



THE ABRAZO

March 2004 ♥ Vol. 18

<http://www.cursillo.ang-md.org>

One Bread, One Body, One Lord of All

Accra #1 team prepares for Ghana

Think back to one year ago when Maryland was socked with snow. While the snow was still knee deep in March, I found myself hoping that Mercia Laryea's flight would arrive from Ghana in the midst of fresh falling snow. I was not disappointed. Big fluffy flakes started to fall as I drove Mercia from BWI to my house, her home while she stayed in Maryland. Mercia had never seen snow or frozen water before. She had only a lightweight jacket and one sweater borrowed from a well traveled friend. Of course, she had no boots. Several well placed phone calls and a trip that evening to the St. James, Lothian Ultreya resulted in a snowball fight, snow angels and an entire new wardrobe of loaned winter clothes for Mercia everything from boots and a down storm coat to long johns. For the next two months, she wore at least three layers of clothes every day!

Mercia, MD Cursillo weekend # , came to Maryland for two months last year to shadow the MD # Cursillo team and weekend to prepare her for being the first lay leader of Cursillo in the diocese of Accra. After returning to Ghana, Mercia began forming a 4th day community with other Ghanaian Anglicans with Cursillo or Emmaus experience. Mercia is also forming a small team that will join with a team

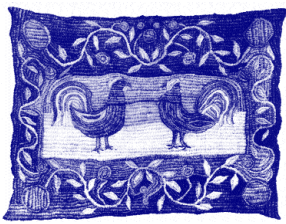
of Maryland Cursillistas now committed to go to Ghana this coming August . Yes, it is finally happening. God willing, Accra # will take place August this year! There will also be an Ultreya and a Fourth Day Workshop the following weekend. Most of the Maryland team hopes to explore Accra during the unscheduled days before participating in the Fourth Day events.

A Secretariat committee prayerfully considered all the applications for the Ghana export and selected the rector, two spiritual advisors, and the music director for the Maryland portion of the team. Several weeks later just before Christmas, the committee, along with the four newly named team members, completed the selection of the team. Others who applied desire to support the team however they can. In all, thirteen people accepted the call to be a part of the export team. This group will gather for the first time at the end of January. Team members will not be given specific assignments until a later date. Team formation will be unlike any team formation we have had. It will be like putting a puzzle together with half the pieces on the opposite side of the ocean from the others. Marylanders or Ghanaians will be give rollos based on cultural considerations. Once we are all in Ghana, the two parts of the team will join to become one community for a dry run of the weekend during the three days before the actual Cursillo begins.

While the Secretariat and the Servant Community have pledged to support the export expenses including airfare to the extent possible, team members have agreed to do their part in raising funds for costs not fully covered and by paying personally for passports etc. This is a community effort involving all of the Cursillo community both here and in Ghana. So, hear this . . . We need all of you to get out there and raise money for support sell those cookbooks, have garage sales, bake sales etc. It is a long way to Ghana! Jeanne Cushing, the recent past lay director of Maryland Episcopal Cursillo, not only persisted in efforts to make this export possible, but also because of her professional work assignments in Ghana this past year and for the months coming up, is able to coordinate "non content" details. She has visited Trinity College, the site for the weekend in Accra, brought us pictures and is working on airfares. Having an official coordinator as our conduit between the two continents is a blessing.

Accra # could be a transforming experience for many, many people. Initially we are going on faith and are full of questions. How much Cursillo "stuff" do we want to take to Ghana in our suitcases? What will we wear in the Tropical August heat? What rollos will the Ghanaians give? Will the Maryland table leaders understand what the Ghanaian tablemates are saying or meaning? What will a Ghanaian agape look like? What will we eat? Who will cook the meals? We are being sent into a culture unfamiliar to us and we will surely learn more than we give. This is world mission it is about your sending us and about us being sent beyond our familiar environments to share with our Anglican

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A Note from the Rector of MD #87

“Pass It On”

April ,

The theme for Md is “Pass It On” and it only takes a spark from the Holy Spirit to nudge us all into action in our Fourth Day. We have been blessed during our teaming process and give praise to the Lord for all the wonderful candidates you have sent to us. We pray that God’s spark of the Holy Spirit will pour through us to your candidates so they emerge from the weekend inspired Babe Chicks.

We look forward to meeting your candidates on Thursday evening at

p.m. in Powell Hall at Claggett. There will be a sponsors’ activity in the St. Andrew’s Chapel around : , so we ask that you be prompt in arriving with your candidates. Sunday morning’s Mananitas will begin at : , so please be in the Pavilion by : a.m. As the fields are breaking forth into the colors of springtime, please remember to bring flowers.

