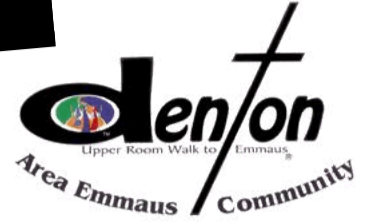


DIAKONIA 2014



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WELCOME NEW PILGRIMS!

First and foremost I would like to welcome the new Pilgrims of Walk 61 and 62 to the Denton Area Emmaus Community. As you enter your Fourth Day (every day for the rest of your life), it is important that we all strive to live the life of grace offered to us by Jesus Christ. Here's a quick recap of "things to remember":

Find and join a Reunion Group and begin practicing the disciplines of piety, study and action! Remember, this takes commitment on your part to achieve the desired relationship with Jesus Christ.

Find your place to serve in your local Church. Start somewhere! **Attend quarterly Emmaus Gatherings** and be active in your support of the Emmaus Community.

Volunteer (with a Servant Spirit) when activities such as weekends or gatherings are planned.

Volunteer to be part of a committee that supports the board and all of the Emmaus activities.

Participate in the activities of Walk Weekends.

Attend Send-off, Candlelight and Closing. Participate in the 72-hour prayer vigil. There is ALWAYS something to do!

Sponsor others to attend the Walk to Emmaus! Share your joy!

Serve in outside support positions or on team. What a great way to show YOUR agape love to others!

We have two more walks this year and I am faithful God will fill them with His chosen. Men's Walk 63 is set for September 18-21 and Women's Walk 64 will be October 2-5. As we continue on our journey and work together as a Community of Faith, we should realize that the more people we include in our Walks and Gatherings, the better and stronger our community will become.

The Emmaus Community is aware, God prepares each of us to use the gifts and talents we are given. We are called to use these talents to not only benefit our local churches, but to expand our Emmaus Community. During our weekend we learn of Agape love. What a great gift! One such act of Agape is to prayerfully consider sponsoring a pilgrim. This is no easy task but it forms the backbone of our community because without pilgrims, walks will not occur. In 1 Corinthians 12, the Apostle Paul teaches that the spiritual gifts we have been given are special gifts that God has given each of us and we must use them to further His Kingdom. You may think "what can I do?"



We have all been given a gift, each different and unique, but they all come from the same Holy Spirit who is the source of these gifts. As we read further in 1 Corinthians 12 we learn that the community is like a body, one

body, many parts...you know the passage. It is now as we plan for the walks that we need individuals to use their gifts to build a stronger community.

Each of us can help by learning more at community trainings, serving on a team, committing to sponsor a pilgrim, giving Agape gifts for the weekend, or by providing a financial gift to the community. We are called to serve, called to use our God given gifts and talents to benefit the Kingdom of God. We are given the direction in Matthew 28:16-20 "the great commission".

As Community Lay Director, it is my prayer that each community member will find a way to serve, using God's gift to grow this community and use their talents to expand the Kingdom of God! Be Blessed ... Be a Blessing.

De Colores,
Brenda Brown
Community Lay Director

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Upcoming Walks

Mens' #63
Sept. 18-21, 2014

Womens' #64
October 2-5, 2014

GATHERING ON JUNE 28TH AT THE TRIETSCH UMC FLOWER MOUND (IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER BEHIND THE MAIN CHURCH)



Attention Denton Area Emmaus Community. Our next Gathering will have a twist to it ... No potluck ... no thinking of what can I make or pick up for the meal ... this time the Board of Directors would like to serve YOU. It is our

way of expressing our heartfelt THANKS to you for your overflowing of love and support to the Denton Area Emmaus Community. All you need to do is COME! We will have a Potato Bar set up with all the makings along with dessert and drinks. A Gathering is a vital link in the life of an active Emmaus Community.

