



# The Rooster Crows

## Cursillo Diocese of Southern Va

### Summer Newsletter 2023

## 2023 FALL WEEKEND



**OCTOBER 5-8, 2023 SUBMIT YOUR**

**APPLICATIONS NOW!**

**Margaret Kolster, Rector**



### News from Nancy Comfort Lay Director,

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

**The Fall Weekend is fast approaching on Oct. 5-8th.** The team is being formed now and Margaret Kolster, Rector, would love to talk to you about serving on team. You can reach out to Margaret via [rmkolster@comcast.net](mailto:rmkolster@comcast.net). Team meetings are July 29th at St. Matthias, August 26th at Hickory Neck, and September 23 at Chanco. Feel free to reach out to me via phone 757-630-6455 or [ncomfort5@gmail.com](mailto:ncomfort5@gmail.com) for assistance if needed. **Please support our next Rector, Margaret Kolster as she calls her #171 Fall Team to be held on Oct.5-8th.** Pray for the team, the candidates to come. I encourage you to serve this fall!

My heart is full as I write this short article. I am thankful for each of the Secretariate Members who serve along side of me. It has been a busy year to date for your Secretariate. Some may ask what are we doing or what have we done? We have been busy updating our Scholarship Policy (the old still had the old website address), a new Book Store Job Description since we no longer have the advantage of using the Parish Bookstore to turn in our sales and be able to charge purchases. Updated Policies and By-Laws

and Team Applications, a Survey to the community to be released soon.

2023 Spring Weekend #170 was very successful with 36 Team Members and 20 Candidates! Many are grouping and attending an Ultreya in their area and energizing other Ultreyas that have not been active for awhile.

**The Fourth Day** at beautiful Chanco greeted us with beautiful weather and approximately 60 people even though several churches could not attend. The cooks, Ana Nowland and Cherie Elliot made us proud with delicious hamburgers and hotdogs and of course the communities various dish contributions topped it off. I can not give thanks enough for those who provided talks, especially Kimberly Truxell providing the "Witness Talk." She spoke of just how the little gifts or things **can** make a difference in a person's life.

Carol Gibbs stepped in to provide the Grouping Talk and how Grouping has built friendships, encouragement and support to live out her 4th Day.

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## Lay Director Cont.



Curt Womble and Bruce Herden updated us on the new “Cursillo In Church Service Program” and how to bring it to other churches and its success. The program coming to your church can have an outcome of more candidates, Bill Anspach spoke on the role of the Servant Community, The Rev. Les Ferguson spoke on Cursillo and the Church and Rev. Deacon Dana Van Fliet-Pullin spoke on what it means to be a deacon. And I would be remiss if I didn’t thank our MC Mark Crothwaite and everyone else who helped set up and clean up for this day. Serving together with our one common bond, Christ is one way to stay active, strong, and energized through Him with your other sisters and brothers in Christ, living your 4th Day!

So now we, all of us, this community are off to supporting and encouraging the next weekend in the fall October 5-8th. Thank you for those who have submitted their applications and committed to this important role bringing the Fourth Day to the next group of Cursillistas’ in the fall!

**Please, if Margaret calls you, get your Cursillo Cross out and say “Yes You can Count on Me.”**

I would like to thank Linda Tandy’s Cursillo group in Southwestern Florida for all the Palanca the Cursillistas’ have contributed to those attending our recent weekends. Palanca is the prayers and sacrifices made on behalf of the participates at Cursillo, so that the entire weekend is permeated by prayer as visible expressions of the prayers and support that are offered. The term is Spanish for “lever” where both team and the candidates are uplifted with love through the expressions of Palanca. **It means so very much!** Lastly, enjoy this season of Pentecost, a time to reflect, rest and take in all of God’s beauty of summer!

DeColores & Ultreya,

YSIC,

Nancy



## Cursillo Fall Weekend 171

**Margaret Kolster, Rector**

**Fall Weekend Oct. 5-8th**

Cursillo Team 171 is busy preparing for a great October weekend. During the weekend the team will introduce the Cursillo methods to our candidates and prepare them to live fully into the Fourth Day. However, we need help from the whole Cursillo community to identify and sponsor candidates. Please reach out to your congregation to promote this encounter with Christ.

