer, as I was holding the new Cursillistas and my team in prayer. And that moment my life changed. That moment, God invited me a little closer, allowed me a glimpse of heaven, and called me by name. That moment will be cherished for the rest of my life.

De Colores!

— Earl Buffaloe, St. James', Lothian, MD88, @ the Faith table



MARYLAND EPISCOPAL CURSILLO WEEKEND 99

April 22 - 25, 2010 • Bishop Claggett Center

God has truly blessed me and the team being called for MD#99. The weather may be frightful at this time but by the time the team has met and prepared for the upcoming weekend we will all be in full bloom. In the hands of God is the name of the MD#99. At first I was a bit taken and needed time for discernment and God gave me a peace that he qualified me for MD#99. How true, he does not call the qualified, qualifies the calling.

MD#99 asks for your continued prayers and support. Being on several teams before, as well as making my weekend the support of the community is a special treat. After all is said and done blessings you receive from people you have not met at this time is awesome and humbling.

— Jim Stultz MD#85
Rector MD#99

TEAM MEMBER	PARISH	ROLE	ROLLO
<i>The Rev. Pat Arey</i>	St. Phillip's, Annapolis	Spiritual Advisor	Know Yourself, The Three Glances of Christ, Obstacles to a Life of Grace
<i>Donna Bullen</i>	St. Phillip's, Annapolis	Table Leader	Piety
<i>Jackie Burdnell</i>	Christ the King, Woodlawn	CHA	Ideal
<i>Emerson Champion</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	CHA	
<i>Thomas Collinson</i>	Christ Church, West River	Table Leader	Evangelization of Environments
<i>Phil Corso</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Music Director	
<i>Elise Cullinane</i>	St. Martin's-in-the-Field, Severna Park	CHA	
<i>Bill Forkgen</i>	St. Andrew's, Pasadena	CHA	Action
<i>Mike Garabedian</i>	St. Martin's-in-the-Field, Severna Park	CHA	Study
<i>The Rev. Rick Larabee</i>	St. Mark's, Highland	Lead Spiritual Advisor	Grace, Sacraments II, The Person of Christ, Message of Christ to the Participant
<i>Robin Mayfield</i>	Christ the King, Woodlawn	Table Leader	Christian Community in Action
<i>Jenny Moulton</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Head CHA	
<i>Mitchell Owens</i>	St. James' Parish, Lothian	CHA	
<i>Keshia Pollack</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Table Leader	
<i>Flossie Rollhauser</i>	St. Andrew's, Pasadena	Tech CHA	Laity
<i>The Rev. Anjel Scarborough</i>		Spiritual Advisor	The Prodigal Son, Faith, Sacraments I, Christian Life
<i>Kathy Skidmore-Williams</i>	St. Martin's-in-the-Field, Severna Park	Assistant Rector	Group Reunion
<i>Chris Snead</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Asst. Music Dir	Leaders
<i>Cynthia Steuart</i>	St. James', Lothian	Asst. Music Dir	
<i>Jim Stultz</i>	St. Thomas', Towson	Rector	Ultreya
<i>Wadi Williams</i>	St. Martin's-in-the-Field, Severna Park	Float	



Talk to Jesus about your Friend *Before* you talk to your Friend about Jesus.



From the MEC Assistant Lay Director

CHRISTmas morning, 1:43 a.m. Just finished my wrapping & checking my mail when I remembered I am now 8 days past the dead line for my Abrazo article. (Sorry Pam)!

So hear I am again, thinking; "what to write?" Seeings it's CHRISTmas I thought I'd share a thought iv'e had of late. It derives from a song (the artist escapes me) & tells how JESUS takes off HIS crown, sets it aside & as the Angels bow their heads, & GOD says; "I Love You my Son," "The WORD became Flesh and made HIS dwelling among us.".....("For GOD so loved the world").

Sometimes, I'm sorry to say, I need to be reminded just how much GOD loves me! even with all my dents.....

JESUS promised me on my wk.end that if i'd only let HIM, HE could use me, dents & all. Cause HE loved me so much HE wanted to Bless me, by Blessing others through me. Does" qualify the called "ring a bell ?????

