

Community: May 15, 2008
First Methodist Church
119 N. Briscoe
Tulia, TX

LIVING WATER

May, 2008

Issue # 131

WORDS FROM YOUR LAY DIRECTOR

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

As Community Lay Director, I sometimes am approached with questions regarding why we do things the way we do them. The majority of these questions relate directly to the Emmaus Model, which the Living Water Emmaus Community and the Upper Room are in covenant agreement to uphold. Since we have recently signed our Annual Letter of Agreement with the Upper Room, I am sharing some thoughts on keeping faith with the model. I hope this will help everyone understand, "why we do what we do" in our community. The following information is summarized from the Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus.

1. The Emmaus model prevents Emmaus from being remade after the likeness of the various leaders. Emmaus is not leader centered; it does not depend on any charismatic personalities, especially gifted presenters or experienced retreat masters. Rather, Emmaus depends on a team of ordinary Christians working together in the spirit of Christ.

2. The model assures everyone that Emmaus, no matter where it is conducted, will still be a common and trustworthy experience. We should be able to sponsor family and friends in other states and in other countries with confidence that Emmaus will be the same event for them as it was for us in terms of procedures and design. This consistency enables church leaders in one part of the country to recommend Emmaus to church leaders in another part of the country, knowing that the design and standards are uniform everywhere. This uniformity strengthens the Emmaus Movement and its value in the church. The model sets forth a model of theological congruence. The Emmaus Walk is a tightly woven event. Years of experience have gone into honing the model, which has proven its value and effectiveness as an instrument of the Holy Spirit for revitalizing Christians as members of the body of Christ. As we say to the pilgrims on the first night, every part has a purpose. When we rework the model, adding this part and removing that part, we increasingly diminish its potential for working as a whole toward communicating the Christian message on many levels.

3. The manuals serve as a check on our human inclination to innovate. Most additions and changes in the model accommodate the team members, not the pilgrims. The same procedures, weekend after weekend, may bore us, and we want to try out a few of our own ideas. Team members may have experienced an especially meaningful worship service or ritual in another religious setting, which they feel would add more value to the Walk. However, The Walk to Emmaus already includes more than anyone can absorb in three days and enough to chew on for a lifetime.

4. The manuals encourage the leadership to focus its creativity on the given tasks "within the Emmaus model". The place for creativity on the Walk does not come in redesigning the model's architecture, but in making the most of the given design to prepare the way of the Lord for the pilgrims. Emmaus' structure does not crowd out the Holy Spirit; rather, it creates trustworthy space for the Holy Spirit to work in the midst of the participants, who need not be anxious about the three-day design. Accepting the model and the manuals as given, frees leaders to focus on the pilgrims and to trust the Holy Spirit – not their own creativity for designing retreats. Also changes by independent-minded team members set a dangerous precedent. While their innovations may "work," future teams may want to claim their right to be creative as well and to try out their own ideas. Changes become tradition overnight because new pilgrims believe their experience represents the way Emmaus should be run. Traditions build upon traditions. The manuals serve as the plumb line that prevents traditions from developing and keeps each Walk centered on the prescribed program.

(CONTINUED ON PG .2)

De Colores!
STEVE OLSON

Community Gathering -- May 15--

First Methodist Church
119 N. Briscoe
Tulia

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	
May 15	First Methodist Church 119 N. Briscoe Tulia
June 19	First Methodist Church 700 Commerce Silverton
July 18	First Baptist Church 205 W. 8th Plainview

Call Sue Johnson at 889-3331 to list your church on the schedule.



LIVING WATER WOMEN'S WALK

#58 JUNE 5-8



Pilgrims of Walk #58

ANGELICA ALVARADO SUZY CALDERON TAMMY FRAZER
MARY HERNANDEZ MELLONEE JENNINGS HOLLY JOHNSON
PAULA LUSK CARLA POWELL MICHELLE STENNETT
TONYA TINER JANIE WALKER KONNIE WASHINGTON
(this list is subject to change)

Team

Neysa Carmichael, Lay Director Roger Foote, Spiritual Director
Barb Lambert Barbara Kayler Breanna Marler
Cheryl Teeter Doris McDonald Elizabeth Franklin
Felicia Valles Gayle Schacht Gwen Willis
Jana Borchardt Janet Pyle Jerrilynn Blocker
Kathy Norris Linda Gail Walker Mary Carter
Stacie Hardage Traci Patton