*We look forward to being the hands and feet of Christ.*

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CHRIST CAN COUNT ON ME!

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## Words from The Rev. Les Ferguson, Assistant Spiritual Director

Romans 11:29: ...for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. (NRSV)

What is it that we are called to do with our lives, both as Christians and as people who are citizens of God's creation? For most, the search for call and for appreciation of our gifts is a life-long endeavor. In the end, we must live with the uncertainty associated with our understanding of God and God's call on our lives. But that doesn't mean we should not try or hesitate in responding to what we hear from God.

I read an article recently about a colleague where he described how he heard his call to ordination. He stated that he had gone to chapel to pray and while there he offered this, "My answer is yes. What is your question God?" The arc of his ministry was formed by those simple, but challenging words.

We have been assured that God has a plan for us and that, regardless our efforts to drag our feet in following that plan, God's plan will prevail. We know that God's plan for us is health and wholeness, connection to a community, and the variety of gifts God gives that community to thrive. Our response to God's plan is "simple," to work together towards a common goal, to capitalize on each other's gifts, and to spend time searching for God's plan for us - even in the uncertainty of our lives.

What gets in our way? In essence, we are hampered by fear. Fear of change and what society tells us when they say that change implies that we failed. Fear that what lies ahead is difficult, partly because it is different and uncomfortable. Fear of being unable to predict with certainty that we really hear God clearly.

Yet we are taught that the work we do seeking God is never a loss. Part of the beauty of God's kingdom is our understanding of God and our call depends on attempts and pauses to evaluate what happened. And, more importantly, that work cannot succeed when we are alone, living without Spiritual Direction and reflection. Our job as Cursillistas is to capitalize on the tools we have been provided; and to welcome others into a loving community of seekers, to make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend (closer) to Christ. The life we live in community is not perfect or without hiccups, but it will help us draw closer to the end that God has in store.

I leave you with this question to ponder and share with your Group Reunions and Spiritual Directors, "What would our ministry as Christians and Cursillistas look like if we offered the prayer my friend did, 'my answer is yes. What is your question God?'"

De Colores.





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## OUR SECRETARY COURTNEY WHEELER!

Courtney supports the Secretariate faithfully and with much love for this movement. She goes way above and beyond doing her normal duties of taking minutes, keeping track of our "Action" items, keeper of all documents and so much more.

Courtney recently took on updating the Rector's Manual (RM) after two recently held weekends with suggestions from those weekend rectors. This document as an ever living piece which provides the rectors

guidance for a weekend and does change from time to time. This was no small task as Carol Gibbs can attest to for she and another group provided the first update of this RM.

Thank you Courtney for all you provide for Cursillo in the Diocese of Southern Virginia. We couldn't do half of what is needed without you as "SECRETARY."

We appreciate so very much all your time, talent and thankful for your treasure of gifts!



## 171 CORE TEAM October 5-8, 2023

Margaret Kolster, Rector	St. Matthias
Bill Anspach, Head Music	St. Christopher's
Alan Cersley, Assistant Rector	St. Michael's
John Eidam+ Spiritual Director	
Mike Gaydos, Technology	Christ the King Tabb
Carol Gibbs, Back up Rector	Holy Comforter
Mark Gilbert, Kitchen	St. David's
Susan Grimm+ Head Spiritual Director	
Laura Kallestad	St. Peter's
Charlie Pfeifer, Book Store	St. Peter's
Linda Ricker+ Spiritual Director	
Tina Sinclair, Head Warden	Hickory Neck
Richard Toll, Head Table	Christ the King, Tabb
Ronda Toll, Coordinator	Christ the King, Tabb



**Please pray for Cursillo 171  
Core Team, others called and  
the candidates to come!**







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## SECRETARIATE 2023 & Contact Information

<b><u>Lay Director</u></b>	Nancy Comfort	laydirector@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>	Kim Garber	treasurer@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Spiritual Director</u></b>	The Very Rev. Susan Grimm	spiritualdirector2@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Asst. Spiritual Director</u></b>	The Rev. Les Ferguson	spiritualdirector1@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Communications</u></b>	Ana Nowland	Communications@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Technical</u></b>	Mike Gaydos	Communications@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>4th Day Coordinator</u></b>	Open	fourthday@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Weekend Coordinator</u></b>	Mark Crothwaite	wkndcoordinator@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Servant Community</u></b>	Bill Anspach	servantcommunity@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Palanca Chairperson</u></b>	Stephanie Long	palanca@cursillodiosovamail.com
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>	Courtney Wheeler	secretary@cursillodiosovamail.com

Pray about serving with us! *Positions available, Contact Nancy Comfort*

### **From the Summons**

David Peacock, Graham Maule, John L. Bell

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown?

