



DIAKONIA 2012

DENTON AREA EMMAUS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

www.dentonemmaus.com

Volume 2012, Issue 1

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A WORD FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Happy New Year from your 2012 Denton Area Emmaus board. As we begin a new year I want to take a minute to reflect on the accomplishments of 2011. We had a very successful year of new opportunities and change in 2011. We said goodbye to Lake Sharon and hello to the beautiful Briarwood Retreat center. We held our first two walks at Briarwood and both teams were able to adapt to the new venue.

We begin 2012 very excited to hold four more walks at Briarwood. Walk #53 has just completed and the Team for #54 is preparing as this newsletter goes to print.

I am calling on all community members to talk about the Walk to

Emmaus in your churches and small groups.

I would like to thank our newest board members for answering the call to serve. Brenda Brown, Sarah Gerber, Dennis Hale and Janice McKee

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bring passion, talent and dedication to the board. I have asked all board members to recruit from the community three to four people to help them with their areas of responsibilities. My plan is to include more of the community in the work of the board while cultivating future board members. If you are interested in getting involved please contact any board

member and they will be happy to include you.

The board is also working to broaden our church base. We have good participation from churches in south Denton County but are a little light in church participation in the northern part of Denton County.

If you are interested in helping us with this task please email me at david@usautomatic.com

2012 will be a great year for the Denton Area Emmaus Community and I am excited to see all that God has in store for us.

I look forward to serving with all of you.

Grapes and Peas,

David Taylor

2012 Community Lay Director

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NEXT GATHERING

APRIL 14TH

FIRST UMC - DENTON

201 S Locust St, Denton

6:00 Sponsorship Training

6:30 Potluck Supper

7:30 Worship

Sponsors be sure to bring your pilgrim/newest DAEC community member to Gathering. It's a great way to introduce them to others in the Community.



It's a joy and delight to be a part of the Denton Area Emmaus Community and to serve as the Community Spiritual Director. Sometimes I wonder why I ever accepted the responsibility of this position.

It's sometimes difficult to find clergy for a particular walk. Some walks don't come off as well as we would like. Senior pastors of some churches don't see the value of promoting attendance by members of their congregation.

And then, I talk with a pilgrim who has just been on a walk and hear how wonderfully their life has been impacted and how they have recommitted their life to God in Jesus Christ and to the work of the church.

It makes my little efforts all worthwhile. That's why I continue to serve. It enriches my life to know the impact a walk has on each pilgrim.

FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR



Many of you in the Emmaus Community serve faithfully and give generously of your time. Never forget how important your role is as a part of an Emmaus team. Whether it is serving on the Servant Team where few people even know what you contribute, or serving as a Table Leader and sharing your faith and life perspective in a talk, or serving as one of the Lay Directors or Spiritual Directors, what you do for the walk is so valuable.

It's that servant leadership that makes each walk possible and makes the walks impacting.

Thank you for your service!

Reverend Joe Shafer
Denton Area Emmaus Community
Spiritual Director



Would your church be willing to sponsor a Gathering? Please contact Rosie Alexander, Board Member in charge of setting up these events. girlietchr@gmail.com



SWEATSHIRTS - NOW AVAILABLE!

New! Denton Area Emmaus Community **sweatshirts.**



Here is your chance to have people ask you about the Walk to Emmaus!

The cost is \$25 (4X is \$29).

Available in seven colors (blue, gold, red, green, pink, purple and gray).

Sizes range from small, medium, large, X-large, XX-large, XXX-large and 4X. These shirts are perfect for school, work and casual wear for the whole family. **T-shirts are also available for \$15 (4X is \$19) in the same colors listed above.**

Contact Vera Gibbs with your color choice(s) and size(s) at email VeraGibbs@aol.com or call 214-662-4422.

Order yours today!

SPONSORSHIP—THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE! - PART 1

At the beginning of the year we had only one or two pilgrims signed up for the next walks. Not unusual but as the deadline grew closer it looked like we might not have enough pilgrims so a plea went out to the community. And you responded! We have 21 pilgrims on Walk #53 with three names waiting for Walk #55 due either to scheduling conflicts or illness. Walk #54 hit the maximum number of pilgrims and kept going. We have 8 pilgrims on the waiting list and two more that could not attend because of scheduling conflicts.

Glory to God for those that have shown that they want to deepen their faith and strengthen their walk with Christ. I know that there are many out there that would like to go on a walk but they don't have a sponsor. All members of the community should be considering sponsorship and searching for good candidates all year round.

WHAT IS SPONSORSHIP?

Good sponsorship is vital to the integrity of Emmaus. Many communities take sponsorship for granted; they assume that everyone knows the how and why of sponsorship. Yet sponsorship is the most important job in Emmaus. It is more than just "signing up people". The quality of sponsorship influences the pilgrim, the health of the Emmaus Movement, and the church affected by the movement.

First, good sponsorship is your first act of agape before a Walk ever begins; the experience of the Walk for a pilgrim really starts with how we handle sponsorship.

Second, good sponsorship undergirds the whole weekend with sacrificial love on behalf of each pilgrim. Sponsors use discernment in recruiting pilgrims, embody the personal commitment of the community to each pilgrim, and provide personal acts of agape during the three days for the pilgrims. These acts of agape include prayer, agape

letters, and presence at Send off, Candlelight, Closing, and Follow-up.

Third, good sponsorship is the foundation for a healthy, effective Emmaus movement that is fulfilling its true purpose - the development of Christian leaders and the renewal of the church in ministry. The strength of any Emmaus community is a direct result of its recruiting practices. If the community is committed to recruiting strong church leaders for strengthening the local church, then the community will be a strong, vital force in the renewal movement. If, on the other hand, the Walk to Emmaus is viewed as a hospital where every human ill can be cured, it will have a weakening effect on the entire community.

