

Texoma Emmaus Community

Newsletter, July, 2013 Ed.

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

A message from the Board Chair—Steve Haid

• Newsletter news:

Please get your email information into the database to ensure continued electronic receipt of the newsletter.

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, Tx 75091

UPCOMING WALKS

Women's Walk 83
Jenny Reynolds—Lay Director
August 1-4, 2013

Men's Walk 84
Dub Hall—Lay Director
September 12-15, 2013

Many great things have happened in 2013, and we praise God for all the blessings He has bestowed on our Texoma Emmaus Community. Of course, the biggest blessing of all is the addition of 52 new Pilgrims to our community in the first half of 2013. We also returned to the Baptist Camp for the first time in years. With many improvements to the camp, this move has turned out to be a real blessing to our community. Moving to the camp also allowed us to reduce our registration fees by 25% and still have funds to be able to purchase much needed equipment and supplies for the Walks. We held our first Walk/Run 5k fundraiser this year, which was a lot of fun for all involved. Hopefully, this event will become an annual fundraiser, that grows each year as word spreads of the fun, fellowship, and good cause. We enjoyed two follow-ups and several Gatherings at churches throughout our community. These get-togethers are an important part of staying connected to the Community. If you have not attended one lately, I encourage you to make plans to do so soon. I assure you, you will be received with open arms, and you

will have a wonderful evening of fellowship.

God has been so good to us in the first half of 2013, and I know He has great things for us for the rest of the year. Team meetings are already underway for Women's Walk 83 coming up August 1st, and our Lay Director, Jenny Reynolds, and the Walk 83 Team are in joyful preparation for the Pilgrims of that Walk. Now is definitely the time to get your Pilgrim applications in for Walk 83. Our last Women's Walk was nearly full, I am prayerful that there will be a flood of sponsors for this Walk who want to make the Emmaus experience available to someone they care about. Dub Hall, Lay Director of Men's Walk 84, and his Team are also making plans for that Walk, which is coming up September 12th. I know God has great things in store for these two Walks. If you haven't ever sponsored a Pilgrim, or you haven't sponsored one in a while, what are you waiting for? It is easy and rewarding to share God's love in this way. If you have questions or need help with sponsoring, there is lot's

of information on our website www.texomaemmaus.org, or you can talk to any board member. All of our contact information in on the website, and any of us would be excited to hear from you.

Have a wonderful summer filled with rich blessings from God. Hope to see you soon.

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 NIV

If you would like to serve in an area, or have any questions, please contact any of the Board members.

Steve Haid Chair-
214-551-5281 sdhaid@sbcglobal.net

Charlie Philips—Vice Chair-
Team Selection
214-683-6508
cphilips@philipsandeperson.com

