

IN THIS ISSUE

From our.

- 1. Lay Director
- 2. Spiritual Director
- 3. Weekend Chair
- 4. 4th Day
- 5. Education
- 6. CACS
- 7. Treasurer
- 8. Cursillistas Say
- 9. Communication

Rainbow Newsletter

"Like the bow in a cloud on a rainy day such was the appearance of the splendor all around. This was the appearance of the glory of the Lord. Ezekiel 1.28

1. <u>Lay Director</u>

(Susan Little)

Lay Director's Annual Report
The 2018-19 program year has been providing new

energy and depth to the lives of many Cursillistas across Niagara and Huron dioceses. As we live out our baptismal covenant, we are called to serve God wherever we live, work and belong. We know that God is always with us (Matthew 28:20) so we can respond to God's love freely, transforming lives and environments for God. At the centre of this is our relationship with Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God for the blessings which Cursillo develops, supports and encourages us to live.

God blessed us in Niagara Huron Cursillo over the past year. Here is some of the evidence.

Niagara Huron Cursillo held Cursillo Weekend 54 in October 2018 and the plans for Weekend 55 are well underway. Thanks go to Karen Galligan and Susanne Adams, and Carol Summers and Blair Richardson, respectively, for their outstanding work as Co-ordinators. The Ignatius Centre in Deemerton hosted our Fall 2018 Weekend while Crieff Hills has welcomed us for our

October 2019 event. We trust that closer proximity to cities will encourage greater participation of the Wider Community in events throughout the Weekend, especially the Closing.

Niagara Huron Cursillo has also sponsored some special events this year as well. Our Diocesan Ultreya in mid November saw an usual number of people from the host parish, St. Matthews in Burlington join the potluck and praise service to 'check us out' at Susan Wilson's+ parish. In the Spring, St. Luke's, Palermo, hosted the Ultreya and potluck, attracting people recently contacted through our successful telephone survey this year. In April, Shirley Kitchen as Education Chair, directed a Day of Deeper Understanding in Waterloo. Our inspiring speaker for the day, Canon Keith Nethery, encouraged us to grow further and deeper in our relationship with Jesus Christ so that we can discern God's will more readily in our lives. This event also included lively music and 'Signing' led by Laura McKenzie. Along with a brief panel discussion on Sponsorship, more than fifty people people responded to this full day event. In late June, Brantford's Cursillistas invited us to an Ultreva at St. Mark's. With the lively music of Margaret Wilding-Denew and Susanne Adams, the enervating talk by Jan Youngman and the hospitality provided by Kathy Beattie, we had a wonderful time. In order to Improve the quality of our web site, Marion Bailey orchestrated the video taping of what Curillo means to people while recording lively music as a backdrop. What an exciting prospect for Cursillo"! I would like to challenge other areas of Niagara Huron Cursillo to offer a location for other Ultreyas. They really do lift up our collective spirits!

The year has also seen the successful work on Membership led by Blair Richardson which began midsummer in 2017. Blair presented the report to Secretariat in the fall of 2018. It extols the many lives powerfully affected by Cursillo and testifies to Curisllo's impact in growing Christians and developing leaders. One of the next steps recommended was a closer liaison with the Diocesan Faith Formation Officer, Canon Dawn Davis. After two visits with Secretariat, Cursillo has pledged to provide support to her work, either as a precursor or follow up to people involved in "Revive", a parish renewal program begun in the Fall of 2018.

Another project springing from the Membership project was a Telephone Survey launched in March and concluded in early June. Reducing the number of people on our mailing / receiver list has been a mammoth task. Assisted by Anne and James Gould, I have phoned my share of people in the Hamilton area along with a team of people across Niagara and Huron. Anne and James divided the original mailing list by geographical regions and they have been updating our data base. The final step will be the formation of a phoning communication system, perhaps a phone pyramid, to implement in each of these geographical regions so that our Cursillistas who are unable to

be electronically connected can be in touch by telephone regarding upcoming events. Thank you to all who participated, answered questions and helped to achieve this more effective method of communication.

