

Hi Sky Emmaus Community Newsletter

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Message from the 2010 Community Lay Director

Dear Community

Here we go with God's Year 2010! I am so excited about what God has in store for his Body this year. The board has had their first meeting and we are on task to minister to our community for this upcoming year. We would really like to concentrate on bringing this community together and one of the ways we want to accomplish that is by encouraging more participation from a broader spectrum of the community.

Our committees are great ways for our new Pilgrims and our veteran members to get involved in the life of this ministry. At our upcoming meeting we will have a "job fair", if you will, to help everyone understand what our committees are and see if we can find ways to engage you in the activities that are so necessary in the life of Emmaus.

Please be in prayer for ways you might be involved and PLEASE COUNT ON BEING WITH US ON JANUARY 26th at 7:00 at Wilshire Park Baptist Church. We will meet there for this meeting only and in February will move to our location for the year which will be First United Methodist Church downtown, in the fellowship hall.

Let's have a great start to this year as we prepare for our Men's Walk in February and remember, "Christ is Counting on You". Are you counting on him?

In His Love,
Martha Manulik

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Message from the 2010 Community Spiritual Director

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all."

This opening statement in the booklet about Emmaus tells us that the benefits of our "Best Walks Ever" do not end when we depart for home on Sunday. They do not end when we arrive home and give our family members great big hugs and kisses. The most beneficial part begins with our Fourth Days; they are the days and years in which we cultivate the gifts of the Holy Spirit. In our fourth days, we are proactive in servant ministry for our Lord Jesus.

To the point, we are given the ministry to cultivate (witness, encourage, and lead) others to seek an increased faith relation to God, through Christ Jesus. The letter to the Ephesians states it thus,

“...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
..to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.” (4.12f)

People in the Church have led me to Christ in many ways, one of which is Emmaus. My prayer for our HiSky Community is that we will be pillars of steadfast faith in our respective congregations. The month of January is a good opportunity to recall 2009, and ask oneself, “How have I contributed to the ministries of my church?” It is also an opportune time to set some priorities for witness and service in our churches in 2010. I look forward to fellowship and Holy Communion with you on January 26.

De colores, Larry Bailey

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Book Table...

BOOK TABLE NOW FEATURES NEW BOOKS

For all Hi Sky Emmaus Walks, new books will now be available for purchase by pilgrims and team alike. The decision to add this feature to the book table was made at the May meeting of the Board. By doing so, we will provide people with printed resources for spiritual growth and knowledge in their fourth days.

The purpose of Emmaus is to deepen and better understand one's faith, and to express one's faith through leadership and ministry in the Church. People need a variety of resources to grow in faith. Books by respected authors are invaluable. Sandra Fussell, Robert Kirk, and/or Larry Bailey will select books at Mardel Book Store and/or order from the Upper Room.

The books will be displayed after the talk on Growth Through Study and throughout the weekend. Larry Bailey and Shelly Kuhlmann will coordinate the purchase, delivery, and return of books for each walk. Acceptance letters to pilgrims will include a statement that they should bring cash or checks to purchase books.

Board Business

In an effort to strengthen communication throughout the Hi-Sky Emmaus Community, Carol Hopkins has provided a monthly summary of the Board of Directors Meeting. No minutes from a board meeting have yet been approved since the last minutes published.

Team lists and Pilgrim lists available online

Team lists and pilgrim lists are available on the website by clicking on the [Calendar](#) link at the top of each page, then by clicking on the walk or flight number. The logistics coordinator, food and gift agape leaders for each walk/flight will be listed above the team list, once determined.

Prayer Vigil

Remember that prayer is the stronghold between Satan and our walks and flights. Be sure to join in the Prayer Vigil for each of the upcoming Walks and Flights. You can now electronically sign up for the Prayer Vigil on our new database. Meanwhile, the vigil is also available for signup at each Community Meeting and then at Sponsors Hour the first night of each walk. OR, you can contact Carol Hopkins to sign up for your prayer times by phone at 528-0642 or by email at carhopy@aol.com. You can check the prayer time slots that you have signed up for, or see what times are still available for each walk, on the Hiskyemmaus.com website at the top of each Walk team and caterpillar listing (click on the Calendar tab at the top). Please be aware of the calendar dates for each walk or flight so you can get signed up to pray for the caterpillars, pilgrims, and teams. Anyone desiring to sign up for a permanent time slot may do so; we simply ask that you please include either your email address or a contact phone number so that we can remind you of your commitment and also verify that you are still praying at that time.

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Walk Reports

Men's Walk #189 – Feb. 11-14, 2010

We start meetings for the best team ever put together by GOD on Friday, January 8th, and I'm nervous as a first grader. My prayer is GOD better know what he's doing (HAHA). This has been some of the most rewarding work so far I've ever done. GOD IS AWESOME, and please pray that each and every pilgrim will be rewarded just 1% as much as we are.

