

BRAZOS VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DE COLORES,
FEBRUARY 2012
VOLUME 21, NUMBER 1

COMMUNITY NEWS BY WENDY MANUEL

Blessings to everyone in the New Year!

How glorious it is for us to serve the Lord in our community and to support each other in our personal walk with God. The first BVEC Board meeting of 2012 was held January 5th. At this meeting new board members are welcomed, we say goodbye to exiting board members, new officers are elected and committee assignments made.

On behalf of the BVEC Board and the Community, I want to extend a **most sincere thank you** to the spiritual leadership provided by Pat Baker, Jeff Gage, Sue Housely, Ruth Martin, Steve May, Kyley Ochoa and Robert Read. Each has brought their unique gifts of the spirit and talents and we are grateful for their service. I want to **warmly welcome new board members** as they begin their service - Swen Crone, Mark Dziobala, Molly Garwood, Marie Mickey, Cherry Moore, Dee Perry and David Worden.

I am humbled to serve this community and am in constant prayer for God's Guidance through the Holy Spirit. Of late, I have been reading Paul's first letter to the Corinthians and would like to share this scripture:

"For it is from God alone that you have your life through Christ Jesus. He showed us

God's plan of salvation; he was the one who made us acceptable to God; he made us pure and holy and gave himself to purchase our salvation. As it says in the Scriptures, 'If anyone is going to boast, let him boast only of what the Lord has done.'" 1 Corinthians 1:30-31

Our spring walks are fast approaching. Please pray about being a sponsor. Being a sponsor is a serious responsibility. We trust God to bring pilgrims who are need of the walk at this particular place and time. Men's Walk 87 is March 22-25 with Andrew Perry as Lay Director. This is a bit earlier than usual for us, so please pray for the walk now, get busy sponsoring, and sign up for prayer vigil, kitchen and all the things that need to happen for a walk! Women's Walk 88 is April 19-22 with Stephanie Ashlock as Lay Director.

Please use our websites to keep up with everything in our community. The general website for information about the community, including dates & locations for gatherings is www.bvemmas.org. This site also lists the contact information for the Board of Directors.

The online data management system



where all records are maintained for the community is a place where you can find contact information for community members. It is very important to make sure your information is accurate on the database. This is a password protected site (so you do have to register the first time) that is easily accessible by all BVEC members. All you need is an internet connection and a valid email address.

<http://bvec.inetmember.com>

DeColores!

Wendy

Wendy Manuel
Walk 69, Table of Martha



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2012 BVEC Board

Lay Director: Wendy Manuel, (512) 567-1183
Spiritual Director: Cherry Moore, (979) 776-0941
Assistant Lay Director: Jerry Coffman, (512) 430-4065
Treasurer: Doug Summerour, (979) 451-5415
Secretary: Deanie Gold, (979) 567-7155
Team Selection: Deborah Hildebrand, (979) 567-7751
Nominations: Deanie Gold, (979) 567-7155
Reunion Groups/4th Day: Swen Crone (936) 855-2608
Registrar: Joddie Carlile, (979) 277-9625
Welcoming/Closing: Dee Perry, (979) 535-8130
Agape: Molly Garwood, (936) 399-2121
Music/Entertainment: Dale Timian, (979) 272-1676
Training: Deanie Gold, (979) 567-7155

**Logistics, Transportation, Facility set-up/
breakdown:** David Worden (979) 820-3832
Literature & Supplies: Cindy Van Deventer (979) 567-7737
Sponsor Hour: Judy Ball, (936) 788-1368
Candlelight: Judy Ball, (936) 788-1368
Gatherings: Swen Crone (936) 855-2608
Prayer Chapel/Prayer Vigils: Marie Mickey (979) 823-8073
Kitchen Coordinator: Doug Summerour, (979) 451-5415
Communication: Mark Dziobala, (979) 567-0801
Technology: Jerry Coffman, (512) 430-4065

THE WALK TO EMMAUS 2012 COVENANT

Nehemiah 9: 38

Between

The Upper Room International Emmaus/Chrysalis Office

And

Name of Community: Brazos Valley Emmaus Community State: TX

The Walk to Emmaus is an international movement that includes a three-day short course in Christian discipleship. The Upper Room International Emmaus Office (hereinafter, the Emmaus Office) grants permission to use the copyrighted Walk to Emmaus name and program when groups demonstrate their readiness to lead Emmaus according to this Covenant. Each local governing body will annually review and renew its 2012 Covenant Agreement with the Emmaus Office.