As part of Niagara Huron's Pastoral Plan, Stephanie+, Susan and Renee visited with both Bishops this past year. Our CACS chair, Marion Bailey, also joined both visits. We met with Bp. Bell in mid November and Bp Nicholls in mid March and were well received. Bp Bell highly endorses the liaison between Faith Formation initiatives of Dawn Davis+ and we look forward to new challenges soon developing. The results of our Clergy Survey and Focus Group should likewise supply new energy and growth to our Cursillo movement.

On the weekend of March 6-8, 2019, Niagara Huron Cursillo is offering a RECHARGE weekend for all Cursillistas at Mount Mary in Ancaster, Ontario. With the key note speaker and workshop leaders yet to be confirmed, we look forward to announcing further plans later this Fall. In the meanwhile, save the date for a weekend to RECHARGE in great surroundings! Over the past year, God has blessed us by simply 'being present' at the important times in the lives of our members. Many of you will have accompanied me while we attended funerals and memorial services for our Cursillo brothers and sisters and their family members who have 'gone to glory'. It is always an honour and a privilege to represent Secretariat and the members who cannot attend and it is a way of affirming that our relationship to Jesus Christ makes us brothers and sisters. As 'family' it is also good to join when the times are good, such as at a celebration of a landmark birthday, anniversary or milestone in the lives of our members and their family members. As we journey through our lives together, it is always affirming to join such events.

Niagara Huron Cursillo continues to excel in what it does. Our CACS Chair, Marion Bailey, tells us that we are a good example to other Cursillos across Canada. By God's grace and the power of the Spirit, we are truly blessed with people and resources.

As our 2018-19 year concludes, we say good bye and thank you to James Gould. He has been painstakingly vigilant with our membership list. He has also been instrumental in streamlining our membership list so that we can be more direct and target the members we need to communicate with. Although his work schedule has prevented regular attendance at Secretariat meetings, his hard work in assembling, formatting, editing and sending out "The Rainbow" twice a year, he has more than made up for what he missed. Thank you, James, for your fine work and dedication. You have indeed made a difference to our smooth operation and success. Thank you! The program year of 2017-18 has been so successful because of its smoothly functioning Secretariat. We have been gifted with many good

people who have stepped forward and offered their gifts to serve Christ and the Church. Each member has done their best in their role and contributed to a healthy and productive group.

I am very thankful for the members of Secretariat fulfilling their roles. I am especially indebted to our Spiritual Director, Stephanie Pellow for her continued dedication and wisdom. Following her gradual recovery from last year's surgery, she has continued to inspire and lead us. Her role as our strong advocate at Clergy events has marked a considerable change in tone and support across Niagara. Similarly, I am grateful for Shirley Kitchen working on Education, Jan Collinson on Weekends, James Gould on Communications and Anne Gould as our Secretary. Patti Troughton has done a fine job as Fourth Day, primarily organizing Ultreyas and lately has been enabling others to lead and run Ultreya's. Blanche Mills, supported 4th Day well over the last year as a Member-at-Large and now moves into Communications on the new Secretariat. Late in 2018 we said 'Good bye' to Kathy Thomson as Huron Liaison who found travel too much of an obstacle to be a full member of Secretariat. We are thankful for her good intentions and servant heart.

Our Secretary, Anne Gould, continues to share her voice with our national body, Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat, (CACS) while capably handing the minutes of Secretariat and other tasks we engender, such as the results of the Telephone Survey run last spring. Her dedication and hard work enable us to stay on track. Her cheerfulness and enthusiasm encourages us all. Thank you, Anne.

I also say 'Good bye' as your Lay Director at the Annual Meeting. I thank you for the opportunity to lead and to direct our organization and its members. The goals I had for Cursillo have somewhat been achieved but I know that the Lord will continue to be faithful to those who demonstrate a living faith. Blessings on each of our Secretariat members as they welcome and support our new Lay Director, Renee Anderson. We are grateful for the strong role which she has played on our Secretariat in keeping our books as Treasurer. Thank you, Renee. I know we will all help, however we can, and we will continue our prayers for her as she capably takes on this role.