De Colores, Jim Sparr

Women's Walk #190 – Mar. 18-21, 2010

We are still in the process of building the team for this first women's walk of 2010. The spiritual dudes and dudettes are in place, two fairly new ones – Dean Cook and Todd Barham, and a couple experienced gals – Sandra Fussell and Donita Lea. Our team meetings will begin on February 5th. Those of you who really know me understand that being a Lay Director is not something I ever aspired to (I prefer the background work), but as we move through the process, my excitement grows for what the Lord is going to do in this team, the pilgrims who will come, and the new community members you will soon meet. Please be in prayer for all involved.

De Colores, Carol Hopkins

Committee Reports

- **Administration Committee** – ° Book Table – Please read the special article on Page 3 about the new arrangements for the Book Table for the Grow Through Study talk.
- **Chrysalis Committee** – Need a great present for a high school youth? How about sending them on a Chrysalis Flight in Summer 2010? The Flights are the end of July (Girls July 22-25; Boys July 29-Aug. 1) and are similar to your Walk experience, except the talks are given from a youth perspective, including a marriage talk and single life talk. Wouldn't it be life changing to send them to a weekend of love and inspiration to help them deepen their faith and know our God on a very personal level to develop their own faith, strong and true? Applications are on the web site and the cost is only \$150.

If you are interested in serving on the Team for the Boys and Girls Flights, please contact Barbara Willis (664-1161 OR bswillis1956@yahoo.com), Wilma Stirl (wjstirl@juno.com), Jody Sneed, (jody.sneed@gmail.com) or Ann Driver (ddadjr@yahoo.com) as soon as possible. We will be selecting the Teams this month.

Fly with Christ, Chrysalis Committee

- **Gatherings Committee** – The Community meetings for the year 2010 will be held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 300 N. Main Street, Midland. **HOWEVER, the first meeting of 2010 (January 26) will still be at Wilshire Park, 801 S. Bentwood (corner of Bentwood and Pleasant), beginning at 7:00 PM (Babe Chick meetings at 6:15).** The beautiful walk crosses displayed at the December 1, 2009 meeting were those of some of the 2009 Lay Directors present – Martha Manulik (WW #188-November 2009), Dusty Roach (MW#183-Feb. 2009), Ron Hopkins (MW #185-Apr. 2009) and Jack Harvey (MW #187-Sep.

2009). Remember our Gathering time is now after Community. PLEASE BRING SOMETHING TO SHARE. I would like to say thanks to those of you who have been faithful to bring food and help with set up and clean up. A special thanks to Kathy Hagler and her reunion group for making sure there were plenty of refreshments in December. Being together and sharing in a time of laughter and affirmation is such a special part of Emmaus. We look forward to seeing each of you at the January 2010 Community Meeting; for a great time of fellowship and thanksgiving for all that God has done for us and the great work He is doing in our Emmaus Community.

De Colores, Gatherings Committee

- **Fourth Day Committee** – As we approach our 2010 Men's and Women's Walks, I hope all of you who have been honored to serve as ALD's, LD's, Table Leaders and Assistant Table Leaders will keep in mind that it is very important for you to follow up with these Pilgrims and Caterpillars over the next year. We build our community and strengthen our outreach by encouraging participation by both our veterans and our rookies. You all remember how overwhelming community can be when you are there by yourself and that it takes working walks and being involved before you really feel comfortable as a part of the Emmaus Community. Please continue your stewardship of these precious Pilgrims and Caterpillars by going to pick them up for community, or making sure if they are at community you visit with them, or including them or helping them in their reunion group search. Our sponsors will help us with this as well but as a participant in the walks, you have a completely different connection with these folks who have attended the weekends. Please help us to spread God's love by finding ways to keep these newbies connected. The blessing of the Walk can be increased tenfold if we can get these Pilgrims and Caterpillars included in working the weekends, and it so blesses our community to have new people coming on board.

- **Team Selection Committee** -- Team Selection Meetings have been held for MW# 189, Lay Director, Jim Sparr; WW# 190, Carol Hopkins, Lay Director and MW# 191, Kerry Mansour, Lay Director. Team Selection Committee is asking for prayer for teams and pilgrims that God has already sent and is going to send. Thank you and God bless!

De Colores, Iris Hall-Sanders, Team Selection Chair.

- **Music Committee** – Is Music one of your talents? Have you ever wanted to be on a Music Team on a walk? Do you sing or play Guitar, Piano, Bass, or any other type of musical instrument? The community needs your talent and encourages you to call or email any of the board members (contact information available on the Board tab on the website).

2010 Walks, Flights & Journeys		
<u>Walk #</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Lay Director</u>
Men's Walk #189	Feb 11-14	Jim Sparr
Women's Walk #190	Mar 18-21	Carol Hopkins
Men's Walk #191	Apr 8-11	Kerry Mansour

Girls Chrysalis Flight #44	Jul. 22-25	Ann Driver
Boys Chrysalis Flight #45	Jul. 29-Aug. 1	Jody Sneed
Women's Walk #192	Sep 16-19	Charlotte Bosecker
Men's Walk #194	Oct 14-17	Eli Kuhlmann
Women's Walk #195	Nov 4-7	Amy Ciaccio