



Rainbow

Newsletter

*“And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald “
(Revelation 4:3)*

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1. Lay Director (Carol Summers)

I am pleased to report that this has been another year of growth for Cursillo Niagara. In October we were pleased to hold a Cursillo Learners Workshop, led by members of the “ Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat.” Niagara then hosted the CACS meeting at the Church of the Nativity, Hamilton. We billeted the CACS members for those few days and I had excellent reports of the hospitality the members received. We also held a workshop on sponsorship in May. Larry Collinson led the planning of those events.

In the spring we held Weekend # 49, co-ordinated by Tim Standish and Renee Anderson and their wonderful team, supported by Wendy Beresford.

I have attended Ultreyas in all areas of the Diocese, Fort Erie, Milton, Acton, Guelph, Hamilton, Beamsville and Grand Valley/Shelburne. Paulette Switzer has encouraged and supported the Ultreyas.

Reverend Rod McDowell stepped into the role of Pre-Cursillo Chair and has worked at producing a Pastoral Plan which will be brought before the AGM (annual general meeting) for approval.

Reverend Stephanie Pellow and I were invited to participate in the Training of Ministry consultation which took place one very cold night in January. We were pleased that Cursillo was included along with other programs of the Diocese. We Cursillistas know that Cursillo is a valuable tool for teaching our faith but it is good to know that others recognize this.





Lay Director – Cont'd

Colin Shutt has spent many hours working on Communications. His enthusiasm is commendable and catching! His skill level is rising rapidly as he “learns by doing.”

Marion Bailey has continued to be a source of wisdom and strength as liaison from Huron. Gary VanKooten has resigned as he found it impossible to attend Secretariat meetings due to his work schedule. Thank you Gary for your support of Cursillo.

Deanna Ross resigned as Treasurer in July. It has been a pleasure getting to know Deanna during her tenure as Treasurer and I want to thank her for doing this essential work. I am pleased also to inform you that Renee Anderson has offered to take on this vital position .

Nyle Armstrong resigned from her role as Secretary and we thank her for the excellent job she did for three years. I am pleased to inform you that Victoria Baldwin volunteered to take on this important position.

Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat

As a member of CACS I also attended two meetings, one here and one in Regina. I would like to draw your attention to the Canadian Anglican Cursillo website address; anglicancursillo.com where you will find a newly designed site and information from all the Cursillo movements across the country.

We are preparing for the next Triennial meeting which is being hosted by the Diocese of Central Newfoundland and taking place at Camp Emmanuel Pentecostal Camp and Conference Center near Gander Nfld. On August 28-30, 2015. This promises to be a time of worship, fellowship, learning, strengthening our bonds of faith and lots of joy and laughter. How can you resist? There are quite a few of us from Niagara planning to attend and I hope you will be able to come too. Speak to any member of Secretariat or look it up through the web address if you want more information.

The support was very noticeable when Reverend David Toth died suddenly. When I attended the service for David I took my seat in a pew with Cursillistas in front, beside and behind me and Clergy members taking part in the service. We draw together at such sad times and it becomes very obvious that we are one in the Spirit.

It has been a privilege to meet and work with so many people who dedicate themselves to living their faith. The news is full of wars disasters and stories of people at their worst but I have been surrounded with the joy of peace, successes and people at their finest, who rise to face any difficulty, drawing their strength from God. It has been an amazing year and I look forward to seeing what the next year will bring.

Utreya,

Carol Summers

2. *Spiritual Director*

(Reverend Stephanie Pellow)

One thing I love about the early part of the season of Pentecost is the readings from the Acts of the Apostles, read over a number of Sundays. It gives us a glimpse of the fledgling Christian community carrying on together with joy and expectation, with hope and with mission. We read, “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers,” and a little farther along in Acts 2, “ all who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all people. And day by day the Lord added to there number those who were being saved.”



Here were Christians who loved to be together, who found strength in their fellowship, who found joy together, who exercised hospitality, welcomed others into their midst and all while praising God. This sounds like the kind of community we share in Cursillo and as well as other Christian communities we experience today. How wonderful that God blesses us today just as those early Christians were blessed by their opportunities to study together, to practice their faith through sacrament, and to share generously both faith and the necessities of life through their actions.