At our Annual Meeting scheduled for September 22, 2019, we have to two roles to fill. We need a person to serve as Huron Liaison. We also need a Treasurer. On the strong side, we have Blair Richardson joining Secretariat as a Member at Large. His close connection to the Clergy Survey, another recommendation from the Membership Project, will be a special boon to Secretariat. We still need a person to chair Pre-Cursillo. When this role is done well, the Weekends seem to soar and swell. When there is no one to lead it, others on Secretariat need to pick up its various tasks, like Sponsorship, parish visits, and Ultreyas.

As the 2018-19 Secretariat forms, there will be new ideas, new challenges and new growth. It takes a wide variety of talents, interests and abilities to make an organization like Cursillo work effectively. God willing, there will be more evidence that God is active here among us. In living out our Baptismal Covenant, our members are motivated and servant-minded to carry the Light of Christ into the lives of others and to keep it burning to the glory of God and the increase of God's Kingdom. Please continue to pray for the work of Secretariat and Niagara Huron Cursillo.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Little, Lay Director, Niagara Huron Cursillo

2. Spiritual Director

(Stephanie Pellow)

Spiritual Director's Report

In June, I wrote this brief reflection as part of my report to secretariat. I am reprising it here as I believe it applies to the entire body of Cursillo in Niagara and Huron.

"I thank God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel" Philippians 1:3-5a

This greeting at the beginning of Paul's letter to the people at Philippi expresses more eloquently than I can the importance, joy and strength of working together within the gospel (good news) and to share the good news with others. Cursillo is all of that. We are working together, sharing the task and sharing love and witness with one another to strengthen the whole. In this season of Pentecost in the church when we read so much about God sending the Holy Spirit to bind together Christ's followers bringing them hope and encouragement may we appreciate and utilize that gift of the Spirit to the best of our abilities.

It has been a busy year. In October, I was happy to be part of the team presenting Weekend 54 at the St. Ignatius Centre. This was the second time we used this venue and although it satisfied the criteria of being less expensive and in the Diocese of Huron, the remote setting was not readily accessible to the larger population areas of either diocese. Hence, we will return to Crieff Hills for Weekend 55 in November 2019.

In December we began a series of meetings with the Reverend Canon Dr. Dawn Davis, Faith Formation Coordinator in the Diocese of Niagara. We were looking at the parish program, "Revive", that she has prepared to help church congregations with spiritual development. We wanted to see how it would fit together with Cursillo

in our diocese; whether or not it would be most helpful to attend Revive or Cursillo first. Having now completed the first module within my parish of St. Paul, Shelburne, and having read through the rest of the program, I am inclined to think it doesn't matter which program a person might choose to do first. For someone who has attended Cursillo, Revive is a path to continue faith, study and action as laid out on a Cursillo Weekend. A Cursillista might be inclined to be a more willing and open participant in Revive because of their Cursillo experience. On the flip side, Revive seems to be more of a "slow burn" which might suit those who can be a bit overwhelmed by the quick immersion of a Cursillo Weekend. Those who have participated in Revive may be less hesitant to go on a weekend. The two programs appear to be complimentary.

In March, our leadership met with Bishop Linda Nicolls. She again offered her endorsement of Cursillo and suggested we could be doing a better job of marketing. Many parishes still seem to know nothing about Cursillo.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Day of Deeper Understanding. It was a lovely time of reflection and joy.

I want to thank Blair Richardson for the thought, time and effort he has put into developing the questionnaire designed to give us an overview of clergy awareness and attitudes towards Cursillo in Niagara. I had the opportunity to speak to Niagara clergy at our annual conference to explain how this survey would be helpful to Cursillo in the future. I encouraged my colleagues to respond but I think that offering a \$5 donation to PWRF for every response went the furthest towards getting us 40 responses. Statistically, that was very good. I am looking forward to Blair organizing the focus group of clergy to follow up the questionnaire.

