



# Christians Encounter Christ Omaha Metro Area Newsletter

January/February 2010  
Volume 20 Issue 1

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*Lord, my heart  
is before you.*

*I try, but by myself  
I can do nothing.*

*Do what I cannot!*

*Admit me to the inner room  
of your love, I ask.*

*I seek, make me receive.*

*You have enabled me  
to seek, enable me to find.*

*You have taught me to knock,  
open to my knock.*

*Amen*

*St. Anselm of Canterbury*

## From the President

*Chris Peters*

It is with a grateful heart that I write my first article as president of the Omaha Area Leadership Council. I am grateful to Helen Andrews for her amazing leadership skills this past year. Helen has been a part of this CEC community since 1988. I remember when she made her original weekend at the Notre Dame Center; I was fortunate enough to work that weekend. The Lord has definitely been at work in her life as well as mine during these twenty plus years!

In the Christian Community talk, the talk person and their table assistant are introduced to the rest of the candidates as the pair God chose to be at their parish table. We are never alone on this journey God has us on, here on earth; and for that, I thank God! I have learned so much from Helen during my year as vice president and have been assured, I can call her any time for guidance and answers! Helen, I have you on speed dial!

I want to thank all of the Fourth Day who said yes to running for a position. It was wonderful to have several people to vote for in each of the three opened positions. Thank you vice president candidates: Dave Egan, Bob Gaddie Jr., Fred Otte and Al Peters. For the position of Secretary, Barb Eastlack, Mary Egan, Gina Sullivan and Mark Yosten. Those who ran for treasurer were Mary Ann Kosmicki and Randy Veik.

The new vice president will be Al Peters, Mary Ann Kosmicki will remain the treasurer and Barb Eastlack will assume the secretary position. How blessed the community will be to have each of you a part of the leadership council.

As the 2009 year comes to a close, we all know how God has walked along side us during the good times as well as the tough times. My prayer for each of you is that God will continue to be invited into your life each and every day! That the Holy Spirit will guide your thoughts and decisions and that our Brother Jesus is walking along side of you and that you know he is there! Maybe, you would be willing to give a short witness at an ultreya as to how the Trinity has been alive in your life!??

I look forward to meeting more of you at ultreyas and closings in 2010! Please call or email me with questions or concerns you have regarding the CEC community. I will do my best to find answers or listen. Our goal is to grow this community and to evangelize our corners of the world and we need lots of brave souls to step to the plate and take their turn!

May God bless you!  
Chris Peters of Mary Our Queen Parish  
Original weekend, November 1987



Upcoming CEC Events**CEC Weekends**2001 Weekends

Men April 23-25, 2010  
 Women April 30, May 1-2, 2010

Men October 8-10, 2010  
 Women October 15-17, 2010

2011 Weekends

Men April 1-3, 2011  
 Women April 8-10, 2011

Men October 7-9, 2011  
 Women October 14-16, 2011

**Location:**

The Archdiocesan Retreat and  
 Conference Center (ARCC)  
 3330 North 60<sup>th</sup> Street (Bldg D)

**Fourth Day Mass:**

6:30 pm Sunday in the Archdiocese  
 Retreat & Conference Center, 3330  
 North 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Building D.

**Palanca:**

*Palanca is our individual support to  
 each other. The Lever that holds us  
 up through our weekend and through  
 our lives.*

***Please drop off palanca Friday  
 evening until noon Sunday at the  
 main door of the ARCC in the  
 white Palanca box.***

Other Events:

**CEC Workshop** February 7, 2010 at  
 Mary Our Queen from 1:00 – 4:00.

**Deacon Appreciation Celebration**

Sunday, November 22, 2-4pm at St.  
 Stephen The Marty Church, 16701  
 "S" Street. (See Post CEC  
 Committee section for more  
 information.)

## CEC Committee Chair

*Mary Ann Gaddie*

No report.

