

THE WALK'S TALK

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Newsletter Thought:

If money is the gauge of your heart. Jesus had a word for that: greed.

He called it the practice of measuring life by possessions.

Greed is defined by what something cost; it is measured by what it costs you. If anything costs you your faith or your family, the price is too high.

Prayerfully consider a donation to the Valley Emmaus Community. Your donation allows for the community to purchase supplies as needed, and allows for the mailing of the newsletter among other things.

MESSAGE FROM COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

This will be my last article as your Community Lay Director. I want to thank the Community for allowing me to serve our Lord in this capacity. I leave this position in good hands with Oralia Sanchez at the head of our Board. I have been working with the Emmaus Community since the fall of 2000 and most of that time I have served on the Board. During those years the Board has been through some very trying times. I am proud to say that today we have a very strong and committed Board to continue in this ministry to further God's Kingdom. Our continued commitment to be the hands and feet of Christ will insure the continued success for our Valley Emmaus Walks and Chrysalis Flights. After each Walk and Flight there will always be room for improvement because nothing in this world can be perfect. But each Walk or Flight will always be the "best one ever".

I remind each of you that have had the wonderful experience of the Walk to Emmaus to reflect on the closing day of your walk when you were asked the question "What do you plan to do on your Fourth Day"? **What are you doing on your 4th Day? Are you reflecting authentic Godliness? Remember Christ is counting on you!** We cannot fall short in what God has called us to do because we know better. Let us be filled with the Holy Spirit as we continue to seek our part of the Body of Christ in glorifying our God.

I know we are not to give recognition to those that have served the Lord in our Emmaus Community but I feel it is time to say thank you to those that have served so faithfully. I don't need to mention names but you know in your heart that I am thanking you in the name of our Lord. There are so many Clergy that have stepped forward as well as Conference Room Team Members, Outside Team Members, and Kitchen Team Members. The joy is in our Lord, Jesus Christ, knowing that you have been blessed in serving others to glorify Him. DeColores and God Bless Bonnie Cherrington

Feeling the economic crunch?

Have you seen the gasoline prices? How about your grocery bill rise? Well I don't know about you but I bought a smaller vehicle to commute to and from work to make my dollars stretch. Did you enjoy the food agape at your Walk/Flight? How about that pillow, or extra blanket, or the socks that were purchased because we forgot them at home? The Board will be reviewing the cost of the Walk/Flights in the next couple of months. This will help determine if the pilgrim/team cost needs to be adjusted accordingly. Please keep the community in prayer. By Oralia Sanchez

**Men's
Walk #1424
Paul Hemphill
Lay Director**

- Donald Adams
- Robert Arrellano
- David Beck
- Peter Block
- Wilbur Brooks
- Juan Delgado
- Chris Dundas
- Brandon Dyer
- Chris Edge
- James Fonseca
- Marcelino Garcia
- J.D. Garza
- Adam Gomez
- Rick Gonzales
- J.R. Gutierrez
- Joe Gutierrez
- Chris Hall
- Gordon Hockaday
- Tom Keener
- Richard Knowles
- Fred Merrett
- Juan Morales
- Danny Orive
- Sean Ragon
- Billy Scaife
- George Short
- Zeke Silva
- James Sommerfrucht
- Kevin Sweet
- Jess Talley
- Bill Torkildsen
- Nemecio Yanez

Community Spiritual Director

It was the best Walk ever! No really, it was. The Ladies on the Walk 1431 all experienced first hand the abundant love of our Lord. For many, this was a first time experience. It is too bad that we all had to go back to the real world where life is less than perfect.

But then, what is the real world? The news isn't at all pleasant. Gas prices are going up, the cost of food is increasing, the neighbor's dog still barks all night, and the list goes on and on. Life is demanding. Our families, jobs, even churches, all demand something from us. Not to mention we might have a few personal things we want to do own our own. How does the best Walk ever and Monday morning come together? So just what is real?

The abundant love of God. What we deal with on a day to day basis is just that, what we deal "with." It is in the midst of our day in day out living we encounter the living presence of God. There is something to be said about peeling potatoes and being in the presence of God. Brother Lawrence had it right when he suggested we practice the presence of God in the mundane. So our day to day dealings and tasks in our jobs and home.... be they paper work, rowdy students, difficult clients, or just taking out the trash and washing the dishes all give us opportunity to practice the presence of God and experience His abundant love.

The Emmaus Community works hard to provide a seamless three days of God's love. We come together in prayer and action. We live our faith and convictions, we share with each other and we help each other. All to provide the "best Walk ever" for the gathered pilgrims. Then comes Monday. The Fourth Day is a wonderful day. Monday is just another fourth day, just another day to experience the presence of God; just another day to live and love and share Christ. Now that is real. DeColores! Rev. Sue Huntsman

