

MAY, 2007

FROM YOUR COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR...



I hope you have had the opportunity to see the giant redwoods along the coast of central and northern California. They are some of the most amazing creations. These trees that can be over 300 feet tall, and 22 feet wide at their base, started from a seed the size of a tomato seed. They regularly live 600 years, and many are over 2000 years old. Imagine, those trees were alive while Jesus was walking the earth. From these huge aged trees we can learn lessons for our lives.

These trees have great endurance and great ability to bounce back. Huge portions of a tree can be broken off, and the tree will survive. We have times in our lives when it feels huge portions of ourselves have been torn away. Sadness, death of loved ones, worries about our children, illness can deal us a major blow. The redwoods rely on their established root system to recover and ensure their survival. Have you found the source of your root system and allowed it to become

deeply formed? I believe that God revealed in Jesus Christ is the source of strength and endurance for living our lives. Our strength and endurance, joy and peace come from God.

The most amazing part of the magnificent redwood tree is its root system. You would think that a tree as tall as a 35 story building would have roots that go half way to China. But they don't. The root system is only four to six feet deep, but with a width of 250 feet. Redwoods never grow by themselves, but always grow close to each other. Each tree sends its roots out sideways, and the roots of the trees entwine with each other. The interlocking roots create a system that is able to support all the trees. Only redwoods have the strength to support other redwoods. When the winds blow, one tree does not have to stand alone. They all lend strength to one another. God created us to be in community with each other. Christians support each other so we can grow and be held up during the times we do not have the strength to continue. During our fourth day, we find a special community that has been created through the Walk to Emmaus.

Redwood trees have very straight

trunks. These trunks contribute to the balance of the tree, which enables it to remain upright even though the root system is relatively shallow. We need balance in our lives—activity, rest, solitude, companionship. Ecclesiastes reminds us there is a time for everything: planting, reaping; mourning, dancing; crying, laughing, keeping, throwing away. Balance comes from living a complete life of grace through piety, action, and study.

Sometimes we work so hard putting down roots that we neglect to look up to the source of our life. Our stability does not come from what we put down, but from our relationship that is established with God. Once we become attached to our source, our heavenly Father, creating that vertical relationship, we must then develop those horizontal relationships with one another.

Find your life in Christ and live out that relationship with others.



Lynda Schupp

FROM YOUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR...

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

During this time of year when we are celebrating graduations, we see the graduates ready to step out and conquer the world! They are filled with expectations of doing great things. How exciting!

My challenge to all of us is to use this time to:

- continue doing what God has called us to do!
- experience a renewed excitement and desire to complete the good work He has begun in us!
- reach out and encourage those starting new seasons in their journey!

- join them in celebrating their achievements!

Our Christian journey is filled with different seasons. God has a purpose for each season that we experience and it is in His time whether the season is long or short. Whether you are in a season of loss or blessing, activity or inactivity, growth or incubation, God is at work.

May we be a blessing to those God places in our lives and may we allow God to use us as His vessels to help others during the different seasons of their journey.



Margie Lindley

AGAPE!



Jelly beans. Fish hooks. Nails. Chocolate kisses. Mints. Whistles. Airplanes. Frisbees. Candy canes. Hats. Buttons. Pencils. Badges. Balls of clay. Candy bars. Globes. Smartees. Pennies. Rocks. Crayons. M & M's. Yoyos. Kazoos. Tiaras. Hair pieces. Clappers. Tissue. Dirty clothes bags. Flowers. Ah, and those valuable earplugs! These are just some of the things I have received on walks over the years. If you think about it, they are just everyday things that we see, use, eat, or touch. But when attached to scripture, they mean so much more!

It still amazes me what you can find on an Emmaus Walk. Who else can take a plastic toy kazoo and combine it with 1 Chronicles 13:8 to impact a pilgrim for a lifetime! Hundreds of reunion brothers and sisters putting their heads together—using their time and money to make who-knows-what to generate unforgettable, unique pieces of agape for each individual pilgrim on each walk.

Oh, but its more than just providing the little toys you find scattered on your dining table or bunk bed. Giving agape is showing up Thursday night with a dish and a bottle of soda, even when you aren't sponsoring someone. Giving agape is signing up on the 72 hour prayer vigil. Giving agape is showing up for candlelight. Giving agape is sponsoring someone on an Emmaus Walk. Giving agape is helping on the outside servant teams without being called. Giving agape is providing drinks and chips and fruit for the weekend. Giving agape is each one of these things individually, and together, given by all of us in the community. Over the years, I have realized that we have an inventive, creative, agape-giving community, and it shows on each and every walk.

