

CURSILLO NEWSLETTER Diocese of Southern Virginia

Fall 2023 Edition



**"SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT AND WE
SHALL BE CREATED,
AND YOU SHALL RENEW THE FACE OF
THE EARTH."**



A Letter from Nancy Comfort, Lay Director

My Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I must tell you getting to this point and actually holding the Fall Weekend # 171 has not been an easy journey for your Secretariat and 171 Team. Due to the low number of candidates we were not sure the weekend would actually happen. But God has a way even if we can't see beyond the fog to lift us up so we can once again see the light with understanding. This weekend Chanco provided two candidates and many others were from the team. This makes it difficult for the team adding another layer to the planning. We have two Cursillo Communities here, Southern Virginia and the Diocese of Virginia we can pull candidates from. I would ask we plan ahead NOW for the Spring Weekend to be held April 25-28, 2024. As you look around your church and see who may also be blessed by attending a weekend in the Spring of 2024 meet with the candidate, fill out the application and send in the deposit. Prepare the candidate as the weekend approaches, make a friend, be a friend and bring a friend to Christ. By doing this early between now and April 25, 2024, will help assure the weekend will take place as scheduled. I have had many say they couldn't attend the fall but could the spring so I would ask those applications get in early since there may be limited room.

Continued on page 2



FALL WEEKEND CURSILLO 171



**LET US WELCOME OUR
NEWEST CURSILLISTAS'
FROM CURSILLO 171!**

August R.

Casper B

Cassie W.

Will H.

Jonathan H.

Lee K.

Matt. B.

Nancy S.

Sarah F.



**Please continue to pray for
each one!**

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Nancy Comfort, Lay Director's Letter Continued from page 1



The Secretariat has been busy during 2023 updating many documents. We have updated “fillable” Candidate and Team Applications to include permis-

sions to post pictures and full names, the Scholarship Form was updated to provide a better understanding for granting scholarships, pictures from past Cursillo weekends have been added (if your weekend picture is not there and you have a copy please provide to Communications to have it added), our By-Laws, Policies, the Rector's Manual were reviewed and updated, as well as out of date information removed from the website. All this information took time and effort by the Secretariat Members and I thank each one as we have been able to complete these tasks which will benefit our Cursillo community as they use these documents.

We have had two successful weekends since Covid and I thank God for all who served and said “Yes Christ you can count on me!”

The Cursillo Closing is very important and I pray you have your calendars marked for Sunday, October 8th at Chanco to support Cursillo #171. If you can help with clean-up, Servant Community would appreciate it. More details to come on

when to arrive, later in this newsletter.

I am also reaching out to each of you to pray about serving on the Secretariat. There are several member's terms which are ending this year. Soon these positions will be available: Secretary, Communications, Technical Support, Lay Director, Servant Community and 4th Day Coordinator. Please pray about volunteering and serving with us on the Secretariat. Most of our meetings are via Zoom, and the in-person meetings are usually at Chanco before the Fourth Day event. Cursillo of Southern Virginia needs you, and your gifts for us to continue to answer the statement on your Cursillo Cross....**CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!** **Please contact me or any member of the Secretariat if you can help us in this year's harvest and 2024 for Cursillo of Southern Virginia.**

So, as we move into Autumn the third season of the year, coinciding with the dropping of leaves from the trees as they go into a winter rest, enjoy the cooler weather, a time to thank God for His goodness and His blessings upon the earth. May the harvest season be bountiful for you, your church, family, friends and your neighbors.

DeColores,

YSIC,

Nancy



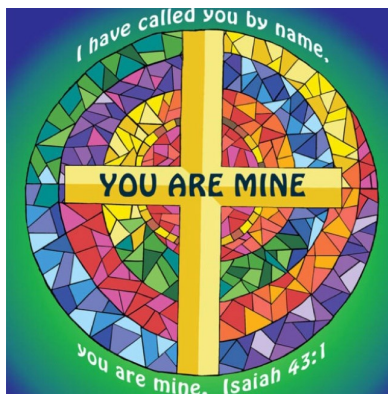
***Remember to live your 4th Day
With your Rule of Life***

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4TH DAY **A DAY OF DEEPER** **UNDERSTANDING** **CHANCO ON THE JAMES**

November 4, 2023

Noon—4:00 pm

Please bring a dish to share,
Hot dogs and hamburgers
will be supplied by your Secretariat



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**From our Spiritual Director,
Rev. Les Ferguson**



Dear Friends,

For those on Facebook you may already have seen my announcement. It is official today, Oct. 2, 2023.

It is with conflicted emotions that I relate that I have accepted to serve as Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Medford Oregon beginning January 1, 2024. My last Sunday service at St. John's will be November 5, 2023 - All Saints Sunday.

I have been blessed to minister with and alongside many people in the Diocese of Southern Virginia and Virginia since my ordination in 2010. I will miss our meetings and the efforts we continue to struggle with as we envision what the future holds for Cursillo.

I am conscious of the impact this announcement might have at closing next Sunday and do not want to take away from the joyous time for the new Cursillistas. As such, I will take under advisement your thoughts about my presence on Sunday afternoon next week.

