

Community: December 13, 2007
First Baptist Church
Cotton Center, TX

LIVING WATER

December, 2007

Issue # 126

Words from your Lay Director

Luke 2:14 To God in the Highest and on earth, peace, good will toward men.

For several days I have been busy preparing my house for the holidays. You girls know what I'm talking about. The tree, the decorations, the lights, shopping, wrapping, cooking, parties, house guest, & the list goes on & on & on. After several hours of getting nowhere fast, frustration set in. That's when I called a much needed time out for myself. I picked up my December issue of Guideposts & randomly opened it to page 5 entitled "Editor's Note." The article read like this,
Peace On Earth

In this issue director Catherine Hardwicke tells a story about filming the manger scene for her compelling movie on the life of Mary. Everything is going wrong-the baby won't stop fussing, the animals are obstreperous and the actors are exhausted. The director is in the verge of despair; the climactic scene will never get shot. Reading Catherine's story I couldn't help thinking how close that scene probably was to real life. Did the baby Jesus cry? Did the donkey bray? Were Mary & Joseph exhausted? No doubt all of that and more. Even in this most miraculous moment the Nativity was manifestly human, marked by the same chaos and disruption that often engulf us, especially during the holiday season. Their travel was difficult, finding a place to stay was next to impossible, the baby wouldn't stop crying, no one was getting enough sleep. Sound familiar?

Yet here's the thing. The world into which Christ was born was riven with human conflict, every bit as trying as our own times often seem. People's lives were messy and complicated. Life was a struggle, filled with both joy and heartache. It won't spoil Catherine's story for me to tell you what happened next. Amidst all the seeming insurmountable problems and human feelings, just as she & the crew were about to call it quits, a cosmic calm descends on the set & all is well as the cameras roll. You don't have to be a Hollywood script writer to find the meaning in that scene. The miracle of Christ's coming transcends the ordinariness of the moment. The animals are still. The baby hushes. The parents rest. All is well. Edward Grinnan
Editor-in Chief

God used the Guideposts to give Sue Johnson "The Reason for the Season" reality check. All that business & stuff will come & go year after year, but the Jesus you & I encountered on our walk to Emmaus, came to earth, not for just a day, but for every day. God's gift of love through His Son brings Unspeakable Joy on The Night Heaven Kissed Earth. What a time of celebration as Living Water Emmaus Community gathers in Cotton Center at the First Baptist Church on December 13th. There's gonna be a Birthday Party! After all, "JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!!!!!" Merry Christmas,

P.S. We will have a special prayer time as we dedicate Walk # 57 to the Lord.

De Colores!
Sue Johnson

Community Gathering
-- December 13th --

First Baptist Church
Cotton Center, Texas

Board 5:30 PM
Sponsor's Training 6:00 PM
Meal 6:30 PM
Worship 7:30 PM

Guests are welcome and a nursery is provided.
Bring your favorite dishes. Wear your name tag. Bring your worship book. Come to share in the fun and fellowship!
LIVING WATER BOARD : 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. 13 1st Baptist Church
Cotton Center, Tx
Jan. 24 College Baptist Heights
802 Quincy, Plainview, Tx

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



Can I get an Amen?

Thank you!

THANK-YOU

Dear GOD, I want to thank You for what you have already done. Unbelievably, all the good things you have been running after, they will start to run after you now.

I am not going to wait until I see results or receive rewards. I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until I feel better or things look better. I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until people say they are sorry or until they stop talking about me. I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until the pain in my body disappears. I am thanking you right now.

I am not going to wait until my financial situation improves. I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until the children are asleep and the house is quiet. I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until I get promoted at work or until I get the job. I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until I understand every experience in my life that has caused me pain or grief. I am going to thank you right now.

I am not going to wait until the journey gets easier or the challenges are removed. I am thanking you right now.

I am thanking you because I am alive.

I am thanking you because I made it through the day's difficulties.

I am thanking you because I have walked around the obstacles.

I am thanking you because I have the ability and the opportunity to do more and do better.

I am thanking you because FATHER, YOU have not given up on me.

*****ATTENTION***ATTENTION*****

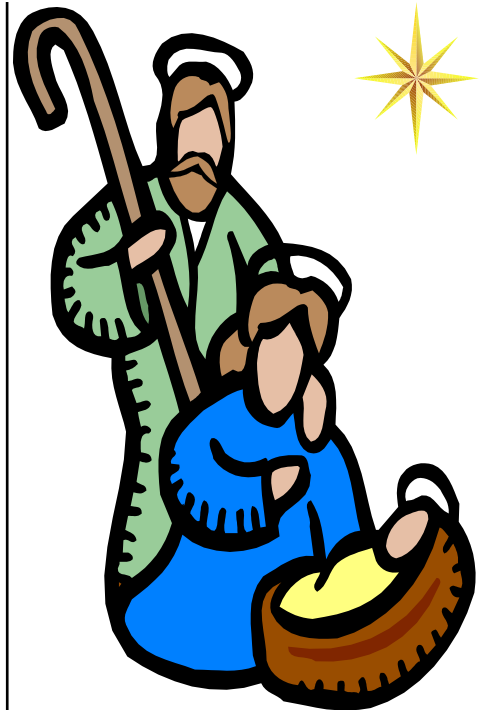
Mark your Calendars make a mental note : CHANGE on Community meeting Nights for December and January: **DECEMBER 13 & JANUARY 24**

UPCOMING WALKS

>>WALK COST \$135<<

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|------|---|------|--|-----|--|-----|---|
| # 57 | Men's Walk
January 17-20, 2007
Plains Baptist Assembly
Tim Hardage, Lay Director
Kyle Brock, Spiritual Director | # 58 | Women's Walk
Neysa Carmichael, Lay Director
June 5-8, 2008
Wayland Baptist University | #59 | Men's Walk
July 24-27, 2008
Wayland Baptist University | #60 | Women's Walk
October 9-12, 2008
Plains Baptist Assembly |
|------|---|------|--|-----|--|-----|---|

Men's Registrar Darral Bryant 806-928-1344 or 806-771-5271



"JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON"

>>Announcements<<

Neysa Carmichael- L.D. #58
W.B.U.-6/5-8/2008--S.D./T.B.A.

Steve Olson has accepted the nomination as community lay director in 2008. Be in prayer with Steve as the new year approaches.

L.W.E. is in need of a lap top computer for updating old & new data sheet information only. Donations will be graciously accepted by mail or at L.W.E. community gathering. Mail to: Living Water Emmaus- P.O. Box 1895-Plv. Tx.- 79073- ---Thanks

Please get your pilgrims applications turned in soon along with \$135.00 fee.

Those of you who receive the Newsletter by mail can help with the cost by sending \$5.00 to Beth Hannabas P.O. BOX1895 Plainview, TX 79073-1895. This is a once a year contribution and is greatly appreciated.

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. There is no charge for the "crocheted" lanyard.

Please send the following information with your order: Name, church, hometown, and mailing address. Tags will be ordered ASAP and returned to you via mail.

ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTER

Deadline for articles for the newsletter is the 25th of each month. Articles may be mailed to 2807 W. 10th St., Plainview, 79072 or phone 291-0611 or e-mailed to kayla.edwards@yahoo.com