Clausura will begin on Sunday afternoon at : in the Pavilion. It will be preceded by a commissioning service for Ghana # around p.m. so

arrive early and enjoy the fellowship, prayers, and ministry of Cursillo as one weekend’s Team begins and another weekend’s Team wraps up.

Our prayers are with you, your candidates, and your families for safe travel and safekeeping over the weekend and we look forward to your many smiling faces at Mananitas.

*In Christ’s love,
Marion Glasby
Rector, MD*

Ladies

Pamela A.
Cynthia B.
Nora B.
Harriet C.
Heather G.
Karen H.
Sandra H.
Lori L.
Nancy M.
Barbara Ann N.
La Rue N.
Betsy R.
Cheryl R.
Connie R.
Cindy S.
Mary T.
Melissa Z.

Gentlemen

John A.
Phillip A.
Frank B.
Roger B.
William K.
Meredith L.
Mitchell O.
Jim S.
Kerry S.
Richard R.

Accra #1, Continued from page

brothers and sisters in God’s work in the world. In this mission, we are truly one body in the one Lord.

Called for Accra # team: Izzy Winn, co rector with Mercia Laryea there will be no assistant rector St. Margaret’s Annapolis; Rev. Ron Fisher Ascension, Westminster, and Rev. Mary Jane White deacon and

nurse! Resurrection, Joppa; Debi Frock, music director Ascension, Westminster; Betty Stuart McNulty, Maryland Head Cha St. Anne’s, Annapolis; Patty Forsythe St. Mark’s, Lappans; Marjie Mack St. James, Lothian; Connie McNey Christ Church, Forest Hill; Gail Morton St. Margaret’s, Annapolis; Bruce

Neumann St. John’s, Hagerstown; Michael Winn St. Margaret’s, Annapolis; Charlie Wolfe St. James, Lothian.

*In faith,
Izzy Winn
St. Margaret’s, Annapolis*



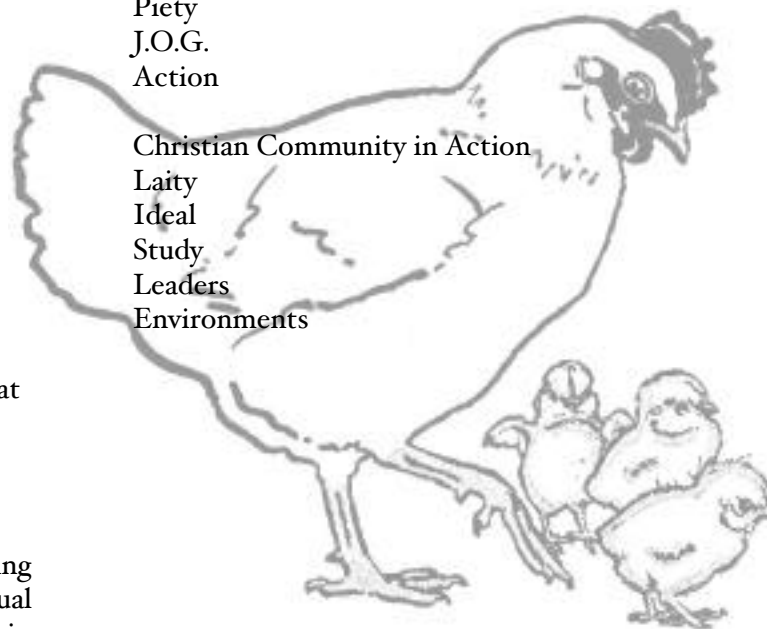
Team of MD #87

"Pass It On"

April ,



Name	Assignment	Rollo
Marion Glasby	Rector	Ultreya
Pam Arey	Assistant Rector	Group Reunion
Debi Frock	Music Director	
Rose Hinebaugh	Head Cha	
Gina Arents+	Spiritual Advisor	Grace, Obstacles to Grace
Bill Ticknor+	Spiritual Advisor	Faith, Christian Life
Anthony Vidal+	Spiritual Advisor	Sacraments I & II
Ivy Amponsah	Cha	
Chuck Birmingham	Table Leader	Piety
Scott Colburn	Float	J.O.G.
Shelly Collinson	Table Leader	Action
Tom Collinson	Cha	
Pete Finne	Cha	Christian Community in Action
Leslie Fraser	Table Leader	Laity
Herb Glasby	Cha	Ideal
Patti Hunt	Table Leader	Study
Marjie Mack	Table Leader	Leaders
Bob Nay	Table Leader	Environments
Joyce Nay	Agape Cha	
Jody Wallace	Assistant Music/Float	



COME TO THE RIVER!

Praise God We have already had such an exciting response to the announcement that our first annual Maryland Cursillo retreat will be taking place in October. People want to come, people want to help, and we are thankful for each and every one!! So, the formal registration form is included with this Abrazo. To register, you must fill out the registration and return it per the instructions with a check for the deposit. Unlike many of our local restaurants, there is no call ahead seating although we'd certainly like to be able to accommodate everyone.

