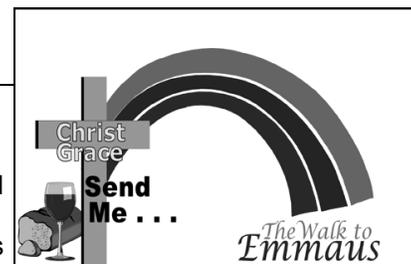


Brazos Valley Emmaus Community January 2010 Newsletter

De Colores!
Volume 19, Number 1
January 2010

Community News by Nancy Goodell



Greetings to the Community in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

What a glorious Season we have just completed while celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I hope you were all blessed during this time with your friends and family. Now it is time for your Board of Directors and the members of the Emmaus Community to get back to work as we prepare for the new Walks in 2010.

One change the Board voted on in November was an increase in fees for a Pilgrim from \$120.00 to \$140.00. This has become necessary due to an increase in operating expenses of the camp which increased our charge for using the camp. If you are sponsoring a Pilgrim and they have need of a scholarship, please contact Robert Read who is our Registrar and he will assist you with this process.

As we look forward to Women's Walk #79 which will take place on April 8-11 with Debra Brantley as the Lay Director, and Men's Walk #80 on April 22-25 with Joddie Carlile as the Lay Director, we need to prepare our hearts and minds to lend support to these new Pilgrims. First pray for protection and guidance of the teams of these Walks. Then pray for each Pilgrim that God selects to attend these Walks. Sign up for the Prayer Vigil by going to our web site www.bvemmas.org and sign up to cover the Walks with prayer during this 72 hour time period. Sponsor pilgrims for these Walks, and take care of their families with any needs they might have. Attend all events at the Emmaus Walk weekend! Stay for Sponsor's Hour if you have sponsored a Pilgrim. Attend Candlelight wearing your white shirt and your nametag and cross. Remember how exciting it is to see your folks at Candlelight. Attend closing to support these Pilgrims/New Community Members as they step forth into their Fourth Day. Be sure to send your agape items as well as special goodies for them to eat. One last item . . . attend the Gatherings! This will give you an opportunity to share with the community in Fellowship, Worship and Praise.

Join your Board as we prepare for an exciting new year of seeing Pilgrims receive the joy of God's love in their lives.

DeColores
Nancy Goodell

Browse our new Data Management System
<http://bvec.inetmember.com> or look for a link on our website.

Our Next Walks

The next Women's Walk #79 (Lay Director Debra Brantley) will be at Crossroads on April 8-11 and the next Men's Walk #80 (Lay Director Joddie Carlile) will be at Crossroads on April 22-25 in Chriesman, Texas. Please prepare your Agape, pray, and come show your support and share the love of Christ with our Pilgrims.

Team Selection Application

The BVEC Team Selection Committee is now accepting applications for the Fall 2010 Walks. Lay Directors for these Walks are Deanie Gold and Ed Wetterman. Forms need to be completed and returned to the address listed on the form NLT April 7th. Or you may sign up online at (See Insert at Left) Copies of the form may also be obtained on the web, at Gatherings and at Candlelight. For additional information, email Deborah Hildebrand at team_selection@bvemmas.org.

Did You Know

Did you know it takes approximately 70 people to serve just **one** weekend Walk? Thirty-three people are needed to serve on the Inside and Outside Teams which requires a minimum of 3 days service. The BVEC Team Selection Committee is now accepting applications for the October 2010 Walks. Lay Directors for these Walks are Deborah Hildebrand and Ed Wetterman. To serve on one of these teams, please logon to <http://bvec.inetmember.com> select "upcoming Walks" and click the Walk you would like to work or submit an application to the address listed on the form NLT April 7th. Copies of the form may also be obtained on the web, at Gatherings and at Candlelight. For additional information, email Deborah Hildebrand at team_selection@bvemmaus.org.