My boss never came to church tonight. (CHRISTmas eve.) My niece didn't either. But i'll keep being that Christian friend. And I'll keep being that Christian uncle.....because "GOD so loved the world!"

CHRISTmas Blessings from yur bro.,
Tim Welden, Md.83
Joy table

4th Day Workshop • A Day of Deeper Understanding

A 4th Day Workshop was held on January, 16, 2010, at St. James' Episcopal Church, Monkton.

All Cursillista's are invited to attend these meaningful programs which focus on how we can most effectively live out our 4th Day, especially in our secular environments. Remember, the Cursillo Weekend is only the beginning! The workshop addresses questions and issues such as:

- *I attended a Cursillo Weekend ... Now what?*
- *There was so much to absorb ... What is most important?*
- *Is Cursillo of real value in my spiritual life?*
- *How can I share the experience I had with others?*

Whether you're a brand new Cursillista or someone who made your weekend years ago, we hope you'll participate in one of these meaningful days of learning, reflection and celebration of God's presence in our daily lives!

Check out the Maryland Episcopal Cursillo website at <http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/> for information about future 4th Day Workshops.

Ultreya!

Prayer for the Gift of the Holy Spirit

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts
of Your faithful and kindle in us
the fire of Your Love.*

*Send forth Your Spirit
and we shall be created, and
You shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,*

*Grant that by the same Holy Spirit
We may be truly wise and ever
enjoy His consolations;*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



From the MEC Lay Director

Come this October, it will be time once again to elect an Assistant Lay Director. How can that be? It seems like just yesterday that I was elected Assistant Lay Director, but that was almost 4 years ago in October 2006. Now God is calling some of you to run for this office. Are you willing to answer His call?

I can hear what you're thinking: "I don't have the time for this." "I'm not a leader." "It's too hard." "Who, me? Assistant Lay Director? God, please send somebody else." Remember that at the burning bush, the only time God got really angry with Moses is when he asked God to send someone else.

I know you are thinking these things, because I thought them, too. In fact, when I was approached to be interim Assistant Lay Director, I said "no." But God gently yet persistently poked me in the ribs until I got the message and agreed to run for Assistant Lay Director.

I will lay it out straight: being Assistant Lay Director is a lot of work. It's a calling all its own, separate and apart from whatever other ministries you have. It's a 4 year commitment; 2 years as Assistant Lay Director, and 2 years as Lay Director. It is much, much more than just attending a monthly Secretariat meeting.

But the rest of the story is the blessings that come about in this ministry. The Assistant Lay Director is a mentor to other leaders and potential leaders in the community, and in turn is mentored by the Lay Director. You have the opportunity to be in deeper relationship with many other Cursillistas through personal contact. The Assistant Lay Director receives all candidate and sponsor applications, and delivers them to the weekend rector.

For me, one of the biggest blessings has been to serve on the Secretariat and Servant Community with people who are committed to prayerfully discerning, and then following, where God is leading Maryland Episcopal Cursillo.

At the Diocesan Ultreya in October, one of you will be elected and commissioned as Assistant Lay Director. Is God calling you by name? Has He written His desire on your heart? If you are feeling that call, please contact myself or any Secretariat member. I also encourage you to attend Secretariat meetings, which are currently from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. on the 1st Saturday of every month at the Episcopal Church of Christ the King in Woodlawn. There you will gain insight into the things the Secretariat is focusing on, and it will help you firm up your call to stand for election in October. Blessings and Ultreya!

*-Emerson Champion
Lay Director, MEC*

Episcopal Cyber Sources

National Episcopal Cursillo

<http://www.episcopalcursillo.org/>

Maryland Episcopal Cursillo Website

<http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/>

Other Episcopal Cursillo Websites

<http://www.episcopalcursillo.org/episcopalwebsites>

Book of Common Prayer

<http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bcp/bcp.htm>

Maryland Chrysalis

<http://www.mdchrysalis.org/>

Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

<http://www.ang-md.org/>

Maryland Episcopal Church Locator

<http://www.ang-md.org/search.php>

Episcopal Church

<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

Bishop Claggett Center

<http://bishopclaggett.org/>

Online Bibles

<http://www.internetdynamics.com/pub/vc/bibles.html>

The Cursillo Method

Piety • Study • Action

LETTER TO MY DIOCESES

Father Bob Kerner, NECC Clergy Representative to the Northeast District

October 26, 2009

Dear Bishops, Fellow Clergy and Lay Cursillo Leaders of the Dioceses of Bethlehem, Central New York, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Northwestern Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Western New York, and Virginia

