



BRAZOS VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY
MAY 2004 NEWSLETTER



May & June Gatherings

Our **May Gathering** will be held at 5:30 pm on Saturday, May 15, at St John's UCC in Burton. A covered-dish supper begins the evening which will be followed by worship. The fellowship will be great and you can't beat the drive to Burton in the spring for beauty!!

The **June Gathering—1st Annual BVEC Reunion**—will be held on Saturday, June 19 at Bryan FUMC. This event begins at 3 pm. Please come and help us celebrate our heritage as the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community. We have grown to over 1500 in the last 11 years and would like to take this special time to honor **Where we have been, Where we are and Where we are going.**

We are looking forward to seeing each Walk's "Pilgrims", Directors, Clergy, and all the team members.

Sponsor Youth for our Chrysalis Flights—NOW

ATTENTION : Chrysalis Flight Dates
and Locations Have Changed

Boy's Flight #6 will be July 21-24 at Bryan FUMC. Lay Director is Jim Hanks, 979-828-5231, jhanks@iolbv.com

Girl's Flight #7 will be August 4-7 at Tanglewood Christian Camp near Rockdale. Lay Director is Mary Kamas, 979-828-4223, kmkamas@iolbv.com

Just as the word **chrysalis** symbolizes the change a caterpillar goes through to turn into a beautiful butterfly, our plans for Chrysalis have changed again this summer. Although change is inconvenient, we are confident that God is in control and He will create Chrysalis Flights that are more beautiful than we can imagine.

Please continue to pray for Jim and Mary as they work through these changes and team selection. The boys' flight is in need of a spiritual team. Pray for the teams and the Caterpillars. We don't know who they are but God does. Sign up for the Prayer Vigil and if you can help in any way please contact Jim or Mary.

Just as we are counting on Christ, He is counting on all of us to make these flights successful.

From the Community Lay Director

When I remember back on my Walk to Emmaus, the feelings of love, joy, kindness, happiness and peace fill my heart. Apprehension and anticipation were definitely there on Thursday; then on Friday dealing with priorities got my attention. With all the showers of love on Saturday and Sunday, the Holy Spirit reminded me of our Father's gifts of the fruits of the spirit. The fruits of the Weekend gave me an excitement of serving my Lord. Wow, Oh How I love Jesus.

The Walk to Emmaus is an experience that each one of us will never forget. Do you remember? On each Walk, we have heard a Talk on our Christian Action. Thinking of our Christian Action, the song "Blessed Assurance" by Fanny J. Crosby and Phoebe P. Knapp, comes to mind. In the refrain, we sing "*This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long*". Try singing the refrain twice and the second time, replace the word "*servicing*" my Savior all the day long" How are you doing? How are we doing?

We the Brazos Valley Emmaus/Chrysalis Community, its Board and Leaders, have taken the challenge seriously. In the last few months, we have experienced Walk #55 and #56. We have gathered in College Station, Deanville and Caldwell. We have selected teams for Flight #6 and #7 and Walks #57 and #58. We have found new site locations for our Chrysalis Flights and future Walks. Everyone is busy making plans and preparation for these upcoming Flights and Walks. Would you like to help? As the Brazos Valley Emmaus/Chrysalis family, you can be a vital part of each and every Flight/Walk by praying. Please uplift each event in your prayers to our Father, asking for his guidance and hand in each and every decision. We are still in need of a Spiritual Director and Assistant Spiritual Directors for our Boy's Chrysalis Flight, #6. I know God has a plan and wants this Flight to be successful.

As I mentioned, God has provided another location for our Walks and Flights. We are very excited about the Tanglewood Christian Camp, which is located between Rockdale and Giddings off Highway 77. This new site provides the opportunity for hosting our Candlelight Service at the camp, along with many other answers to prayers. You will note the dates for the Chrysalis Flights have changed due to the re-scheduling. The Boy's Flight, #6 will be held at First United Methodist Church in Bryan, July 21st thru July 24th. The Girl's Flight, #7 will be held at this new camp, Tanglewood Christian Camp, August 4th thru 7th. Please support our young people by coming to Candlelight on Friday night and Closing on Saturday afternoon. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

In closing at the end of each Sunday Morning Service in Franklin, we sing "Bind Us Together" by Bob Gillman. I would like to close and share the words to that beautiful song: *Bind us together Lord, Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us together Lord, Bind us together, bind us together in Love. There is only one God. There is only one King; There is only one body. That is why I sing.*

