

DIAKONIA 2013

DENTON AREA EMMAUS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

www.dentonemmaus.com

February, 2013

A WORD FROM OUR NEW COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Welcome to 2013!!

My name is Dave Farish, I took my Walk to Emmaus on Dallas Walk #135, and sat at the Table of Matthew. It is a great honor and privilege to serve you this year as your Community Lay Director. Your Board is already making plans to improve many of the ways we serve you.

In just a matter of days we'll be conducting our first Walk of the year, DAEC (Men's) Walk #57 with DAEC (Women's) Walk #58 to follow in April. With the advent of the New Year, your DAEC Board welcomed four new members who will serve through 2015. They are Genni Burns (Secretary), Tom Clark (Communications/Newsletter), Becky Hughes (Music), and Don Place (Agape/Literature). I encourage you, if you do not know these folks, to introduce yourself and if you feel you can help in any way, to offer yourself either by email or phone message. Their contact information (along with the rest of the board) is available on the website: www.dentonemmaus.org under the "Board" tab.

With the New Year brought some reassessment of our planning for the Walks now that we've had a full year at our new retreat facility Briarwood. Though we are cognizant of keeping weekend costs at a place where they are both affordable and cover our costs, our costs last year considerably outpaced our revenues. As a result we made the difficult decision to raise our **week-end fee to \$175** for both team and pilgrims. This keeps our fee significantly below that of the Dallas Community, but will still require that we offset some of our Community costs through donations and other fundraising opportunities. One way you can help, if you are so moved,

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DAEC WALK #57
 Briarwood Retreat Center
 670 Copper Canyon Road
 Argyle, Tx 76226

Sendoff: Thur., Feb 21, 7:00pm
 Candlelight: Sat., Feb 23, 8:00pm
 Closing: Sun., Feb. 24, 4:30pm

The Board will be signing our covenant with the Upper Room the night of Candlelight.



COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR (CONTINUED FROM PG1)

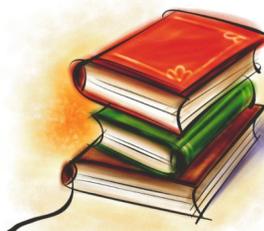
is to make a tax-deductable donation of green agape (cash or check) to the Denton Area Emmaus Community. We also realized that our supply costs, both from the Upper Room and from miscellaneous supplies (paper goods, poster board, markers, spiral notebooks, etc.) have gone up. The team from Walk #57 took it upon themselves to bring an offering of plastic cups to each team meeting as an act of Agape. We plan on offering similar opportunities at Candlelight and at Gatherings for those who feel inclined to give in this way. If you or your reunion group would like to participate in this way, let me or Les Watland (Trailer/Supplies) know and we can connect your passion to our need. (It's a great way to avoid skipping over "Reunion Group Activities" on your Order of Reunion card each week too!)

We are also reassessing the methodology for providing scholarship monies for both team and pilgrim for those for whom the cost of the weekend is a barrier. Monies still exist to provide scholarship relief, however we are encouraging sponsors and team members to see if their reunion group, their church, or other sources can offset at least part of the weekend fee prior to seeking DAEC support. I know that some reunion groups are participating in the walk vicariously by covering the costs either of pilgrims or of their reunion brothers or sisters who are working the walk as a way of participating in the weekend. Sounds pretty "Body of Christ" to me!

Some of you know that back in 2011, your Board began examining ways to reach out to expand the number of churches and people participating in the Walk to Emmaus. If you attend a church where you have pioneered the Emmaus experience and you'd like to be a part of expanding the number of people in your church's Emmaus community, give me a call and together with God's help I believe we can realize that goal. We are already making plans to reach out to several churches where we have limited or no Emmaus presence to see if we can help them equip and encourage greater discipleship in their settings.

Remember, your DEAC Board is here to serve you. If there's anything we can do to improve the Emmaus experience both on the weekend and in your fourth days, let us know; especially if you can be a part of that effort!