This is to inform each of you that my term of office as your NECC Representative will be over as of December 31st of this year. I count it a privilege, a joy, and a deep honor, to have been elected by the national Episcopal Cursillo community to serve in this national leadership position for two years. Ever since I made my Cursillo Weekend, in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie, PA, as a young seminarian in July, 1969, Cursillo has been a deep passion in my life (and that of my wife, Sandi, since she made Cursillo in the early 1980's, as a lay Episcopalian in the Diocese of Western New York). I have served in clergy leadership positions in Episcopal Cursillo ever since my reception as a priest in Anglican orders in the Diocese of Florida in 1990, as Spiritual Director of many weekends, in the Dioceses of Florida, Georgia, and Southern Virginia, as well as in diocesan Cursillo leadership in the Dioceses of Georgia and Southern Virginia, before being elected to this post. As God allows, I will continue to serve as weekend Spiritual Director, until I can do so no longer. I also plan to continue serving as such on Kairos teams, as God allows.

I strongly believe that God has given birth to the Cursillo Movement, in both the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches (and its offspring and adaptations as the Walk to Emmaus, Via de Cristo, Kairos, and Happening Movements) as His tool for evangelization, discipleship, and leadership training in the sacramental churches. Thank you, God, for inspiring that Spanish bishop and laymen to conceive this Movement, on the island of Majorca, so many years ago!!

Now, it is time for me to prepare to move on to other forms of ministry within the priesthood, as God leads and opens the doors! And, it is time to prepare to "pass the baton" to my successor, Fr. Rick Simpson of the Diocese of Long Island, who has accepted the call and election to serve a three-year term as the Clergy Rep. in our District. Most likely, he will "inherit" my ten dioceses, as your representative to the NECC, beginning Jan. 1, 2010.

Before I can do this, I NEED YOUR HELP to enable me to introduce my diocesan leaders to Fr. Rick, and to orient him to this position. Please BRING ME UP TO DATE on any recent changes in bishops, or clergy or lay Cursillo leadership positions in your diocese which may have changed or will change before the end of the year, along with that, please also report to me ASAP any changes in email addresses for any of the above persons.

I would like now, to introduce to you, my successor, Fr. Rick Simpson: The Very Reverend Richard E. Simpson is the Rector of St. Mark's, Islip, New York in the Diocese of Long Island. His postal address is 745 Montauk Highway Islip, NY 11751. His phone number is 631-581-4950. His email address is ricktssf@optionline.net.

Fr. Rick was ordained a priest on May 1, 1982. After serving as a priest in parishes in the Dioceses of Michigan and Iowa, he was called to serve as Rector of St. Mark's, Islip in 2001. He made his Cursillo in 1984 (Iowa #30). Since then he has served as Spiritual Director and Asst. Spir. Dir. On many weekends in Iowa and Long Island, and recently served as Spiritual Director on the first Cursillo weekend in Barbados, as Long Island exported Cursillo to that island. He also served as the Spiritual Director for the first Co-Ed Weekends in both Iowa and Long Island.

In the Fourth Day, he has never stopped grouping since he made Cursillo, and attends Ultreya every month! He has served twice on the Iowa Secretariat and twice on the Long Island Secretariat as diocesan Assistant Spiritual Director and Spiritual Director. He writes:

"Cursillo has been a powerful tool for the development of Lay Leaders in every parish I have served.

"Grouping and fellowship are necessary and a part of my spiritual life.

"The Spirit of the Lord is blowing anew in Long Island Cursillo and we are excited."

It sounds like the Holy Spirit has indeed chosen the right priest to continue this ministry among the national Cursillo Community!!

