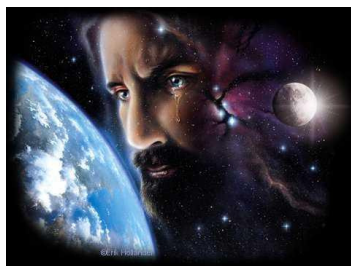


Happy Encounters with the Culture



LLANO ESTACADO EMMMAUS

Emmaus Community Newsletter

One of the things that fascinates me about my walk with Christ is when that journey intersects with popular culture. I never grow tired of seeing how society tries to make sense out of itself, all the while rejecting most concepts of faith, or any higher power beyond ourselves. Several weeks ago, CNN ran a poll and asked this question: “what is the secret of being happy?” They also asked several very well known pundits this same question; pundits that included people of faith, political leaders, secular humanists, and well known celebrities. The basic answer each of the pundits gave was that you become happy when you make other people happy. If you bring happiness to someone else’s life, you then, in turn, become happy. That, by itself, doesn’t seem like a big revelation. I admit that I feel happy when I help someone else, and hopefully lighten their load a little, and bring some happiness their way, and I think that message is very compatible with Christian principles of servanthood, loving our neighbors as ourselves, treating others as we want to be treated, and so on.

What astounded me about the CNN poll was the viewer responses that people had written after the story first ran. There were literally hundreds of responses that said “I am happy when I do exactly what I want,” and “I am happiest when I don’t have to help anyone.” Anytime someone tried to interject a faith based argument for striving to make others happy, the responses in opposition were overwhelming. With that kind of viewpoint, I can see why wanting to help some of those people be happy might be a bigger task than I want to take on.

We all know John 3:16, but there is a part of that verse that gets glossed over sometimes. The Scripture tells us “for God so loved **THE WORLD**, that He gave his only Son....” That expression, “the world” sometimes changes with translation, and it is sometime read where you put in your name in place of “the world.” But if God loved the world that much, that means he loved everyone in it so much that he sent Jesus to us. It is not easy to love everyone in the world, and when I read the comments of people like those I describe above, I don’t really feel like trying to love “the world.” But later in John, Jesus tells us that He has overcome “the world.” And I am reminded that I believe in something bigger than anything our world can create on its own. And accordingly, I press on, feeling called to be someone who strives to make others happy, because my God expects that of me. And I continue my walk; a walk that may take me **through** the culture, but more importantly, a walk that I make **with** my Savior.

Be Happy.

Terrell M. Thompson
Community Lay Director

Community Meeting—May 6th—7:00 P.M. **H.S. Girls Chrysalis Flight #24 6/17-20**

- ◆ Monterey Church of Christ ◆ Ld— Sharla Askew SD— Tom Griffin
- ◆ 6111 82nd Street
- ◆ Lubbock, Texas **Women’s #117 6/24-27**
- ◆ Fellowship afterwards ◆ LD—Marsha Crouch SD—Orbin Crouch

Contact Info

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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 – Sponsor’s Hour

When you bring your pilgrim out to Mercy Center on Thursday night, don't be in a big hurry to leave. If you do, you will miss out on one of the more special events of the retreat weekend - Sponsor's Hour. Immediately after the pilgrims have left for the conference room to meet their new best friends, all sponsors, friends and family of the pilgrims are invited to a special ceremony in the Mercy Center chapel, filled with prayer, and unity of purpose in focusing the love of Christ on our pilgrims.

Here are some things to know about sponsor's hour:

1. Sponsor's hour is conducted by the walk Servant Team. If you are ever part of a Servant Team, you will be in charge of conducting Sponsor's Hour.
2. During Sponsor's Hour, each pilgrim's lanyard and cross is prayed over, and placed into the large wooden cross by the sponsor, where it will stay and be prayed over the entire weekend until it is given to the pilgrim on Sunday afternoon.
3. Each member of the team, and every pilgrim will be prayed for by name.
4. An offering will be taken, and the funds raised will be available to purchase anything that might be needed during the walk, especially those things needed on very short notice.
5. Volunteers will be sought to help with matters during the rest of the weekend, such as helping clean up St. Joseph's Church after candlelight and after closing.
6. Immediately before or after sponsor's hour is a great time to deliver agape letters, as well as other pillow or food agape, and the Servant Team is ready to help you with those things.

