

# THE FOURTH DAY



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NC Episcopal Cursillo  
P.O. Box 221145  
Charlotte, NC 28222

[www.nccursillo.org](http://www.nccursillo.org)

## Enhancing Your Fourth Day Journey

In the fall of 2010, our southeast district in general, and diocese of North Carolina in particular, will be in the "spotlight" to offer opportunities to nurture your Cursillo Fourth Day journey. On the weekend of October 1-2, 2010, our diocese is sponsoring and hosting an Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop (ECLW). It will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church, Charlotte, NC. The purpose of an ECLW is to:



- Gain knowledge and essential information about the Cursillo Movement and its method
- Share experience about what works well and common challenges
- Explore resources for evaluating and improving our diocesan movements
- To help dioceses to work to face the challenges and to celebrate victories **Read More on Page 5**

## What Promise Is The Written Word To One Who Cannot Read?

I grew up in a family of book lovers. My grandmother, a librarian, made gifts of books for every family event and read aloud to us on every visit. As a young child, I fondly remember how dad took us kids for weekly library visits in which we brought home armloads of picture & read aloud storybooks. No bedtime was complete without a read aloud story before bedtime prayer.

I eagerly awaited the day I would be able to translate the pages of squiggles to unlock the world of words. School, however, did not provide that magical key to words for me. I sat in classrooms listening to my classmates read when I could not. I looked at workbooks of squiggly marks and pictures to match and had no clue to their relationship. Primers were lost on me. I moved from the bluebirds, to the red birds to the crows – the group the other students read to and tried to help, to no avail. I wondered how the other kids knew which letters meant what and I wondered what was wrong with me ... Soon I hated the very smell of school where I did not measure up and avoided going whenever humanly possible. Before long I had mountains of unfinished schoolwork that I had no idea how to do. **Read More on Page 3**

## Thoughts On The "Fourth Day"

Being a new cursillista, I'm really still internalizing my Cursillo experience. One thing that has stuck with me from the beginning of the weekend is the new vocabulary. I'm a person of words. I like to write. I love to read. And, according to the Myers Briggs test, I talk to think — a characteristic of "extroverts." There were a lot of new words presented to me during my Cursillo weekend. Ultreya, De Colores, Fourth Day — they were all new to me. Now with the benefit of a few weeks of time to reflect, I think I've been living my Fourth Day for a long time, even before Cursillo.



other non-profits working together on actions to better the community. Being a bit on the conservative side, it has been quite an experience for me, but I've found that people can talk to each other, find agreement and then work together for change. It's a shame our politicians haven't learned how to do that so well. I find challenges in my faith journey throughout my work with CHANGE, but I'm most thankful for all the new friends it has brought me – friends from all walks of life and from all types of faith backgrounds.

Another one of my blessings is our church's Men's Group. It's actually a Cursillo reunion group, but I didn't know that when I first joined them. Now I can't wait for Saturday morning at 8AM to go to church and sip coffee with my brothers in Christ. We talk about piety, and study and action. But we also just talk, about the church, about our lives, our problems, our challenges. What a blessing!

Sometimes my brothers at Men's Group challenge me. Some of them are much more disciplined in their daily piety and study than I am. I find myself on Friday evening thinking about what I'm going to share the next morning — particularly my "moment closest to Christ." Just sharing that story every week is a blessing.

I'll close with this small piece of advice: Look for the small ways to live out your faith. They will grow and so will your faith.

*Walt Joyce — Director, Information Systems, Yadkin Valley Bank and Trust Company*

## What Is Cursillo?

Cursillo works to form a group of men and women who are Christian leaders and who will provide a backbone for Christian life in the world. Cursillo is designed to make it possible to live what is fundamental for being a Christian — to live in union with Christ.

A worldwide movement of the Christian Church which strives to penetrate and Christianize environments through Christian communities in action, it proposes no new type of spirituality, but simply a method through which one's spirituality may be developed, lived and shared, in any area of human life where there are Christians willing to dedicate their lives to God in an on-going manner.

*The next Cursillo 101 weekend is October 14-17 at Camp Walter Johnson near Denton, NC.*

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## What Promise Is The Written Word To One Who Cannot Read? (Cont. from Page 1)

I thank God for the teacher who refused to push me along to the next grade without the skills to go along with it. Due to that day of reckoning, my parents found me a gifted tutor with whom I spent countless hours that year. She had me tapping out sounds and syllables on my arm, tracing letters in the sky, and re-arranging colored tiles using multi-sensory reading methods, made famous by Dr. Samuel Orton, Ana Gillingham, and the International Dyslexia Association. My father continued to tutor me tirelessly in the evenings well into my school years.



