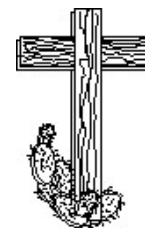




CROSS COUNTRY EMMAUS COMMUNITY NEWS



October—November—December 2006

Overheard

At a recent CCEC Closing I heard a Pilgrim say that now she understood why “Emmaus people” felt the way they do about their Walk. And I have no doubt she also now understands our wanting everyone we know to share that same experience.

And at a recent Gathering, I heard a Fourth Days talk that included the statement that our “Walk” is the source of our “baseline” that we use to gauge where we are in our relationship with God. So obvious, yet rarely stated, for so many of us. And if it is not our “baseline”, then what is?

St. Francis of Assisi: "Preach the Gospel at all times and, when necessary, use words" .

Upcoming 2006 Gatherings

October 2	FBC, Seymour
November 13	St. John’s UMC, Stamford
December 4	FBC, Haskell

CCEC News Subscription

A subscription to this quarterly publication is free for all Community members and may be obtained by emailing the subscription request to rmccallon2@cs.com, or by writing :

Dick McCallon
215 Lakeshore Dr
Waxahachie, TX 75165-6803 Tel: 972.937.8835

All CCEC Members are urged to read the online edition of this publication at the CCEC Web site to minimize printing and mailing costs. Use the following Web (URL) address:

www.ccemmaus.net

Please include Name, full Postal Address and Telephone No. with your subscription request. The Telephone No. will be used only to obtain any needed subscription information, should there be a problem. Please print Name and address legibly.

Requests may also be hand-delivered at Community Gatherings or other Community events.

Class of 2009 Board Elections

At the October 2 (note the changed date!) CCEC Gathering in Seymour, the Class of 2009 Board elections will be held. Please be in attendance and prayerfully vote for the candidate of your choice. Every Board election is crucial as 1/3 of the Board will be replaced. Please do not be complacent—support your Community, be an active participant and voter. The Nomination Committee has put forth the following candidates:

Jana Grisham, Judy Haynes, Dinty Bowman, Lonnie Pittman and Dusty Garrison (clergy).

Other known candidates are: Roy Wright

If you are asked to serve, please do so with a full commitment to this honorable and vital leadership role.

Subscription Renewals

At some time in the near future CCEC will be starting a new subscription list for this newsletter. Those members who wish to receive the newsletter will be requested to re-subscribe via email or mail. This has become necessary because of the large number of mailed newsletters that are being returned as “undeliverable” by the Postal Service. We will insert a subscription form in this newsletter to facilitate your requests. Further announcements and procedures will be announced at the appropriate time. The CCEC appreciates your understanding and support. Thank You!

Sponsorship

Good sponsorship is vital to the continuation of the Emmaus Movement. We are faced with the challenge of educating pilgrims on the role and importance of good sponsorship. It is the most important part of Emmaus. It is the first act of agape before the "Walk" even begins. This is repeated from our last newsletter because Sponsorship and the resulting Fourth Days are the reason for our Community’s existence.

1....2....3....85

Greetings from your Community Agape Chairman! We had a wonderful time of training on July 22 for those interested in working on the agape team and agape chairpersons. We had a couple of past agape chairpersons there and they gave us some great ideas. The purpose of this article is to answer a few frequently asked questions about agape, so here goes....

How many pieces of agape do I need to make?

Generally, 85 pieces are enough for each pilgrim and each team member to have one. Some items of required agape, like the lanyard cross bags for example, only need 45, because this is a pilgrim-only agape. It is nice to have a couple of extra pieces just in case there is a problem.

Does the agape team have to count every piece of agape as it is received?

The agape team needs to know how many pieces of each agape are received so that it can be sorted out as pilgrim-only (anything less than the number of persons on that particular walk) or as available for the whole group. If there are 75 of an item and 80 people on the walk, that item has to be used as pillow agape for pilgrims only. To make this job easier for the agape team, it is a great idea to count the agape you make before you bring it and put that number on the outside of the container you are bringing the agape to the walk in.

Can I include my name on the label I put on the agape I bring to the walk?