DeColores!  
 Mary Ann

## Calling all Fourth Dayers....!!!

If you think you have felt the "Shove of the Dove" to become more involved with the CEC community, this IS the time!

We are currently looking for folks to help lead the 6 ultreyas around the archdiocese. The time commitment is minimal and the rewards are ENORMOUS! Where else can you go, once a month, set up a small area (you didn't have to clean) ? - put out a few snacks (that hopefully someone else brings), meet with WONDERFUL friends, listen to inspiring and challenging words of wisdom, and then go home (after minimal clean up)?

Perhaps your group would like to "co-sponsor" one of the ultreyas! Maybe a hubby and wife team would like to do a ministry together?! We are open and willing to help you be the "Next Best Ultreya Site" around. Come to the Omaha Area Leadership Council, and watch for free, a wife and hubby team work together leading this fabulous group of volunteers!

We are also searching HIGH and low, for CECers who can help on the Pre and Post CEC committees. You could help with all sorts of things! You could help plan social events for the community, help find volunteers to make sure all goes well and have fun at the same time!

If you have ever felt like the same people do everything (kind of like at your home parishes) maybe it's because there is no one else who **will** step up to the plate (I'm a mom of baseball players and couldn't resist the analogy). So come on...volunteer to get involved...it's THE ONLY WAY we can keep this community alive and growing. We need your HELP TODAY!

Please pray about it and give me a call or anyone on the leadership council. We'd love to hear from you!

Sincerely,  
 Chris Peters 334-8353

*The miracle is not that we do this work,  
 but that we are happy to do it.*  
 ----- Mother Theresa

## POST CEC Committee

*Carol Windler*

*Brenda Benskin*

On November 22nd we honored our Deacons at an open house celebration. We had about 50 in attendance. We enjoyed fellowship and special treats brought by fellow 4th Dayers. It was a nice afternoon to give thanks to our deacon couples for all they do.

The Post CEC committee has no immediate plans, please watch for announcements at ultreyas and closings.

We hope you all had a blessed Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Brenda Benskin  
Carol Windler

DeColores!

## Pre CEC Chair

*Dave Eastlack*

Once again we are busy preparing for the next weekends. Once the holidays are past us we would like to start running weekend reminders in parish bulletins. If you have not already contacted me concerning possibly becoming a parish representative, please call me at 402-932-5112 or by email at [the\\_unihusker@cox.net](mailto:the_unihusker@cox.net). Being a parish rep entails getting the reminder into your bulletin and simply being available if anyone has questions about CEC and how to get info for the weekend.

The following is an updated parish representative list as of December 17th.

Karen Hardy - St Stephens

Sandy Luczynski - St Thomas More

Ray Beck - St Pius X

Chuck Adams - St Margret Mary

Francis Ramirez - Our Lady Guadalupe

Ken True - St Gerald's

Helen Andrews - Christ the King

Mark Yosten - St Leo

Mary Ann Gaddie - St Peter & Paul

Chris Peters - MOQ

Rick Bellino - St Johns Creighton

David and Barb Eastlack- St Wenceslaus

Denise Bierma-St Elizabeth Ann

Tom Doll-Holy Cross

If you see that your parish is not listed and would like to help out with that please contact me.

Below is the advertisement for the parish bulletin.

### CHRISTIANS ENCOUNTER CHRIST, A Journey in Faith

Do you wish to strengthen your spiritual life, understand that being a Christian involves responsibility, and are willing to evangelize through your everyday Christian actions? Then maybe a CEC weekend is just what you are looking for? Come for a lively, joyous weekend to be strengthened spiritually as you live and study with priests and laity in discussion, prayer and song. Both weekends will be held at the Archdiocese Retreat and Conference Center located at 3330 N. 60th Street. The all-inclusive cost is \$65.

**MEN'S Weekend - April 23 - 25** Priest Spiritual Director: Fr. Frank Baumert

**WOMEN'S Weekend - April 30 - May 2** Priest Spiritual Director: Fr. Frank Dvorak

For more information, call St. Wenceslaus parishioners Dave or Barb Eastlack @ 402-932-5112 (here you would add your own information).