As a result of those early experiences (not in spite of them), I graduated with honors, Phi Beta Kappa, went on to grad school, and made teaching the world of words my life work. I am a speech pathologist who has taught the unintelligible to talk. I am the reading specialist / special education teacher who teaches bright children who learn differently how to breathe magic into the world of knowledge held captive by the printed word and to believe in themselves in the face of a continuing history of negative messages.

In teaching children to read, I use Orton & Gillingham's research-based multi-sensory methods used by my own tutor of long ago. These methods have since been validated by research described in the National Reading Panel Report. Sadly, many teacher education programs still do not teach these research-based methods routinely to their students, even though specialized training is now available to teach teachers and volunteers how to use these multisensory teaching methods.

To address this critical need for literacy and use of effective methods for literacy training, the Augustine Project was begun in our own diocese at Holy Family Church in Chapel Hill as an inspired outreach ministry. Led by Executive Director Debbie McCarthy, volunteer tutors learn how to use these specialized reading methods with youngsters who need the keys to reading made explicit in order to unlock the door to their futures. The Augustine Project both trains and supports volunteer tutors who provide free tutoring to youngsters from low-income families in a number of communities. Our church, St. Thomas in Sanford, is involved in this growing ministry. Through local leadership in this effort by Barbara Yuskevich, St. Thomas aspires to become an outreach center, to provide tutors training to reach & teach reading to underprivileged children & youth in our community and beyond, using the research-tested methods that really do work.

I love teaching children the world of words and have benefitted from many opportunities in life as a result. How different my life could have been had I not learned to read ... What is the promise of the written word? Truly priceless!

Upcoming training opportunities & the joy of changing 2 lives await you! If you would like more information on dyslexia (reading disability) and this important ministry, please visit: <http://augustineproject.org/> or email Debbie McCarthy, Director at: [Augustine@chfnc.net](mailto:Augustine@chfnc.net). De Colores!

*Alice Rainey — MS/CCC-SLP, NBCT, Cursillo #100 St. Peter's Table*

## Something Completely Different

Throughout the Cursillo experience, we are told to look at others. First, we make a friend by being a friend. Then, we work to find the Jesus in that friend and let that new friend see the Jesus in us. Finally, we bring that friend to Jesus.

We can't do that unless we look inward first and polish up our lights by taking care of our own spiritual house first. On the weekend, we were taught about forming our rule of life. Get out what you decided to do on that weekend with God. Are you still trying to do the same thing by rote so that it has become a chore or, worse still, has become a burden in your life?

When was the last time you said, "This has grown old and stale. I believe God is calling on me to do something new and completely different." Don't be afraid to change the rule. Pray and listen for the whisper to see what God is calling you to do. **Read More on Page 4**

**"You must be the change  
you see in the world."  
~ Mahatma Gandhi**



## My (Daily) Personal Mission

At an early age (about 12 or 13), I learned I had “a gift.” It was a surprise, and it has never left me. That “gift” has carried me through a professional career that in retrospect, looks like a long arch — that has almost traveled full circle. Today, I lead and direct a modest consulting practice (we’ve been here fourteen years) that serves the printing and publishing industries, which are experiencing radical, wrenching change.

At Cursillo 100, I learned that “palanca” means “lever.” In my consulting practice, I work to share with medium-to-small company owners, managers, and customer contact folks that each of us represent a lever in our respective organizations, and that each of us — through our daily contacts — has the opportunity to exercise that lever through demonstrating “a servant’s heart.”

On a daily basis, I set time aside early-to-mid-morning for a private devotional. That devotional has become a natural discipline, as there’s somehow an extra dimension of protection I feel as my day rolls along (many of the issues I deal with are tough, and thorny). Part of that precious time is invested in prayer, and readings, including one or two pages from The Book of Common Prayer, which I take-in as high spiritual poetry.



Part of what inspires me in my journey of Faith is that, “I’m just not there yet” — life seems to constantly hold-up an invisible mirror for me to glimpse another flaw needing attention, another “opportunity to polish” that I didn’t see very well when it was first presented. There seems to almost always be another (rough) corner of me that needs some work, and for whatever the multiple reasons — that polishing seems to progress slowly — so I try to remind myself that this spiritual journey is an ultra-marathon, and not a sprint.

*My Ultreya Men’s Group* meets every Saturday morning — for about two hours — four to nine of us, depending on who’s in town. We follow the Ultreya Floating Group Reunion Card outline. I treasure deeply each of them — as the oldest is about 91 (and still lives independently), and the youngest is in his mid-40’s. The collective and individual wisdom in this group humbles me. Note: this is not always a peaceful discussion, as we sometimes dig into important personal issues with perspectives that could be offensive — usually, however, there’s a pervasive attitude to listen, and learn.

