

Living Water Emmaus Community Inc.
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Community: December 17, 2009
Grace Methodist
Plainview, TX

LIVING WATER

December, 2009

Issue # 150

Words from your Lay Director

Revelation 10:9

So I went to the angel, telling him to give me the little book. And he said to me, "Take it and eat it; it will make your stomach bitter, but in your mouth it will be sweet as honey." Greetings to all of you and in the same breath I should say goodbye! This is my last newsletter to write to you and I am writing with bitter sweet feelings. It has been a year with a lot of bitter sweet memories for me. If I would have known what all I would have to go through this year, I would have never taken on the job of Community Lay Director for Living Water Emmaus! But thank God I did take this job and all of the fulfillment I have gained from it.

I am really struggling with this newsletter. I so love Living Water Emmaus and I feel like I am losing a child that is going to college or getting married. I have had a wonderful time on the board and in all aspects of Emmaus. But I also know that my time is up and it is time to move on. I am not giving up on LWE, just going to the next phase and watching and helping as new people take over. I suppose my struggle is what is the next phase for me? Am I going to be put out to pasture? Only if I let myself be. I know that part of this dilemma I feel is that I am still grieving the loss of my mother. With the Holidays coming up, I am starting to feel the loss more vividly. It will be my first Thanksgiving and Christmas without her and I am having a hard time with it. My mom and I had a bitter sweet relationship. I was the only child living here with her and was her primary care giver, and for those of you who have done this, you know that we are the ones that "catch it" when things don't go exactly how they want it to. Believe it or not, that makes me miss her more. I don't mean to get all melancholy here, but I guess I am saying this to say, the bitter sweet times we go through are just God's way of making us grow. Grow closer to Him, rely more on Him and to trust in His guidance more. And I do to all of these scenarios! He has been so faithful to me this year. At the times when I was hurting and just didn't want to do this anymore, He gave me strength. When I felt really down and felt like I wasn't doing a good job for all of you and the guilt would come, He gave me peace and assurance. It has been a very hard year but also a very rewarding year. God's grace is always sufficient in every part of our lives and I Praise Him everyday for that.

And now it is Christmas and I praise Him that He gave us the birth of His precious Son, Jesus. But most of all I am thankful for the Easter story, that Jesus died on the cross for our sins and came back to be our Savior. Now if that isn't God's grace in action, I don't know what is?

I want to take this time to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you all for your prayers and support this year and forgive me where I may have failed you. I pray that God's grace is more abundant for you all and for LWE next year. I want to leave you with 4 Rules we should all live by: Drink, Steal, Swear and Lie.

Let me explain myself:

1. "Drink" from the everlasting cup every day.
2. "Steal" a moment to help someone that is in worse shape than you are
3. "Swear" that you will be a better person today than yesterday.
4. And last, but not least, when you "lie" down at night thank God for His grace and that we live in America and have freedom, even though some are trying to take it away.

DeColares,
Debbie Crosby

Community Gathering

-- December 17 --

Grace Methodist

3333 W 11th
Plainview, TX

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

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

December 17 Grace Methodist
Plainview, Tx

Call Sue Johnson at 889-3331 to list your church on the schedule.
E-mail: t6676s@yahoo.com



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

From a pastor's wife, in Aurora , Colorado
Letter from Jesus about Christmas --
Dear Children,

It has come to my attention that many 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. . although 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 Santa's 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 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. If you have forgotten that one, look up 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. Not just during Christmas time, but all through the year. You don't have to know them personally. They just need to know that someone cares about them.
 3. Instead of writing the president complaining about the wording on the cards his staff sends out this year, why don't you write and tell him that you'll be praying for him and his family? 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.
 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.
 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, buy some food and a few gifts and give them to 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 and words that you are one of mine.
- 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,
JESUS

UPCOMING WALKS
>>WALK COST \$100.00<<
#65 Men's Walk
January 28-31, 2010
Tom Johnson, Lay Director
Ron Brunson, Spiritual Director

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

FYI
Walks cost \$135 we only charge
\$100 for the pilgrims.
If you wish to pay the full \$135
Thank You

✝ Get your Applications
in for the January Men's
Walk!!!! ✝

From your community
!!

Everyone has been asked to
Please fill out a new DATA Sheet
and get it turned in as soon as
possible.
Data Sheets may be found on the
web sight at
www.livingwateremmaus.com
Mail to: Elizabeth Franklin
1004 Vernon
Plainview, TX 79072 or e-mail to
texas_maw_maw@suddenlink.net
806-296-6090

Please contact Elizabeth with the
following:

New Data Base Information
Needed: We need to know what
church (The Actual name of your
Church), every LWE person is a
member of.
Lay Director and Spiritual Directors
of all LWE Walks starting with #1.

••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 291-8755 or e-mailed to
kayla.edwards@yahoo.com