

THE WALK'S TALK

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Newsletter Thought:

Money Can't Buy Everything

How much better it is to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen above silver. Proverbs 16:16

Foolish indeed is the person who considers himself safe and sound because he has money... And another reason it's foolish to trust in riches for security is that money, in the final analysis, brings no lasting satisfaction, certainly not in the area of things that really matter. There are many things that no amount of money can buy. Think of it this way: Money can buy medicine, but not health. Money can buy a house, but not a home. Money can buy companionship, but not friends. Money can buy food, but not an appetite. Money can buy a bed, but not sleep. Money can buy the good life, but not eternal life.

It is God (alone) who is able to supply us "with all things to enjoy". As Seneca, the Roman statesman once said: "Money has never yet made anyone rich."

*Wisdom for the Way by
Charles R. Swindoll*

MESSAGE FROM COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

If we look around we see the wonderful signs of the fall season. We can even feel it in the air with our first blow of cooler weather. As the Valley Emmaus Community we can look back on our wonderful Fall Walks. God has truly blessed our community after a troublesome summer in having to cancel Chrysalis' Flights and very bumpy starts on the Fall Walks.

So often, as is our human nature, we find it easier to quit the job when the going gets tough. I must admit I felt that way this summer about the Emmaus Community... I was ready to just say it had run its course like many things in our lives when we are challenged with a rough road. A good example is our faith communities, where we find many of our traditions being changed by newer ideas because the old traditions seem to have run their course. It is hard to accept change! It is also hard to admit that we are not doing what we are being called to do whether it is an old or new tradition.

Is there not a continued need for our Emmaus Community? Are there not any more people from our congregations that need to be spiritual renewed? I think not. I believe our Valley Emmaus Community is alive and well because God has changed our season with wonderful colors of an ecumenical gathering of servants.

God is our forever faithful God. These walks are God's Walks for people that he has called through our prayers and service. In His time he will let us know when our service in any one area has run its course. The seasons of the year change so likewise we need to constantly be changing so that we may be more effective and intentional in our ministries. Like the cool breeze of the North wind let us feel the swirl of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Let us be faithful servants seeking out those, through prayer, that are ready or those that may need a gentle nudge to experience a Walk..

DeColores, Bonnie Cherrington

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

The Women Walk #1402 in October was "The Best Walk Ever!" as they all are. But I truly enjoyed and felt blessed at what may be my last walk ever. This Sunday I informed my congregation that I will be retiring at the end of January. After that we are leading a trip to Israel and Egypt with Education Opportunities. Janne and I have also found a motor home to live in when we return so we'll be on the road visiting our children and grandchildren, and seeing our beautiful country and hopefully doing a little ministry along the way. Please pray for diesel prices to remain somewhat stable! (*But enough about me*) I will be resigning my position as Community Spiritual Director next month.

Thank you for the honor of serving and the joy of working with so many wonderful and dedicated people. The Walk To Emmaus has been one of the greatest tools I've ever seen at bring people (including myself) closer to Christ. I will always treasure the opportunities you've given me to be a part of something so powerful and grace filled. As a pastor I've seen the blessings it has brought to both churches I've served in the Southwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. The energy and passion that flows from those who return from a weekend walk as pilgrims and as team members has infused each church with new life and strengthen our commitment to Christ ministry and mission. I will forever be in your debt. God bless you all in your continued miraculous work of healing and regenerative spiritual work. May God bless your work to His glory and give you peace. You will always remain a joy to my heart.

DeColores, Rev. Steve Clinton

Welcome Men's Walk #1392

- Craig Adams
- Ramon Cortez
- Abraham Flores
- Tim Handrick
- Timothy Outlaw
- Jay Humphreys
- Ronald Forquer
- Flabiano Mayorga, Jr.
- Kenneth C. Boyle
- Bill Gray
- Albert Allala
- George Paterson
- David Turchen
- Aaron Voreis
- Tim Anderson
- Eli Martinez
- James Timmons
- Richard Smith
- Randy Rister
- Jeff Tomlinson
- Mark Rodriguez
- Cayetano Garza
- Brett Marshall
- Francisco Chavez
- Israel Lede't
- Miguel Flores
- Miguel Hinojosa
- Marcos Davila
- Cliff Williamson
- Allen Williams
- Ron Fears

Reality of Chrysalis

There has been so much talk about a popular teenage website called myspace.com. I was deeply distressed over much of what I read there. At myspace.com teenagers create their own personal web page where they write about their lives and begin to build a list of friends that leave comments on their page. Creative teens decorate their pages with a variety of graphics, music and photographs. They can also create a profile that indicate things like their sexual preference and whether they drink, smoke, or use drugs. Many of the teens whose website I read openly bragged about their promiscuity and posted seductive photos of themselves. They placed "ads" on their website like the one that answered the question "What kind of kisser are you?" and these ads were accompanied by what I would consider to be pornographic photos. You may have seen segments on the news lately about myspace.com, and the fact that sexual predators have been identifying potential victims through information the teens post on their websites. What grieved me the most was the web pages of some of the teens who claim to be Christian.

