

THE WALK'S TALK

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Newsletter Thought:

Lifting Others Up

There's something deep within us that loves to be first, to win, to be "in". We elbow up through degrees, titles, possessions, rights, privileges, connections, seniority, and the like. But once we reach our goals, then what? God doesn't separate us from those who are lower on the career ladder than we are. He tells us to pull them up with us. "Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 19:34). In a few words—God both levels and lifts us: "Your were an alien, too," and "I am your Lord God."

Do you know someone who needs a lift today?

Jan Carlberg, The Hungry Heart—Joy for the Journey

"Thank You"

"The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink." (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)

We have been blessed by so many people in the Valley Emmaus/Chrysalis Community who give of their time, talents and resources. I want to take this opportunity to thank the following board members for their service to the community these past 3 years:

Rev. Jason Adams who has served as our Community Spiritual Director, Myliss Stephens who served as the board secretary. Lisa McCallum who served as the chair of the Chrysalis Committee, Diane Bleibdrey who served as the board rep, and Marla Luce who served as the Agape Coordinator. A big Thank You for a job well done and God's blessings upon each of you and your families. Thank you for the many hours of serving the community with your own acts of Agape and allowing Christ to work through you in service to others.

I want to say a "Thank You" to our newest board members who will start their new roles in serving on the board June 1, 2007. Rev. Steve Clinton, Rev. Joe Perez, Rev. Don Ceglar, Margaret Ellison, David Crook and Ramon Vela, thank you for stepping in to serve the Valley Emmaus/Chrysalis Community.

Thank you to Lowell Luce for stepping in to serve as the board rep and team selection coordinator. Thank you to Bonnie Cherrington for stepping in to serve as the Lay Director for the community.

When you see these faithful servants, please take the time to express your own thanks and appreciation for the work and service they have given. Remember to keep these faithful servants in your prayers.

DeColores—Wilson Heacock

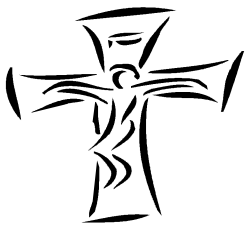
Boy's and Girls Chrysalis - Keep the chrysalis flights in your prayers for team formation and for those who are being called to attend.

Boys Chrysalis	July 12-15, 2007	(956) 458-2795
Ed Keebaugh, Chrysalis Lay Director		ed@tcxjuice.com

Girls Chrysalis	July 19-22, 2007	(956) 367-8372
Martha McLemore, Chrysalis Lay Director		mjmac2220@rgv.rr.com

Men's Walk #1362

Jack Bowen
Mark Calvert
Noel Cremar
Will Eastep
Joel Escalante
Ralph Esparza
Seth Gregory
Robert Grove
Terry Harrison
Josh Locke
Oscar maltos
Alex Martinez
Steve mayer
Roger McCord
Jim Parker II
Barry Ray
Israel Rodriguez
Kent Shafer
Perry Sharboneau
Bill Snavely
Leonardo Toribio
Joey Trevino
John Valdez
James Vann
Fred Wallace II



Serve the Lord with gladness; Come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He is God; It is he who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are his people and the sheep of His pasture. Psalm 100:2-5

Servants "R" US

I pride myself as being knowledgeable in the culinary field of cooking and entertaining. Last October on Walk # 1332 I was never more tested.

Early in 2006, my Reunion Sister, Myliss Stephens asked me to head up her Kitchen Team for her Walk as Lay Director. I accepted without hesitation. I was fully confident that I could do this well. What an honor to serve as "Chef at Camp Thicket", with Tomasita Lipe as "Souise Chef", both our husbands, Charles and Henry and Kyle, Myliss's husband. We all had worked together before at our own church BBQ's and dinners. We were a good team!

I stayed well on target by researching large quantity menus and preparing the menus for each day. I even spoke with a few others that had cooked at Camp Thicket before. Tomasita made the shopping list breaking down each recipe to the exact amount of ingredients. A week before the Walk I had everything ordered. Tomasita and I even had our pots and pans, cooking utensils packed and ready to go. I was ready for the count down. I had every list checked and double checked. Little did I know what an adventure God had planned for me! (You may note how many times I used the "I" so far)

The adventure began on Thursday evening moving and unpacking all the food, cooking pots, and utensils. First on the agenda was to prepare for Friday morning breakfast. Our team whizzed through this and settled in for the early morning rise before sunrise. Friday morning breakfast went well for us even though we discovered the kitchen not in very good working order. Regardless, I felt good and confident that all would be fine. No need to worry, I could do this with my team. In what seemed no time at all, lunch was to be served, no time to sit down. During lunch we noticed we were a bit short on the chicken salad. "Oh well, that's okay we had a good dinner planned." I told myself to stay positive as we began preparing Friday night dinner. Still no time to sit down. This is when we realized that the two ovens did not have good temperature control and the burners on the stove did not work well either. We had two dishes for baking and two ovens that baked uneven. The pork steaks were a little tough to chew and nothing else was perfect either. Even with the disappointment of not serving a perfect dinner, I would remain confident and positive that our team could do this. Our Lady Pilgrims were really working up an appetite, not only for God's word, but also for food. They needed larger portions! Another trip back to the grocery store! No time to rest because it was time to prepare for Saturday morning breakfast. By Saturday morning my body was showing the effects of continuous standing on concrete floors, my brain was like scrambled eggs from all the recipes. My loving politeness toward my kitchen team had turned into polite tolerance !!!??. Example: the husbands were left in charge of peeling and boiling the potatoes for mashed potatoes, which I assumed was an easy task for them. Wrong!!!???. After waiting a reasonable amount of time for the boiled potatoes to be brought into the kitchen for mashing (they were cooking outside) I became concerned as we had to be on time for the Saturday night "special dinner". Upon going outside to look at the potatoes I discovered they are boiling the potatoes whole....BIG potatoes whole!!! Here is where I lost it. This is also where I realized that I needed to take the "Me" out of this situation where I was called to be a servant. Through my expectations to have everything perfect, I was physically and mentally exhausted after Saturday night dinner. I had left God out of my wanting to serve. When I attended candlelight that evening all my tiredness escaped my body when I saw the Pilgrims faces. I was able to see Jesus in their faces. I was able to see why I was there to serve. I didn't look at them with the thought "You sure do eat a lot" but with the thought of "This is what serving others is about".