## From the Outgoing President

*Helen Andrews*

I cannot believe this year is over! In December of 2008 I assumed the role of President of the CEC Omaha Area Leadership Council. What a wonderful year. Last year, as was about to assume this role, I submitted an article to the newsletter titled, "Me? A Leader?". I reflected that each of us is a leader when we respond to God's call. A year ago I had no idea what God had in store for me. I did know He would give me the grace and the tools to do His work.

I must admit it has been a fantastic year. I have enjoyed every minute, truly! I had a wonderful team of men and women to support me and back me up. Father Damian helped me to discern how to respond to questions and concerns, and, I knew each of you was praying for me and the members of the council. Saying "yes" to God's call is rewarding.

We have a dedicated group of men and women working to keep this community going and vibrant. I would like to thank everyone who serves on leadership and shows up month after month.

A special thanks to **Chris Powers**, our outgoing Secretary. Chris has served two years and has done a great job of keeping minutes of each meeting. **Chris Peters** served as Vice President last year. I was appreciative of her willingness to listen and help me make decisions. **Mary Ann Kosmicki** continues to serve as Treasurer. Mary Ann has worked hard to help us be responsible in spending our money. Our weekends are currently costing us more than we bring in. Mary Ann has helped us consider ways of spending wisely and saving money where possible.

Leadership relies on committee chairs to keep the mission of CEC alive. Thank you **Dave Eastlack** (Pre CEC) for continuing to build up our parish representation. **Carol Windler** and **Brenda Benskin** (Post CEC) have made sure we have priests and deacons for closing Masses and that we have community events. **Mary Ann Gaddie** (CEC) makes sure the president (me!) knows who is eligible to coordinate a weekend, and, that the coordinators have all the information they need in order to form team. Each person that has answered God's call has worked hard, but, I believe each of us has been rewarded by the success of each event or activity.

My favorite role as President was to invite men and women to be coordinator for the weekend. I know God worked through me when I invited each person. I had lots of "Moments closest"! My greatest joy was standing before the community and the candidates at closing. I was honored to represent you to the new members of our community. My greatest honor was meeting Archbishop Lucas and introducing this community to him.

Writing this article has been a wonderful reflection for me. Thank you to each of you for allowing me to serve and thank you for your support as I served you this past year.

### **OALC Officers:**

#### Spiritual Director

Rev Damian Zuerlien 330-3265  
Damzuer@aol.com

#### President

Chris Peters 334-8353  
alpeters@cox.net

#### Vice-President

Al Peters 334-8353  
alpeters@cox.net

#### Past-President

Helen Andrews 502-6929  
Rainbow4helen@cox.net

#### Secretary

Barb Eastlack 932-5112  
Makosmicki@cox.net

#### Treasurer

Mary Ann Kosmicki 445-8845  
Makosmicki@cox.net

#### CEC Committee Chair

Mary Ann Gaddie 731-9963  
Mag21@QwestOffice.net

#### Pre CEC Committee

Dave Eastlack 932-5112  
The-unihusker@cox.net

#### Post CEC Committee

Carol Windler 334-5896  
CWind01@aol.com  
Brenda Benskin 68603775  
Brendablee2000@yahoo.com

#### Newsletter Editor

Sandy Luczynski 614-4488  
itssandralee@cox.net

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#### Rooster Roster

Rose Davis 455-5546  
RoseDavis45@cox.net

**The Omaha Area Leadership Council meets monthly, 10 times per year. You are welcome to attend.**

#### Location:

Mary Our Queen Kenny Center,  
3405 S 118<sup>th</sup> Street

#### Time:

7:00 pm

### **4<sup>th</sup> Day Community**

*There are many ways the 4<sup>th</sup> Day Community can support the weekend.  
Not working the weekend, and want to help?*

