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BRAZOS VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY
NOVEMBER 2006 NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO THE COMMUNITY !!!!!

Women's Walk #65 : Brenda Acosta, Holly Ashley, Janice Caffey, Joanne Claridge, Dale Craig, Tamara Curtis, Dianne Davenport, Barbara Edwards, Eleanor Floeck, Yolanda Garcia, Carol Gregg, Catina Hall, Debbie Harris, Elizabeth Hebert, Barbara Huffman, Jeanne Jobe, Martha Lockhart, Michelle Majewski, Porcha Mays, Vanissa McCoy, Sharon Newton, Naomi Sanders, Peggy Schafer, Lakesha Walker, Tracey Wetterman, Naomi Sanders, Bridgit Williams, Amy York, Betty Young

Women's Walk #65 was held as close to the model provided by The Upper Room for an Emmaus Walk as possible, including the "invisible servanthood" of the Outside Team. This act of selfless, service was no small thing given the logistics of a walk, but L'Anna Dock and her team did an outstanding job and in doing so blessed pilgrims and team alike by allowing the conference room to be a truly "sacred, private space". Team members made team building, spiritual formation and training a top priority by setting everything else aside in order to attend the team meetings. There was even one team member who turned down a FREE cruise out of Galveston to attend a Team Meeting!!! Others made sacrifices to honor their commitment to each other, the pilgrims, and the community, too, and it really made a difference in the preparedness of the team. I was humbled by the humility and sacrifices made by the Team of Walk #65. This team, like others before them, lived the example of Christ in Christian community. No member of the Walk #65 team drew attention to themselves. The focus remained on the Cross and on the Pilgrims the entire weekend. God sent an absolutely wonderful group of pilgrims to Walk #65. All of them were at different stages on their journey with Christ, but hey eagerly soaked up the Word, and the Love and reflected it back to each other in their table groups and to the team. I have no doubt that they will continue to spread the joy in their families, churches and communities during their Fourth Day! I was honored and blessed to get to know the women and men, pilgrims and team, of Walk #65, and to serve them and with them on behalf of Jesus Christ. The joy of this service will be with me for eternity. DeColores! Hilda Baker, Walk #14, Table of Mary - Lay Director, Women's Walk #65

Men's Walk #66: Randy Best, Douglas Caffey, Jack Caulkins, Michael Clark, Russell Eaton, Paul Erwin, Ed Grismer, Grady Harris, Byron James, Ben Kruse, Cecil Lang, James Lockhart, Barry Lynn, Bob Moore, Jim Norton, Jim D. Smith, Charles Watson, David Woodruff

I sincerely wish to express my heartfelt thanks to Walk #66 team members, to those who worked so hard on the support team, to those who served on Saturday evening's banquet (servers, decorators, musicians, cooks). Thanks also to those who made agape or otherwise worked to make this Christian even possible. The walk would not have been successful without everyone's help and cooperation. The pilgrims really enjoyed themselves and had a great time studying God's word, doing the projects, and sharing in the Christian fellowship. They appeared to be overwhelmed with surprise but thoroughly enjoyed the Saturday evening Banquet and Candlelight Service. TO OUR NEW MEMBERS: God truly blessed us with your presence on the walk. It was an unforgettable experience to see God working during those 3 days. May God be with you all the rest of your 4th days! We hope you will become involved with the Emmaus movement and stay in touch. God Bless You All. DeColores, Frank Goodrich, Lay Director, Men's Walk #66.

We welcome each of you to the community and look forward to worshipping and serving with you in the future. Our prayer is that you will hold your Emmaus experience in your heart and that all your 4th Days are blessed.

A WORD FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

On behalf of the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community, I would like to welcome all of our new community members from Walks 65 and 66. We hope that you had a blessed experience and look forward to serving with you on all your 4th Days. There are many ways to serve within the community including: working walks (either support or conference room), making agape, serving on committees, serving on the board, sponsoring future pilgrims, participating in the prayer vigil, etc. etc. etc. You will find it very rewarding each time you serve. I guarantee you will be a blessing and will be blessed.

