

Wind of the Spirit

April 2010



Calendar

4th Day Renewal
Weekend, Big Country
Camp, Lueders, TX
April 30-May 2, 2010

PDPC Council Meeting
August 2010

PDPC #24
Camp Chaparral
Iowa Park, TX
October 7-10, 2010

Thoughts from the Cursillo Council Chair, Peggy Martin

Spring is here in full force and life is as hectic as ever if not more so, which gives us all the more reason to stop and take time to look at all of the beauty around us that our God does provide. This winter we spent a lot of time indoors because of record snowfalls, but this spring we can now go out and reflect on the beauty the snow has brought. I know many people have taken time off to go and enjoy the wonders of the beautiful flowers that are a product of the wet snow. Isn't God amazing!

Two weeks ago the Cursillo Council took time from the rush of the world to sit down and take care of some business for Cursillo. I would like to share some of what we did. We had a report from David Baum on PDPC #24. As of now there are about 30 staff applications (music staff is full with 13). Please continue to send in applications to David to work at #24 as you are needed. As of right now we have 1 participant, therefore, pray and ask people to come. It seems like we have a long time but really the time is now to ask. Our Moderator for PDPC #25 will be Jim Sullivan. As of yet we do not have a place picked. Pray with the council as we strive to choose the best place for #25. The 4th Day Renewal weekend is looking good. Right now we have right around 40 participants. Groups are working hard to prepare for this as is Janice Six and a team that has been helping her.

We tabled taking action on the Bylaw until August. We had a report from Sally Brantley about the National Council Meeting in Houston and have asked Cruse Messer to attend the National Council Meeting in August for us.

We talked about how to unpack and pack the trailer at the Cursillo weekends to make it easier on everyone. If you are a 4th day person and can't spend the entire weekend at PDPC #24 but would be willing to come and help unload the trailer before the weekend begins and then be there on Sunday to load it back up please contact David Baum. This is a true calling and a ministry to Cursillo and to the Cursillo #24 staff. After working the weekend people are very tired and trying to load the trailer back up probably takes longer than it should because of everyone's being so tired. It would be a blessing to have a 4th day team to come and take care of this for the staff. If you hear God calling you do to this please answer.

The sharing time right after lunch was amazing. After I gave a short 4th Day talk we opened the floor to let God show us what is happening in all of our lives. It was a truly moving experience to me to see all of the things that are happening in all of our lives. God is alive and well in Palo Duro Presbytery. He has given us a family of believers within a family of believers who love and pray for each other every day. Let us pray and seek now to expand His family now.

Praise be to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.
Peggy Martin

Put the Fourth Day First, Phyllis Baum Immediate Past Chairperson

All of you reading this have attended a Cursillo. Where did you go from that Cursillo? Have you attended a reunion group? Have you attended an Ultreya? If the answer is no, ask why not? Why haven't you made these things a priority?

God wants us to be part of a community. John A. Huffman, Jr. says, "Community requires commitment. The church must be more than a Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, and Lions' Club. All of those organizations have a very valid place in our society, because they are involved in service for others; but they don't go to the depth of sharing that the church of Jesus Christ encourages."

"The church is more than a yacht club, a tennis club, or a golf club. Granted, in those kinds of clubs, common interests are shared, and there can be a reasonably high degree of fellowship. At the same time, there's nothing more merciless than such an exclusive club when someone is down in their luck and no longer has the money with which to pay the dues and they are out. The church that functions the way it's called to function cultivates a community in which we stand by each other even in the toughest of times."

As members of our Cursillo Community, you already know that we stand by each other in the toughest of times. We pray for those who are ill, having surgery, are injured, are divorcing, are moving, or who have any other need. We bring food for those in need. We serenade those who are sick. We help whenever we can.

But do you know that we also stand by

each other in good times? We like to celebrate happy occasions and all the little joys that occur daily. We can do that by phone calls, by emails, and by meeting together. Many reunion groups meet weekly. In some areas there are monthly Ultreyas, and we hold Presbytery-wide Ultreyas 4 times per year. In April there will be a 4th Day weekend retreat. Places are still available for the retreat. There are many chances for you to be involved in the 4th Day activities.

In 2006 Andre Agassi lost the US Open. He is quoted as saying to the crowd, "The scoreboard said I lost today, but what the scoreboard doesn't say is what it is I have found. Over the last 21 years, I have found loyalty. You have pulled for me on the court and also in life. I found inspiration. You have willed me to succeed, sometimes even in my lowest moments. And I've found generosity. You have given me your shoulders to stand on to reach for my dreams, dreams I could never have reached without you. Over the last 21 years, I have found you, and I will take you and the memory of you with me for the rest of my life."

