



Christians Encounter Christ Omaha Metro Area Newsletter

January/February 2009

Volume 19 Issue 1

From the President

Helen Andrews

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*"These things I have
spoken to you, so that in
Me you may have peace.
In the world you have
tribulation, but take
courage; I have
overcome the world."*

John 16:33

The Gift of Working a Weekend

All of us remember the joy we experienced on our weekend and many of us would like to relive that same joy by working a weekend. I know many people may wonder how the team is chosen and, maybe even why some people are asked and others are not. CEC has developed a set of guidelines for choosing team. A committee within the Leadership Council, the CEC committee, is responsible for identifying men and women who are eligible to be asked to coordinate or be assistants. The criteria for coordinator are; the person must be involved in a group reunion, attended at least 6 Ultreyas in the last year and have attended a workshop in the past two years. The coordinator must also have coordinated the kitchen or prayer team, been an assistant twice and have been in the conference room in the past two years. The criteria for the assistants are; the person must be involved in a group reunion, attended at least 6 Ultreyas in the last year and have attended a workshop in the past two years and have coordinated the kitchen or prayer team. Once the coordinator is chosen he or she chooses their assistants and the coordinators for the kitchen and prayer teams. The kitchen and prayer team coordinators must be grouping regularly, have attended 6 Ultreyas in the last year, have given at least one talk and have been a member of the team they are being asked to coordinate. The talk person must be grouping regularly, attended at least 6 Ultreyas in the past year and must have been a table assistant. Table assistants must have attended at least 4 Ultreyas and be grouping regularly. To be a member of the kitchen or prayer team you must be grouping. The intent of the guidelines is to have a team that is committed to the purpose of this community and to be witnesses to the candidates on the weekend.

The CEC committee and the coordinators choose qualified team by referring to Ultreya attendance records. When you attend an Ultreya, please sign in especially if you want to be asked to work a weekend.

I know we have two great coordinators for the upcoming weekends, Fred Otte and Kaye Bellino. I know both have worked very hard to build their teams following the guidelines, but, I also know it has been difficult. We are an amazing community (I truly believe this!), but, Kaye and Fred can only call on you if they are aware of your involvement. Please come to Ultreyas and please sign in (make your signature legible!). One of the requirements is the annual workshop. **This year's workshop is Sunday February 22 from 1 PM to 3:30 PM at St. Elizabeth Ann.** The workshop is open to all members of CEC. The sessions are set up to meet the needs of the entire community. Mike Langenegger will have an article in this newsletter outlining the workshop. I urge you to attend.

I have been blessed to have the opportunity to work several weekends and each time I am amazed at the graces I have received, and I have found great JOY (Jesus Others You) in the team members I have worked with. I also experience that same JOY when I attend Ultreya or I meet with my group. I invite each of you to remain committed to your group, or, find a group, attend an Ultreya on a regular basis and come to the workshop. I think it would be awesome if the next set of coordinators had such a long list of eligible candidates to work team that they didn't know where to start!

Spring Weekend Team Members

Men's Team March 13-15, 2009

"We are ambassadors for Christ as though God were pleading through us."

2 Corinthians 5:20

Upcoming CEC Events

Spring Weekends

Men March 13-15, 2009

Women March 27-29, 2009

Fall Weekends

Men October 2-4, 2009

Women October 16-18, 2009

Location:

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

Fourth Day Mass:

6:30 pm Sunday in the Archdiocese
Retreat & Conference Center, 3330
North 60th 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 22, 2009 at St. Elizabeth Ann Parish Center, 114th & Fort 1:00 – 3:30 followed by Omaha Area Leadership Committee (OALC) Meeting

CEC Game Night & Pot Luck
April 18, 2009 at St. Elizabeth Ann Parish Center, 114th & Fort following evening mass

CEC Picnic June 13, 2009 at 12:00 at Pipal Park,

Back Table

Fr. Norman Hunke - Spiritual Director
Fred Otte - Coord.
Ron (Fuzz) Graeve - Asst. Coord.
Steve Grady - Asst. Coord.

