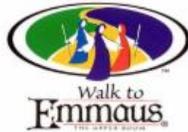


Rainbow Bend

Coastal Bend Emmaus, Chrysalis & Kairos



February News

CBE Board of Directors



From the Lay Director

Worry wonders if anyone is in control. Yet God's Word calls Him "the blessed controller of all things." (1 Tim. 6:14-15)

The above is a reminder from Max Lucado. A reminder that I need to write on a sticky note and place on my forehead, written backwards, so I can read it when I look in a mirror every morning. This is about the time in our Emmaus year that we start to worry as we begin to put together two teams to lead a men's walk and a women's walk. We select names, phone calls are made, people aren't home, we leave messages, when we can speak to them they have other commitments, etc. etc. Some are confirmed and we proceed. Some have to drop after we get it all together and we start over.

Our constant prayers are please Lord, reveal a small part of the plan.....and other things along that line. We know He is in control and He will choose the team and the pilgrims. We just need to have patience as we go through the process. If you want to be a part of these teams get your applications in to us now.

On another note.....Our year started off great with a Gathering at Asbury UMC. We were blessed with a good attendance which included some past community lay directors and five clergy from four different churches. Altogether, 12 churches were represented. Lyle Mathews and Bill DeFries outdid each other on their guitars and we reminisced of walks with their music. Of course the food was good as usual and the fellowship was great. I think folks even enjoyed the skit we put on too. Sorry if you missed it!

If you attended the Gathering, I apologize if I did not make it around to your table to talk and visit. As you saw I was using a walking stick. It was a very tiring evening for me and most of our events will be for some time. I had major back fusion surgery in December and must wear a brace for a year. (Praise be to God.....the pain I had down my right leg for over a year is gone!) So if I don't get to you at our Gatherings seek me out so we can visit.

2015 promises to be a great year for the Coastal Bend Emmaus. The most high God is in control.

DeColores!
Judi Oestreich

REGISTER NOW FOR WALK/FLIGHT TRAINING

Date: Saturday, March 28, 2015

We would like all LD's, SDs, ALDs, Head Servants, Board Reps and Board members to sign up now for this training.

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

Brian Bray

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

Link to register is <https://umcdata.net/riotx> and you don't have to make an account. Register as a guest. You can search on next page with event code WFLT.

Location: First United Methodist Church, 900 South Shoreline Blvd. Corpus Christi, Texas

Time: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM **Cost:** \$0.00

Facillator: Greg Ashby (Emmaus LD, Rio Texas Conference Board) WFLT is open to anyone interested in learning more about Leadership roles on the Walks to Emmaus.

This is a great time for the Lay Directors, Board Reps, and Spiritual Directors to develop effective Communication and Leadership skills. The outside support coordinators are invited to attend as well.

"You have created us for yourself, And our hearts are restless until they rest in you."
Saint Augustine, 4th century

Saint Augustine, one of the great theologians of the early church, expressed these words and this hunger long years ago. We are restless, often longing for more than we have experienced. We search for meaning, purpose and a sense of destiny. We want to make a difference in our world - and yet it seems that we are constantly desiring more or something else.

God made us with this longing, this unrest when He gave us "free choice". We struggle to be obedient to God, yet we are not even sure who God is calling us to be or what we should do. We cannot fully rest until we come to the place of our soul's origin. This path homeward to God is often referred to as "the spiritual journey."

Though we yearn for God, we often turn away from Him and from others within our community. John Wesley's suggestions were that of a disciplined life. The discipline of prayer, study and reading of the scripture and being in a community that helps keep us accountable.

During our Emmaus Walks we are encouraged to be in a small group (reunion group) that meets weekly. We must make the decision again and again to turn to God, to renew our vows of prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. For in the "work" of learning and leaning on God for your life, you will be on the road toward "healing your heart."

DeColores!
Rev. Gloria Lear
Community ASD

TEAM SELECTION

The Team Selection Committee will be selecting persons for positions on the 2015 Walks from the information on the NEW applications.

CONTACTS



Coastal Bend Emmaus

Judi Oestreich
Lay Director

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Cell
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Judi1022@sbcglobal.net

Coastal Bend Emmaus
P.O. Box 273
CC, TX 78403

Applications can be found on www.coastalbendemmaus.org and should be mailed to

**Coastal Bend Emmaus, Team Selection Committee,
Post Office Box 273, Corpus Christi, TX 78403.
Or scan and email to judi1022@sbcglobal.net.**

Please submit them now!

Preparing for God's Walk

We've heard the saying that God doesn't call the equipped; He equips those He calls. That is true for all acts done in His name, and preparing for a walk is no different.

I'm writing this seven months prior to Walk 1804 which I have been called to lead. I am a planner by nature, so that fits right in with the qualities needed to lead a Walk, but I am learning that there is so much more.

To be honest, I've dreamt about being an LD and I'm old enough to know what I don't know. I have used each past service opportunity to learn from the best. So in the secular world, I'm ready.

But leading a Walk is not a secular endeavor - it is a spiritual effort that is drawing me closer to God and pruning some of my weak branches, replacing them with sturdier stock.

Prayer is the beginning and end of each task. I pray before each phone call or task. I pray that God himself calls the team members and that they listen to that call when I am on the other end of the phone. I pray daily for the team members by name as they are added to the walk and will do the same for the pilgrims.

