

PALANCA PRESS

VOL. 5/NO. 1 NEWS OF MINNESOTA UNITED CURSILLO JANUARY, 1988

SUPPORT JANUARY CURSILLOS AT HOPE PRESBYTERIAN

United Cursillos #43 and 44 will take place Jan. 14-17 (Men's) and Jan. 21-24 (Women's) at Hope Presbyterian Church, 7132 Portland Ave. So., Richfield. Both men's and women's Sunday morning serenades are closed. Sunday evening serenades are at 5:30 p.m. and open to all 4th Dayers. Theme and scriptural reference for the men's weekend is "Be ye transformed..." and Romans 12:2. Scriptural reference for the women's weekend is Hosea 6:3, with a visual theme of dawn and spring rains. Rector is Mike Anderson (Crosstown Covenant); rectora is Connie Olson (Hope Presbyterian).

SPECIAL PALANCA REQUESTS FOR JANUARY WEEKENDS

Both the men's and women's weekends have requested palanca in the form of help with the Agape Dinner -- dishing up food for the first setting, clean-up following the first setting, and serving the second setting. If your church or renewal group -- or if you individually -- would like to give palanca in this form, call Carl Pearson for the men's weekend at 869-9208(H), 729-9952(W); and either Karen Johnson, 927-7741 or Joalynn Dahlgren, 929-8029, for the women's weekend.

If you (or your renewal group or church) would like to palanca dessert for a meal during the weekend, call Carl, Karen or Joalynn.

If you would like to palanca Sunday morning breakfast for the men's weekend, call Carl.

Finally, if you (or your renewal group or church) can help with clean-up following the two clausuras, call the 4th Day Team leaders: Doug Dahl (454-8127), and Heidi Richter (929-9463) or Maren Kleven (890-0110).

JANUARY MEN'S WEEKEND PLANS PRAYER VIGIL

A prayer vigil during the men's weekend for weekend and other concerns will be held Jan. 14-17 in the palanca chapel at Hope Presbyterian Church. If you would like to sign up for a prayer time during the men's weekend, call Larry Richter, palanca team rector, at 934-9614.

UNITED CURSILLO FUTURE DATES

United Cursillo #45 (Men's)	United Cursillo #46 (Women's)
May 12-15, 1988	May 19-22, 1988
1st Presbyterian/Stillwater	1st Presbyterian/Stillwater

Deadline for applications: March 29, 1988

United Cursillo #48 (Single women's)
July 21-24, 1988
Peace Presbyterian/St. Louis Park

9267.01

OUT-OF-STATERS: CAN YOU SEND PALANCA?

What is your best memory of your Cursillo weekend? For many, it is the palanca, in all its forms. For some it was fish crackers, for others, Rollo brand candy, and for others, a palanca note from someone in Chattanooga or Nome, Alaska.

Recent United Cursillos have been blessed with plentiful palanca, but one area that has been lacking has been "notes from afar." So, if you're reading this letter from California or Wisconsin or New York, please give some thought to sending a palanca note to upcoming weekends. Simply address your letter or note to "Men of United Cursillo #43" or "Women of United Cursillo #44." Mail your notes to Linda Dahl, 573 Atlantic Hills Drive, Eagan, MN 55123, and she will see that they get to the weekend.

CURSILLO WEEKEND WATCH

Weekend: Date (1988): Location: Rector(a) Spiritual Dir: Asst. SD: Palanca SD:	#43 (Men's) Jan 14-17 Hope Presby/ Richfield Mike Anderson Gerry Udstuen Bob Springer John Ward (unassigned)	#44 (Women's) Jan 21-24 Hope Presby/ Richfield Connie Olson Mary Marcoux Kristen Rouner Kathy Miller	#45 (Men's) May 12-15 1st Presby/ Stillwater Chris Iselin (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)	#46 (Women's) May 19-22 1st Presby/ Stillwater Sue Silker (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)
Weekend: Date (1988): Location: Rector(a) Spiritual Dir: Asst. SD: Palanca SD:	(no weekend scheduled)	#48 (Sngl Wom) July 21-24 Peace Presby/ St Louis Park (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)	#49 (Men's) Oct 13-17 (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)	#50 (Women's) Oct 20-23 (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)
Weekend: Date (1989): Location: Rector(a) Spiritual Dir: Asst. SD: Palanca SD:	#51 (Men's) Jan 19-22 (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)	#52 (Women's) Jan 26-28 (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)	#53 (Men's) May 12-15 (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)	#54 (Women's) May 19-22 (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned) (unassigned)

NOTE TO CLERGY: The Spiritual Director and other clergy positions are the most difficult slots to fill on any Cursillo weekend. If one of these weekends can be worked into your schedule and you would like to serve, please contact a member of the Minnesota United Council Leadership Development Committee -- Mike Anderson, Chairman (920-1261), Rev. Doug Roper (474-1346) or Rev. Paul Waite (788-0053).

