

1985

The to-be-named-some-time-in-the-future United Cursillo Newsletter

Vol. 2

No. 1

UNITED WEEKENDS #21 & 22 -- MAY 23-26, MAY 30-JUNE 2

United Men's Cursillo #21 will take place May 23-26 at Shiloh-Bethany Presbyterian Church, Columbia Heights. Men's rector is George Mastny (Calvin Presbyterian). The Sunday morning serenade is closed (sponsors only at 5:30 a.m.).

United Women's Cursillo #22 will be at Shiloh-Bethany Presbyterian. Rectora is Betty Sazama (Hope Presbyterian). Sunday morning serenade is closed (sponsors only, at 5:30 a.m.).

Both weekends request your palanca. Food palanca should be coordinated with the kitchen rector (Dick Raiche, 476-1601) and rectora (Linda Dahl, 454-8127). Decorating and clean-up help should be coordinated with the Fourth Day rector(a): Jack Weems, 784-7848; Peggy Zender, 786-4706.

NEW "UNITED" CHURCH NEEDS PALANCA SUPPORT

First Congregational Church of Cannon Falls will participate in Cursillo for the first time at the May Cursillo weekends. Please keep these people in your prayers and support them with palanca notes, since they have no home-church support community:

Rev. Richard (Rick) and Diane Townsend-Anderson
Bob and Beth Jensen (lay couple)
First Congregational Church of Cannon Falls (UCC)

UNITED CURSILLO FUTURE DATES...

United Single Women's Cursillo #24
July 11-14, 1985
Plymouth Congregational Church

Deadline for applications: May 30, 1985

United Cursillo #25 (Men's)
October 17-20, 1985
Albert Lea Presbyterian

United Cursillo #26 (Women's)
October 24-27, 1985
Albert Lea Presbyterian

Deadline for applications: September 10, 1985

OVERNIGHT LODGING AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORS

Sponsors who need lodging for the Saturday nights of the two May United weekends are invited to spend the evening in the homes of cursillistas. Contact Rob and Nancy Youel, 13042 Taylor St. N.E., Blaine, MN; telephone 755-7283.

"ALLOCATIONS" MEETING FOR CHURCH LIAISONS

"Allocations" is the term used by the United Cursillo Community of Minnesota to describe the process of determining which people from which churches may attend a Cursillo weekend. Many of the more than 50 active United churches have waiting lists of prospective weekenders. Since a Cursillo weekend can accommodate a maximum of only 356 men or women, it is essential that allocations be handled equitably and according to a set of rules.

An orientation meeting to discuss allocation procedures will be held for church liaison persons on June 18 at Hope Presbyterian Church in Richfield. The United Council convenor and council members responsible for allocations will be on hand to describe the allocation process, answer questions and share ideas and concerns. More complete meeting details will be mailed to church liaisons in advance of the meeting.

Convenor's Notebook

By Joe Feyder

On our recent spring family vacation to Mexico this year, we were pleased to be able to spend it with some of our closest and dearest friends and their three children. As a matter of fact, our friendship began when we all met at Cursillo over six years ago.

The resort we stay at on our trips to the Yucatan region of Mexico is, to put it quite simply, "remote and rustic." There are few amenities, but it seems to fit our style quite well. The only restaurant at the resort is a group of three large palm-thatched roofs over the many tables--open air dining, one might say.

One evening as the nine of us Minnesotans enjoyed our dinner, we happened to notice an older man sitting by himself about to begin his meal. Since the only rule on this sort of vacation is that there are no rules, we didn't feel at all embarrassed when one of our company went over and asked if he would like to join us. The man was more than pleased that we had asked, and so room was made for one more at our table.

Although he was Mexican, his English was better than our collective Spanish, and we all managed to enjoy a lively conversation throughout dinner. (Our group of five American children

had a grand time trying to stump "Manuel" when he challenged them to a contest matching National Football League teams to the proper U.S. city!) It turned out that Manuel was a Catholic priest, and also a professor at a university in the large city of Merida, Mexico. (About the same size city as Minneapolis.)

On hearing that he was a priest, I asked him if he had ever heard of Cursillo. Manuel looked at me, his eyes wide with surprise, and said, "You mean 'Cursillos in Christianity?' Why, of course! I made my Cursillo 14 years ago!"

Almost on cue, we four Minnesota Cursillistas shouted "De Colores" to him, and he responded with the same greeting to us.