This is the feeling that we have in our Ultreya groups. We find people who are loyal to us, inspire us, pull for us, are generous to us, help us realize our dreams. These are everyday people, just like us, who have attended a Cursillo and want to be part of the Christian Community.

Please join us in putting the 4th Day first. Make this Christian Community a priority in your life. It's a little bit of Heaven here on earth.

Palanca, Janice Serrault

Cursillo is just six months away and it is never too early to start thinking about palanca. We will need all the Ultreya groups, Reunion groups, and individuals to help make sure the participants have the same experience we had. The renewal weekend is coming up fast and we may not have sent palancas but for this weekend we can take time out of the day or weekend to say a prayer I'm going to call them prayer palancas. These can be done while mowing, weeding, or cleaning house so please keep saying a prayer.

PDPC #24 David Baum, Moderator

Philippians 1:6 - There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.

On the evening of December 24, 1914, in Flanders, millions of English and German soldiers were bedded down in trenches spread across the European countryside. The conditions were horrible. The bitter-cold winter chilled to the bone. Soldiers shared their quarters with rats and vermin.

As dusk fell, something extraordinary happened. The Germans began lighting candles on the thousands of small Christmas trees that had been sent to the front to lend some comfort. They began singing Christmas carols—first “Silent Night,” then a stream of other songs followed. The English soldiers were, initially, stunned. After a while, however, they responded with applause. They began to sing Christmas carols back to the Germans. The Germans responded with applause.

Soon men from both sides left the trenches and walked toward each other. Hundreds followed. They shook hands, exchanged cakes, and showed photos of their families. They talked about home, reminisced about Christmases past, and joked about the absurdity of war.

For a few short hours, no more than a day, tens of thousands of human beings broke ranks, not only from their commands but also from their allegiances to country, to show their common humanity. Thrown together to maim and kill, they stepped outside of their duties to commiserate with one another and to celebrate each other’s lives. The desire to be in community overcame everything else.

I think this desire is so strong for many reasons. The most important of these is that God calls us to be in community. By His grace given freely through Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, we are joined together as family. In this family, we share each other’s joys and sorrows. We see God revealed through one another. We grow each day, learning what it means to be His children.

For me, this is what Cursillo is all about. It’s about coming together to learn and grow in the Christian faith. I am confident that you know individuals that would be blessed by their participation in Cursillo. Now is the time for you to extend an invitation for them to be part of PDPC #24.

PDPC #24 is scheduled for October 7 – 10, 2010, at Camp Chaparral, Iowa Park, Texas. A participant application is available on the Presbytery website, <http://www.paloduropresbytery.org/>. I encourage you to make copies and use them to extend your personal invitations to your friends to join with the Cursillo community as we grow in God’s grace.

4th Day Renewal Weekend 2010, Pat Molnar

The 4TH DAY RENEWAL WEEKEND is right around the corner...April 30-May 2, Big Country Camp, Lueders, Texas. Have you registered to attend? If not visit www.paloduropresbytery.org and click on “camps and retreats.” There you will be able to download a registration form. Another option is to call Pat Molnar, Registrar for the weekend, at 691-9755, and she will be delighted to make sure you’re on board for a wonderful weekend of renewal.

This event is open to all members of a Presbyterian (PCUSA) church who have attended a Cursillo weekend, a Walk to Emmaus, or similar 3-day spiritual retreat. If Cursillo made a positive and unique impact on you, you won’t want to miss this opportunity to gladden your heart by taking the next step of attending the 4th Day Renewal Weekend...taking up where the Cursillo weekend leaves off! It’s a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the ties that bind us as the Body of Christ. The cost for this weekend get-away is \$100 per person. This includes all meals and lodging from Friday evening through Sunday lunch.

Keep in your Prayers...