CONVENOR'S NOTEBOOK...

By Dave Appelhof

The United Cursillo Community of Minnesota consists of 2,450 fourth dayers, 80 affiliated clergy and 52 member-churches. The United Cursillo Council consists of 15 lay persons who serve a three-year term. Three clergy members serve a one- to three-year term.

Council members are cursillistas with team leadership experience. About one-third of council members have been a Cursillo rector or rectora.

The council, which meets formally once a month, has the following responsibilities:

1. Manage the community's finances.
2. Allocate weekend "slots" on a fair and equitable basis.
3. Select and nurture new churches in the community.
4. Select weekend dates and sites.
5. Manage council-owned supplies and coordinate use of jointly-owned supplies with the Episcopal community.
6. Gather news and publish Palanca Press newsletter.
7. Select and recruit weekend clergy and lay leaders.
8. Train weekend team members.
9. Supervise development of printed materials used for team training and weekend instruction.
10. Develop palanca support for weekenders throughout the world.
11. Function as a catalyst in the formation of the United TEC movement.
12. Foster a Christ-centered community, based on love, for all council and fourth day members.

The council's primary objective for 1987-88 is to improve the process of selecting weekend leadership. The problem in the past has not been with quality of leadership but rather with inconsistency of lead-time in securing leaders. We believe that if we can select weekend leaders earlier, the team selection and team building processes will be more effective.

Adequate lead-time is particularly important in selecting clergy for the spiritual director positions because the total number of available clergy is limited and many clergy must set their schedules many months in advance. Because of the problems associated with recruiting clergy, the council encourages clergy to serve on at least one team every three years.

The United Cursillo Council exists to serve you. Council members are your voice within the United Cursillo community. Please contact a council member if you have concerns or issues that you would like discussed or acted upon.

UNITED CURSILLO #41 WEEKENDERS (10/87 -- EDINA COVENANT)

James Arends	William Bollenbeck	James Buelow
Howard Casmey	John Coenen	Gregory Cornell
Robert Craven	Kimball Cummings	James Curry
Douglas Duncan	Kent Frohrip	Gordon Gathright
Richard Irvin	Tom Johnson	Malcolm Kindig
Benjamin Larson	David Lee	Ivan Lee
Ronald Legg	Ryan Lounsberry	James McCarl
Ralph Nelson	Don Nolander	Robert Oser
James Otto	Kenneth Parsons	Larry Patterson
Bruce Peterson	Carleton Peterson	Daniel Ritchie
James Schulz	William Thorndike	Harold Wayne
Terry Whitmyer	Todd Williams	John Wright

UNITED CURSILLO #42 WEEKENDERS (10/87 -- EDINA CONVENANT)

Lynn Arends	JoAnne Bollenbeck	Connie Buelow
Sandra Casmey	Patsy Coenen	Barbara Cornell
Karen Craven	Dorothy Cummings	Barbara Curry
Patti Duncan	Karen Frohip	Linda Gathright
Pamela Irvin	Elle Johnson	Viola Kindig
Joan Larson	BettyLou Lee	Carol Lee
Roxanne Legg	Jeanette Lopez	Jean McCarl
Wendy Nelson	JoAnn Nolander	Charlet Oser
Beth Otto	Teresa Parsons	Linda Patterson
Judy Peterson	Laurie Peterson	Judith Ritchie
Bonita Schulz	Pam Shadick	Phyllis Thorndike
Patricia Wayne	Ann Whitmyer	Majorie Williams
Barbara Wright		

A MINNESOTA KAIROS UPDATE

By Madonna Kerber

On October 12, 40 Cursillistas from the Episcopal, Catholic, Lutheran and United communities entered Sandstone Federal Prison to facilitate a Kairos weekend. Guided by the Holy Spirit, these men and women of black, Spanish and Caucasian descent have chosen Kairos as a method of apostolic action.

The purpose and dynamics of Kairos are the same as Cursillo: To Christianize one's environment...in this case, Sandstone Prison and the inmates' family and friends.

The inmates on that weekend were from around the world -- Guam, Sicily, Nicaragua, London, South America, U.S., to name just a few. Approximately 100 of the prison's 750 inmates were involved, either as weekenders or team members.

Inmates on the first day typically are trying to figure out who all these happy people are from the outside and "what's in it for them?" They're suspicious about our motives...why would people leave their families and travel 125 miles to sleep on a cold church floor to spend four days with a bunch of cons?!