The website's home page says: "myspace – a place for friends". An Emmaus friend suggested to me that teens might be drawn to myspace.com because they want to belong to something – to be part of a community.

The Valley Emmaus Community has an opportunity to offer teens a community vastly different from anything they could ever receive from myspace.com. However, we cannot off this community without godly men and women who are willing to become servant leaders in Chrysalis – willing to sacrifice their time and energy to serve the Christian youth of the Valley. If you have a heart to share the love of Christ, that you experienced on your Emmaus weekend with our youth – and want to encourage and strengthen our youth to be leaders in their churches and examples for others "in speech, in like, in love, in faith and in purity: (I Timothy 4:12) to their friends – please prayerfully consider the opportunity to serve on the Chrysalis Committee. Please call me or email me if you would like to join us. Just let me know that you want to be part of offering our youth a real community – not a deceptive and shall community in cyberspace – but a community of believers that cares enough to serve and bless them in the love of Christ and prepare them to serve others in Christ with us.

Fly with Christ

This is an article that was written by another community for their Chrysalis program. It's amazing just how much we as a society are struggling with our youth. May this article touch you and if the Lord places that NUDGE in your heart that you will listen and follow through. If interested in serving please contact Bonnie Cherrington Community Lay Director at (956) 572-0099.



Women's Walk #1402

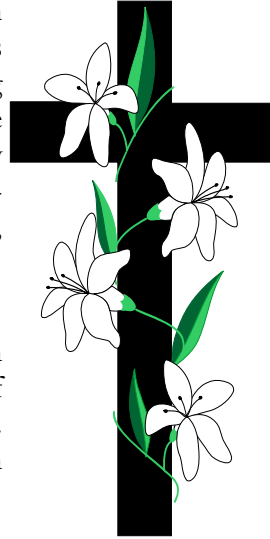
"The Voice of Truth" was the theme song for Walk 1402. In it are these lyrics:

"And the voice of truth says "Do not be afraid!"
And the voice of truth says "This is for My glory"
Out of all the voices calling out to me
I will choose to listen and believe the voice of truth."

God blessed everyone and every moment of Walk 1402. From the tremendous team that He called, to each and every precious pilgrim, it was truly a holy weekend. It is always a humbling experience to be in the presence of God. As a community, we should never take for granted the blessings or the responsibility we have to move others closer to Christ. I know you will welcome our new pilgrims with open arms into the community, they are "on fire" for the Lord.

May God grant all of you grace and peace as you continue in your Fourth Days. And praise God that we have the voice of truth every moment of every day, if we will only call upon Him. Thank you my brothers and sisters for making this walk one in which the scales fell from our eyes and we saw Jesus.

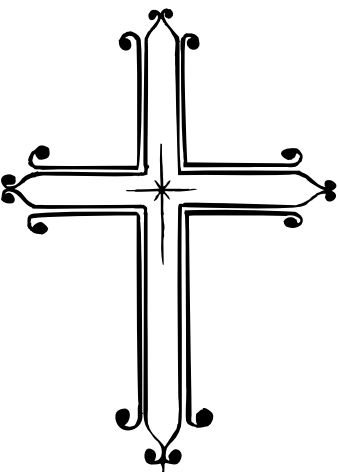
Your sister in Christ, Joy Hoeflinger



Men's Walk #1392

Paul writes of a prayer he prayed for the Ephesians in Chapter 3:

14 For this reason I knelt before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family^{al} in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.



What a wonderful prayer for all people. I feel that prayer was answered in the men (pilgrims and team) of Walk 1392. Enough said, so I'll agree with Paul as he finishes his prayer: 20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

YiC, Gene Palmos

Welcome Women's Walk #1402

Elena Argabright
Karen Balli
Rossy Blakeslee
Pam Brewer
Linda Calvert
Stefani Camarillo
Chris Carey
Jean Coffman
Martha Cramer
Veronica Brock-Ledet
Janice Deering
Rose Forquer
Grecia Garcia
Meagon Guenzel
Carmen Hall
Robin Haloh
Mary Harlan
Pearl Hobbs
Debi Hunt
Gerda Knowle
Alice Kay Mayo
Noemi Munoz
Saralie Palmer
Claudia Ramos
Cheryl Reed
Yadria Rivas
Peggy Rosales
Stacey Snavely
Natalie St John
Virginia Sweet
Jennifer Tellez
Mary Tucker
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Sandra Vitallo

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIRLS CHRYSALIS FOR JANUARY HAS BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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.

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

Contact Bonnie Cherrington, Community Lay Director at (956) 572-0099.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Gathering: December 1, 2007 Friday at 6:30 p.m.
San Benito First United Methodist Church, 400 North Sam Houston Boulevard, San Benito, Texas 78586

Please visit the website for the 2008 Gatherings to be announced.

www.valleyemmaus.com

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