Talk Team

Ideal - Jim Bitzes
Laity - Steve McCarville
Piety - Bob Gaddie Sr.
Study - Rick France
Action - Jeff Selzle
Leaders - Ed Prost
Environment - Steve Grady
Christian Community - Ron Graeve
Group Reunion/Ultreya - Fred Otte

Table Assts.

Dave Fishman - Coord.
Russ Mitchell
Paul Moore
Gene Peterson
Mark Yosten
Dave Ziola

Women's Team March 27-29, 2009

Back Table

Fr. Damian Zuelien - Spiritual Director
Kaye Bellino - Coord.
Karen Riesberg - Asst. Coord.
Kathy Jackson - Asst. Coord.

Talk Team

Cora Thelen - Ideal
Barb Eastlack- Laity
Sybil Haller - Piety
Helen Andrews - Study
Karen Riesberg - Action
Mary Flies - Leaders
Kathy Hanson - Environment
Kathy Jackson - Christian Community
Kaye Bellino - Group Reunion/Ultreya

Table Assts.

Donna Schultz
Denise Bierma
RuthAnn Graef
Gina Hartnett
Carol Windler
Cheryl Probst

Priest Talks

Grace - TBD
Faith - TBD
Sacraments - TBD
Obstacles - TBD
Christian Life - TBD

Prayer Team

Ray Beck - Coord.
Ken Hanson - Music
Dave Eastlack
Dave Graef
Robert Krumel
Steve Waldron
Dave Spicka

Kitchen Team

Mike Langenegger - Coord.
Tom Burton
Hank Hardy
Joe Huettner
Jim Reisinger
Ken True

Priest Talks

Fr. Frank Baumert - Grace
Fr. Mike Grewe - Faith
Fr. Don Shane - Sacraments
Fr. Tom Greisen - Obstacles
Fr. Damian Zuerlein- Christian Life

Prayer Team

Judy Killion - Coord.
Mary Gमित (Music)
Mary Ann Mucia (Music)
Chris Powers
Carla Hanson
Pam Grosse
Stephanie Prost (Palanca)
Carmella Briganti (Palanca)

Kitchen Team

Sandy Luczynski - Coord.
Mary Lou Flearl
Lizzie Lehn
Jane Ulrich
Cathy Steel
Cathy Cummins
Julie Cavanaugh
Jacque Rauth Reisinger

Post CEC Committee

*Carol Windler
Brenda Benskin*

As members of the CEC community, we love to have time together in fellowship.

Your post CEC community has several events planned for you in the coming months.

A game and potluck night will be held on April 18th following the evening mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Parish Center 114th & Fort Street.

Also a picnic will be held June 13th at Pipal Park at 12:00. Meat will be provided, please bring your favorite dish to share.

We will also gather for a Pancake breakfast at Cooper farm at the end of July or beginning of August. An outdoor Mass will be held as well.

We hope to see you all at these activities.

Questions concerning these events can be addressed to Brenda Benskin at brendablee2000@yahoo.com

DeColores!
Carol & Brenda

De Colores from the CEC G & G Praise Music Guys & Gals

G&G MUSIC JAM /4 CEC AT A BARBER-SHOP!!!

We NEED G&G to PUT-it-together again... and Humm.

And of course We WILL 2009 is so new yet. Do you know where your musical talent and/or instrument are right NOW?

Alert: This was a test!!!

Some Praise, Worship, or even some Contemporary style community music for Jesus is our thing. It is always just on the near edge of our minds (I think that's the Frontal-Lobe). We know how important that a "Thanks be to God" with a nice tune attached helps us all smile as "1-Cool" CEC community. So how do we get you COMING our way... on some Saturday Morning, if this WEATHER ever lets up a bit?

Alert: This was a test!!!

