

Pilgrim's Journey



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

**July
2007**

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" Luke 24:32

Houston North Emmaus Community

FROM THE COMMUNITY CHAIR

As many of you have heard by now, the Summer Men's Walk was cancelled. Due to many schedule conflicts, we did not have enough Pilgrims and Clergy to hold the Walk. Fortunately, the rest of the year's Walk leadership teams are fully in place and already preparing. In addition, the next Women's Walk (#42) is full with a waiting list, and the next Men's Walk (#43) already has enough registered to hold the Walk – even 2-3 months before the walk.

We are re-assigning the Pilgrims to our future Walks. The Team, headed by LD-Morris Davidson and STC-George Skirm, will be the Men's Walk team for the first Men's Walk in 2008 – #45 on April 17-20, 2008 as each individual team member's schedules permit. This has caused our Walk numbers to change as follows:

- Women's Walk #42 July 26-29, 2007
- Men's Walk #43 September 20-23, 2007
- Women's Walk #44 October 18-21, 2007

The Houston North Emmaus Community Board, after prayerful consideration, decided that this was best, and has also modified the HNEC Walk schedule for 2008 as follows:

- Men's #45 April 17-20
- Women's #46 April 24-27
- Women's #47 July 17-20
- Men's #48 October 9-12
- Women's #49 October 16-19
- Men's #50 Wed-Sat – Last Weekend in January (Date to be confirmed with Kaiserhof)

Moving the former summer Men's Walk to a January mid-week walk will accommodate needs of clergy in attendance who need to return to their churches on Sunday. This "mid-week" walk, as it is called, is open to all clergy and lay – just scheduled to be more convenient for clergy to attend as Pilgrims.

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FROM THE COMMUNITY CHAIR (continued from Page 1)

The Board sincerely regrets any inconvenience this may cause anyone, but felt it was the wisest thing to do to accommodate the best interests of the many varied needs of the facility, our Fourth Day, Clergy, Pilgrims, Team, etc... We thank you all for your prayers and support.

If you should have any questions please contact as follows:

- Those planning to attend a walk – Please contact your Sponsor
- Team Members – Please contact your LD or STC
- Sponsors – Please contact the Registrar
- Other 4th Day – Please contact a Board Member – listed on our website: www.hnec.org. Or see Page 12.

We are excited about our July Women's Walk #42 (July 26-29). It is full with a waiting list. Please keep LD-Margaret Fort, STC-Kelly Freeman and SD-Rev. Patty When-Glowski, the Team, the Pilgrims, and their Sponsors in your prayers. Thanks to all the Fourth Day Groups that have already signed up for all the Fourth Day volunteer needs for the Walk. I hope to see you out at Kaiserhof this weekend!

DeColores and God Bless You.
Carl J. Spaeth
Community Chairperson
Houston North Emmaus Community

THE PILGRIM'S JOURNEY and HNEC WEBSITE

PILGRIM'S JOURNEY NEWSLETTER - The *Pilgrim's Journey* newsletter is published six times a year—January, March, May, July, September, and November. The January and September issues are printed and mailed to all members of the HNEC Fourth Day community. The other four issues are published to the website, www.hnec.org.

If you would like to receive your copy of the *Pilgrim's Journey* by email, please send an email request to communications@hnec.org. You will receive a copy of the *Pilgrim's Journey* straight to your Inbox..

HNEC WEBSITE - PLEASE GO TO www.hnec.org for the latest news updates, Walk information, application forms, and other HNEC Community information.

A "Prayer Request" web page is now available. Please check it so that you may enter into prayer for others in our Community. If you have a prayer request, please send an email to communications@hnec.org and your request will be posted.

These two publications are the primary means by which the Board communicates information to the HNEC community. The web can also be used for you to contact us with questions or concerns. Do NOT rely on hearsay...get the facts for yourself! Please let me know if you have suggestions for ways we can enhance and improve the published information or the information flow.