I will write to you all again, to send you reports on the recent, very successful National Episcopal Cursillo Conference and on our Committee meeting in San Antonio, as well as other missives that may come my way to forward to you all before the end of the year. My only regret is that I have had the opportunity to meet only a very few of you, personally, in our time together!!

Continue to pray for Cursillo in our Church, especially in dioceses in which Cursillo is non-existent, faltering, or starting up again. And, I ask your prayers for me, for continued healing, and for open doors for my ministry, as I enter a new phase of my ministry as a priest, both in rotating off the NECC, and in my preparation for retirement from full-time parish ministry as a rector.

Until later,

May God bless each of you and your ministries!!

Fr. Bob Kerner+



November 2009

To: Bishops, Spiritual Directors, Lay Directors, Treasurers, Newsletter editors, and other leaders of Cursillo Movements in the dioceses of Albany, Armed Forces, Central Pennsylvania, Easton, New York, Newark, Pittsburg, S. Virginia, S.W. Virginia, Washington, DC

From: Barbara Taylor, Northeast District Laywoman representative, 190-17 Nashville Blvd. Springfield Gdns., NY 11413, (718) 525-2992, tylbrb@verizon.net

The final meeting of the year and 2009 annual conference of the NECC was held at the San Antonio Airport Hilton Hotel. The Cursillo community of West Texas welcomed us and worked very hard to make the conference a success.

Early in the morning on Tuesday, October 20th the executive committee met for their first session and the rest of the committee arrived in time for dinner, reunion and book review. The book for this meeting was The Shack by William Paul Young. The book touched the committee in various ways. Everyone was happy that they read it. The characterization of the members of the Holy Trinity was one element that was discussed. The fact that the story affirmed many truths that we already knew also warranted comments. Dealing with tragedy and wondering where God is during times of turmoil are all a part of this story.

Wednesday morning the committee traveled to the Diocesan Center to meet with the Rt. Rev. Gary Lillibridge for a meeting, tour of the center and celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Business, district and subcommittee meetings filled the rest of the day ending with Compline.

On Thursday business meetings filled the morning and the balance of the day was spent setting up for the conference.

The executive committee worked long and hard with the treasurer to prepare a budget for the 2009-2010 year. The budget passed by the general council reflects a 25% reduction in the office administrator's office hours and continues the reduction of NECC meetings to 3 a year. The budget depends on Diocesan Contributions returning to their traditional levels and continued generous support to the Friends of Cursillo. It also reflects electronic distribution of the Fourth Day Magazine and The NEC Library on CD to dramatically reduce the cost of sales.

The Communications Committee continues to update the website, www.episcopalcursillo.org with new information. They encourage you to visit often. There is now a link for purchasing the Alabama Cursillo Songbook which is in its 3rd edition and is widely used across the country. The committee continues to solicit articles, questions, news etc. for The 4th Day Magazine. A donation form is now available on the website, www.episcopalcursillo.org. Marketing /public relations materials are available to download at no cost.

The Publications Committee continues to update the NEC Library. The revised "Ultreya", "Day of Deeper Understanding" and "Role of Clergy" booklets are completed and available for sale. "Music and Cursillo" and "Statement on Interdenominational Cursillo" will soon be available. CD editions of the NEC library are now available at a cost of \$25. Annually, an updated version can be purchased for \$10 with the return of your previously purchased copy.

Cursillo Leaders Development Committee reviewed the Quarterly reports from the dioceses to determine which dioceses might be in need of a consultant or ECLW. Please call your representative, if your community would like to avail themselves of these services. If your community has held a Back to the Mountain weekend, the committee would like to hear from you. Please contact Linda England at LMEngland1@sbcglobal.net.

A district meeting was also a part of the NECC meeting agenda. The Northeast representatives discussed the possibility of having a Northeast District Meeting in the spring since the one that was held in MD was well received. Please let me know if your diocese would be willing to host a district meeting. There is not a lot of work involved in hosting. Please email me at tylbrb@verizon.net or call 718 525-2992, if your diocese is willing. If you would like to have an ECLW (Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop) call or email me and I will be happy to help you set it up. Research shows that those dioceses that have participated in an ECLW have been recharged and have grown both spiritually and in numbers. We also spoke about the recent exportation of Cursillo to Barbados by the Diocese of Long Island.