By Day Two, they are beginning to believe the team is for real, that our motive is unconditional love, that our happiness comes from within, and that we enjoy sleeping on cold church floors.

As the message of the speaker filters through the inmates' minds and down into their hearts, they realize they are surrounded with more love than they have ever experienced. The gospel comes alive and real to them. Words take on a new dimension: God is love! Love one another! Come follow me!

The walls they have built to protect themselves from being used or abused in the institution start to come down brick by brick. They begin to open up and develop a trust relationship with one another. They become vulnerable as they share their love for Jesus Christ with each other and once this is done with sincerity, the doors to a meaningful relationship with God and fellow man opens up.

Kairos weekends were recently completed at the women's prison in Shakopee and the federal medical correctional facility in Rochester. The 150 inmates that attended these three prison Kairos weekends and are now 4th Dayers have an awesome responsibility to Christianize their respective prison environments. Many of them will make a friend, be a friend and bring that friend to Christ.

If your Cursillo renewal or church group would like to make a banner for Kairos, we would deeply appreciate it. We would like to acquire our own set of banners by mid-February. Any size and color is acceptable.

We are in the process of team selection right now and will

likely conduct a minimum of six Kairos weekends in 1988. We need team members -- both lay and spiritual directors. We ask you to pray about this and, if the spirit moves you, to call. We will tell you how to become involved in this very rewarding 4th Day ministry. Our harvest is plenty and our laborers are few. Come with us into the field.

If you would like to attend a reunion (ultreya) at one of these facilities, we can work this out. It is a good way to get a feel for what we are about. We have them monthly at each facility. The inmates are not asked to make a financial contribution to the weekend. Our funds are generated by word of mouth from teams and from a few churches and individuals who believe in what Kairos is doing. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, send it to: Treasurer, Kairos Minnesota, 3438 Arbor Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55343.

If you would like to work a weekend and want more information, please call Madonna Kerber at 474-8189.

JANUARY WEEKENDS TO FEATURE 'LIVING STATIONS'

In July, the Single Women's Cursillo at St. Croix Valley United Methodist presented the Friday evening Stations of the Cross using "living models" at each of the stations. Many team members and weekenders who took part have indicated that the living stations approach was for them a more dramatic experience of Christ's final hours than earlier experiences with traditional inanimate stations.

Helen Davis (Hope Presbyterian) was invited to the October United Cursillo council meeting to demonstrate the living stations technique. It involves dressing models in shroud-like garments (created by Helen) and teaching them to assume the pose or posture that characterizes the scene at each station. The models' identify is concealed by the garments.

Based on Helen's demonstration and feedback from July weekend participants, the council agreed to adopt the living stations for the January and May United weekends...if the use of living stations at these four weekends is positive, living stations will become a permanent option for future United weekends.

Helen has agreed to serve as living stations advisor for these four weekends and has volunteered the services of Hope Presbyterian cursillistas as the living models.

UNITED TEC WEEKEND SEEKS TEENS FOR TEAM LEADERSHIP

The newly-formed United TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) council has met and is targeting the first United TEC weekend for Spring, 1988 (tentatively in mid-April). To help plan this weekend, we need the names of United TEC teens (grades 10-12) who would like to serve on a team and a recap of their previous team experience.

If you know any United TEC-ers, please complete the form below. At present, we have no idea how many TEC-ers there are, so the information provided on this form will help us establish the list. Call or mail form by January 15 to: Mark Opseth, 308 Water Street, Albert Lea, MN 56007 Phone (507) 373-2035.

Name _____
Address _____ State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Age _____ Grade _____
Date of your TEC weekend _____ Episcopal () Lutheran ()
Home congregation _____
Previous team experience _____
Circle team preference:
WHEAT SUPPORT KITCHEN TABLE LEADER MUSIC SPEAKER

TEAM ROSTER -- UNITED MEN'S #43

Rector:	Mike Anderson	Kitchen rector:	Chuck Parten
Asst. rectors:	Art Bauman	Asst. rector:	Carl Pearson
	Allan Lotsberg	Kitchen team:	John Bergman
	Frank Sattervall		Ron Dobies
Spiritual Dir:	Gerry Udstuen		Myron Gilbertson
Asst. S.D.:	Bob Springer		Jim Lindahl
	John Ward		Tom Lund
Music Dir:	Cliff Johnson		Duane Nelson
Asst M.D.:	Bill Ress		Art Peterson
Rollistas:	Vernon Barsness		Frank Uvodich
	Tom Herman		Jack Weems
	Bruce McPheeters		Bill Wright
	Mike Montgomery		Bob Zalk
	Bob Strachota	Palanca rector:	Larry Richter
	Dick Westurn	Asst. rector:	Chip Longacre
Table leaders:	Keith Buell	Palanca S.D.:	(unassigned)
	Richard Lee	Music director:	Bob Broady
	Jim Lindvahl	Palanca team:	Greg Adelman
	Rob Lund		Jim Balk
	Terry Whitmyer		Craig Carlson
4th Day rector:	Doug Dahl		Rick Heeren
Asst. rector:	Don Sazama		Leo Herman
4th Day team:	Eric Bredeson		David Johnson
	Jeff Childs		Carlie Madison
	Rick Ellis		Paul Parrish
	John Forshtay		Peter Pope
	Bruce Peterson		
	Blair Weimer		