Samantha Parson Spiritual Director
940-368-9416 parson.sam88@yahoo.com

Carolyn Cherry 4th Day Team
903-814-0836
mommycarolyn2@yahoo.com

Erica Sweetin Treasurer
903-327-3303
ericacherec@yahoo.com

Ellen Walker
Secretary/Historian
903-463-1586
mikexellen@cablone.net

Marianne Brummett Acape
214-803-4484 mdbrummett@skytex.net

Gary Hinkle Literature
940-665-3990
hinkle038@gmail.com

Lynda Lewis Supplies
903-815-0719 lyndaclewis@yahoo.com

Robin Woodall Database
woodall13@me.com

Charles "Chuck" Shepard, Registrar
214-228-6767
ceshepard@hotmail.com

John Orozco Communications
903-267-1950
John.ozozco@tombean-isd.org

Darold Meyer Fundraising
903-364-2299
debjmeyer63@gmail.com

Lonnie Pointer Music
903-821-9808
circle9LP@yahoo.com

Norm Deis Follow-Up and Gatherings
903-421-4208
paradeis@cablone.net

J'Net Chambers Newsletter
214-491-1909
jnet1957@aol.com

A Message from our Vice-Chair—Charlie Philips

A CIRCUITOUS THOUGHT FROM THE VICE CHAIR

Recently while thinking about the saying "Idle hands are the devil's workshop" I pondered what then is an idle mind? After further, deep, meditation on the subject I resolved that an idle mind is simply not possible unless you are dead. Then I realized that none of the readers of this issue, of the most informative ecumenical publication ever to exist on the planet, are all, quite possibly, alive and not suffering from idle minds. Which then lead me to think about life, since my mind wasn't idle at all, and I was apparently experiencing life, which then lead me to postulate (a large word for thinking) that life is the leading cause of death. I'm sure by now you're wondering how the idle ramblings of a, somewhat twisted, mind could have anything to do with the Texoma Emmaus Community. In my mind the answer was easy, (in a somewhat point counterpoint presentation

style although I generally agree with my own thoughts and rarely engage in self argument) if life is the leading cause of death (because I said so) life must also be the leading cause of life in perpetuity {a fancy term for eternity (which is a big word and I often attempt to use big words, [see above] to make me look smarter than I actually am)}. So why is life the leading cause of life? Each of us has committed ourselves to attaining life after death. We have acknowledged that possibility only through the life of Jesus Christ, the life giving life or Jesus Christ. When I think of Emmaus I think of a gift of bringing someone else closer to Christ. A gift that keeps on giving as long as we remain faithful both to Christ and our community to make that gift possible to others. It is also the greatest gift that can be given, life. So with this small path of twisted and circuitous thought on life I would like to thank each of you for

being a part of the greatest gift that can be given and remind you to give it freely. These thoughts then lead me to be thankful for Jerry Reynolds, Mel and Kathy Camp, Ben Foytik, Dub Hall, Steve Haid and his lovely bride Jamie, Lonnie Pointer, Jenny Reynolds, Sherry Gaskill, Barbara and Michael Hanson, Dayle Roper and Fred Lehmann, the person most likely to understand the thought pattern of this article, for serving on team selection for the upcoming Fall Walks and to each of you who have graciously accepted an invitation to serve on either of those Walks and to assist in giving the greatest gift of all, life. All of which makes me wonder why I was thinking about idle hands.



Charles Philips

If you could take a trip anywhere in the world, where would it be? Who would go with you? What would you do?

I have several options myself – I love to travel, and my husband and daughter and I really explore the places we go. This summer we are not going very far – down to Galveston for a week while she attends a national dance competition. But I know we will savor the beach and scour the area around the convention center.

While you and I are enjoying our travels this summer, I hope we remember that our whole lives are a journey in the best destination ever – a place at the table of our Lord, laid at the feet of the throne of grace – eternity in the presence of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Eternal life begins today

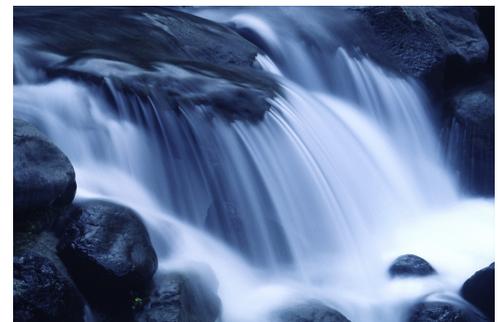
through our relationship with Jesus Christ. Sometimes when we get back from a trip we still need ‘a vacation from our vacation’ – we throw ourselves into that time apart with an enthusiasm that we don’t take with us into our everyday lives. We tend to ‘save up’ for the event – getting ready to spend our time, our money, our energy, our relational activity – all in that trip away from the everyday, as if we have to take time out from our lives in order to feel like we are actually living.

I think some of us may develop that kind of attitude about Emmaus events as well – that we ‘save up’ for the weekend – whether we work inside team, outside team, or sponsor a pilgrim – we are investing ourselves in the spiritual trip apart from our everyday lives. Do we real-

ly have to take time out from our daily lives in order to feel like we have a spiritual life? John 17:3 tells us, "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." The quality of our eternal life depends on the depth of our relationship today with our Father, through the Son, by the Holy Spirit. "I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation;" 2Corinthians 6:2b. May we remember to savor God’s presence in our present moments, and to scour the situations in our lives for signs of the new life that the Lord Jesus Christ intends for this day.

