



BRAZOS VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY
MAY 2005 NEWSLETTER



Upcoming Walks & Flights

The Boy's and Girl's Chrysalis Flights are just around the corner. Please prayerfully consider sponsoring a youth for one of the upcoming Flights. As per the Upper Room, *"The aim of sponsorship is the same as the aim of Chrysalis: the spiritual growth of young Christians as disciples of Jesus Christ through churches and their youth groups. Every sponsor should reflect upon his or her motivation for wanting to sponsor a young person and make sure it is consistent with this aim. Chrysalis is for high school (tenth through twelfth grades) age young people. Chrysalis is especially meaningful for young people who are ready to think and share about the realities and struggles of life on a more adult level: "What am I going to do with my life?" "Who do I want to become?" "What do I believe?" "What kind of relationships are lasting and most meaningful?" "What does it mean to live as a Christian and how can I do it?"* WOW!!! What an honor to be able to offer this opportunity to the youth of our community. Wouldn't it be great to have both Flights full! We, as a community can make that a reality. Flight applications and sponsorship forms can be downloaded from the web. For further information contact Keith Kamas at kkamas@bvemmaus.org.

Even though they may seem distant, the Men's and Women's Walks are also fast approaching. Teams have been selected, team meetings have begun or will begin soon, potential pilgrims are being contacted, and agape is being made. What an exciting time of prayer and expectation (not ANTICIPATION). Please keep both Judy Veale and Joe Veale in your prayers as they lead their teams and make preparation to lead the Walks. Also, please pray for the team members and support personnel. Both Walks have space available. Walk applications and sponsorship forms can be downloaded from the web.

As we all know, even though we are not serving on a Chrysalis Flight or an Emmaus Walk, there are many ways we can be involved. **Prayer, sponsorship, agape, prayer vigil, candlelight attendance, and closing attendance** are some of the first things that come to mind. It's never too early to go the community web site and sign up on each of the Prayer Vigils. It takes an entire Community to host these events. Please pray and reflect on where or how you can be involved.

REUNION GROUPS

It is an exciting time! It's time to start praying about who God will lead us to sponsor on the upcoming Women's & Men's Walks!!! As you look around your congregation make a mental note of those who have been on a Walk, and meet regularly in a Reunion Group. But, don't stop there. As you prayerfully consider who God is nudging you to sponsor, look ahead at Reunion Groups potential pilgrim's can join after their Walk. If there aren't any "spots" open in existing groups, or other willing participants--- the challenge to your church is to sponsor 3 or more Pilgrims who could form a group after the Walk. Our job as a sponsor does not end after closing. We must do everything possible to grow our Reunion Groups for the well-being of our Pilgrims and to strengthen the entire Emmaus Community as it meets the challenge of fulfilling it's purpose in Christ's plan for the Brazos Valley. REMEMBER, YOUR CHURCH'S CHALLENGE IS TO SPONSOR 3 OR MORE PILGRIMS!!!! AND THEN GUIDE THEM INTO A REUNION GROUP!!! If you are not currently in a Reunion Group then the challenge would be to join an existing Reunion Group or start one of your own. If you are not sure just exactly how to start a Reunion Group or how a Reunion Group works there is help. Those who are already members of a Reunion Group would be more than willing to help you get one started, answer any questions you may have, or assist you by leading your first meeting. Be a Blessing! Make it a point to talk to the Emmaus contact person or your pastor this Sunday and see what you can do to help coordinate sponsorships and Reunion Groups for upcoming Walks.

Women's Walk 59 Team

Carolyn Berlanga
 Barbara Brock
 Teresa Bye
 Marlene Coffman
 Sue Dixon
 Windgale Edwards
 Darla Fitzgibbons
 Janice Garner
 Sandy Gaskin
 Sandra Greaves
 Karen Hale

Joy Hinze
 Kathryn Hughes
 Carol Isbell
 Marsha LeGard
 Beth Luker
 Daun Masur
 Cynthia McCaleb
 Winnie Montgomery
 Dory Nielsen
 Kay Norwood

Mickey Peterson
 Morgan Schroeder
 Deanna Spencer
 Lynda Stack
 Carole Stanley
 Jo Teller
 Sharon Whitaker
 Cecelia Williams

Dorothy "Dot" Obrecht, deceased. We extend our hearts and our prayers to family and friends.

Men's Walk 61 Team

Greg Barfield
 Sid Burgess
 Jerry Coffman
 Michael Dowling
 Derek French
 Ronald Hale
 Don Hazelwood
 Keith Hinze

Robert Johnson
 Thomas Lee
 Wayne Lucker
 Jose Maldonado
 Steve May
 Clifford Mcdowell
 Spot McMahan
 Shawn Metoyer

Sam Perry
 Robert Read
 Darron Smith
 Leonard Smith
 Walter Stauble
 Ed Wetterman
 Terry Williams

Note From The Community Lay Director

I would like to begin by asking for your prayers for Scarlett Taylor, our former Community Lay Director. As many of you know Scarlett resigned her position on the board due to health issues. I ask that you join me in prayer for her continued healing. Scarlett was an excellent Lay Director and we miss her dearly. Scarlett, we thank you for your service to the Community and look forward to your being able to join us once again at Gatherings and Walk functions.