Continued on page 10 ...



Reflections ... Serving on Team ...

"Serving God as Rector for MD98 was one Piety moment after another." — Alex

"My first MEC team filled my heart with prayer, music, and hope." — Bernadette

A Cursillo weekend provides a wonderful opportunity to glorify God. It was an honor to be called, to be able to serve the new Cursillistas, and to be part of an incredible team. From the first meet and greet to the last hug at Clausura, every moment was filled with grace and mercy. Thanks be to God! — Earl

I was once again privileged to see firsthand what a powerful tool Cursillo is in the hand of God. Eyes are opened, hearts mended, spirits renewed, faith strengthened, gifts discovered and empowered and consequently, the whole Church is renewed and blessed. As it says in Psalm 16: "How marvelous are the Lord's faithful people. My greatest joy is to be with them." — Becky

"We had wonderful music all weekend; but Saturday evening when we were running way ahead of schedule, a small group gathered around the fireplace and a spontaneous, old-fashioned hymn sing began ... We sang old favorites and shared new ones. It was a very special gift of time and talent ..." — Beth

Has it been at least one year since your Cursillo weekend? Have you attended a 4th Day workshop? Do you Regularly attend Ultreyas and participate in Group Reunion?

If so, and if you would like to be considered for a future weekend team, please check out the information at <http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/teaminfo.htm> where you can download an application form.

You don't want to miss this incredible experience! Ultreya!



The purpose of Cursillo is to help those in the Church understand their individual callings to be Christian leaders.

CANDIDATE APPLICATION**Maryland Episcopal Cursillo 99 - Deadline **October 6, 2010****

Preferred title (please circle): Mr. – Mrs. – Ms. – Dr. – The Rev. – The Right Rev.

Name _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____ @ _____

Occupation: _____ Marital Status _____

Name to be used on button _____ Date of birth _____

Home parish: _____ Clergy _____
Month/Day/YearDo you require accommodations to satisfy dietary, physical, or medical restrictions? No _____ Yes _____
Please detail if YESHas your sponsor(s) discussed your participation in the 4th Day in grouping, attending Ultreyas, and participating in a 4th Day workshop? No _____ Yes _____**After prayerful consideration, please write a brief statement about why you want to attend a Cursillo weekend on the back of this form.**_____
Candidate's Signature / Date_____
Sponsor's Signature / Date**Clergy Endorsement:**

I know the above-named person and am aware that he/she is submitting an application to attend a Cursillo Weekend. I am not aware of any issues that would preclude this candidate's participation in Cursillo at this time.

Clergy Name (Signature)_____
Name of Parish_____
Clergy Name (Printed)**SEND THIS CANDIDATE APPLICATION
ALONG WITH THE SPONSOR APPLICATION AND FEES TO:****THE MARYLAND EPISCOPAL CURSILLO****8068 Armiger Dr, Pasadena, MD 21122****ATTENTION: Assistant Lay Director**

SPONSOR APPLICATION
Maryland Episcopal Cursillo

1. CONTACT INFORMATION

Primary Sponsor: _____

Address: _____
Street
City
State
Zip

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____ @ _____

Candidate(s) being sponsored: _____

Secondary Sponsor (if applicable) _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____ @ _____

2. SPONSORSHIP REQUIREMENTS:Date and location of your 4th Day workshop(s): _____

Are you a member of a permanent group reunion? YES _____ NO _____

What Ultreya(s) do you normally attend? _____

Your parish _____

3. SPONSOR'S COMMITMENT**As a sponsor, I/we will:**

- Pray for my candidate(s) before, during, and after the Cursillo weekend.
- Discuss the weekend generally, including something about activities, the nature of the accommodations at Claggett, and how to resolve any physical, dietary, or medical accommodations.
- Provide or arrange for the candidate(s) transportation to and from the weekend, including a meal on Thursday night prior to arriving to the Cursillo.
- Discuss with my candidate the participation required on and after a Cursillo weekend.
 - o Assist my candidate to find a permanent Group Reunion, or group myself with the new Cursillista(s).
 - o Discuss with and accompany my candidates to the Reunion Ultreya
 - o Discuss with and accompany my candidates to the 4th Day Workshop
- Send the appropriate fees with both signed applications to the Assistant Lay Director. The current fees may be found on the Cursillo website at www.cursillo.ang-md.org.

