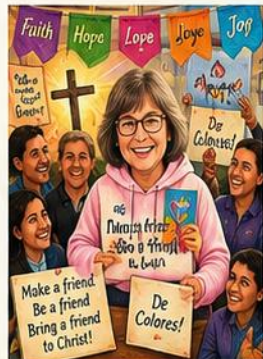


## Message from Your Chairman

### Get Your Cursillo Spirit Moving in the Heartland!

Exciting things are happening in Heartland Episcopal Cursillo! New churches are sponsoring Ultreyas, and our Cursillo weekends are back. Now is the perfect time to share your Cursillo journey with a friend or church member—tell your story, invite someone in, and let the spark of Christ's love grow.



Join us for Ultreya on September 26 at Christ Church in Springfield. Come share your Cursillo experience, reconnect with friends, and encourage one another in faith.

Please keep our candidates and team members in prayer as we prepare for the October 16–18 Cursillo weekend. And mark your calendar for Closura on October 18 at 2:30 p.m. at Heartland Retreat Center in Parkville, Missouri. We would love to see you there!

Finally, prayerfully consider becoming part of Heartland Cursillo leadership. With today's technology, our Secretariat commitment is about an hour to an hour and a half each month by Zoom, and you can choose how much more you would like to do. We need your leadership, your voice, and your story. Help us keep the Cursillo spark glowing until it becomes a beautiful fire throughout the Heartland.

*"Make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ."*

De Colores!

*Roberta Coons*

Roberta Coons  
Heartland Chairman, 2026



## Why Cursillo Matters to Me — And Why This Weekend Matters

By Raja Reed

Lay Rector, Heartland Episcopal Cursillo Weekend 2026

Cursillo has become much more to me than a weekend experience. It has become part of how I live out my faith and understand Christian community.

Through serving on the Heartland Cursillo Secretariat, serving as a district representative for Episcopal Cursillo Ministry at the national level, and now having the privilege of serving as Lay Rector for our October 16–18 Heartland Episcopal Cursillo Weekend, I have seen again and again the power of this movement to bring people together, renew faith, develop Christian leaders, and remind us that we do not walk our Christian journey alone.

Our theme for this year's weekend is **Hearts on Fire**, inspired by the disciples on the road to Emmaus who asked, "Were not our hearts burning within us?" (Luke 24:32). That is my prayer for every pilgrim who attends—that somewhere during the weekend, through worship, talks, music, fellowship, prayer, palanca, or simply a conversation around a table, they encounter Christ in a way that sets their heart on fire.

And now I am asking my fellow Cursillistas to help us make that possible. We currently have ten pilgrims registered for the weekend, and we would love to **welcome at least five more**.

Think about the people in your parish and in your life. Is there someone who would benefit from a weekend devoted to Christian community, spiritual renewal, prayer, fellowship, and discovering more deeply how God is calling them to live their faith?

### Ask them. Invite them. Sponsor them.

Sometimes all it takes is one Cursillista saying, "I think you would really enjoy this, and I would like to sponsor you."

We also need sponsors who will walk alongside our pilgrims—not only helping them get to the weekend, but praying for them and supporting them as they enter their Fourth Day.

Those of us who have experienced Cursillo know what this movement can mean. Now it is our responsibility to share it.