The Upper Room has asked that individual names not be put on the agape. Our community asks that you put your town and reunion group on the label. That way the agape team can sort leftover agape as the walk progresses and members of the team from the various towns can take the leftover agape back to their community. Boxes or sacks with leftover agape are put out for pickup before and after closing. The Agape Chairman from the walk will bring the remaining leftover agape that is not picked up after closing to the next community meeting. Ordinarily, items that are candy or gum are not returned.

What is required agape?

Required agape are items that are needed for every walk. Required agape includes: placemats for each meal, pens for the conference room, purple worship book covers, lanyards, individual soaps, cups, and washcloths, and other various items. The agape chairman or lay director of each walk prepares a list of required agape for that walk and brings it to 2-3 community meetings before the walk. Members of the community are able to sign up for required agape that is needed for a particular walk. When you sign up for required agape, please put your

NAME and TELEPHONE # on the list. That way, the agape chairman can contact you before the walk.

Are we allowed to have any conference room agape any more? The Upper Room suggested that most agape be given out in the dining room or as pillow agape. However, some items, like the purple worship book covers, pens, gum, candy, book marks, and the like can be given out as conference room agape. The reasoning behind this suggestion is that the tables can become really cluttered and toys and other novelty items can be a distraction during talks.

I hope the answers to these FAQs will help you as you prepare to bless future pilgrims during their walk. DeColes!
Lynna Cox, CCEC Agape Chair

KAIROS and Its Ministries**"Inmates call our volunteers 'the ones that come back' "**

Kairos is a Christian, lay-lead, ecumenical, volunteer international prison ministry, in which men and women volunteers bring Christ's love to incarcerated individuals and their families. Kairos consists of three programs, the *Men and Women's Ministry*, *Kairos Outside*, and *Kairos Torch*.

The ***Men's and Women's Ministries*** address the spiritual needs of prisoners - Kairos volunteers go into prisons in teams of 30-40 to pray, witness, share the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ, share meals, and fellowship with the incarcerated on a one-to-one basis. The first visit is a three-day event, during which time the team teaches a short course in Christianity (doesn't this sound familiar?). Subsequent visits are monthly half-day reunions with the prisoners over a twelve-month period.

This ministry is a continuing ministry! On an annual basis each unit holds 2 three-day courses, 2 one-day courses (showing new members how to group), 2 two-day mini-retreats plus regular monthly Saturday meetings that the Kairos inmates conduct. Team members, lay and clergy, are required to have had an Emmaus / Cursillo / Via de Christo / Tres Dias experience. In addition, inside team members are asked to commit themselves to one year's participation. Much of the ministry is carried on as the team members return to strengthen the Kairos prison ministry.

Kairos weekends have but one purpose: the formation of resident leaders in correctional institutions into small share and prayer groups to be support for each other. Inmates are carefully selected by Unit clergy, as leaders who have the greatest potential to impact their environments with the message of Christ's love. Inmates are encouraged to enter into community with each other rather than the Kairos team - this is the goal of the continuing ministry.

At the men's units, the men work on the inside and the

the women work on the outside. On women's Walks this is reversed. ALL team members attend the Closing, which is open to any Emmaus / Cursillo / Via de Christo / Tres Dias member. Each 3-day lay Leader has applications for the Closing, which must be cleared by the prison before attending the Closing.

In addition to having a positive effect on prisoners, the program also has a very favorable effect upon volunteers. Many volunteers acknowledge that the team training, with its emphasis on introspection, honesty, sharing, and community, enhances their spirituality. There is a tremendous need for volunteers, both lay and clergy to staff the Kairos teams. Kairos needs youChrist needs you!

Kairos Outside provides spiritual healing to families of the incarcerated, who often feel that they too are "doing time". Spouses, parents and other relatives of prisoners meet with teams of Kairos volunteers to share their faith and gain strength from the Christian community.

Kairos Outside is a special weekend retreat designed to support the female loved ones of men and women who are or have been incarcerated. Families of the incarcerated "do time" right along with their loved ones. In a safe environment with loving people, women interact with other women who are in similar situations and learn to form small groups to support and give them strength for the challenges they face.