**This coming September we’ll again host a Saturday Night Shrimp Supper — All You Can Eat at St. Clement’s in Clemmons on Saturday, Sept. 11th from 5:30pm to 9:00pm.** Last year we raised

over \$700 for the Parish. However, the real bonus from the dinner was having so many in the Parish sit down to a meal, together. The recipes came from my Aunt and Grandmother, who lived on the coast their entire lives, across from Harkers Island. My, they were great cooks!

*Sid Chadwick — President, Chadwick Consulting, Inc.*

## Something Completely Different (Cont. from Page 3)

There are also Episcopal nuns and brothers who are trained to act as spiritual guides. Always ask, “Who is your spiritual director or partner?” as a part of the process and set a calendar to work on the journey.

Ask what that person gets out of the process and if the process is always pleasant. The person’s honest answers to these questions will tell you whether you have found the guide to help you find your way.

As we become more active in pursuing the will of God for us through getting our own spiritual house in order, Christ can count on us to bring others we meet to him.

If you feel that you don’t know where to turn, ask for help from spiritual direction. There are several models more than the traditional one of working with your parish clergy person to help you on your way.

Maybe there was someone on the team on your weekend who would be willing to share your journey. Another place to look is in your group reunion or ultreya. One of the members who is walking the same journey you are might be willing to act as a spiritual partner. And, you can do the same for someone else.

One group reunion I was involved in spent a large part of their time on spiritual direction, even reading and sharing books on the subject.

*Deacon Bob Thomas — NC Secretariat*

## Enhancing Your Fourth Day Journey (Cont. from Page 1)

For more information, please contact Local Coordinator, Steve Bondy (sbondy@clearwire.net) or the Assistant Coordinator, Fran Huske (fph@bellsouth.net) or visit the NC Cursillo Web-Site at [www.nccursillo.org](http://www.nccursillo.org).

The annual National Episcopal Cursillo (NEC) Conference will be co-hosted by the Dioceses of South Carolina and Upper South Carolina the weekend of October 28-31, 2010 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Connecting with the larger national Cursillo community and developing new friendships for life is a gift that will keep on giving. Visit the National Episcopal Cursillo website at [www.episcopalcursillo.org](http://www.episcopalcursillo.org) to download the conference registration form and download for free the quarterly Fourth Day Magazine/Newsletter.

*Dave Millar — All Saints', Concord, NC, NEC Treasurer*

## North Carolina Episcopal Cursillo – Secretariat 2010

### CHAIR

Bo Proctor  
1106 Harding Place  
Charlotte, NC 28204  
bo@proctorservices.com  
C: 704-572-1999  
O: 704-372-4448

### VICE-CHAIR

**SERVANT COMMUNITY COORDINATOR**  
Calvin Hefner TSSF  
23129 Kingfisher Drive  
Indian Land, SC 29707  
c38hef@carolina.rr.com  
C: 704-574-0545

### HEAD SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

The Rev. Frances Cox  
4510 Highberry Road  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
ffcox@aol.com  
O: 336-854-6217

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Judy Cheek  
2018 Myerly Place  
Charlotte, NC 28211  
judy@judy-cheek.com  
C: 704-517-0004

### TREASURER

The Rev. Edwin Cox  
4510 Highberry Rd.  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
edwincox@aol.com  
O: 336-854-6217

### SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

The Rev. Hector Sintim  
revsintim@hotmail.com

### COMMUNICATIONS

Molly Miller  
511 Burkewood Dr.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27104  
mollymiller1125@yahoo.com  
C: 336-602-5699

### PALANCA COORDINATOR

Sam Hamilton  
2749 Wildwood Court  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
shamilton6@triad.rr.com  
H: 336-659-7544

### SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

The Rev. Bob Thomas  
rwteagle1@aol.com

### PRE CURSILLO

Doug Spreen  
547 Gatsby Place  
Concord, NC 28027  
rxmandoug@hotmail.com  
H: 704-793-1049

### FOURTH DAY

Fran Huske  
741 Larkhill Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28211  
fph@bellsouth.net  
H: 704-362-4107

### SUPPLY COORDINATOR

Tom Ham  
903 Country Club Dr.  
Reidsville, NC 27320  
tjhamiii@nuvox.net  
C: 336-349-7261

## Cursillo 101 Weekend

The next Cursillo 101 weekend is October 14-17, 2010 at Camp Walter Johnson near Denton, NC.

Lay Rector: Tom Balsley/Asst. Lay Rector: Jim Holliday. To download the Sponsor form, go to <http://www.nccursillo.com/forms.php>

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Molly Miller  
Editor  
[mollymiller1125@yahoo.com](mailto:mollymiller1125@yahoo.com)  
336-602-5699

Sid Chadwick  
Publisher  
[www.chadwickconsulting.com](http://www.chadwickconsulting.com)  
[sidchadwickcc@gmail.com](mailto:sidchadwickcc@gmail.com)  
336-945-0645