I thank each of you for supporting me in this new position. I will do my best to serve you and this Community in a way that will glorify God and hopefully enrich the Community. I ask that if you have any concerns or recommendations that you will feel free to contact me either by e-mail (mstevens@emmaus.org) or phone (979-777-0182). When I went on my Walk in March, 1996 my life was dramatically changed and since then my heart has been in Emmaus and making it the best it can be. Having the opportunity to serve in this position gives me one more chance to give back to those who gave so much to me. One goal I have is getting more of the community involved. I'd love nothing more than to see more members of our community attending Gatherings and Walk functions. Remember when you were on your Walk and there was a time when you probably might not have wanted to return home and leave your new friends behind. Gatherings, Candlelight and Closing are opportunities to see those special persons as well as support the Community. So please check the web site for upcoming functions, pencil those times into your calendar and bless us with your presence. DeColores, Mary Stevens

AGAPE REMINDER

If you wish to have your leftover agape returned to you, please include some form of identification so we know to whom to return the agape. If you need assistance getting agape to a Walk or Flight contact Frank Goodrich, fgoodrich@bvemmas.org. The July Chrysalis Flights need lots of agape!!!!

Save Postage—Get This Newsletter Electronically

Thanks ever so much to those of you who returned your postcards volunteering to receive your newsletter via the internet. Our goal is to keep the Community abreast of all BVEC news by any means and at the same time be good stewards of your funds. If you are still receiving your newsletter through the mail, would you be willing to receive the newsletter via email? If so, please email news@bvemmaus.org and provide your name and the email address that you'd like to be used.

Get Regular Announcements and Prayer Requests

Did you know that BVEC has an email listserv—bv-emmaus@yahoo.com? This is a free subscription that comes into your inbox. This allows you to send or receive messages such as announcements, community information, and prayer requests. To subscribe, send an email message to news@bvemmaus.org and give the email address at which you'd like to receive the information. You can also send an email message with your "name and table" to bv-emmaus-subscribe@yahoo.com.

Prayer Vigils

The prayer vigils for both Chrysalis Flights and both fall Walks are available on the web (bvemmaus.org). Please consider signing up today via the web. If you know someone who does not have a computer for internet access, please advise them to sign up by contacting Gary Lancaster, 979-690-0717.

Medical Professionals Needed

The Brazos Valley Emmaus Community is required to have a licensed medical professional present at each walk we host at Tanglewood Christian Camp. If we do not provide a medical professional the camp will do so, but it would be as an added expense for the Community. We do not currently have in our data base a listing of those who would qualify to serve in this position. If you are either an MD, Nurse, or EMTP and would like to be considered for upcoming walks, please e-mail Louise Goodrich at lgoodrich@bvemmaus.org. Those who serve in this position would not be asked to pay the required team fee. They would, however, be asked to cover the costs of their meals. Those who have served on prior walks reported that they have been able to join in the fun and fellowship of the support team. Please consider signing up for this much needed position.

FAITH IN ACTION

FAITH IN ACTION is the name of a new column that will be in upcoming newsletters. The BVEC wants to hear about what the Walk to Emmaus is inspiring it's members to do on their Fourth Day! As Christians we are called to witness about what God has done in our lives. Please consider sharing how your life has changed, how God is using you, where you have plugged in, what your reunion group means to you, or what God has you doing these days. This is your opportunity to witness, to touch lives, and to inspire others to be Christ's representatives in our hurting world! E-mail your article to mstevens@bvemmaus.org or mail it to BVEC, P.O. Box 10941, College Station, Texas, 77842. Depending on the response, the BVEC will try to print all articles received in a timely manner.

Example: Before Emmaus I was not involved in any church activities or Bible studies. Since my Walk I have been in and led many Bible studies, I sing in the choir, have gone on a youth mission trip, and now serve as parking lot greeter for my church. This past weekend I went with a Sunday School class to Teague, Texas to help a church with the finishing touches of their church refurbishment. I am a member of Thee Reunion Group which has been my mainstay in times of needs and joys—Mary Stevens

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Brazos Valley Emmaus Community

PO Box 10491
College Station, TX 77842

Email: news@bvemmas.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WE'RE ON THE WEB AT
WWW.BVEMMAUS.ORG

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BVEC Community Calendar and Information

Remaining 2004 Gatherings/Hoots

June—Local gatherings—
watch your e-mail for dates
and locations.