De Colores!

Pastor Sam



From our Agape Chair— Marianne Brummett

AGAPE, AGAPE, AGAPE!

We have two up coming walks!! Let's fill the pilgrims up with AGAPE!! Think back to the time you were a pilgrim. getting all that AGAPE!! You may not of worn it!! But, it was fun recieveing it!! It was neat to see all the different THINGS!! Let's show these future pilgrims the same kind of Agape Love!!

On the web site there is a tab that tells you 101 Ways to make Agape!! If you have a thought or idea on how to make something -- Try it!! Also, check out pinterest!! If you ever have any questions, just get in contact with me!! I love serving as YOUR Agape Board Rep!!

I pray you are all having a great summer!! Enjoy your families!!

From our Secretary/Historian—Ellen Walker

A Few Words from the Secretary,

I am so blessed to be on the Board working with such great people. During my first year, I thought things could not be better. I under estimated the power of God in all situations. This year the Texoma Emmaus Community moved to the Baptist Youth camp. There have been a few problems, but there have been more good solutions: the cost of the Walk is down, Pilgrim attendance is up and the food is outstanding. All of us need to remember that we are the hands and feet of Christ and our continued participation in the Community is one way of carrying out this mission.

Blessings,

Ellen Walker

From our Supply Chair—Linda Lewis

Supplies!!

As you know, supplies for each Walk are essential. Whether it is poster board, bags, glitter or spirals, each of these items play a small but important role during the course of the Walk. Once you put a bottle of sparkle, a marker and some pipe cleaners in a Pilgrim's hands, the Spirit moves and God works. Many items are necessary for each of our weekends and are purchased using camp fees and our gathering offerings. If you or your Reunion group would like to "adopt" a certain supply, let me know (lyndaclewis@yahoo.com) and we will plan for that gift. We have two Walks remaining for this year and I know God is planting great seeds for His harvest. May your Fourth Days be blessed as you serve!

From our Treasurer—Erica Sweetin

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. ~**Micah 6:8**

DeColores,

Erica Sweetin, Treasurer

From our Fundraising Chair—Darold Meyer

I served as board rep for Men's Walk #82; and I got some more shirts to sell at our gatherings. We had a Rooster Run to raise money for the community. It was a very successful event. I think we will make it an annual tradition and to do it again in the spring of next year.

I would like to remind all in the community to support the shirt sales. It is a good way to show support to new pilgrims for the community.

Darold Meyer,
Fundraising Chair

From our Communications Chair—John Orozco

It is time to update all the Reunion Groups within our Texoma Community. If you are currently meeting and your Reunion Group isn't listed, please send me an e-mail so that I can get it listed on the website so that others might join. Also, if you have a Reunion Group listed and you are no longer meeting, please notify me as well. As always, we want to encourage each of you to be actively involved in a Reunion Group as it is a great way to continue to make your fourth days more rewarding and to be involved in an accountability group.

DeColores,
John Orozco
Communications Chair



Pastor's Corner

Currently we are discerning the clergy Teams for 83 & 84 – please be in prayer for those positions, and if you are interested in service opportunities, please get in touch with me!

I will also be scheduling clergy to preside and assist with Candlelight for all 4 walks this year, and for gatherings if the Church Pastor at our site for the month is unable to do so.

All I need for you to do is:

1. Download an Emmaus clergy application from the website. (If it won't load on the Texoma site, then go to The UpperRoom and look under the Emmaus Resources.)
2. Complete the form and either send it as an attachment to me at: parson.sam88@yahoo.com - or snail mail it to me at 201 N. Parvin St., Prosper, TX 75078.
3. Be aware of our clergy expectations as good and faithful stewards: Emmaus Clergy Training will be held in conjunction with the Team Meetings that are so vital in building unity, relationship, and trust; at least 3 of the 5 clergy will need to stay the full weekend; and in partnership with the whole community and Team, budget accordingly for the weekend fee of \$150, plus any updated manuals needed (cost varies on this).
4. PRAY!! Pray, pray, pray that the Spirit will fall afresh in North Texas, that Emmaus will be an instrument of grace in our midst, that our churches will indeed grow up into the maturity of our only Lord and Savior.

