

Living Water Emmaus Community Inc.
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*Community Meeting
First United Methodist
Hale Center, Texas*

December, 2015

Issue # 220

Community Lay Director

Dear LW Emmaus Community,

We had a wonderful community service at Harvest Christian Fellowship, thank you to the members and the praise team for making the service so special. And thanks to Brian Curry for sharing how God has blessed him in times of drought and times of “muddy roads”.

Our next community meeting will be at the First United Methodist Church in Hale Center on December 17th at 6:30 pm. Sponsor training will be at 6:00 and the board meeting will be at 5:30. I hope you will all make an effort to come and share in a traditional Christmas worship service! This will be a wonderful time to remember the true meaning of Christmas as we get away from the hustle and bustle for an evening of worship. With Christmas right around the corner, you need to have the men’s walk forms turned in by this meeting if at all possible, so we will know if we are going to have enough.

I can’t believe this year has gone by so fast! Thank you Living Water Emmaus Community for allowing me to be your Lay Director. I sure did not deserve to be your leader for this year, but that is what is so awesome about our God, he doesn’t give us what we deserve! It has truly been an honor to work with Kyle Brock, Jerry Beck and the Living Water Board, you guys are the BEST and made my job so easy!

The Men’s Walk #86 will be held February 4-7th at Plains Baptist Assembly in Floydada. Tyson Evans is the Lay Director and Kyle Brock is the Spiritual Director. We only have 16 signed up at this time. Please be in prayer for them and for those that God wants to be on this walk.

We have two Women’s Walks in 2016, Walk #87 will be held at the ARK on June 30th - July 3rd and Walk #88 will be held PBA on November 5th – 8th. Be in prayer for these walks as we choose the team and He chooses the pilgrims.

Merry Christmas to each of you and your family, you are all very special to me!

De Colores,
Elaine Barrett

**Community Gathering
--December 17--**

**First United Methodist
Hale Center, TX**

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

Guests are welcome and 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 : 5:30 PM.
SPONSOR’S TRAINING will be held at 6:00 PM with Janet Pyle 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 17 FUMC
Hale Center, Texas



Call Kayla Edwards @ 292-4807
to list your church on the schedule or
e-mail kayla.edwards@yahoo.com

As we prepare for Christmas we need to remember the real meaning of Christmas. Hope you enjoy this Christmas story.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years!!!

A Christmas Story

It's just a small, white envelope stuck among the branches of our Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription.

It has peeked through the branches of our tree for the past 10 years or so.

It all began because my husband Mike hated Christmas---oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it- over spending... the frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry and the dusting powder for Grandma

---the gifts given in desperation because you couldn't think of anything else. Knowing he felt this way, I decided one year to bypass the usual shirts, sweaters, ties and so forth. I reached for something Special just for Mike. The inspiration came in an unusual way.

Our son Kevin, who was 12 that year, was wrestling at the junior level at the school he attended; and shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church, mostly black. These youngsters, dressed in Sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to our boys in their spiffy blue and gold uniforms and sparkling new wrestling shoes.

As the match began, I was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear, a kind of light helmet designed to protect a wrestler's ears. It was a luxury the ragtag team obviously could not afford. Well, we ended up walloping them.

We took every weight class. And as each of their boys got up from the mat, he swaggered around in his tatters with false bravado, a kind of street pride that couldn't acknowledge defeat.

Mike, seated beside me, shook his head sadly, "I wish just one of them could have won," he said. "They have a lot of potential, but losing like this could take the heart right out of them."

Mike loved kids-all kids-and he knew them, having coached little league football, baseball and lacrosse. That's when the idea for his present came.

That afternoon, I went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. On Christmas Eve, I placed the envelope on the tree, the note inside telling Mike what I had done and that this was his gift from me.

His smile was the brightest thing about Christmas that year and in succeeding years. For each Christmas, I followed the tradition- one year sending a group of mentally handicapped youngsters to a hockey game, another year a check to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground the week before Christmas, and on and on. The envelope became the highlight of our Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning and our children, ignoring their new toys, would stand with wide-eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents. As the children grew, the toys gave way to more practical presents, but the envelope never lost its allure.

The story doesn't end there. You see, we lost Mike last year due to Dreaded cancer. When Christmas rolled around, I was still so wrapped in grief that I barely got the tree up. But Christmas Eve found me placing an envelope on the tree, and in the morning, it was joined by three more. Each of our children, unbeknownst to the others, had placed an envelope on the tree for their dad.

The tradition has grown and someday will expand even further with our grandchildren standing around the tree with wide-eyed anticipation watching as their fathers take down the envelope.

Mike's spirit, like the Christmas spirit, will always be with us.

May we all remember Christ, who is the reason for the season, and the true Christmas spirit this year and always?

God bless---

Thank you, Debbie Crosby

UP COMING WALKS

>> Walk Cost \$140 <<

#86 MEN'S WALK
FEBRUARY 4-7, 2016

GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN NOW,
Living Water Emmaus Registrar

TYSON EVANS, LAY DIRECTOR
KYLE BROCK, SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

KIM SWITZENBERG, 296-9264
address:
P.O. BOX 1895 PLAINVIEW, TX 79073



Sign up your CHURCH For
COMMUNITY MEETINGS



Pick Your Month before someone else gets it.....

CALL OR E-MAIL ME @

kayla.edwards@yahoo.com

****URGENT****

806-292-4807

****URGENT****

When hosting community, Churches are responsible for the Dinner & dessert plates, napkins, silverware, cups, & drinks. Childcare is optional for the church, but Emmaus does pay \$25.00

THIS IS BEAUTIFUL:

Someone has written these beautiful words. Must read and try to understand the deep meaning of it. They are like the ten commandments to follow in life all the time.

1. Prayer is not a "spare wheel" that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a "steering wheel" that directs the right path throughout.

2. So why is a car's windshield so large and the rear view mirror so small? Because our past is not as important as our future. So, look ahead and move on.

3. Friendship is like a book. It takes few seconds to burn, but it takes years to write.

4. All things in life are temporary. If it's going well, enjoy it, that won't last long. If it's going badly, don't worry, that won't last long either.

5. Old friends are gold! New friends are diamond! If you get a diamond, don't forget the gold! Because to hold a diamond, you always need a base of gold!

6. Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, God smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end!"

7. When God solves your problems, you have faith in His abilities; when God doesn't solve your problems, He has faith in your abilities.

8. A blind person asked St. Anthony, "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied, "Yes, losing your vision!"

9. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them; sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you.

10. Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles, it takes away today's peace .

Thank you,
Dennis Carter

Pilgrims
Needed!

The February Walk is in
need of Pilgrims!!

Please be in Prayer for God to put the right person in your mind and heart for this walk. I pray that it fills up and there is a waiting list. This is your opportunity to bless someone. There are Community people who would be willing to help you with any sponsoring needs. Just notify Elaine or I and we will be glad to pass the word to complete your needs. Thank You in advance for the great work you do in Our Saviors name.

DeColores: Kayla Edwards