Finally, I would like to say what a joy it has been to be doing God's work alongside my friends at Secretariat. Susan's skills as a leader have guided us well through the past four years. Her genuine faith, which she expresses so well, is a model to us all. I will also miss having James Gould on board as Communication Chair. Ideally, I should have stepped down as Spiritual Director a few years back but we have had difficulty finding a Cursillo priest willing to fill the role. In the interests of not having the Lay Director and Spiritual Director change in the same year, I will continue through to September 2020. At that point, it will be necessary to have our bishops appoint a new Spiritual Director.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Canon Stephanie Pellow

3. Weekend Chair

(Jan Collinson)

Weekend Chair Report

This last year has been a busy one for weekend planning. October 19-21 2018 weekend 54 was held at St. Ignatius Retreat Centre in Deemerton. Karen Galligan led the team and 11 participant through a wonderful Spirit filled weekend. The theme was I Have Called You Each by Name, Scripture reading was Isaiah 41:9-10 and the theme song was You Are Mine. Welcome again to the new Cursillistas hope to see you on September 22.

Weekend 55 has been booked at Crieff Hills from November 1-3 2019. I am pleased to announce that Carol Summers has agreed to be the coordinator. Team selection has begun. If you are asked to be on team please give prayerful consideration before giving your answer. Can you make all training sessions and give your full attention to the weekend? Training is a very important part of the weekend, providing an opportunity for the team to get to know one another and work together. On the weekend we have to give all our attention to the participants and the weekend itself we cannot be weight down with other things.

While being on team is a wonderful experience it is not the only thing you can do for the weekend. Palanca and prayer are also very important, the team and participants being held up in prayer is a necessary part of the weekend. As you probably remember one of the most moving times of the weekend is when the participants receive their Palanca please make the effort to send something for the participants.

Other ways you can be part of a weekend is to help set up for the Agape meal. This does not take a lot of time, many hands make light work and it helps the support team immensely. You can also attend the Magenta and the closing; it is wonderful to see the wider community at these events.

Romans 12 4-8 says: For as one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Save the Date: Do you need to Recharge? We have just the thing for you. March 6-9 2020 has been book at Mount Mary for a Recharge Weekend. The planning has begun, there will be lots of praying, singing, learning, eating and time to relax with friends. More information will come as plans are confirmed, but mark your calendar now.

Respectfully Submitted by

Jan Collinson



Walk Further On Your Faith Journey

Niagara Huron Anglican Cursillo*
Weekend 55
November 1-3 2019
Crieff Hills Community Retreat Centre
7098 Concession 1 Puslinch ON
Information: www.niagaracursillo.org
*Pronounced Keer-see-yo

SAVE the DATE: March 6-8th 2020



at Mount Mary Immaculate, Ancaster, Ontario

*reconnect to what your spiritual journey needs

*key note speaker plus workshops

*worship and singing

*time for personal reflection

*all meals provided

Watch for more details!

4. 4th Day Chair (Patti Troughton)

It has been a wonderful year of Love, Music and Friendship with the Ultreya's. Thank You to the Hosts, Kathy Parker and Kathy Beattie both Ultreya's were well represented.

Upcoming Ultreya's will be happening in new places soon! Why don't you offer to hold One. The next Ultreya will be at the CATHEDRAL on SEPTEMBER 22nd, 2019, following the ANNUAL MEETING.

Patti Troughton, 4th Day.