The following statements represent fundamental agreements that exist between the Emmaus Office and groups that use Emmaus. By signing the 2012 Covenant, a group is agreeing to conduct the Emmaus program in a manner that is faithful to these statements and to become an Upper Room "Walk to Emmaus Community". The Emmaus Office agrees to recognize the group as an "Emmaus community" and to support its ministry in the ways outlined below.

1. Each Emmaus Community will have a local governing body that is elected by the persons in that community. The local governing body will be organized and will conduct its business in accordance with the Emmaus Office guidelines in a manner that honors Christ and His church. The local governing body will stay in communication with the Emmaus Office regarding scheduled Emmaus weekends, election of new officers and other developments affecting the quality of the Emmaus ministry. Each local governing body will update and maintain their community's information on the Emmaus Boardroom website. Emmaus Boardroom website information can be found on page three (3) of this document.

2. The local governing body will carry out the three-phase method of Emmaus in accordance with the most recent edition of *The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus* and the most recent edition of The Upper Room manuals. To avoid misunderstandings, opportunity for conflict or violation of the Emmaus copyright, conducting the Walks using locally written and/or paraphrased materials or written materials from other organizations is prohibited. Interpretation of the Emmaus materials is vested in the Emmaus Office staff. The three-phase method includes:

a. Pre-event phase -- a plan for sound recruitment, communication about, and proper preparation of participants and team for their three-day introductory Emmaus experience, which includes the responsibility to screen and supervise all volunteer team members and workers and to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all participants;

b. Event phase -- separate three-day events for men and women, using The Upper Room *Walk to Emmaus Director's Manual, Team Manual* and the Emmaus Office outlines for the 15 talks (10 lay and 5 clergy); and

c. Post-event phase -- a follow-up plan that includes group reunions, monthly gatherings, leadership development for increasing the Emmaus community's knowledge of the method and its effectiveness of providing spiritual renewal for the local church, and encouragement of church involvement.

3. The Emmaus/Chrysalis Office fully expects that all current Community Board of Directors members and all Weekend Conference Room members are active participants in a Group Reunion or accountability group.

4. Emmaus, as a program offering of The Upper Room Ministries of The United Methodist Church, invites interdenominational, interracial and international participation, and fosters a spirit of Christian acceptance and unity. The local governing body will foster in Emmaus activities, the openness to diversity and the mainstream theological balance that is reflective of Upper Room Ministries.

5. Translation of and/or printing of any and all Emmaus documents in any language must have prior written approval from the Emmaus Office.

6. The local governing body will keep denominational leaders, other church officials, and the Emmaus Office informed about the activities and fruit of the local and international Emmaus Movement. The local governing body will seek to cooperate with the leaders of other denominations and to function entirely as a servant of the church.

7. Annually, someone other than the treasurer will make an inspection of the books and records of the local community. The person who inspects the records will submit a written report to the local governing body as to the findings and this report will be entered into the minutes of the local governing body. The report will be made available to any interested party.

8. The local governing body will maintain Emmaus' focus on sponsoring pilgrims who are actively participating in a local church.

9. The local governing body will maintain Emmaus' policy that, in support of the sanctity of marriage, the husband and wife are encouraged to make an equal commitment to participate in The Walk to Emmaus, as described in *The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus*. Men and women attend separate walks.

10. Each Emmaus Community will support the work that goes on through the Emmaus Office to resource, guide and network the expanding Emmaus Movement throughout the world with a payment of \$13.00 per new participant following Emmaus weekends. Financial submissions are to be made payable to The Upper Room Emmaus and will be sent to the Emmaus Office, at the address listed on the last page. These funds will be used exclusively for the work of the International Emmaus Office. Each Emmaus Community will also actively participate in “**The Gift**” program to support International Development.

11. Annually, each local governing body of each Emmaus Community in the United States will send their newly elected member class to one of the Leadership Development meetings in their region/country. These meetings will be conducted by regional leaders representing the International Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis Office.

12. The Emmaus Office will make available to Emmaus Communities: guidance and consultation; interpretative materials on Emmaus; direction and leadership for starting new Emmaus communities; printed materials for leading all aspects of Emmaus; resource persons for leadership training; and coordination and networking of the expanding Emmaus movement throughout the world. The local Emmaus Community will work through the Emmaus Regional Leaders to gain understanding of the movement for continual improvement.