The space will be limited, so to be fair to all, registrations will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis, and once the spaces are filled, there will be a waiting list. Once again, we thank all of you, and thank God for your interest and support.

Living joyfully in His peace,

*Ann Wheeler or
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*Ron Burr or
rmburr@att.net*



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Fourth Day in Accra



On December 1st, the nascent Cursillo community in Accra met for their first Fourth Day Workshop. It was held at the Anglican Retreat Center about 15 minutes from downtown Accra. About 20 Anglicans who made a Walk to Emmaus or a Cursillo here in MD or elsewhere, and one young man who made Chrysallis earlier this year rented a van to get to the center. The other participants had their own transport. It was a grand day with lots of singing with tambourine accompaniment. We started the day with “This is the day that the Lord has made” and finished our workshop with a Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Harry Orlando Mensah, who made his Cursillo here in MD a few years ago.

The first Accra, Ghana Cursillo weekend will be held at Trinity College in Lagon, Ghana, about 30 minutes

from central Accra. A sure sign of God’s blessings on this export was the appearance of a mother hen and her baby chicks near the out building where the Cursillo community will be doing their own cooking! The facility

is a lovely spot with plenty of room to walk and lots of shade trees. The dining room even has its own resident dog! Please keep our friends in the Accra Cursillo community in your prayers. ♥



A Statement on Cursillo

David Rowe, NECC President

Note: The following appeared in the December 2003 issue of "The 4th Day Magazine".

The decisions reached at the recent General Convention in Minneapolis have caused some division in the Episcopal Church. Some dioceses, congregations, and individuals are curtailing giving to the national church; some people have resigned their ministries and leadership positions. Some have left the church; others are likely to follow, though how many no one knows. With this happening, it would be irresponsible of us as stewards of the Cursillo movement not to deal with possibilities.

As we discuss where we are and what the future might hold, the following realities impress themselves upon the NECC.

Regardless of permutations in institutions, Cursillo has always kept its eyes firmly focused on Jesus and on the Mission. One of the principles of the Cursillo movement is that:

We focus on Christ and His resurrection power in our lives, transforming us into the people He would have us be. Theological and political issues have no part of our agenda.

This movement is neither liberal nor conservative. It is Christ-centered and Christ-focused. We must keep this in mind and heart as we do what responsibility calls us to do in considering future possibilities and possible adjustments to them.

The policy of the NEC/NECC is that it will not be a political or social agenda organization. It is a movement of the Episcopal Church. The NECC should not attempt to understand the implications of the as yet uncertain organizational and financial transformations in the ECUSA. There are many issues that we do not influence.

What is clear is that NEC was created to serve the Episcopal Church in the United States, and we are licensed by the Roman Catholic Church to do that. Despite our personal theological and political views, we are focused on knowing Christ and making him known to others. That is our call and in doing it lies our greatest joy. *Ultreya! Ultreya!!*

Let's get on with the day's apostolic action.

Let's all pray for the church, the Church, and one another every day.

David Rowe



Just a few notes . . .

- Linda & Paul Trader will be hosting the Cursillo Table at the Diocesan Convention this year. They need items to sell. Everyone is encouraged to participate no matter the size of the contribution. Please contact Linda at lindatrader@yahoo.com.
- Your Maryland Episcopal Cursillo Secretariat is looking for someone to fill the position of Secretary. The duties of the Secretary are to maintain the minutes and correspondence of the Secretariat. The Secretary is a voting member of the Secretariat. If you feel called to this vital ministry, please contact Lay Director Pat Arey; his contact info is available on the Cursillo website at <http://www.cursillo.ang.md.org/secretariat.htm>.
- Linda Jefferies Summers tells me that the Cursillo Cookbook is now available at St. Bede's bookstore. Cost is Proceeds to benefit the Ghana Project. St. Bede's is located at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, East University Parkway, Baltimore. ♥

ADDRESS FOR DONATIONS

If you are reading The Abrazo electronically, or if your issue is missing its Palanca envelope, here is the address to send donations to Maryland Episcopal Cursillo:

Comptroller, Maryland Episcopal Cursillo
c/o Church of the Ascension
23 North court St.
Westminister, MD 21157

Gifts of the Spirit—Still Around

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the community for their support and patronage over the last nine years. That is how long I brought *Gifts of the Spirit* for Cursillistas to purchase note cards and other palanca and gifts at Ultreyas and 4th Day workshops. It didn't really seem that long.

