



The members of the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee (NECC) gathered on Thursday, May 1, at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Bonita, California, which is just south of San Diego, to attend the second quarterly meeting of the year. The Rector of Church of the Good Shepherd is The Rev. George Calvert, a speaker at the NEC Seminar in Colorado Springs and a spiritual director for the San Diego Secretariat. Good Shepherd has a very large and active Cursillo community that served as wonderful hosts for committee members. We were transported, fed and housed in wonderful fashion by, and shared in the music ministry of, a group of Cursillistas from San Diego organized by Barbara Peralta, who only two weeks before served as rectora for a San Diego coed Cursillo.

Late Thursday afternoon we began the process of ***Piety, Study and Action*** by sharing what had been happening in our lives following the January meeting and then discussing the book each of us had read in advance – *Yes! We'll Gather at the River* by The Rev. Barbara Crafton. Barbara will be the keynote speaker at the NEC Seminar in Daytona Beach and, based upon her book and her website - see [Geranium Farm](#), it should be a great presentation. The book is a wonderful collection of stories about forgiveness, prayer without an agenda, God is Now and many other subjects. We highly recommend reading this book before attending the seminar. Thursday evening we had dinner with our hosts at a Mexican restaurant in Bonita – celebrating Cinco de Mayo four days early.



The NECC spent all day and evening Friday and Saturday morning and late afternoon in meetings: district meetings, subcommittee meetings and business meetings, as well as meetings with The Rt. Rev. James Mathes, Bishop of San Diego, and the San Diego Secretariat led by President Jane Schuler. On Friday, Bishop Mathes shared the positive impact Cursillo has had on the San Diego community and then preached and celebrated Eucharist with us.

At the business meetings there was a full discussion of finances, including the continued need for diocesan contributions to be kept current and the fact that a letter requesting contributions by individuals to Friends of Cursillo was being sent out as we met. Perhaps the most important action was the adoption of a revised statement concerning the purpose of the Cursillo Movement and the relationship with those who have been, but may no longer be, part of the Episcopal Church. Our liaison Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Alan Scarfe, was particularly helpful in reviewing the statement. That statement is as follows:

### A Statement from the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee

Cursillo has always kept its eyes firmly focused on Jesus and on the Mission. One of the principles of the Cursillo movement is that:

We focus on Christ and His resurrection power in our lives, transforming us into the people He would have us be. Theological disputes and political issues have no part in our agenda.

The Cursillo Movement is a movement that brings together all people, whether they might consider themselves to have a liberal or conservative Christian philosophy or somewhere in between, for the common good of promoting Jesus Christ and God's Mission. It is Christ-centered and Christ-focused.

The Policy of the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee is that it will not be an organization with a political or social agenda. National Episcopal Cursillo is a movement of the Episcopal Church.

We recognize, however, that a number of individuals with connections and interest in the Episcopal Cursillo Movement are no longer affiliated with the Episcopal Church. As a sign of reconciliation, we welcome those still able, as individuals, to be in communion with the local Episcopal Diocesan Bishop and fellow Cursillistas, whether lay or ordained, to participate in the activities of the Cursillo Movement. Furthermore, and always at the Diocesan Bishop's discretion, we encourage an openness to their continued participation and interest in the activities of the Episcopal Cursillo. It should be understood by all that as a part of their participation, they agree to do so fully for the advancement of Cursillo, be supportive of the mission of Episcopal Cursillo, and agree that they will not promote any political agenda.

What is clear is that National Episcopal Cursillo was created to serve the Episcopal Church in the United States, and we are licensed by the Roman Catholic Church to do that. Despite our personal theological and political views, we are focused on knowing Christ and making Him known to others. That is our call and in doing it lays our greatest joy. *Ultreya! Ultreya!!*

Let us get on with the day's apostolic action.

Let us all pray for the Church and one another every day.

