

Rainbow Bend

Coastal Bend Emmaus, Chrysalis & Kairos



April News

CBE Board of Directors



From the Lay Director

As I sat down to write this I realized it's almost Easter and I started to review what has happened since Christmas.

It has been a very busy time for us since January. We started the year with a Gathering at Asbury UMC. The next Gathering we decided to cancel because we were warned about severe weather conditions that Saturday in March. We called off the one at St Luke's UMC due to

Lay Director

Judi Oestreich

Spiritual Director

Rev. Greg Hackett

Asst. Lay Director

Jim Schuchardt

Asst. Spiritual Director

Rev. Gloria Lear

Asst. Spiritual Director

Rev. Linda Baumheckel

Secretary

Jan Ayliffe

Treasurer

Shana Larson

Agape Coordinator

Donna G Devlin

Logistics

VACANT

Music Coordinator

VACANT

Conference Board

Representative

Harold Bjella

Kairos Coordinator

Jim Schuchardt

Past Lay Director/

Prayer Vigil

Coordinator

Betty Workman

**Other Volunteer
Leadership**

Master Database

Gale Bridgeman

Newsletter

Debbie Bjella

Team Selection

Jonathan Ibarra

Candlelight

Coordinator

Marshall Westmoreland

Gathering Coordinator

Darla Wiggins

Reunion Groups

Wanda Matthews

streets that historically flood around the church. We have the next FOUR all planned from May to November. The Gathering for May 23rd 6-8 PM will be at the host church Kelsey Memorial. Please mark your calendar. We would love to see you there!

We have held THREE board meetings to plan, evaluate, review, make by-law changes and discuss Emmaus responsibilities. We approved Walk Lay Directors for this year: Matt Hammer and Gale Bridgeman. We also approved the first Walk in 2016 Lay Director: Anne Mosiman.

We have searched for individuals willing to come on the Board and serve this community in another role other than what they have been used to. We held our Nominations Committee meeting and discussed the plans for officers in the new fiscal year that starts in the next few weeks: June 2015-May 2016.

Since January we have also held FIVE Team Selection Committee meetings with over 15 persons in attendance at each. We have looked at so much data our eyes are crossed! The good news is that the Women's Walk #1804 is fully recruited and all positions filled. They start team meetings on April 25th. The Men's Walk #1800 is over 50% recruited and they start team meetings May 16th.

It is now time for the Community to start looking around you at church as see who has NOT been on the Walk to Emmaus. Talk to your Pastors about the Walk and its purpose of building church leadership. Pilgrim applications can be found on our website coastalbendemmaus.org. Start praying for God to lay on your heart the person to sponsor this year.

Remember the first step of our pilgrim's journey starts with you!

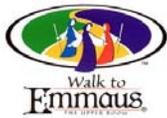
DeColores!
Judi Oestreich

Clergy Notes

I am always a bit overwhelmed during Lent as we prepare for Easter. There are so many symbols that remind me of all the stories and people surrounding Jesus' last days of ministry: palm branches, roosters, crowns of thorns, silver coins of betrayal, cocoons and butterflies, bread and cup, basin and towels...and of course, the cross and empty tomb.

Sometimes we try to gather up everything that has

CONTACTS



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meaning and hold it close all at once as if it represents how much faith we have or how much we know about Christ. Do you collect Christian books, jewelry or decorations? Do you look at your agape gifts from the Walk and try to reclaim how you felt on that Weekend?

While these items or symbols are not bad, they can distract us from the most important thing: our Lord died and rose so that we might have abundant life. That's the power of Easter! We were lost in the grips of other stuff; sin, death, possessions, power and ideas that are not eternal. Christ gives us power of forgiveness, new starts and hope for more. More love, more grace, more joy.

As we support the Emmaus Community through service, prayer, agape, sponsorship and presence at gatherings, let us have the mind of Christ. Let us pour out ourselves for others so that the world might hear the power of the gospel. Christ is alive! DeColores!