Your sister in Christ,
Debbie Black, Brazos Valley Emmaus Community Lay Director

Barbara Allard	Carolyn Bales	Deborah Bales	Donna Black	Deborah L. Bland
Jamie Beth Brown	Holly Carlile	Jean Curling	Gayle Demmy	Margy Elliott
Beth Fowler	Debbie Gehring	Linda Hale	Emily Henkhaus	Denise Hilberling
Tina Hoefelmeyer	Rene Hollingsworth	Regina Jackson	Donna Jones	Todree Knight
Donna Labarbera	Molly Metcalf	Sarah E. Newell	Dory Nielsen	Margeret Polansky
Margo Reese	Katherine Scasta	Kristina Sheffield	Cyndi Smith	Sharon Kay Street
Bonnie Toalson	Susan Vestal	Elaine Walberg	Patsi Whatley	Paula Wilson
Alison Young	Julian Ayala	Robert Bell	David Blake	Mark Bouchard
Robert Brydia	Joddie Carlile	Ken Esten Cooke	Homer DeGlandon	Mitch Demny
Brantley Duncan	Myrl Duncan	Greg Felling	Marc Fitzpatrick	Randy Fletcher
John Hawes	James Henkhaus	John Hoffman	Ronnie Hollingsworth	Brent Kornegay
Davis Mallard	Manny Martinez	Robert Meier	R. J. Nitsche	Philip Olive
Kenner Reinhardt	Gary Rogers	Jeremy Sheffield	Tony Thackeray	James Thompson
Melvin Tinklenberg	Andy Vestal	Jeff Walvoord	Aaron Watson	Michael Wooten
James Young				

Team Selection

With the Teams already chosen for the Fall '04 Walks, it is now time to select Teams for the Spring of '05. If you have never worked on a Walk, it is a wonderful, uplifting experience. If you have already worked on a Walk and want to see lives changed, consider sending in your name.

If you haven't worked on a Walk, it is suggested that you work on the Support Team first so you get the overview of how a Walk works. It is a time to be an anonymous servant and is a big blessing.

To submit your request, contact any of the Team Selection committee members: Jim Smith, Joe Veale, Marcy Norman and Sally Miller. Or contact any of the Board members. Blessings in Christ, Sally Miller

International Agape Ministry

An exciting new ministry is being started in our BVEC community. It is an International agape and prayer ministry. Do you remember on your walks seeing letters from all over the world? Well, we are going one step further and sending a small piece of agape to walks taking place in South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Puerto Rico, Sweden and possibly Hong Kong. The walks in Sweden are Walks #3 and #4. We have also asked the different communities if we can be a part of their 72 hour prayer vigil.

This is a BIG undertaking for our community, but it is also an exciting outreach. If you would be interested in being a part of this ministry - either by having a prayer spot, or by helping with agape (a lot of the ideas have been worked out, we just need willing workers), please contact Carolyn Bush @ 979-828-3464 or e-mail me @ wcbush@quixnet.net . This ministry is not being financed by our general fund by just through personal agape gifts. DeColores - Carolyn Bush

Think CHRYSALIS—Flights have agape needs just like Walks. Please support our youth!!

Reunion Groups

Recently I have been contacted requesting information about Reunion Groups. These requests have come from individuals who have moved into the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community area from other Emmaus communities. It became an immediate problem, as there is no list of current reunion groups that I could refer. I am writing this letter to request that if you are currently involved in a reunion group that you contact me immediately with the following information:

1. Name of group
2. Location of meeting
3. Day and time of meeting
4. Open for new members?
5. Contact information

If you are not currently involved in a Reunion Group this may be a good time to find one or even get one started in your area. Reunion Groups help to stay in touch with other Emmaus members and certainly a way to stay focused on the Word. You never know who may be out there needing a group. It may even be you!

Please contact me as soon as possible. I will make the list available through the Internet, in Closing packets, and in the newsletter. Send info to: Virgil Price, 505 Cardinal Lane, Bellville, Texas 77418
Phone: 979 865-5986 E-mail: bigvstoy@aol.com

Prayer Vigils

The prayer vigils for both the boys' and girls' Chrysalis Flights need a lot of prayer time slots filled. God will bless you anyway, but especially if you are involved in his work, like praying for the youth. Please consider signing up today. If you know someone who does not have a computer or internet access, please remind them to sign up, they can phone me at 979-836-9198. God Bless Y'all, Frank Goodrich

Think CHRYSALIS—Flights need support folks just like Walks! They also have Candlelight!!

NEWSLETTER SURVEY Please read and respond

Over the last several months, your Emmaus Board has been concerned with two issues, 1) sharing the load of publishing and mailing out the newsletter, and 2) saving as much as we can when providing the newsletter to all members of the Brazos Valley Emmaus community.

First, Kathy Kothmann has been gathering the articles, creating the newsletter from those, and getting it printed and then, assisted by her reunion group team, labeling and mailing out the newsletter. They have been doing this since September 1996!! Kathy and the team have been asking for someone to take over this job. Would you prayerfully consider taking on this responsibility? This is a vital need. They offer training. The newsletter does need to be mailed at the College Station post office.

Also, we have been concerned with cost-effectively getting out the newsletter. There is a huge expense in mailing each member a newsletter. We have discussed some alternate considerations. Of course, we would continue mailing the newsletter to those who do not have computers or choose to continue with the mail. Some ideas we have discussed include:

- Sending the newsletter by email to everyone possible. The recipient's advantage here would be the ability to save it, keep it in a file to refer to whenever wanted, and even print it out. And if anyone moves, including out of state, he could still get the newsletter. We lose contact with many members because we do not get their new mailing addresses.
- Doing an all out announcement of the fact that the newsletter has been and will continue to be on the web site. We can always get current and past newsletters from our web site. We feel this needs to be announced to our community repeatedly.
- Paying a printing firm or someone to put out the newsletter for us. Obviously, this would be very expensive. But is it to be the alternative to someone's doing the work?
- Discontinuing the newsletter. Certainly, this is not a desire of the Board, but help is definitely needed in getting out the newsletter.