By Sunday morning things were no better. The ovens were burning the French toast on one side and not baking on the other. We were short on bacon. How we got breakfast on the table was a miracle. I never had my feet hurt so badly. We all were totally wiped out but had to face the job of cleaning and packing up. But it was okay, I could laugh because I knew that God was laughing with me.

I have worked on several Emmaus teams and even as a Lay Director but I must say that being on the Kitchen Team has been the most humbling and rewarding acts of service I have done in the Emmaus Community. ".....but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many", Matthew 20:26-28.

In the Valley Emmaus Community there are many ways to serve. In our churches there are many ways to serve. Be open to making a commitment of service that will further God's Kingdom and glorify Him.

De Colores—Bonnie Cherrington

Messages from Lay Director's

Men's Walk #1362

Men's Walk 1362 was held at Camp Thicket on March 22nd—25th. We now have 25 new members in the Valley Emmaus Community. The Holy Spirit was very evident the entire weekend.

The entire group, team and pilgrims alike were truly blessed. To all that helped, inside or outside, made agape, washed dishes, cooked and attended candlelight and closing, I thank you. A special thank you to those who were on prayer vigils, and to the many people who served behind the scenes.

My prayer is that God's love fills the hearts of the new pilgrims to overflowing...

**God Blessings,
Joe Mohny-Lay Director**

Women's Walk #1365

I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him through this Emmaus community as Lay Director for Walk #1365 and as your Newsletter Editor. Little did I know the plans God had for me when I attended my walk; but God has a plan for each of us and the Emmaus process is not an exception (Jeremiah 29:11).

He designs each weekend to serve His purpose and we (pilgrims and team) all walk away from the weekend blessed with a lesson. We may find many levels of emotion along the way and we may not learn or see God's purpose right away but we will.

A big "Thank you" to all who assisted in the preparation of the meals, the outside team, the countless angels who brought agape, for those who prayed and those who served anonymously.

**Serving Him,
Oralia Sanchez-Lay Director**

Camp Thicket clean up and June Emmaus/Chrysalis Gathering

On Saturday June 16th we will host a volunteer clean-up, spruce up day at Camp Thicket. Plan to arrive at 1 pm. Bring brooms, mops buckets, power washers, ladders and a servant's heart for cleaning the camp. The community will purchase the necessary cleaning supplies.

We will meet in the north end of the camp. We'll plan on power washing the tables and chairs, outside of buildings and use some elbow grease to help spruce up the camp. There is another group which will be meeting in the south building and using the chapel until 5 pm.

Once we have completed our cleaning, we will hold our monthly gathering potluck supper in the north camp conference room, followed by our worship service.

This is a great opportunity for all of us to get do some hands on work and prepare for the hundreds of people who will be attending summer camps and Chrysalis.

We will need people who will help setup and decorate the conference room once we have finished cleaning and washing the tables and chairs. We will need people to help coordinate setting up the dinner. We will need someone to coordinate the music for the worship service. If you would like to volunteer for any of these areas of service please call or email me.

See you on Saturday June 16th @ 1pm.

De Colores...! Wilson Heacock

Contact information: wilson@rgv.rr.com (956) 244-4171

Women's Walk #1365

Miryam Anderson
Opal Bryson
Grace Canong
Rosie Cantu
Carole Conway
Pat Cooke
Amparo Escalante
Cinthia Esquivel
Heather Fears
Arcie Garza
Denise Gates
Sherryl Harrison
Denise Hillstrom
Andrea Jordan
Elisabeth Justl
Sheryl Keener
Missy Liston
Casey Locke
Elvia Luna
Norma Madden
Norma Maltos
Kimberly Mayer
Shanalee McAuliffe
Teri McCord
Karen Mencil
Judy Parmenter
Shirley Pawlowski
Tiffany Perez
Carolyn Porter
Glenna Prewitt
Debbie Reiley
Noel Shafer
Shirley Shafer
Minnie Spieckermann
Vanessa Trevino
Tisha Young



For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. Romans 8:15-16

Valley Emmaus Community

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Emmaus Board Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 520 S. Illinois Ave., Weslaco, Texas 78596 at 6:30 p.m.

If the Lord is calling you to serve please consider the following:

Music: Responsible for coordinating music for all community events.

Prayer Vigil Coordinator: Responsible for obtaining prayer partners for all time slots allocated for the community.

Technology position: This person would be trained on all the computer, video, and sound equipment.

Contact Wilson Heacock, Community Lay Director at (956) 244-4171.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

What to bring for both events: your name tag, cross and purple worship book.

May 19, 2007	Gathering—Solid Ground Christian Church, Harlingen	6:00 p.m.
June 16, 2007	Camp Thicket—Work Day, Weslaco	1:00 p.m.
June 16, 2007	Gathering—Camp Thicket, Weslaco	6:30 p.m.
July 14, 2007	Candlelight—Boy's Chrysalis	8:00 p.m.
July 21, 2007	Candlelight—Girl's Chrysalis	8:00 p.m.

Wesley United Methodist Church
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