

# DIAKONIA



DEC

2005



NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR



1 Corinthians 13, Christmas Style! May we all take these words to heart this Christmas season!

If I decorate my house perfectly with plaid bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny balls, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator. If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of Christmas cookies, preparing gourmet meals and arranging a beautifully adorned table at meal-time, but do not show love to my friends and family, I'm just another cook. If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home and give all that I have to charity, but do not show love to my friends and loved ones, it profits me nothing.

If I trim the spruce with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes, attend a myriad of holiday parties and sing in the choir's cantata, but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point. Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to kiss the husband. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another's home that has coordinated Christmas china and table linens. Love doesn't yell at the kids to get out of the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. Video games will break, pearl necklaces will be lost, golf clubs will rust. But giving the gift of love will endure forever.

In John 13:35 Jesus shares, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." May we take time to love one another this day!

Kerry Smith

Pastor Krum UMC



*Inside this issue:*

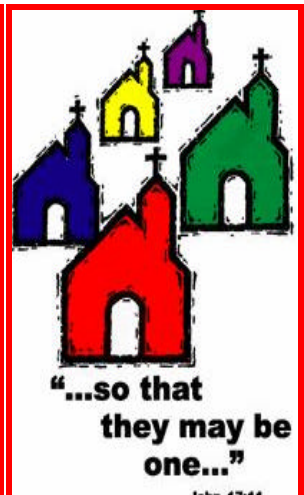
Season's Greetings!	1
2006 Gathering Dates	1
2006 Walk Schedule	2
2006 Chrysalis Schedule	2
Board Members	2
Spiritual Director	3
Team Selection & Welcome New Members	4
Music	5

### 2006 GATHERING DATES

Available for your church to host:

- January 21—St. Andrew's Christian Church—Carrollton
- March 18
- May 20
- August 19
- November 18

Checklist and other information available on the website





Do you know someone who is ready to attend an Emmaus Weekend? There are openings available on the upcoming Walks in 2006

- Men's Walk #21 - Feb 23-26**
- Women's Walk #22 - Apr 20-23**
- Men's Walk #23 - Jun 22-25**
- Women's Walk #24 - Jul 27-30**
- Men's Walk #25 - Sep 21-24**
- Women's Walk #26 - Oct 5-8**

For more information check the web or contact our Registrar, Darlene Ward at [darleneward@charter.net](mailto:darleneward@charter.net)

Upcoming Walk registration status is updated regularly on the DAEC Homepage. Vacancy or Full Status will be noted. Unless the walk is full, registrations are accepted up to the Monday prior to the Walk weekend.

## Denton Area Emmaus Community BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME	POSITION
Joe Culwell	Community Lay Director
Pam Taylor	Secretary
Jerry Graham	Team Selection
Matt Bieri	Supplies (trailer)
Jerry Harvey	Supplies/Literature
Darlene Ward	Registration
Nancy Daniel	Treasurer
Carol Lindaman	Agape/Communications/History
Jim Gerber	Music/Weekend events/Webpage
Chuck Lowry	Servant Team
Margie Lindley	Training
Joy Morrison	Past Lay Director
Joe Zinser	Spiritual Director
Kerry Smith	Asst. Spiritual Director
Carleen Alderman	Upper Room Representative



### 2006 CHRYSALIS SCHEDULE

Guy's 70 January 14-16, 2006 Sat-Mon  
Oak Cliff Presbyterian  
Candlelight: Sunday - 8pm

Girl's 71 June 22-24, 2006 Thu-Sat  
Lakewood UMC  
Candlelight: Friday - 8pm

Guy's 72 July 13-15, 2006 Thu-Sat  
TBD  
Candlelight: Friday - 8pm

Guy's 73 November 24-26, 2006 Fri-Sun  
TBD

Do you know any teens ready for Chrysalis? Information can be found @ [www.dallasemmaus.org](http://www.dallasemmaus.org)