13. The Emmaus Office will support participants in their Fourth Day by making available, upon request, information about other Upper Room print, video and experiential resources for strengthening the spiritual life.

14. The Upper Room will provide Emmaus Communities a 25% discount on Upper Room books purchased for book tables at Emmaus events.

15. The Emmaus Office will maintain regular communication with Emmaus Communities and will seek to continually improve the Emmaus program through a variety of means including an International Advisory Committee made up of Emmaus and Chrysalis leaders from across the movement.

An open letter to the community

The board has received some questions regarding team selection.

Excerpted from Guidance received December 2011 from the Emmaus Upper Room Staff

Christians, like all people, do not agree on everything. This divergence is set aside in Emmaus. In Emmaus, there are no issues since Emmaus is designed to present those fundamental concepts of mainline Christianity where everyone is in agreement. The church faces many issues of doctrine and of social concerns. That is right and proper, and the church must wrestle with these issues. Emmaus is not **THE** church and Emmaus is not **A** church.

The issues of doctrine & social issues, can, and have been, divisive within the church. Doctrinal issues have included the method of baptism, gifts of the Spirit, salvation, and eschatology to mention a few. Social issues have included marginalized persons who are homeless or imprisoned, pro-life vs. pro-choice, abortion, caring for the aged, ethnic inclusiveness or exclusiveness, and gender affinity. Clearly, the issue of whether or not the practice of homosexuality is compatible with Christian lifestyle is at controversy in the church today. *The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus is not a proper forum to resolve this issue. In Emmaus, such social issues are transcended and set aside as we affirm one another in our fundamental beliefs and join together to help sisters and brothers advance in their discipleship.*

The stance of Emmaus is that all Christians are sinners in need of forgiveness, that we, as redeemed people, can let issues be set aside and let the love of true service be our rallying call to help all of us advance in our discipleship. Just as Christ extended grace to the outcast, the unloved, the disenfranchised, and the worst of sinners, we are asked to share that grace in the same manner as Christ shared. We are called to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. (Micah 6:8).

BVEC Practice

The board attempts to know where all volunteers stand in the understanding of their role as servants and the role of the Holy Spirit as the source of all good and transformation. Based on our best available knowledge, the board will accept people of all backgrounds and beliefs as long as they **do not make an issue or promote their personal agenda.**

In Christian Service and Love,

The BVEC Board

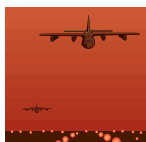
Greetings!

I'm happy to announce that I will continue this year as your Training Chairman for BVEC. It is the goal of the BVEC Board of Directors to continually improve our performance and compliance with the Upper Room Model. Toward that goal, I will continue to bring you updates and trainings on various aspects of all things Emmaus. This month, since we just signed our covenant agreement with the Upper Room, I am sharing an analogy that explains our relationship with the Upper Room and the various aspects of Walk Leadership. I hope it helps each of you to better understand how BVEC operates. Of course, if you have any questions, contact me or any other board member.





DeColores,

Deanie Gold
Training Chairman,

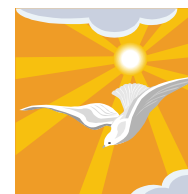
So – How is Emmaus like an Airport?



WALK TO EMMAUS / AIRPORT

The Upper Room	FAA
The Upper Room Model	FAA Flight Plan
Local Board of Directors	Airline
Conference Room Team	 Cockpit and Cabin Crew
Behind the Scenes Coordinator	Tower 
Board Rep	Black Box
Behind the Scenes Servants	Ground Crew 
Conference Room	Airplane
Pilgrims	 Passengers – <i>ALL FIRST CLASS</i>
Sponsor	Person who drops you off at the airport & picks you up

- Behind the Scenes takes care of all passenger needs; luggage, food, aircraft – before, during and after the flight.
- When the door is closed, the “flight” starts and the plane is cloistered – there is no relationship with ground crew.
- Flight Crew must follow model (FAA rules).
- Only flight crew takes care of passengers during flight.
- EVERYONE is asked to turn off their cell phones for the duration of the flight.
- You’ll go on the flight you like best – when you are ready to go.
- Airline can and does cancel flights if there are too few passengers
- **The Holy Spirit is The Holy Spirit.**



*From the Upper Room:***Emmaus Reading List:**

We recommend the following books to nurture your fourth day journey. The books are divided into subject based on the talks given at an Emmaus weekend.