If you're unable to get away for that amount of time but would like to serve, many opportunities still exist where you can volunteer for several hours and still receive credit for serving on an Outside Team. These include: working in the Kitchen (2 shifts daily for a total of 18 people); Facilities Set-up on Thursday (6 people) or Facilities Tear-down on Sunday (6 people); Welcoming Committee on Thursday evening (5 people); and Parking Attendants (2 each) for Arrival, Candlelight, and Closing. Each of these opportunities require a very minimal amount of your time and are vital to the Community's ability to proceed with a Walk. If interested in serving in one of these areas, please contact the following Board members, or logon and click "Volunteer Information"

Kitchen: Jenny Beasley at 979-567-7974 or at
info@crossroadsretreat.org

Facilities Set-up/Tear-Down: Steve May at (979)778-0071

Welcoming Committee/Parking: Judy Ball at (936)788-1368



The 2010-2011 Brazos Valley Emmaus Board

Lay Director: Nancy Goodell (713) 467-7021

Assistant Lay Director: Pat Baker (979) 567-0218

Spiritual Director: Jeff Gage (979) 822-1730

Treasurer: Marilyn Koch (979) 776-3552

Secretary: Beth Barnes (979)776-1820

Team Selection: Deborah Hildebrand (979)567-7751

Nominations/Welcoming/Closings: Judy Ball (936)788-1368

Reunion Groups & 4th Day: Beth Barnes (979) 776-1820

Registrar: Robert Read (903) 626-4967

Agape: Cindy Cross (979) 567-7650

Music/Entertainment: Dale Timian (979)272-1676

Logistics, Transportation, Facility set-up/ breakdown: Steve May (979) 778-0071

Literature & Supplies: Cindy Van Deventer (979)567-7737 clvan56@wildblue.net

Candlelight/Sponsor Hour: Linda Myers (979) 865-5863

Gatherings: Sue Houseley (979) 865-3713

Prayer Chapel/Prayer Vigils: Marilyn Koch (979) 776-3552

Training: Pat Baker (979) 567-0218

Newsletter, Mail Outs: Doug Summerour 979-451-5415 summerour@broadwaves.net

Web Administration, Design, Technology: Derek French (979) 739-7635

BVEC Community Elects Five New Board Members

Elections were held last fall and the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community elected five new Board Members to serve for the next three years. Elected were Cindy Van Deventer, Beth Barnes, Doug Summerour, Judy Ball, and Debra Hildebrand. Also, on the ballot were Sam Labarbera and Mark Vzibala, and we wish to thank Sam and Mark for their willingness to serve. We would like to encourage them as well as any other community member to consider and pray about serving on the Community Board. Elections are held every year in the Fall to replace one-third of the current Board, so you've got some time to start praying about serving your Community as a working Board Member.

Arthur Averitt steps down—

Arthur's job has taken him to Austin and he felt he would be unable to complete his obligations to the Brazos Valley Emmaus Community Board of Directors, so Arthur tendered his resignation prior to the November 2009 meeting and it was accepted by the Board with deep regret. Arthur has served for almost two years of his three year term and has done an outstanding job of coordinating music teams for the walks and the gatherings. Arthur will continue to serve on music teams as he has done so well in the past. If you have served on a team with Arthur or you were a pilgrim when Arthur was providing the music you know what I'm talking about. He is a true blessing to all that hear his music. We will miss his leadership greatly on the Board, but we do look forward to seeing and hearing Arthur on future walks and at gatherings. The Board wishes to thank Arthur for his diligent service and to wish him the peace and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Board Appoints Dale Timian—

In a related note the Board has appointed Dale Timian from Caldwell to complete the one-year term vacated by Arthur Averitt. Dale has accepted the appointment and attended his first meeting in December. We look forward to working with Dale as the community's new Music Coordinator.

If you would like to serve on an music team you should contact Dale at 979-272-1676, or send him an email at 2dt@tconline.net, or with our new online system you can login and signup to serve on a music team or in any capacity.

Agape Coordinator Cindy Cross

As members of the BVEC, you go above and beyond for every Walk. All agape- your prayer, letters, food and dining room/pillow agape affirm God's love to each of the Pilgrims.

Thank you for sending 65 pieces of dining room/pillow agape. During the Walks, Pilgrims now room with team members. Distributing pillow agape is much more efficient when 65 pieces of each agape item are sent. Your cooperation, commitment and dedication to support this community with agape shows that God still uses PEOPLE to touch lives.