NOTE: Candidates not attending a parish in this diocese are expected to financially support Cursillo in their home diocese, not MEC; therefore, these candidates are required to pay the FULL weekend fee. ALL fees are NON-REFUNDABLE 30 days prior to the Cursillo weekend.

Sponsor(s) Signature(s) _____

Date _____

For office use only

DATE REC'D: _____

FEE REC'D: _____

LETTER SENT: _____



A Statement from the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee

Cursillo has always kept its eyes firmly focused on Jesus and on the Mission. One of the principles of the Cursillo movement is that:

We focus on Christ and His resurrection power in our lives, transforming us into the people He would have us be. Theological disputes and political issues have no part in our agenda.

The Cursillo Movement is a movement that brings together all people, whether they might consider themselves to have a liberal or conservative Christian philosophy or somewhere in between, for the common good of promoting Jesus Christ and God's Mission. It is Christ-centered and Christ-focused. The Policy of the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee is that it will not be an organization with a political or social agenda. National Episcopal Cursillo is a movement of the Episcopal Church.

We recognize, however, that a number of individuals with connections and interest in the Episcopal Cursillo Movement are no longer affiliated with the Episcopal Church. As a sign of reconciliation, we welcome those still able, as individuals, to be in communion with the local Episcopal Diocesan Bishop and fellow Cursillistas, whether lay or ordained, to participate in the activities of the Cursillo Movement. Furthermore, and always at the Diocesan Bishop's discretion, we encourage an openness to their continued participation and interest in the activities of the Episcopal Cursillo. It should be understood by all that as a part of their participation, they agree to do so fully for the advancement of Cursillo, be supportive of the mission of Episcopal Cursillo, and agree that they will not promote any political agenda.

What is clear is that National Episcopal Cursillo was created to serve the Episcopal Church in the United States, and we are licensed by the Roman Catholic Church to do that. Despite our personal theological and political views, we are focused on knowing Christ and making Him known to others. That is our call and in doing it lays our greatest joy. Ultreya! Ultreya!!

Let us get on with the day's apostolic action. Let us all pray for the Church and one another everyday.

— **National Episcopal Cursillo Committee**
May 2008

Letter ... Continued from page 6

The Annual Conference followed the meeting. About 140 persons were in attendance representing 40 dioceses. The budget was presented by our treasurer, David Millar and it was adopted by the general council. He has cut the budget wherever possible and our continued work as a national organization depends in great part on your participation in raising funds and sending contributions. Committee members were introduced and committee reports were distributed. Tom Welch, Diocese of Mississippi, gave a short presentation on planned giving as a way of solving some of the future needs of the Cursillo Movement. The newly elected members of the committee are: Fr. Rick Simpson, LI; Tom Welch, MS; Fr. David Pike, MI; and Charles Hood, AR.

The keynote speaker, the Rev. Stephanie Spellers, author of "Radical Welcome", gave us much to think about. She spoke of our dwindling congregations and the fact that only 10% of the membership of The Episcopal Church is in the 18-29 year old bracket. She challenged Cursillistas to be the bridge to the younger generation and to reach out to those who, for whatever reason, are not being called to the Episcopal Church. Reach out across age, race, and cultural barriers. Share your witness. Radically welcome "the others"!

The workshops – Spiritual Direction, Cursillo Weekends in Parishes, Alleluia-Sing Praises to the Lord, and Dialogue with The Rev. Stephanie Spellers- were all well attended and all well received. Worship, workshops, food, fellowship, and music made the conference well worth attending.

