

Winter 2020—2021



# Rooster Tales

News from Across Canada



# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From all of us at the  
Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat

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## Special interest

- New Guidelines
- Lay Directors Round Table
- Triennial Meeting and Conference
- Whats New!

# A Reflection

COVID-19 has made us all look for new ways to connect with family and friends during this pandemic. For me it was to learn how to connect with one another through Zoom, Facetime, and to reach those not computer savvy by phone.

At first, we thought that this would only be a few months; that a cure to protect us from COVID-19 would be found quickly and that things would be back to normal by Christmas. It will still be several months before we start to be inoculated, and until everyone has had their needles, we will need to stay diligent.

I am reminded of the book *'The Shack'*. Mack has been enjoying the garden with its beautiful flowers. He wakes up one morning to discover that the garden has been stripped of all the plants. He is told they are weeds. The garden needed to be furrowed and that a new garden needed to be seeded and fertilized.

I think, maybe God is using this time to make me look at my spiritual flower garden. It is planted with flowers I like and I keep it free of weeds - I am in control—Me. Maybe, it is a time to reflect on where I am on my Fourth Day Journey. Am I moving forward or happy with the status quo? What gifts do I have to give? God may be nudging me to step out of my comfort zone and to listen: really listen — and to pray—to share with another as I journey through this pandemic in my environment.

Like most people, I have followed the guidelines and I have kept contact with others to a minimum. I walk daily, mask when in public and have started talking to people on the phone more regularly. I am not the best writer, but I have started to send notes to friends and family. I feel that this is one way that I can validate just how important they are to me. I am taking the time to write; and as I write I am reminded of good times spent with them.

Sometimes we may think that there has to be an "AHA" moment for our actions to be something special, **but** — I think you will agree that it is in the everyday things of being a friend, listening and sharing with one another that we are doing His will. I feel I have been called to journey with a friend, to be a friend and to be in community and I have found that I can do that virtually too.

Jesus sent his disciples out in twos (or more) —never alone. They were not on a race: they took their time: a journey one step at a time.

I once read a book about a woman's journey on the Camino Trail. She was using this journey to reflect on some personal health issues and to reflect on her future. The book was called "The Camino Letters" by Julie Kirkpatrick.

In this book, she talks about a sign she saw in the hostels each night. It said: **'Take only what you need, leave the rest behind'**. Among other things, there were boots, clothes, and water bottles left behind, but I think it was the worries people carried that had to be left behind. That is the message that resonated with me. She said that she was not a woman of faith, but her story spoke to me that way. She did not rush as she walked but rested during the day and talked to people at these rest stops.

I saw her change as she journeyed. One person told her that she was on a journey: **'Paso por paso' (One Step at a Time)**. She used this as a mantra when walking up the hills. She knew to get to her destination and she had to keep moving forward without looking back.

In her writing, I saw her let go of things she could not control. I am reminded that we have no control over the future. We have only today and we need to live each moment.

We are called to Be a friend, Make a friend (plant a seed), and let our actions work to Bring a friend to Christ in God's time. We are pilgrims on a journey. Never alone. HE is with us. Ultreya!

## THE ROAD TO LIFE

At first I saw God as my observer, my judge, keeping track of things I did wrong, so as to know whether I merited heaven or hell when I die. He was out there sort of like a media personality – I recognized his picture, but I really didn't know him.

Later on when I met Christ, it seemed as though life were rather like a bike ride, but it was a tandem bike and I noticed that Christ was in the back helping me pedal. I don't know just when it was that he suggested that we trade places, but life has not been the same since.

When I was in control, I knew the way. It was safe, and predictable ... it was the shortest distance between two points. But when He took the lead, he knew delightful long cuts, up mountains, and through rocky places at breakneck speeds; it was all I could do to hang on! Even though it looked like madness he said "Pedal."

I worried and was anxious and asked, "Where are you taking me?" He laughed and didn't answer, and I started to learn trust. I forgot my boring life and entered into the adventure. And when I'd say, "I'm scared," He'd lean back and touch my hand.