As you can imagine, there is a lot to do before Kathy and I depart Portsmouth and make the trek to Medford Oregon. We will cherish your prayers as we wrestle with leaving Southside for the first time since 1998.

Thank you and blessings to you all,

Les+



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Calling our Servant Community



GREETINGS CURSILLO COMMUNITY!

Please join us at Chanco on the James in the Dining Hall to celebrate our new Cursillistas from **Cursillo 171**. Make it your plan to arrive at **4:00 p.m. on October 8th**.

If you can **assist Servant Community with clean up, please arrive at 2:30 p.m.** at the dining hall but be discreet, we don't want the candidates to know we are there. Bring a dish to share!

DeColores,
Nancy Comfort, Lay Director



**Come and join the fun as we clean up from
the weekend and put everything back in its
place!**

Together many hands make light work!

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FAITHFUL SERVANTS TEAM #171



This Fall Weekend God was certainly testing and stretching us as we all struggled to have this weekend.

We give thanks to each team member who held the course and let God lead the way..

Through many gifted , experienced and dedicated team members this weekend was a “go” yea God!

And Margaret Kolster, Rector of #171 thank you for saying that big four letter word...YES!

Peninsula Ultreya

Emmanuel Church Hampton

Friday, October 20th

317 Mercury Blvd. (next to Woods Orchard)

6-8 pm Bring a snack

Contact: Lisa Adams

lsdwadams@gmail.com

Richmond Ultreya

St. Michael's Bon Air

2nd Saturday of the month

2040 McRae Road, Bon Air, VA 23235

11:00 am

Contact: Lydia Dyson

lydia.dyson.ld@gmail.com

Tidewater Ultreya

St. Peter's, Norfolk

Saturday, October 21st

224 S. Military Hwy., Norfolk 23502

7:00 –8:30 pm Bring a snack

Contact: Nancy Comfort

Comfort_1@cox.net

LIVING YOUR 4TH DAY!

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Congratulations!

***Our Sister in Christ
Carol Gibbs***

***Announcement from
The National Episcopal Cursillo Ministry
From Committee President
Rob Richardson***

We have just learned that at the October meeting of the National Episcopal Cursillo Ministry Committee, President Rob Richardson will nominate one of our own, Carol Gibbs to serve as Representative at Large for the South Eastern Region. The region runs along the coast from Virginia to Florida and includes Tennessee and Alabama.

I'm sure Carol would welcome your prayers.

LET everything
THAT HAS breath
PRAISE THE Lord
PSALM 150:6



Secretariat Members:

Spiritual Director,

The Rev. Dr. Susan Grimm

Spiritual Director,

Rev. Les Ferguson

Lay Director,

Nancy Comfort

4th Day Coordinator,

Open

Weekend Coordinator,

Mark Crosthwaite

Technical Support,

Mike Gaydos

Treasurer,

Kim Garber

Palanca,

Stephanie Long

Communications,

Ana Nowland

Secretary,

Courtney Wheeler

Servant Community,

Bill Anspach

For contact information go to: Cursilliodiosova.org



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SECRETARIAT MEMBERS ARE CHANGING IN 2024

There's a place for you to use your gifts with us!

Christ is counting on you!

Positions Available & Brief Job Descriptions

(Meetings are usually via Zoom)



Communications: By Ana Nowland—Please volunteer

Post and moderate the Cursillo of Dioceses of Southern Virginia Facebook page. 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 and general community news. Use Mailchimp to email the Cursillo subscribers when information needs to be shared to the community. Help put together the quarterly newsletter. Attends the monthly Secretariat meetings.

Secretary: By Courtney Wheeler—Please volunteer

I made Cursillo #161 in this diocese, and I sat at the table of St Tabitha. For the last year and a half I have been serving as the secretary of the Secretariat. As the secretary, I take minutes during our monthly meetings and type them up to be presented for approval at the following meeting.

I also keep all of the records and important documents for the Secretariat. This year we've worked hard and updated both the Bylaws and the Policies. You should check them out on the website!

My last responsibility as secretary is to regularly check the post office box and distribute any incoming mail to the proper Secretariat member, and deposit any monies that come through the mail. It's fun to get mail, especially mail with money!

I've enjoyed my time on the Secretariat! I encourage you to think about joining us!

Servant Community: By Bill Anspach, I made Cursillo #159—Please volunteer!

I assists with each Cursillo spring and fall closings at Chanco that spaces used are cleaned up and items stored properly in the shed. Monitors paper products for closing and Fourth Day events. Attends the monthly Secretariat meetings.

We work behind the scenes to prepare for, and cleanup events like the 4th Day, and Closings, both twice a year. We make sure that the rooms are setup appropriately before and after our Cursillo events and items returned and stored properly in the shed. That means table and chairs are setup as we think they should be. If food is involved, we make sure that there are plates, cups, utensils, and napkins for everyone. We also ensure that there are trash cans and garbage bags as needed to try to keep things clean and neat. Attends the monthly Secretariat meetings. It is a great way to build relationships with those who come to help with Servant Community. I would enjoy discussing this worthy position of Servant Community with you! Come and See, it can be quite rewarding seeing the accomplishments this group does in a short period of time.