Humility is required of those leading an event for God. I cannot have hurt feelings when someone says they can't serve. I also have to listen to people wiser than me when I want to call someone who is not ready. This is God's walk and I am so happy that His ways are not my ways.

Management of resources is key in any large endeavor - I need to manage my own time and funds, but so do those who are called to serve. As the leader, I need to respect external demands on myself and others.

Obedience is not always easy, but when I submit to the authority of God or those in charge of the design and oversight of a Walk, I am learning to submit to God more readily and to submit with my whole heart.

Flexibility ensures that no one (or two or three) challenge derails the Walk; leaders need to bend and not break when a plan goes awry. We all know what God does with our own plans, right?

Team building can be an overused-term, but one of my

Kairos Outside

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Council Chair

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Kairos Outside
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CC, TX 78403



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

UPCOMING EVENTS



GATHERINGS

March 21, 2015
St Paul UMC

May 23, 2015
Kelsey Memorial UMC



WALKS

Men's Walk 1800
July 30-Aug 2 2015
LD: TBD
SD: Rev. Allen Mosiman
Board Rep: Harold Bjella

Women's Walk 1804
Aug 27-30 2015
LD: Gale Bridgeman
SD: Rev. Beth Tatum

greatest strengths can be used to build a resilient, spirit-filled team where all the members feel empowered to use their gifts in the furtherance of God's kingdom. We truly reflect the Body of Christ when we work together.

One of the gifts I've received already is priceless - encouragement. One team member has said that I need to keep my head looking up and my palms open to see what God will place there. Another saint has said to treat the preparation as though I were Lewis or Clark. We know that we will see the Pacific Ocean, but there is so much to see along the way. I want to be in constant wonder of what God is doing in my life and those of the team. Then when those 36 precious pilgrims arrive, our hearts will be filled to overflowing with the agape love that draws each of them closer to the one who loves them most. When you know whose you are, it becomes second nature to become more involved leaders in our churches, which is the primary goal of the Walk to Emmaus.

In short, I am truly humbled by this experience and I can't wait to see what God teaches me through the next few months. Above all, I want this to be God's walk and I want the pilgrims (and team) to see Jesus in a fresh, new way. Please consider serving if you receive 'the call' and be sure to pray for the team and especially the pilgrims whom God is drawing near.

With joy,

Gale Bridgeman
Walk #1804 Lay Director
De Colores

Support Needed for 2015/2016

Do you have a passion for the Emmaus Movement and desire to serve other than as a member of a Walk Team? Do you know someone who has been on a Walk, has a servant heart, served on Walk Teams and now wants to support in other ways?

Hopefully you have prayed on this since the first time you read about us needing support. **Individuals must possess at least one** or more of any of these skills, talents and interests such as capable of making tough decisions, working computer knowledge in Word and Excel, making phone calls, record keeping, minute taking, accounting, music background, love of Agape, can focus on details, organizing events, writing articles (like this one) liaison to other groups, and so much more. ***There is a place for you or someone you know.***

You can check out the positions in our BYLAWS which can be found on the website. <http://www.coastalbendemmaus.org> and send your nominations (yourself or others) **and don't forget to send contact information along with names** to Judi Oestreich, Lay Director Judi1022@sbcglobal.net. **NEW** Deadline to submit a name is March 1st!

KAIROS OUTSIDE

Board Rep: Pam Cantu

**2016 Walks:
Women's May 26-29
Men's July 28-31
Women's Oct 6-9**



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.



**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

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Kairos Outside is to demonstrate God's grace and love through Christian support for women who have relatives who are or have been incarcerated. A safe environment with Christian people are provided for these women to have an opportunity to share with other women who are in similar situations and to learn how to form small groups of support to give them strength to help them through this trying time in their lives. It is important for them to know that there is a Christian Community that does not judge them and loves them. The 3 day weekend retreat is completed free to our guests. If you have any questions or need a guest reservation form, please contact the current weekend leader, Jennifer Chapman, at 361-816-6397 or email jenmac10@gmail.com

Please keep our team and guests in your prayers as we prepare for our next weekend on July 31-Aug 2, 2015. May the peace of Christ be with each of you.

Jennifer Chapman

A Reminder of Who is in Charge

Prayer reminds us of who is in charge. You don't take your requests to someone with less authority. You take them to someone who outranks you in the solutions department. The same is true in prayer. You don't pray just to let God know what's going on. He's way ahead of you on that one. You pray to transfer "my will be done" to "God's will be done." And, since he's in charge, he knows the best solution. Prayer transfers the burden to God and He lightens your load. Prayer pushes us through life's slumps, propels us over the humps, and pulls us out of the dumps. Prayer is the oomph we need to get the answers we seek. So, pray...today!

From Max Lucado's Book "Max on Life"

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.

ARTICLES FOR RAINBOW BEND

If you have an article you would like to see published, in the Rainbow Bend newsletter, please submit it to us

at cbemmaus@gmail.com by the 20th of the month in which you want it included.

Articles are subject to approval by the Community Lay Director and the Newsletter Coordinator.

Please do not send materials or articles that have a copyright.

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Try it FREE today.

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