He took me to people with gifts that I needed, gifts of healing, acceptance, and joy. They gave me gifts to take on my journey, the Lord's and mine. And we were off again. He said, "Give the gifts away; they're extra baggage, too much weight." So I did, to people we met, and I found that in giving I received, and still our burden was light.

I did not trust him at first, in control of my life, I thought He'd wreck it. But since he knows bike secrets; knows how to make it bend to take sharp curves, knows how to jump to clear high rocks, and knows how to fly to shorter scary passages. And I learned to shut up and pedal in the strangest places; and I am beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face with my delightful constant companion, Jesus Christ.

And when I'm sure I just can't do any more, he just smiles and says ... "Pedal"

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

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Who is driving your bike? You or Jesus!

Do you drive and just call upon Jesus when you have a flat tire and ask Him for help to fix it? OR do you let Him drive and when you have a flat, do you take the time to look around, Pray, and ask Him "OK Lord, what would you like me to do now." Again, I ask who is driving your bike?

# Q & A

## **Your 2020 Spring Diocesan Report Your Response:**

*After reviewing the Diocesan Reports, it appears many Diocese are experiencing similar challenges in decreasing numbers, Grouping, attendance at Ultreyas, and having enough candidates to hold a weekend (sponsorship). One of the purposes of CACS is to help in education and resources to assist you in improving your Cursillo Movement in your Diocese. We asked you to respond to the following questions to assist us in identifying areas of concern and to comment as you wished. The following are the results of this survey.*

- 1 Are sponsors trained in their role and responsibilities?  
5 YES 2 NO
- 2 Do Sponsors understand and follow candidate selection and preparation criteria?  
6 YES 1 NO
- 3 Do Sponsors assist their candidates to:
  - 1 Take their candidate to their weekend  
7 YES 0 NO
  - 2 Provide adequate Palanca for the weekend  
6 YES 0 NO 1 MAYBE
  - 3 Come to the closing of their weekend  
6 YES 0 NO 1 MOSTLY
  - 4 Join or start a Permanent Group Reunion  
1 YES 3 NO 2 SOMETIMES 1 USUALLY
  - 5 Take them to an Ultreya or other events, for up to a year after their weekend  
1 YES 3 NO 2 SOMETIMES 1 USUALLY
- 4 Do your Weekends contain non-essential elements (agape, fiestas, reconciliation and healing services)  
7 YES 0 NO
- 5 Does your Cursillo Movement have a Servant Community  
3 YES 3 NO 1 ALMOST

Thank you for your input. We need to do some work!

2018—2021 CACS

### **REPRESENTING THE ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCES:**

**Marion Bailey**  
(Diocese of Huron)  
**CHAIR**

**The Most Rev. Greg  
Kerr-Wilson, (The  
Metropolitan of the  
Ecclesiastical Province  
of Rupert's Land)**  
**EPISCOPAL ADVISOR**

**Rev. Yvonne Thistle,**  
(Diocese of Central  
Nfld) **CANADA**

**Barb Hobson,**  
(Diocese of NS & PEI)  
**CANADA**

**Bev Hatt, (Diocese of  
Ottawa) ONTARIO**

**Anne Gould, (Diocese  
of Niagara) ONTARIO**

**Jennifer Jacobs,**  
(Diocese of  
Qu'Appelle)  
**RUPERT'S LAND**

**Wendy Goodall,**  
(Diocese of Calgary)  
**RUPERTS LAND**

**Rev. Rob Hutchison,**  
(Diocese of British  
Columbia) **BRITISH  
COLUMBIA & YUKON**

Check out the website:  
[www.anglicancursillo.com](http://www.anglicancursillo.com)