For Him...For you...
Rhonda Fronk, HNEC Communications

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

I love the story we find at the end of John's Gospel in chapter 21. It is the story of Peter's final encounter with Jesus. The story summons us again to the Sea of Galilee and we can see Peter pacing back and forth on the shore. The other disciples seem as anxious. Perhaps they are wondering what will become of them. Jesus is gone. They have to be questioning what they should do with their lives now. Then, standing along side the lake that had once been the answer to all of these questions, Peter declares, "I am going fishing." The other disciples, eager for anything that might break the mood, toss their tunics on the sand and state that they are going with him. Of course, the night's fishing didn't go well and when the first light of morning appeared, they found themselves even more discouraged. Until, of course, Peter caught a glimpse of his Lord, who calls out to them, "*children, you have no fish, have you?*" And with their negative response, they hear his admonition to cast their net to the right side of the boat. Amazing, isn't it, that after all that has happened - arrest, beating, humiliation, crucifixion, agony, thirst.....death - Jesus calls to his disciples as one friend to another. Ultimately, the disciples encounter Jesus on the beach. He has prepared a meal for them of bread and fish. The Lord's Breakfast. And delivers a final message to them, through Peter. "My sheep are hungry. Be sure to feed them."

Look around your church and your community. Where are the hungry lambs that need to be fed? Your Emmaus experience has taught you that *you* are the hands and feet of Christ and that through your service, *you* fulfill the purpose of Christ to bring justice, mercy, and peace into reality. This is no small task, of course, and countless Christians before us have endeavored to fulfill Christ's mission in the world. Yet, daunting as the task seems, the Lord reminds us daily, "*feed my sheep.*" Look around you for those sheep. Feed them in the name of the one who came that we might have life and have it abundantly.

In His Name,
Rev. Kathy Kershaw
HNEC Spiritual Director

HOUSTON NORTH EMMAUS COMMUNITY GATHERING



SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH, 2007

CYPRESS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
13403 Cypress-North Houston, Cypress, Texas



CHILDCARE RESERVATIONS
DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1ST

Contact Debbie Parcel. 281.894.6344. parceldeb@prodigy.net

SCHEDULE

- 4:00 p.m. WALK #42 FOLLOW-UP MEETING
- 4:30 p.m. SPONSORSHIP ORIENTATION
- 5:30 p.m. MEAL
- 6:30 p.m. GATHERING AND CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER



EMMAUS TEAM SERVICE

The purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is to renew the church as the body of Christ through the renewal of Christians as faithful and committed disciples of Jesus Christ. Returning to your local church after a Walk to Emmaus weekend and giving of yourself in Christian love and service is one of the ways you can continue to experience renewal.

Another way to participate in the renewal of the body of Christ is through Team Service. Many people don't truly appreciate their weekend as pilgrims until they have worked on a weekend team. Serving others as they experience the love of Christ can renew and strengthen your relationship with Christ in ways you may not even think about. This article is to answer some questions you may have about team selection:

1. What kind of team service can I participate in?

Houston North Emmaus Community has two ways to participate in team service: as a **Day Servant**, you can serve on one of the support teams in the kitchen, chapel, or as an agape servant for just one day. For many people who cannot commit the time to an entire weekend, being a Day Servant is an excellent way to serve.

The second way to serve is through participation on the **full weekend team**. You can either be assigned in the conference room or on the servant team. The conference room team consists of the Lay Director, Assistant Lay Directors, Spiritual Director, Assistant Spiritual Directors, Musicians, and Table Leaders/Assistant Table Leaders. The servant team consists of the Servant Team Coordinator, Agape Servants, Chapel Servants, and Kitchen Servants.

2. How do I get asked to serve on a team?

Houston North Emmaus Community has a Team Selection committee; The Team Selection committee is made up of two Board members who serve as co-chairs of the committee, and six members of the Houston North Emmaus 4th Day community, three men and three women. These 4th Day members serve rotating three-year terms, in order to provide continuity in the selection process. Team selection begins 16 to 18 weeks before a Walk weekend. This committee works with the weekend Lay Director and Servant Team Coordinator to select the names to be called for a team. Names are accessed from the community database, from applications turned in by interested servants, and suggested by members of the committee.