Will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.



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## **CURSILLISTA OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Looking to expand  
these areas to our  
Cursillo Community!  
Come grow with us!**

### **Facebook Page Moderator:**

A caring individual knowledgeable in the skills needed to moderate the Cursillo Facebook Page or willing to make themselves knowledgeable and who has time for such a task. Moderator is to decline or allow posts ensuring that the Page is not abused and that posts remain current. Posts will include events that may be of interest to the community, weekend announcements, prayer requests, general community news and when no such input is needed a generic inspirational post in line with Cursillo principles may be posted to keep the page relevant. Posting is expected on an "as needed" basis but not daily except for urgent prayer requests as they may come in.

### **Newsletter Layout Artist:**

A skilled and creative individual with some experience in Newsletter layout is needed to format Articles and news items that will be provided by the Secretariate and by the community at large in an attractive and appealing way. The newsletter is published seasonally four times a year. Publication of the newsletter will be done by the Secretariate Technical Chairperson to our e-mail list. Some amount of nagging the Secretariate for content may be required. Publication of parts taken from the national Cursillo literature to fill space is acceptable but should not dominate the content.

### **Safe Church Trainer:**

Are you already a Trainer for your Parish? Are you willing to become one? The dioceses requires that all members of the Cursillo Secretariate and all members serving on a Cursillo Team must have completed the Safe Church

Training offered by the dioceses. They also offer training for those wishing to become Trainers in their parish. Cursillo would like to have a Trainer available to the Rector who is building a team to make it as easy as possible to complete the requirements. A Certificate of completion is required for each team member to serve. Having a trainer in several areas of the Diocese would be ideal.

### **Special Event Organizers by geographical area:**

It was suggested during the last ECLW that a community focused service event such as picking up trash on a section of the Bay or the River might help to strengthen our Cursillo community. This is not intended to be an ongoing scheduled happening. From experience we know there are often willing workers for worthy community projects if the call goes out for a specific day and time. Do you have passion for a project in your community? Are you the right person to motivate your fellow Cursillistas to join you? Just Start and end with the Cursillo prayer and get the job done. The Secretariate will help you with requests and announcements.

### **Secretariate Members:**

This vineyard is more demanding, but the rewards are amazing. Last year one position became vacant without volunteers to fill the position. We shifted responsibilities to accommodate the loss. This coming January four more positions will become vacant. All 4 of these positions were filled by folks who have already served extra years so as not to leave a vacancy. We are struggling to remain viable while attempting to revitalize Cursillo in Southern Virginia. We are in desperate need of willing and dedicated workers to bring in the harvest. While we miss the community of meeting face to face, and we still try to do so when possible, Zoom meetings make the job much easier now. We invite you to be part of this group who love the Cursillo ministry and grow with us.



**Rooted in Christ!**

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### “Cursillista Opportunities”

- ⇒ Monetary compensation: **Spiritual**
- ⇒ Time Commitment: **Most are minimal.** The Secretariate is a monthly, most often zoom, meeting and following discussion, action items are determined at that time. We try to share with honesty the time commitments we can give
- ⇒ Emotional commitment: **It's worth your best effort.** Turn your Cursillo cross over and read the back. It's worth every minute, every prayer, every effort you give it.
- ⇒ Rewards: **Luke 6:38**

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good Measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap.

For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”



## CURSILLO'S SHED AT CHANCO

Susan Summerlin and Kimberly Truxell have been our “Shed Heads” at Chanco arranging and organizing our shed after and before a weekend.