De Colores,
Dave Farish
Community Lay Director



My name is Janet Ihne and I am the Spiritual Director for the Denton Area Emmaus Community. I took my walk #11 in 1991 in Slayton, Texas. It was on this walk that I received my call to ministry. I am an ordained Minister of Word and Sacraments in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and I work as a Hospice Chaplain and Bereavement Coordinator. I have been involved in the Denton Area Emmaus Community since 2003 and have served as an Assistant Spiritual Director and Spiritual Director. My role as the Community Spiritual Director began in January, 2013. It is my honor to serve this community, and with Joe Shafer as my predecessor, I know I have big shoes to fill in this role.

Recently, I read through the Examination of Conscience on page 14 of the Worship Booklet for Pilgrims. I have been struggling with what we call "Compassion Fatigue" in the arena of death, dying, and bereavement. The bereavement coordinator I have worked with for five years became one of our patients and recently died. It has been a struggle to be present with the grieving families while I am also grieving for the loss of my friend. Yet God's grace has prevailed. When I think about the means of grace available to me through prayer, Holy Communion, spiritual friends and mentors, I have learned to reach out to

FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR



others for support. Yes, in my life, it is easier to give than receive. Yet I have found that having the ability to fall to my knees and admit "I can't do it all," is being a disciple of Christ.

The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Emmaus lifts us up and provides a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others. As we reflect on our own experiences while we were on our walk, may we never forget or take for granted our mission: to represent Christ to others. Christ is counting on us, and we are counting on Christ. De Colores!

Reverend Janet Ihne
Denton Area Emmaus Community
Spiritual Director



2013 WALK SCHEDULE

| | |
|---|--|
| MEN'S WALK #57 Lay Director | FEBRUARY 21-24 Jason Anglin |
| WOMEN'S WALK #58 Lay Director | APRIL 25-28 Tonja Brown |
| MEN'S WALK #59 Lay Director | SEPTEMBER 19-22 Bill Beattie |
| WOMEN'S WALK #60 Lay Director | OCTOBER 10-13 Becky Hughes |

*The 2013 Walks will be held at Briarwood
Retreat Center in
Copper Canyon.*

SPRING GATHERING

APRIL 6th

VISTA RIDGE UMC - LEWISVILLE

2901 Denton Tap Road

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.

SPONSORSHIP—THE MOST IMPORTANT ROLE!

Glory to God for those that have shown that they want to deepen their faith and strengthen their walk with Christ. We know that there are many out there that would like to go on a walk but they don't have a sponsor, have not been asked or invited. 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.

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/emmaus>.

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

THE UPPER ROOM HANDBOOK ON EMMAUS, 2nd Edition by Stephen Bryant & Richard Gilmore

*Talk about the Walk to Emmaus in
your churches and small groups.*



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!

Have a Fourth Day story to share?

Contact Tclark0582@gmail.com and it may show up in the next newsletter.

CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU

- 1) Off-site Servant Team Members are needed now for Men's Walk #59 .
- 2) Off-site Servant Team Members are also needed now for Women's Walk #60
- 3) You can also sign up for Servant Team on the website.

Visit our Website
www.dentonemmaus.com

BOARD AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Community Lay Director | Dave Farish | dmfarish@verizon.net |
| Treasurer | Brenda Brown | girliebb@gmail.com |
| Secretary..... | Genni Burns..... | genni.burns@nokia.com |
| Trailer/Supplies..... | Les Watland..... | watlandles@yahoo.com |
| Music | Becky Hughes | Becky.Hughes@unt.edu |
| Team Selection | Dennis Hale | dennis_hale@ymail.com |
| Servant Team | Sarah Gerber | sarahgerber@verizon.net |
| Agape/Literature..... | Don Place..... | dcsnplace@msn.com |
| Training | Dan Chraska..... | dan.chraska@verizon.net |
| Registration | Janice McKee | mckeejanice@sbcglobal.net |
| Gatherings & Special Events | Rosie Alexander..... | girlietchr@gmail.com |
| Communications..... | Tom Clark | tclark0582@gmail.com |
| Community Spiritual Director | Janet Inhe | janet025@gmail.com |
| 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)