

## What Is Cursillo?

The Emmaus story provides the image for Cursillo, a program that calls forth and renews Christian discipleship. Cursillo de Cristiandad (Spanish for short course in Christianity), or Cursillo in the Louisiana Conference of the United Methodist Church, is a three day experience which looks at Christianity as a lifestyle from a New Testament perspective. It is a highly structured weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people, and through them, their families, congregations, the world in which they live. Cursillo is a combined effort of laity and clergy toward the renewal of the church.

## What Happens At Cursillo?

Cursillo is a 72-hour experience. The weekend begins on Thursday evening and ends Sunday afternoon. At Cursillo, you will spend three busy, but very enjoyable days at a retreat center. You will live and study together in singing, prayer, worship, and discussion. Discussions are held on talks given by laity and United Methodist clergy. These talks present a theme of God's grace and how that grace comes alive in the Christian community and expresses itself in the world. You'll also discover how grace is real in your life, and how you can live the life of grace, bringing grace to others. You will have the opportunity to participate in daily celebration of Holy Communion, and to begin to understand more fully the presence of Christ in his body of believers. You will experience God's grace personally through the prayers and acts of service of a living support community.

## What Happens After Cursillo?

One of the primary strengths of Cursillo is the follow-up. Your weekend lasts only three days, but you are invited to build on it for the rest of your life.

Those who attend Cursillo are encouraged to do two things after their weekend experience:

- Expand their own spiritual lives through study and congregational participation.
- Become more active disciples of Christ in the world through their church.

To nurture this process, Cursillo offers specific opportunities. First, Reunion Groups meet weekly to reflect on their quest for spiritual growth and to encourage each other in their discipleship. Second, there are monthly meetings, called Ultreyas, for people in a particular Cursillo community to meet for fellowship and worship.

## Who Should Go To Cursillo?

Cursillo is for the development of Christian leaders who:

- Wish to strengthen their spiritual lives;
- May have unanswered questions about prayer, study and sharing their faith;
- Understand that being a Christian involves responsibility.

## Are You Interested?

We invite you to join in a refreshing weekend spent meeting Jesus as he comes to you through other Christians.

Please complete the application and return it to the person who gave it to you, otherwise known as your Sponsor. They will be able to give you more information on upcoming Cursillo weekend dates

## Louisiana United Methodist Cursillo



## A Journey With Christ

The Gospel of St. Luke relates the story of the risen Christ appearing to two who were going along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. This was a heart-warming experience as Jesus walked and talked with them. The illuminating climax came when Jesus took the bread and said the blessing, then broke it and gave it to them. The two had their eyes opened and recognized him as the risen Christ and rushed back to Jerusalem to tell the others. (Luke 24:13-35)