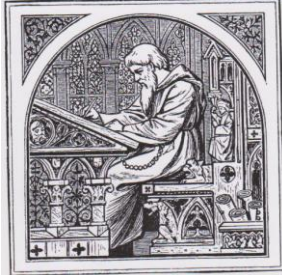
This past year has been a smorgasbord of blessings in our Cursillo community. We have had opportunities to learn together at the CLW (Cursillo Learners’ Workshop) in October 2013, on Weekend #49 and at the workshop on May 10th at the Church of the Nativity. We sat down to eat together with members of the CACS (Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat) at the Skylon Tower in Niagara Falls and at Ultreya potlucks all over the Diocese. We have broken holy bread together at the Annual Meeting, the Moonlight Retreat and the closing of Weekend #49. We have shared our faith journeys at Ultreyas in regions of Niagara Diocese and those held for the entire Diocese. We have answered the call to give generously to sponsor weekend participants and have given generously of our time to passionately follow Christ through Cursillo and our home congregations. What a privilege and what a joy we are granted in the fellowship of Christ!

Did you notice in the readings from the Acts of the Apostles that all the Christians were involved? No hierarchy of bishops and presbyters had developed yet. Everyone was part of the servant community. Our Cursillo Secretariat is responsible for organizing Cursillo events in our Diocese. Secretariat is to be a vehicle to handle funds responsibly, provide opportunities for learning and for service to everyone. It is not meant to be a hierarchy or group that does it all. Cursillo in Niagara is only as strong as each person who is willing to turn up and help out. Your help will be needed to support our fiftieth weekend coming up October 30 to November 2. Cursillo is only as strong as those who are meeting regularly to encourage one another in their faith, study and action. If you are not yet part of a group reunion, I encourage you to call up one or two others and set a date to start meeting or contact someone on Secretariat to help you find a group. If you are already grouping, please open your arms to embrace new Cursillistas into your midst. Like those early Christians, let us do everything with “ glad and generous hearts ,” for we are richly blessed.

As our Annual Report issue of The Rainbow “goes to press,” I have just attended the memorial service for the Rev. David Toth, David, as part of the servant community of Cursillo Niagara volunteered as Priest-at-Large on Secretariat and was Spiritual Advisor on two Weekends. He and the Church of the Holy Trinity generously provided space for Secretariat meetings and for Ulytreyas. We will miss David’s warm personality and willingness to serve Christ through Cursillo as well as embracing his parish duties. *Ultreya, Rev. Stephanie Pellow*

3. Pre-Cursillo Chair

(Reverend Deacon Rod McDowell)



It is interesting to note that the National Episcopal Cursillo (NEC) library does not have a booklet or background material on this subject. Since assuming this position, I have interpreted it as firstly the education of the wider community about the Cursillo Movement and secondly to encourage individuals to consider coming on a Cursillo weekend.

At the Clergy Education Day, in February of this year, our Spiritual Director, the Rev. Stephanie Pellow, made a presentation on Cursillo to the clergy and licensed lay workers of the Diocese of Niagara. There was a short presentation by Stephanie and questions and answers afterwards. Stephanie and I also did some one-on-one work with the clergy at the annual 2 day clergy conference in June.

This was and continues to be important work because the clergy, and rectors in particular, are gate keepers as to what information is disseminated to a parish.

One of the reactions I heard was about the secrecy of Cursillo. I have spent quite a bit of time debunking the myths of Cursillo and how the weekend has changed. I urge all of you to do the same. In fact there are very few secrets, indeed I would describe them now as surprises, on our current weekends. We should feel free to describe to anyone we are trying to educate and recruit how the weekend unfolds and what is the purpose of the Cursillo movement.

To assist in this regard, Stephanie and I are in the process of revising the pamphlet used to describe the weekend.

One of the great challenges is recruiting more men for weekends. As many of you are aware, there were no male candidates on the last weekend. This is ironic as Cursillo was originally designed to bring men back to church. I tell you that the new Secretariat will welcome any suggestions on how we can do better.

I urge all Cursillistas to be involved in educating others about the Movement and in the recruitment of new candidates for weekends. With the help of the Holy Spirit we shall continue to grow.

