

Rainbow Bend

May 2009 Vol. 16, Issue 5



At each closing ceremony, we ask pilgrims to respond to two questions: what did the walk mean to you and what do you intend to do about it. Many of you reading this newsletter can still remember the faces at your candlelight ceremony or the burden you dropped at Christ's feet during dying moments. I know I can.

God is at the center of each walk and is the ultimate source of new pilgrims, but He expects us to be His hands and feet. One Walk has been cancelled this year and other walks have gone to the wire, avoiding cancellation only after frantic emails to sign up pilgrims before the deadline.

Why is this happening? I don't think it's because every possible pilgrim in the Coastal Bend has been reached. I think it's because we expect prospective pilgrims (our friends and neighbors) to come up to us and ask us to sponsor them on a Walk. I wonder if our fear of the Great Commission is affecting us, causing us to be afraid to ask people in our churches if they would like to know Christ in a deeper way, through the Walk experience.

One of our goals for the Walk is to train leaders for our churches. What kind of leaders are we if we ignore the messages we received on our pilgrim Walk? Shouldn't we be searching our hearts and praying, asking God who we should sponsor on a walk? It requires more work than waiting for a prospective pilgrim, doesn't it?

If you think this is not your problem, ask people you know who have been on a cancelled walk or a nearly cancelled walk. Ask them how much planning and time on team meetings was lost or diverted. Ask them about the powerful messages that were not delivered in talks to pilgrims.

Then ask yourself about the bracelet on your arm – are you fishing for Christ? Do you believe what you said when you received your cross? Can Christ really depend on you?

Gale Bridgeman, Walk #1312 At each closing ceremony, we ask pilgrims to respond to two questions: what did the walk mean to you and what do you intend to do about it. Many of you reading this newsletter can still remember the faces at your candlelight ceremony or the burden you dropped at Christ's feet during dying moments. I know I can.

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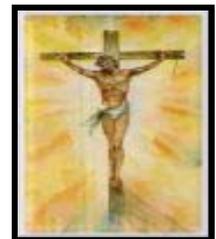
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Gale Bridgeman, Walk #1312

WANTED

People With a Servants Heart

The Coastal Bend Emmaus Community is needing a couple of willing servants. We are in need of a person to take on the job of Prayer Vigil Coordinator and Asst. Music Director these people will also need to be willing to serve on the Emmaus Board. If God puts one of these opportunities to serve on you heart please contact Gail Anderson at H (361) 854-6326 C (361) 816-6937 or by e-mail pga@agcm.cc



The following are excerpts from the Love and Unity talk given at the Candlelight for Journey to Damascus #69 on February 7, 2009 by Melissa Ricard:

The Scripture chosen by the lay director for this Journey to Damascus #69 is John 15:12: *"This is my commandment, love one another."* The best example I know of Christian love and unity and of this commandment in action is the birth of the Journey to Damascus, ten years ago. You see, at that time a small group of Catholics, all of whom had been on the Walk to Emmaus, felt compelled to create the Journey to Damascus movement. They could not do it all by themselves so they asked their protestant brothers and sisters from the Walk to Emmaus to help. Now I don't know if anybody said to them "Why should I? Anybody can go on a Walk, so you don't need to do this..." But I do know that there were many, many people who simply said, "Sure, sign me up, whatever you need.." Every person on the team for JTD#1, the first men' Journey, and on JTD#2 the first women's Journey, had been on a Walk to Emmaus, because there had not yet been a Journey.

In May of 1999, I was a pilgrim on JTD #2, that first women's journey, and I quickly realized the team was 60-75% Protestant. I was so impressed by these amazing women. They showered us with love and showed us the true meaning of being united in Christ, both catholic and protestant. Those beautiful, wonderful examples of Christ's love taught me how to pray. It was an amazing, spirit-filled weekend that served as a model for all the wonderful ecumenical weekends that have come after, only because these Christians were so willing to step out in faith. If they had not, or if they had just decided not to build up their little part of the body of Christ, I can honestly say that we would not be here today.

Communion was a concern, but not an issue. These women loved God enough to let him handle that, and they trusted that what they were doing was right. *This is my commandment, that you love one another.* Not this is commandment that you agree with each other, or this is my commandment, that you understand everything. But that you love one another. *The following are excerpts from the Love and Unity talk given at the Candlelight for Journey to Damascus #69 on February 7, 2009 by Melissa Ricard:*

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(cont.)

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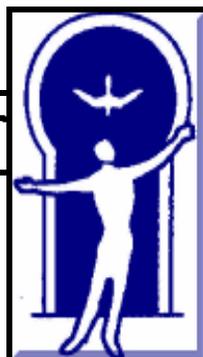
Following that powerful example, I decided that whatever I was asked to do for the Journey, I would do, and I have tried to keep that promise over these last ten years. It's been many hours and a lot of hard work. But the funny thing is that, it never seems like work. Working on the Journey or a Walk has always been the most fun I could ever have. *"Love one another..."* this love is not something that we feel or we have for our brothers and sisters, this love is something that we do.

