



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF LUTHERAN CURSILLO® OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
FEBRUARY 2008
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LCSC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Lutheran Cursillo of Southern California is to develop a lay ministry to the Lutheran Community in the State of California by encouraging a spiritual renewal of the Lutheran Church, and by supporting its members as they grow in their faith and as they actively support the life and mission of their local home church congregations.

MARK YOUR CALENDERS →

Weekend Dates

LCSC Prayer Chain
Prayers are answered!
If you have a person or situation you would like lifted up in prayer, please e-mail Cammy Mahoney at mahoney5@sbcglobal.net

- LC 114 - Men's - February 21 - 24, 2008
- LC 115 - Women's - February 28 - March 2, 2008

- LC116 - Men's - July 10 - 13, 2008
- LC117 - Women's - July 17 - 20, 2008

- LC118 - Men's - October 2 - 5, 2008
- LC119 - Women's - October 9 - 12, 2008

One of the greatest gifts you can give someone is to lift them up in intercessory prayer.

Annual Elections

We will be holding elections in July. Prayerfully consider serving on the Secretariat. If you feel the Lord leading you to this service, please contact one of the current Secretariat members for more information.

2008 Ultreya Schedule

- March 9 (**Grand**)
- April 20 (**Open**)
- May 18
- June 8
- July 27 (**Grand**)

(see the website for updates on locations)

Newsletter Mailing

If you would like a paper copy of the newsletter mailed to you please send your name and mailing address along with a donation of five dollars per year to cover postage.

To: LCSC, Attention: Newsletter, P.O. Box 5203, Cerritos, CA 90703-5203

THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

We continue on the road to spread the Gospel into 2008. As we prepare to participate in the Cursillo weekends in February, let's keep the focus on the true reasons for the weekends. The weekends are about the Pilgrims and the opportunity to build up new Christian leaders in our Lutheran Churches. The weekends give the pilgrims the chance to experience Christ's love and be truly filled with the Holy Spirit.

It is not about us! We are given the gift to be used by God to be apart of the weekends. We must reflect Christ's love through our actions and our words. Again I struggle with the question is it Gods will or my will. Yes, I Love working the weekends. Many times I wish to put in an application for a weekend because I want to serve along side with my Brothers and Sisters of Cursillo. It makes it very difficult to not work when especially ones who are special in my life serve. Many times God has had a different plan for me. He has others he wishes to serve on the weekend for his own special reasons. He has plans for me in other many areas in my home congregation.

With time and age I guess comes wisdom. You see I have found that if the same ones work all the time it first off leave a vacant space that needs to be filled in the home Congregation. Second, if the same ones work all the time there is no space available for new ones to gain experience to carry on the Cursillo movement. We need to have a good balance of new and experience team members. So before you submit an application take it to the Lord in Prayer. Is it God's will or my will? Here I am Lord use me as you wish. I Love you - all my Brothers and Sisters in CHRIST/ In Cursillo.

God Bless You All,

Gordon K. Gertner

President of Lutheran Cursillo of Southern California

FROM THE TRAINER ~ WHAT WOULD HONOR JESUS?

A number of years ago, the initials WWJD? meant something to Christians and non Christians alike. What Would Jesus Do? Seems like an important thing to think about. But like so many pop culture things is was overused and some became just a trite saying and passé. Still it is something for us in Cursillo to think about. What Would Jesus Do? Or maybe we should change that a little bit and ask ourselves WWHJ? or What Would Honor Jesus?

It seems to me like we have begun to spend so much time in thinking about ourselves and what we are doing that we have lost track of what Cursillo is all about. It is not about you or me. It is not about the rector and rectora. Ultimately, it is not even about the pilgrims. It is about how we, as servants, honor and glorify our Lord. IT IS ALL ABOUT HIM.

I have become saddened lately in some of the things I hear from Cursillistas. It seems at times like there is a competition to see who can work the most, or who can have the most elaborate meals, or who can spend the most. I hear talk of things people are going to do when they are rector or rectora. I hear of people getting angry because they are not asked to work or not chosen for a position they think they deserve. It seems like it has become all about ME, ME, ME. Sounds a lot like our society today. But we claim we are different. Are we? Have we become focused on ourselves and our desires that we have forgotten than we are merely servants chosen to carry the message of Christ.