Sat. Aug 6th—
HULLABALOO-4:00 p.m.,
Christ UMC, College Sta-
tion,

Saturday, Nov 12th— First
UMC, Brenham-time to be
announced

Gatherings Chair: Cheryl
Merryman,

Host churches are needed
for all of 2006. Please
prayerfully consider being
the contact person at your
church for a Gathering and
choose the month that is
best for you to host a Gath-
ering!

Upcoming Walks

Girls Flight #7— July 6-9,
First UMC, Bryan —LD:
Mary Stevens; SD: Rev. Tony
Taylor

Boy's Flight #8—July 20-23,
First UMC, Bryan —LD:
Cully Lipsey; SD: Rev. Tony
Taylor

Women's Walk 61— Sept 15-
18, Tanglewood Christian
Camp,LD: Judy Veale; SD:
David White

Men's Walk 62— Oct 13-16,
Tanglewood Christian
Camp, LD: Joe Veale; SD: .

Next Board Meeting

Board Meeting: June 7,
Christ UMC, 6 pm. **Open
to the Community**

2004-2005 Brazos Valley Emmaus Community Board

Lay Director: Mary Stevens 979-777-0182

Spiritual Director: Rev. Cherry Moore—979-822-4223

Asst. Lay Director: Frank Goodrich 979-836-9198

Secretary/ASD: Rev. John Warren

Treasurer: Keith Kamas—979-828-4223

Rev. Tony Taylor 979-567-1746

Sally Miller 979-696-2925

Adrienne Bailey—979-828-5047

Ken Hayes—979-268-0170

Carolyn Bush 979-828-3464

Cheryl Merryman—281-320-2956

Rev. Leonard Navarre 713-461-1196

Virgil Price 979-865-5986

Gary Lancaster—979-690-0717

Louise Goodrich 979-836-9198

Jim Busby—979-278-3500

BVEC Board meetings are held at 6 pm on 1st Tuesdays at Christ UMC, College Station, and are **open to all**. Please 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. BVEC is under covenant with the Upper Room for all aspects of our operations: Board meetings, committee functions, conducting Walks and our 4th day servanthood support.

The following are the proposed revised Bylaws for the BVEC. The community is asked to read these bylaws. If there are no objections received within 60 days, these by laws will then become effective. If you have concerns or questions please notify Mary Stevens by e-mail at mstevens@bvemmaus.org or by phone at 979-777-0182.

BYLAWS OF THE
BRAZOS VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this community shall be The Brazos Valley Emmaus Community, hereinafter referred to as the Community, A Texas Non-Profit Corporation.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of the Community shall be to inspire, challenge, and equip church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, places of work, and the world community through the Emmaus experience.

Section 2. The Community is affiliated with the International Emmaus Program of Upper Room Ministries, Nashville, Tennessee.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons who have completed a weekend experience of The Walk to Emmaus sponsored by an Upper Room Emmaus community shall be members of the Community.

Section 2. Persons who have completed a_Cursillo, Via de Cristo, or Tres Dias weekend may become members by participating in the activities of the community and asking the secretary or registrar of the Community to include their names on the mailing list.

ARTICLE IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Purpose

Direction of the Community shall be vested in a Board of Directors.

Section 2. Composition

The Board will consist of fifteen (15) elected members and the Community Spiritual Director.

Section 3. Terms of Office

- a) Laypersons on the board shall be elected by the Community members for three (3)-year terms in three (3) classes, each class has (5) members.
- b) Board members cannot succeed themselves in consecutive terms, a term being three (3) years.
- c) Terms of office shall begin January 1 and shall terminate December 31, except for officers, who shall serve until election of new officers in January as provided in Section 5.

Section 4. Election of Board Members

- a) Board members shall be elected by the community.
- b) The nominating committee shall submit to the board a slate of seven (7) nominees to elect five (5) board members.

- c) The ballot shall be provided to the Community members as part of the newsletter and shall be available no later than October 15 of each year.
- d) Ballots are to be received by the board no later than November 15th of each year.
- e) Election is by majority vote of the ballots cast.
- f) The immediate past chair of the board shall serve on the board one (1) additional year or the normal period of the term, whichever is longer.
- g) The board may elect persons, upon nomination by the chair, to fill a vacant term until the next regular election for that term. Such persons are eligible for election to a full term by the Community at such regular election

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

Section 1. Officers

Officers shall be the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer; and in case of absences will chair meetings in this order. The Vice-Chair must be eligible to serve an additional year on the board and serve as the Chair if elected to that post. Officers can accept responsibility for a work area in addition to their elected position on the board.

Section 2. Election of Officers

Officers shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors at the January meeting for a one (1)-year term of office effective with the close of the January meeting.

