

The National Episcopal Cursillo Committee (NECC) gathered on Wednesday, July 25, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, in Plainfield, Indiana, which is just west of Indianapolis, for its third quarterly meeting in 2007, as guests of the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Indianapolis. The Rt. Rev. Catherine Waynick, who is the Bishop of Indianapolis, preached and celebrated Eucharist with us on Thursday, observing the Feast of the Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and then graciously spent more time with us that morning discussing the impact of Cursillo and the state of the Church. We later learned that she had been spending time with her grandchildren in Florida and had flown back specifically to be with us that morning.



Stained glass window over the Altar; made by Doug Van Demark II, NECC member Doug's father.

The NECC spent most of its time on subcommittee work, including preparation for the Seminar in Colorado Springs in October.

The Publications Subcommittee discussed operational aspects of the bookstore at the Seminar, which will be open much of the time but not during worship, business sessions and district meetings. There will be at least two checkout lines, one for credit cards and the other for cash and checks. A streamlined checklist will be available to expedite the process of checking out. At our closing plenary session on Saturday morning, the NECC approved price increases for a variety of materials, those increases to become effective after the bookstore closes on Saturday at the Seminar. The NECC also approved the manuscript for the revised NEC Library booklet on Spiritual Direction and adopted a procedure to approve by e-mail vote before Seminar the revision of the Personal Contact Technique booklet, which is almost finished. The Subcommittee is looking at revision of the Leaders Group Reunion Card and the NEC Library booklet on the Health and Well-Being of the Movement.

In the meantime, the Cursillo Leaders Development Subcommittee (CLD) reported on data from this year's survey of the health of the Cursillo Movement and presented a revised standard operating procedure for NECC representatives' diocesan contacts that highlights the importance of communication. The NECC adopted that revised standard operating procedure at the plenary session on Saturday. CLD also continued its work on evaluating and redesigning the NEC website and discussed the future of its efforts to gather information and the development of a guideline document for "Back to the Mountain" events.



NECC 2007

The Seminar Subcommittee met with Joe Welch, the immediate past chair of that subcommittee, who attended the meeting at his own expense. They worked through details of the 2008 Seminar that is to be held in Daytona Beach, in Joe's home Diocese of Central Florida. At Saturday's closing plenary session, the Seminar Subcommittee secured the NECC's approval of Susan Farren, a nationally known inspirational speaker, humorist and author, to serve as keynote speaker in Daytona Beach.

Joe and the Seminar Subcommittee also met with several people at the annual meeting and seminar of Via de Cristo, a Lutheran 4th Day movement, which happened to be taking place simultaneously in Indianapolis. The Seminar Subcommittee discovered this opportunity when they arrived at the airport Wednesday and saw Via de Cristo greeters. Among those with whom Joe and the Seminar Subcommittee met on Friday were Via de Cristo's President, its Treasurer, and several members of the host community. Joe attended an educational session about putting on a seminar, although he already has considerable experience in that regard. At Saturday's closing plenary session, the NECC also passed the Seminar Subcommittee's motion that the NECC

make a direct effort to establish a continuing dialogue with the Via de Cristo national board in an effort to find ways to work cooperatively on improving both movements.

The Executive Committee also met with Joe, who was a very popular guy, and the NECC passed the following motions at the closing plenary session on Saturday morning, which the Executive Committee presented. First, in response to the request of the Diocese of El Camino Real for assistance in the amount of \$1,500 to conduct a Spanish-speaking three-day weekend in August, 2007, in a community which could not afford to conduct the weekend without some financial help, NECC approved a grant for \$1,000 from Friends of Cursillo. Second, the NECC appointed Joe Welch to chair the new Seminar Servant Community which will come into existence in October.

At Saturday's closing plenary session, the NECC also elected the following officers to serve from the close of Seminar in October, 2007, through the Seminar in October, 2008: Colleen Lambert, Secretary; Judy Hood,



John Clow gave the Witness Talk.

Vice-President; and Doug Van Demark, in whose home church we were meeting, President-Elect. Ted Ederer, whom the NECC chose as its President-Elect when we met in his home diocese in July, 2006, will serve as President during that same period of time. Perhaps this should be a caution to any NECC members whose home dioceses are considering hosting a NECC July quarterly meeting.

We were a lively bunch at the Ultreya on Saturday evening. Lee and Steve Gast drove down from the Diocese of Northern Indiana to join us that evening, having hosted us there in July, 2005. John Clow gave the lay talk, concerning several persistent efforts he had made at personal contact, and Ronnie Barhite delivered the community response, confirming her similar experience. Fr. Bob Dendtler tied it all in to the Parable of the Sower. We then celebrated by eating too much, as we had been doing all week, thanks to a wonderfully organized local community. Sunday morning some of us had to fly home early, but most of us worshiped with our host families in three separate parishes. It was good to be Indiana.

These NewsNotes are brought to you by the NECC, which takes this opportunity to remind you:

- [a] that an Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop (ECLW) is an excellent way to strengthen your movement, and that you can watch the website (www.episcopalcursillo.org) and *The 4th DayMagazine* for schedules or you can send requests for information to moorenjnc@yahoo.com;**
- [b] that a subscription to *The 4th DayMagazine* is a wonderful way for sponsors to give to candidates added help in living the fourth day; and**
- [c] that contributions to Friends of Cursillo provide for the mission and work of the NEC, and that those contributions can be made as often as you like, either as occasional gifts or as annual pledges or just about any other way you'd like to do it.**

Ultreya!