I am proud to represent the Denton Area Emmaus Community by sending our agape letter to other communities around the country and the world. Likewise, as I receive and print out agape letters from communities worldwide, I imagine how the pilgrims will feel around 4:20 on Friday afternoon when the they begin to grasp the bigger picture of the Emmaus movement. That's when the pilgrims learn someone from England, and Australia, the Carolinas, New Zealand, South Africa, Indiana, all over the US, even down the road in Dallas, is taking time to pray for them on their walk.

This worldwide agape is your own personal piece of love that can't be seen or held anywhere but in your heart. Realizing that someone you don't even know is praying for you.



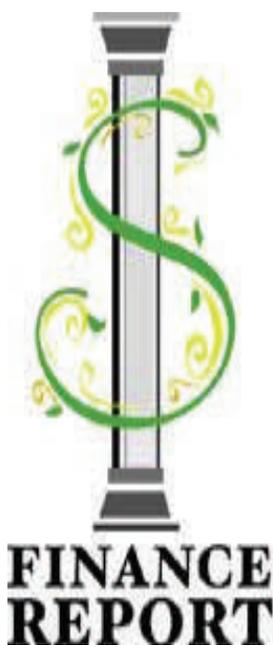
Chuck Lowry
Dallas Walk #37, Table of Paul
DAEC Agape Chairperson



We Want to Hear from YOU!

Do you have any news or articles to share with the community? Are you involved in Kairos, Chrysalis or Epiphany and have information regarding an upcoming weekend? DAEC wants to hear from you!

Email articles to: darleneward@charter.net



Respectfully submitted,
Jerry Harvey
Treasurer

DAEC - FINANCIAL REPORT		
As of May 7, 2007		
BEGINNING BALANCE		\$9,730.53
INCOME	Pilgrim Fees, Walk #28	4,495.00
	Candlelight Offering, Walk #28	452.00
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 4,947.00
EXPENSES	Lake Sharon (Walk #28)	6,380.00
	Trailer Supplies	285.31
	Book Table Supplies	545.09
	FedEx-Kinko's (Pilgrim Packet printing)	26.60
	Mailing Labels & Post Cards	52.03
		\$ 7,289.03
ENDING BANK BALANCE		\$ 7,388.50
CURRENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND BALANCE		\$2,587.26
(included in ending bank balance)		



Welcome our Newest Members to the Community

The MEN of WALK #27

Karl Allen - Olive Branch Ministries
 Michael Allen - Preston Ridge Baptist
 Nick Avlos - Flower Mound UMC
 Chris Campbell - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Corey Edwards - Olive Branch Ministries
 Ramiro Escamilla
 Dennis Fields - The Village Church
 Terry Garland - Asbury Methodist
 Randall Henry - First Presbyterian
 Todd Hubenthal - Olive Branch Ministries
 James Hughes - Lewisville Bible Church
 Jay Johnston - Aldersgate UMC

Larry Kelley - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Kevin King - Calvary Chapel
 Edson Marlar - Asbury UMC
 Alan McDowell - Gateway
 Dennis McWilliams - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Wade Pierce - Vista Ridge UMC
 Mark Richmond - St. Mathews Pres.
 Dan Sepdham - Vista Ridge UMC
 Ted Spingler - Asbury UMC
 Gordon Welch - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Pat Widhalm - Serenity Church

The WOMEN of WALK #28

Dorothy Blake - First UMC
 Trudy Bourquein - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Suzi Byrd - First Presbyterian
 Debra Centrone - Button Memorial UMC
 Amy Coday - First Presbyterian
 Cara Cross - Crossroads Bible Church
 Suzanne Dees - First UMC
 Dixie Durham - First Presbyterian
 Sandra Eley - Vista Ridge UMC
 Melanie Forester - Vista Ridge UMC
 Janet Gowling - Button Memorial UMC
 Darlene Grace - First Presbyterian
 Ginger Hansen - Button Memorial UMC
 Charlotte Henry - First Presbyterian
 Jennifer House - Trietsch Memorial UMC

Pat Keeble - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Diane Kelley - First Presbyterian
 Beverly Lange - First UMC
 Katharine Nations - First UMC
 Starla Naug - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Julie Overton - Krum UMC
 Marylyn Phillips - First Christian Church
 Darlene Pimm - Vista Ridge UMC
 Barbara Sepdham - Vista Ridge UMC
 Sonya Shahan - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Denise Sullivan - First Presbyterian
 Pamela Van Alstyne - Vista Ridge UMC
 Lisa Watson - Colony Park Church
 Retha Welch - Trietsch Memorial UMC
 Barbara Willcox - Trietsch Memorial UMC