We play & laugh from about 10:00 AM until 11:30 AM or so!

We use the Conference Room just the next room down a hallway from Grady's Hair Care; 7101 Mercy Road, LL. The Mid-America-Plaza is just East of 72nd & Mercy Road. From 72nd, use the 2nd driveway South off Mercy Road. Grady's is on the East end, Lower-Level, look for 7101. Parking FREE: Shop Phone = 397-5548

Steve Grady & Bob Gaddie, Sr :) G&G MUSIC for CEC, Etceteras.

Email: gaddie2@Q.com clangrady@cox.net

CEC Registrar

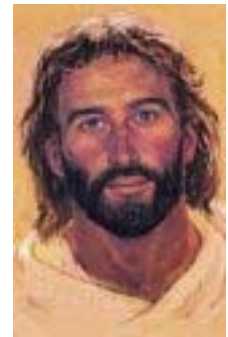
Art Beccard
1407 Lake Vista Circle
Papillion, NE 68046
402-592-5862
acbeccard@cox.net

Ultreya 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



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

Matthew 11:28

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.

itsandrilee@cox.net

January 18, 2009

Most Reverend Archbishop Elden F Curtiss
100 North 62nd Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68132

Dear Archbishop Curtiss,

My name is Michael Langenegger and I am the outgoing president of the Christians Encounter Christ (CEC), the Cursillo expression in the Archdiocese of Omaha. One of my final duties is to report to you about the calendar year 2008 as it applies to CEC.

We had two men's and two women's weekends in 2008 and welcomed over 90 new fourth dayers to our community. Our weekends are currently being held at the Archdiocesan Retreat and Conference Center. We are continually amazed at how well this center is able to serve the needs of our community. Gary Bosanek and his staff work very hard to ensure that our weekends run smoothly and that the candidates have a spirit filled experience as they make their Weekend.

In 2007 we put into place a plan to standardize our meal menus and with these efforts our food costs were reduced significantly. In 2008 these cost cutting measures have helped us to reduce Weekend expenses and keep the cost of our weekends affordable for future candidates and team members. We believe that cost should not be a barrier for participating in the Weekend.

Our efforts to keep our members updated about upcoming CEC Ultreyas have also improved over the past year. Information about our movement can be obtained at our website address www.cecomaha.org. Our quarterly newsletter can also be found on this site. Bob Gaddie, Sr. has been designated to send members information about upcoming CEC events and happenings.

Our most important goal is to evangelize northeast Nebraska. Our members take their weekend experience back to their parish. They become active in school boards, parish pastoral councils and as EMHC or lectors. Numerous members have gone on from our community to become ordained deacons. They serve in hospice, RCIA, hospital ministry as well as being visible signs of a faith filled ministry by their presence on the altar during Mass. Other members get involved in the Knights of Columbus and through the Knights they become very active in numerous parish activities.

Our annual workshop is scheduled for February 22, 2009 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton. This workshop is an educational opportunity for our community to learn more about the mechanics of our Weekend. Topics covered are Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator, Prayer team and Kitchen team and Table Assistants. These sessions are led by former Coordinators who have experienced the weekend in those roles. This workshop helps us to identify and develop future leaders of our movement and keep them up to date with changes that occur with either the Retreat Center or within the movement. This workshop also brings our community together to pray and share our faith.

We hope to help with vocations through individual membership with the Sierra Club, inviting seminarians, sisters, brothers, deacons and priests to "make a weekend." We will continue to support our members as they discern their vocations and spiritual futures.

I am a member of St. Cecilia parish and have heard you speak numerous times when you give talks at RCIA. One of your reoccurring messages during these talks is to challenge those coming into the church to sustain what they have learned in this RCIA process, and you never fail to mention what an important part that Cursillo played in your spiritual journey.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in your willingness to give talks on our weekends. Your presence on our Weekends makes an impression on the candidates and team and shows that you not only support us in words but also in your actions.