TEAM ROSTER -- UNITED WOMEN'S #44

Rectora:	Connie Olson	Kitchen rectora:	Joalynn Dahlgren
Asst. rectoras:	Ginny Peterson		Karen Johnson
	Betsy Winger	Kitchen team:	Lynda Lujan
	Suzanne Giltner		Jacquelynn Lotsberg
Spiritual Dir:	Mary Marcoux		Connie Getsch
Asst. S.D.:	Kristen Rouner		Carol Vick
Music Dir:	David Olson		Connie Bettenhausen
Rollistas:	Dianne Getsch		Judy Carver
	Susie Prin		Leslie Iverson
	Elaine Olson		Joan Jarvis
	Marilyn Perlin		Connie Buelow
	Bettie Stromberg		Jan Peterson
	Carol Krebs		Kit Schmoker
Table leaders:	Debbie Strickler	Palanca rectora:	Brenda Duncan
	Terry Naugle	Asst. rectora:	Joanne Kudrna
	Dolores Minkema	Palanca S.D.:	Kathy Miller
	Barbara Black	Palanca team:	Mary Johnson
	Carol Lee		Joan Lambert
	Barbara Portwood		Kathy Coleman
4th Day rectora:	Heidi Richter		Sharon Mills
	Maren Kleven		Jo Romer
4th Day team:	Trudy Hanson		Mary Absolom
	Rose Ihle		Susan Stevens
	Brenda Ward		Tricia Madison
	Bettylue Sievert		Barbara Nielsen
	Mary Otterlei		Linda Pierce
	Mary Melander		
	Bonnie Dealing		

A BOUNDARY CURSILLO EXPERIENCE

By Sue Kearns

On the trust of those who had gone before us, we entered the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. I had been before but not on this particular course and not with a "first-dayer."

My companion trusted me and looked forward to promised enjoyment. We set out on a large lake and, after winding our way around small islands, spotted our first portage, 320 rods...one mile long. John unsteadily lifted the canoe out of the water as he had been taught in a crash course by an outfitter 10 minutes before entering this mysterious land.

He awkwardly, but bravely, struck out with canoe and bulging Duluth pack. I led the way to help navigate over fallen trees, around huge rocks (small boulders was John's perhaps more accurate description), 60 degree inclines, and quicksand-like puddles that reflected the previous day's storm. The portage was narrow and rough. John accepted most challenges; to some he succumbed. On the lakes, head winds met us and campsites alluded us till finally we found a place to rest our tired bodies.

Lying on unfamiliar pads in the ominous dark the first night brought fear and at the same time wonder about this chosen experience.

Too tired and sore to sleep past dawn, John got up and struggled to build a fire, conjuring up past Boy Scout lessons, while I gathered wood. Like two strangers we worked clumsily together to provide a Spartan breakfast. While choosing a spot by the cold lake to scrub blackened cook pots, John guessed what a second day in the BWCA could be like. It had to get better...and it did.

Tender moments...sad ones...periods of reflection...love...absorbing God's wonder...peace and joy. The day was filled like no other day. Meals became more elaborate as the primitive cooking became familiar. We added to our campsite to create a joyous place, one from which we would be sad to part but happy to reflect on memories.

On the third day our journey back took a different route. Head winds forced rain into our faces but we felt strong and undaunted. We freely laughed and ate gorp and candy bars as the sun found a spot in the sky to see us home and winds eased into gentle breezes. Each portage toward home became wider, less rocky; path sides were sprinkled with wild flowers. We burst into our final destination, the place where we had started, changed somehow. An inner peace and joy seemed prevalent; a sense of having been God's special guests in a special place was real.

The glory of the experience will fade with time but on the fourth day we'll know we are more than we were and more is expected of us. We need to share, not the experience itself for that's impossible, but a new dimension in our lives, a new layer to our souls.

(Editor's Note: Sue Kearns, a 4th Dayer from Burnsville, wrote this article as an assignment from her career counselor with the goal of having it published...we're sure her experiences will stir emotions in many of you who have also paddled the majestic BWCA.)

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331-8000(O)

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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