It is an honor to serve as agape coordinator for the BVEC. Please contact me at any time if I can be of assistance. My cell number is 979-575-0621.

Calling All Musicians and Singers

We have a partial list of musicians and singers that are members of BV Emmaus. If you have a talent and want to serve at a gathering or Candlelight or other Emmaus event please send me your name, phone number, e-mail address, and Zip Code. I want to put together a list that will identify people, in their home areas, to contact about providing music at gatherings. The music teams for the walks will be selected from walk team applications and not this list. You may volunteer to serve on a team by filling out a Team Application or by logging on to our new site <http://bvec.inetmember.org> and sign up for "Music Team"

If you have questions please call me at 979-209-4175 or e-mail me at dtimian@hughes.net. We want all that want to serve to have the opportunity. You might already be on the list but please reply anyway so we can have your most current contact information.

De Colores
Dale Timian

New Online Data Management System

The Brazos Valley Emmaus Community has joined some sixty other communities across the country and enlisted the services of *Internet Membership Systems* to handle our data management. The board feels this system is a vast improvement over our present data management system and will make sharing and access to the data much simpler. We encourage everyone with internet access to go to the site at <http://bvec.inetmember.com> and register using your email. Once you have received your temporary password via email, you can login to system and check your data. Below is a list of items you will be able to do as a registered member.



The first menu item is "IMS COMMON" in this area you will be able to:

- a. Download tools and viewers you may need, i.e. "Adobe Acrobat Reader"
- b. Link to the Upperroom Emmaus site
- c. Use the National Community Finder
- d. Go to the Upperroom Bookstore.

2. The next Menu item is "YOU" where you can change your password or click "All About You" In this area you will be able to:

- a. View and correct your contact info and verify your info is correct
- b. In "Your Options" choose contact method, hide your contact info, or unlist.
- c. "Your Weekend" shows the pilgrims on your walk
- d. "Your Experience" shows your experience working walks—if you see your experience is correct click the button "Problem with my experience" to report it to the Board. In
- e. "Your Reunion Group" allows you to add a group and manage it.
- f. "Your Church Community" brings up a list of community members from your church.
- g. "Volunteer" allows you to signup for outside team service on a walk.

3. The next menu item is "COMMUNITY" where you can:

- a. Under "directory" you can look up a member in the community with their last name.
- b. "Our Board" list the Board positions and the member serving in that capacity.
- c. "Upcoming Weekend" list the upcoming walks, Lay Directors, and Spiritual Directors and allows you to signup to work a walk.
- d. "Weekend History" is a list of historical walks and you can select a walk to view the team, their job, their talk, and a list of pilgrims on that walk.
- e. "Downloads" is where you can download forms and Newsletters, etc.
- f. "Prayer Vigils" allows you to signup for a particular spot on a prayer vigil and secure that spot immediately. (you must be a registered member with a valid email address)

4. The next menu item is "ONLINE APPLICATION" where you can submit a pilgrim application online. (This would be done by the sponsor as you must be a registered member to access) You would then need to mail in the minimum payment of 50% of the walk fee or \$70 for the application to be confirmed.

We will still accept paper pilgrim applications, team applications, and sponsor forms. These paper forms will then be entered into the system by the Registrar, so you can save a lot of time if you will use the online forms.

Please take the time to register on the system and check your information, especially your experience, and notify the board by clicking the button "Problem with my Experience" and send a message stating what is wrong.

- DeColores

<http://bvec.inetmember.com>

Remember—do not include the usual **www**



Notes from Exiting Board Members

To the BVEC Community - Thank you for allowing me to represent you these past three years. I have loved working with you at the Candlelight and Sponsor Hour Services as well as being on a couple of walks with you. Emmaus is an awesome experience made that way by such an awesome Board and Community. I am off the board but you will still see me at the other activities, please come by and say hello.

