



Emmaus Community Newsletter

From the Desk of the Lay Director

Of Corporate Take Overs and Other Like Matters

Back when I was in business school, they taught us that when a corporate takeover occurs, or a business suddenly comes under new management, two things always happen: 1) the new people in power promise that absolutely nothing will change and 2) immediately after saying that, changes begin occurring, and fast. So, in that spirit, I want to begin my first official act as Community Lay Director by telling you that absolutely nothing will change.

But you will see some changes in a few things our community does. We have a new editor for our newsletter, and I am committed to making it something that everyone will want to receive every month, either by mail or by computer. We are also making a genuine effort to make sure the newsletter goes out well in advance of the next community meeting, so we can all coordinate our calendars better. We will also be taking some time at our community meetings to put a little emphasis on some areas that I think have been somewhat neglected. Beginning in April, we will have a sponsorship moment at every community meeting and in every newsletter. Being a good sponsor is a skill that can be sharpened so that our pilgrims can get the most out of their weekends with the Lord. Sponsorship training is a must, and we will be making a concerted effort to that in the coming months.

The other area of emphasis that will be talked about frequently is our need to put others first. In the liturgy following communion, we acknowledge that Jesus gave himself for us and we are to give ourselves for others. I hope we can develop an attitude of worship in all of our gatherings. When the music and prayer of a communion service is drowned out by laughing and conversations, I fear that our priorities might be a bit misaligned. If each of us will put others first, and focus less on ourselves, we will be enriched, and the Father will be glorified. I don't know that we can ask for more than that.

As noted above, I began by saying that nothing will change. And nothing will. Because this is not my Emmaus Community, it's not my walk, it's not my agape, and it's not my reunion group. This is God's retreat, and everything connected to it belongs to Him. So, it doesn't really make too much difference who has what title around here, our CEO remains in complete control, is still in charge, and I am very thankful that He is. My goal as your lay director is simply this: If you like what is happening, give God the glory and the credit. If you don't like what is happening, tell me, and I will do all I can to make it right. I, and the entire board of directors, stand ready to make this community and all we do, something God, as well as all of us, can be proud of.

De Colores,
Terrell M. Thompson

Community Meeting—April 8th—7:00 P.M.

Men's Walk #76—April 22-25

- ◆ Aldersgate United Methodist Church
- ◆ 10301 Indiana Avenue
- ◆ Lubbock, Texas
- ◆ Fellowship afterwards
- ◆ LD-Derek Racca SD-Jim Irwin
- ◆ Send off Thursday at Mercy Center
- ◆ Candlelight Saturday at St. Josephs
- ◆ Closing Sunday at St. Josephs

Contact Info

Community Lay Director Terrell Thompson E-Mail: terrellthompson@suddenlink.net

Registrars

Emmaus Women Darris & Jeanette Linder E-Mail: deaclinder@gmail.com

Emmaus Men Terri Flores E-Mail: tflores@lakeridgeumc.org

Chrysalis Gals Chad & Wendy Oglesby E-Mail: mrogles@sbcglobal.net

Chrysalis Guys Yvonne Allred E-Mail: yvonneallred@sbcglobal.net

Llano Estacado Emmaus Website: llanoemmaus.org

SPOTLIGHT ON SPONSORSHIP

This month's feature: Agape Letters

Agape Letters are one of the more powerful acts of love that a pilgrim enjoys during their Walk to Emmaus. Below are the present standards and procedures for handling Agape Letters, as stated by The Upper Room, and Emmaus International:

The ideal number of letters for each pilgrim is between 10 and 12.

The servant team is instructed not to make more letters than that available to the pilgrim during the walk.

If you have more than 12 letters, you may either turn all letters in to the servant team, or you can hold back the extra letters to give to your pilgrim when you take them home on Sunday.

If you turn in more than 12 letters, you should group them together into two separate bundles, one of 12 that will be given to the pilgrim during the walk, and the rest which will be put on the pilgrim's bed shortly before closing. Clearly identify which bundle of letters is which.

It is preferable that the 12 letters being read during the walk be from very close family and very close friends, or those people whose thoughts and wishes will be the most powerful for the pilgrim. Use your discretion about whose letters make up the all important first 12.