Interesting, isn't it, how a shared common experience like Cursillo can span the years, geographic distance, language barriers, and theological traditions. Maybe some of you have had similar experiences of meeting other Cursillistas far from home, or in an unexpected setting. If you have, you probably noticed that there was at once a sense of kinship, a bonding together, borne out of this Christ-centered experience. In a very real sense, I feel "that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it...". His love is timeless, knows no bounds, can transcend language barriers, and it is never static, but rather always growing and moving out into the world.

It is in that "spirit of growth" that I ask your collective prayers for your United Cursillo Council. From the few churches that stepped out to begin the United Cursillo about five years ago, we now have a community of about 45 different churches and more than 1,500 members!

Much of the business of the Council this year has been to begin the process of insuring future growth by developing job descriptions, lines of authority, standing committees, length of service on the Council, etc. Even a long overdue "Statement of Purpose"! It is an awesome task, not always "fun," but all of us on your United Council feel it will go a long way to secure the future of the United Cursillo Community of Minnesota. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find the names and churches of the current Council members. They are a beautiful, talented, and loving group -- all dedicated, and always willing to put action with their faith.

Please pray, brothers and sisters, that even as we deal with the "nuts and bolts" business of Cursillo, that we will be led by the Spirit, and Christ-inspired at all times.

Your friend in the Spirit,

Joe Feyder
Convener

LUTHERANS TAKING CURSILLO TO PAPUA, NEW GUINEA

The Lutheran Cursillo Community has taken on the challenge of presenting the first two Lutheran Cursillo weekends in Papua, New Guinea, July 4-7 and 11-14. Questions concerning the weekends can be directed to Doug Fruen, 5576 Nantucket Road, Minnetonka, MN 55345, phone 934-2368. Most critical palanca need is cash gifts to help underwrite the cost of the weekends. Checks can be mailed to Fruen at the above address.

EPISCOPAL, LUTHERAN SUMMER SCHEDULES

St. Paul's Episcopal/Duluth (June 13-16, 20-23)
Trinity Lutheran/Owatonna (June 13-16, 20-23)

WHO SERVES ON THE UNITED COUNCIL?

Here are the men and women who presently serve on the United Cursillo Council. Terms run for three years.

Verda Aegerter Hennepin Ave. Methodist	Cliff Johnson Plymouth Congregational
Dave Appelhof Christ Presbyterian	Kay Lindahl Peoples Congregational
Robin Berg 1st Presbyterian/Hudson	Jan Mattox Plymouth Congregational
Ruth Boehlke St. Croix Valley Methodist	Chuck Porter Colonial Church of Edina
Bruce Bredeson Christ Presbyterian	Dennis J. Reimer 1st Presbyterian/LeSueur
Mary Lou Carpenter Plymouth Congregational	Cindy Shepherd Colonial Church of Edina
Judy Fetterly Christ Presbyterian	Pat Stark Colonial Church of Edina
Joe Feyder Colonial Church of Edina	Bob Dando-Thompson Peoples Congregational
Carol Flint Hope Presbyterian	Rob Youel Shiloh-Bethany Prebyterian
Judy Hill Colonial Church of Edina	

I'm still accepting name ideas for this newsletter (which is four pages longer than the inaugural issue!). I'll also lovingly accept your letters (I got one after the first issue!), articles, prayers, prayer requests, reflections, etc. Send them to my attention at 4932 Newton Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55409.

--Cliff Johnson, Editor

GREETINGS FROM THE DANDO-THOMPSONS

Rev. Patti and Bob Dando-Thompson and new baby son Zachary, Peoples Congregational Church, Bayport, are currently serving as missionaries in Taipei, Taiwan. Both Bob and Patti have been deeply involved in the development and leadership of the United Cursillo Community of Minnesota. Their absence is felt in the United Community as well as at Peoples where, the Rev. Brad McNaught said, they contributed a unique and gifted team ministry.

Brad provided several letters written recently by Patti and Bob to friends at Peoples...here are excerpts:

"This Holy Week finds Bob and I far from home, missing our friends and our Easter celebrations at Peoples. We are finding our way slowly...settling into a different way of living...and increasingly becoming comfortable in our new surroundings. We live in Yung Ho, which is a suburb of Taipei and is said to be the most populated area in all of Taiwan. Even with all the people we are finding some space to be content. Our neighborhood is fairly clean (Taiwan standards) with apartment buildings everywhere, traffic and noise at all times and little shops interspersed on every block.

