



Texoma Emmaus Community

The two then explained to them what had happened on the road, and how they had recognized the Lord when he broke the bread. Luke 24:35

NEWSLETTER NEWS:

Don't forget to get your email information into the database so you will continue to get the newsletter electronically. Go to www.texomaemmaus.org to enter your email address. If you need to receive a paper newsletter please send your mailing information to:

**Texoma Emmaus
P.O. Box 665
Sherman, Texas 75091**

Walks for 2010

Women's Walk #70

Lay Director: Barbara Hanson

Feb. 18-21

Men's Walk #69

Lay director: Wayne Eitel

March 18-21

Women's Walk #71

Lay Director: Nannette Edwards

Aug. 12-15

Men's Walk #72

Lay Director: Cole Jennings

Sept. 30- Oct. 3

**For information about
registration, call Lanna
Jackson, Registrar, at**

903-587-2094

A Message from the Chair

Second Quarter 2010

To all in the Texoma Emmaus Community,

Greetings from one who loves you in Christ! I am writing this letter not too long after the conclusion of the Walk 70 weekend, and I continue to remember the warm witnessing of the pilgrims at Closing. I wish to again extend to them a hearty welcome to our community and to our calling.

I truly find joy in my work as a physician and in the many people I see every day. However, there are times when a patient of mine has nothing but bad news to hear and I am the one that has to tell them. Some situations are less difficult to speak of because of the potential good outcomes, but others are just plain hard when there appear to be only "horrible" and "slightly less than horrible" options available. Over the years, I have found it better to be totally honest with people and their families, even with the most difficult of news. That being said, however, I always try to leave at least a glimmer of hope to hang on to when the times get rough. I tell you this because our community is not well. Earlier this year, I wrote on behalf of the Board to make you aware of this and we had a good response from you and had a great Walk as a result. Thank you! We need more of what we just saw. However, the Board is concerned about having to rally the community each time there is a Walk, especially when a good many of us remember waiting lists for both Men's and Women's Walks.

Participation at Gatherings and 4th Day events is generally down and this consequently leads to reduced Pilgrim sponsorship. It is difficult to know for sure, but I would dare say that less than half of our current members participate in a Reunion Group. The Board is aware that 2010 can be a rebuilding year, or another year in the downward trend in participation and Walks. We are listening to you and praying for His guidance. What we offer you is our pledge to increase efforts to communicate opportunities for you to participate as well as make it easier for you to communicate with us. We will be returning to paper newsletters at least twice a year. Also, Phil Reyes is continuing the fine work of his wife, Lisa, in honing the database to be more helpful. While he and Lisa have been working to clean up inaccurate information about you, he is assigning one person in each church to help coordinate the membership from that local congregation, keep up with their data, rally them when necessary, and maybe even locate and pray for people who might be blessed as future pilgrims. Your church contact can also communicate with the Board and be a useful conduit for comment.

Ultimately, we are here to do His bidding; more specifically, we are here to help grow church leaders through the Emmaus experience. We can only do this with your help. All of us must remember that our own Emmaus experience did not occur without the participation of others, and the Board asks that you participate so that others may be blessed as well!

DeColores,

David Reynolds

Chair, TEC Board

Fundraising



As the newly appointed chairman of the fund raising committee I'm asking for your help!

After taking inventory of our "shirts and stuff", I need your feedback as to what you would like to see "for sale" in the "Emmaus Store." Thanks to last year's chairman, Jerry Pederson, we have great inventory of assorted t-shirts. Unfortunately, there are very few duplicates. So if you are into dressing like your partner for Emmaus events and wanting to buy something from our store to make this happen, it probably won't happen. We have approximately

100 t-shirts in various sizes that we need to work through as soon as possible to make room for newer designs. So watch for a huge sale on these at future events.

We do have a new supply of long sleeve, high quality denim shirts with embroidered rainbow and DeColores on the front and Texoma Emmaus Community heatset on the sleeve. These are a one-time purchase and a bargain at \$39.00 each while they last.

We also have an adequate supply of new gun-metal gray "Gone Fishing" t-shirts reasonably priced at \$15.00 for traditional sizes and \$20.00 for King Tut sizes!

Obviously, we as a community cannot rely solely on the Emmaus store to raise the funds to be able to provide needed scholarships to pilgrims or to meet other expenses. At one point in time, it was suggested if everyone would donate \$12.00 per year or \$1.00 a month we would have more than enough funds to operate for the entire year. What do you think? Can you afford that amount? Can you afford more? Just as you do in your own church, ask yourself what you can do financially to help our Emmaus community. A little from everyone will go a long way!! More on this fund drive later.