Clergy: Ed Marks Ernie McGaughey Jeff Moore Kelly Warren

Music: Marsha Sanders Sandra Johnson Kayla Edwards

Outside Agape: Tonya Stokes Beth Hannaas Cindy DuBois
Crystal White Del Perez Karen Boyce Linda Lemons

(CONTINUED FROM YOUR LAY DIRECTOR)

5. The manuals free the Board of Directors and teams to focus their energies in the proper direction, on the preparation for Walks and on Fourth-Day challenges, rather than on the design of the three days. This is the gift of having a well-designed and carefully tested program with complete materials for leading it. Faithfulness to the core process of The Walk to Emmaus model, presented in the model, will keep communities from wasting valuable time trying to change or modify the flow of the event. Experience has shown that preoccupation with changes to the three-day model often results in a weakened Fourth Day emphasis.

I pray that this clarification will allow God to use our community more effectively. James 3:16 reminds us that where you have selfish ambition you will find disorder and every evil practice. Let us be a community that serves each other out of our love for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray that each of your fourth days brings you in a closer relationship with our Lord and Savior.
DeColores, S.O.

DENNIS JERNIGAN IN CONCERT

May 24th, 7:00PM Harrell Auditorium Wayland Baptist University. Tickets are \$10.00 with a free CD, Call Ed Marks for Church sales 806-652-3157 or 806-518-8448 and for Sponsorship. Dennis will be performing May 25th- Trinity Fellowship Church, Plainview AM Service and PM Service at Trinity Fellowship Church in Amarillo. May 26th, 10:00 AM at the Veterans Memorial Service, Lockney Tx.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT!!

Who Walks into your life!
God determines who walks into your lifeit's up to you to decide who you let walk away, who you let stay, and who you refuse to let go.

If life happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, do Not attempt to resolve it yourself!! Kindly put it in the SFGTD (something for God to do) box. I will get to it in MY TIME. All situations will be resolved, but in My time, not yours.

T.G.I.F. - TODAY GOD IS FIRST



>>Announcements<< PILGRIMS NEEDED!!

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

UPCOMING WALKS

>>WALK COST \$135<<

58 Women's Walk
June 5-8, 2008
Wayland Baptist University
Neysa Carmichael, Lay Director
Roger Foote, Spiritual Director

#59 Men's Walk
July 24-27, 2008
Wayland Baptist University
Gary Koelder, Lay Director
Max Browning, Spiritual Director

#60 Women's Walk
October 9-12, 2008
Plains Baptist Assembly



Men's Registrar Darral Bryant 806-928-1344 or 806-771-5271
Women's Registrar Nancy Martin 806-729-3817

WALK INFORMATION FOR
Wayland Baptist University
SMAC BUILDING
(old Trinity Church) 9th and Utica

>>>Parking Space is available 1
block east of SMAC building<<<
9th & Travis

FOOD AGAPE - Bring to send-off on Thursday night June 5 to the kitchen of the SMAC Building. If your pilgrim has special food needs, please provide them. If food agape is brought after Thursday night, leave it in the Agape Room across from the kitchen.

PLACE MATS - Bring for all eight meals on Thursday night to the Agape Room. Please label them as to which meal they are for. These must all be there at that time!!

AGAPE GIFTS - Bring Thursday night to the Agape Room in the SMAC building. To assist the servant team, your cooperation is appreciated on the following:

--Do NOT "personalize" agape with pilgrims' names. (Of course, it is OK to include your name or the name of the reunion group providing the agape.)

--Do NOT bring personal gifts for pilgrims. (Give after the walk.)

--Do NOT bring any agape after Friday noon.

CAMERAS - Please do NOT bring cameras to send-off, candlelight or closing. The only pictures made during a walk will be of table groups.

SEND-OFF, June 5 - Gather outside th NW end of the SMAC building. Immediately following will be Sponsors' Hour in the Brown Chapel at 8th & Raleigh.

CANDLELIGHT, June 7 - Do not arrive at the NW end of the SMAC building before 7:30 PM. This will help to keep your presence a surprise! Worship service will begin about 8:30 PM. The pilgrims are scheduled to arrive for Candlelight at 10 PM.

CLOSING, June 8 - NW end of SMAC building: Do not arrive earlier than 3:30 PM. Worship service will begin about 4:30, with the pilgrims scheduled to arrive between 4:45 and 5:00. Volunteers are needed to help with clean-up after closing.

****Don't forget your working battery Candlelight's, if you need to purchase one the price is \$5 from De Chance. Loners are available to be returned after candlelight.****



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