When the team has their third meeting prior to the weekend they know the shed is in good condition to see what may be needed or not for the upcoming weekend. Anyone who would like to join these two in keeping our shed organized please contact Susan Summerlin at:

**Susan Summerlin ([susan.summerlin@gmail.com](mailto:susan.summerlin@gmail.com))**

## Are you receiving Cursillo Communications?



We try not to load you up with emails, but we do want to inform you of Cursillo in the Diocese of Southern Virginia events. Maybe you have changed your email address from when you made your Cursillo, or it has changed for other reasons. Do you know anyone in your Cursillo community that is NOT receiving communications?

*Please contact Ana Nowland, our Communications chairperson at:*

[communications@cursillodiosovamail.com](mailto:communications@cursillodiosovamail.com)

*And remember to sign up for and “like” our Cursillo Facebook Page to see news there.*

[www.facebook.com/CursilloDIOSOVA](http://www.facebook.com/CursilloDIOSOVA)

*You can also get there from our Cursillo webpage [Cursillodiosova.org](http://Cursillodiosova.org)*

*Remember to announce Cursillo events through your church office, in your church bulletins and bulletin boards. Talk it up, share a ride etc.*

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EPISCOPAL CURSILLO MINISTRY

RELATIONSHIP EVANGELISM RECONCILIATION



## 1st Post-Pandemic in-person

## Conference on September 21-23

### Southern Virginia Come to The Holy Hill

Our Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Committee invites Cursillistas and all interested members from other Fourth Day Organizations to join us on the "Holy Hill." This first ECMC post-pandemic conference will be held at Virginia Theological Seminary on September 21-23, 2023.

Our ECMC leadership team is also proud to announce that Dr. Lisa Kimball and the Reverend Patricia Lyons have agreed to be conference presenters. The link to the registration page can be found at our website, [episcopalcursilloministry.org](http://episcopalcursilloministry.org)

Hope to see many Cursillistas from all over the Diocese of Southern Virginia attending. Please pray and consider attending this conference.

## A CURSILLO SURVEY FROM THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

### COMING YOUR WAY SOON!

Soon, you will receive a short survey asking various questions on how we can continue to plant the seeds of Cursillo, grow and continue to live out our Fourth Day.

When you receive this survey please take the time to fill it out. It will be a form with several questions to select and answer sent from our Mailchimp email. More information will be forthcoming.

**Ultreya!**

### Peninsula Ultreya

St. Mark's

Saturday, July 22nd

(Meets at First United Church of Christ)

1017 Todd's Ln. Hampton

6pm snacks

7pm Ultreya begins

Rev. Deacon Dana Vanvliet-Pullin

[dana85@cox.net](mailto:dana85@cox.net)

### Richmond Ultreya

St. Michael's Bon Air

2nd Saturday of the month

2040 McRae Road, Bon Air, VA 23235

11:00 am

Lydia Dyson

[lydia.dyson.ld@gmail.com](mailto:lydia.dyson.ld@gmail.com)

### Tidewater Ultreya

St. Christopher's

Friday, Sept. 15th

3300 Cedar Ln. Portsmouth 23703

7:00 pm

Della Anspach

[ftprints114@yahoo.com](mailto:ftprints114@yahoo.com)





TENTATIVE 2023/2024 CURSILLO ULTREYA /  
PENINSULA /RICHMOND SCHEDULE



DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>CITY</u>
02/24/2023	Friday	7:00 pm	St. Peter's	Norfolk
05/20/2023	Saturday	6:00 pm	Old Donation	Virginia Beach
07/22/2023	Saturday	7:00 pm	*St. Mark's	Hampton
09/15/2023	Friday	7:00 pm	St. Christopher's	Portsmouth
10/21/2023	Saturday	7:00 pm	St. Peter's	Norfolk
12/01/2023	Friday	7:00 pm	Emmanuel	Virginia Beach
02/5/2024	Friday	7:00 pm	St. Paul's	Norfolk
03/15/2024	Friday	7:00 pm	St. Aidan's	Virginia Beach
04/19/2024	Friday	7:00 pm	Eastern Shore Chapel	Virginia Beach
05/18/2024	Saturday	7:00 pm	Old Donation	Virginia Beach

**Church Addresses:**

Eastern Shore Chapel 2020 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach 23454