It connects members together by providing a regular opportunity for worship and fellowship. They are important to our community because they allow us to strengthen the bond between us. As a board, we have a goal of increasing our attendance and engaging our members in the community. We are looking at ways to 'spice up' our gatherings that will offer opportunities to strengthen the bond between us and grow our community. We hope this is the start of a new life to our gatherings. If you are not in a reunion group, this will be a great time to get connected. Our time together will consist of the following: **6:00 pm** - Sponsorship Training - if you are interested in sponsoring a pilgrim or would like a

refresher, please attend. **6:00 pm** - Emmaus Overview - if you are interested in attending a Walk, please attend. This is a great opportunity to bring prospective pilgrims that would like to know more about the Walk to Emmaus.

6:30 pm - Dinner

7:30 pm - Worship

Embody Christ! Come welcome our new community members to their first DAEC Gathering as we continue to strengthen their 4th Day experience. We embody Christ to one another ... that is what we are called to do as a community of faith. Let's do this together.

Your Board of Directors is looking forward to this time with you.

Blessings,
Board of Directors

MEET BOBBY ELLIS

My name is Bobby Ellis. I attended DAEC Walk #9 at Lake Sharon in February 2004 and sat at the table of Peter. I am a new Board member and am in charge of the trailer and supplies. I am married to Pat (DAEC Walk #50), have two sons and a wonderful granddaughter. We attend First UMC in The Colony where I am the lay leader, facilitate Disciple introduction classes, and serve in audio and video production as a member of the technology committee. I was raised in Florida but later was educated and married in Reno, Nevada where I worked as a paramedic for 12 years. After relocating to North Texas for my wife's job transfer in 1993, I have been employed in Information technology as a systems administrator and support center manager. I enjoy traveling to national parks, reading, and chasing after my granddaughter!



My name is Brenda Brown. I took my walk in 2004 on Dallas Walk #170 and sat at the table of Rachel. I have served on several Walks over the years at tables as well as Assistant Lay Director roles and Lay Director for Walk 60 in 2013. I have served the Emmaus Board as Treasurer for the past two years. I am humbled, honored and blessed to now serve the Denton Area Emmaus Community as your Community Lay Director. I am grateful that He has placed on my heart to serve Him and you in this position. I live in Denton with my husband and two spoiled animals. We are blessed with four grown children and 8 precious grandchildren.

I have worked for Avaya for 18 years as a Global Program Director serving large financial companies. I am also a licensed Minister of Pastoral Counseling where I am blessed to serve God in this capacity. I am a member of Lake Cities UMC where I have been actively involved since 1997 where I serve as a Lay Servant to our church and Autumn Oaks Retirement Center. I am also a member of In Faith We Bloom reunion group. I am an active and passionate fundraiser and participator with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Team in Training in hopes to find a cure for cancer.



FOURTH DAY REUNION GROUPS



"I don't have the time."
 "There is not one close to me."
 "They meet at 6:30 in the morning and I don't get up that early for anything."

I have heard all the above when it comes to why people don't join a Fourth Day Emmaus Reunion Group. I am sure you have also. You have probably heard more than these. All of them may be valid for the particular person saying them.

I joined my first Emmaus Reunion Group immediately after I attend the Walk to Emmaus in June of 2004. We met at 10:00am on Saturday mornings and sometimes would walk while we had our time together. I then joined my second Emmaus Reunion Group in October of 2009, which I am still an active member. Unless I am out of town, which happens at times, I am there, at 7:00pm on Thursday evening. I treasure the time I spend with the women that God has placed in my life. In fact, when I am out of town, I miss it. We meet every Thursday at 7:00pm at the local Whataburger for about an hour and a half since we have dinner there, too. We open with prayer and then follow the service card. We close by noting prayer concerns and end with prayer for our time together, concerns lifted and our week ahead. This is a special time for each of us that is treasured.

A few things about our group that I think are very important for all groups. First, our group meets every Thursday without fail. Sometimes there are only two of us.

Second, we do not cancel unless it is on a holiday or for some strange reason it is an unavoidable necessity (weather, illness, etc). It is simply understood that we will be there.

Third, the group understands that what is said is confidential. Women (and men) need a time to discuss things that are weighing heavy on their heart.