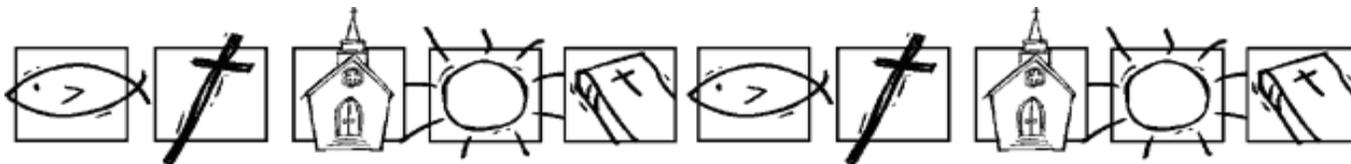


Were you on DAEC walk 9, 13 or 15? We are looking for a group photo from these walks for the website and the archive. If you have one to lend, please contact Jim Gerber (jjim@dentonemmaus.org).



Are there people at your church who would like to learn about the Walk to Emmaus? Consider inviting a Denton Board Member to give a talk about Emmaus to your men's or women's group, Sunday school class, or small group. The talk generally takes about 45 minutes and includes a hands-on exercise. Contact Pam Taylor (taylorpk@aol.com) for more information.

gath·er·ing (gäTH'ər-īng) *noun*. An assembly of persons; a meeting.



An Emmaus gathering is an opportunity to fellowship with others that have attended a Walk to Emmaus (or a similar three-day retreat). It is also a good opportunity for prospective Emmaus pilgrims to learn about the Walk. Usually, there is a potluck meal followed by a worship service that features a fourth-day speaker who shares their personal experience since going on their walk. A gathering may also include a training opportunity (sponsorship, for example) and other activities (agape-making, etc).

In the Denton Area Emmaus Community, we try to have gatherings in the months when no walk is scheduled, usually on the third Saturday of the month.

If you or your reunion group would like to host a gathering at your church, please contact Jim Gerber (jim@dentonemmaus.org).

Additional information is available on the DAEC website, under "Events".

Do you know someone who is ready to attend an Emmaus Weekend? Begin to make plans to sponsor a pilgrim and share the Walk to Emmaus experience!



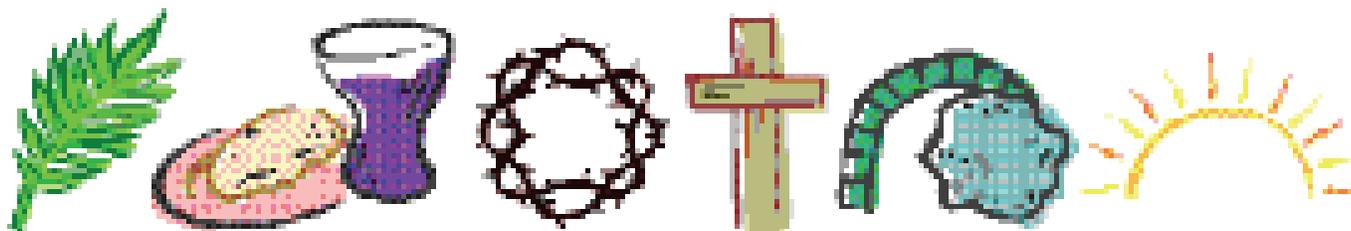
June 21—24	Men's Summer Walk	hosted by Dallas Emmaus Community (go to www.dallasemmaus.org for info)	
July 26—29	Women's Walk #30	LD Charlotte Place	SD Ella McDonald
Sept. 20—23	Men's Walk #31	LD Sonny Gann	SD Joe Zinser
Oct. 11—14	Women's Walk #32	LD Pati Gann	SD Lois Cooper
Feb 28—Mar 2	Men's #33	LD Don Place	SD TBD
April 10—13	Women's #34	LD Sherry Goin	SD TBD
June 19—22	Men's #35	LD Jerry Graham	SD TBD
July 10—13	Women's #36	LD Lynn Ross	SD TBD
Sept. 11—14	Men's #27	LD Matt Bieri	SD TBD
Oct. 9—12	Women's #38	LD Mary Ann Kelley	SD TBD

**NOON
NOON
NOON**

For more information check the web or contact our Registrar:
Amy Pennington at a_mouse@sbcglobal.net

Upcoming Walk registration status is updated regularly on the DAEC Homepage. Vacancy or Full Status is posted.

Unless the walk is full, applications are accepted until the Friday prior to Send-Off.



Calling All Truckers!