Emmanuel 5181 Singleton Way, Virginia Beach, 23462

Old Donation 4449 N. Witchduck Road, Virginia Beach 23455 (\*\*Potluck 7:00 pm Ultreya)

St. Aidan's 3201 Edinburgh Dr., Virginia Beach 23452

St. Christopher's 3300 Cedar Lane, Portsmouth 23703

\*St. Mark's meeting at First United Church of Christ, 1017 Todd's Lane, Hampton, 23666

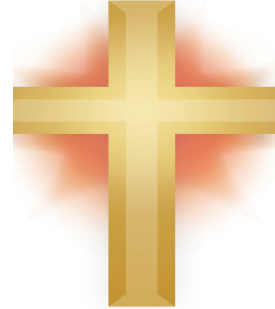
St. Paul's 201 St. Paul's Blvd., Norfolk 23510

St. Peter's 224 S. Military Hwy. Norfolk 23502 (\*\*Snacks)

St. Michael's 2040 McRae Road, Bon Air 23235 meets every 2nd Saturday of the month, 11am. Contact Lydia Dyson for further information. [lydia.dyson.ld@gmail.com](mailto:lydia.dyson.ld@gmail.com)

**CURSILLO #171 FALL WEEKEND – OCT. 5-8, 2023. Please encourage others to serve on team and sponsor a candidate.**

**CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



## How Can Prayer Requests be Made to the Cursillo Community?

Recently there has been discussion on how to get a prayer requests to the community if you don't use **Facebook**, which some do not for various reasons.

Prayer requests generally go through the Facebook page vice the Website. **The Website** is for posting weekend names and dates, Team and Candidate Applications, calendar, Secretariate Members, 4th Day, weekend pictures, talks, documents, Cursillo By-Laws, Policies and information for the upcoming Rectors.

We know some of you may not use Facebook but prayer requests for Cursillo Diocese of Southern Virginia, Facebook is our best option at this time.

You can submit your prayer requests to the Cursillo Facebook by posting the request via [cursillo-diosova.org](https://www.cursillo-diosova.org) (click on the Facebook icon.)

We monitor Facebook for approval and release to the community.

Ana Nowland and Nancy Comfort are administrators and will assist to get the word out to the com-

munity. Any questions please reach out to either Ana [anowland@colonnaship.com](mailto:anowland@colonnaship.com) or Nancy [ncomfort5@gmail.com](mailto:ncomfort5@gmail.com)

You can always contact us in advance so we can get the word out as soon as possible for your prayer request.

Another way if you don't use Facebook is to email Ana or Nancy and they will be glad to get your prayer request out for you. Unfortunately that does not help those who don't use it Facebook.

With that said we are trying our best to update the website and keep it current. I will take the concerns I have received and discuss further with the Secretariate members. Maybe we can be creative in various ways, your input is welcome and heard. Please look in the future to updated news on this subject.

In Christ's Name,

Nancy

Lay Director





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## From our Sister in Christ, Ronda Toll

Friends, I've been overwhelmed and humbled by your loving and positive response to my post concerning my health status. The decrease I've experienced in the size, activity, and severity of the tumor has been sustained now for many months. I'm so grateful to all of you for saying "Yay, Girl!!!" Up until very recently, I respond-

ed to this news myself certainly happily, but, quite honestly, with a tentative sense that this cancer is just a "sleeping giant" that will, without warning, rise again and finish the damage and destruction it started. Only recently have I realized that the key to this whole battle is claiming today's healing and living right here in this moment. Thank you for celebrating remission with me! No sleeping giants here today. God is good.

Please join me in remembering in your prayers our dear friends who face the giant of cancer every day and, with God's help, walk in victory.

YSIC, Ronda



## *Next Cursillo Service Mass Program*

*St. Aidan's Episcopal Church*

*Virginia Beach, Va*

*Join us on August 20, 2023 for this valuable tool to give to those who want to know more about Cursillo in a Sunday service format at your church. For more information*

*contact Curt Womble [genr84@verizon.net](mailto:genr84@verizon.net) or*

*Charlie Schindler [charlieschindler@gmail.com](mailto:charlieschindler@gmail.com)*