3. How does the Team Selection Committee select the names to be called?

First, the Team Selection Committee PRAYS about each Walk weekend, and that God will guide the selection process. Using a committee of people provides a broader awareness of prospective team members and their gifts. This awareness helps the team selection process move beyond the limited circle of a Lay Director or Servant Team Coordinator's friends and acquaintances. The Committee provides continuity in the selection process from Walk to Walk and provides guidance on developing new Emmaus leaders through progressive servanthood.

If you have any questions about Team Service, please contact Janie Gulley or Tom Wanamaker, Team Selection co-chairs, or any member of the HNEC Board. (See Page 12 for contact information.)

Team applications are available on the HNEC website at
http://www.hnec.org/2007_applications.htm

BULLETIN BOARD**MEN'S WALK 43 TEAM INFORMATION**

TEAM MEETINGS - All remaining meetings begin at 8:00 a.m. and will be held at Lake Houston UMC.

- SATURDAY, AUGUST 11TH
- SATURDAY, AUGUST 25TH
- SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

**TEAM MEMBERS**

Fred Baker, Hardie Davis, Rev. Charles Jordan, Robert Kent, Ray Freeman, Mike Kennedy, Jon Peterson, Tom Huckabee, Allen Quick, Bill Laurents, Doug Spitz, Scotty Scott, Larry Thieme, Tex Tonroy, Matt Swanson, Carl Poteet, Mark Edwards, Michael Craig, Bud Nossman, Chris Charbonneau, Goran Haag, David Brennan, Hector Barkley, John Carter, Jim Garland, Arch Kennedy, Jay Jackson, Sam Sharif, Todd Sullivan, Paul Silva, John Follis, Chris Hanz, Rev. Mac Vaughn, Rev. Bill Haygood, Rev. Mike Lindstrom, and Day Servants.

**HNEC COMMUNITY GATHERING****SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27TH****KLEIN UMC, SPRING, TEXAS****BOARD ELECTIONS FOR 2008 AND
2007 ANNUAL MEETING**

**WATCH THE WEB AT WWW.HNEC.ORG FOR FLYER AND FULL
INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.**

BULLETIN BOARD

SPONSORSHIP ORIENTATION

- SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH - CYPRESS UMC, 4:30 p.m. (prior to HNEC Gathering)
- SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27TH - KLEIN UMC, 4:30 P.M. (prior to HNEC Gathering)

Please contact an HNEC Board member (see Page 12) to schedule orientation sessions for you, your reunion group, or your local church's Fourth Day community.

NEED EMMAUS "STUFF"? CHECK OUT THIS WEBSITE!



<http://www.decolores.com/store/>

AGAPE NEWS - STANDARD AGAPE ITEMS

The following items are "standard" agape for EACH HNEC Walk.

- Wooden dove name tags (40)
- Dove cords (crocheted for name tags) (40)
- Cross lanyards (crocheted for crosses) (40)
- Book covers for purple Pilgrim's Guide (sewn) (40)
- Caterpillars (Women's walks only; made from pipe cleaners) (40)
- Butterflies (Womens' walks only; crocheted) (40)
- Halos (Womens' walks only, for Agape Dinner) (60 - for all conference room)



If you ARE making any of these items for the remaining 2007 Walks, or if you WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE in making these items, **PLEASE CONTACT OUR HNEC BOARD MEMBER FOR AGAPE, CARLENE JACKSON.** Carlene is the point person to collect these agape items and then make sure they get to the Board Rep for each particular Walk.

Contact Carlene at: 281.350.3078 or pcjackson@swbell.net.



2007 WALK INFORMATION

Houston North Emmaus Community, Inc.
Registrar: Shane Bird
15201 Mason Road, #1000-321, Cypress, TX 77433
Email: communications@hnec.org

All Walks at Kaiserhof Lutheran Retreat Center, 22610 Tuwa Road, Tomball, Texas
<http://www.kaiserhofretreatcenter.com/>

Womens' Walk #42, July 26-29 (Walk full with waiting list)
 Margaret Fort, Lay Director. Kelly Freeman, Servant Team Coordinator.
 Rev. Patty When-Glowski, Spiritual Director.

Mens' Walk #43, September 20-23 (17 pilgrims as of 7/23/07)
 Fred Baker, Lay Director. Hardie Davis, Servant Team Coordinator.
 Rev. Carl Williamson, Spiritual Director.