WHY DO WE SPONSOR?

The aim of a sponsor should not be to "get all my friends to go", to fill up the weekend, to fix people's problems, or to reproduce one's own religious experience in others. Rather, the aim of the sponsor is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who, in turn, will bring new life and vision to the work of the church in the congregation, home, workplace, and community. The aim of sponsorship is to build up the Body of Christ.



Stay tuned for more in the March-April newsletter as we cover more topics such as: Whom do we sponsor, How do we sponsor, Who can sponsor, The Equal Commitment Rule, What should I tell my pilgrim and The application.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

*Much of the material was ripped part and parcel from the North Georgia Walk to Emmaus Sponsor document which was written and excerpted from the following two resources that are available through The Upper Room website at <http://www.upperroom.org/emmasus>.

DAY FOUR: The Pilgrim's Continued Journey by Robert Wood & Marie Livingston Roy

2012 WALK SCHEDULE

MEN'S WALK #53 Lay Director	FEBRUARY Tom Mladjen	February 23-26
WOMEN'S WALK #54 Lay Director	MARCH Sherri Smith	March 1-4
MEN'S WALK #55 Lay Director	SEPTEMBER Bill Beattie	September 27 - 30
WOMEN'S WALK #56 Lay Director	OCTOBER Nancy Harvey	October 4-7

*The 2012 Walks will be held at
Briarwood Retreat Center in
Copper Canyon.*

CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU

- 1) Off-site Servant Team Members are needed now for Men's Walk #55 .
- 2) Off-site Servant Team Members are also needed now for Women's Walk #56
- 3) You can also sign up for Servant Team on the website.

Email [Sarah Gerber](mailto:sarahgerber@verizon.net) at sarahgerber@verizon.net
and let her get you signed up for this important task.

SPRING GATHERING

APRIL 14TH

FIRST UMC - DENTON

202 S. Locust, Denton

6:00 Sponsorship Training
6:30 Potluck Supper
7:30 Worship

Sponsors be sure to bring your pilgrim/newest DAEC community member to Gathering. It's a great way to introduce them to others in the Community.

Have a Fourth Day story to share?
Contact edbarnes@gte.net and it may show up in the next newsletter.

BOARD AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Community Lay Director	David Taylor	david4040@aol.com
Treasurer	Brenda Brown	melvaandbob1@tx.rr.com
Secretary.....	Donna Pockrus	pockrusd@hotmail.com
Trailer/Supplies.....	Les Watland.....	watlandles@yahoo.com
Music	Dave Farish.....	dmfarish@verizon.net
Team Selection	Dennis Hale	dennis_hale@gmail.com
Servant Team	Sarah Gerber	sarahgerber@verizon.net
Literature/Agape	Vera Gibbs	veragibbs@aol.com
Training	tbd	
Registration	Janice McKee	mckeejanice@sbcglobal.net
Special Events	Rosie Alexander.....	girlietchr@gmail.com
Communications.....	Ed Barnes	edbarnes@gte.net
Community Spiritual Director	Joe Shafer.....	shaferrevj@sbcglobal.net
Upper Room Ad hoc Representative.....	Carleen Alderman	cookie@hpcserv.com

Contact information for your Board Members is also on the website.: www.dentonemmaus.org

DENTON AREA WALK TO EMMAUS

SURVEY AND VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET

This form is filled out by Pilgrims on the last day of the Walk. This is the way the Community stays in touch and recognizes those who wish to serve in the Community.

If you have made any changes that need to be recorded in the Emmaus Database for future calls to serve, you can go to the community web site and print this form, fill it out and mail it to the DEAC Registrar who will see that your information is updated.

Or if you like, you can print this page and do the same thing. Record your new info and mail it to:

Registrar.
P.O. Box 295068
Lewisville
TX 75029-5068

Name _____ Preferred Telephone number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Alternate phone number _____ Email address _____

Age: _____ Birthdate: _____ Name of spouse (if applicable) _____

Church _____ Are you an active member? _____

Pilgrim Walk No. _____ Date of Walk _____

Community or Location of Walk _____

_____ **YES!** I would like to participate in Emmaus walk support and teams in the future.

BEHIND THE SCENES: I am willing to be a part of the weekend participation in the following ways (check all that apply):

- _____ 72 Hour Prayer Vigil
- _____ Prayer Chapel Agape - Come onsite and pray in the chapel during the weekend)
- _____ Provide agape (both food and table agape) for walks
- _____ Be part of the Servant Team
- _____ Do maintenance and repairs
- _____ Assist with paperwork, typing, newsletters, etc.
- _____ Be part of one of the committees on the Board of Directors

MUSIC:

I would like to be involved as one of the musicians in the community and on walks:

_____ I play one or more musical instruments (list below)

_____ I do not play an instrument but I can lead singing.

CONFERENCE ROOM TEAM FOR THE WALK WEEKEND:

(Active participation in your local church and Reunion Group is a pre-requisite for working Emmaus Walks.)

_____ Someday I would like to be on an Emmaus Conference Room Team

_____ I am currently active in the _____ Reunion Group.

_____ As a new member of the Denton Area Emmaus Community, I plan to be part of a reunion group.

PREVIOUS WALK EXPERIENCE: Number of walks worked _____

Give Walk Nos. and Dates _____

Positions served _____

Talks given _____

(This information will be used for the purpose of future team selections. We are always updating our database and it is important to have accurate information.)

If unable to turn this in on a walk weekend, please return to: **Denton Area Emmaus Community
PO Box 295068, Lewisville, TX 75077**

I understand that as part of an Emmaus Conference Room Team I will be required to pay the same fee as a pilgrim pays. In the support role, if staying onsite, I will be responsible for paying for room and meals.

_____ Signature

_____ (Date)