Ultreya,

Rev'd Deacon Roderick McDowell

Make a friend, Be a friend, Bring a friend to Christ

4. Huron Liaison

(Marion Bailey)

We know so well the first 9 verses of Ecclesiastes 3 ~ *“For everything there is a season and a for every matter under heaven”*~ As I reflect on the past year it seems that the busyness of life has taken priority over the slowly growing Cursillo in the Diocese of Huron.

But when we continue with (NIV) Ecclesiastes 3: 9-15 ~ *“What gain have the workers from their toil: I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future .*

Huron Liaison Continued

into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it nor anything taken away from it. God has done this, so all should stand in awe before him. That which is already has been; that which is to be, already is, and God seeks out what has gone by." I am encouraged that He is happy to see us enjoy life as the gift he has given to us (*it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil*). I am reminded to joyfully take the opportunities to enjoy life with family, in fellowship and with community, whenever I can because these are His gifts !



Weekend #49 was, by all accounts, AWESOME ! ("*so that all should stand in awe before Him*) Huron was represented well as Renee held the role of Assistant Co-ordinator and Kathleen worked with the Palanca team. We welcomed three new Cursillistas to the wider community Elizabeth, June and Donna.

Since that time, Renee Anderson has taken a seat as Treasurer and Kathleen Beattie will be joining us as Huron observer to the Diocese of Niagara Secretariat in September. I extend my thanks to Gary VanKooten, St. James Church, Ingersoll, for his time and dedication to Cursillo as he has stepped down from the position of Huron Liaison. We wish him well as he continues his Fourth Day Walk in Ingersoll.

Huron Cursillistas continue to attend Ultreyas in Guelph and we have been actively involved in these Ultreyas, giving witness talks and assisting with the program, along with attending the Diocesan Ultreyas, Worksops and the AGM. We are growing in numbers !

Ultreya,
Marion Bailey

5. Weekend Chair

(Wendy Beresford)

I have been in contact with Sister Christine at Mount Mary Immaculate in Ancaster regarding our upcoming Weekend # 50. We have our space and plans well underway.

We also have the Training Weekends coming soon, each involving Friday evening and all day Saturday. These Weekends will be September 12-13 and October 17-18.

A committee of three have revised the Training Timetable to reflect the current practices. Also, keep in mind, we will be having a Renewal Weekend next year. The dates to set aside, are April 9-11 ,2015. This will be held at Mount Mary Immaculate.

Thanks,
Wendy

6. Fourth Day Chair

(Paulette Switzer)

This Year has been both humbling and rewarding. We have had two Diocesan Ultreyas. One was at the Church of the Resurrection and the other one was at The Church of the Nativity, Hamilton. Both were Spirit filled and well attended. It has been an honour to help organize them. I do this for Gods' glory. While reading I came across a couple of devotions on Servanthood.

“Servanthood is living as a Disciple of Jesus”

“ Servanthood is a lifestyle without pride and ego, with confidence in oneself and authentic love for others”

I pray that all Cursillistas will grow in Faith, Study and Action. Cursillo has changed my life I will never be the same. I am looking forward to the next year of supporting through Ultreyas, Groupings and also Weekend #50. It will be at Mount Mary Immaculate in Ancaster October 30 to Nov. 2.

Our AGM will be Sunday September 7th at 3:30 pm Christ Church Cathedral Hamilton. There will be Holy Communion with a pot luck to follow please bring your own utensils let's be lean and green.

There will be a Diocesan Ultreya on Sunday November 16th at 3:00pm at Church of the Resurrection Hamilton. Pot luck to follow.

Milton -Acton Ultreya will be Sept 12th at Grace Milton at 7:30 pm

Guelph Ultreya T.B.A

Shelburne ,Grandvalley,Orangeville T.B.A

Niagara Peninsula T.B.A.

Ultreyas are open to everyone !!

There is more info on the website .

Jesus tells us in John 15:12

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you”

Ultreya, Paulette

7. Palanca Chair

(Marion Bailey)

A palanca letter is one that is sent to inform of the prayers and sacrifices that you are offering to God on another's behalf. A letter may be sent explaining what type of palanca is being offered, but the letter is NOT the palanca. Actual palanca is an action intercessory prayer, sacrifice or works of mercy, and it can be done without writing a letter. Therefore, logic follows that the Palanca Team on a Three Day Weekend is the team that supports the weekend in prayer and works of service for participants and the team.