We tend to focus on and want to honor our rectors and rectoras. We seem to think that it is important to give them lots of Palanca, plan meals and themes for them, and make the weekend all about them. Yes, our rectors and rectoras are important to the weekend, but if you ask any of them, they will tell you that they are simply servants of the Lord. If you look at the rectors and rectoras that we have had over the years and if you were to ask them where the focus should be, most of them would tell you that the focus should be on the Lord and not them.

St. Paul tells us in Colossians 3: 17, "and whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." Instead of acting, maybe we need to stop and check our motives and our actions, to see if they are indeed honoring our Lord or ourselves. I want to challenge each one of us (myself included) to ask WWHJ? What Would Honor Jesus? before we do anything. WWHJ? before we agree to serve on a weekend. WWHJ? before we chose Palanca and for whom. WWHJ? before we talk about how many weekends we have worked. Even WWHJ? before we brag about what we have "done" for the Lord. Let's join together and change our focus—away from ourselves and focus our energy on honoring and glorifying our Lord.

Patti Brunold
Trainer

I can't believe it's been almost seven and a half years since my pilgrim weekend in October 2000. In that time, I've had many opportunities to work Cursillo weekends in many positions, both on team and in non-team support. During that time, the thought inevitably crept, as it does for many, into my mind: "What if I ever am called to lead one of these weekends?" Now, whether conscious or subconscious, that thought bred planning in my head. Over several years and several mental revisions, the plans for the "weekend a la Gary" started taking form, and I admit I was both pleased with and proud of them, though they still needed some work. However, after being called to be rector and starting the real work of preparing for LC#114, I'm here to say that God has a way of letting me know that "my" plans and dreams are not necessarily what He has in mind. It's that very real act of God putting me in my place that gave me the theme of "Humility Before Honor" – the theme of LC#114.

What is humility? To start, it's a concept that is widely defined and commonly misunderstood. Many equate humility with "weakness" or "submissiveness", and leave it at that, but there is so much more to it, especially in the Christian faith. In working on the theme for LC#114, I chose to focus on humility's active, intellectual and practical facets rather than trying to define it as a "state of mind" or by what you "don't do". In short, humility is something you **DO**, not just something you **ARE** or something you **FEEL**. "Huh? Humility is an action? Humility is a process?" you say? Yes, I say. And the Bible makes it clear: In Luke 14:7-11, Jesus instructs His disciples to take the lowest place at the table when invited to a wedding banquet so that when the host comes in, he may position them in a higher place of honor if he deems appropriate. I hear two things in this story. First, the host of the party determines at what position each person shall sit, not the guests. Second, there is a place for everyone, and everyone will eventually be put in his place whether they like it or not. In life, we need to be willing to listen for God to tell us what our "place" is and to willingly take it. In this sense, humility is actively seeking out and knowing what our position is in life and filling that position to the glory of God, and not to constantly demand more than what He has determined we need for His plan.

The real key to humility is to understand to the best of our ability the position to which God is calling us to fill. The entire chapter of Proverbs 15 is loaded with a message that we are to cheerfully seek discipline, knowledge, wisdom, and righteousness. It warns against pride and superficial innocence ("plausible deniability" anyone?), and it makes it clear that God is fully in tune with our real motivations regardless of our outward behaviors. The message is really one of seeking out God's guidance with a real, true desire to find our place for His work. Once we find that place, we must follow through and dedicate ourselves fully to it, maintaining that humble heart always. There is a process to humility, and the Bible provides clear instruction for it here and in countless other places. The chapter ends with the theme verse for LC#114: Proverbs 15:33 which says "The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor." I think that sums it all up nicely.

My prayer for LC#114 is for all the pilgrims and team to come away with a refreshed understanding of what it is to be humble and to go away from the weekend ready to use humility as a powerful tool in their tool belt and to realize that it is a strength, not a weakness as we are constantly taught in today's world. God is already doing some amazing things in preparation for LC#114, and he's teaching me some big humility lessons in the process. I can't wait to see what He has in store during the Cursillo weekend.

I am truly humbled to be called to this position of service, and I thank God for all of your prayers and support. This is going to be a fantastic ride...

