

The National Episcopal Cursillo Committee (NECC) Gathered at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Hot Springs Village, Arkansas February 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. We were greeted by Charles Hood and treated like royalty by the local community. The Executive Committee arrived first before the newest members Lance Crawford, Fr. Edward Weiss, Linda England, Holly Walker, Fr Scott Jones and Dan Pool arrived for orientation. Myself, President



Elect Thom Neal, Treasurer Dave Millar and our liaison to the House of Bishops the Rt. Rev Alan Scarfe all took turns individually with the group talking about expectations, future direction of Cursillo, our financial status, and Cursillo's role in the Church. We started our meeting on Wednesday with Noon Day Prayer, paused for worship morning, noon and every night keeping our work surrounded by prayer. Vice President and NECC Chaplin Mother Pat Miller preplanned every service and brought songbooks. In the evening we met the folks who had volunteered to welcome us into their homes. One of the things I'll miss the most about serving on the NECC is

meeting people from across the country, being welcomed into the homes of strangers and leaving feeling like family.

The rest of the NECC arrived Thursday evening and after fellowship and a meal we sat down to review the book Mother Pat assigned to the committee, "With open hands" by Henri Nouwen. Many of you may already know what a wonderful, simply stated book about opening up to prayer. Our next read for anyone interested in joining the "book club" is "*Lord Teach Us*" *The Lord's Prayer & the Christian Life* by William H. Willimon & Stanley Hauerwas. Please send your comments to either Mother Pat, myself or the NEC office. We'll be discussing the book at our next meeting in June and the more comments the better.

The Rt. Rev. Larry Benfield celebrated Holy Eucharist with the NECC Saturday afternoon. In his homily he said as Christians we are called to "stay in the community. Say the prayers. Read scripture. Share the bread. Drink from the cup. Offer a figurative bath to anyone who comes in dusty from a long hard trip on the road of life. It is then we discover home, that we find ourselves on the doorsteps of the kingdom."



This year, as the NECC proceeds with the business of Cursillo, we'll put the emphasis on our relationships with each other and our community. You will see this theme of "building relationships" continue into our next Annual Conference in San Antonio, October 22-25.

**The Executive Committee** reviewed the Seminar Servant Community's evaluation of the 2008 NEC Seminar. Daytona Beach, Florida was a wonderful place to gather the Cursillo family and there were many wonderful and positive outcomes of the Seminar. It was decided that the NECC should proceed with a similar format and schedule in San Antonio. The exception will be that in 2009 an ECLW will be offered in addition to the rest of the schedule. A motion was passed regarding the cancellation policy for NEC Conferences registrations.

We heard from our Treasurer, David Millar. David explained that The NEC requires a minimum of \$12,000 per month to operate and stressed to the committee that the recommended diocesan contribution is \$1000.00 per year. He also said it would be a benefit to have the contribution spread out by fiscal year quarters. Ex. \$250.00 12/31/08, \$250.00 03/30/09, \$250.00 06/30/09 and \$250.00 09/30/09. He also suggested that every Cursillista serving on a local secretariat donate just \$5.00 per month. Please give what you can, every little bit helps.

Approve the exporting of Cursillo to Jamaica by the S. E. Florida community. Approve the exporting of Cursillo to Barbados by the Long Island Cursillo community.

Sue Davis will represent the NEC at the National Convention in Anaheim, CA from July 8 through the 17<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers at our booth will receive a free badge. Please stop by, speak with Sue and update any personal information such as physical and/ or email addresses, phone numbers, etc.

**The Communications Subcommittee** continued work to make the web site its first priority. Web Master training for both Sue Davis and Missy Kern was recommended. In addition the committee contacted a representative at the National Church to find out how to get our information more accessible on the National Church website. A motion was approved to make the brochures “Cursillo a Movement of the Episcopal Church”, “Cursillo, a help on your Spiritual Journey”, Cursillo Information Day for Clergy” and “Episcopal Cursillo Leadership Workshop” available for free download from the website. Look for these documents and the next copy of the 4<sup>th</sup> Day Magazine on line this spring.

**The Cursillo Leadership Development Subcommittee** announced that there will be a Clergy Information Day held in New Mexico this spring. The subcommittee continued work on guidelines for the Consulting Servant Community, updated the criteria use to evaluate the health of local Cursillo movements and participated in an exercise designed to evaluate methods the NECC employs to correspond and communicate with local diocese.

**The Publications Subcommittee** worked on final draft of “Day of Deeper Understanding” and the “Role of Clergy” booklets. The next editing assignment will be “Music” and “Publishing a Songbook”. They also asked that Sue Davis investigate the cost of electronic translations.



## Essential Information

**NEC Web Site:** [www.episcopalcursillo.org](http://www.episcopalcursillo.org)

**Address:** NEC Office, 315 Kingston St, Conway SC 29526-5124

**Phone:** toll free-877-Ultreya - 877-858-7392

long distance-843-488-2956 fax-843-488- 2693

**E-mail:** NECOFFICE@episcopalcursillo.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 or contribute on line.**

**Remember 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](http://www.episcopalcursillo.org)) and The 4th Day Magazine for schedules or you can send requests for Information to [moorenjnc@yahoo.com](mailto:moorenjnc@yahoo.com).**

And remember that if each diocese adopts and implements a plan that meets the minimum expectation for Cursillo candidates of **One Woman, One Man, Each Church, Each Year** the Cursillo Movement will be able to provide Christian leaders for all of our churches and dioceses.