"Palm Sunday I preached my first sermon with an interpreter and Bob played his trumpet. There were about 50 in the church, which is the ground floor of an apartment building that also houses a kindergarten during the week. I guess it was one of the largest turnouts they had had -- we are to be the drawing attraction I guess as people come to meet the two Americans who have come to work in their church. I will also preach the Easter Sunday sermon and now that I've got my feet wet, I am really looking forward to it. Easter is not celebrated here by the majority of the people, and so even in the Chinese Christian church, it is not the glorious holiday that we have. We miss this and yet hope to bring its significance to our new friends here. Pray for us that it may truly be a day of commitment and renewal for the people here.

"Last week we had the pleasure of meeting with some American missionaries who are here with the Lutheran Church. Two couples we had talked to in the states and two other couples are now new friends. It helped us with our homesickness, as we were really needing to be with people that spoke English and who understood the culture shock that we have been experiencing. Each day I think we settle in a little more but the days do go by slowly. We are doing a lot of reading in our spare time (which is not a lot). Zachary is doing well -- charming everyone he meets. Whenever we are out shopping or sightseeing, he becomes the center of attention. He seems to do well with all the strange faces. We will continue to keep you informed of our work -- we are so thankful for you all and your prayers."

Love in Christ,
Patti & Bob & Zachary

TEAM ROSTER - UNITED MEN'S #21

Rector: George Mastny
Asst. Rectors: Tom Gulliford
Richard Jacobson
Clint Miller
Spiritual Dir.: Douglas Roper
Asst. S.D.: John E. Schmit
Music Dir.: Rick Marasco
Rollistas: Les Beernink
T.C. Brooks
Howard Dettloff
Chuck Parten
Ted Stark III
Charles Zender
Table Leaders: Ron Chorozny
Jerry Cone
Myron Gilbertson
David Handy
Harvey Parker
Neil Peterson
4th Day Rector: Jack Weems
Asst. Rector: Doug Galinski
4th Day Team: Monte Carpenter
Leo Gehlhoff
Tom Henry
Bruce Jensen
Gene Nelson
Bob Zalk
Kitchen Rector: Dick Raiche
Asst. Rector: H. S. (Tim) Temple
Kitchen Team: Don Curtis
John Antolik
Roger Dane
John Serier
Rick Sorenson
Satoru Sudoh
Dave Waite
Palanca Rector: John (Bud) Anderson
Asst. Rector: James R. Stark
Palanca S.D.: Frank Hiron
Palanca Team: Ernie Aden
Butch Bartush
Bill Brastad
Fran Feldhahn
Dave Hilbrands
James (Joe) Johnson
Steve Keefer
Jim Lindvall
Walter (Chip) Longacre
Larry Richter

TEAM ROSTER - UNITED WOMEN'S #22

Rectora: Betty Sazama
Asst. Rectoras: Louise Anderson
Rosemary Frandeen
Carol Krebs
Spiritual Dir.: Sue Adams
Asst. S.D.: Cindy Shepherd
Music Dir.: Jan Mattox
Rollistas: Ann Bates
Tami Grotjohn
Joyce Jensen
Ann Palecek
Pat Peterson
Elizabeth Stevenson
Table Leaders: Jinger Iselin
Phyllis Krull
Julie Richter
Carol Rodenborg
Helen Smith
Kathie Sorenson
4th Day Rectora: Peggy Zender
Asst. Rectora: Betty Galinski
4th Day Team: Glenda Allbright
Kathi Anderson
Kathy Anderson
Peggy Dronen
Jean Girardot
Arlene Legg
Lorie Pederson
Sharon Rhodes
Kathy Roberts
Kitchen Rectora: Linda Dahl
Asst. Rectora: Kathy Pluhar
Kitchen Team: Linda Dickson
Marilyn Gallagher
Sally Gehlhoff
Linda Halvorson
Sylvia Jesse
Caroline Johnson
Marianne Stone
Jeanette Taatjes
Marge Tingblad
Susan Wagner
Gail Weems
Palanca Rectora: Nan Grube
Asst. Rectora: Ruth Boehlke
Palanca S.D.: Rebecca Tollefson
Palanca Team: Karen Crowell
Mary Marcoux
Judy Cheeley
Kathy Downing
Jackie Kuehn
Susan Lindvall
Pat Mastny
Susan McIntyre
Mary Otterlei
Jan Shepley
Betsy Slapnicher

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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