Finally, I consider it an honor to be able to serve you and our Lord and look forward to your feedback and support.

DeColores,

Ronnie Cole

SOUTH KOREAN TRIP

Darold and I (Barbara) Meyer have been blessed to be able to go on a trip to South Korea April 5th through April 17th. In 2006 twelve couples came here from South Korea. The women went on a walk in Denton and the men went on walk #54 at our community. Six couples came again last October and went on walks in the Dallas and Denton Community. So they wanted to host 10 Emmaus members from the Dallas, Denton, and Texoma Community in their country. All of the reunion groups in all three communities are invited to send agape with us for their walks which we will be attending when we are there. So if any of you would like to send any agape from our community, please give it to any board member by March 27, which is the day of our board meeting or call me and I will pick it up. I am so sorry that I am so slow at notifying you, but I just found out about it yesterday when we had our first meeting with the other eight that will be going with us. I also have prayer vigil sheets that you can download and have your reunion group or church sign to pray for us and the walks and communities in South Korea. Make two pray vigils, one for the women's walk and one for the men's walk. We will have them posted at their walks. There are no times on them, just pray whenever you want, sign them and put your city behind your name. Please get them back to a board member by March 27 or mail them to me, so I can receive them by April 2nd.



Mr. & Mrs. Darold Meyer

10560 NW Hwy. 11

Whitewright, Texas 75491

If you have any questions call me at 903-364-2299 (home) or 214-356-8628(cell).

Thank you for your time and prayers.

De Colores

Barbara Meyer

Vice Chair & Team Selection

Dear Community,

I have a new position on the board this year and am very excited about the opportunity! As board vice chair I lead the team selection committee. I wanted to share how a person can come to serve as a conference room team member. It helps to be seen as active in the community in any number of possible ways. 4th Day service demonstrates support and a desire to be involved. Supporting walk set up, take down, send off, candle light, closing, or the prayer vigil would help for example. Joining us at gatherings and follow ups is another way to be engaged. Coming out to be a prayer partner as a fourth day member for a conference room team is another way. Sponsoring pilgrims, we always need them don't we?!? You get the idea. I am sure to have left out something but in general let us see you helping us then we begin to understand your desire to serve. Chas are 4th Day support, but there for the entire weekend in support of the conference room team and the pilgrims. Agreeing to serve in this manner is one of the first opportunities to serve as a gateway to serving on a conference room team. The position of assistant table leader would be the first conference room team position most would be asked to serve. Being a musician could be another. After that, the team selection committee and the Lay Director collaborate on the remaining positions to be filled. The goal then is to be cognizant of progression through the positions so as to grow the experience level of the person serving. There would be a good mix of first time and second time table leaders as well as assistant lay directors for example. At all times prayer for God's will and guidance should drive this effort.

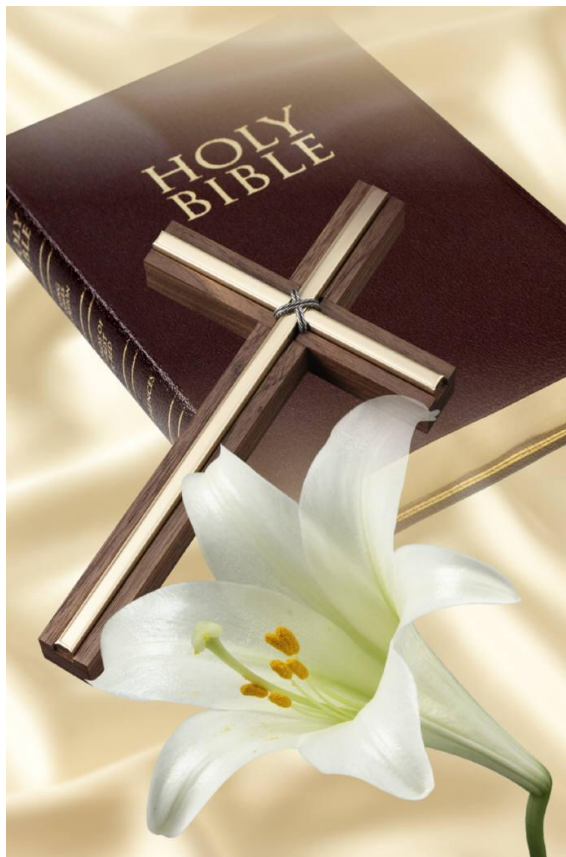
I hope this helps you understand how teams are put together. I imagine we are always at risk of overlooking a person who desires to serve. Please know that I welcome hearing from you regarding this. If you want to serve and have not been called, or if you know of somebody else that has shared that desire but not been given the opportunity let me know. There are only so many positions, but I would love to hear from you so we know who is excited to serve. So all of that said, you can also contact me with questions and comments at barrye@waymark.net.