Section 3. Spiritual Director

The Spiritual Director of the Community shall be selected annually by the Board of Directors. Term of office shall begin January 1. The Spiritual Director may be replaced during the term by ten (10) affirmative votes.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. The board shall meet monthly in regular meetings unless otherwise ordered by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the board in a regular meeting.

Section 2. Quorum

Ten (10) members of the Board of Directors present at a duly called meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. Special Meetings

Special board meetings may be called by the chair or when requested in writing by ten (10) members of the board.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall name board members to chair the following Committees: Nominating, Group Reunion, Registration, Transportation, Facility (Set-up, Breakdown, Welcoming, and Closing), Agape Acts, Literature/Clothing, Sponsor's Hour, Logistics, Candlelight, Site Selection, Communications, Speaker Prayer Chapel/Prayer Vigil, Chrysalis, Music and Training.

Section 2. The Chair of the Board will be an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

Section 3. Any Community member may be appointed to serve on any committee. The Board may annually approve the establishment of additional committees and name Community members to serve on such.

ARTICLE VIII. WALK TO EMMAUS

Section 1. The Community shall follow the guidelines of The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus program in the presentation of the three-day (72 hour) experience called Walk to Emmaus. The guidelines are attached hereto.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have general oversight in all matters relating to the local Walk to Emmaus Community.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall choose a Lay Director for each Community Walk to Emmaus weekend.

Section 4. The Spiritual Director for each Community Walk to Emmaus weekend shall be selected by the board.

Section 5. The board shall establish a Team Selection Committee. The Team Selection Committee shall consist of a board member, who serves as chair, the Community Spiritual director and three (3) or four (4) members of the Emmaus Community who have broad awareness of the community membership and a solid understanding of team needs. Community members are appointed by the board chair.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposed amendments may be presented to the board by any member of the Community one (1) month in advance of consideration by the board.

Section 2. If the amendments are voted in the affirmative by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the board, they will be circulated to the membership through the Community newsletter, and if no petitions signed by at least twenty-five (25) community members objecting to the new amendments are received, the amendments will be considered adopted. Any objections must be received within sixty (60) days of the mailing of the notification. If an objection petition is received, the amendment will be considered void.

Section 3. If the board then wishes to submit the amendment to the entire Community for a vote, it may do so. A majority or plurality of votes cast by the membership will decide the matter.

ARTICLE X. RATIFICATION

The bylaws take effect immediately upon certification of the board that a majority of the mail ballot of the Community approves them.

From Kairos of Texas:

Kairos Prison Ministry Needs Your Help

Kairos Needs are:

1. **Prayer**—2nd Thessalonians 3:1 says, “Pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.”
2. **Team Members**—Jesus tells us in Matthew 25:36 that it is our responsibility to visit those who are in prison—“I was in prison and you came to visit me.” In Matthew 25:39-40 we read, “When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you? The king will reply, “I tell you when you did this for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me!”” One of the ways you can go into the prison is by being on a Kairos Team. We ask that you make yourself available and God will provide the necessary abilities and blessings.
3. **Sponsorships**—We ask our communities to help us with the sponsoring of the RESIDENTS who come to participate in a multi-denominational 3-day weekend. Prison residents participate in hearing the gospel message proclaimed and we supply food, drinks and support materials which amounts to an expense of approximately \$125.00 for each resident. We ask individuals and all the groups in our churches (the BODY) - 4th Day, Sunday School, Music Department, etc. to consider the verses in James:2 as you think about helping us bring the message of Jesus to those behind bars, so that they may be set free in Jesus as we have been set free through Him. In the past, members of the teams have had to bear all of the costs. Kairos in Texas has rapidly expanded and is now serving 25 TDCJ units and four Kairos Outside locations. The Lord has shown us that we need to give others the opportunity to be a part of His Ministry for it to continue to grow and be blessed as it has in the past!!!
4. **Cookies**—Cookies baked with prayer are a significant tool used during a Kairos Weekend. They are used to soften the hardened and calloused hearts to allow Jesus to come in through the power of the Holy Spirit!!! We need as much as 5000 dozen cookies for a 3500 resident prison for a Kairos Weekend. We ask that these cookies be about 2” diameter cooked full of prayer and packaged one dozen in a quart size Ziploc bag. Chocolate Chip, Oatmeal, and Peanut Butter are some of the favorites.
5. **Written Agape**—Some Residents have not had correspondence from their children or other family members for long periods of time. A letter from an adult or a child means a great deal to them. The Holy Spirit uses a simple drawing with the message, “God Loves You and So Do I” as a powerful tool to change lives. This has proven to be much more effective than using pressure tactics with extensive Bible quotes. (Children are encouraged to include their age only—please do not include last names)

If you feel called to take part in this Ministry by joining a team or helping us with any of the opportunities presented, please call or e-mail:

Tim Revell @ 512-789-5936 or tim.revell@standardregistrar.com

For more information on Kairos go to www.kairossoftexas.org

God Bless You!!!!