5. CACS

Come and check out our new and improved web site! **www.anglicancursillo.com**

6. Treasurer's Report

(Renée Anderson)

Treasurer's Notes

By Renée Anderson

"Do not be conformed to this world. but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

Transformation is such a powerful word to me. So often when I am reading, it pops up, imposing, daunting, of what we can be. What God wants us to be. Transformation seems synonymous with Cursillo. Look around you and see how people changed on their Weekend and also have throughout their Fourth Day. God is with us, day and night, year after year, generation after generation. We move forward in anticipation, enlightenment, with hope and love, and God never leaves our side. We should be there for our brothers and sisters who are still searching, reaching out, wanting to go forward, looking for that light! Not only Jesus, but that light they see in us! It is the goal of Cursillo to bring the world to Christ. How? By empowering adult Christian leaders through the use of a specific method, which equips and encourages Christians to live out their Baptismal Covenant to serve Christ. We know God. We love God. We must pass it on, moving forward. Weekend #55 is coming up and we have an opportunity to move along this path of discipleship. Just like Paul. God is calling us.

"A new thing" (part of our Triennial theme) this past year was the introduction of a Cursillo Memorial Card. There was a request for such an item to be placed with other memorials at a funeral home and so it became reality. One card is sent to the bereaved family and the other sent to the treasurer with a donation, just like any other memorial. These envelopes can be requested at any time from the treasurer.

Our year challenged us to meet the need of deposits to retreat centres for upcoming events. Usually it is one event; this year we had two to handle. I am sure you will be hearing about a "Recharge Weekend" for Cursillistas that should be a treat to attend and be Christ-centered, of course. Secretariat also voted to keep the Weekend #55 fee reasonable by subsidizing each application.

I still encourage you to consider <u>pre-authorized payments</u>. It's a simple, easy way to give a donation to Cursillo on a monthly basis and it can be as little as \$5 or whatever you prayerfully consider. Please contemplate this option. It helps with budgeting. Forms can be found on the website. Please be sure to read the financials.

Niagara Anglican Cursil	lo
Niagara Huron Anglican Cເ	
Balance Sheet Y/E June 30,	, 2019
as at June, 2019	
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
10000 - Bank	
10001 - TD CanadaTrust	6,142.61
10003 - TD CanadaTrust Triennial	-
Total 10000 - BANK	6,142.61
Tatal Objective to 10 as in the	0.440.04
Total Chequing/Savings	6,142.61
Total Current Assets	6,142.61
TOTAL ASSETS	6,142.61
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
30000 - Opening Balance Equity	22,921.42
32000 - Unrestricted Net Assets	-
Net Income (YTD net)	(16,778.81)
Total Liabilities & Equity	6,142.61

NIAGARA ANGLICAN CURSILLO NIAGARA HURON ANGLICAN CURSILLO INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT Y/E JUNE 30, 2019 FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2019