# SAVE THESE DATES!

## LAY DIRECTORS / SPIRITUAL ADVISORS ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2021

3:30 PM NST—Newfoundland

3:00 PM AST—NS & PEI

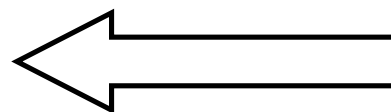
2:00 PM EST—Ontario

1:00 PM CST—Saskatchewan

12:00 noon MST—Alberta

11:00 AM PST—B C

Watch for your Zoom Invitation

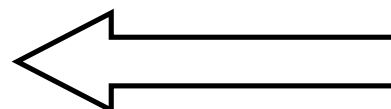


## Canadian Anglican Cursillo 2021 Triennial General Meeting **VIRTUAL**

**Saturday, June 26, 2021**

**With election of Provincial Reps**

***Followed by Worship and a Service of Commissioning***



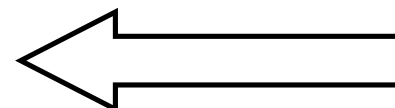
## Canadian Anglican Cursillo Triennial Conference \*\*2022\*\*

**Theme:** ***"and God saw that it was good"*** Genesis 1:12

**Keynote Speaker:** Rev. Marian Lucas-Jefferies,  
Coordinator of the Diocese of NS & PEI  
Environmental Network (Anglican Communion  
Environmental Network)

***Plus Workshops and more — details to follow***

**Hosted by**  
***The Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island***



## Here's What's New for Us!

**1. Zoom Platform:** The CACS Zoom Account is available for Secretariats to use for your Cursillo meetings. Please connect with your Provincial Representative or the Chair to book your time.

### **2. Guidelines: New, Updated, Reviewed**

- ♦ Is there a Guideline that you want us to review?
- ♦ Is there something that you want a Guideline for?
- ♦ Connect with your Provincial Representative or the Chair.

**3. Lay Directors Round Table Discussion:**  
In response to your requests, we are offering to host a Virtual Round Table Discussion for Cursillo Diocesan Lay Directors and their Spiritual Directors. See page 5 for the times in your zone:

**Saturday, January 30, 2021.**



## **UPDATED GUIDELINES 2020!**

### ***Resources for you to check out!***

#### **NEW, REVIEWED, UPDATED GUIDELINES:**

- ♦ **NEW: Two Dioceses –  
One Secretariat**
- ♦ **NEW: Weekend Application Form**
- ♦ **Individual and Collective  
Apostolic Action**

**[cacs@anglicancursillo.com](mailto:cacs@anglicancursillo.com)**

**[www.anglicancursillo.com](http://www.anglicancursillo.com)**

**[Canadian Anglican  
Cursillo Movement](#)**

**[We are here  
to serve your Movement!!!](#)**

**PLEASE PRAY  
FOR THE  
TRIENNIAL  
GENERAL  
MEETING  
JUNE 26, 2021**

## **2021 WEEKENDS**

Due to the Pandemic, most Cursillo Weekends for 2020 were postponed. Please pray for those Secretariats who have set dates and for those who are discerning dates. Please see their websites.

The Niagara and Huron Cursillo Secretariat has set a date for November 12—14, 2021.

*In the meantime, we encourage you to review your Sponsorship Guidelines and discuss potential candidates within your small Group Reunions and, if possible, at Secretariat meetings.*

*We invite you to take this opportunity to learn about, organize and/or encourage your Servant Community with prayer and commitment. Servant Community is a vital piece of the Cursillo Method.*

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

**BC-** We mourn the passing of Lay Director, Wayne Hatt to his Fifth Day. Please pray for him and his wife Patricia and extended family. He was a great example of leadership and service to our Cursillo family and will be missed. Please pray for the Secretariat as they reorganize their leadership roles.

**Calgary-** Better attendance at all events; COVID-19 does not infect anyone at a Cursillo event

**Central Nfld—**for our senior citizen Cursillistas, especially those living in rural areas of the Diocese facing numerous life challenges. For younger Cursillistas who struggle to balance demands. For Cursillo leaders that their care and concern remain current and relevant to issues being faced in the world today.

**Edmonton** - For continued renewal and revival and the raising of leaders for the Secretariat and weekends.

**Niagara and Huron** – Upcoming CLW in spring 2021. CoEd Weekend November 12—14, 2021.

**NS & PEI—**For positive response to the CoEd weekend as the date is discerned and for an energized team and preparations for the Triennial Conference in 2022.