Womens' Walk #44, October 18-21 (14 pilgrims as of 7/23/07)
 Marcie Huckabee, Lay Director. Annette Smith, Servant Team Coordinator.
 Rev. Dr. Carolyn McCall, Spiritual Director.

Please pray for these persons and the teams they represent as they prepare their hearts, minds, and hands for service.

Houston West Emmaus Community, Inc.

Registrar: Jan Vogel
 P.O. Box 631684, Houston, TX 77263-1684
 Email: registrar@hwec.org
 Website: www.hwec.org



Walk #42 (Women)	September 13-16 (a)
Walk #43 (Men)	October 18-21 (a)
Walk #44 (Women)	November 1-4 (b)

(a) J BAR J RANCH, SEALY (b) KAISERHOF, TOMBALL

Cradle of Texas Emmaus Community, Inc.

Registrar: Gary Foose
 P. O. Box 563, Lake Jackson, TX 77566
 Email: gary.foose@agedwards.com
 Website: www.geocities.com/cotemmaus



Walk #33 (Men)	September 20-23 (b)
Walk #34 (Women)	October 18-21 (a)

(a) TEXAS BAPTIST ENCAMPMENT, PALACIOS
 (b) THE LODGE AT DANBURY

Houston Bay Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

Registrar: Edith Schultz
 P. O. Box 890134, Houston, TX 77289-0134
 Email: registration@hbaec.org
 Website: www.hbaec.org



Walk #42 (Men)	September 27-30
Walk #43 (Women)	October 4-7

WALK LOCATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED.

COMMUNITY SERVANTHOOD**Hey, Fourth Day! Let's Get Together...and Serve!**

Thank you, HNEC, for your faithfulness in helping out with the Walks this year! As of now, we only need Community help with the items listed below for Women's Walk #44 in October. If you would like to serve as an individual, or if your church Fourth Day Emmaus Community would like to serve as a group, please contact Lindsey Tonroy or Jeff Reinhart at the email addresses below. Remember to indicate if you will serve as an individual or as a church community.

Lindsey Tonroy— linzlou23@hotmail.com

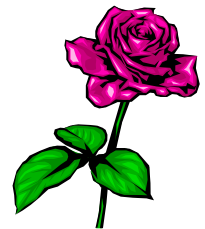
Jeff Reinhart— txjtr@yahoo.com

NEEDED FOR WOMEN'S WALK 44:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 - AGAPE DINNER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 - CANDLELIGHT SERVICE TEAM

FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 - PROVIDE ROSES

**Description of Fourth Day Community Servanthood Opportunities:**

- * **Thursday Snack Supper** for team and arriving pilgrims and sponsors. Requires 6-8 people to arrive at 5 pm and provide food and service.
- * **Saturday Agape Dinner.** Requires 16-20 people to arrive at 3:30pm to cook, decorate, and serve.
- * **Saturday Candlelight Parking Attendants.** Requires 6-8 people to arrive at 7:30 and direct traffic.
- * **Saturday Candlelight Luminary Team.** Requires 5-6 people to arrive at 7:00 to set up luminaries and take them down after Candlelight service.
- * **Saturday Candlelight Service Team.** Requires 4-8 people to arrive at 6:30 to set up the service area, act as ushers, and help pass out candles. They will also assist in taking down the chairs in the service area after Candlelight.
- * **Rose Providers.** Requires the provision of 48 roses for Sunday on the women's walks only.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE!

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sponsorship Orientation for HNEC Walks

Sponsorship is THE most important role in the Walk to Emmaus. Completion of this orientation is required prior to the sponsorship of any pilgrim on any Walk in the Houston North Emmaus community. If it is not possible for you to attend an orientation, persons may co-sponsor pilgrims in partnership with someone who has completed the orientation.

Orientation sessions are provided by the HNEC Board immediately prior to each HNEC community gathering. Board members (see Page 12) are available upon request to meet with your church's local Emmaus community and provide orientation in that setting. Local churches and reunion groups are encouraged to schedule sponsorship orientation in conjunction with their local gatherings and reunion group meetings.

⇒ See Page 7 for currently scheduled orientation sessions.

