

# Texoma Emmaus Community

February-March 2007

*And 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*

## Walks for 2007

Women's Walk # 58	February 22-25	Lay Director: Diane Strickland
Men's Walk # 59	March 29-April 1	Lay Director: Billy Coburn
Women's Walk # 60	September 13-16	Lay Director: Janet Cooley
Men's Walk #61	October 25-28	Lay Director: Randy Bush

For information about registration, call Brenda Jones, Registrar, at 903-436-2410

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### NEWSLETTER NEWS:

Due to the rising costs of the newsletter, the newsletter will be printed once a quarter. Beginning in 2008, the newsletter will be a free subscription. If you would like to continue receiving the newsletter by regular mail, please take the time to fill out the subscription form and mail to Newsletter c/o Texoma Emmaus Community, P.O. Box 665, Sherman, TX 75091-0665 or return the form to an Emmaus board member. We want everyone who reads the newsletter to continue to receive it, but want to eliminate excess by utilizing our webpage and emails to save cost.

### MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON

I wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Another year has past, one in which we finished with two full walks in the Fall. The community did a great job getting pilgrims. Keep up the good work! Remember, full walks pay for themselves.

Your Texoma Emmaus Board is dedicated to representing the community and helping it to grow. We continue to make improvements at the Baptist camp. One being the move of the Chapel to the Agape room and moving all CHA related activities to one room located between the conference room and the team room.

A big thank you to the outgoing board members for their service over the last few years. Thanks go to Margie Jackson, Michael Hansen, Diane Strickland, Marvin Smith, and Jerry Gill. And a great big welcome to our new board members, Karen Howarton, Kathy Paxton, Lisa Reyes, and Jeff Smith. And, thank you to all that help the Texoma Emmaus Community with your time and support.

I would like to thank the board members for having enough faith in me to elect me as your Board Chairperson for 2007. Please pray for your board as we work to make this the best community it can be.

DeColores!

Debbie Murley, Board Chairperson

## BOARD MEMBERS

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### 4<sup>th</sup> Day Team News

Happy New Year! We have four walks in 2007. Come out and help us, you will love the experience. You too can be the hands and feet of Christ. We have scheduled the first two Team Meetings! For Diane Strickland's Women's Walk #58 we will meet at 9:00am on February 10 in the Howe FUMC. For Billy Coburn's Men's Walk #59 we will meet at 9:00am on March 17 in the Bells FUMC. Come join us to plan our work and you will make new friends, strengthen old friendships, get you very own prayer partner, share in our communion service and generally improve your outlook on life. And I will treasure you and consider giving you a cross at the end of the quarter.

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** - We need a volunteer to take care of the candles and candle holders. The real ones that burn. The job includes bringing the items to Candlelight, helping the ushers pass them out, collecting them after the service, salvaging & cleaning the good holders, asking the Supplies Chair to order more and then doing it all over again at the next Candlelight. This job is essential and the success of Candlelight depends on it getting done. Please call or email me if you would do this service for your Community.

**Thank you Jeff Edwards for your years and years of hard work doing this service. There aren't many, if any, better examples of anonymous servanthood.**

Watch for our emails which will remind you of upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> Day Team activities. If you are not getting them, email me and I will add you to the list. These activities are associated with and scheduled around the Walks. First we have a Team Meeting, usually two Saturdays before each Walk. There we get prayer partners with the Conference Room Team and plan our work. Next comes Set-Up which usually happens the Sunday before each Walk. Next we support Send Off and Sponsor's Hour on the Thursday evening starting each Walk. Then comes the fun one, Candlelight on Saturday evening. At the end we put it all away at Take Down on Sunday beginning while Closing is going on.

The last few months brought some of the worst days and many of the best things in my life. Among the best is the support and encouragement from our Community which has been both overwhelming and uplifting. Thank you, each and all of you, who lifted me up in your prayers, called, visited, sent flowers, brought gifts and helped Jan during the last two months. Seeing and receiving the loving response of our Community has shown me that most of us paid attention to that talk on discipleship. There is good news. The doctors believe there are no remaining cancers present in me. All the indications say the two cancers were confined to my bladder and prostate, both of which are now gone. They are confident to the point that only continued monitoring is planned. This means no chemo and no radiation therapies will be required. To me the recovery seemed to take forever, but after only two months I could to work each afternoon. The results of my surgery may appear to be tough, but there are many worse possible outcomes. And I had plenty of extra to cover the lost 40 pounds.

