



PILGRIM'S JOURNEY

The Houston Bay Area Emmaus Community

Volume 9, Issue 9

September, 2005

P.O. BOX 890134, Houston, Texas 77289-0134 - <http://www.hbaec.org>

Inside this issue:

God is Contagious	2
- Notice - From Board	2
Gatherings Schedule	2
New Pilgrims	3
Phone #s for Leadership Team	3
Anonymous Poem	3
Reminder for Men's walk	4

CALLING ALL 4TH DAY!—NEXT GATHERING!!

Our next Gathering will be at noon on Saturday, Sept. 10th. It will be at New Beginnings Church, located at 6111 11th Ave. N. in Texas City. We will also have a Question and Answer time for the 4th Day Community. Please check the community web page — at <http://www.hbaec.org> for more information.

Take Time to Listen

I was reminded last week during a Bible Study that to be effective doesn't mean you have to do fifteen things at once. We are such a "GO" society, that we sometimes don't slow down and listen. Listen to our family. Listen to our friends. Listen to God. I believe that is why the Emmaus Walks are so successful. We get 72 hours to remember to listen. Whether it's been two months or two years since you went on your Walk, remember to slow down and take time to listen. When you pray, spend at least five minutes being very still and listening. I started doing this a couple of years ago, and I'm not saying it's easy. The benefits of hearing God's small voice in your heart (not audibly) is so worth a few minutes of your day. You will practice the presence of God more fully, and as an added benefit, learn to listen to those around you even better.

De Colores
Lisa Ragland

2005 Walks

- Men's # 31, 09/15-09/18, Victory Camp
- Women's #32, 10/06-10/09, Victory Camp
- Women's #33, 11/03-11/06, Victory Camp

- GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN ASAP

We have an exciting Mission opportunity in our Community. There are three ladies from Belize that want to come to our Community for a Walk. They want to start their own Emmaus Community, and Nashville encouraged them to contact us, because we are Model Compliant. There is a cost for them, so we are taking any donations to offset their travel. If you feel so led, please contact Norma Jacobson, our Treasurer. 409-948-2038
Lisa Ragland

He who demands mercy and shows none ruins the bridge over which he himself is to pass.—Thomas Adams

God is Contagious

Recently I found myself dependent upon my doctors for the air I breathe, for my energy level and for life itself, but being dependent did not mean that I sit back and do nothing with my life. It gave me the opportunity to put my hand in God's hand, to walk through life with faith and to look at all the ways God's presence has reflected His great love.

One of the ways I have seen God show His love is through acts of external agape. When you went on your Emmaus walk, do you remember all those letters from people all over the world who were thinking of you, who were praying for you, who were caring more for you than themselves? I do! I have come to appreciate the true meaning of God's love and have come to understand that God's love is contagious! It is reflected in the handwriting of people from all over the world, who have chosen to give up their time to write in order to place others ahead of themselves. The external agape from all around the world has also brought transformation and a willingness to be full participants in the fellowship of Jesus Christ. Because these people bring hope to our world, to bear witness that God's love is spreading, God invites us to be a part of His vision.

Everyday provides new opportunity to practice living up to the vows we have made to God and to one another. As we vow to love, we need to seek to enhance our appreciation of the true meaning of God's love in our lives. Receiving God was the work that we are called upon to do. It is His presence and activity in our lives that challenges us to say, "yes" to Him.

Giving of ourselves through external agape provides life-changing moments that are long awaited and anticipated; sometimes they catch us totally by surprise, but they remind us of the power of God's love. As you turn back to yourself, ask yourself this one question: *Do people see less of you and more of Christ?*

Lois Elsner

Notice

We are happy to report that two unfilled positions on the Board have been filled by James Schultz who will be representing Property, and Sherry Bone, who will be working on Gatherings.