Grace & Peace,
Rev. Beth Tatum
Mathis FUMC
Walk #1804

Kairos Outside

JoAnn Hood
Council Chair

361-643-7228
Joannhood@hotmail.com

Kairos Outside
P.O.Box 773
CC, TX 78403

Letter from Men's Walk Lay Director

After my wife, Kim, and I led walks more than ten years ago, we made a conscious decision to "retire" from Emmaus. We felt like all the team positions should be left for newcomers to step up in the "progressive servanthood" called for. Yet, when I look back over the changes the Emmaus experience has brought to my life, I am always grateful for our time in the local group. I always felt that I would do whatever I could for Coastal Bend Emmaus. Imagine my surprise when the team selection committee felt the need to call on a past lay director to lead this year's men's Walk. And now, Here I am! I will be serving as lay director of Walk 1800, July 30 to August 2 this summer.

My own memories of past walks are a blur. I love seeing fellow Emmaus folks around town, but I can't remember if I served on a team with them, if they were pilgrims on a walk that I worked, or if we were pilgrims together (Walk #488, in 1996, Ben Jackson was lay director). The one clear memory is in the chapel after candlelight of the last walk that I worked. While all the men were praying alone or in groups, I was off to the side looking over the scene, overwhelmed that I had been blessed to be included in this fine group of Christ's followers. So now I am headed to that chapel after candlelight once again.



Kairos Inside

Jim Schuchardt

jschuchardt@doradool.com

361-241-3200



REUNION GROUPS

To find a Reunion Group, or
find one that fits your

schedule, contact:

Wanda Matthews

361-441-3191

matthews.w@sbcglobal.net

Prayer Vigil



Sign up for the
Prayer Vigil for
upcoming Walks

[Prayer Vigil Sign Up](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



GATHERINGS

May 23, 2015
Kelsey Memorial UMC

July 18, 2015
Parkway Presbyterian
Team Consecration

Sept 26, 2015
Covenant Baptist

Nov 14, 2015
Asbury UMC
**Bring food for
church pantry**

The team selection committee is doing God's work putting together a team for me to serve with. They lack a few inside team members, but we will need lots of help with the outside team. If you feel moved, please don't delay making contact with the board (info elsewhere on this newsletter!) and making known your willingness to help. We will start our team meetings in May.

We need pilgrims- lots and lots of pilgrims! Each of you know men in your churches that could benefit from what we have all been blessed to experience- the unconditional love of God, brought to them in an undeniable way by other lay people as well as a variety of clergy. Please don't delay- start planting seeds and downloading application forms now, so that the team of Walk 1800 will work in the knowledge that the conference room will be full come July 30th

This morning in my daily devotional, I read from Jeremiah 31: 33

"This is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my Instructions within them and engrave them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. They will no longer need to teach each other to say, "Know the Lord!" because they will all know me..."

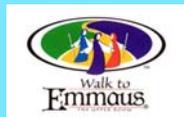
This echoes the purpose of the Emmaus movement- to engrave His instructions on our hearts and work toward the time when we will all know Him. Let's work together to make Walk 1800 a life-changing experience for a roomful of pilgrims.

-Matt Hammer, LD Walk #1800

Song Books Needed - You Can Help



You all are familiar with the song book we lovingly refer to as "The Green Book" or "The Emmaus Songbook" that we use at the Walk to Emmaus and at Candlelight. Actually the book has been printed in others colors over the years like pink, red and blue. It is called simply "SONGS" by Yohann Anderson. It is published by Songs and Creations, Inc in California. The cost from the



WALKS

**Men's Walk 1800
July 30-Aug 2 2015**

LD: Matt Hammer
SD: Rev. Allen Mosiman
Board Rep: Harold Bjella

Women's Walk 1804
Aug 27-30 2015

LD: Gale Bridgeman
SD: Rev. Beth Tatum
Board Rep: Pam Cantu

2016 Walks:
Women's June 23-26
Men's July 28-31
Women's Oct 6-9

CANDLELIGHTS/ CLOSINGS

Men's Walk 1800

Candlelight
Aug 1, 2015
Closing
Aug 2, 2015

Women's Walk 1804

Candlelight
Aug 29, 2015
Closing
Aug 30, 2015



Sponsorship

is an act of
Love...
For God,
for the pilgrims,
for the church
and for the
Coastal Bend
Emmaus.
It is a
demonstration
of Agape love.
It is making oneself
an instrument of
prevenient Grace.
Prayerfully become
someone's sponsor
today.

publisher for a new one is \$18.95 plus shipping. By the way this year it is Blue. Used books can be found at Amazon from \$1.00 for up to \$20 each. The size of the book is 7X10 inches and is words only.