### We have ten pilgrims. Let's find five more.

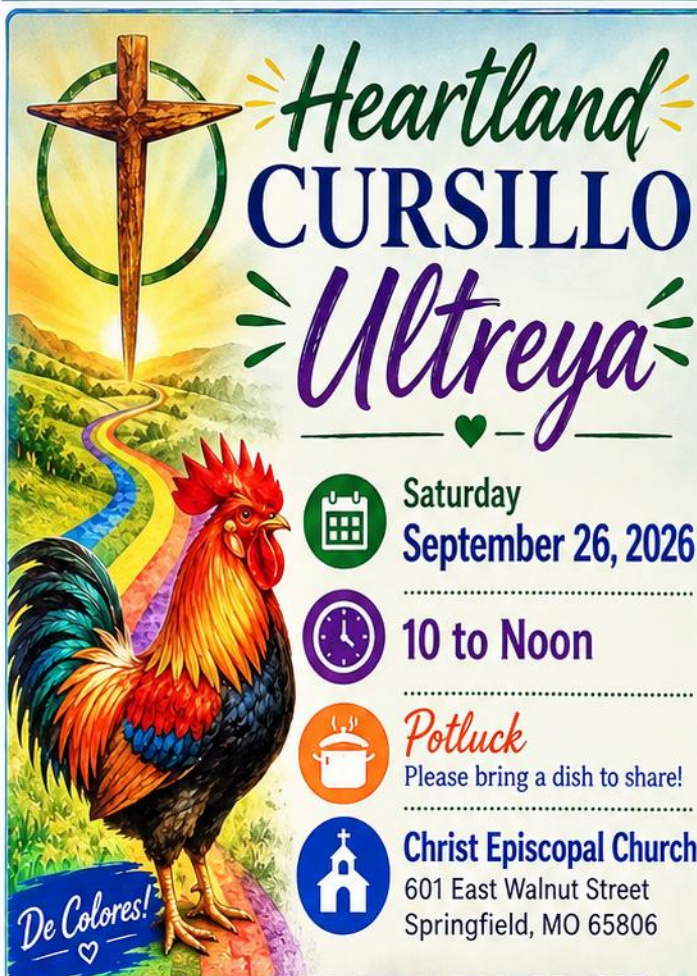
Let's fill those tables. Let's pray for our team and pilgrims. And let's make October 16–18 a weekend when new hearts are set on fire for Christ.

Who is the person God may be asking you to invite?

De Colores!

*Raja Reed*





# Heartland CURSILLO Ultreya

**Saturday**  
**September 26, 2026**

**10 to Noon**

**Potluck**  
Please bring a dish to share!

**Christ Episcopal Church**  
601 East Walnut Street  
Springfield, MO 65806

De Colores!

*Ultreya Topic for Discussion:*

**What does the Cursillo movement mean to you?**



♥ Please join us and bring a friend! ♥

➤ Come for the fellowship. ♥ Leave inspired to make a difference. ➤

## A Call for Palanca

**Heartland Episcopal Cursillo Weekend • October 16–18, 2026**

Heartland Episcopal Cursillo is getting ready for a weekend of faith, fellowship, renewal, and joy! From October 16–18, 2026, pilgrims and team members from across the Diocese of West Missouri and the Diocese of Kansas will gather for our upcoming Cursillo Weekend.

As we prepare, we are asking every parish to help surround this weekend—and especially our pilgrims and team—with palanca and prayer.

### What is Palanca?

Palanca is a Spanish word meaning “lever.” In Cursillo, it represents the prayer, sacrifice, encouragement, and acts of love that help lift and support another person in their journey with Christ. Palanca reminds our pilgrims that they are not making this journey alone: the wider Body of Christ is praying for them, encouraging them, and walking beside them.

### How Can Your Parish Help?

We would love to receive wall palanca from your parish—posters, banners, cards, letters, artwork, or other colorful expressions of prayer and encouragement that can be displayed throughout the weekend.

Please pray for our pilgrims, our team, our clergy and lay leadership, and all those preparing to serve. If your parish would like to contribute wall or physical palanca, or if you have questions about the best way to collect and get your palanca to us, please contact Raja Reed at [rajareed@gmail.com](mailto:rajareed@gmail.com) or 816-984-9770.

Let’s surround this weekend in prayer, love, and encouragement. **De Colores!**

## Weekend Resources

Helpful links for candidates, sponsors, and Cursillistas preparing for the October weekend.

-  [2026 Cursillo Weekend Application](#)
-  [2026 Weekend Trifold](#)
-  [ECM Recruiting Slides](#)

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Raja Reed  
(816) 984-9770  
[rajareed@gmail.com](mailto:rajareed@gmail.com)



**October 16–18, 2026**

Heartland Episcopal Cursillo Weekend  
Friday evening through Sunday afternoon  
Heartland Retreat Center • Parkville, Missouri

*Come discover Christ. Come build lasting friendships.*

➤ Come for the fellowship. ♥ Leave inspired to make a difference. ➤