As the sponsor, you are responsible for approaching people to write agape letters for your pilgrim. There is a model solicitation letter on the community web page that you can use and adapt if you find it helpful.

Following these guidelines will make the most of your pilgrim's experience as they Walk to Emmaus.

A Special time of Year

Greetings community, this is a special time of year for the Christian community. April the Fourth, we celebrated the day Jesus was resurrected. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us for thirty-three years, was crucified for all our sins and was buried in a borrowed tomb. The Good News is that Jesus rose from the dead to sit at God's right hand to make intercession for us. Praise God! We serve a risen Savior! The leadership of the Llano Estacado Emmaus would like to wish you a very Holy Easter. Remember, without the resurrection, everything Christ accomplished while He was on earth would have been in vain. Again we hope you had a Holy Easter.



And the caterpillar transformed into a butterfly... Before it becomes a butterfly, a caterpillar goes through a growth stage during which it is called a "chrysalis." On the surface it may not look like much is happening, but the delicate chrysalis process changes the fuzzy caterpillar into an awesome butterfly with wings of intricate designs and intense colors. The chrysalis process symbolizes how Christ can transform you into something beyond your dreams. It happens when you grow beyond yourself, opening your life to Jesus' power and love. Chrysalis symbolizes the spiritual growth that is essential between adolescence and adulthood. That growth is as crucial for youth as the cocoon is for the caterpillar. It is that precious time of nurturing a person's faith for discipleship. This is how The Upper Room defines Chrysalis.

In the coming months, the Chrysalis Community will be having 2 High School Flights, a Girls' Flight June 17-20, and a Boys' Flight July 8-11. July 29-Aug.1 will be a Young Adult Gals' Journey and on Aug. 19-22 will be a Young Adult Guys' Journey. Please be in prayer for the teams as they prepare to show Christ's love, mercy, and grace to these young people. Please also be in prayer for God to put on your heart the name of a young person that you can sponsor.

Chrysalis has once again been given the opportunity to raise money for our scholarship fund through a Meat Tasting at Texas Tech. On Monday, April 12, we need 22 people to sign up for the 6:00 P.M. slot and 22 people for the 7:00 P.M. slot. If you are interested in participating in this fund raiser, please contact Janice at 744-7141 or 786-0400.

Once again, we appreciate all that the Emmaus Community does for our Chrysalis Community and our youth.

Fly With Christ!

Janice Weeks, Chrysalis Community Lay Director

Emmaus News

For more information you can check out our website at lanoemmaus.net and in doing so you will find a wealth of knowledge about our community. We are proud of all that is done in Christ name by our faithful members.

You are a blessing to many people because of your generous giving of every kind of agape under the sun (maybe that should be "under the SON"). Not only giving of agape you also give of your time and giftings when you work a walk, or the encouragement given when you attend a send-off, a candlelight or closing.

To those of you who are new to our community or those that are not so new but have not been "plugged in", I encourage you to get involved with us. We need your gifts and talents to continue to minister the love of Christ to those who choose to attend one of our seventy-two hour weekends.

A short reminder, we need pilgrims for the men's walk in April. The dates are April 22-25. Choose to sponsor a pilgrim and change a life forever. Again thank you for all you do.

2010 Walk Dates

Walk	Date	Lay Director	Spiritual Director
Men's #76	April 22-25	Derek Racca	Jim Irwin
Kairos #23	May 19-23	Perry Hallford	
H.S. Girls Chrysalis Flight #24	June 17-20	Sharla Askew	
Women's #113	June 24-27	Marsha crouch	Orbin Crouch
H.S. Boy's Chrysalis Flight #25	July 8-11	Drew Stone	
Men's #77	July 22-25	Ed Stephens	
Gal's Chrysalis Journey #27	July 29-Aug 1		
Women's #114	Aug 5-8	Judy Sanders	Dave Menefee
Guy's Chrysalis Journey #20	Aug 19-22		
Men's # 78	Sept 23-26	Chad Oglesby	
Women's # 115	October 21-24	Dani Blythe	Ted Wilson