FOR THE N	ON	1101 301	VL Z	013				
	М	Actual onth of ne, 2019	Actual YTD Y/E June 30, 2019		Budget Y/E June 30, 2019		Actual Last Y/E 2018	
INCOME	Ju	110, 2019	Ju	ille 30, 2019	Ju	ille 30, 2019	_	2010
40001 - Cursillo - Weekend Fees	\$	-	\$	4,660.00	\$	3,900.00	\$	5,020.00
40002 - Cursillo PAP Donations	\$	304.00	\$	3,678.00	\$	3,768.00	\$	3,757.00
40003 - Donations - J.O.G. & Other	\$	260.25	\$	1,340.25	\$	1,600.00	\$	1,545.00
40004 - Triennial 2018 (details to be on separate statement)	\$	-	\$	1,002.93	\$	912.93	\$	12,741.23
40005 - Cursillo Church Offering (closing/weekends)	\$	-	\$	204.25	\$	250.00	\$	450.00
40006 - Survey Donations	\$	40.00	\$	40.00	\$	-	\$	-
TOTAL INCOME	\$	604.25	\$	10,925.43	\$	10,430.93	\$	23,513.23
EXPENDITURES								
60002 - Advertising and Promotion	\$	96.95	\$	365.78	\$	500.00	\$	88.94
60003 - Bank Service Charges	\$	4.95	\$	24.75	\$	59.40	\$	5.88
60004 - Business Licenses and Permits	Ψ	4.50	\$	137.00	\$	140.00	\$	138.02
60005 - Website	\$	_	\$	137.00	\$	150.00	\$	341.47
60006 - Conferences and Secretariat Meetings	\$	-	\$	300.00	\$	500.00	\$	-
60008 - Postage	\$	-	\$	300.00	\$	10.00	\$	-
RECHARGE WEEKEND	Ψ	_	Ψ	-	Ψ	10.00	Ψ	_
60010 - Mount Mary Accommodations	\$	400.00	\$	400.00	\$	-	\$	-
WEEKEND EXPENDITURES:	Ψ	400.00	Ψ	400.00	Ψ	-	Ψ	
60015 - Office Supplies - photo copies - printing	\$	-	\$	67.22	\$	80.00	\$	24.08
60016 - Cursillo Snacks & supplies	\$	-	\$	185.60	\$	70.00	\$	139.61
60017 - Postage	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	20.00	\$	19.21
60018 - Agape and Mañanita	\$	-	\$	74.26	\$	150.00	\$	74.06
60019 - St. Ignatius Retreat Centre/Crieff Hills Community	\$	-	\$	11,700.00	\$	6,020.00	\$	6,020.00
60020 - Team Training (church use & supplies/snacks)	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	200.00	\$	100.00
60020 - Tearn Training (charch use & supplies/shacks)	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	65.00	\$	100.00
OTHER:	Φ	-	φ	-	Φ	05.00	Ф	-
60023 - Cursillo expenses-previous year	\$	-	\$	-	\$	_	\$	_
60024 - Cursillo expenses-current year	\$	-	\$		\$	75.00	\$	12.64
60025 - AM Supplies	\$	-	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	12.04
60027 - CACS - annual dues	\$	-	\$	1,200.00	\$	1,200.00	\$	1,000.00
60028 - Triennial (expense detail on separate statement)	\$	-	\$	13,149.63	\$	13,149.63	\$	2,291.54
60029 - Triennial Expense for Niagara Huron Cursillo	\$	-	\$	13,149.03	\$	13,149.03	\$	1,737.33
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	501.90	\$	27,704.24	\$	22,489.03	\$	11,992.78
NET INCOME	\$	102.35	\$	(16,778.81)	\$	(12,058.10)	\$	11,520.45
	_	102.00	Ť	(10,770.01)	Ť	(12,000110)	Ť	11,020.10
Notes:								
#40003 - Memorials received in amount of \$315.00								
#60002 - covers pens and newsletter copies for synod and ultreya								
#60010 - Deposit for March 2020 Recharge Weekend								
#60019 - Cost of #54 (\$5,145.00) and deposit of #55 (\$6,555.00)								
\$11,700 less \$6,555 = \$5,145 which is less than budget f	for one	weekend; w	hich	would have ma	de Y	TD \$-1,834.29	unde	er budget.
Since we have made a deposit on a future weekend, which								
#60028 - Separate Statement was issued with end of year 2018						<u> </u>		
SUSSESSION STATES AND SUSSESSION WITH ONLY OF YORK 2010								

NIAGARA ANGLICAN CURSILLO NIAGARA HURON ANGLICAN CURSILLO PROPOSED BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURES FOR Y/E JUNE 30, 2020 TO BE APPROVED AT ANNI IAI MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

7. Education Chair

(Shirley Kitchen)

Education Report 2019

We had our Day of Deeper Understanding (DoDU) on Saturday April 6th at All Saints in Waterloo.

The weather was great for driving other than a little fog and I give thanks to God for that after the ice storm we faced last spring.

We had just over 30 people attending and the day went very well. Renee Anderson was our MC and I thank her for guiding us through the day. Kristy VanKooten-Bossence and Susanne Adams let us in worship. A hit was learning to sign, not sing, the song "Step By Step" led by Laura McKenzie. I can see us learning how to sign more songs as we have other educational days. Rachel Prichard pointed out the importance of us learning words in sign as we may have opportunity to interact with the deaf community.

