

Volume 1

CURSILLO



Anglican Diocese of Edmonton Cursillo Newsletter

April 2019

Cursillo is more than a weekend experience. Cursillo is an active community that provides regular ongoing opportunities for support, fellowship and spiritual growth. Ongoing opportunities for Christian encouragement, fellowship and growth. We meet monthly:

- * At St. Timothy's Anglican Church (8420 145 Street, Edmonton)
- * Generally the 3rd Friday of each month at 7:30 pm
- * Speaker, snacks, live music and songs to encourage you in your Christian walk
- * All are welcome at these gatherings
- * There is also a monthly community gathering at Gibbons Emmanuel, first Friday of each month.

Upcoming Ultreya and special events:

April: no Ultreya to allow everyone to focus on their Lenten journey to the cross and the Resurrection.



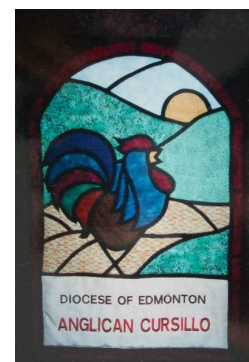
May 25th: (10 am to 2 pm) Road trip to Vegreville to bring Cursillo there, Jim and Deb will talk about their El Camino pilgrimage walk. Come and join us! We will be arranging car-pooling.

June 8th: (10 am to 2 pm) Bishop's morning of teaching and conversation followed by a lunch. Location to be confirmed.

August 16th: (7:30 pm to 9:00 pm) Ice Cream social, happening in a Park near you.

Please watch Synod Scene, Mail chimp and Facebook for further updates!

"Make a Friend.
Be a Friend. Bring
a Friend to Christ"



Lay Director's Update:



I am so glad we're trying out the idea of a brief Cursillista newsletter a couple times a year—and our first issue date of mid-April is especially fitting an Easter letter for a resurrection people who thrive on love of Christ and community! We can thank our 4th Day Chair Janie Seguin, for this great idea.

Your Secretariat held a planning session in January with a great sense of energy and optimism. Cursillista Jenny Stuart of St. Albert joined us for a brainstorming session on what our 30th Anniversary in 2020 might look like. Several days? A weekend? A gathering of all past lay directors, spiritual leaders and Bishops? Imagine the music if some of the our past talent got together for the event? What about workshops? Worship services? A very Grand Reunion!

You must have some ideas too. Please talk to me or Jenny at a monthly meeting or email me at dwholehouse@gmail.com and I will pass it up the line.

We also have a full schedule of Ultreya activity lined up for 2019, have a lay leader in placed for the 2019 Weekend (we could use on more person, Men!), and are looking to go out to a few communities and help present daytime Ultreyas for more Christians to learn about our path and how it can be a blessing in their own lives.

There's much more, but I promised to keep it short!

Ultreya and all blessings to you,

David Holehouse

Lay Director, Edmonton Secretariat



Edmonton Anglican Cursillo Secretarial:

Lay Director: David Holehouse

Spiritual Director: Rev. Laureta Blondin

Treasurer: Barb Lingelbach

4th Day Chair: Janie Seguin

Communication Chair: Gen Ashwell

Pre-Cursillo Chair: Elaine Dickie

Palanca Chair: Joyce Farion

Secretary: vacant—why not join us?

Past Lay Director: Brian Richardson



Spiritual Director's Message



As I sit down to write this message, I realize that the great season of Lent is upon us. In fact, one of my favorite days in the Christian year, Ash Wednesday.

Lent is a season that is reminiscent of cleansing, renewal and preparation. It is a season that beckons each of us on a forty-day journey, as a reminder of the forty-year journey in the desert by the people of Israel, to spend time discerning, defining, and refining what we are called to become. Along the way, we face the tempter and our own sinful temptations, thus calling us back to Jesus' own forty-day reckoning with the temptations laid before him. Israel became a faith-filled nation on their journey only after facing the worst within themselves. Jesus only became the light of the world after facing the darkness available to himself. In other words, Lent is usually a time of adversity when we, as Christians, struggle to put on the person of Christ more deeply. Or, as the great apostle, St. Paul explains, "...it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Gal 2.20)

"Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring a friend to Christ." A wonderful statement of mission and ministry. But it also assumes that we are with Christ and Christ is in us. Thus, it is our baptism and repentance that lie at the heart of Lent. In references throughout the Hebrew scriptures, this penitence has to do with our sin and sorrow, while the Christian scriptures increasingly add the word "*metanoia*," the element of transformational change of mind, attitude, and life direction. It is a turning away from something to something else; a cleansing of the soul so that it can bring forth life.

During Lent we are called to renew our baptismal vow, to turn away from all which lessens us toward that which gives life, just as the Israelites and Jesus did in their sojourning's into the desert. In other words, Lent is when we take some time to focus on what that means for our own lives, which could be something as simple as giving up chocolate candy or as profound as taking on a commitment to serve the poor or to serve others in some new way. Whatever it is, I encourage you to prayerfully consider that it be something that helps you more fully participate in the movement of God's love in this world; that it be a faithful reflection of how Christ is living in you. And, as you take time to prayerfully consider how you may live *by faith in the Son of God, who loved you and gave himself for you*, I offer you the Lenten prayer of St. Ephrem of Syria:

"O Lord and Master of my life, take away from me the will to be lazy and to be sad, the desire to get ahead of other people, to boast and to brag Give me instead, a pure and humble spirit, the will to be patient with other people and to love them. Yes, O Lord and King! Let me realize my own mistakes, and keep me from judging the things that other people do, for You are blessed unto the ages of ages. Amen."

Your sister-in-Christ
Laureta Blondin
Spiritual Director (780) 904-9026



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EDMONTON

Many thanks to Betty for an inspiring talk on her visit to the Holy Land at the March Ultreya, and to all who turned out to listen and then discuss their own ways of walking in Jesus' footsteps.

Also thanks to Patsy for her great musical leadership.

See you in Vegreville, Saturday May 25th at 10 am.
Speaker, music, lunch and more



Did you know:

- ◆ We are on Facebook? Find us: **Cursillo Edmonton**
- ◆ We also communicate via **Synod Scene** and **Mailchimp**
- ◆ Brochures and registration forms for our 2019 co-ed Weekend are online at **edmontoncursillo.ca**
- ◆ Now is the time to approach that friend of yours and sponsor them for the 2019 weekend
- ◆ Several positions n Secretariat will be up for renewal in September. Would you join us and help keep Cursillo alive and vibrant in Edmonton Diocese. Plus we like to have fun! See **edmontoncursillo.ca** for job descriptions:
 - Lay Director
 - Registrar'/Treasurer
 - 4th day chair
 - Pre Cursillo Chair
 - Palanca Chair
 - Secretary



ANNOUNCEMENT OF LAY DIRECTORS

We are delighted to introduce our co-Lay Leaders for the 2019 co-ed Cursillo Weekend, October 18-20! Sue Wilson and Norman Sieweke have started planning already and will be building a team in short order.

Meanwhile, candidates are signing up already - please pray on who you can sponsor to this opportunity for Christian growth and fellowship.