The blessings that I have received from being a part of the body of Christ, a part of a vibrant Christian community, far outweigh any effort that I have made. The Journey has given me back more than I could ever express. Being united with my brothers and sisters and loving them is one more gift our heavenly father has given me, not something I need to do for him. There truly is something magical and mystical about the Body of Christ, Corpus Christi. Following that powerful example, I decided that whatever I was asked to do for the Journey, I would do, and I have tried to keep that promise over these last ten years. It's been many hours and a lot of hard work. But the funny thing is that, it never seems like work. Working on the Journey or a Walk has always been the most fun I could ever have. *"Love one another..."* this love is not something that we feel or we have for our brothers and sisters, this love is something that we do.

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Ten years ago tonight, people from the Walk to Emmaus showed up at the candlelight for Journey to Damascus #1. They, like you here now, just showed up. They couldn't have possibly known what would grow from such small seeds of love.

And so I would like to thank you for being here tonight, because your presence behind the candle is a beautiful expression of love and unity and we are all becoming better persons, better Christians together. And I can think of no better way to honor the legacy and acknowledge the gift the Journey to Damascus received from the Walk to Emmaus.



Emmaus Team Service Application

This is a renewal or update of my information already on file
(Please print & fill out completely)

Personal Information:

Name: _____ Gender: Male Female Birth Year _____
(First) (last) (defaults to 1900 is left blank)

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (home): _____ (work): _____ (cell): _____ (other): _____

Email: _____ Other email: _____

Church Home: _____ Denomination: _____

Pilgrim Information:

I was a pilgrim/butterfly on: Emmaus # _____ Chrysalis # _____ (other) _____ # _____

My pilgrim walk/flight was: Month _____ Year _____ Lay Director _____

Application information:

I would like to serve on a team for: (check all that apply) Angel / Cha Table or Asst Table leader Asst LD

Music Singer Instrument(s) _____

I am a Medical professional (occupation & title) _____ - _____

Place me on track to eventually serve as a Lay Director I qualify as Clergy

Are you active in local Emmaus gatherings? Yes No Are you active in a Reunion Group? Yes No

Previous Team experience: (The team Selection Committee is charged with maintaining a balance of experience on each team. Please fill out as completely as possible) List most recent team first

Emmaus # _____ Position: _____ Date: _____ Lay Director: _____

Chrysalis # _____

Other # _____ Talk Given: _____ Location: _____

Emmaus # _____ Position: _____ Date: _____ Lay Director: _____

Chrysalis # _____

Other # _____ Talk Given: _____ Location: _____

Emmaus # _____ Position: _____ Date: _____ Lay Director: _____

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Chrysalis # _____

Other # _____ Talk Given: _____ Location: _____

Emmaus # _____ Position: _____ Date: _____ Lay Director: _____

Chrysalis # _____

Other # _____ Talk Given: _____ Location: _____

(list additional experience on separate page)

**Please update your information after serving on a team. This application is kept for 5 years.
Submit a new application after that date if you wish to remain in the Team Selection Database.**

Mail form to: Emmaus Database, 5906 McAlpin Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78413 or email to cindymcm7@grandecom.net



Men's JTD #73

May 14-17

Richard Dodson LD



“For it is by Grace you have been Saved” Eph. 2:8

Journey 73 is less than a month away and we are in full swing with all the preparations. The team has come together very well with excellent participation in all the team meetings. I would like to thank the team and the entire community for all the hard work and sacrifice they have done and made. We have been truly carried by the Body of Christ thus far and pray that every member of that Body will continue to hold us all up in prayers and acts of Agape thru the conclusion of the Weekend. It would have been impossible to get this far without all your support and prayers. Especially pray that the Holy Spirit will enter the hearts of all the Pilgrims and team, that we may be humble and worthy servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, speaking the words and performing the actions He knows will soften the Pilgrims hearts and bring all of them into a closer personal relationship with Him.