To all community members I wish you safe holidays. As we approach Thanksgiving, I encourage each of you to reflect on your many blessings beginning with the fact that you are a Child of God. Christmas will also have come and gone before our next newsletter. I wish for you the peace that Christmas brings and the comfort provided in the knowledge of God's love given to us through Jesus Christ, His Son.

DeColores, Adrienne Bailey

A WORD FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Some of you have heard me talk about how I often say the Jesus Prayer while walking or on a treadmill. It leads itself to a rhythmic repetition. "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have mercy on me, a sinner." Recently I have started walking in the early morning. One day I was saying the Jesus Prayer and realized I am walking with a much more grateful heart. For several days now I have been saying, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Thank you for your mercy." This morning, after doing that prayer many times, I started thanking God for something new at the end of each repetition. "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, thank you that I can walk today...thank you for vision...thank you for whoever trimmed this grass. Thank you for that squirrel. Thank you for the next family who comes to this picnic table. Thank you for whoever designed those swings. Thank you for those who swing and those who push." Take a period of time and try to express gratitude for something different with every breath or every step. At the end of this exercise you are likely to feel more grateful. I know I did.

DeColores, Cherry Moore

BVEC E-MAIL UPDATES

PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING UP FOR E-MAIL UPDATES, INFORMATION AND PRAYER REQUESTS.....BY JOINING THE BVEC LISTSERV! IT IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO STAY CONNECTED TO WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE COMMUNITY! YOU CAN JOIN BY SENDING A BLANK E-MAIL TO BV-EMMAUS-SUBSCRIBE@YAHOOGROUPS.COM OR YOU CAN SEND AN E-MAIL TO KATHY KOTHMAN AT KATHYK@ALPHA1.NET REQUESTING TO BE ADDED TO THE LISTSERV

WEAR YOUR AGAPE!

Every organization has its traditions, and Emmaus is no exception! In many communities bright colors are worn at Candlelight, but here in the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community we encourage community participants to wear white shirts, crosses and nametags to Candlelights. But, unlike Candlelight, we wear bright, joyful colors and all of the wearable agape possible for Closing Ceremonies and Gatherings! The Agape gifts you received on your walk were all made for you anonymously by loving hands who wanted to show you how much God loves you. The only thanks they will ever receive is the pleasure they will get from seeing you wear their gifts at a Gathering or Closing. So, remember to show your love in return and to say thank you, to these wonderful invisible servants by wearing your agape!!!!

NOVEMBER 2006



Brazos Valley Emmaus Community

PO Box 10491
College Station, TX 77842

Email: news@bvemmaus.org

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BVEC Community Calendar and Information

Upcoming

Gatherings/Hoots

December we will have North & South Gatherings:

North: **Normangee UMC**

South: **CyFair Christian**

January we will meet at **Cross Roads Retreat Center**

See website for gathering directions.

Gatherings Chair: Cheryl Merryman.—Host churches are needed for 2007.

Please contact Cheryl if you would like to be a host Church. All Gatherings are 1st Saturday @5:00 p.m.—Pot Luck

Upcoming Walks

Women's Walk 67—February 8-11, 2007, LD: Jean Smith

Men's Walk 68—Mar 1-4, 2007, LD: Marvin Morris

Upcoming Flights

(Tentative Dates)

Girl's Flight 10—July 11-14, 1-7

Boy's Flight 11—July 25-28, 2007

The next Walks and Flights will be held at Cross Roads Retreat Center, Chriesman, Texas

2006 Brazos Valley Emmaus Community Board

Lay Director: Adrienne Bailey—979-828-5047

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

Asst. Lay Director: Carolyn Bush—979-828-3464

Secretary/: Mary Stevens 979-777-0182

Treasurer: Keith Kamas—979-828-4223

Gary Lancaster—979-690-0717

Louise Goodrich 979-836-9198

Jim Busby—979-278-3500

Cheryl Merryman—281-320-2956

Frank Goodrich 979-836-9198

Hilda Baker—979-567-0218

Keith Kamas—979-828-4223

Andrew Perry—979-272-7406

Cully Lipsey—979-218-0428

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.