DeColores
Barbara



em doodles

by Chris Hambrecht

ATTITUDES ARE CONTAGIOUS



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Secretariat 2009

Lay Director	Emerson Champion
Assistant Lay Director	Tim Welden
Secretary	Carol Gooden
Treasurer	Dick Mitchell
Comptroller	Debbie Bargar
Servant Community Dir	Shelly Collinson
Spiritual Advisor	<i>[Open]</i>
Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland	The Rt. Rev Eugene Sutton
Northeast Area Rep	<i>[Open]</i>
Western Area Rep	Fran Nicholls
Metro North Area Rep	<i>[Open]</i>
Central Area Rep	Becky Fisher
Metro South Area Rep	Jim Stultz
Southern Area Rep	Earl Buffaloe

Servant Community 2009

Servant Community Dir.	Shelly Collinson
Pre-Cursillo Rep	Robyn Mayfield
Weekend Rep	Lynn French
4th Day Coordinator	Anne Arey
Palanca Coordinator	Liz Brodell
Music Coordinator	Ruth Anne Champion
Spiritual Advisor	<i>[Open]</i>
Communications Coord.	<i>[Open]</i>
Website Editor	Shannon Stultz
Abrazo Editor	Pamela Blyth
Email List Coordinator	Emerson Champion

Maryland Episcopal Cursillo Website

<http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org/>

The Maryland Episcopal Cursillo website is a great way to keep in touch with the Maryland Cursillo community!

Information on special events, upcoming weekends, candidate and team lists, updates to the Secretariat & Servant Community contact list, and other items of interest are available for easy reference. You can even read the recent issues of the MEC newsletter, *The Abrazo*, online at your convenience.

Please be sure to visit us at
<http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org>

Monthly Ultreyas

1st Friday, 7:30 PM (Chrysallis Gathering)

Church of the Ascension
23 N. Court St, Westminster, MD
Contact: Becky Fisher (410-876-7672) or
Please check www.mdchrysalis.org/

1st Saturday, 7:00 PM

Christ the King Episcopal Church
1930 Brookdale Road, Woodlawn, MD
Contact: Jim Stultz (410-636-7377)

1st Sunday, 3:00 PM

St. John's Episcopal Church
52 Broadway, Frostburg, MD
Contact: Daphne Gooding (301-245-4705) or
Donald Goldbloom (301-895-3780)

2nd Friday, 7:30 PM

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
1108 Providence Rd, Towson, MD
Contact: Alex & Kathie Dzbinski (410-252-7791)

2nd Sunday, 7:00 PM

St. Peter's Episcopal Church
3695 Rogers Ave, Ellicott City, MD
Contact: Greg Fraser (410-730-0567)

3rd Friday, 7 PM

St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church
375 Benfield Road, Severna Park, MD
Contact: Wadi & Kathy Skidmore-Williams

3rd Sunday, Noon

Christ Episcopal Church
3100 Broome's Island Rd, Port Republic, MD
Contact: Murray Cheston (410-326-3596)

3rd Sunday, 3 PM

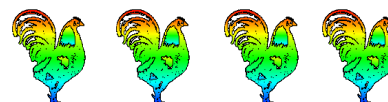
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
18313 Lappans Rd, Boonsboro, MD
Contact: Liz Brodell (301-573-2917)

4th Friday, 7:30 PM

St. James' Parish
5757 Solomons Island Rd, Lothian, MD
Contact: Joe Carta

Quarterly, 5:00 PM

Church of the Ascension
23 N. Court St, Westminster, MD
Contact: Becky Fisher (410-876-7672)
Please check www.cursillo.ang-md.org/





*The Diocese of Maryland
Maryland Episcopal Cursillo
c/o Church of the Ascension
23 North Court Street
Westminster, MD 21157*

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Mark Your Calendar

MD 99 Application Deadline _____	INSERT DATE ...
MD 99 Cursillo Weekend _____	April 22 - 25, 2010, <i>Bishop Claggett Center</i>
Northeast District Cursillo Meeting _____	May 14 - 15, 2010, <i>Long Island, NY</i>
NEC Annual Conference _____	October 28 - 31, 2010, <i>Myrtle Beach, SC</i>
MD 100 Cursillo Weekend _____	November 4 - 7, 2010, <i>Bishop Claggett Center</i>

Make A Friend, Be A Friend, Bring A Friend To Christ