*Are you asking yourself "What can I do?"*

*Here are some great ways you can be a part of the weekends:*

**PRAY**

*for team and candidates.*

**WRITE**

*palanca for team and candidates.*

**DONATE**

*food - monetary contributions are always welcomed.  
(contact kitchen & prayer team coordinators)*

**SUPPORT**

*the team and the NEW 4<sup>th</sup> DAY by attending the closings.*

## Workshop 2010

### CEC Annual Workshop

CEC holds a workshop annually. The workshop is scheduled for Sunday February 7, 2010 from 1 PM to 4 PM at Mary Our Queen. The workshop is for all fourth dayers. Everyone is strongly urged to attend. The workshop is mandatory at least once in a two year period for those eligible to be at the back table.

Our workshop begins with a short workshop introduction from the OALC Past-President (Helen Andrews) and comments from our Spiritual Director, Fr. Damian Zuerlien.

There are three breakout sessions, each will be one hour in length and will run concurrently. There will be a Question & Answer session at the END of each session, with ample time given for questions and discussion. This format allows you to attend only one breakout session.

Anyone new to CEC, or interested in working a weekend for the first time, should attend the Level 1 breakout session.

Those eligible to coordinate kitchen or prayer teams should attend the Level 2 breakout session.

Those eligible to Assist or Coordinate a weekend MUST attend the Coordinators' breakout session.

Those who have coordinated previously may attend any breakout session and assist with the question and answer sessions.

The workshop's purpose is to give everyone in the community an opportunity to understand the mechanics of a weekend and to provide the community with information about CEC and the activities of leadership.

Helen Andrews

The annual CEC workshop will be Sunday, February 7, 2010 from 1-4 PM at Mary Our Queen, 3405 S. 119 St. The purpose of our workshop is threefold. First, the workshop is intended for everyone. We utilize the workshop to provide information about the purpose of CEC, the mechanics of the weekend and, the function of OALC (Omaha Area Leadership Council). The workshop is also an opportunity to meet other fourth dayers and to find out how you can become involved in this community.

The workshop begins with a short talk by Father Damian Zuerlein. There are three breakout sessions (listed below) presented by members of the community. Each of these sessions will be 45 minutes to one hour. These will run concurrently. These sessions will be followed by general session where we will learn about how we as a community can participate in thanking the priests of our dioceses who have supported CEC as well as a presentation on using power point. We will close with a reading of the annual letter sent to the Archbishop. A short Leadership meeting follows the workshop and everyone is encouraged to attend.

**Session 1: Intended for new members of CEC and those who will be working a weekend for the first or second time.**

**PURPOSE:**

- Explain purpose/mission of CEC
- Explain requirements for working team
- Explain duties of each team
- Discuss Ultryea and giving a witness
- Discuss function of OALC

**Session 2: Those who have worked at least two weekends or have already attended level 1**

**PURPOSE:**

- Explain team formation
- Explain role of kitchen, prayer team coordinator
- Discuss how to write/present a talk
- Explain function of OALC
- Explain function of CEC committees

**Session3: Required for those eligible to coordinate weekends and open to anyone who has attended sessions 1 and 2.**

**PURPOSE:**

- Explain the role of the coordinator and assistants
- Explain team selection and criteria for selection
- Discuss the need for team building
- Discuss how to set an agenda and to run a meeting
- Discuss the necessity of staying in contact with leadership
- Explain purpose of OALC and committees

The workshop will start at 1 PM, and, though we are scheduled to run until 4 PM, we will most likely be finished by 3PM. We will be done in plenty of time for everyone to spend time with family, and, to be home in time for the Super Bowl. Think of the workshop as a good way to “kickoff” 2010.