Richard Dodson LD

JTD #73 Team

St Elsewhere

- Richard Dodson – LD
- Fr. John Forbus – SD
- Rev. Billy Storms – ASD
- Sr. Angela Murdaugh – ASD
- Rev. Ralph McMullins – ASD
- Marty Adrian – ALD
- Josh Smith - ALD
- Jason Rodriguez – ALD
- Curtis Cantwell – Brd. Rep.
- Owen Gallagher – Obser. LD

TL/ATL

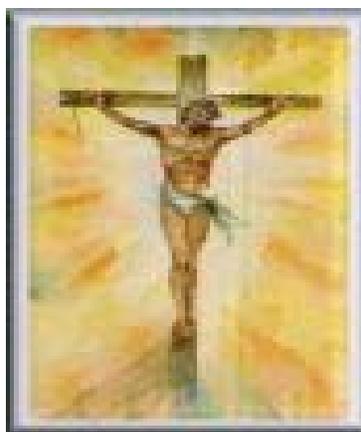
- Scott Sutherland – TL
- Phil Gagnon – TL
- Mark Dodson – TL
- Rene Towns – TL
- Jesse Garcia - TL
- John Kummer – TL
- John Marr - ATL
- Jeff Hunt – ATL
- James Hurst – ATL
- Tom Nier – ATL
- Dan Washa – ATL
- Michael Dolch - ATL

Chas

- Arthur Hass
- Jack Baker
- Freddy Cabral
- Felipe Salazar
- Gary Knobles
- Eddie Buhidar
- Larry Grove
- Chris Grove
- Anthony Dolce
- Steven Bryan
- Josh Taft
- Mike Lippincott
- Ron Enderle
- Jim Kollaja
- Mike Lovoi

(Cha's cont.)

- Richard Rosales
- Kip Putnam
- Monty Nichols



Community Schedule

- Thursday April 23rd
- 6:30pm Sponsor's Hour
- Saturday April 25th
- 8:00pm Candlelight
- Sunday April 26th
- 2:00 Closing

Pilgrims

- Luis Adrian
- Ron Alonzo
- Juan (John) Castillo
- Ken Clark
- Daron Foster
- Ricardo Garcia
- Mark Havelka
- John Helm
- Mike Jaks
- George Koomos
- Leo Lauglin
- Roland Knoblauch
- Ronnie Knoblauch
- Paul Pieper
- Edward Rodriguez

JTD 73 Speaker Schedule

- Ecumenism – Rev. Billy Storms – Thursday 7:30 PM
- Priorities – James Hurst – Friday 8:45 AM
- Grace – Rev. Billy Storms – Friday 10:45 AM
- Priest. all Believers – Jason Rodriguez – Friday 1:10 PM
- Faith – Rev. Ralph McMullins – Friday 2:35 PM
- Life in Piety – Mark Dodson - Friday 6:50 PM
- Growth Thru Study – Phil Gagnon – Saturday 8:20 AM
- Sacraments – Fr. John Forbus – Saturday – 9:40 AM
- Christian Action – Josh Smith – Saturday – 1:45 PM
- Obstacles to Grace – Sr. Angela Murdaugh – Saturday 3:05 PM
- Discipleship – Shawn Christopher – Saturday 6:25 PM
- Love and Unity – Diana Dodson – Saturday – 8:15 PM
- Changing our World – Marty Adrian – Sunday 9:15 AM
- Body of Christ – John Marr – Sunday 10:15 AM
- Persev./4th Day – Richard Dodson – 11:25 AM

(Cont.)



Future Events

Girls Chrysalis
Flight # 312
June 11-14
Judy Luna LD

M Walk #1505
June 18-21
Ken Harrelson LD

Boys Chrysalis
Flight # 316
June 25-28
Brandon Crawford LD



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H (361) 854-6326 C (361) 816-6937
pga@agcm.cc

JTD Information
5620 Gollihar Rd.
Corpus Christi, TX 78412
Voice Mail: 1-888-546-7382
j2damascus@yahoo.com

Chrysalis Information
Julie Brown
P.O. Box 6830
Corpus Christi, TX 78466
361-949-0152 dbrown@stx.rr.com

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Thank You

On behalf of the team of Journey to Damascus #71, thank you to the Emmaus, Chrysalis, Kairos and Damascus communities-The true body of Christ. The weekend was a true success because all of your agape, prayers, support and dedication. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, many women's eyes were opened to love and support of a welcoming Christian community. Thank you for helping make this weekend "The Best Journey Ever" for these pilgrims.

Jenny Sehy
Lay Director for JTD#71

2008/2009 EMMAUS BOARD

Lay Director	Gail Anderson
Asst. Lay Dir.	Judi Storms
Co-Spiritual Directors	Rev. Gloria Lear Rev. Mark Porterfield
Treasurer	Gale Bridgeman

Website:
www.CoastalBendEmmaus.org

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Vice President	Maury Jarrell
Spiritual Director	Father Tom Goodwin
Asst SD's	Rev. Billy Storms
Treasurer	Leonard Lee

Website:
www.JourneyToDamascus.org

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Lay Director	Julie Brown
Asst. Lay Dir.	Brandon Crawford
Spiritual Director	Rev. Chuck Miller

Website:
www.ChrysalisCoastalBend.org

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