

DECOLORES

EAST TEXAS EMMAUS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

POINTS TO PONDER

One of the dynamics of Emmaus is the special tension between process and conclusion. **CONCLUSION** is the Walk itself and **PROCESS** is all that goes on to make a Walk successful. Emmaus needs zealous, enthusiastic, hard-working people. But it can't survive on that alone. It also needs individuals who are willing to learn and follow the time-tested rules, traditions and procedures. In short, the process is just as important, if not more important, than the conclusion.

I often wonder why God does not just transport us straight to heaven the moment we believe. Yet here we are saved and also being saved daily: A conclusion and a process in tension. If we err too far to one or the other, we do damage to God's plan. Really when you think about it, it is not too difficult to produce Walks. Just use a business model with a strong leader and the rest followers. Do what you are told and we'll have a lot of Walks.

But that is not Emmaus and it will not produce community and it will not produce leaders that the Church so desperately needs. Servant Leaders are formed as men and women struggle with the hard work of working with one another for a common goal.

The Walk to Emmaus is much more than an extended weekend retreat. It is an invitation to learn community building and leadership formation. Going on the walk is the first step. Learning to serve with others starts as an agape servant, and continues on to lay director, board member, and all the stops in between.

God wants to accomplish much in our lives, in our churches, and in our communities through Emmaus. This occurs when both process and conclusion are in balance and are honored. What is the next challenge in your spiritual training in Emmaus? Sponsoring a pilgrim? Giving a talk? Becoming a table leader? Serving as lay director? Serving on the board? Pray about it and then be available to serve. We will accomplish much and you will grow spiritually in the process, learning love, forgiveness, patience and more. The spiritual life is not about finding safe, comfortable places, but in allowing God to stretch and strengthen you as His Kingdom moves forward.

DeColores, Bob Harbuck





UPCOMING EVENTS:


- ✠ **JULY 15-18**
Men's Walk #95, Camp Cho-Yeh
- ✠ **JULY 22-25**
Women's Walk #96, Camp Cho-Yeh
- ✠ **JULY 31**
Sponsorship Training, 4:00 pm, Location TBA
Gathering, 5:00 pm, Location To Be Announced
- ✠ **AUGUST 12-15**
Girls' Chrysalis Flight #20, Camp Cho-Yeh
- ✠ **AUGUST 19-22**
Boys' Chrysalis Flight #21, Camp Cho-Yeh
- ✠ **SEPTEMBER 16-19**
Epiphany #13, Crockett
- ✠ **OCTOBER 7-10**
Men's Walk #97, Camp Cho-Yeh
- ✠ **OCTOBER 14-17**
Women's Walk #98, Camp Cho-Yeh


EPIPHANY #13


We had our UAC meeting for the Crockett group and have scheduled Crockett Epiphany #13 for September 16-19, 2010. Christi Wall, Lay Director, worked with Crockett Epiphany over the last few years, as well as served on Walks in our East Texas Emmaus Community and in many capacities in her church. Sarah Williams Assistant Lay Director, served on many Epiphany teams and a servant on many Walks. Gayle Riley, Weekend Coordinator, served with Epiphany in various roles, including Lay Director.


 **Jul. 17**, 8:30 am -11am Wayside bible church. Head Chairs meet to line out positions for Walk #13. All are welcome to attend, but especially the Head Chairs. Reunion to follow at 12 pm


 **Jul. 24**, Team Mtg. 8:30-3:00 pm, Wayside Bible Church


 **Aug. 14**, Team Mtg. 8:30-3:00 pm, Wayside Bible Church (Most likely will have orientation for our new Team members with a representative from Crockett State School, pending Pastor Mark and Mrs. Mim's schedule.)

 **Aug. 21**, 8:30-11:00 am; Wayside Bible Church; meeting with all Head Leaders. (If you have been asked to be a head over an area of the Walk, we will really need you at this meeting.) Reunion to follow at Noon.

 **Aug. 28**, Team Mtg. 8:30-?; Wayside Bible Church (plan for a short meeting)

 **Sep. 16**, NOON, Wayside Bible Church, to go to unit to set up Talk Room, Kitchen, and Chapel. **We need volunteers!**

 **Sep. 16**, 6:00 pm, brief meeting, if necessary.

 **Sep. 16**, 7:00pm, Commissioning Ceremony

Now is the time to begin writing letters, recruiting new team members, signing up on the Prayer Chain, and making Green Agape. If you are interested in working this weekend, please call me on my cell 936-229-0584, and let me know where you would like to serve. If there is a talk or meditation that you would like to do, please call. Remember: Be Flexible! We have to do the "Epiphany Shuffle".