I look forward to working with you as we all strive to build-up the Body of Christ in love.

Be encouraged!

Rev. Samantha Parson, Pastor
Cottage Hill & Chambersville UMC
940-368-9416
parson.sam88@yahoo.com

Dates to Remember

July 20, 2013 6:30 PM

GATHERING

Stonebridge UMC, McKinney

July 28, 2013 4:00 pm

SET UP –Women's Walk 83

Texoma Baptist Youth Camp

Aug 1-4, 2013

Women's Walk #83

Lay Director: Jenny Reynolds

Texoma Baptist Youth Camp

August 13, 2013 6:30 pm

FOLLOW UP

Women's Walk 83

Sherman Bible Church-Sherman

September 8, 2013

Set Up-Men's Walk 84

Texoma Baptist Youth Camp

From our 4th day Chair-Carolyn Cherry

Dear community, Our need for 4th day workers is always my focus for our community. Therefore I pray you make plans to be there for set up Sunday July 28th 4:00 PM at Lake Texoma Baptist Youth Camp. The camp is on the left side of the road just before the Prothro Camp Center. As you roll up your sleeves you are guaranteed to be blessed working with your brothers and sisters of the community. We will have many jobs at hand with this being our first set up after the youth camp has been in summer session, all of our things are in storage and will need to be a complete set up. Cha team leaders for the upcoming walks are: Correnda Cantrell and Kitchen Leader is Lanna Jackson. Are you interested? If you are interested in serving on a cha team or a kitchen team for a walk? Cha-ing although exhausting, is one of the most humbling and rewarding tasks you will ever experience at Emmaus. You will be blessed in your service my friends.

DeColores! Carolyn Cherry

4th Day Chair

From our Newsletter Chair-J'Net Chambers

Hear the Good News.....

The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Matthew 11:5

The news just don't get much better than this. Hope you are all enjoying the warmth of summer.

God's Peace be with you, J'Net

From our 4th Day Chair—Norm Deis

I love to worship. It recharges me, makes me more able to see God's will for me. Sunday mornings are precious as the fuel that powers my faith and my life. When I'm busy, over-scheduled, worship settles me, allows me to see how to make sense of this world by allowing me to see how God wants me to live.

I went to the May gathering with a sense that I was over-scheduled. Not only did I have the gathering to attend, I would be attending District Conference on Sunday, in Nocona, of all places. And I had just completed a week which left me tired and worn out. So I wasn't looking forward to my weekend.

I arrived early for the board meeting. Cindy and I brought a friend along to help with child care, an eighteen year old guy from our church. He and I talked about his coming entry into the US Navy and I was refreshed and heartened by his frankness and his sense of responsibility to his nation.

The board meeting began and I was drawn into the conversations and business of the meeting. I began to see, as I do at every board meeting, the caring and faithful work of the members of the board. And I was again lifted up.

Then people began to arrive for the meal. Conversations broke out. People helped set up the kitchen and food tables. New friends from the last two walks engaged me in conversation. I found myself interested and energized. My worries about my schedule and the expectations of the congregation evaporated and were replaced with a joy I couldn't explain.

The business of the evening was quickly done and we enjoyed a heartfelt and well-spoken talk by our fourth day speaker. And worship started. As the communion service went on, my petty concerns became less and less part of my thoughts. God had the audacity to intrude into my life! Praise His Holy Name!

My over-scheduled weekend went well and I found joy in much of the work I did. Sunday's worship continued to reinforce my status as a child of the Living God. And it all started because I attended Saturday's Gathering. We as a community are blessed with a fellowship of Christians found in few places outside our churches. Our fellowship has roots in the blessing we are to the Pilgrims we serve. We gather as God's community and we bless and are blessed. Thank God for our community. See you at the next gathering!

Norm Deis,
4th Day Chair

From our Data Base Chair—Robin Woodall

What exactly is a database?