Kairos Torch provides a ministry to youthful offenders. Because young people between the ages of 13 and 19 are generally housed in smaller institutions than adult offenders, smaller-sized teams participate in this ministry.

Crime among youthful offenders is the most rapidly growing segment of corrections. The number of institutions for youthful offenders has doubled since 1995. This presents a unique opportunity for the Church to be physically present in ministry to this segment of the incarcerated community. Kairos has developed Kairos Torch to facilitate ministry to youthful offenders.

Please note that this article is just a small selection of information from the following web sites, and I encourage you to visit these sites to review the vast amount of information available on Kairos, both Texas-based and international! There are also schedules, forms and all of the other information needed to expand your knowledge of this vital ministry or help you decide on your active participation in it. Texas has literally hundreds of 'units', correctional institutions, and there is a strong need for volunteers - not just team members but agape / cookie providers. For obvious reasons, agape is strictly limited - reference these web sites for more information and Kairos contacts.

KAIROS OF TEXAS www.kairosotexas.org
KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY www.kairosprisonministry.org

New CCEC Chrysalis Flights

The Lay Director for the Girl's 2007 Chrysalis Flight 34 will be Sammie Jones. Connie Gray and David Thornton will lead Flights 32 and 32, respectively, at Leuders on December 27—30, 2006. More details on the Boy's Flight 34 in 2007 will be available soon. PLEASE support our youths and our Community—let's FILL these Flights! Start working on this now! And Cody Cochran is the new CCEC Chrysalis Spiritual Director, replacing Hoby Strand who is the CCEC Spiritual Director.

A Vivid Thanks to CCEC

My name is xxxxxxx. I was on walk #126. I just want to thank the Emmaus Community for what it did for me. I have walked the road to Hell and back before I got there, and things have been so different since I left. Please tell everyone thanks and to keep up the good work. In Christ, xxxxxxx (Received via email)

Thank you for the testimonial to the CCEC members—we welcome all of these testimonials, and they lift our hearts up and strengthen our resolve to continue the Walk to Emmaus ministry. Do any of you have a testimony to share? Please contact the Editor, via email or postal service, or at a Gathering — addresses are on page 1.

Driven

Are you, and we, as a Community, Walk-driven, or Fourth-days-driven? Quite a revealing question for most of us.

Wanted

Submissions for our quarterly newsletter—there are thousands of stories out there—articles just a seed in your minds, thoughts to be shared with our readers. Please take some time in prayer, and share with your fellow Community members. Whether you went on Walk 1, or Walk 144, or any of the others, in this Community or another, you have a gift for this Community. **If you are a Sponsor, enroll your Pilgrim as a subscriber if they don't have ready access to our web site!** Let this newsletter, our web site (www.ccemmaus.net), our Gatherings, be a vital part of their Fourth Days.

This space is available for you and our Community!

Community Sponsors		
Date	City	Sponsor
October 2	Seymour	Olney
November 13	Stamford	Knox City
December 4	Haskell	Haskell

Candlelight Schedule	
Walk 145 Brett Hight Walk 146 Jana Grisham Walk 147 Randal Kinnibrough Flight 32 Connie Gray Flight 33 David Thornton	 October 7 Camp Butman November 11 Camp Butman December 2 Lueders December 29 Lueders December 29 Lueders

Remaining 2006 Walks / Flights

Date	M/W	Walk #	Place	Lay Director / Spiritual Director
Oct 5-8	M	145	Butman	Brett Hight
Nov 9-12	W	146	Butman	Jana Grisham
Nov 30—Dec 3	M	147	Lueders	Randal Kinnibrough
Dec 27-30	G	32	Lueders	Connie Gray
Dec 27-30	B	33	Lueders	David Thornton / Ward Hayes

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Class of 2006: Philip Martin, Lonnie Pittman, John Bethel, Nadia Hassam, Dayle Kuehler.
Class of 2007: Rick Maderos, James Whittenborn, Glenda Edwards, Carla Jones, Ben Daws.
Class of 2008: Ed Ekdahl, Bob McW
 Lynna Cox, Maria Hawkins, Hobby Strand.
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