**Qu'Appelle—**For a greater commitment to our 4<sup>th</sup> day life as Cursillistas.

## **DON'T FORGET:**

**Servant Community and Leaders School** for your training purposes—Simply visit [www.anglicancursillo.org](http://www.anglicancursillo.org) and go to **Guidelines / Helpful Hints** (Guidelines are listed alphabetically) for you to download, copy and distribute.



**ULTREYA!!**

**"BEHOLD, I AM DOING A NEW THING" Isaiah 43:19**

June 22—24, 2018—Triennial Theme



**THIS PANDEMIC HAS  
CHALLENGED US  
AND CHANGED US!!**

**BEHOLD, A NEW THING!**

*Artwork: Brenda Reid, Ottawa*

Have you ever had a plan that didn't go quite as you wanted? I am sure you have. Well, 2020 has, without a doubt, been the year that didn't go as anyone had wanted. In March, just hours before our CACS team was making its way to the airport to meet the hosts in Halifax, Nova Scotia, our leaders said "STOP—DON'T GO ANYWHERE!" We returned our tickets for credits and we held our breath—waiting for a few weeks—and this would be over. Certainly, by the fall, everything would be back to normal. I am sure you remember where you were when you heard those words.

Now—here we are- just days before Christmas and we are waiting for the first doses of a vaccine to be administered with hope that 2021 will be the year that 'the new thing' will be a new normal. We have hope. The Theme of the Triennial Conference in 2018 was right on!

But why should we be surprised? We are Easter people! We are Cursillistas! We are chosen to be leaders in our communities and we have been blessed with grace. We are His!

Continued.....

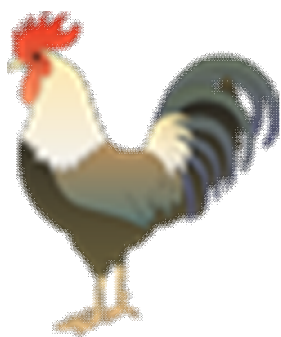


Your 2018– 2021 Chair



### Chair—Marion Bailey

My Fourth Day began in March 1995 in the Diocese of Niagara. I attend Grace Anglican Church in Brantford, where I serve as I am able. I am wife, mom, step-mom, daughter, sister, sister-in-law, aunty, gramma and friend. My role as a wife has been altered as I care for my husband who has dementia. I count every blessing, every day, and I am amazed how my environment has changed and how much I have learned since 2015.



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Again, I am reminded and reassured by Joshua 1:9—*"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."* This was the scripture reading that encouraged Bishop Rob Hardwick as he rode his bicycle across Canada and is truly an example I look up to as I bend and stretch as I am pushed to my limits (an I think, sometimes, beyond).

The CACS meetings for this year (and into next year) were virtual. Quite frankly, I had never heard of Zoom before March 2020 and the idea of meeting virtually was mind boggling for me. *YIKES! I am a senior! What do I know about Zoom?* In the back of my mind I remember someone saying we should look into the technology of meeting over the internet. But now???

Well, CACS purchased a Zoom license and we have met. We have grouped. We have discussed. We are pleased with the work accomplished. We held the first Virtual Cursillo Learners Workshop by Zoom in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and we plan another CLW in the spring in Niagara and Huron.

So—we are not surprised when we hear from you that you have experienced the same turmoil, frustration, and trepidation. You have also been challenged to postpone, cancel, meet and group virtually and you have met for Ultreya virtually. Many of you are involved with your Diocesan Synods and they have also met virtually.

Your reports of postponement, rather than cancellation are full of hope. Some of you have booked the date for your 2021 Weekend! Good for you! It is heart-warming to hear of your perseverance. Some of you have found that you now have a method to reach out to folks you couldn't connect with before in person, but are able to connect virtually. Could this be 'a new thing'? For sure!

I know I am not alone, when I say that a virtual meeting is just not the same. The CACS meetings, just like a CLW, and like an Ultreya—or the foundation of Cursillo, for that matter—are built on personal relationships. These are the gifts that God gave humanity that just cannot be explained or replicated. We must cherish these gifts and when we are able, resume the personal way of life, never forgetting that these gifts are from Him and should not be taken for granted.

Blessings and Ultreya!!  
Marion Bailey  
CACS Chairperson, 2018-2021