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Cursillo Weekend #111

[Weekend #111](#) will take place May 15-18, 2025 at Camp Walter Johnson in Denton, NC. Sponsor a pilgrim, join the team, and spread the word. You know there is someone out there who would benefit from the experience of a Cursillo Weekend! Make a friend. Be a friend. Bring a friend to Christ.

[Contact Weekend #111 Leader](#)

[Team Application](#)

[Pilgrim Application](#)

[Sponsor Application](#)

DeColores!

Weekend Team Formation

A chill is truly in the air as this letter goes to press. It's time to step up and forward to serve on team for Weekend #111 in May! If you have recently made your Cursillo weekend, you are a MOST perfect candidate for this team. Perhaps you were awed by the energy and spirit of the team that supported your Cursillo weekend and think that you couldn't possibly have the same drive. Think again! The vitality and strength is due to the *synergy* of the team interaction, with God as the central force. There is only one thing better than making your Cursillo: serving on a Cursillo team.

There are many, many roles, from Weekend Leader, Asst Leader, Musician, Table leader, Shepherd, Kitchen/Dining, Chapel, Registration, Palanca...and so on, and so on....

To put your name in the "hat" for 2025 or beyond, please contact [Weekend #111 Leader](#)



Piety-Study-Action

This year contained a painful approach to Christmas Eve. Every year since Tina and I got together, her immediate family of siblings, nephews and children - would come to our home, after attending a Moravian Love-Feast mid-afternoon Service, for an evening of gift exchanging, and lots of laughter, finger-foods, beverages, and traditions of her family - I would grow to learn about.

But this year was different. Over the last 5 months, we had unexpectedly lost two young family members who would always be at our home on Christmas Eve, a nephew and an adopted step-son, victims of substance use disorder. And part of their legacy to the family was that we all knew we had multiple family members with SUD histories, who were always silently challenged.

With a strong intuitive hunch, I felt I had an opportunity to do something, that might make a difference. I sat down and wrote every family member expected to be at our home that evening – a personal hand-written Christmas letter, with a folded, very modest personal Christmas gift check, sealed in an envelope, with their name on the outside.

In my letter to each of them, I told them I was seizing this opportunity to tell them how much I enjoyed their unique personal gifts to the family (they are all very talented), their love of life, and their truly unique personality. I told them that I quietly recognized how hard they were working – “to make better decisions,” to build a better life for themselves, and that I wanted them to have a wonderful Christmas, and a better 2025!

I was serving at St. Clement’s Late Evening Christmas Eve Service, and didn’t know their reactions to my letter(s) - which were opened while I was gone to the Service. When I got back home that evening, Tina told me they were all very surprised – and smiling – after opening my letter(s). (The very modest checks seemed secondary.)

Each of them thanked me for making the time to write them, personally, and a couple of them asked, “Are you going to write us next year...?”

And from the legacy of two recently lost family members, way too early in life, with no instructions given, on Christmas Eve at our family gathering – for the first time in memory, there was no alcohol, no yelling, no bruised, hurt feelings occurring. Conversations were respectful, caring, and thoughtful – for this once-a-year special day, celebrating Christ’s birth.

On reflection, Tina had sometimes asked me to, “write her a personal note,” on special occasions, which I’ve gotten better at doing. This Christmas, I experienced another reason to write – and tell someone how important - and special - they are.

WOW.... Merry Christmas....to me!

Des Colores!



I Am With You Always

At Cursillo we find a deepening relationship with Christ and hopefully become aware that Christ is always with us wherever we are. Sitting here in the hospital with monitors, blood draws, vitals checks and conferences around the clock, you might wonder are you alone?

The answer for me is no. Christ is with me even though there is discomfort and other issues. It is a comfort that is difficult to describe. For now, in the dark hours it is knowing you're not alone. It is like your best friend sitting with you on the porch and being quiet. It is a loving presence. And if you are open to His presence, it gives you the ability to endure.

And naturally, his messengers show up with skills. Advice. Treatments. All that is helpful. He has many workers. Insights come to us about who we are and whose we are. And one can look forward to better days, serving Him and our fellow man.

So, when we offer a little amount of time at a weekend, think of the gift we are giving of this awareness of Christ's presence and where it may be in the world. And who it may comfort. Or strengthen. Or transform.

-contributed by Cameron Cooke

New to Ultreya?

If you would like to give a witness talk, provide a response, or serve and celebrate in any way, please contact [Cameron Cooke](#).

If you would like to learn more about Ultreya, contact [Sid Chadwick](#).

If you are considering starting or continuing an Ultreya in your convocation, you could begin by contacting the Dean or Warden of your convocation, or any church in your convocation, as a start. [Convocations of NC Episcopal Church](#).

Ultreya Agenda

4:00 Welcome and Introductions

4:30 Opening Prayer for the Holy Spirit

4:40 Break into Zoom Rooms for Reunion Groups

5:20 Ten-minute break

5:30 Witness talk

6:00 Clergy response

6:10 Music postlude

6:15 Closing Prayer



Upcoming

- ◆ **Secretariat** Thursday, February 6 at 7pm via Zoom
- ◆ **Ultreya** Sunday, March 16 at 4:00pm via Zoom
- ◆ **Weekend #111** May 15-18, 2025
- ◆ **Newsletter** Spring 2025 (submissions welcome any time) [NC Cursillo Newsletter](#)

Support Cursillo

Contribute! nccursillo.org/getinvolved.php