National Episcopal Cursillo Committee  
May 2008

The following **additional actions** were taken:

- A resolution was passed making it clear that the NECC does not condone, and indeed discourages, the use of the term "Cursillo" by any organization not in communion with the Episcopal Church of America (ECUSA) nor properly licensed by the Roman Catholic Cursillo Movement, recognizing that the copyright is subject to enforcement by the Roman Catholic Cursillo Movement.
- In recognition that the Lambeth Conference, a meeting of Anglican Bishops from throughout the world that takes place every ten years, will take place in Canterbury, England July 16 – August 3 this summer, the NECC decided that we should pray and offer sacrifices for this meeting – *palanca* – and that we should encourage the Cursillo community nationally to do so. We set as a goal that all Bishops in the United States receive *palanca* before they leave for England from their own Cursillo community or a nearby Cursillo community when Cursillo is not active in a diocese.
- We will continue to try to find ways to work with *Happening* and *Vocare*.
- We passed motions from the **Seminar Servant Community** (1) to set the cost at \$200 for seminar registrations prior to September 10, 2008 and \$225 after that date, (2) to approve the 2008 NEC Seminar budget, (3) to approve the 2008 NEC Seminar brochure and (4) to approve the 2009 logo for the seminar tentatively scheduled for San Antonio in 2009.

Three of five districts reported on very successful district meetings that had taken place April 12 at Trinity Cathedral in San Jose, California (West), April 12-13 at Trinity Cathedral in Davenport, Iowa (North Central) and April 18-19 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Ambler, Pennsylvania (Northeast). **Publications** completed a manuscript entitled "Team Formation and Apostolic Message" that will be reviewed and voted upon by the NECC by e-mail. It should be ready for publication this summer. The subcommittee has plans to complete additional manuscript revisions, including "A Day of Deeper Understanding" in 2008. **Cursillo Leaders Development** completed and had approved a questionnaire to be sent to all Bishops concerning the Cursillo Movement. It also reported that they had assembled schedules and other materials for "Back to the Mountain" programs that will be available to diocesan Cursillo Movements so they can see what other dioceses have done. CLD continues to monitor the health of the Movement throughout the country and encourages and monitors contacts by NECC representatives with their Diocesan Movements. **Communications** continued its work on updating and improving the new NECC website. A motion was approved to add functionality to the website to collect Friends of Cursillo donations. The subcommittee will complete a letter on the NEC to be included in the packet for all new Cursillistas at the close of a weekend.



Saturday afternoon was free time and we spent it on tour of some of San Diego's sites, including, for most of us, a trip to the Pacific Ocean. We met with the Secretariat at 5:00 and had a good exchange of what is happening in the San Diego diocese and at the national level. The Ultreya potluck and gathering took place on Saturday evening with lively music provided by musicians from Good Shepherd and great food. Colleen Lambert gave the lay talk, focusing on service to Christ and sharing about personal challenges she has experienced and how service to Jesus has helped her through those times. B. J. Roy and The Rev. Wayne Sanders provided the lay and Gospel responses. We went to church Sunday morning and began our treks home. It was good to be San Diego and Bonita.



## Seminar in Daytona Beach, Florida



"Come to the Waters" is the theme for Seminar 2008 in Daytona Beach, Florida, October 23-26. It is not too early to make plans. Watch future *News Notes*, on-line at [www.episcopalcurso.org](http://www.episcopalcurso.org), and in the *4th Day Magazine* for information about the Seminar and registration forms.

### Essential Information

**NEC Web Site:** <http://www.episcopalcurso.org/>  
**Address:** NEC Office, 914 Norman Alley, #12, Conway SC 29526-5151  
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**E-mail:** [NECOFFICE@episcopalcurso.org](mailto:NECOFFICE@episcopalcurso.org)

**Please contribute to the continuing work of the NECC by sending a tax-deductible check made out in whatever amount you can afford to FRIENDS OF CURSILLO at the address above.**

**Remember that an Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop (ECLW) is an excellent way to strengthen your movement, and that you can watch the website ([www.episcopalcurso.org](http://www.episcopalcurso.org)) and *The 4<sup>th</sup> Day Magazine* for schedules or you can send requests for information to [moorenjc@yahoo.com](mailto:moorenjc@yahoo.com).**

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