- Gail Hopkins, PDPC #3
- Stacy Schroeder's mother, PDPC #9
- Clayton Jago, son of Michael & Suzy Jago, PDPC #7
- Michael Jago, PDPC #7
- Lois Harper, PDPC #21
- Louanne McAnally PDPC # 22
- Gail Batko, PDPC #16
- Teresa & Rev. Andy Channer, Pastor & his wife serving First Breckenridge
- Faye Collins, PDPC #8
- Jeff Smith, son of Chuck & Mary Lou Nester PDPC #22
- Sarah Gulick, daughter of Karl & Suzanne Gulick, HPC # 6
- Carl Roeder, PDPC #5
- Dan Martin, nephew of Lois Harper, PDPC #21
- Mary Molnar, daughter of Jim & Pat Molnar, PDPC @1 & 12
- Ted & Dawn Kingsbery, PDPC #12 in the death of Ted's mother Mary Louise Kingsbery
- Bob Force, husband of Kelly Force, PDPC #12
- Jo Bright, PDPC # in the death of her brother Henry Mohr
- Brae Elliott, granddaughter of Paula Camp, PDPC #21

From PDPC Participant, Rev. Mary Ferris

Dear friends,

I have just gotten settled back into my routine in Romania, but I wanted to write and say what a wonderful time it was to visit FCPC briefly while I was home.

One of the highlights of my career was serving as a spiritual advisor of this past Presbyterian Cursillo #23 (A spiritual retreat held annually for all members of our Presbytery). One of the participants said it best –for just a moment it was like God peeled back the curtain and let us get a peek at heaven. So were we all playing the harp to classical music, sitting around on individual clouds, where everything was quiet – NO! We were laughing, crying, laughing, praying, taking communion, discussing serious theology, eating, dancing -(yes there was dancing in heaven). We shared our personal lives, but most importantly we prayed together, worshipped together, took communion together. We were not separated by gender (except for sleeping arrangements), age, nationality, education, political persuasions, nor abilities. It was one of the most all inclusive Presbyterian experiences I have ever had. There is a new wind blowing through Palo Duro Presbytery and I hope through our denomination. Could it be that Presbyterians will lead a new Spiritual revival. If this past Cursillo was any indication, who knows? God does. It was my privilege to have served at this event.

Grace and Peace,
Mary Ferris

Application for Palo Duro Presbyterian Cursillo #24 Camp Chaparral, Iowa Park TX

Arrival time is 5:00 PM Thursday, October 7, 2010
Departure time is 5:00 PM Sunday, October 10, 2010
(All are expected to remain the full time.)

Mr. Mrs. Ms. (Please circle one.)

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Occupation: _____ Birthday: _____

Single / Married ~ If married is spouse attending? YES / NO

If spouse is attending, please complete a separate application form for each person.

PC (USA) Membership (Church Name & City / State): _____

Pastor's Name _____ Pastor's Phone # _____

Hobbies / interest: _____

If you have any special requirements (allergy, diet, physical limitations, etc.) please explain: _____

Cost for PDPC #24 is \$155.00 per person, which includes meals & lodging for the weekend. A REGISTRATION FEE OF \$25.00 SHOULD BE SENT WITH THE APPLICATION. The balance may be paid when you arrive for the weekend. Scholarships are available based on need; please contact the Registrar at the time of your application.

Please make checks payable to "Palo Duro Presbytery" with a Cursillo memo.

Because of limited space, applications should be returned as soon as possible. Confirmation will be made after application and \$25.00 registration fee are received. Please return completed applications with registration fee to:

Earlene Pike, Registrar
PALO DURO PRESBYTERIAN CURSILLO
601 Oak Park Drive,
Brownwood, TX 76801
325-641-1953
earleneap@yahoo.com

PDPC Council Members

Council Chair: Peggy Martin
Secretary: Janet Price
Treasurer: Diane Keeble
Spiritual Advisors: Rev. Janice Six, Rev. Don McDonald
4th Day Committee: Peggy Anderson, Diane Keeble, Janice Serrault, Dawn Kingsbery
Music Committee: Mike Ruff, Becky Laird, Jim Gesin
Newsletter & Publicity: Charlie Rush, Jennifer Denham
Nominating Committee: Becky Laird, Carol Fatheree
Outreach: Charlie Rush, Dawn Kingsbery
Palanca: Janice Serrault, Peggy Anderson, Janet Price, Carol Fatheree
By-Laws: Janet Price, Becky Laird, Chuck Nester, Sally Brantley
Rep. to National Council: Becky Lipe, Cruse Messer (August 2010)

Class of 2010

Charlie Rush
Diane Keeble
Janice Serrault
Peggy Anderson

Class of 2011

Mike Ruff
Janet Price
Peggy Martin
Becky Laird
Rev. Janice Six

Class of 2012

Dawn Kingsbery
Chuck Nester
Jim Gesin
Carol Fatheree
Rev. Don McDonald

National Cursillo/Pilgrimage Website: www.days3.com

Jennifer Denham
3200 S. Jackson Street
Amarillo, TX 79109
jendenham@sbcglobal.net