"Sponsorship is the act of your revisiting The Walk to Emmaus experience with the person whom God has laid upon your heart. Sponsorship is one of the most important aspects of The Walk to Emmaus and must be taken seriously. Sponsorship requires extensive prayer, diligent thought, careful planning and follow-through. The strength of an Emmaus Community is a direct result of its sponsorship practices." (a)

(a) from *Sponsorship*, by Richard and Janine Gilmore

SPONSORSHIP ORIENTATION—FAQ's

Q: I have sponsored many pilgrims in the past. Why do I need a refresher?

A: The orientation is to update sponsors on the latest changes in procedures, issues specific to the Kaiserhof facility, etc. Also, we want our sponsors informed so that they can be the BEST they can be and fully understand that the sponsorship process starts well before the Walk and continues long after the Walk. The "Sponsor Checklist" on the next page outlines the responsibilities of the sponsor.

Q: I do not live in the Houston area, but I have a friend or relative in the Houston area that I would like to sponsor. What should I do?

A: If you live outside the Houston area, you can be a CO-SPONSOR along with a primary sponsor who has attended orientation and who will be available for your pilgrim after the Walk. As a CO-SPONSOR, you can still be involved with your pilgrim before, during, and after the Walk, but the sponsor who is in the Houston area will be available for the all-important follow-up process, including reunion group, church involvement, and future Emmaus community involvement.

Q: I just can't get to an orientation session. Do I have any other options?

A: Yes! You can be a co-sponsor with another person who has attended the orientation session.

2007 Pilgrim and Sponsor Applications

2007 SPONSOR and PILGRIM applications can be downloaded from our website @ www.hnec.org, received via email through communications@hnec.org, or requested by telephone at 281.225.9831.

Please PRINT or TYPE applications, especially the email address. Sponsors should encourage Pilgrims to request three different Walk dates and to reserve those dates on their calendars. Walks are filled as applications are received and it is recommended that applications be filed three months in advance to ensure first choice of Walk dates. Walk placement **cannot** be reserved via email or telephone call--only by postmark on application.



HOUSTON NORTH EMMAUS COMMUNITY SPONSOR'S CHECKLIST (As of July 2007)

PRIOR TO WALK

- Attend sponsorship orientation.
- Pray for my pilgrim.
- Sign up for a designated prayer time slot on the Walk Prayer Clock.
- Answer any questions my pilgrim has.
- If my pilgrim is married, present the Walk to Emmaus to the spouse as well.
- Complete the Sponsor Application form and the Pilgrim Application form, and submit both to HNEC, along with the Walk fee payment.
- Write my own personal agape letter to my pilgrim.
- Obtain letters from 8-12 family members and close friends.
- Explain to my pilgrim what to bring to the Walk: Extra towels, comfortable clothing and shoes, jacket, umbrella, flashlight, insect repellent, medications, personal items.
- Explain to my pilgrim what NOT to bring to the Walk: Books, radios, clocks, watches, cell phones, pagers, PDAs, cameras, food.
- Make arrangements to take care of the pilgrim's personal responsibilities during the Walk weekend, such as child care, meals, house-sitting, pets, mail, plants, carpools, etc.

WALK WEEKEND

Thursday:

- Pray for my pilgrim.
- Make sure I have my own personal agape letter for the pilgrim.
- Make sure I have the 8-12 letters from family members and close friends, including the pilgrim's spouse if he/she is married.
- Clearly mark the letters. In the upper left hand corner of all the envelopes, I have put who the letter is from (spouse, sponsor, child, close friend, etc.) In the center of all the envelopes, I have written the pilgrim's FIRST and LAST NAME.
- Pick my pilgrim up and have a light meal if necessary prior to arriving at Kaiserhof. (Snack supper consisting of finger foods is provided, but the pilgrim may want to eat prior to arriving.)
- Take my pilgrim to Kaiserhof, arriving between 6:15 and 7:00 p.m. on Thursday.
- Give the LETTERS and any AGAPE to the WALK TEAM at Check-In.
- Attend Send-Off and Sponsor's Hour from 7:15-8:15.

Friday:

- Pray for my pilgrim.

Saturday:

- Pray for my pilgrim.
- Attend Candlelight, arriving at Kaiserhof by 8:15 p.m.

