

DeColores

*The Newsletter of the Edmonton
Anglican Cursillo Community*

Winter 2007



EDMONTON CURSILLO COMMUNITY PRACTICES THE THEOLOGY OF THE HAMMER

Submitted by: Mike Brown

On September 15, 2007 members of the Edmonton Cursillo Community assembled at the Habitat for Humanity Transport Build site on 97th Street. The group spent a busy day priming and painting in the homes. Their work helped to bring the dream of home ownership a step closer for four partner families who will be moving into the homes, hopefully before the end of the year.

The participants found the day was not only worthwhile, but also fun. They had an opportunity to meet some members of partner families who were working that day preparing for the pouring of sidewalks.

The Cursillistas working on the build site were provided with a delicious warm lunch provided by other members of the community. During the lunch period members of the community had an opportunity to meet other volunteers, who were working at another site. This other group was composed of individuals who had worked on international builds.

The day ended with the Cursillistas feeling tired but also with a feeling of accomplishment having helped move four families closer to a move in date.

Habitat for Humanity is faith-based, non-profit, community organization whose objective is to provide everyone one with a safe and decent place to live. The Edmonton Chapter of Habitat was founded in 1991, with several founding members being members of the Edmonton Anglican community. Since its founding Habitat has grown from building one or two homes a year to where it is currently building 13 homes. This year also saw the completion of 14 homes which now house partner families. The Edmonton chapter of Habitat is working toward a goal of building 100 homes a year.

Many people wonder about how families are selected for Habitat homes. Each family chosen must undergo a screening process to ensure they meet the criteria for a family. This includes having a family income below the poverty line, as set out by the Federal Government. In addition, the families are currently living in substandard housing. A key element of the Habitat program is partnership. Families selected for new homes must be willing to work with Habitat. This means that a family is expected to put in 500 hours of "sweat equity" as their commitment to a new home.

The Habitat for Humanity idea is to give a family a hand up not a hand out. The process involves helping families in need help themselves. This approach has meant the Habitat has been able to help families through not only building homes, but building hope for families who look to improve the quality of life for themselves and their children.

The success of Habitat for Humanity is based on the willingness of volunteers to come out and spend their time helping these partner families build their new homes and better lives. The Edmonton Cursillo Community has made a contribution to this goal by putting in one Saturday of priming and painting. This day was a part of apostolic action where people have an opportunity to reach out and help others.

Editor's note: "Thanks Mike for this wonderful contribution to our newsletter!"

Servant Community Secretariat Position

Please continue to pray for the successful manning of the Servant Community position on Secretariat. This position is responsible for arranging educational events for our Cursillo Community. Further details are available from any member of Secretariat: <http://www.edmontoncursillo.ca/contact.htm>

Financial News

Our Treasurer's report shows us in a good financial position. We have the funds to pay for our 2008 weekends at this time. Many Cursillistas are not aware that the community pays CACS an *annual \$3.00 fee for each Cursillista on the membership list*. Somehow, we missed our 2005 payment and after being asked for this payment by CACS, we have agreed to pay it in installments.

In her work as our Treasurer, Evelyn has spent time working with Dale Purkis at the Synod Office. In order to make their work together more effective, Dale suggested that it would be most helpful to have a laptop that the Treasurer of Secretariat could use for the financial records. Does anyone have a laptop (capable of supporting Windows XP) they would consider donating to the Cursillo Community? Perhaps, if no one has a laptop, some of us could donate some funds toward the purchase of one? The laptop will be loaded by Dale with the financial software required and would be passed forward from Treasurer to Treasurer. Please prayerfully consider supporting this aspect of our Community and contact Evelyn Just, registrar@edmontoncursillo.ca, if you are able to assist in this project.

Farewell to Bishop Victoria Matthews



On Friday November 30, 2007 the Diocese hosted a Farewell to Bishop Victoria and there were many Cursillistas at the Cathedral and at the reception which followed. Our Cursillo banners were displayed throughout the Cathedral. Many thanks to Jim Phillipchuk who came through to help with moving the banners!

Pictured from left to right:

Bev Middleton, Pre-Cursillo Chair
Bishop Victoria Matthews
Jenny Stuart, Lay Director

Updating our Membership List

Secretariat has been busy making phone calls to update our membership list. The calls should be completed early in the new year at which time we will be able to confirm our membership numbers with CACS. This number is used to determine the fees we must pay to CACS each year (\$3 per Cursillista). My thanks to everyone for taking the time to help with this huge project.