My replacement for 2009 will be Helen Andrews and already Helen has set an aggressive agenda for the upcoming year. Our prayers and work this year will be to "step up" and bring Jesus to all of our environments.

Your Brother-in-Christ,
Michael Langenegger
2008 President Omaha CEC

Special Message from the Norfolk CEC (Out-State Nebraska)

In 2010, where will future CEC weekends be held? No decisions have been made. The CEC Leadership Council requests your prayerful support, your input and your attendance at a workshop planned for Sunday, January 18, at 2:00 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall across from St. Mary's Church in Norfolk. The focus of the workshop is to share information that the Leadership Council currently has about each location (Tintern and the recently renovated Monastery), and to listen to and share the 4th Day Community's input. We hope you can join us for the afternoon.

Reminder: Men's Winter CEC Weekend - Feb. 6-8 - Tintern.
Women's Winter CEC Weekend - Feb. 20-22 - Tintern

Men's Spring Weekend - March 27-29 - Tintern
Women's Spring Weekend - April 24-26 - Tintern

Nebraska CEC Rural Leadership Council

Omaha Area Leadership Council

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

2009 Meeting Dates:

January 11	June & July no meeting
February 22 & Workshop at SEA	August 9
March 8	September 20
April 19	October 11
May 17	November 8
	December 13

**ULTREYAS**

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

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 4th 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 4th 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.

OALC Officers:Spiritual Director

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CEC WORKSHOP 2009 - ST ELIZABETH ANN - 114TH & FORT STREET

Feb. 22, 2008 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

(Gathering at 12:45 p.m. / Start Promptly at 1:00 p.m.)

Our workshop begins with a short workshop introduction from the OALC Past-President Mike Langenegger. Each workshop will be one hour in length and they will run concurrently. There will be a Question & Answer session at the END of each workshop, with ample time given for this. This format allows you to attend only one workshop, so choose from the topics listed below for each workshop the one which suits your needs best.

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

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

Those who have coordinated previously may attend any workshop and assist with the question and answer sessions of that workshop.

There will be a short Leadership Council meeting afterwards. All are welcome.

Level 1: LaDonna France and Richard Gruit

- General Dynamics for our First time worker
- Leadership Council and Committees (PRE-CEC-POST)
- Team Selection
- Prayer (duties) - Palanca (duties)
- Kitchen Team (duties)
- Talk Team (duties)
- Table Assistant (duties)
- How to Witness at an Ultreya
- How to Critique a talk

Level 2: Chris Peters and Mike Langenegger

- General Dynamics of our Team formation
- OALC leadership functions
- Team Selection
- Individual Team Duties
- Prayer and Kitchen team Coordinator duties
- Working with Music Leader
- Talk Progression
- How to write-prepare a talk
- Witnessing at an Ultreya
- How to Critique a talk

Coord: Steve McCarville and Carol Windler

- General Dynamics of coordinating
- How to get a team (Calling for a timely answer)
- How to run team meetings, Critique talks, Assign responsibilities.
- Teach TA worksheets, Spontaneous prayer, Embrazo concerns.
- When to communicate with the OALC, President, VP
- Witnessing at an Ultreya and encouraging team members to attend Ultreyas during team formation

“Since you have been raised up in company with Christ, set your heart on what pertains to higher realms where Christ is seated at God’s right hand. Be intent on things above rather than on things of earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

Colossians 3:1-30

I sincerely hope you can attend the workshop to learn more about how a weekend works. This workshop also shows us who wants to become more involved. PS-We can really use volunteers to bring in treats and pop or punch for the workshop. Remember-Christ’s army moves on its stomach. Remember it is during Lent but the workshop is on a Sunday!

Mike Langenegger
Workshop Facilitator
Paulm68104@peoplepc.com
402-457-4501

CEC-Greetings to all,
B. Gaddie Sr., JAN 9, 2009 book

What's in a Book?