The time has come and I have given up the reins to this ministry and a new owner will now be bringing the Journal to Cursillo functions. As of January, 2004, Marjie Mack is the new owner and proprietor of Gifts of the Spirit. Please continue to give her the support and patronage you have given me, and JoAnne before me. Don't

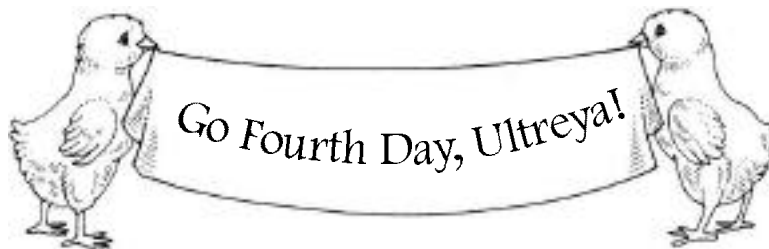
forget to call her when you need that special palanca or Decolores item.

Again, thank you and Ultreya!

Cindy Parks♥

Collect for 4th Day Community Gatherings by Fr. Rick Laribee

O Gracious God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, look with favor on all those gathering around the world in Cursillo, Happening, Chrysalis, Walk to Emmaus, Via de Cristo, Kairos, and other such movements. Grant both the leaders and candidates such wisdom, power, humility and grace that day by day they would more nearly follow Your Way, more clearly see Your Truth, and more dearly love the Life You give through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Secretariat 2004

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Volunteer needed!

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Bishop of Maryland

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Just a reminder that all Secretariat meetings are open to the community. They are currently being held at St. John's, Frederick Road, Ellicott City at 7pm on the 1st Friday of the month.

Moving? Send us your address!

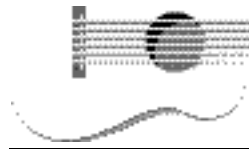
People move all the time for many reasons. Buying or selling a home, moving to take a job elsewhere, retiring to a better climate, etc. All these things have in common a change of address. So if you are moving, please don't forget to put Cursillo on your Change of Address list. Please send your current address, new address, and effective date to:

MEC Communications Coordinator
8068 Armiger Dr.
Pasadena, MD 21122

Alternatively, you can give me a call at 410-360-7425 or drop me an email at champion@qis.net.

If you are changing email addresses, let me know that too!

*Emerson Champion
Communications Coordinator
Maryland Episcopal Cursillo*



Ultreya!

THERE'S BOUND TO BE ONE NEAR YOU!



Monthly

1st Sunday : p.m.	Annapolis	St. Luke's Church Bay Ridge Avenue	Mary Beth Dent	
2nd Saturday : p.m.	Baltimore	Holy Cross Millington Avenue	Jim Stultz bpi@hotmail.com	
3rd Sunday : p.m.	Ellicott City	St. Peter's Rogers Avenue	Berni Winthrop	
4th Friday : p.m.	Towson	St. Thomas Providence Road	Alex & Kathie Dzbinski	
5th Friday	Pasadena	St. Andrew's Tick Neck Road	Suspended until further notice	
6th Sunday : p.m.	Hagerstown	St. John's S. Prospect Street	Bruce & Becky Neumann	
7th Sunday noon	Port Republic	Christ Church Broome's Island Road	Murray Cheston , Dmcheston@aol.com	
8th Friday : p.m.	Westminster	Ascension N. Court Street	Scott Colburn, Debi Frock Becki Fisher	Child Care Available No Ultreya Jul, Dec
9th Friday : p.m.	Lothian	St. James Solomon's Island	Yvonne Finne	No Ultreya in Dec

Rotating

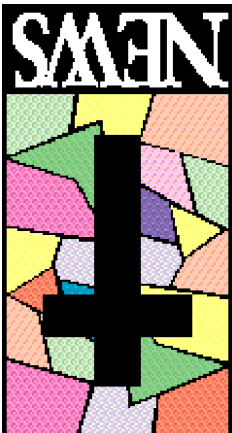
October	Glyndon	St. John's Butler Road	Sharon Andrews	Call about next meeting
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Quarterly

1st Monday : p.m.	Havre de Grace	St. John's Union & Congress Avenues	Mary Lou Townsend	Meetings in Mar/Jun/Oct/Dec
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Dated Material — Do Not Delay

FYI: WHAT'S HAPPENING



- The **Secretariat** is meeting the first Friday of every month at St. John's, Ellicott City in Rose Hall at 7:30 PM.

- **MD #87 Weekend—Mañanitas and Closures:**
April 22-25, 2004. Mañanitas on April 25, 6:45 AM. Come and bring flowers! Closures at 3:45.

- **Come to the River:** Find out on page 3!

- **4th Day Workshop:** Ascension, Westminster, January 10, 2004 starting at 9:00 AM. The rector is Jenny Moulton. Please keep her and the team in your prayers. More to follow later. ♥

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