Marlene Coffman

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

Dear BVEC friends, It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve as a Board member since being asked to fill the remainder of Jean Smith's term. Jean played an important role on the Board and in the Emmaus community. It was an honor for me to be asked to be on the Board. I have had several jobs, all of which could not have been accomplished without the help of loving, willing servants. Following the death of my sweet husband, Dale, in August 2007, my life became a little complicated. He had always been by my side, whatever the task. But, in my various roles, from working with people who helped in the parking lot, welcoming the pilgrims with smiles and willing hands, to coordinating the supplies needed both from the Upper Room and local merchants for the walks, to nominations chair for prospective Board members, it has been a joy to serve you. I will miss being on the Board and taking part in the discussions and decisions made to help our community be strong. I will not be gone, however, because College Station is home. My faith community is here, and one of my children does not live too far away. Life is a gift from God and the work we do should glorify Him. I believe our Emmaus community is strong because we are God-centered.

In His Love, Dana Wacasey, Walk #216, Victoria, July 1991

Dear Emmaus Community,

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as an Emmaus Board Representative for the past 3 years. I encourage each and every one of you to become involved in our Emmaus Community, in whatever capacity you can—you will be enriched beyond words!

A huge **THANK YOU** to each of the Team Selection board representatives: Wayne and Carolyn Bush, Jeff Gage, Michael Koehn, Lynn Stutts and Judy Veale. It has been a joy and a pleasure working with each of you. God Bless!

Thank you for this amazing opportunity,

Patrice Summerour



“...love God, your God, and serve Him with everything you have within you...” Deut. 11:13-14

It has been my honor and pleasure to represent you on the BVEC Board of Directors for the last four years; one as Registrar, two as Community Lay Director and finally, as the Ex-Officio CLD.

I've watched a succession of boards strive to build upon the work of previous boards, each walking their stretch of the road to Emmaus.

My stretch of the road saw the community recommitting to the structure and policies of Emmaus International. The community is legally bound to follow their guidelines. So, gradual changes were implemented bringing us in line with the Emmaus model. By using the model to answer questions as they arose, personal opinion and interpretation were taken out of the equation. That alone made the boards job much easier. It took the humongous responsibility for decision making off of the backs of individual board members

Attendance at Gatherings more than doubled, the percentage of Reunion Groups formed after a Walk increased, board members took more responsibility for Walk preparations, Walk Lay Directors were freed to focus exclusively on team formation. Enhanced Team, Board and Community training benefited every area of the BVEC, from sponsorship to progressive servanthood.

It has been quite a ride. There have been ups and a few downs, but if asked... yes, I'd do it all over again in a heartbeat. It has been a privilege serving a community that I dearly love and working with such committed, enthusiastic, and productive Christians. These dear friends serve from the heart, with passion – not just dutifully. I will really miss our monthly meetings.

Emmaus needs more **ENTHUSIASTIC** volunteers! If you are passionate about the Emmaus ministry I encourage you to begin the path of progressive servanthood. Volunteer for an outside or kitchen team. If you are already involved in the ministry of Emmaus, keep moving forward! Training and support are provided every step of the way.

You will know that God has worked through you every time you hear the testimony of a Fourth Day Speaker, every time a Pilgrim shares at Closing, every time a life is shared in a mini-group reunion. Remember - **Christ IS counting on you!**

Once again, thank you for allowing me to represent you on the Emmaus board. I was immeasurably blessed by your trust and support.

DeColores! - Hilda Baker—Walk #14—Table of Mary



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Schedule of Gatherings for 2010

Month	Date	Location	Address
February	February 6, 2010	First Baptist Caldwell	300 South Thomas St. Caldwell, TX
March	March 6, 2010	Bellville United Methodist Church	234 South Masonic St. Bellville, TX
May	May 1, 2010	First UMC Bryan	506 East 28th St. Bryan, TX
June	June 5, 2010	Not confirmed	
July	July 10, 2010	Open	
August	August 7, 2010	(Hullabaloo) not confirmed	
September	September 11, 2010	Crossbridge Christian Church	15415 West Rd. Houston, TX
November	November 6, 2010	First UMC Brenham	408 N. Baylor St. Brenham, TX

Be sure and sign-in to our new online system and verify your information. If you are new to the community send an email to rdread@sbcglobal.net and we will get you entered into the new system.

The web address must be as follows (do not include www)
<http://bvec.inetmember.com>



We're on the Web!
www.bvemmaus.org



Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life,
 No one comes to the Father except through Me
 John 14:6

