

What is Cursillo

Cursillo [pronounced Kur-see-yo] was designed to revitalize the church through providing opportunity to deepen one's personal relationship with Christ. This program is designed to worship God, equip one to live more joyfully and effectively as a follower of Christ, to grow in our faith and walk with the Lord. Cursillo models how to care for each other in a Christian environment by living and sharing the love of Christ. This enables individuals to spread God's word to the people you interact with on a daily basis. Cursillo is different from most Christian retreats or conferences as it has also developed an ongoing program where members enjoy a continued Christian community of love and encouragement.



Purpose of Cursillo

Cursillo is an instrument of renewal. Cursillo attempts to provide a means for men and women of the church to persevere in the Christian life no matter what comes their way. Those who attend Cursillo should view their primary purpose in life as becoming more like Jesus so they can alter and change their world. Cursillo seeks to do this by providing opportunities for men and women to come to a fuller understanding of their relationship with Christ, the Church and their own unique mission in life. Thus Cursillo provides a means for continuing the Christian formation that begins when a person made his/her commitment to Jesus. Cursillo is designed to help each person grow in their assurance that they know Jesus and His amazing grace, and in the process, better understand what Jesus expects from them.

Attending a Weekend

Your involvement in Cursillo must begin with a basic understanding of the teachings of Jesus Christ. The weekend is geared for those 18 years of age and older. Married couples are encouraged but not required to attend together. You will need a sponsor to attend the weekend. A sponsor is a person who has attended a prior Cursillo weekend, is grounded in faith and dedicated to the objectives of the Cursillo movement. If you need help in finding a sponsor, contact your Pastor or send an email to our email address listed in Contact Us or visit our website centraliowacursillo.org.

The three-day weekend begins on Thursday evening and concludes on Sunday evening. There will be opportunities to worship, share communion, listen to presentations by pastors and lay-people and engage in small-group discussions. Cursillo weekends are lay person-led, with spiritual support and guidance from pastors. As the weekend progresses, most people experience the Christian community Jesus had in mind, as participants share laughter, fellowship and unconditional love.

History of Cursillo

Cursillo is open to people of all denominations who believe in Jesus. It was designed by a group of laymen and Roman Catholic priests in Spain to formulate a method to help renew the church in the 1940's. They called it Cursillo or a 'short course' in fundamental teachings of Jesus as lived out with other Christians. In the 1950's, Cursillo migrated from Latin America to the United States, and from its Catholic roots to many other denominations. The laypeople of Reformed Church of America in Central Iowa adapted the program with the support of the Lutheran Church in the 1980's and we continue to renew our approach while remaining true to the Cursillo method.

When and where is Cursillo held

The Central Iowa Cursillo begins on Thursday evening, and ends on Sunday evening, at the handicapped accessible NEISCS - Northeast Iowa Christian Service Camp, Dumont, Iowa. Visit our website for upcoming events.



Visit our website

centraliowacursillo.org

Contact Us

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact Cursillo News at cicursillo@gmail.com

A Short Course in
Christian Living



Cursillo

Three Days That Last a Lifetime

Revised 4/2025