Gary Guthary
Rector, LC#114



The verse that God has placed upon my heart for LC# 115 is: 2 Corinthians 12:9, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” However, to go further on, all the way through verse 10, “Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

As Pastor Paul Johnson says, “WOW”, it is a WOW moment when I read these verses. To know that God’s favor is upon me and my family during these times of trials, hardships and difficulties. Just like Paul, Doug and I wanted our afflictions to be removed but now I know we are humbled to know that during these times of weaknesses we drew closer to our Father and we are able to share and give God’s love and comfort to those who may be going through the same afflictions.

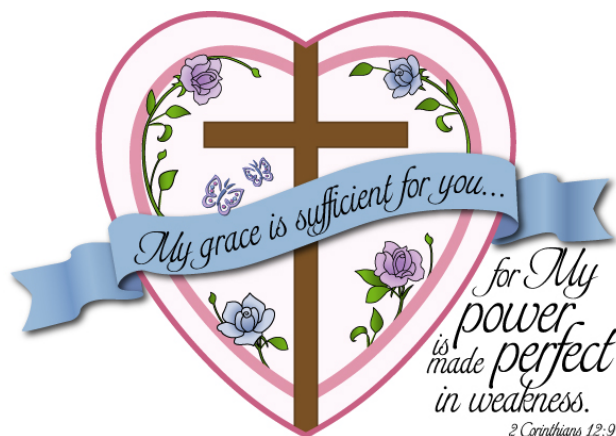
To know our Lord was with us, He never left us, but He was waiting upon us to draw even more closer to Him and then to go out and tell others of His love and grace and mercy.

I am praying for not only for the women who are called to be pilgrims for this special weekend but also for God’s chosen teams of LC#114 and LC#115. That they too might just feel our Father’s loving arms around them this weekend, that through us the team , every smile...every hugand every word of comfort is actually God using us as His vessels to give them.

Gary and I both chose Chris Tomlin’s songs as our weekend theme songs, the women’s theme song is “Your Grace is Enough”. I really feel that this is just a beginning of LC#114 and LC#115 combined together, will be a weekend of giving God’s love and grace to our called pilgrims.

Then, just like Paul would end his letters to Corinth, May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

Barb Ginesi
Rectora, LC# 115



GOD'S CHOSEN TEAM FOR LC 114

Last Name	Lord's Task
Dick Anderson	Palanca/Sacristan
Steve Anderson	Musician
Tom Baird	Cook
Bill Beard	Palanca
Bob Beaver	Assistant Rector
David Boyer	Cook
Bill Brunold	Asst Head Cook - Dining Room
Fred Cook	Head Musician
Geoff Cornish	Cook Team Leader
Steve Costley	Head Cook
Eddie Cuen	Shepherd Table Leader
Nelson Cullum	Rookie Cook
Don Currie	Shepherd Table Leader
Harry Cypher	Palanca
Brian Darnell	Shepherd Table Leader
Michael Davenport	Rookie Cook
Chris Deknatel	Head Spiritual Director
Erik Dickson	Assistant Rector
Art Drews	Veteran Table Leader
Van Fairfax	Veteran Table Leader
Frankie Ferrini, Jr.	Musician
Christopher Gugliotta	Rookie Cook
Gary Guthary	Rector
Rick Hall	Cook
Patrick Hauser	Cook
Robin Hill	Cook
Steve Hoenig	Rookie Cook
Lance Irey	Mentor
Parker Irey	Head Palanca
Jack Kantola	Cook Team Leader
Joe Kwiatkowski	Shepherd Table Leader
Eric Laipeniaks	Cook
Phil Langford	Palanca
Dan Lewis	Cook Team Leader
Jim Mancini	Rookie Cook
Robert Melford	Rookie Cook
Michael Myers	Cook
Jeffrey Nelson	Spiritual Director
Russ Olson	Palanca
Jim Oster	Rookie Cook
Stanley Outman	Rookie Cook
Wayne Powers	Cook
Michael Sander	Veteran Table Leader

Last Name	Lord's Task
Rick Skoglie	Rookie Cook
Eric Sprik	Musician
Jeff Staggs	Veteran Table Leader
Jan Stolzenburg	Veteran Table Leader
Joe Strubbe	Spiritual Director
Dave Teraoka	Musician
Kirk Tracey	Assistant Head Cook - Inside
Manny Valdez	Assistant Head Cook - Rollo Room
David Wagner	Cook
Frank Wallior	Cook Team Leader
Chip Witcher	Shepherd Table Leader
Scott Willard	Assistant Rector
Ron Yokoyama	Head Angel