Fourth, we understand that this is NOT a time for gossip rather a time for reflection and commitment to God and each other.

The Emmaus talks heard on Sunday pre-

pare us for returning to the world from the protected and cloistered environment of Emmaus. The talk on perseverance is meant to encourage us through what will be difficult times.

The talk on fourth day sets us up for a lifetime of commitment and service.

Commit to yourself to explore the forth day groups near you. If you can't find one, I can't encourage enough to start one. The more groups we have meeting the better. Use the DAEC Facebook page or this newsletter to announce the new group. Use the points above to help set up initial guidelines on how a group should function and start praying about your participation.

I will close by sharing this great outline of Emmaus Reunion Groups that I found on the website of the Florida Emmaus Group:

Reunion groups are a way of preserving your walk with Christ. For an effective reunion group, keep the following points in mind:

Be Serious - You are dealing with things eternal. There is always time for levity but the focus should be on the condition of your walk with Christ.

Be Discreet - Openness and honesty must be respected. The discussions of the group stays in the group. Your reunion group must not be a source of gossip.

Be Sincere - You must be completely open and honest with your group. If that is not possible you may be in the wrong group.

Be Regular - This can be tough but regular attendance will develop into a habit that can become a major influence facing problems and staying on course. Again it requires perseverance to grow and find nourishment.

Order of the Reunion

Begin your time together by calling on the Holy Spirit and invoking His power. The prayer below can be used for this purpose:

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy Your consolations. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Review your service sheet - Take time to reflect on each of the three supports of a life in grace.

Piety - Share your closet moment with Christ and how He is working in your life.

Study - Keep each other accountable in growth by learning more about this life in grace and His abundant love.

Action - How have we responded to God's call to action and submitted to being an instrument for Him to someone else?

Closest to Christ - At what moment this past week did you feel closest to Christ?

Call to Discipleship - At what moment during this week did you feel you were responding to God's call to be His disciple? Where did you participate in being the Church this week, the heartbeat of Christ?

Discipleship Denied - When was your faith tested this week through failure?

Your Plan - What is your plan for spirituality, study and action for the week to come?

Reunion Group Activities
 Prayers for

Special Needs - Pray for those who may not have attended.

Prayer of Thanksgiving - Almighty God, who lives and reigns forever, we

give You thanks for all the gifts You have bestowed upon us. Amen



Blessings,
 Brenda Brown
 Community Lay Director

Mens Walk #61



Larry Cummings - First UMC - Denton
 Bryan Jody - Flower Mound UMC
 Chad Mogus - First UMC - The Colony
 Ken Kiser - Suncreek UMC
 Skip Burks - First Baptist - Lake Dallas
 Greg Andrews - Justin UMC

Mitchell Henson - Justin UMC
 Charles Williams
 Kevin Hames - Crossroads Christian
 Bud Henry - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Brad Smith - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Jim Adams - Trietsch Memorial UMC

Womens Walk #62



Mary Hudelson - Creekwood Christian Church
 Allison Lassahn - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Marguerite Shaw - First UMC - The Colony
 Kelly Waldrop - Justin UMC
 Caley Bowen - First UMC - The Colony
 Renee Bagbey - Serenity Church
 Laura Hammack - First UMC - Decatur
 Daisy Kincheloe - Covenant Church - Carrollton
 Becky Andrews - Justin UMC
 Patty Brandt - Flower Mound UMC
 Cathy Burns - First UMC - Denton

Margie Fulmer - Pilot Point UMC
 Amy Stoermer - First UMC - The Colony
 Amy Armstrong - First UMC - The Colony
 Ursula Correll - Faith UMC - Denton
 Marquita Huland - Wellspring @ First UMC - McKinney
 Eleanor Nebe - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Jessica Sims - First Baptist - Paradise
 Doris Caylor - Grace Ave UMC
 Shirley Musgrave - Cross Timbers Community Church
 Shelby Rivoire - Full Armor Biker Church
 Gail Snider - First UMC - The Colon