

Living Water Emmaus Community Inc.
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www.livingwateremmaus.com

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Community: Dec. 14
First Baptist, Cotton Center

LIVING WATER

December, 2006

Issue # 114

Words from your Lay Director

As I sit down to write with my “golden”, pen I have a little bit of sorrow in my spirit because this will be my last letter to my Emmaus family as your Lay Director. Sue Johnson will pick up the pen and be inspired by God, just the way I was, to write the letter. Be in prayer for Sue as she leads us this next year. It really is a big responsibility.

Did we ever have a great time in Roaring Springs! As usual the food was mouth watering good and the singing was like when you really get a good zinger, your skin gets tingly and your body can hardly hold your joy! That was the way the songs made me feel. I still shout for joy as I remember that time in our praise service! Thank you, praise team. Then Terry Blocker got up and shared his 4th Day testimony with us. After hearing what Emmaus has done for him; changing his life, we should never hesitate to sponsor someone on each walk. Terry is now living a walk with Jesus. Thank you, Terry.

We were also blessed as Ernie McGaughey led our service in Kelly Warren’s absence. Our community is surely blessed with so many great clergymen. Thanks, Ernie.

Acts 13:2,3. “One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Dedicate Barnabas and Saul for the special work I have for them.’ So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.” God was concerned for Saul and Barnabas. He had these men who were worshiping lay hands on them and dedicate them for the work that lay ahead of them. Nowhere in the Bible does God send people out that He doesn’t make a way for them. That is very true with the Walk to Emmaus. He prepares everyone involved in the walk from the Lay Director and clergy to the team, and then He prepares the pilgrims. How many times do we hear “This was my time to go on a walk”? It’s a God thing! All we have to do is be His hands and feet and He does the rest.

We need to take time in our individual prayer lives, in our gatherings, in our churches, to wait on God and to minister to the Lord. In this kind of atmosphere God can move. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit manifested Himself!

You know, God made man for His own pleasure so He would have someone with whom to fellowship. He is our Father. No earthly parents ever enjoyed the fellowship of his children more than God enjoys the fellowship of His sons and daughters. He loves us so much He sent His son Jesus to live among us. Let’s take time to thank God for His Son and all He does for us during this busy holiday season. Tell Him how much you love Him and praise Him.

Come to our December 14th Community gathering and we will praise Him together. At that service we will be dedicating the team of Walk #53 with Melvin Vanlandingham, Lay Director, and Ron Brunson, Spiritual Director. Also we will be voting on three new board members.

Remember, without Jesus there would be no Christmas and no abundant life in Him.

De Colores!

Don Sanders

Community Gathering -- Dec. 14 --

First Baptist, Cotton Center

Meal 6:30 pm

Worship 7:30 pm

Guests are welcome. A nursery will be provided.

Bring your favorite dishes. Wear your name tag. Bring your worship book. Come to share in the fun and fellowship!

LIVING WATER BOARD meets at 5:30 pm.

SPONSOR’S TRAINING will be held at 6:00 pm with Elaine Barrett as leader. The Board invites and urges all new community members and others who have never sponsored a pilgrim, and anyone who has not been through a recent training class to participate. The class will last for 30 minutes.

Being a sponsor is one of the most important roles of the Walk To Emmaus. Several areas must be covered in order for the pilgrim to have an exciting and successful walk.

WORSHIP begins at 7:30 with praise songs, and closes with communion.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Dec. 14 | 1st Baptist, Cotton Center |
| Jan. 11 | College Heights Baptist,
Plainview |
| Feb. 15 | 1st Methodist,
Hale Center |

Call Tonya Stokes at 806-293-4448 to list your church on the schedule.

Also, it is important to let Tonya know of any changes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take notice that the January community gathering will be the second Thursday on Jan. 11. This change is made necessary because the January walk starts on the third Thursday, which is Living Water’s usual meeting date.

NAME TAG ORDERS

Persons wishing to order new name tags should send a \$5.00 check to Living Water Emmaus Community, P. O. Box 1895, Plainview, Texas 79073-1895.

If you have lost your lanyard, and also need another cross, , the charge for the cross is an additional \$3.00. No charge for the “crocheted” lanyard.

The tags will be ordered as soon as possible and returned to you by mail (unless you indicate some other arrangements).

Please send the following information with your order: Name, church, hometown, and mailing address.

ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER

Deadline for articles for the newsletter is the first of each month. Articles may be mailed to Box 460, Lockney 79241, or e-mailed to

paul.gayle.schacht@sbcglobal.net

UPCOMING WALKS

- # 53

Men’s Walk

Jan. 18-21, 2007

Plains Baptist Assembly

Melvin Vanlandingham, lay director

Ron Brunson, spiritual director
- # 54

Women’s Walk

Mar. 8-11, 2007

Plains Baptist Assembly

Alice Gilroy, lay director

Sherman Aten, spiritual director
- # 55

Men’s Walk

July 12-15, 2007
- # 56

Women’s Walk

Oct. 11-14, 2007
- Men’s Registrar

Darral Bryant 806-774-3648

or 806-771-5271
- Women’s Registrar

Nancy Martin 806-729-3817
- **Walk cost is still only \$100**

Letter From Jesus Christ, concerning His birthday celebration

Dearest Children,

It has come to my attention that many of you are upset that folks are taking My name out of the season. Maybe you've forgotten that I wasn't actually born during this time of the year and that it was some of your predecessors who decided to celebrate My birthday on what was actually a time of pagan festival. However, I do appreciate being remembered anytime.

How I personally feel about this celebration can probably be most easily understood by those of you who have been blessed with children of your own. I don't care what you call the day. If you want to celebrate My birth just GET ALONG AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER. Now, having said that let Me go on.

If it bothers you that the town in which you live doesn't allow a scene depicting My birth, then just get rid of a couple of Santas and snowmen and put in a small Nativity scene on your own front lawn. If all My followers did that there wouldn't be any need for such a scene on the town square because there would be many of them all around town.

Stop worrying about the fact that people are calling the tree a holiday tree, instead of a Christmas tree. It was I who made all trees. You can and may remember Me anytime you see any tree. Decorate a grape vine If you wish: I actually spoke of that one in a teaching explaining who I am in relation to you and what each of our tasks were.

John 15: 1 - 8.

- If you want to give Me a present in remembrance of My birth, here is my wish list.*** Choose something from it.
1.

Instead of writing protest letters objecting to the way My birthday is being celebrated, write letters of love and hope to soldiers away from home. They are terribly afraid and lonely this time of year. I know, they tell Me all the time.
2.

Visit someone in a nursing home. You don't have to know them personally. They just need to know that someone cares about them.
3.

Instead of writing George Bush complaining about the wording on the cards his staff sent out this year, why don't you write and tell him that you'll be praying for him and his family this year. Then follow up. It will be nice hearing from you again.
4.

Instead of giving your children a lot of gifts you can't afford and they don't need, spend time with them. Tell them the story of My birth, and why I came to live with you down here. Hold them in your arms and remind them that I love them.
5.

Pick someone that has hurt you in the past and forgive him or her.
6.

Did you know that someone in your town will attempt to take their own life this season because they feel so alone and hopeless? Since you don't know who that person is, try giving everyone you meet a warm smile it could make the difference. Also, you might consider supporting the local Hot-Line: they talk with people like that every day.

7.

Instead of nit-picking about what the retailer in your town calls the holiday, be patient with the people who work there. Give them a warm smile and a kind word. Even if they aren't allowed to wish you a "Merry Christmas" that doesn't keep you from wishing them one. Then stop shopping there on Sunday. If the store didn't make so much money on that day they'd close and let their employees spend the day at home with their families.
8.

If you really want to make a difference, support a missionary, especially one who takes My love and Good News to those who have never heard My name. You may already know someone like that.
9.

Here's a good one. There are individuals and whole families in your town who not only will have no "Christmas" tree, but neither will they have any presents to give or receive. If you don't know them (and I suspect you don't) buy some food and a few gifts and give them to the Marines, the Salvation Army or some other charity which believes in Me and they will make the delivery for you.
10.

Finally if you want to make a statement about your belief in and loyalty to Me, then behave like a Christian. Don't do things in secret that you wouldn't do in My presence. Let people know by your actions that you are one of mine.

P.S. Don't forget; I am God and can take care of Myself. Just love Me and do what I have told you to do. I'll take care of all the rest. Check out the list above and get to work; time is short. I'll help you, but the ball is now in your court. And do have a most blessed Christmas with all those whom you love and remember. I LOVE YOU!!

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above.....James 1:17

-- Author unknown