Men's Walk #1424

How am I going to convince you that Walk #1424, on March 6-9th, really WAS the "best walk ever", thanks to an amazingly diverse team and group of pilgrims! Everyone, team and pilgrims, were so cooperative and energetic, and seeking to get all there was to experience from the Walk. There were young and old, professionally educated and not, denominational and non denominational, anglo and hispanic, male andjust kidding on that one. But, it was a joyful and lively experience from Thursday's introduction of participants to Sunday's closing ceremony. Thirty-two pilgrims, from Weatherford, Texas to beautiful downtown Laguna Vista came with willing hearts and open spirits to receive the unconditional Agape love of Jesus Christ. There were even six ordained pastors among the pilgrims. The clergy team was headed up by Rev. Steve Purdy and included Rev. Wade Hood, Rev. Aaron Saenz, Rev. Reyes Castillo, and Rev. Jason Adams. These clergy made outstanding contributions and made extraordinary efforts to help make the walk....well, the best ever. The music team of Dennis Mitchell and Chris Dundas blessed us with their virtuoso, diversity of worshipful praise and worship songs, "from the first halleluiah to the last amen". The ALD's, John D. Guevara, Ralph Salinas, and David Crook were simply instrumental in the Walk's success and a simply privilege to work with. It would not have come to pass without their outstanding service and contributions. And let's not forget our cooks: John Holden, Mike Pashos and the team of Jim Dailey and Wilson Heacock. Thanks, guys, for your delicious, nutritious, and calorie free [?] feasts. The outside team, led by Richard Percy was unbelievably efficient and prepared. There are so many unsung heroes, behind the scenes who helped with the set-up, clean up, meals, and so much more. It would be hard to imagine a more prosperous weekend to give of yourself and to yourself. DeColores, Paul Hemphill, Lay Director

Profit & Loss (January 1 through May 8, 2008)

Income		Other Income	
Total Income	\$1,666.00	Total	\$5,982.00
Expense		Expense	
Total Expense	\$308.75	Total	\$8,848.76
Net Ordinary Income		Net Other	
Net Ordinary Income	\$1,357.25	Income	\$(-2,866.76)
Combined:			\$(-1,509.51)

Women's Walk

At the closing, we sang "surely the presence of the Lord is in this place" and that is exactly how I would describe these three days. The presence of the Lord was tangible during the whole weekend. It was amazing to watch Him moving in the hearts of not only the pilgrims, but the team as well. I can truly say that I believe that lives were changed, broken hearts were mended, and we were all brought closer to our God through His mercy and grace.



Our focal verse for the weekend was John 1:16. "From the fullness of God, we have all received grace upon grace." That is what we experienced during this weekend. Not just the grace of God, but grace upon grace. We were able to see God's grace poured out upon us until we overflowed.

What an outpouring of love the community lavished on the pilgrims through their prayers, attendance at candlelight, closing, and the agape gifts! It was indescribable to be part of the body of Christ loving each other in the name of Christ. Several of the pilgrims commented how they had never felt so loved!

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this Emmaus experience. I want to welcome the newest members of the Valley Emmaus community. May you continue to grow in Christ.
De Colores, Elaine Wisely, Lay Director

Chrysalis Information

The Girl's Chrysalis Flight #308 is off to a great start. The team is in place and we've started our team meetings. Now all we need are the butterflies. To date there are five youth signed up. This is a great start. Several in the community have said that they have youth that want to attend. Please help us out by getting your forms in as soon as possible. There is a web site where you can download the 2008 Chrysalis application. It is <http://www.valleyemmaus.com> Please note that the cost for the flight is not printed on the application. It is \$135.00 per butterfly. Please be in prayer for those that the Lord is leading to this flight both as a butterfly and a team member. by Martha McLemore, Lay Director

Martha McLemore Home (956) 425-8372 Email: jmac2220@rgv.rr.com

Girls Chrysalis July 24 - 27, 2008
Candlelight Sat., July 26, 2008 at 8 p.m.
Closing Sun., July 27, 2008 at 3 p.m.

Butterfly must have completed the 9th grade to participate.

To the Community: Help needed for Boy's Chrysalis. The harvest is great, but the workers are few... Boys and young men that have attended Chrysalis are needed to help on the team for July's Boy's flight. Please prayerfully consider helping out as inside team and outside team positions are still available. Please contact me ASAP if you can serve. Fly With Christ! David S. Argabright, Lay Director

David S. Argabright Mobile (956) 793-2687 Email: Mrmuzak@swbell.net

Boy's Chrysalis July 17-20, 2008
Candlelight: Sat., July 19, 2008 at 8 p.m.
Closing: Sun., July 20, 2008 at 3 p.m.

**Agape is needed, and see you at
candlelight & closing**

Women's Walk #1431 Elaine Wisely Lay Director

Kristin Beck
Mary Blount
Nancy Brooks
Joan Ciarocco,
Maria Cottagoma
Sharon Cowart
Lillyan David
Rayna Delaney
Judy Easterly
Ellie Flores
Donna Gibson
Carol Hale
Verla Hardy
Suzana Haro
Cindy Houghton
Lana Hunter
Maria Lopez
Sandra McCormick
Norma Miller
Arlene Parker
Dee Ann Rister
Vicki Rodriguez
Diane Sanchez
Bobbie Scaife
Tina Scoggins
Eddieca Solis
Connie Soper
Suzanne Torkildsen
Teresa Vasquez
Dahlia Vela
Jeanie Webster
Kellie Williams
Kathy Winn
Alicia Yanez

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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.

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

Newsletter Editor: This person will create the quarterly newsletter.

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.

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

Please R.S.V.P. with FUMC in Weslaco for childcare for candlelight and closing.
(956) 968-7561

www.valleyemmaus.com

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