The active prayer offered to God by the wider community in the form of Palanca in regards to Cursillo Weekend is integral in the Cursillo Method and the prayer vigil is equally important.

Worldwide Cursillo weekends are listed on the International Websites. The website I go to first is www.3dayol.org – 3 day weekends on line. This website states”*The Cursillo Movement is focused to help each of*

us fulfill our baptismal responsibility: to go forth, as apostles, and proclaim the Gospel. We can no longer afford to sit passively by and “hope” that the world comes to know Christ. We must make a conscientious effort to “tell” the world about Christ. The Cursillo Movement provides us with the necessary tools for fulfilling our baptismal responsibility along with the training for using those tools.” This website detailed in the option “Movements” gives information about the different styles of three day weekends out there and lists the Kairos, Keryx, Walk to Emmaus, Great Banquet, Journey to Damascus, Via de Cristo, etc. It also links to other websites such as www.cursillo.org This website is the National Cursillo Center for Roman Catholic Cursillo world wide and www.cusillo.ca is the Canadian version. Detailed in the option ”connections” will link you to other Cursillo sites

Our Canadian Anglican Cursillo website has been updated ! www.anglicancursillo.org There you will find the Canadian Anglican weekends as listed as well as a Parish Presentation – that is well done(in my humble opinion, of course) power point presentation which explains Cursillo in an abbreviated version. If you have difficulty explaining Cursillo to someone, it is a great tool to use.

I invite you to google and then pray on this! If you don't have a computer, this would be an excellent opportunity for you to ask your friend to show you on theirs. You never know what God might do with that !!!

*Utreya,
Marion Bailey*



8. Education Chair

(Larry Collinson)

There were two Workshops over the last 12 months one in conjunction with the National Cursillo Secretariat and one of our own. I would first like to thank all those who helped put these workshops on. There is no small task when it comes to developing an event for a group, each and every piece of the puzzle needs to fit together to create the whole.

Continuing Education is to apprise us of the many aspects of Cursillo and remind us of the workings of the various roles of the Cursillo Movement. The challenge is how do we make it interesting and exciting to draw people to our workshops. Well the long drawn out over a day or two is not working, we need to provide short to the point, informative, hands on and exciting workshops.

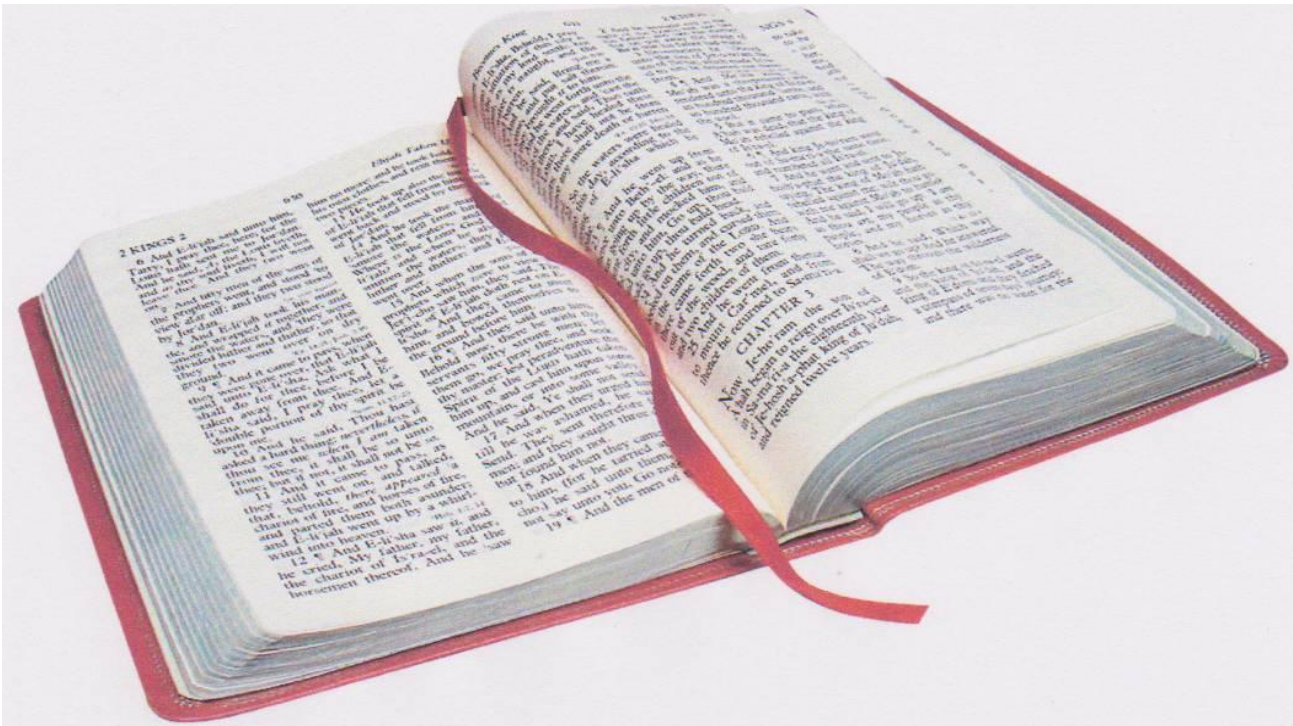
To that end I am proposing for 2014/15 a number of Workshops to operate in conjunction with our Diocesan Ultreyas and in different areas of the Diocese. Workshops like : The Real Deal (table enablers), The Silent Partner(sponsors), The Truth Behind The Curtain(support team) and Pray for Me (palanca). I will be working with Fourth Day to co-ordinate these and other topics which we could include.

