



NorthEast Texas EMMAUS NEWSLETTER

Internet mailing #116 www.netemmaus.org

January 2012 netemmaus@gmail.com

Upcoming Walks and Events

2012 Walks

Women's Walk 12 – 114

Led by Amanda Sepulveda, Feb 16-19, 2012

Men's Walk 12-115

Led by Michael Wood, April 26-29, 2012

Women's Walk 12-116

Led by Carol Ann O'Dell, Sept 27-30, 2012

Men's Walk 12-117

Led by Sam Yancy, Oct 18-21, 2012

Candlelight starts at 8 P.M.

Closing begins at 4:30P.M.

Chrysalis Flights

Boys' Flight January 14-16, 2012

FUMC, Sulphur Springs

Led by Doug Shook

A Message from our Community Lay Director

Hello. For those of you that may not know me, please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Richard Tharp. Your Board of Directors has appointed me to be your Community Lay Director for 2012. I hope they knew what they were doing. I went on Walk #95-12 in the fall of 1995. Wow! I can't believe its been a little over 16 years since I took my walk. More about that in a minute. My wife Kathy (Walk #96-15) and I live in Greenville and worship at Wesley United Methodist Church. We have two grown daughters – Megan and Lauren. Megan is married to Brady and Lauren is dating Neil. Now for the most important member of our family. We have a 2 and a half year old granddaughter named Mackenzie Marie. If I thought there was room I'd download a few photographs. Maybe I can later in the year. My email is rtharp55@gmail.com and my cell number is 903 461-1454. Please contact me if you feel the need.

Our community owes a huge debt of gratitude to Carolyn McCain – our 2011 Community Lay Director. This is my

Lay Director Message con't:

second round on the Board and I've never seen anyone work so tirelessly and so enthusiastically for NET Emmaus as has Carolyn. I especially owe her a huge THANK YOU for leaving the Lay Director position in such great shape. She's accomplished so much and gotten things in such good order that I'll have to work pretty hard to mess things up (which I'm certainly capable of doing).

I can't believe 2012 is already here. For those of you that are getting older like me I remember when we thought 2000 would never get here. And now we're 12 years past that. It's truly amazing how time marches on! Did you make any New Year's resolutions? Work out? Eat right? Less TV? More reading and studying (perhaps the Bible)? Be a better Dad? Mom? Sister? Brother? Daughter? Son? Friend? Co-Worker? CHRISTIAN? Have you already fallen short of the mark regarding any of your resolutions? If so, welcome to the club.

There's one New Year's Resolution I would like to challenge you to make. I want you to think back to when you went on your Walk to Emmaus. For some of you that's a fairly short time. For others – like me – it may be a loooooong time ago (as I said more than 16 years). Can you remember the feeling when you walked through Candlelight and saw all those unfamiliar – but smiling – faces? What about your first Dying Moments Communion? Or how about those letters? I still have mine. And then there was closing, standing on the stage with your newfound Christian Brothers and Sisters, and telling the Community what the weekend meant to you and what you were going to do with it. Can you remember what you were feeling? Were you soaring sky high above the clouds with a new love for Christ? Or maybe it took you a little longer to get that glow about you – maybe your first fourth day, or your second fourth day. Or maybe it was a week later or a month later – or even a year later. No matter when it happened, I would venture a guess that the vast majority of you felt a little different after you went on your walk. You knew that God was present in your life in a way that He hadn't been before. And you wanted to share this joy with someone – or everyone. My question to you is this – Do you still have that awesome feeling like you did when you went on your walk? Or whenever it hit you, do you still have it? I hope your answer is YES!!! But I'm afraid that for many of us – me included – the answer may be yes? Sometimes? If your answer is not YES!!! then what happened? How can you get it back?

OK, so here's my challenge to you. I want you to remember the great feeling and closeness to Christ you felt on your walk and right after your walk and – if you're not feeling exactly like that now – then try to get the feeling back. I don't think it will be that hard. After all, you've got some unbelievable help on your side. All you've got to do is ask Jesus to help you rekindle those barely glowing embers back into a roaring fire. We may not be able to do it by ourselves, but with Jesus' help I KNOW we can. So I'm asking you to make a New Year's Resolution that you will work toward becoming completely filled with the Holy Spirit and excited to share God's love with someone else. Just like many of you said you were going to do on that Sunday afternoon during closing.

Of course, one of the best ways to accomplish this is to associate with fellow Christians. What better way to do that than to serve on the team for an upcoming walk. Also, this year we have a unique opportunity before us to grow in servanthood. Later this month we are having training for both Clergy and Lay persons alike. I know you've been bombarded with information about this training but it bears mentioning once more. I truly believe that if you attend either or both sessions once they are over you'll be glad you did.

Well, this has certainly gotten out of hand. I promise to do better and be shorter in the months to come. My hope for you and your family for 2012 is that you enjoy good health, prosperity, and good times together. My prayer for you all is that during 2012 you are able to take a step or two or three or more on your own walk and Christian journey that will bring you closer than ever to our savior Jesus Christ and our Heavenly Father.