Several of the local churches used them over the years. We are asking you to check with your church and see if they still have them and if they don't used them anymore would they donate them to Emmaus. We come up short about 50 books every time we hold a Walk and they are needed at the Conference Room and at the Candlelight.

If you locate some that can be donated just email us at cbemmaus@gmail.com and we can arrange to have them picked up. We will also accept donations so that we can purchase more. Just send a check in any amount with SONGS in the memo line to Coastal Bend Emmaus, P.O. Box 273, Corpus Christi, TX 78403.

We appreciate any help you can give in getting more books in the hands of those who want to sing the songs we love!

SPONSORSHIP Is IMPORTANT

SEEK Prayerful guidance BEFORE asking applicant to attend a Walk.

- **ANSWER** All questions and concerns honestly.

- **HELP** Resolve any problems that might prevent attendance.

- **BRING** Your pilgrim to the Retreat Center on time on Thursday.

- **PARTICIPATE** In the "Sponsor's Hour" prayer service at the Retreat Center.

- **OBTAIN** Personal Agape letters from family and friends.

- **ASSIST** Our pilgrim's family if necessary during their absence.

- **ATTEND** Both the Candlelight and the Closing services.

- **DRIVE** Or ride home with your pilgrim after the weekend.

- **TAKE** Your pilgrim to the first Gathering after the weekend.

- **PERSEVERE** In helping your pilgrim find and get in a Reunion Group.



FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER

We would like to make sure you and your friends are receiving the Rainbow Bend Newsletter. If you got this one, please send to all your friends who have been on a Walk to Emmaus. They may be in our database, but have their "Spam Blocker" on.

Please ask them to add cbemmaus@gmail.com to their address book so the newsletter will go directly to their inbox.

Testimonies Wanted.

We are updating the coastalbendemmaus.org website and are looking for very short testimonies to put on several pages. Send your comments in 25 to 50 words with your first name only and Walk Number to cbemmaus@gmail.com and put **website testimony** in the subject line.

Attention All Musicians

Want to serve on a Candlelight or at a Gathering this year? Contact us and let us know your availability. cbemmaus@gmail.com

It is recommended by the Upper Room and the Rio-Texas Registrar that recent Walk to Emmaus attendees wait six months before sponsoring their first pilgrim. It is also recommended that a Sponsor should not sponsor more than one or two pilgrims on a single Walk.

Letter from Kairos Outside

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

During Kairos Outside's free, 3 day weekend retreat, we demonstrate God's grace and love in many ways to women who have been impacted by incarceration. Besides prayers and talks, they are given a stuffed animal, a vase with a bouquet of flowers, six meals, a red rose and a large birthday cupcake. We are expecting 40 guests this year. Many guests have said that this was the first time in their lives they have ever been made to feel special and unconditionally loved. The Kairos Outside Council Members are happy to speak at a church or community group to share more about our ministry and the impact it has had on our guests. If you can help find donors for these needed items or make a financial donation to help fund our weekend, please contact the current weekend leader, Jennifer Chapman, at 361-816-6397, email jenmac10@gmail.com or mail at PO Box 773, Corpus Christi, TX 78403.

You can give your time as well by volunteering as a day angel during the weekend. Most importantly, please keep our team and guests in your prayers as we prepare for our next weekend on July 31-Aug 2, 2015. Our prayer vigil can be found at <http://www.3dayol.org/> under Kairos Outside Corpus Christi.

May the peace of Christ be with each of you.

Jennifer Chapman

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