So be a part of this special time with God, and with your fellow sponsors, as you help get your pilgrim started on the three day Walk to Emmaus.



Our first Chrysalis Flight of the Summer of 2010 is preparing to take flight!! With only one team meeting left to go, the team is eager and ready and the caterpillar list is filling up quickly. The High School Girls Chrysalis, led by Sharla Askew, Tom Griffin, and Jynna Askew will be held at Mercy Center on June 17-20th. If you have not signed up your caterpillar, please do so as

soon as possible. Scholarships are available for all Flights and Journeys. Drew Stone, Steve Colbert, and Colby McDaniel are leading the High School Boys Flight that begins on July 8-11. Team meetings are under way. On July 29-Aug 1, Victoria Baker, Vernon Baker, and Vanessa Baker will be leading the Young Adult Gals Journey and on Aug. 19 - 22, Don Stone, Dan Chrestman, and Ryan Brown will be leading the Young Adult Guys Journey. Lots of prayer and preparation have gone in to the formation of these teams and the time is now approaching very quickly for the ministry at hand. We ask that you be in prayer for God to put the name of a young person on your heart that you would like to sponsor.

Such an outpouring of love was felt from the New Horizons Community to those of us that attended their community meeting in Amherst on May 20th. We were asked to present Mime Communion, which was extremely powerful, and to talk about Chrysalis. Such a blessing to be able to give testimony to how Chrysalis has helped to show our young men and women to see and experience the absolute, unconditional love that our Lord and Savior has for them. Thank you, New Horizons, for welcoming us and blessing us tremendously!

Please put the dates of our Flights and Journeys on your calendars. We hope to see each of you at Send-Off, Candlelight, and Closing. We thank you for all that you do for our Chrysalis Community!

Fly With Christ!

Janice Weaks, Chrysalis Community Lay Director



God's Special Time

Kairos #23 Several men made commitments to Christ as their Savior for the first time in their life. Many men recommitted their lives to Jesus. Many saw Jesus for the first time up close and personal. They were amazed as they saw the agape chain that Jesus multiplied to go

around the room over and over. When they saw all the names of people praying for them, they said, "Are all these people praying for us?" After reading letters from people they didn't know, they wondered why someone loved them enough to write them, telling the men-in white that they loved them. Some of these men had not received any letters in many years. Some opened the door to Jesus because they realized the doorknob was on their side of the door. These men were taught to discover God (to uncover Him through prayer, study and meditation). They also heard messages about making different choices, how the old man is crucified with Christ, and that they could become new creatures in Christ. In the forgiveness service, they were able to forgive themselves and others for all that they experienced in their lives. These guys had a hard time understanding why so many from the community would come to celebrate with them at the Closing Ceremony. They were in tears. Closing comments.... I feel the presence of God here...I never had no love like this...I have been hearing about Kairos for twelve years and now I got to go to this one...I have been running from God for thirteen years, but that stops today!... I'm sold out to God...WOW, just wow.

Thanks to the entire community of Believers,

Perry Hallford and Loyde Castle

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	Loyde Castle
H.S. Girls Chrysalis Flight #24	June 17-20	Sharla Askew	Tom Griffin
Women's #113	June 24-27	Marsha Crouch	Orbin Crouch
H.S. Boy's Chrysalis Flight #25	July 8-11	Drew Stone	Steve Colbert
Men's #77	July 22-25	Ed Stephens	
Gal's Chrysalis Journey #27	July 29-Aug 1	Victoria Baker	Vernon Baker
Women's #114	Aug 5-8	Judy Sanders	Dave Menefee
Guy's Chrysalis Journey #20	Aug 19-22	Don Stone	Dan Chrestman
Men's # 78	Sept 23-26	Chad Oglesby	Phil McClendon
Women's # 115	October 21-24	Dani Blythe	Ted Wilson