We realize the email part would take a little time to get used to, but it would save the community money and some of the labor. It is a tremendous job mailing out nearly *fifteen hundred* newsletters. Sooner or later, as the membership grows, we are going to have to do something. Your input and suggestions are most important and welcome. What we would like for every member or member household do is respond to the ideas in the above list. Email your response to frankgoodrich@msn.com or any board member. Or phone Frank Goodrich at 979-836-9198 or any board member (see listing on newsletter cover) with your input. We will be discussing this at the future gatherings, so you can see us there.

The Emmaus Community Board of Directors sincerely urges everyone to respond to this survey in one way or another. Eventually we will have to make choices, and we would like to represent you well, so let us know what your wishes are. Change can be difficult to get used to. Remember when we did not have computers? What-
ever did we do without them? I am waiting to hear from you.

Frank E. Goodrich

Member of the BVEC Board of Directors, in charge of communications, newsletters and prayer vigils

Nominations

Do you love serving the Lord? The purpose of Emmaus is to train leaders for the local church, but Emmaus cannot work without YOU!!! Serving on a Team for one of the Walks requires us to commit four days (usually Saturdays) to Team meetings. The Walk itself takes three and a half days of our time. Seven and a half days is not a small commitment...but as we ALL know, it is worth every minute of our time. Why do we do it? Because its is fun? Because our friends are doing it? We've nothing else to do?...NO, we do it for the pilgrims.

So let me get straight to the point...Have you ever considered serving on the Emmaus Board of Directors??? The Board is made up of people just like you. People looking to serve the pilgrims AND the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community.

Serving on the Board requires the following:

- Serve a three year term. - Meet once a month and anyone is allowed to attend. - Lead a committee.
- Love your brothers and sisters. - Serve as the Board Rep on one or two Walks. - Other duties :)

You do not have to be an "Emmaus Expert" to serve on the Board. You just have to be willing to serve. Please call or email me to if you want to know some more details about serving your community. Remember: God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called!!!

Lewis Wynn , 979-567-4657 , lwynn@acsdigital.net

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Brazos Valley Emmaus Community

PO Box 10491
College Station, TX 77842

Email: news@bvemmas.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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WWW.BVEMMAUS.ORG

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BVEC Community Calendar and Information

2004 Gatherings/Hoots

Saturday, May 15, 5:30 pm at
St John's UCC, Burton. Cover-
ed dish supper followed by
worship.

Saturday, June 19, Bryan
FUMC— 3 pm BVEC Reunion

August—Hullabaloo—needs
host church!

September—Franklin UMC

Saturday, November 13—
Brenham UMC, 5:30 pm cover-
ed dish supper.

Missing months (July, August,
October) need host church—
Contact Dale Wacasey, 979-
693-5678

2004 Weekends

Boys' Chrysalis Flight 6—June 23-26,
Bryan UMC—LD: Jim Hanks

Girls' Chrysalis Flight 7—July 7-10,
Tanglewood Christian Camp—LD:
Mary Kamas

Women's Walk 57— September 23-
26, Camp Tejas —LD: Pat Mynar

Men's Walk 58—October 14-17,
Camp Tejas —LD: Keith Kamas

Next Board Meeting

Board Meeting—May 25th instead of
June 1st.

THINK CHRYSALIS!!
What are you doing to
support the Flights? Con-
tact Jim or Mary TODAY!!

Brazos Valley Emmaus Community Board

Lay Director: Debbie Black 979-828-5751

Spiritual Director: Rev. Tony Taylor 979-567-1746

Asst.Lay Director/Closing: Scarlette Taylor 979-567-7368

Team Selection: Sally Miller 979-696-2925

Secretary/ASD: Rev. Amy Haralson 979-7791324

Treasurer: Mary Stevens—979-774-5505

Training: Kay Polasek 979-846-6561

Reunion Grps/Site Selection: Virgil Price 979-865-5986

Registration: Melba Madison—979-779-6647

Gatherings: Dale Wacasey 979-693-5678

Nominations/Music: Lewis Wynn 979-567-4657,

Prayer Vigils/Communications: Frank Goodrich 979-836-9198

External Agape: Doug Perkins 281-893-0086

Asst Spiritual Director: Rev. David White 979-773-2728

Candlelight/Kitchen—Wayne Bush 979-828-3464

BVEC Board meetings are held at 6 pm on 1st Tuesdays at Christ
UMC, College Station, and are open to all. Send requested agenda
items or other written input to BVEC, PO Box 10491, College
Station, TX 77842. Your input is desired—please send suggestions
or criticisms in writing for distribution to the Board.