Rev Keith Nethery gave two talks on discernment that gave us much to think about. We enjoyed his story telling and hearing how God led him in his own walk.

Blair Richardson shared his findings from the telephone survey that he conducted. It showed the positive impact that Cursillo has had on the majority of the lives of those who attended.

We learned again the importance of sponsorship. Marion Bailey, Carol Summers, Tim and Eva Standish all gave short talks concerning sponsorship. I think this should be carried on to the next Diocesan Ultreya or DoDU. I know that I need to learn more about sponsoring others for our Weekends.

I thank Rev Stephanie for leading us in prayer and Susan Little for her message to us in closing and the announcements.

Thanks to Rachel, Twila Niemi and Cathy Thomas for their work setting up and to all those who pitched in to make it a light task, with tables and chairs etc. I think sharing the three pots of soup was a great hit again.

Thanks to Anne Gould for her IT work! How important that is!

Thanks to Kathy Beattie for sending thank you notes to all who took part on behalf of Secretariat.

I hope I didn't forget anyone. Thanks to all who were able to come!

One note: At our Milton/Acton Ultreya following the DoDU we heard that some people didn't know about the DoDU and this shows how important updating our mailing list is. Please make sure your email address is up to date!

Respectfully submitted, Shirley Kitchen

8. Cursillistas Say

Telephone Survey

How can we get our people together more effectively? How can our Cursillistas find out more about what's happening? In the spring of 2019, Cursillo began a massive project to clean up the contact list of Cursillistas in our data system. With Anne and James Gould's exacting work, they divided the names on the original list into 14 groups, which, after some review, became 11 groups because of the few people included in the last three groups.

First, the list of "Phoners" received a suggested script to use, something to adapt to their own style and to suit the person being telephoned. The script basically set out to confirm the Cursillista's basic information and added which church they were now attending and in which year they began their 4th Day. Each of

the Phoners had a list, on average, of anywhere from 30 -40 people to contact. As a result, these Phoners attempted to contact Cursillistas from all corners of Niagara and key areas of Huron diocese. (Since Huron's contact list faded long ago, we were limited to names of newer Cursillistas.) However, the group of Phoners, elsewhere named and accredited, completed a



formidable task. They telephoned or spoke to in person or tried to contact over 400 Cursillistas. Amazing!

Here is what we heard. First of all, Cursillistas have a profound appreciation for our effort to reach out and contact them. A good number responded by revisiting the impact that Cursillo has had upon their lives and took advantage of the opportunity to speak with another Cursillista to engage in friendly conversation. Many had good and long conversations. Other conversations were business like and brief. We discovered a good number of addresses had changed and surprisingly, a significant number had few changes in their information. We were impressed by the positive responses we received, as well. Many of our contacts asked for telephone reminders rather than electronic ones. Just as the recent survey completed by our *Anglican Journal* and our diocesan paper, *The Huron Church News* or *The Niagara Anglican*, personal contact and **not** computers are the preferred and often, only reliable form of communication.

There were disappointing results, as well. Many phoners had to remove names because phone numbers no longer worked or were incorrect. We simply had to cross off their names. Some people expressed their wish to no longer be on our list and would not offer reasons. Others said that Cursillo had done its work at the time and now they had moved beyond it. Some people never returned multiple phone calls. Others simply said 'No thanks'.

No matter what responses the Phoners received, I hear that they courteously responded to difficult or awkward situations. Thanks be to God! Then our Phoners

made changes and submitted them to Anne and James Gould. As this article goes to press, Anne and James are updating the information fed to them by the many Phoners. The best part of The Telephone Survey is the accurate, updated data base we will soon be able to use for so much of what we want to do. The new mailing list of those who are interested and want to support Cursillo should be an impressive piece of work.