### We Want to Hear from YOU!



Do you have any news or articles to share with the community? Are you involved in Kairos, Chrysalis or Epiphany and have information regarding an upcoming weekend? DAEC wants to hear from you! Email your articles to [frog2shine@aol.com](mailto:frog2shine@aol.com). The next issue of DIAKONIA will be published in October with a deadline of 10/11/05. *All articles are subject to editor and board approval.*



## Thoughts from our Spiritual Director

What do you want in a church leader? Paul gave Timothy some strict guidelines in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. For example, Paul encourages leaders to be people who are trustworthy, self-controlled, respectable, and gentle. The ultimate goal of the church is to glorify God individually and as a community. Glorifying God requires a working knowledge of and a personal relationship with God.

The purpose of The Walk to Emmaus is to expand participants' spiritual lives, deepen their discipleship, and rekindle their gifts as Christian leaders in their churches and communities. This huge task is carefully, strategically and repeatedly accomplished in the three day experience of Emmaus.

Each week end Walk to Emmaus takes church leaders and potential church leaders on a journey to remind them that Christian leadership is to take its authority from Scripture in all areas of life. The Gospel of Matthew 22:34-40 says we are love God with our heart, soul, mind and strength. Every aspect of our lives is to be subject to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Matthew's criteria should be a key element in identifying church leadership.

Leaders must not only be willing to use their unique gifts; they must be willing and able to "duplicate" themselves in others. One way we all live up to the command to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 23:39) is to regard others as more important than ourselves. When leaders do this they not only pass on Scriptural truth, they teach others how to lead.

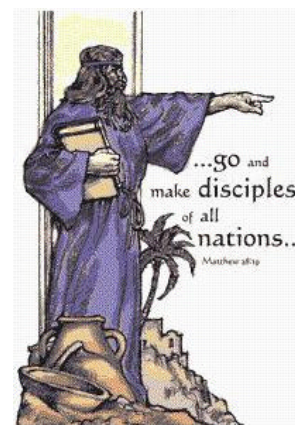
Church leaders have to get outside their personal comfort zone. Even the smallest local congregation has to deal with racism, prejudice, money, lack of faithfulness, all of those sins of omission and commission that separate us from God. Church leaders have to be willing and able to speak up in the truth of Scripture.

The Emmaus experience is one of the best training grounds! The experience begins by encouraging each individual to look at their life priority and ends with a plan to maintain the momentum. In between are time so of Spiritual reflection, lessons on study, being the Christian community,

I can witness to God taking men and women who swear they will never speak in public and turning them into excellent speakers and leaders. A significant number of men and women who questioned their ability or interest to participate in church leadership are now serving God in ways they never dreamed – because they gave three days to listen, discuss and learn.

Churches are stronger, leadership is better, and more Christians are serious about the Great Commission and changing their world.

Why not go on the website, [www.dentonemmaus.org](http://www.dentonemmaus.org), and print this newsletter or duplicate your newsletter – then give it to your pastor and church leaders with an application for the 2006 Denton Area Emmaus walks? Tell them your Emmaus story, share how shy, uninvolved church people have grown into leaders who will speak up and lead in love and truth. Tell them how Emmaus made a difference to you and how the experience will make a difference to them. Then pray for them, your church and your Emmaus community. God will do the rest.



### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Would you like to help share the Emmaus experience? A scholarship fund has been established to help those pilgrims attend who may not have the personal financial resources. Your faith and gift can help change the life of another. Contributions can be mailed to:

**Denton Area Emmaus  
Community  
P.O. Box 2609**

**...SERVE ONE**

**ANOTHER**

**WITH**

**WHATEVER**

**GIFT EACH OF**

**YOU HAS**

**RECEIVED.**



### A NOTE FROM TEAM SELECTION

I would like to welcome everyone from the 2005 walks to the Denton Area Emmaus Community. I have seen that many of you became immediately involved in walks that followed yours. That is exactly what EMMAUS is all about. We should be serving our Denton community and more importantly, be actively involved with our local churches in whatever roles we can fill. We should not be afraid to step out of our comfort zone. We need to remember that Christ is counting on us to spread His word and His love to everyone we come in contact with.