I would like to hear from you, what topic or subject you would like to have a Workshop on. How long should a workshop be? What and when is the best time or day? Please let me know, your ideas and thoughts; together we can improve our workshops. If you would like to volunteer to assist with a Workshop or host one at your Church just shoot me an email or call.

Larry Collinson

email: Larry.harrrip@gmail.com

Phone:905-545-4285



9. Weekend #50 – Coordinator

The Fall Weekend is being held October 30 – November 2. The theme I have chosen is “ For Everything there is a Season” from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8 and the song is: “The Song of Promise.”

The team is ready to start training in September. As I write this we are still in need of two men to serve as table enablers and a musician. If you are interested on being on team please contact me at d.duck4853@gmail.com

The Moonlight service is being held at the Church of the Nativity, 1831 King St. E. , Hamilton on Sunday October 26th at 4:00 pm. Please mark this date on your calendar, the team would love to see you there. The support of the wider community is a very important part of any weekend.

If you are planning to sponsor someone to attend the Weekend please submit their application to Blanche Mills as soon as possible. This really helps in planning the table communities, rooms etc. Applications and weekend information can be found on the Cursillo web page : www.niagaracursillo.org.

Make a Friend , Be a Friend and Bring a Friend to Christ !

Jan Collinson

10. Treasurers’ Two Cents

(Renee Anderson)

“ You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. (2 Cor. 9: 11-12)

Perhaps it was the fever of Weekend #49 or the whisper of the Spirit that suggested I say “ I can do it!” when our Lay Director asked me if I knew anyone who could be Niagara Cursillos new Treasurer. I felt relieved when she was pleased with my reply. Coming from the Diocese of Huron , and still rather new to Cursillo, I could not be sure my positive response would suffice.