Priority

The Christ Centered Woman by Kimberly Dunnam Reisman
The Cost of Living by Arundhati Roy
A Wakeful Faith by J. Marshall Jenkins

Prevenient Grace

Genesis of Grace by John Indermark
Remembering Your Story by Richard Lyon Morgan
Discerning God's Will Together by Danny E. Morris & Charles M. Olsen

Priesthood of All Believers

Praying Together by Martha Graybeal Rowlett (Out of Print. Available from Amazon)
Workbook of Intercessory Prayer by Maxie Dunnam
Yearning for God by Margaret Ann Crain & Jack Seymour (Out of Print. Available from Amazon.)
Mother Roots by Helen Pearson

Justifying Grace

People of Integrity by William Morgan (Available from Amazon.)
Becoming Alive in Christ by Maxie Dunnam
Leading a Life with God by Daniel Wolpert

Life in Piety

The Abundance Book by John Randolph Price (Available from Amazon)
Upper Room Disciplines
Invitation to Presence by Wendy Miller (Out of print. Available from Amazon.)
Go Preach! by Jack Gilbert
Talking in the Dark by Steve Harper

Grow Through Study

Mother Roots by Helen Pearson
Reading with Deeper Eyes by Will Willimon (Out of Print. Available from Amazon)
Sabbath Time by Tilden Edwards (Out of Print. Available from Amazon)

Means of Grace

Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition by Steve Harper
Syncopated Grace by Linda J. & Dwight W. Vogel (Out of Print. Available from Amazon.)
Conflict and Communion by Thomas Porter

Christian Action

Climbing the Sycamore Tree by Ann Hagmann
Do What You Have the Power to Do by Helen Bruch Pearson
Kindred Souls by Stephanie Ford
Transforming Ventures by Jane Ives

Obstacles of Grace

Wrestling with Grace by Robert Corin Morris
Workbook on the Seven Deadly Sins by Maxie Dunnam & Kimberly Reisman

Discipleship

Praying in the Wesleyan Spirit by Paul Wesley Chilcote
Keeping Company with the Saints by Maxie Dunnam
Transforming Evangelism by Henry H. Knight III & Douglas F. Powe Jr.

Changing Our World

A Mile in My Shoes by Trevor Hudson
Stretch out your Hand by Tilda Norberg, Robert D. Webber
Way to Live by Dorothy Bass, Don C. Richter

Sanctifying Grace

As if the Heart Mattered by Gregory S. Clapper
Creating a Life with God by Daniel Wolpert
A Hard Fought Hope by William R. Long & Glandion W. Carney (Out of Print. Available from Amazon.)

Body of Christ

Accountable Discipleship by Steven W. Manskar
Under Her Wings by Kathy Bence (Out of Print. Available from Amazon.)
Kindred Souls by Stephanie Ford

Perseverance

Patterned by Grace by Daniel T. Benedict
Accountable Discipleship by Steven W. Manskar
To Walk in Integrity by Stephen V. Doughty

Fourth Day

Companions In Christ by Gerrit Scott Dawson, Adele J. González, E. Glenn Hinson, Rueben P. Job, Marjorie J. Thompson, Wendy M. Wright
Discovering Community by Stephen V. Doughty (Out of Print. Available from Amazon.)
Love Never Ends by Robert and Jeanette Lauer
Remembering Your Story by Richard Lyon Morgan
The Jesus Priorities by Christopher D. Maricle
Get Real by Derek Maul

Did You Know?

It takes more than 90 people to serve just one weekend Walk? Thirty-three people are needed to serve on the Inside and Outside Teams which require a minimum of 3 days service. The BVEC Team Selection Committee is now accepting applications for the Spring 2012 Walks.

The men's walk will be March 22nd thru March 25th, 2012 with *Andy Perry* as the Lay Director. The women's walk will be April 19th thru April 22nd, 2012 with *Stephanie Ashlock* as the Lay Director.

To serve on one of these teams, please complete the team application and mail it to the address listed on the form no later than November 18, 2011. Copies of the form may be obtained at November 5th Gathering as well as on the web www.bvemmas.org, or apply online at <http://bvec.inetmember.com>. For additional information, email Deborah Hildebrand at team_selection@bvemmas.org or debhildebrand@verizon.net. If you do not have access to the internet, please feel free to call me at 979-567-7751.