DeColores!

Fred Lehmann

4<sup>th</sup> Day Chair

## 2007 Dates to Remember

### JANUARY

- 6 Board Retreat  
Bells UMC 8a.m
- 20 Gathering  
Lakeway UMC 6:30 p.m.

### FEBRUARY

- 10 4<sup>th</sup> Day team Mtg.  
Howe FUMC 9 a.m.
- 11 Board Mtg.  
Van Alystne FUMC 2 p.m.
- 18 Set-up #58  
Lake Texoma 3 p.m.
- 22-25 Walk # 58

### MARCH

- 6 Follow-up #58  
Howe FUMC 6:30 p.m.
- 17 4<sup>th</sup> Day team Mtg.  
Bells FUMC 9 a.m.
- 18 Board Mtg.  
Van Alystne FUMC 2 p.m.
- 21 Newsletter Deadline
- 25 Set-up #59  
Lake Texoma 3 p.m.
- 29-1 Walk # 59

### APRIL

- 10 Follow-up #58  
Bells FUMC 6:30 p.m.
- 21 Board Mtg.  
Bells FUMC 4 p.m.
- 21 Gathering  
Bells FUMC 6:30 p.m.

### MAY

- 21 Board Mtg.  
Grace UMC Sherman 4 p.m.
- 21 Gathering  
Grace UMC Sherman 6:30 p.m.

### JUNE

- 16 Lay Director Training  
Allen H.S. 8a.m.-Noon
- 16 Board Mtg.
- 20 Newsletter Deadline
- 23 Gathering  
Crosspoint Bapt. McKinney 6:30 p.m.

### JULY

- 21 Board Mtg.  
Whitesboro FUMC 4 p.m.
- 21 Gathering  
Whitesboro FUMC 6:30 p.m.

### AUGUST

- 18 Board Mtg.  
Trenton FUMC 4 p.m.
- 18 Gathering  
Trenton FUMC 6:30 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER

- 9 Set-up #60  
Lake Texoma 3 p.m.
- 13-16 Walk # 60
- 19 Newsletter Deadline
- 23 Board Mtg.  
Blue Ridge FUMC 4 p.m.
- 25 Follow-up #60  
Van Alystne FUMC 6:30 p.m.

### OCTOBER

- 14 Board Mtg.  
Howe FUMC 2 p.m.
- 21 Set-up #61  
Lake Texoma 3 p.m.
- 25-28 Walk # 61
- NOVEMBER
- 6 Follow-up #61  
Sherman Bible 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Board Mtg.  
Stonebridge UMC McKinney 4 p.m.
- 17 Gathering  
Stonebridge UMC McKinney 6:30 p.m.
- 30 Ballot Deadline for Board Election

### DECEMBER

- 8 Board Mtg.  
Van Alystne FUMC 4 p.m.
- 8 Gathering  
Van Alystne FUMC 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Newsletter Deadline

### JANUARY 2008

- 5 Board Retreat  
Lakeway UMC 8a.m
- 19 Board Mtg.  
Anna FUMC 4 p.m.
- 19 Gathering  
Anna FUMC 6:30 p.m.

## Team Members for Spring Walks

### Women's # 58

Diane Strickland-Lay Director  
Debbie Murley-ALD  
Barbara Hansen-ALD  
Jan Lehmann-ALD  
Sam Campbell-SD  
Jerry Colgrove-ASD  
Peggy Teague-ASD  
Charlie Hahn-ASD  
John Johnson-ASD  
Janet Nelson-TL  
J'Net Chambers-TL  
Debra Oldham-TL  
Lanna Jackson-TL  
Marianna Perkins-TL  
Kelli Clouse-TL  
Sherry Gaskill-ATL  
Jamie Haid-ATL  
Edie Howell-ATL  
Lois Bailey-ATL  
Beverly Condo-ATL  
TBA-ATL  
Patti Gardner-MD  
Betty Benjamin-AMD  
Kaye Campbell-AMD  
Brenda Jones-BR