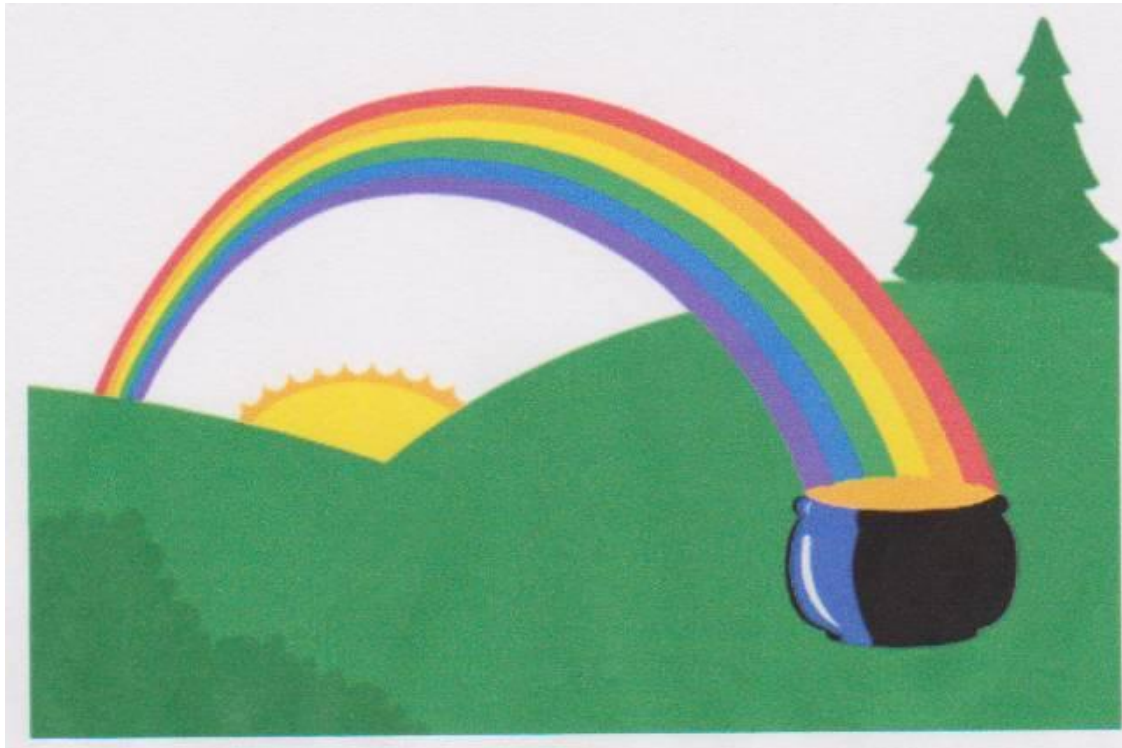
If you have been a long time Cursillista thank you for your continued investment in Christ’s mission through Cursillo. If you are a new Cursillista please consider Cursillo in your Christian Stewardship. All financial commitments enable the Cursillo Movement to continue 1. Pre-Cursillo, 2. Weekends, 3. Christian Education, 4. Worship and Music, 5. Fourth Day (community life).

Planned givings are a wonderful way to help ensure Cursillo stays on course. It’s something that can be set up at once and then you can sit back and relax knowing your important ongoing gift is reaching this ministry. Pre-authorized forms are on the website, at the Ulyreyas, and by a quick email to the treasurer : renee.btfid@yahoo.ca

I hope you are having a wonderful summer, I am sure you will soon be ready for AGM, grouping and upcoming Ulyreyas soon to get into motion in the Fall.

Ulyreya, Renee Anderson

Please note: any Cursillo donations received throughout the year will receive a tax receipt before the end of February the following year, just like your church receipts.



Please peruse the following page with the Income and Expenditure statement; and the Preliminary Budget to be examined at our *Annual Meeting* Sept. 7th
@ Christ Church Cathedral.

NIAGARA ANGLICAN CURSILLO
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
PRELIMINARY BUDGET YEAR JULY 1, 2014 TO JUNE 30, 2015