If you're unable to get away for that amount of time but would like to serve, many opportunities still exist where you can volunteer for several hours and still receive credit for serving on an Outside Team. These include: working in the Kitchen; Facilities Set-up on Thursday or Facilities Tear-down on Sunday; Welcoming Committee on Thursday evening; and Parking Attendants for Arrival, Candlelight, and Closing. Each of these opportunities requires a very minimal amount of your time and is vital to the Community's ability to proceed with a Walk. If interested in serving in one of these areas, please contact a board member.

Kitchen Corner

It's that time again. Talk with your Reunion Groups and consider coming as a group to help out in the kitchen. The camp provides the lead, Rob Meyer, but we provide the workers. All you have to do is show up and take directions. If you've never done it, it's fun and an easy way to show your love if you only have a limited amount of time available. It counts as service on the outside time, so it's a great way to get your feet wet. Some folks like to sign up and come as a group, but we always need singles as well. The first shift will be 7-10am, and the second from 11am-2pm. The third shift will run from 4-7pm. We're planning on trying something new starting with the next Walk. We are going to try and have a couple of folks that can work at least 2 days and stay overnight. The Camp isn't charging anything for these folks, so if your interested, let me know. Remember, we've got a bunch of folks and some slots fill faster than others. If you want to work, email or call me.

Sponsors cannot volunteer

Slots are:

Thursday: 3PM-6PM (3 people)

Friday: 7AM-10AM (3-4 people), 11AM-2PM (3-4 people) & 4PM-7PM (3-4 people)

Saturday: 7AM-10AM (3-4 people), 11AM-2PM (3-4 people), 4PM-7PM (4-5 people)

Sunday: 7AM-10AM (3-4 people) & 11AM-2PM (3-4 people)

Thursday is good if you like to see the "send off", Saturday night is good if your going to Candlelight, and Sunday is good if your going to Closing. Once again, No Sponsors.

Any other questions, call 979 525-9139 or email me at summerour3@me

18 January 2012

Dear BVEC,

Thank you for honoring me at the recent gathering with the gift of the cross. It will be a precious reminder of our time and ministry together. I pray God continues to bless the community with growth, unity, and love; and I pray he blesses the board with perseverance and strength. Thank you for all you do for the community and for all you mean to me. God bless you!

In Christ,

Jeff Gage

Greetings BVEC!

I am thrilled to be your Agape Coordinator and am looking forward to seeing all the wonderful acts of love you will provide for our upcoming walks. If you were at the January gathering you may have already signed up to specific agape items. And if you did, THANK YOU! But if you didn't and would like to, there are a few slots left. So meet me at the February gathering or give me a call and sign up! Keep in mind, those listed items need to be in the Agape room no later than 2pm on the Thursday of the walk.

Remember all those wonderful little surprises that you received on your walk and let's all get busy crafting agape items for the Men's and Women's spring walks.

Keep the Agape coming!

Molly Garwood

Agape Coordinator

936-203-7263 Mobile

And Remember our Hullabaloo in August, it is not too early to start collecting auction items. This is our big money-making event with 90% of the proceeds going to Sponsorships for the walks.

Please begin gathering your items to be sold at either of the auctions, and don't hesitate to solicit throughout your communities for items donated by merchants and businesses. Some past items have included movie baskets, books, baked goods, personal services, business services, antiques, guns, handcrafted items, and even an AKC registered puppy. Remember, all donations are tax deductible and will be used to spread the word of God's love to some who may not be able to attend without scholarship assistance

Schedule of Gatherings

FEBRUARY 4
MARCH 3
APRIL
MAY 5
JUNE 2
JULY 7

ST JOHN'S UMC
PLEASANT RETREAT UMC
NO GATHERING
FIRST UMC
HILLTOP LAKES CHAPEL
CHAPELL HILL UMC

ROCKDALE
THORNDALE

BRYAN
HILLTOP LAKES
CHAPELL HILL

Be sure to sign in to our online system and verify your information. If you are new to the community send an email to Jerry Coffman at technology@bvemmaus.org and we will get you entered into the system.

The web address is <http://bvec.inetmember.com>

BVEC
PO BOX 10491
COLLEGE STATION, TX 77842



We're on the Web!

<http://www.bvemmaus.org>