The Team Formation booklet is a dandy source for INSIGHT on what to do on a weekend. They are available each time a team begins to form for an upcoming CEC weekend.

Page 1.) Reference for CEC Team Members: It is about when we say yes, to whom was the answer directed towards? We think that our total GIVING should be to Jesus. No words are spent telling about the talks and their importance on this page, but many alerts on the points about a candidates' well being at all other times. We are to learn how to represent a solid loving community for them. We develop that during our own Christian activities and walks outside of this current weekend. We then bring it inside, united together with those from the other team members. This page also covers a few general good habits for you to be aware about and some "Don't do" warnings too.

Page 2.) Duties at Family Tables: This page begins to get your attention about being at a table, both for the speaker and the TA (sometimes called the silent). They are the two-by-two units that bring out the best in the family. They're ingrained in all aspects of that table, from the Introductions until those same candidates need to find a 4thDay Reunion group, or visit an Ultraya next month.

Page 3.) Traffic during a CEC weekend; & Team Selection: Did you see that alert about how strangers disrupt the confidence of a candidate when non-team shows up? Security at each facility should be a HIGH team concern. Of course Emergencies are handled as the occasion demands. Now regarding Team Selection, we have a large Community that has desired to work on weekends to renew their own experience. Our general guideline is to work once a year per position, so all continue to grow. We do keep a history of involvement so we can adjust the needs list where possible. You being visible as an Ultraya witness, and Reunion group activity gets noticed.

Page 4.) Secrets of Leadership / Do not Dominate: You are NOT expected to be a teacher or an expert on all church points that might come up at a table discussion. Your duty is to try and involve ALL, yet to discipline your own control or opinions. There are probably multiple ways to plan and solve a question or subject. How to respect and include diversity should be your focus as you study these HINTS.

Page 5-6-7.) Techniques of Table Discussion: Ahah, this is just what you've been waiting for: A wonderful great three pages of how to, NOT put your foot in your mouth, and/or... **how to get it out!**

Page 8.) Additional Tips for TABLE Discussions: Here are 18 possible scenarios which surely will happen to you... IF you do not study and are not ready for them.

Lastly as a table leader, be alert to avoid statements that indicate his or her OWN "Opinions" on the questions under discussion.

There is always the danger that we may just do the work for the sake of the work. This is where the respect and the love and the devotion come in – that we do it to God, to Christ, and that's why we try to do it as beautifully as possible.

Mother Teresa



CEC Committee Chair

Mary Ann Gaddie

From the CEC Committee Chair....

Well, the coordinators for the upcoming Spring weekends have been chosen and they have chosen their assistants, prayer team and kitchen coordinators and are forming team or finishing up with team formation. All that is left to do is OUR Job. We need to provide the men and women's team with candidates to fill those weekends.

Remember all the great things you heard on your weekends - talks, sharing, prayer times, posters, etc. Who would you like to invite to share those joys? It doesn't need to be a close personal friend, (in case you've already sponsored all those!). It can be someone you work with, or see in Church and would like to get to know better; someone you've met at a gathering....**Just remember the cardinal rule: Speak to God about your new friend before speaking to your new friend about God.** It's important to start the process now in order to give your prospective candidates time to think over what you tell them, pray about it themselves, check their schedules, etc. There is an information form on our CEC website (www.cecomaha.org.) for the candidates to read through if you like. It can be printed right off the site. Even if your friends' answer is ultimately "no" this time, you will have planted a seed that perhaps you or someone else may nurture to full bloom. The important thing is to take that first step and ASK.

If you are working on either the Men's or Women's Spring Weekends, know that you are all in our prayers daily. God WILL use you, if you stand aside and let Him!

DeColores!
Mary Ann

4th Day Community

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 4th DAY by attending the closings.



The logo for 'De Colores!' features the words in a colorful, multi-colored font. Each letter is a different color, creating a vibrant rainbow effect. The exclamation point is also multi-colored. The text is set against a white background with a subtle shadow effect.