	Actual 12 months Y/E 2014	Preliminary Budget Y/E 2015	Change Forecast to Budget
INCOME			
40001 - Cursillo - Weekend Fees	\$ 7,896.00	\$ 10,150.00	\$ 2,254.00
40002 - Cursillo PAP Donations	\$ 2,548.20	\$ 3,060.00	\$ 511.80
40003 - Donations	\$ 1,928.12	\$ 1,900.00	\$ (28.12)
40005 - Cursillo Church Offering	\$ 747.10	\$ 700.00	\$ (47.10)
40006 - CACS Dinner	\$ 540.08	\$ -	\$ (540.08)
40007 - CACS Workshop	\$ 467.45	\$ -	\$ (467.45)
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 14,126.95	\$ 15,810.00	\$ 1,683.05
EXPENDITURES			
60002 - Advertising and Promotion	\$ 135.60	\$ 150.00	\$ 14.40
60003 - Bank Service Charges	\$ 173.47	\$ 204.00	\$ 30.53
60004 - Business Licenses and Permits	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
60005 - Website	\$ -	\$ 207.82	\$ 207.82
60006 - Conferences and Secretariat Meetings	\$ 1,212.53	\$ 300.00	\$ (912.53)
60007 - Printing (Rainbow)	\$ 332.22	\$ 100.00	\$ (232.22)
60008 - Postage (Rainbow)	\$ 416.94	\$ 100.00	\$ (316.94)
60009 - Speakers (3) for 2015 Renewal estimate	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
60010 - Renew weekend/deposit	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
WEEKEND EXPENDITURES:			
60015 - Office Supplies - photo copies - printing	\$ 14.24	\$ 15.00	\$ 0.76
60016 - Cursillo Snacks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
60017 - Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
60019 - Mount Mary Retreat Centre	\$ 10,196.33	\$ 11,632.15	\$ 1,435.82
60020 - Team Training	\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
OTHER:			
60021 - 30th Celebration	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ (400.00)
60023 - Cursillo expenses	\$ 434.67	\$ 500.00	\$ 65.33
60025 - AGM Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
60027 - CACS - annual	\$ 650.00	\$ 500.00	\$ (150.00)
60028 - Trip to Newfoundland Aug. 2015	\$ 1,106.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 394.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 15,072.00	\$ 16,008.97	\$ 3,072.57
NET INCOME	\$ (945.05)	\$ (198.97)	\$ (1,389.52)

Treasurer's notes:

- Revenue: Weekend fees based on $26 \times 275 + 20 \times 150 = \$10,150.00$
- a. Revenue: PAP based on 12 months at current amount $\$255/\text{mo.} = \3060.00
b. 14 donors
- Monthly bank charges reduced to $\$4.75/\text{mo.}$ + extra transactions
Budget amount not changed/will review at y/e
- a. Mount Mary Retreat budget expense based on $\$275.00 \times 46$ people
less deposit pd. y/e 2014
b. Y/E 2014 includes $\$1017.85$ deposit for Nov. weekend
- Business Licenses: Music license $\$125.00$
- Effort to decrease cost of Rainbow distribution this year
- Website USD $\$178.20$ is a 3-yr. hosting charge; USD $\$15.00$ is yrly. domain name charge

11. Communications Report

Well it has been quite a year for this fledgling Christian(or should I say flailing). Keeping you informed and up to date on the Web and through this Newsletter has been a privilege, a challenge and a huge learning experience!

We Cursillistas are blessed to have the people reporting in this newsletter doing the jobs necessary to keep Cursillo up and faithfully running in Niagara and Huron.

What a glass filling experience a Weekend is to the participants as they wend their way through Faith , Study and Action and sing loudly, soulfully and joyfully about it. Yes totally AWESOME!

As Reverend Stephanie and Reverend Rod indicated there is no hierarchy here just faithful Christians trying to pass on the word of Christ and living out their Baptismal Covenant to the best of their individual abilities. Oh what a Joy!!!!

I wish to acknowledge the help and patience of Cursillista John Newton for being so willing to bail my proverbial behind out when I am caught in the computorial headlights, Thank you John it is getting better.

Please take advantage of our website www.niagaracursillo.org for I do try and keep everything up to date. Again I truly ask you to relay to me any mistakes or discrepancies and info that should be there and isn't. Just contact me on 4thdaycalling@gmail.com . Any question or suggestion will be gratefully accepted.

Please remember that this Newsletter is not being mailed anymore so the considerable savings can be applied to the Sponsorship Fund and or incurred expenses. So people and Parishes are being asked to step up and print this newsletter for those who do not have the knowledge or the resources to print or read it themselves. I also personally make it available to anybody that shows interest. As Marion said “ you never know what God might do with that!”

Weekend #50 is just around the corner our prayers that God reach into the hearts of potential participants and empowers their sponsors to guide them to Cursillo I am sure will be heard.

As St. Paul said and I aspire to “*I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house*” Acts 20:20 (pardon the pun but what great vision!)

Ultreya ~ moving into a New Cursillo Year,

Colin Shutt