Love in Christ Jesus

Christi Wall



PEACE TREATIES OF LOVE

Be sure that no one pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to do what is good for each other and for all people.

1 Thessalonians 5:15

"In repairing a relationship, it's essential to realize that no friendship is perfect, no marriage is perfect, no person is perfect. With the resolve that you are going to make a relationship work, you can develop peace treaties of love and tolerance and harmony to transform a difficult situation into something beautiful."

~Max Lucado

ARE YOU A WI-FI OR 3G CHRISTIAN?

The inventions of products like Apple's iPod, iPhone & iPad have revolutionized the handheld electronics market. Everyone in the world is now familiar with the terms 'Wi-Fi' and '3G'. Wi-Fi enabled products can access the World Wide Web through designated hotspots, while 3G devices have access virtually everywhere they go.

The Holy Spirit of God recently asked me the following question. "Are you a Wi-Fi or 3G Christian"? Wi-Fi Christians come to designated hotspots (the church) and blend in with everyone else. They can pray, read and study the Bible, sing praises and fellowship with each other. They look just like the real thing, but they are totally dependent on the hotspot for their access. They have no personal account of their own and outside the church they are of no use to the kingdom. They might entertain themselves but are otherwise dead weight.

3G Christians on the other hand have a personal account with their Provider. They have access everywhere they go. At any time they can pull up a roadmap for directions, information about any requested topic and have an open line for communication. They have applications at their disposal for virtually every need in life. They are therefore indispensable in value to those needing guidance, direction or help. 3G Christians take the gospel everywhere they go.

The most frightening words in the Bible are found in Matthew 7:21-23, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

Frankly, I am having a difficult time answering this question from God. How about you? When you come face to face with Jesus Christ, will you hear the words from Matthew 7 or the words found in Matthew 25, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" If you aren't sure of your answer, I urge you to make it sure while it is still called today.

Your fellow servant of Christ, Greg Stewart

Please email your Reunion Group information for Fourth-Day packets to Melissa Smith at KeithAndMelissaSmith@yahoo.com.

The pilgrim count stands at 22 for the women and 5 for the men. If you have attended sponsor training, please pray about potential pilgrims and send that application in!

-Melissa Chumley

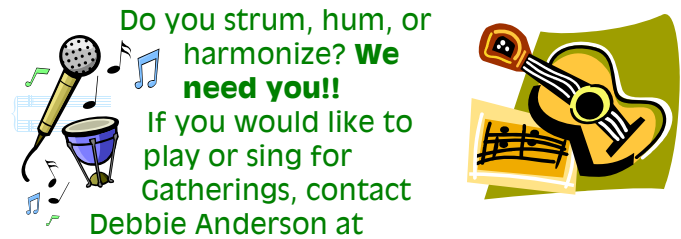
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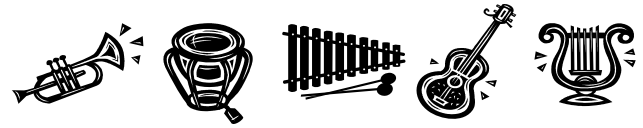
ANOTHER ESKIMO BAPTISM GONE BAD



Do you strum, hum, or harmonize? **We need you!!**

If you would like to play or sing for Gatherings, contact Debbie Anderson at

danders@lufkinisd.org or Melissa Smith at KeithAndMelissaSmith@yahoo.com.



East Texas EMMAUS Family:

We love each other. We need each other. We grow together and encourage each other. We are indeed blessed.



ADORED OR ENDURED?

While listening to a recent sermon, the still small voice inside me asked "Is the Lord getting to adore you or having to endure you"? We have all known people that we have had to endure for the sake of others: co-workers, family, in-laws, out-laws etc... What a horrible thought that my Lord would have to endure me. I confess that I have struggled with pride in my life. Pride is a killer to relationships, including the one with the Lord. 1 Peter 5:5 clearly tells us that 'God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble'.

More than anything, I would like to be God's friend. We cannot be friends with both the world and God. James 4:4 warns us that 'Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God'. The LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend. Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth. Kind of gives us a clue doesn't it? We ought to learn from Moses and humble ourselves before God. The LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love. Have a blessed day.

DeColores, Greg Stewart

Life Lessons:

Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.