Sunday:

- Pray for my pilgrim.
- Attend Closing, arriving at Kaiserhof by 4:30 p.m.
- Take my pilgrim home.
- Give any personal agape I may have to my pilgrim ON THE WAY HOME and NOT prior to the Walk.

AFTER THE WALK:

- Pray for my pilgrim.
- Check on my pilgrim to see if they have questions and to make sure everything is OK.
- Help my pilgrim get established in a reunion accountability group.
- Bring my pilgrim to the scheduled Walk Follow-Up meeting and HNEC Community Gathering.



YOUR HNEC BOARD**~HNEC 2007 Board Information ~****HNEC 2007 Board of Directors**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Church Affiliation if known</u>
Community Chair	Carl Spaeth *	281.379.6441	Klein UMC
Ass't. Community Chair	Susan Kent	281.360.2886	Strawbridge UMC
Past Community Chair	Tami Laugharn	281.292.5607	The Woodlands UMC
Secretary	Joleen Wright	281.955.1173	Foundry UMC
Treasurer	Mike Kennedy	281.373.5468	Good Shepherd UMC
Spiritual Director	Rev. Kathy Kershaw	281.379.1388	Klein UMC
Ass't. Spiritual Director	Rev. J. Larry Smith	936.653.2288	Coldspring UMC
Past Spiritual Director	Rev. Carolyn McCall	281.852.3065	Atascocita UMC
Agape (Internal and External)	Carlene Jackson *	281.350.3078	Cypress Trails UMC
Books and Manuals	Bill Swaim	936.588.3350	
Community Development	Steve Mackey	281.441.8193	Humble First Baptist
Gatherings/Reunions	Henri Kennedy	936.365.4504	Central Baptist
Kitchen	Debbie Acord	936.588.0657	Fellowship of the Woodlands
Kitchen	Kirk Smith	281.379.5993	Lakewood UMC
Community Servanthood	Lindsey Tonroy	713.447.9962	John Wesley UMC
Community Servanthood	Jeff Reinhart	281.537.0439	Airline UMC
Property	Arch Kennedy	936.365.4504	Central Baptist
Property	Fred Baker	281.462.0139	Lake Houston UMC
Publications/Communications	Rhonda Fronk	281.345.0761	Foundry UMC
Team Selection	Tom Wanamaker	281.367.7943	The Woodlands UMC
Team Selection	Janie Gulley	281.296.8938	Christ Church UMC
Training	Jon Peterson	281.320.2688	St. Timothy Lutheran
Database	Anita Worthington *	936.377.2435	Coldspring UMC
Database Advisor	Goran Haag *	281.320.8064	Tomball UMC
Registrar	Shane Bird *	281.225.9831	Good Shepherd UMC
Music	Joel Paulk *	713.686.8000	St. Stephens UMC
Music - CCLI Licensing	Debbie Parcel *	281.894.6344	Cypress UMC

* Denotes non-voting member.

2007 BOARD MEETING DATES

Beginning in September 2007, meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the published locations. Remaining 2007 meeting dates and locations are as follows:

Tuesday, August 21st - Strawbridge UMC, Kingwood, TX

Tuesday, September 11th - Kaiserhof Lutheran Retreat Center, Tomball, TX

Tuesday, October 9th - Cramer Center (tentatively) - near I-45 and Louetta

Tuesday, November 13th - Kaiserhof Lutheran Retreat Center, Tomball, TX

Tuesday, December 11th - Home of Tami & Gary Laugharn, The Woodlands



Meetings are open to any Fourth Day who might wish to attend. Agendas are set in advance. Anyone wishing to have a specific item placed on the agenda or with a desire to address the Board during a meeting should contact Carl Spaeth, Community Chair, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Carl can be reached at cjspaeth@sbcglobal.net, or by phone at 281.379.6441.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Earlier this month I had the opportunity to spend a week in Colorado. For two days, I was in Rocky Mountain National Park. We each have our places where our mind, body, and spirit are invigorated. For me, this is such a place, where I seem to hear God more plainly and see Him more clearly. This month, I would like to share an excerpt from my journal.