De Colores,
Richard

This Gathering Is For You

Your NET Emmaus Board is inviting **ALL** members of the community, sponsors, team members, board members and anyone involved in Emmaus in any way to a gathering/training for all things Emmaus!

Leaders for Gathering:

Rev. Mike Cave, South Central Regional Rep,
Carleen Alderman, South Regional Lay Rep to Emmaus International Board
Pat Miller, South Central Regional Chrysalis Rep

Location: Tennison UMC, 313 N. Church St., Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455

Dates: Friday, Jan. 20, 5-9 p.m. Clergy Training

Lay folks are invited and welcome to join the clergy (lay board members especially)to discover how the clergy partner with the laity and the walks are designed to lead the pilgrims to a closer walk with Christ.

Saturday, Jan. 21, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Lay Training

Meals: Fri. evening - sandwiches

Sat. morning- breakfast casserole and more

Sat. lunch – Sam Yancey’s barbecue)

Free will donations for green agape will be appreciated.

RSVPs are essential!!! RSVP to Rev. Debbie Riggsby, email at deborah817@suddenlink.net or call 903-243-3333 (cell).

Topics for Clergy Folks (Friday, Jan. 20, 5-9 p.m.)

What’s required of Community SDs, Weekend SDs, and Assistant SDs.

Review of the Emmaus weekend

History of the movement

Board responsibilities of clergy

Working together with denominational differences

Topics for Lay Folks (Saturday, Jan. 21, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Servant leadership

Board of Directors

4th Day/Next Steps (Follow-up meeting, Reunion Groups, and Gatherings)

Sponsorship

Weekend LD/Team Formation

Please come to strengthen your serving in Emmaus and to build up our NET Emmaus community as the Body of Christ that is a light to our churches and communities!! We need you. We need each other. Christ needs all of us!!!

Chrysalis News



Matthew 18:20 says "where two or more of you gather, I will be there." The NET Chrysalis experience has been through the ringer over the past couple flights but God has prevailed and NET Boys flight 47 will

fly!!!!

Now comes the time when we need your help-- Agape (unisex or geared towards guys), food agape, drinks and definitely green agape are appreciated..... But mostly prayer and SUPPORT!!! Our boys NEED to see you at sendoff... At candlelight.... and welcoming them into the community at closing. Chrysalis has been fighting an uphill battle and the support of our community is a dire need!!

I'm asking you to please take a few minutes out of your weekend to come to sendoff SATURDAY JAN. 14th. Pack out FUMC Sulphur Springs sanctuary at candlelight and closing SUNDAY the 15th and MONDAY the 16th. Please find it in your heart to show that love to these young men in what could be the most pivotal moments of their Christ-filled Life.

Thank you and please sponsor your youth as you feel called. Without them we have no future. With them, there are no limits on the Grace we can serve.

Yours humbly,

Doug Shook
Lay Director

Board News

We have been trying to update our mailing list for the community. We know that there are many of our Emmaus brothers and sisters who do not receive the monthly newsletter. There are several reasons for this. When many attended Emmaus, e-mail was not a wide-spread method of communication and therefore we do not have addresses for many of our early participants. Also many have changed their address without forwarding that to our communications person. We need your help. We would like for you who receive the newsletter and faithfully read it to quickly look over the list of addresses the newsletter is sent to. If you realize that there are friends and family members who are not a member of our list, we ask that you do one of two things. You can either just send their e-mail address to Nancy Rooks at njrooks@msn.com or forward the newsletter to the person/people you want added to the list and also send it back to Nancy. She will check your e-mail and add the people you have forwarded it to and add them to the newsletter mailing address list. Let's make communication among our community a priority this year and we can do that with your help.

REC has its own website:

www.texasrec.org

Board of Directors - 2011

Carolyn McCain – Community Lay Director
cbmccain@hotmail.com

Debbie Riggsby – Community Spiritual Director
deborah817@suddenlink.net

Glenda Mendoza – Asst. Spiritual Director
glendamendoza42@yahoo.com

Chuck Huffman – Asst. Spiritual Director
pastor@tennisonumc.org

Brian Bosworth-- Asst. Spiritual Director
bbosworth@wesleysst.org

Nancy Rooks – Secretary
njrooks@suddenlinkmail.com

Clif Wilkerson – Treasurer
cwilkerson@hotmail.com

Kathy Cheyne – Database
mrsjrc@windstream.net

Shirlee Lambert – Team Selection (Men & Women)
hdsj@windstream.net

Renee Francey – Prayer Vigils
renee0966@yahoo.com

Richard Tharp – Community Music
rtharp@geusnet.com

Brian Perry – Gatherings & Reunion Groups
brian.l.perry@txdps.state.tx.us

Jackie Robinson – Registrar
robassoc@suddenlinkmail.com

Herb Cross – Storage
herbert.cross@att.net

Tim Merrell – Supplies
timcmerrell@yahoo.com

Sam Yancy – Sponsorship Training—4th Day
saybugman1996@aol.com

If you're looking for Emmaus "stuff" here are some great web sites:

www.singstherooster.com

www.cursilloitems.com

www.rainbowsandpromises.com

www.webfodder.com/decolores

www.cokesbury.com