Helen Andrews

**CEC Registrar**

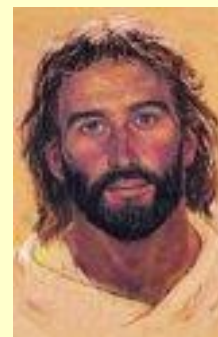
Art Beccard  
1407 Lake Vista Circle  
Papillion, NE 68046  
402-592-5862  
acbeccard@cox.net

**Ultryea Attendance Coordinator**

Rick France  
4633 N 81 Street  
Omaha, NE 68134  
572-8957  
RLFrance\_68134@yahoo.com

**Prayer Line Information:**

Contact Teri Rieck at 402-330-3595  
for prayer requests or to be  
added to the prayer chain.  
dtrieck@cox.net




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*“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”*

Matthew 11:28

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**Editor:** Sandy Luczynski  
402-614-4488

Four newsletters are published per year. (Approx. Jan, Apr, Oct & Dec)

If you do not have access to the internet or have email access only, please contact me for an electronic or paper version of this Newsletter.

itssandrale@cox.net

## ULTREYAS

Date	Time	Church Location	Representative
1 <sup>st</sup> Friday	7:30 p.m.	St. Margaret Mary - Suneg Center - 61 <sup>st</sup> & Dodge	Dave & Mary Egan 491-3031
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	9:00 a.m.	St. Patrick's - Fremont (following 8:00 a.m. Mass)	Kathy Luther 721-9587
2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday	7:30 p.m.	St. Philip Neri - Basement - 8200 N 30 <sup>th</sup> , (side door)	Rick Bellino 558-1037
3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	8:00 p.m.	Mary Our Queen - Parish Center - 3405 S 118 <sup>th</sup> St	Peg Whitaker 691-0488
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	7:00 p.m.	St. Elizabeth Ann - Parish Center - 114 <sup>th</sup> and Fort - Pot Luck	Brenda Benskin 706-7043
4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Sts. Peter & Paul - Gym Lobby Doors 3623 X St	Nick Rasmussen 551-9008

## Omaha Area Leadership Council

The Omaha Area Leadership Council meets monthly. Meetings are held at Mary Our Queen from 7:00pm - 9:00pm. *All are welcome to attend.*

2010 Meeting Dates

January 10

August 8

February 7 immediately after  
the Omaha Workshop @ 1-4:00 pm

September 12

March 14

October 10

April 11

November 14

May 16

December 12

No Jun-Jul Meeting



CEC develops in adult Christians an awareness of their power and mission to become leaders in the work of evangelization, and provides support to sustain them as they persevere in their work as Christian leaven in family, civic, social and economic life. This support is provided through their ongoing participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> day reunions. In a Group Reunion, 4-5 people meet weekly to reflect, pray and encourage each other in their discipleship. Ultreya is a reunion of the larger 4<sup>th</sup> Day Community. At an Ultreya, the community spirit of the weekend is continued through group reunion, witness, reflection on the witness, shared prayer and fellowship.



## G&amp;G-Road-Show-Outings.

Well the G&G 2009 experience was a continuing hoot. We scheduled out about once a month to Senior care and/or Assisted living homes, Church Picnics and/or Festivals; Etc. We have Prayed about what we should do for them, because ....it's all about them - not about us. Our song list holds some Oldies, some Rock Opera, some Contemporary, and of course a lot of Praise and Jesus type music too. In between those Gigs you will generally see and hear us at the Urban Ultreya gatherings or last year at the CEC St.M.M. Christmas party on Dec-4-2009, or even the next Mass & Breakfast on the Green up at the Cooper Village Inc-/Farm this next summer. We work and wind our way through our voice and or equipment difficulties and still have fun even if the tent we were singing in blew away in September. Adding new singers / players is a joy and always a blessing because they bring their Spirit to be joined with ours and the Gigs glow and our Music grows. Thanks so much for listening and singing with us.

Steve Grady & Bob Gaddie, Sr :)  
Email: [gaddie2@Q.com](mailto:gaddie2@Q.com)

G&G MUSIC for CEC, Etceteras.  
[clangrady@cox.net](mailto:clangrady@cox.net)



# De Colores!

This newsletter is by and for the members of the Omaha Metro Area Christians Encounter Christ Movement. Its purpose is to keep members informed about CEC events.