

# THE WALK'S TALK

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## Newsletter Thought:

### Remember the Purpose of your Walk to Emmaus

The focus of Emmaus is **God** as known in **Jesus Christ** and how that finds expression in the local church. The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way, for our grace-filled life, to be lived and shared with others.

## MESSAGE FROM COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTIONAL DIRECTOR

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. (Matthew 17:1-8)



Think about what an exciting experience Jesus' transfiguration must have been for Peter, James, and John! Certainly they must have experienced a degree of fear, but they also must have experienced exhilaration over the scene which unfolded before them. Yet another of their reactions also must have been one of humility. They must have been humbled by the privilege afforded them to witness such an awe-inspiring event. I expect that this occasion easily would qualify as a "mountaintop" experience for them all.

It's no wonder, then, that Peter wanted to build three shelters in that place. He wanted to capture that moment. He wanted to provide a place for Moses, Elijah, and Jesus so they might remain there with Peter and his fellow disciples. When you've "been to the mountaintop" it's only natural to want to stay there. But, of course, Jesus knew where His true destiny lay. So, rather than remaining on the mountaintop, He led them back to the ministry that lay before them.

For many of us in the Valley Emmaus Community, Camp Thicket has represented a "mountaintop." We may not have seen Moses and Elijah, but we *have* found Jesus there – many times. We've even seen Him there – in the candlelit faces of His people, in the warm hug of a fellow pilgrim, in the servant heart of a team member. Yet, through the "grace talks" we learned that we hadn't come up that mountain on our own in our search for Jesus. As with Peter, James, and John, it was Jesus who led us up the mountain in the first place, so that we might see Him for who He truly is. So, yes, as flat as it is, Camp Thicket has served as a mountaintop for many of us. For that reason it holds a special place in our hearts and we find ourselves wanting to stay right there so we might encounter Jesus again and again.

But, once again Jesus says, "Follow me" and like Peter, James, and John He leads us *from* the mountaintop toward new adventures...different adventures. For we know that it's not really the *location* that makes a place a mountaintop, it's Jesus' *presence*. As long as we're following Jesus, He'll lead us to mountaintops we've not even dreamed of yet. And if our hearts are open to Him, each one will be even better than the one before.

I'll see you at the next mountaintop!

Charlie Baskin

**Women's  
Walk #1528  
Dina Wilson  
Lay Director**

Crystal Flores  
Judy Germech  
Genevieve Mounho  
Vera Elaine Muir  
Annette White  
Vicky Wright  
Karen Dahlberg  
Ruth Ann Ferris  
Jenny Huerta  
Stephanie Hirtland  
Teresa Emmons  
Lisa Lamoreaux  
Darla Marquez  
Mary Mitchell  
Tara Mullin  
Linda Poovey  
Deanna Trevino  
Maria Valenzuela  
Sylvia Gonzalez  
Eileen Kurth  
Gloria Manley  
Janice Stewart  
Alma Zeiger  
Tracy Gomez  
Deborah Ortega



**WALK #1528 (OCTOBER 2009)  
MESSAGE FROM DINA WILSON, LAY DIRECTOR**



One last group of pilgrims on Walk 1528 will have lasting memories of Camp Thicket as it was the final Walk to Emmaus held at that location October 14-18. The Holy Spirit was truly moving within our midst those three days as we listened, laughed, learned, prayed, wept, ate, and made new friends. The candlelight service was awesome as always -- a tiny glimpse into what heaven must be like.

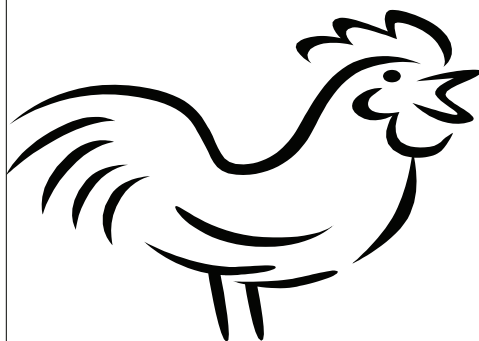
God bless all the inside and outside team members who willingly gave their time to serve the pilgrims as an act of agape love. The cook team from Harlingen was terrific as well, serving up huge batches of wonderful food. The pilgrims were overwhelmed by all the love shown to them that weekend, from the handmade agape gifts left on their pillows, to the smiles from the dishwashers, and the cheers from the Emmaus community on Sunday afternoon.

Preparing for the walk was not without it's difficulties, but with the Emmaus community members who filled in key spots at the last minute, the Walk was a complete success. I am so blessed and humbled to have been a part of this whole experience.

In Christ, Dina Wilson, Lay Director

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**CONE OASIS BAPTIST ENCAMPMENT**



Dear Emmaus Family:

Cone Oasis Baptist Encampment has been selected as the next site for the Men's Walk in the Spring of 2010.

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**WALK FLIGHT LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

We will have Walk Flight Leadership Training March 13, 2010 at Wesley UMC at 8:30 a.m.

This is important training for everyone interested in working on a Walk Team.

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**Valley Emmaus  
Newsletter  
Editor**

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**BOARD  
MEMBERS**

**One year term 2010**  
Bonnie Cherrington  
Margaret Ellison  
Jim Coffeman  
Laura Michelletti  
Charlie Baskin, CSD

**Two year term 2011**  
Vacant  
Melinda Prater  
Ken Wilson  
Ramon Vela  
Rick Sanderford, CSD

**Three year term 2012**  
Sue Merett  
Jay Humphreys  
Heather Adair  
David Wisely  
Pam Kilpatrick, CSD

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

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

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***CALENDAR OF EVENTS***

**Men's Walk: March 25-28, 2010,** Charles Cherrington, Lay Director

**Gathering: January 23, 2010,** Wesley United Methodist Church,  
1406 E. Austin, Harlingen, Texas 78550 Phone (956) 423-6156

**February 20, 2010,** Los Fresnos United Methodist Church  
402 South Arroyo, Los Fresnos, Texas 78566  
Phone (956) 233-5760

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**Interested in hosting a gathering at your church?**

\*All monthly gatherings start at 6 p.m., and are held the 3rd Saturday of each month.

\*Each host church is responsible for arranging for childcare and providing the facilities for meals and worship.

\*The Church Coordinator will work in conjunction with the Community Lay Director and Spiritual Director for the evening's schedule.

\*Each host church will provide a Fourth Day Speaker using the guidelines set up in the Emmaus manual.

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