We are looking for a few of you truckers to help with our DAEC trailer. Many of you are aware that we keep the trailer on site at Lake Sharon now. We need your help to move the trailer into place prior to each walk and return it to the storage place after each walk. For the last year Joe Culwell has shouldered most of this responsibility and the board greatly appreciates his help! Don't tell Joe I said so, but the fact is he's getting old and needs some relief! If you would like to volunteer to or need more information, please let me know. I can be reached through the DAEC website.

DeColores!

Jerry Graham

Changes to the Fiscal Year

Changes to the Fiscal Year

The Denton Area Emmaus Board, acting on the recommendation of the Upper Room, unanimously approved a bylaw change for the community fiscal year. Community members received a postcard to announce the change in the fiscal calendar **from July to June to January to December.** The change will allow us to align our fiscal year to the dates for our walks, service on the Board, and our letter of agreement with the Upper Room.

Board members will be elected in September and will work with the current Board until they take office in **January.** This will allow for a smooth transition for new board members to learn about their positions and grow in leadership skills—an Emmaus goal!

I would like to thank the Board members who have graciously agreed to extend their service until the end of 2007 instead of coming off the board in June. **THANK YOU!**

-Margie Lindley



Sponsorship?

Each person who attends The Walk to Emmaus® has a sponsor. A sponsor is a person who has been through an Emmaus experience and is willing to share that experience with a new Emmaus participant. The role of a sponsor is to free the current participant from any personal responsibilities that might distract him/her while on the experience. Sponsorship also undergirds each participant's 72-hour experience with prayer and other expressions of God's love.

According to the dictionary, a sponsor is one who takes responsibility for another. The suffix "-ship" refers to the skill involved in the activity. So sponsorship is the skill of taking responsibility for another. **Sponsorship is the most important job in Emmaus.** The quality of sponsorship influences the pilgrim, the health of the Emmaus movement, and the church being affected by the movement. The aim of sponsorship is to build up the body of Christ.

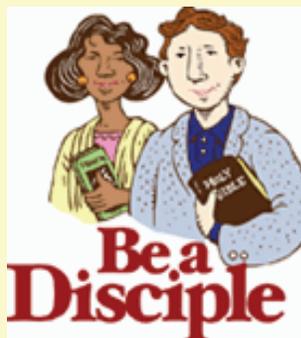
Sponsorship is an act of love for God, for the participants in the Walk to Emmaus, for the Emmaus Community, and for the church. It is a demonstration of agape love.

A sponsor will:

- pray for the participant's openness to God's call to discipleship.
- make an appointment with the participant (or participating couple) to discuss his or her participation in Emmaus.
- invite the participant to take part in Emmaus for the sake of a more vital relationship with Jesus Christ. The sponsor

shares his or her faith, explains the basic purpose, elements, and follow-up dimensions of the Walk.

- ask the participant to make a commitment by filling out a registration form. If the participant is married, the sponsor will speak with both partners and encourage an equal commitment by both spouses.
- support the participant's Walk through prayers and otherwise. The sponsor will also support the participant's family by house-sitting, baby-sitting, watering plants, picking up mail, feeding pets, or just checking in with a spouse to see if any help or support is needed.



- encourage the participant in his/her continued journey and take the participant to Emmaus "gatherings" after the Walk weekend is over.
- help the participant re-enter his or her church and consider ways to act out new commitment and enthusiasm.
- help the participant sponsor others.

Sponsorship doesn't end on Sunday after closing ...

Sponsorship Training is available at Gatherings and by request for groups. Consider hosting a training session for those at your church who have attended a walk and want to learn how to sponsor. Contact Pam Taylor (taylorpk@aol.com)

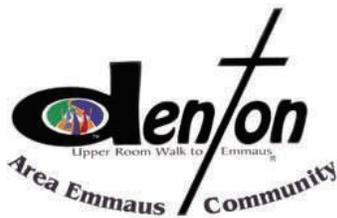


- Sign up for prayer vigils
- Find a reunion group
- Update your information in the community data base
- Check for vacancies for upcoming Walks
- Download an application
- Contact a board member
- Check schedules and community calendar
- Locate a reunion group
- Get a map/directions

www.dentonemmaus.org

Denton Area Emmaus Community
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Margie Lindley	Community Lay Director
Lynda Schupp	Community Spiritual Director
Mary Ann Kelley	Secretary
Jerry Harvey	Treasurer
Amy Pennington	Registration
Chuck Lowry	Agape
Darlene Ward	Communications /Newsletter
Jim Gerber	Music/Weekend Events/Website
Sherry Goin	Team Selection
John Alcoze	Servant Team
Pam Taylor	Training
Jerry Graham	Supplies/Trailer
Matt Bieri	Supplies/Literature
Joe Culwell	Past Lay Director
Carleen Alderman	Upper Room Representative



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