Gatherings For the Rest of The Year

9/10 12 noon New Beginnings Church - Texas City

10/15 12 noon—St. Mark's UMC

12/02 7 PM—Pearland FUMC

**Welcome our new Pilgrims -
Walk #30 July 21 - 24, 2005**

Baldwin, Tracey	Cedar Bayou UMC
Bean, Sarah	Pearland FUMC
Bolton, Kelli	Encourager Church
Coleman, Nelda	Friendswood Friends
Fain, Barbara	Pasadena FUMC
Gates, Rebecca	Alvin 1st UMC
Gissler, Suzie	Bayshore Baptist
Hamilton, Lisa	Seabrook UMC
Harrington, Dot	Grace Community
Holbrook, Georgie	Grace Community
Janney, Jen	Gateway Community
Mercer, Brenda	Alvin 1st UMC
Mitchell, Barbara	Houston 2nd Baptist
Napoli, Jessica	Dickinson 1st Baptist
Palomo, Aurora	Gleaner Full Gospel
Prather, Jessica	Clear Lake UMC
Robertson, Peggy	Cedar Bayou UMC
Salyer, Holly	Friendswood UMC
Seidensticker, LeAnne	Dickinson FUMC
Stevenson, Carol	Clear Lake UMC
Thompson, Debbie	Clear Lake UMC
Tuffin, Liz	Pearland FUMC
Ulsh, Angel	Friendswood UMC
Zimmerman, Patti	LaMarque 1st UMC

2005 Houston Bay Area Emmaus Leadership Team

Send An E mail to All on the Leadership Team: 2005board@hbaec.org

Lay Director	Mathen Samuel	409/744/8303
ALD/Pre-Emmaus	Lisa Ragland	281-534-8972
Spiritual Director	Dr. Phyllis Riney	281-485-1466
Assistant Spiritual Director	Frank Guidry	713-433-6457
Past LD/Training	Richard Browne	281-488-8199
Gatherings	Sherry Bone	281-471-2655
External Agape	Lois Elsner	281-332-6227
Music	Mark Johnson	409-938-3857
Property	Kelly Harris	832-309-2807
Property	Sarah (Sam) Metzger	281-732-7287
Property	James Schultz	281-484-3177
Sponsorship	Steve Forcus	409-938-7751
Team Selection	Patti Velky	281/992-0810
Reunion Groups	Susan Skeeter	281-482-0962
Secretary/Follow-Up	Pat Robinson	832-556-8787
Web Site	Ken Freeman	713-944-5311
Finance	Norma Jacobson	409-948-2038
Registration	Jan Smith	281-286-4769

*When Jesus looks upon my life
What picture will He see?
Does He see His own reflection
Or does He just see me?*

*Does He see His likeness
The product of His hand
Or just another Christian
Who never took a stand?*

*Does He see a child of God
A child that He set free?
Living life to honor Him
Or does He just see me?*

*What about the other folks
I meet along the way.
Do I show them Jesus
To brighten up their day?*

*When someone looks into my eyes,
Can they truly see
That calm and gentle peace of God
That dwells inside of me?*

*When I reach out and shake a hand
Is He right there in my grip?
Can they feel that strength from God
That steadies when I slip?*

*When folks are in my presence
Do they know His Spirit's there?
Can they see that He's the one
Who guides me everywhere?*

*When other people think of me
What is on their mind?
Do they think of Jesus Christ
So gentle and so kind?*

*Other folks should see the joy
That Christ has given me.
They should want to have it too
Especially since it's free.*

*They should begin to ask me
What it is they must do
Just how it is they go about
Getting Jesus too.*

*Then I get to tell them
This wondrous gift is free.
It only takes a humble heart
And a prayer on bended knee.*

*Someday when I'm face to face
With the Lord who set me free
Will He see His own reflection
Or will He just see me?*

The Houston Bay Area
Emmaus Community
P. O. Box 890134
Houston, TX
77289-0134

NONPROFIT ORG.
US Postage Paid
Friendswood, TX
Permit No. 310

We're on the Web!
www.hbaec.org

Remember the Men's Walk Sept 15-18.
Please join us in supporting our Pilgrims.

September, 2005

There is no subscription fee to receive this newsletter. However, donations are very much appreciated to help defray publication and mailing expenses. Donations may be sent to the P. O. Box address below.

All 4th Day members are encouraged to submit articles for this newsletter. They must be received by the 20th of each month. Send your articles, questions, or comments about our Community to: The Houston Bay Area Emmaus Community, P. O. Box 890134, Houston, TX, 77289. You may also phone Leslie Johnson at 409-938-3857 or send email to leslie55@ev1.net.

Agape For Emmaus Walk # _____

Item Submitted: _____

Table Agape _____ Pillow Agape _____
(Agape for Pilgrims and Team must be provided if it is to be used for table agape)

Suggested time to be given _____

Pilgrims Only _____ Team Only _____ Pilgrims & Team _____

Contact Person _____ Phone # _____

Do you want leftovers? Yes No (Pick up in agape room after walk)

Items Needed: Pilgrims – 32 Team – 25 Pilgrims & Team – 57

Please attach this form to the agape

Faith is the bird that sings while it is yet dark.—Max Lucado