### Men's #59

Billy Coburn-Lay Director  
Chester Reynolds-ALD  
Michael Hansen-ALD  
David Jordan-ALD  
Tom Lackey-SD  
Danny Gurley-ASD  
Jodi Smith-ASD  
Chuck Jestis-ASD  
Steve Simms-ASD  
Brian Gaskill-TL  
Charlie Phillips-TL  
Barry Ebersberger-TL  
John Bailey-TL  
Gary Perkins-TL  
Bob Oldham-TL  
Mark Rock-ATL  
Derek Roddy-ATL  
Brian Reilly-ATL  
Mel Camp-ATL  
Vernon Johnson-ATL  
Kelly Gough-ATL  
Jerry Reynolds-MD  
Steve Sloan-AMD  
Dave Hamrick-AMD  
Randy Bush-BR

## FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Dear Members of the Texoma Emmaus Community,

As we enter a new year of Emmaus activities, please permit me to reflect upon an essential but often misunderstood Emmaus concept. That concept is “anonymous servanthood.” It is a concept that is mentioned in the Emmaus literature as well as in various community settings, but what does “anonymous servanthood” mean?

In The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus we encounter these words: “Behind the scenes of the walk to Emmaus are many people supporting the weekend with acts of prayer, sacrifice, and service... The pilgrims are bound up by the embrace of the body of Christ through the Emmaus Community... the gradual realization of the extent of this undergirding... is truly an experience of the prevenient grace of God. People who serve in these behind-the-scenes support roles during the weekend are the channels of that grace. They offer themselves to God in the spirit of anonymous servanthood to be living agape to the pilgrims.

People working behind the scenes respect and honor the cloistered environment for the Conference Room Team and the new pilgrims experiencing the Walk. The behind-the-scenes people intentionally keep their distance and provide low-key service. They serve for the sake of serving and do so without needing to know the details of the conference room.

The basic guideline for persons serving in any of these support roles is to serve humbly, and invisibly, insofar as that is possible. These roles are exercises in anonymous servanthood. While the roles bring great personal satisfaction and are among the favorite avenues of service, they are not occasions for outward recognition by the team or by the pilgrims.”\*

All of us who serve on Emmaus teams, whether Conference Room Teams or Support Teams are there to be instruments of the Holy Spirit. Just as each of the fifteen Talks given on the Walk is important in its own right, but finds its full significance as part of the unified presentation, our work is important, but finds its full significance only as part of the complete weekend. All of us serve only in order that the Holy Spirit might work through us to bless the pilgrims. **(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

When you pray for people on a particular Walk, pray for the pilgrims individually, but pray for the team members, Conference Room and Support together, as a whole. Pray that the team may be bound together in love to do God's will as humble servants.

DeColores,

John D. Gondol

Community Spiritual Director

\*The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus, p.55.

Decolores &

Hey guys and gals,

It is shameless of me I know, but I wanted to let you know that I have indeed written a book and it is one that I hope will reach the world for Christ.

Please visit my website; take a look at the book; and then think of someone that you know could use a nudge.

[www.downsethike.net](http://www.downsethike.net)

thanks for the time.

In HIS service,  
Steve Morris

## NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

I /WE WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BEGINNING IN 2008 BY:

- \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL
- \_\_\_\_\_ WEBSITE
- \_\_\_\_\_ REGULAR MAIL
- \_\_\_\_\_ NOT AT ALL

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c/o Texoma Emmaus Community

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## Database Form

Texoma Emmaus Community  
Database Form

- Change of Address/Telephone/Church**
- Please add my name to the Texoma mailing list**
- Please remove my name from the TEC database. I do not wish to receive future mailings.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse=s name: \_\_\_\_\_ Has spouse attended Emmaus/Cursillo weekend? \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor=s name: \_\_\_\_\_

Church address: \_\_\_\_\_ Church phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Weekend you attended: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Database Update  
c/o Texoma Emmaus Community  
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