Next year is approaching very fast, and with that again comes the opportunity to serve your Denton community. Service includes sponsorship, prayer vigil sign up, preparing agape for walks, being a part of an outside team, and finally the inside team. We have already started forming the teams for walks to be held in 2006. We have heard from many of you asking why you have not been called to serve on a team. As with any system (database), it is extremely important to have correct information.

If you would like to serve on a team in any capacity, I am asking you to email me with your current information (name, address, phone number, home church and email address). With this corrected information we will update our database and your names will be given to future lay directors.

Please sent this information to me at [jerryg@dentonemmaus.org](mailto:jerryg@dentonemmaus.org) , or click the "email" button on the [www.dentonemmaus.org](http://www.dentonemmaus.org) home page.

I would like to hear from everyone in the community to insure your information is correct in our database.

De Colores

Jerry Graham



## WELCOME THE NEWEST MEMBERS TO OUR COMMUNITY

### The MEN of WALK #19

Bill Abernathy  
Homer Belcher  
Peter Chu  
Phil Crawford  
Steve Doyle  
James Hill  
Aaron Klein  
Paul McKay  
Ian McPherson  
Shuffard Parr  
Duncan Tandy  
Gene Vance  
Donny Vandagriff



### The WOMEN of WALK #20

Sher Abernathy	Melissa Mullin
Laura Bachelder	Kathleen Neal
Jane Butler	Gail Pannell
Joyce Cagle	Anne Peters
Diane Crawford	Cindy Simpson
Nancy Ferguson	Leigh Ann Stadt
Terri Henson	Kitty Stark
Jennifer Laplante	April Tate
Amy Leopard-	Christine Taylor
Campbell	Traci Vaughn
Katie McNabney	Lynn West
Zoe Melvin	





## “Our Favorite Emmaus Songs”



Submitted by Jim Gerber

### Breathe

## Story Behind The Song

by Wendy Lee Nentwig

A friend's suicide had left her reeling, but out of Marie Barnett's desperate need for God came a worship classic sung around the world.

Marie Barnett didn't consider herself a worship songwriter, although she had led worship with her husband John for years and wrote her own compositions during her personal worship time. John was the writer, penning what Barnett terms "tons" of worship music through the years (including "Holy and Anointed One"). "He's the worship writer," she explains, adding "I never sat down and wrote thinking, This could be sung in a congregation. It was more between me and the Lord in my bedroom with the door locked."

But that all changed during a Sunday evening service at the Mission Viejo Vineyard in Southern California. The Barnetts were leading worship as they had done hundreds of times before, and words to what would become the worship song "Breathe" just spontaneously came out.

"We had been singing 'Isn't He' by John Wimber," Barnett recalls, "and my husband continued to play. I was so enthralled with Jesus at that moment, thinking I could never live, I could never even take a breath if I didn't have a word from Him every day. And so I heard those words-'this is the air I breathe, this is my daily bread'-and I started singing them."

Before she knew it, the congregation had joined her. Still, it wasn't as if Barnett left that night convinced she has a worship hit on her hands. There had been other spontaneous songs, but she soon realized "Breathe" was different. "People would come up to me at the grocery store and say, 'You know what we were singing on Sunday night? I've been singing it all week.'"

So they began to sing the song regularly in church and it continued to elicit a strong response, bringing many to tears. Barnett says even now she can hardly get through it. "I think the word 'desperate' digs deep into me," she says by way of explanation. "The longer I'm a Christian, the more desperate I am for God."

Since writing "Breathe" Barnett regularly contributes songs to the worship time at Vineyard Community Church of Laguna Niguel, the California church where she and her husband lead worship today

Wendy Lee Nentwig is a freelance writer and editor who lives in Nashville, TN.



Wishing you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May the miracle of Christmas fill your hearts and bless your homes the whole year through!



- PRAYER VIGILS
- SERVANT TEAMS
- REUNION GROUP INFO
- UPDATE DATABASE



PO Box 2609  
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