“I drove up Trail Ridge Road to its highest point, stopping several places to take pictures and breathe the cool fresh air and enjoy the view.

I experienced several optical illusions. It seemed like I could be looking at a range of mountains and they were miles away. Then, I would go around one curve, say a mile down the road, and when those mountains appeared again, they were right in front of me. Very strange!

I made it up past the tree line to the “fields of snow.” There were what I call “high meadows,” full of wildflowers and some kind of grass. I drove past several streams of cascading water, not rivers yet because the drop-off was too steep. While on the mountaintop, clouds rolled in and thunder rumbled. The mountains were engulfed in dark clouds, just like in Exodus 19 (when Moses went up the mountain to receive the Ten Commandments).

I found a place to sit down and look at the mountain range before me. I'm not sure I've ever taken the time, while in the mountains, to just gaze at them.

I got back in the car, headed back downhill, and suddenly I burst into tears.

‘God, how can You love me/love us THIS much, that you created such awesome beauty? Then, you give us senses, and the technology and knowledge to build roads and cars so we can come up here, and just enjoy! You show us that there is life at ALL levels, seemingly where it is too cold or barren for anything to grow. You give us mountain peaks to attest to Your glory and to cause us to lift our heads and look up! You cover them with snow in winter to remind us of your purity and to refer us to the memory of your “warehouses of snow.” Then in summer, the snow becomes a rushing river full of water to refresh us, just as You are our River of Life, our Living Water!’

Oh, Lord, I do not know WHY You love us so!!

I beheld the majesty of God through His creation. And He said to me:

‘Now...just exactly WHAT is it that you think I cannot handle?’ ”

There are moments in time that are like snapshots to me, moments captured on the film of my mind and burned like an image into my heart. Sitting on that mountaintop on that particular day was one such moment.

I don't think I'll ever forget that there is NOTHING that God cannot handle or take care of. He has ordained every day, He knows what's coming, and He will be there for me, for you, for us all.

De Colores!

Rhonda Fronk, HNEC Communications



COMMUNITY MAILING ADDRESS:

Houston North Emmaus Community
15201 Mason Road, #1000-321
Cypress, TX 77433

THE BACK PAGE...

Th-a-a-a-a-a-a-t's ALL, Folks!

Latest HNEC news
is @ www.hnec.org

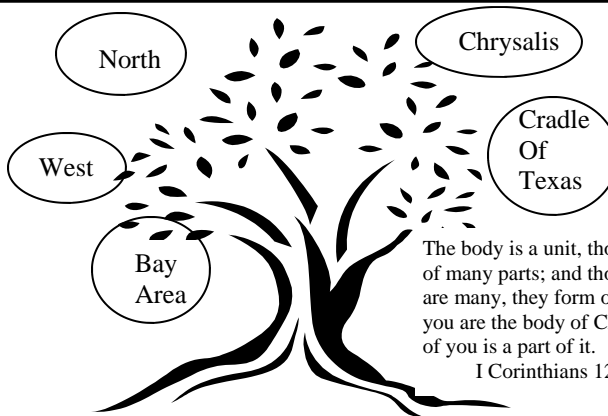
Deadline for Pilgrim's Journey

Fourth Day members are encouraged to submit articles to be published in the *Pilgrim's Journey*.

For permission to reproduce articles printed in the *Pilgrim's Journey*, please contact the editor as shown below. Original articles, Walk information, or other news items must be submitted by the 5th day of the publication month.

Rhonda Fronk
15511 Pebble Lake Drive
Houston, TX 77095-2035
(281) 345-0761

Email: communications@hnec.org



**2007 Board of Directors
For the Greater Houston Area**

Community Chairpersons

- Bay Area Emmaus Community - Steve Forcus
<http://www.hbaec.org/>
 - Cradle of Texas Emmaus Community - Marcy Baker
<http://www.geocities.com/cotemmaus/>
 - Houston North Emmaus Community - Carl Spaeth
<http://www.hnec.org/>
 - Houston West Emmaus Community - Mike Higdon
<http://www.hwec.org/>
 - Houston Chrysalis Community
<http://www.houstonchrysaliscommunity.com/>
- Lay Director: Mark Davenport
Registrar: Jan Buckley 281-350-3697