

# Hi Sky Emmaus Community Newsletter

## February 2010 - Page 1

### Message from the 2010 Community Lay Director

Dear Community,

Wasn't January's Community Meeting awesome? The music was great. I especially liked singing "Have you Seen Jesus Today" at the end of meeting. Bill Thomas as our Fourth Day Speaker was such a reminder of how precious is life and the communion was, what can I say, ...Incredibly Moving.

Thank you to everyone who was there and for those of you who weren't, you missed a beautiful evening. Next month our Fourth Day Speaker will be Wilma Stirl so come prepared to hear from a spiritual warrior.

We talked last month about how we, as Christians, should be proclaiming a message by how we live our life, that every day of life is a Celebration, because of God's incredible gift of freedom and eternal life through his son Jesus Christ. Do people see that in your life? Do they see a sense of Celebration even in your darkest days? Lucy Swindoll, in the quote I read, said that we should not forget our souls? Feed them with the perks of the spiritual life and let that shine through you in your everyday life. I consider Emmaus a spiritual perk so I hope to see you all involved in this gift of Christ.

As Jim Dennison said, "The uncertainty of the future is one of the best reasons to trust God in the present. He transcends time, seeing tomorrow more clearly than I can see today. And he promises to those who follow him by faith, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it'" (Isaiah 30:21).

Remember, Christ is Counting on You. Are you counting on Him?

*De Colores, Martha Manulik*

## Hi Sky Emmaus Community Newsletter February 2010 - Page 2

### Message from the 2010 Community Spiritual Director

I am impressed at our Community gatherings and on our Walk Teams by the variety of personalities and church memberships. Taken individually, we are all different. Each of us shines forth in some skill or ability. Each of us has a personality different from anyone else. Some of us may differ in preferences for worship style, music, and Holy Communion. What holds us together? Why are we so pleased to spend time together?

The answer is our response to God's grace as we have experienced it through Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul writes in his letter to Rome, "For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another." (12.4f) In other words, the core, the essence of the Hi Sky Community, is Christ, God in Holy Spirit among us. We offer up praise to Him in all that we do together.

Hence, our unique personalities and abilities function as different parts of one body. We cooperate and we encourage. We contribute our best effort to enable His Body to bless many lives. I, like many among us, will be part of a team this year. I am eager to do my part in this body, Christ's body. I am just as eager to be a small part in the life of some Pilgrim or Butterfly who will love God and themselves in a new way. All of this is not what we do, but what Christ does through us. I am sure that you think the same way.

*De colores, Larry Bailey*

# Hi Sky Emmaus Community Newsletter

February 2010 - Page 3

## 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 Shelley 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. The minutes summary from the meeting of November 30, 2009 is available [dgrny 0](#)

## 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](mailto: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](http://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.

# Hi Sky Emmaus Community Newsletter

## January 2010 - Page 4

### 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 8<sup>th</sup>, 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*

The team is now complete for this walk – YES! I think that is the hardest part of being a lay director. Our first team meetings were February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, and the talks previewed were inspiring to the team – imagine how the pilgrims will receive them! Team members have been terrific with offering to help anyway they can, and I am putting them to work. Please continue in prayer for the team, the pilgrims (those registered [28 as of today] and those God has promised to send), and all involved – that includes you, the Community members who make these walks work by your gifts of prayer, food and gift agape, and just being available to help anyway you can. Thank YOU for your support.

*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](mailto:bswillis1956@yahoo.com)), Wilma Stirl ([wjstirl@juno.com](mailto:wjstirl@juno.com)), Jody Sneed, ([jody.sneed@gmail.com](mailto:jody.sneed@gmail.com)) or Ann Driver ([ddadjr@yahoo.com](mailto:ddadjr@yahoo.com)) as soon as possible. The Chrysalis teams have already been selected.

*Fly with Christ, Chrysalis Committee*

- **Gatherings Committee** – The Community meetings for the year 2010 are being held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 300 N. Main Street, Midland, beginning at 7:00 PM (*Babe Chick meetings at 6:15*). The beautiful walk crosses displayed at the January 26, 2010 Community meeting were those of Wilma Stirl, Sandra Fussell and Bill Thomas. Remember our Gathering time is now after Community. PLEASE SNACK FOOD ITEMS 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. 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 February 23, 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** – Our first walk of 2010 (MW 189) was once again a full walk. 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# 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).

<b>2010 Walks, Flights &amp; Journeys</b>			
<b>Walk #</b>		<b>Dates</b>	<b>Lay Director</b>
Men's Walk #189	<b>Done – Full Walk</b>	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

# HI SKY EMMAUS COMMUNITY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS

Board of Directors Meeting – November 30, 2009 [SUMMARY]

The Hi-Sky Emmaus Community Board of Directors was called for its regular monthly meeting at 5:30 P.M. at Permian Basin Board of Realtors, 1001 W. Wall Street, Midland, Texas 79701, on Monday, November 30, 2009, with a quorum present.

## **New Business:**

Board Nominees and results. Sandra Fussell, Community Spiritual Director, announced the following results for the new board members for 2010:

Men	Alan Barkley and Key Simon
Women	Debbie Baxter and Kathy Hagler.

Motion was made and seconded that these persons be approved as the new board members, and the vote was unanimous to pass the motion.