De Colores!

Barry Ebersberger

Team Selection Chair and Board Vice Chair

Secretary & Historian



I am the Secretary and the Historian for our community. I bring the albums of all the walks that we have had to all the gatherings. The first walk of Texoma Emmaus Community was in September of 1995. It is so fun to look back and find your walk. This is also a good way to try to reconnect with some of the others that were on your walk. If you can't remember some of the names, you can look at the pictures with the names under them. Then you can go to the data base and find out their phone number and email address.

The board is trying to find ways to help us get some new enthusiasm and excitement back in our community. Do you remember the joy, and love and peace that you felt after your walk? This last weekend I was blessed to be on the team of Walk # 70. I once again felt some of same feelings that I had on own walk. I felt God's love and forgiveness, and

the peace that only God can give. I would like to invite each one of you to come to the gatherings, and get involved with 4th Day events. Then you may be able to serve on a team. It is a blessing to see God work in the lives of the pilgrims and to once again feel that love, joy, and peace that you felt on your own walk. Let's all try and think of people we know that we could bless by sponsoring them to go on a walk. That is the best gift you can give them.

DeColores

Barbara Meyer

Fourth Day

Dear Community,

As I sit looking at the job ahead that is Walk 69, I'm struck by how much change we have gone through over the past two years. Some changes have gone largely unnoticed, some changes have been long sought and joy-filled...others...not so much. Change is good. It keeps things fresh and challenging. I think the Board will do a better job in explaining the changes that have taken place and those that are coming. Just know that we are working hard to get our community headed back in the right direction. In the mean time, we ask for your trust and your patience. We, like our church homes, are susceptible to the "that's not how we do things around here" attitude. Grace and love is all that is needed to overcome the discombobulated feelings that come with change.

My pleas for help have been answered to a large degree. The struggle is still takedown. Don't get me wrong, we had some very dedicated community members come early for takedown on Walk 70 but they left us (rightly so) to attend closing because they were Sponsors or loved ones of Team members. That left a gap of about two hours of chaos for myself and two other helpers. We got a lot accomplished but at a hefty price of back pain. The CHA Team of Walk 70 made things much easier for us by doing an awesome packing job before the 4th Day Team arrived. They easily saved us two hours of takedown. I can't remember a harder working team of CHAs. They are a real blessing to this community. Still, some help between 4:00 and 6:30 was needed. I will be sending out an extra email recruiting help for that particular time period for Walk 69. It seems that no one goes to the camp anymore unless they are a Sponsor or have a loved one on the team. That's unfortunate. I remember the early days of the community. We always had 400 to 500 at Candlelight and 300 at closing. We went to share in the experience...to remember our Walk...to catch up with those who lived in other cities that we otherwise wouldn't get to see. I miss those days. Like I said before...some changes are joy-filled...others...not so much. I pray that we can get back to the days of not only full Walks but full Candlelights. Those were the days. We shared the joy, we shared the burdens and we shared in the Body. Good times y'all...good times.

De Colores,

Chris Givens

4th Day

Spiritual Director

“My name is Beth Kellner Besterfeldt and I took my Walk to Emmaus with the Dallas community on Walk #108 (still don’t remember when that was) where I sat at the Table of Sarah.”

We’ve used these familiar words of introduction when we introduce ourselves to the community. Not only do they identify us as members of the Emmaus community, they also identify us as people who have walked with Christ down the Emmaus road.

You do remember the story of the first disciples who met Jesus on the Emmaus road, don’t you? You remember hearing how Jesus walked with them and talked with them and taught them and broke the bread for them. It is a powerful story and one we have had the opportunity to share in as we met Jesus on our Walk to Emmaus.

You do remember your Walk to Emmaus, don’t you? Of course you do—you remember all the food and the fellowship and the friendships made. But that wasn’t all the weekend was about. As wonderful as all that food and all the wonderful friendships may have been, that wasn’t what happened.

On our weekend we met the risen Christ. On our weekend we saw Jesus in the breaking of the bread. On our weekend we were empowered to be Christ’s hands and feet in the world.

The good news for us is that our Walk didn’t end at closing. Daily we are able to walk with Christ. Daily we are able to hear his teachings. Daily we are able to see Christ in the breaking of the bread. Daily we are empowered to be Christ’s hands and feet in the world.

It is my great joy to be the new Spiritual Director for the Texoma Emmaus Community in this coming year (years?). I look forward to sharing this walk with you. I look forward to sharing with you as we continue to be Christ’s hands and feet in the world.

DeColores

Beth Kellner Besterfeldt

Spiritual Director