At our August Secretariat meeting, we will be making proposals on how to use best this newly acquired data. We are probably going to be asking 'ordinary' Cursillistas to be part of the solution, perhaps part of a phoning committee, to ensure that our members without electronic connections can still be informed about our events and people. If you are one of those people who would be interested in being part of a telephone pyramid or phoning team, please contact Anne Gould (519-216-4239 or gardensinger@gmail.com) or Susan Little (905-528-3326 or salittle 208@gmail.com).

Susan Little

Thank You, PHONERS!

Here is the list of the PHONERS, the people who volunteered to phone and compile new information as well as the areas each of the Phoners called to help us update our information. Read more about their formidable task elsewhere in this Rainbow!

London (Colin & Carol Shutt); Oakville and Mississauga (Nancy Harris); Milton (Shirley Kitchen); Niagara (Joan Costigan); Fort Erie (Sharon Insley); Brantford (Renee Anderson); Hamilton (Jan

Collinson, Susan Little, Patti Troughton); Acton & Georgetown (Paulette Switzer); Guelph (Donna & Terry Cousineau); Kitchener-Waterloo (Rachel Pritchard, Cathy Thomson); Burlington (Blanche Mills); The North, People with Incomplete Information and 5th Day (James & Anne Gould)

Thank you for your perseverance, your dedication and your conscientious attention to detail. Your gift of time and your patience are wonderful ways you showed our brothers and sisters of Cursillo that we all care. Thank you for all of us who seek to keep us all in touch as we journey.

Most of all, thank you to Anne and James, for managing this enormous task and consolidating the hundreds of names on our list.

With deepest appreciation

Susan Little

Hello fellow sharers of the WORD,

We are thrilled to announce that the 2019 Festival Gathering of the NBS, Canada, under the theme of "Sacred Stories for Scary Times" will be convening on Friday October 18 and Saturday October 19, 2019 at St. Matthew on-the-Plains Anglican Church in Burlington!!

Our keynote speaker is The Revered Dr. Cynthia Park, biblical scholar and pastor at Grace Episcopal Church in Georgia. She is especially interested in sharing the wisdom from the Hebrew scriptures revealed in unlikely stories of marginalized individuals.

Our featured teller is Ms. Eden Nameri, a Jewish Story Teller who specializes in scripture and midrash of the women in the Hebrew scriptures.

And, Linnea Good and David Jonnson will once again enthusiastically lead is in worship.

Plus Workshops, workshops, workshops ... for beginners, for experts, for musical folks, for academic interests.

The full 2-day festival registration is \$195 which includes all sessions, coffee breaks and three meals. Register now and receive an early-bird discount of \$20.

You can also register for just one day, Friday includes sessions and lunch and dinner for \$110; Saturday only is \$90 including lunch.

Register directly on-line at www.nbscanada.org or email nbscanada@outlook.com for more information.

Looking forward to seeing you there!!

The Reverend Canon Susan D. Wilson, BSc, MDiv, STM

Planning Committee

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We are on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.niagaracursillo.org

This is the last Rainbow **Newsletter** from me to our **Cursillistas**. Keeping you informed of what is happening in our **Niagara Huron Cursillo** movement via the **niagaracursillo.org** website is a great privilege and I can only pray that you will be ah helpful to my replacement.

<u>Please visit our website:</u> go to the **weekend** page for applications and weekend info, go to **upcoming events** for what's up in **study, faith & action**, Ultreyas, workshops and more.

The newsletter is for ALL Cursillistas! Yes, it is an important tool for the secretariat to keep all members informed of happenings. Ideally, it is also for fellow Cursillistas to pass on ideas and or events that might help others on their journey.

If there is a Cursillista who needs our prayers contact me and I will gladly get their name to our Prayer Team.

Please contact me at niagaracursillocomm@gmail.com with <u>any</u> inquiries, if you find something missing, if you wish something added or if there appears to be a mistake.

Remember if you change your email address please let us know so we can continue to keep in touch with you! If for some reason you wish to be removed from the email lists, email your request for removal from the list and I will remove you from our email lists.

Ultreya!