Location for 2010 Community Meetings. Several churches were suggested as facilities for the 2010 Community Meetings. It was decided to hold the January meeting in the 2009 facility – Wilshire Park Baptist Church to allow time to determine a new facility for 2010.<sup>1</sup>

Chrysalis Update. Wilma Stirl reported that the Chrysalis Steering Committee now had several names for team selection and that the Steering Committee would conduct team selection for both Chrysalises in January. The Spiritual Directors were already set up – Derrick Looney for the Boys and Daniel Harris for the Girls. Ann Driver and Jody Sneed are to sign their Letters of Agreement at the December 1 community meeting. Chrysalis lay director training for Ann Driver and Jody Sneed has been conducted.

2010 Community Lay Director. Motion was made and seconded that Martha Manulik be elected the Community Lay Director for 2010, and the vote was unanimous to pass the motion.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Data Base. There was no update on the data base, but it was suggested that she once again speak to community members about getting into the data base to verify and/or update their information.

Spiritual board vacancies. Larry Bailey will become the community Spiritual Director for 2010. Paula Brooks will fill the clergy vacancy.

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<sup>1</sup> It was later determined that we would meet at First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall beginning in February 2010.

**Minutes from Last Meeting.** The minutes for the October 23, 2009 board meeting having been emailed in advance of the meeting to all board members, motions made and seconded that the minutes be approved as presented, and the vote was unanimous to pass the motion.

**Financial Report.** Larry Carroll distributed and explained his written financial reports through November 29, 2009. Dusty Roach advised he had received the security deposit from Fenders to the community for the vacated Midland storage facility. Motion was made and seconded that the financial report be approved as presented, and the vote was unanimous to pass the motion.

**Music Trailer / Speakers.** Bill Thomas reported that a good figure to strive for to cover the community's sound equipment is \$2,000-2,500, which would take care of replacing the old amplifier, plus cover any lost or damaged microphones or cords.

**Comments by Community Spiritual Director:** Sandra Fussell, as outgoing Community Spiritual Director, remarked that she was excited about the positive attitude of the board, that the members had really prayed in a good year and it has been a good year. She reminded us of how often we say "the devil is working", but we need to remember that God is greater than Satan. We need to think in the positive, praying to the light.

**Community Lay Director:** Dusty Roach stated it has been an honor to serve with this board. He remarked that sometimes his comments were made covering others' thoughts. He had always tried to put God first, prayed on decisions, and think "What would Jesus do?" or "What is best for the pilgrims?" He envisions the community getting back to four men's and four women's walks each year.

### **Walk Reports:**

Women's Walk #188 – November 12-15, 2009

Martha Manulik reported no problems this walk; and, while there may have been complaints about using the old conference room for chapel services and candlelight service, she offered no apologies.

### **Committee Reports:**

- Gatherings – Kathy Hagler's reunion group, Rainbow Skies, will cover refreshments for the December 1 community meeting.
- Chrysalis – Barbara Willis reported she felt the chrysalis committee on the board should be a mix of people with experience with flights, and that the terms on the chrysalis committee should be from summer to summer. She further suggested that the Chairman of the chrysalis committee be an ex officio member of the board with the title of Chrysalis Community Lay Director.

- Administrative – Tim Harris, as a departing board member, gave a short history and remarked that no class had graduated with the same people who came on. He stated that this board had always erred on the side of grace and that any dispute remained with the board, not boiling over into the community. We had prayed and listened – to the community and to God.
- Training – Heidi Anderson reported that she had conducted 2010 Lay Director training by herself.

Carol Hopkins reminded the board members that all 2009 Lay Directors should bring their walk crosses for the December 1 community meeting.

**Closing Prayer.** Larry Bailey offered a closing prayer.

There being no further business on the agenda and no further business raised, motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned, and Dusty Roach adjourned the meeting at 7:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carol Hopkins*

Carol Hopkins, Secretary

## Prayer for Other Emmaus Communities.

Each year, various other Emmaus communities provide us with their wall agape letters, as well as their walk dates and request our prayers for those walks, just as we request their prayer for our walks. We are listing here the walks and flights that are going on in other communities. Here is a list of walks of which we have been made aware that are going on in February and March of 2010, for which we should be in prayer.

### Community & Walk Dates 2010

Pecos River Valley Emmaus (SE New Mexico and NW Texas)	Men's Walk #30	Feb. 18-21
Pecos River Valley Emmaus (SE New Mexico and NW Texas)	Women's Walk #31	Feb. 25-28
Red River Emmaus (Wichita Falls, TX)	Women's Walk #102	Feb. 25-28
Dayspring Community (Southeast Georgia)	Young Men's Journey	Feb. 18-21
Dayspring Community (Southeast Georgia)	Men's Walk #70	Mar. 11-14
Dayspring Community (Southeast Georgia)	Women's Walk #71	Mar. 18-21
Chattanooga/LaFayette Emmaus (Tennessee)	Men's Walk #44	Mar. 25-18
Pioneer Country Emmaus (Central Oklahoma)	Women's Walk 118	Feb. 25-28
Missouri East Chrysalis	Girls Flight	Feb. 18-20
Missouri East Chrysalis	Boys Flight	Mar. 4-6