Biro's Return from Mongolia



Anne and Sam Biro returned on furlough this summer from 3 years of missionary work in Mongolia. They were kind enough to provide a presentation and short talk at our November Ultreya. It was quite moving to hear of some of the things they have been doing while away from Edmonton. Anne and Sam have been working with Joint Christian Services (JCS) during their time in Mongolia. Support is always welcome, especially your prayers!!! Here is the link to an article that Sam wrote for Horizons, the JCS Newsletter: <http://www.jcsintl.org/Horizons/0307.pdf>

Lay Directors for 2008 Weekends

The Lay Directors for the 2008 Weekends are:

[Tom Aylard](#) - Men's Weekend

[Catherine Haiste](#) - Women's Weekend.

Please uphold Tom and Catherine and their teams in prayer as they prepare for the upcoming Cursillo weekends.

Diocesan Giving Plan

Please consider participating in the "Diocesan Giving Plan" and make a monthly donation to the Edmonton Cursillo community. A small donation of even five dollars a month would go a long way to insuring we are able to support upcoming Cursillo Weekends and make our annual payments to CACS. There is a Debit Plan form available on the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton's website. Please enter "Edmonton Cursillo" as the Parish on the form. Here is the link to the form: [Authorization for Donor Pre-Authorized Debit Plan](#)

Upcoming Cursillo Events:

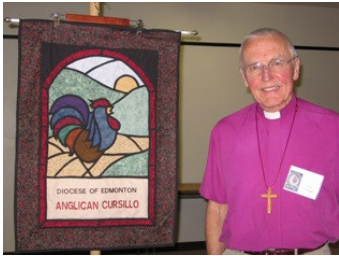
December 14, 2007	Potluck Ultreya, 6:30 p.m., St Timothy's
January 18, 2008	Work Bee Ultreya, 7:30 p.m., St Timothy's Please help us prepare supplies for the 2008 Weekends.
February 17, 2008	Moonlight Service
Feb. 21 - 24, 2008	Men's Weekend #19 Lay Director: Tom Aylard
February 28 - March 2, 2008	Women's Weekend #19 Lay Director: Catherine Haiste

Though not an official Ultreya, **Drayton Valley** holds floating potluck group reunions on the first Friday of the month at a member's home. For more information call Bob Mills at 727-4453 or email him at catkabob@telus.net.

If you are aware of any other events or announcements for the Cursillo Community, please contact Maureen Slater, Communications Chair, at:
communications@edmontoncursillo.ca

Servant Community News

Servant Community Event - Sponsorship



A Servant Community Event on the topic of Sponsorship was held before the Friday Ultreya on November 16, 2007. The Right Reverend Ken Genge delivered a talk to the community on the importance of sponsorship. It was wonderful to have him join us and our sincere thanks to him for sharing his inspirational words with the Community once again.

A copy of Ken's Sponsorship talk from 2005 can found on our website at:

<http://www.edmontoncursillo.ca/sponsorship.htm>

To date, no applications have been received for the upcoming weekends. Cursillistas who are sponsoring a candidate can find the application forms (3 parts) on the Edmonton Cursillo website: <http://www.edmontoncursillo.ca/forms.htm>.

Team Teaching Day

The Men's and Women's 2008 Teams were at St. John the Evangelist's in full force on Saturday September 22, 2007 for a Team Teaching Day offered by Secretariat. We are very grateful to The Rev. Don Aellen, who opened the day with a celebration of Holy Communion. The training day focused on what makes an authentic Cursillo Weekend and some practical situational training. It provided a lot of information that team members may not have been aware of before and gave teams the opportunity to consider how best to walk alongside the candidates in the weekends. It is hoped this training will assist all team members to better serve our Lord and assist the candidates on our upcoming weekends.

The Edmonton Anglican Cursillo Community's website can be found at:

www.edmontoncursillo.ca

Please note that it is easier and less expensive for us to send the newsletter by email.

If you have an email address, please share it with our Communications Director, Maureen Slater or email her at:

communications@edmontoncursillo.ca.

If you have any suggestions for future newsletters or wish to contribute an article, please contact Maureen.

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