GOD'S CHOSEN PILGRIMS

Gordon Chavis
 Joe Durham
 John Galli
 Phil Haas
 Troy Humphrey
 J.B. Johnson
 Ted Keys
 Guy Kramer
 Roger Luebs
 Jerry Marroquin
 Ron Nelson
 Bill Northrup
 Richard Olson
 Frank Pollock
 Danny Santamaria
 Tom Savage
 Mark Schultz
 Steve Schwarzkopf
 Jerry Sheeter
 Wally Stoneking
 Don Underwood
 Wilhelm Wolfsohn
 Tim Yearyeam

GOD'S CHOSEN TEAM FOR LC 115

Name	Lord's Task	Name	Lord's Task
Marilyn Anderson	Table Leader	Evelyn Pickard	Team Mom
Barb Beaver	Head Musician	Cheryl Piehl	Rookie Cook
Teresa Beilman	Mentor	Kathryn Powell	Rookie Cook
Susan Borkman	Rookie Cook	Connie Randall	Table Leader
Vicki Braddock	Assistant Rectora	Tina Ray	Prayer Warrior
Karen Clarke	Musician	Michelle Reyes	Rookie Cook
Eileen Cornish	Cook Team Lead	Linda Ruiz	Table Leader
Marilyn Deinert	Table Leader	Susan Sauter	Table Leader
Carita Dickson	Cook Team Lead	Alvina Smokov	Rookie Cook
Tamara Durica	Table Leader	Carol Stienstra	Asst Head Cook -Inside
James Elmore	Head Spiritual Director	Brad Stienstra	Spiritual Director
Susie Fairfax	Cook-Special Diets	Debbie Taylor	Asst Head Cook - Dining Room
Barb Ginesi	Rectora	Mary Jane Thompson	Palanca
Debbie Graves	Cook	Linda Vanderplas	Rookie Cook
Miriam Guthary	Palanca	Carol Wallior	Rookie Cook
Dori Hauptmann	Musician	Cindi Wenz	Assistant Rectora
Michelle Hauser	Cook Team Lead	Colleen Willard	Asst Head Cook - Rollo Room
Tonya Hollenbeck	Rookie Cook	Roseanne Yokoyama	Head Palanca
Lisa Igram	Musician	Crystal Zimmer	Table Leader
Kathryn Ilten	Musician	Carl Zimmermann	Spiritual Director
Yvonne Inouye	Table Leader	Bonnie Zimmermann	Table Leader
Janet Irey	Cook Team Lead		
Vicki Kane	Cook Team Lead		
Mary Kantola	Assistant Sacristan		
Debra Keeney	Sacristan		
Amy Laipenieks	Cook		
Carol LaVache	Cook		
Jane Leipper	Cook		
Vicki Lewis	Head Cook		
Kyle Malais	Co-Head Angel		
Janet Malone	Assistant Rectora		
Joy Mangan	Prayer Warrior		
Cecilie McClinton	Table Leader		
Sue McConnell	Palanca		
Jerri McIlhagga	Musician		
Lucia Midgley	Rookie Cook		
Darla Nicholl	Table Leader		
Ingrid Ostrem-Nosek	Table Leader		
Tracy Otte	Head Angel		
Charlotte Outman	Rookie Cook		
Cassie Parker	Cook		

GOD'S CHOSEN PILGRIMS

Lynn Banker	Peggy Luebs
Teresa Barnes	Laura Marroquin
Lois Bergman	Cindy Nelson
Louise Blanchard	Lisa Olson
Susie Brown	Laurie Pearson
Margie Carter	Kim Pollock
Haydee Chavis	Harriet Pool
Samantha Dost	Michelle Schultz
Sylvia Durham	Linda Schwarzkopf
Maria Gallant	Becky Sheeter
Cynthia Galli	Mickie Stanley
Shirley Haas	Sue Stoneking
Kristi Hubred	Sheri Underwood
Brigette Johnson	Whitney Wolfsohn
Kameron Johnson	
Wendy Jones	
Mary Kruse	