Have you ever been in search of one of your activity's rosters? You rifle through papers on your desk, check out the papers on the fridge, dig through the junk drawer, and maybe even check your winter coat's pocket. Finally, you find it! You call to invite your old friend to lunch, only to find out that his number has changed. How *disappointed* you must feel to not be able to keep in touch with him.

This is exactly how we feel when we really want to contact you - to invite you to gathering, invite you to work on an upcoming walk, or just let you know what's happening in our community.

By using a database we've taken away the need to search for a roster hoping to find the most current version. The Texoma Emmaus Community utilizes the Internet Membership Systems database to give us a way to keep everyone's information organized and easy to access, but it only works if the information is kept up to date.

If you are unsure if your information is correct, please take a moment to log in and check. Here's how:

[Click here](#) to access the database or copy <http://tec.inetmember.com> to your internet's browser.

If you have never logged into the database, you will enter the email address where you received this email and then **tectec** as your password (*you will then want to change your password*).

If you have forgotten your password, just click the **Forgot Password?** button and one will be emailed to you. Be sure to click on the "All About You" section under the **You** menu to update your contact information.

Feel free to look around and see who else you may know in the community and feel free to contact me if you see someone who is missing and I will invite them to join.

DeColores,
Robin Woodall
cell - 214-578-1907
email - woodall13@me.com

From our Registrar Chair—Charles Shepard

HOW WE SHARPEN ONE ANOTHER

I heard a song in Church and part of the lyrics were “I don’t look like what I’ve been through”. We all have life experiences that have been difficult. Maybe some that we are still dealing with. So as an Emmaus Community committed to teaching others how to go back and be leaders in their home churches, it is important to realize this and be committed to lifting each other up. Scripture gives us examples on how to accomplish this. Proverbs 27:17

Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

We are commanded to hold each other accountable and make each other stronger. God has given us a brilliant plan for this that keeps all close by his side.

Because we are fallen and sinful, we will have conflicts. God has given us a model for working out those conflicts, whether they are big or small. We are to confront sin but work toward overlooking personal offenses.

Proverbs 19:11

A man’s discretion makes him slow to anger.

And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.

First make sure your friend has actually “sinned” and not just done something that you didn’t like. What scripture have they violated?.

James 5:16

Therefore, confess your **sins** to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

Matthew 18 is the instruction manual on how to confront sin. It should be studied and parsed and restudied.

Matthew 18:15-22

If your brother sins go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed.

If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as Gentile and a tax collector.

Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.

Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven.

For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”

Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?”

Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.”

We tend to confront things in people that we **do not like**, but to shy away from confronting on **sin** using scripture. Ironically, both of these can be sin in themselves. I know that I don’t look like what I’ve been through. It is my prayer that my brothers and sisters in the Texoma Emmaus Community would help sharpen me and lift me up in a way that I may be a blessing to others who have yet to begin their walk.

De Colores

Charles Shepard

Welcome Women from Walk #81

Jerrica Anderson
Elizabeth Bennett
Kelsey Blanton
Debbie Boan
Jerri Bone
Janna Brewer
Lisa Collins
Kelly Crouse
Elizabeth Griffith
Gypsi Hall

Tonia Herman
Nan Ingram
Jordan Jeffrey
Catelyn Jeffrey
Sherri Johnson
Sandra Lewis
Yvonne Mills
Denise Moore
Kelly Nicholson
Pamela Pegram
Irma Perry
Connie Picou
Judy Sallee
Barbara Shannon
Carol Smith
Julie Stepan
Lacia Stogsdill
Joleen Stow
Vernadene Trotter
Nancy Willingham
Kimberly Wright

Welcome Men from Walk #82

Richard Akers
Chad Brown
Bob Buckner
James Coleman
Timothy Collins
Jonathan Craig
Robert Dunaway
Edward Herman
Pate Hubbert
Dee Johnson
Donald Krayniak
Edward Leach
Ryan Neshyba
Cody Nicholson
Michael Picou
John Ricks
Steven Scott
Cody Starr
Troy Trucker
David Walfington
John Webb