

River Walk

An Emmaus Community



“While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them.” — Luke 24:15

www.riverwalktoemmaus.org

October 2009 Newsletter

Looking Ahead ...

Potluck Gathering

and Sponsorship Talk

Saturday, November 14

5:30—7:30 PM

Church on The Rock

50 Walton Lane, Antioch

**Bring a potluck dish
of your choice to share!**



Spring 2010 Walks

Men's Walk: April 8-11

Lay Director: Bob Finertie

Women's Walk: April 15-18

Lay Director: Beth Hornbeck

Team Meetings:

February 13 & March 13

A letter of Encouragement from your Board of Directors

To our River Walk family, especially to those who were ready for service for these October 2009 walks:

Together you have been a rock through these challenging times. It was an amazing race, to finally see the finish line of yet another God filled set of week-ends, then the last blow came.

No place to go...

Watching individuals scramble to overcome diversions and obstacles and persevere to what we all anticipated should have been the outcome has in fact been iron sharpening iron. Hold your heads and spirits high; in the midst of it all be assured our God will not waste a minute of your energy. The letters you wrote, the agape you began, the talks you gave or heard, the pilgrims you had prepared, the teams you formed, the meals you planned, the songs you wrote, played, and heard, and just the time we spent together preparing as God's priesthood has all had a purpose. We may not know the answer or the very complex answer in this lifetime? Why? Someone may have been physi-

cally saved through this halt in time simply by not having to travel? Can we truly grasp that God can do or undo anything? He can fix things that have been done or undone by earthly circumstances. We, in attempting to please God, are continually trying to hit home runs. That is not wrong. What do you think God's response is to our willingness to continue to stand up to the plate and swing when the pitcher seems unhittable?

Now what?

We can feel totally dejected and become numb or we can pray for God to guide us one more day through this wilderness. This has certainly not been our first day, either as an Emmaus family or as individuals. Our 4th days are confusing at times.

We are 100 percent convinced that we could make an extreme decision, not necessarily by vote, but by participation, to disband RWTE and the world will continue to turn. God won't love us any less, pilgrims will still be touched as God desires, no guilt, no shame, and it has been a great ride!!

(Continued on page 2)

River Walk Treasurer's Report

Worker Fees and Pilgrim Fees

Our Emmaus Community has a bit of collateral damage to repair resulting from the canceled Walks, the Fees already paid and deposited. About 65% of worker fees have been paid plus Pilgrim registration fees.

As background, the budget for this set of Walks was \$6,100 (Food \$3000, Facility \$1300, Supplies \$700, Other \$1100). Additionally, there are non-Walk annual costs of about \$1,550 (Insurance \$640, Website \$350, CCLI music license \$175, Gathering costs \$200, Printing/mailing/other \$185).

My prayer is that many of you who have paid your fees will gift them to our treasury so we will have a good cushion of funds as we enter 2010 and our next set of Walks. If all fees were refunded, we would only have a few hundred dollars left in our account. I have already heard from a few of you to just keep your fees as a contribution. THANK YOU!

Letter of Encouragement From your Board of Directors

(Continued from page 1)

But ... are we done letting iron sharpen iron through the prep and anxieties of these weekends? Do the challenges of Emmaus help humble us and through it all do we still feel a closeness to God? Are there relationships locked in because of Emmaus that should not be broken?

The board of your Emmaus community is as dedicated as ever to walk shoulder to shoulder through the upcoming months. We will provide as much direction and leadership we can so this community can continue to provide the powerful experience that we all have felt. It will truly be by the unity and perseverance of this body of Christ, not completely whole without you, for a strong Emmaus community.

A special thanks to Bob Finertie and Jeannette Petersen for walking the talk.

Our God is an awesome God!

Your Board of Directors

For the rest of you, please contact me via e-mail, phone, or mail, as to how you want your fees handled:

1. Keep fees as a contribution to our Emmaus Community.
2. Refund your fees.
3. Roll my fees forward to the next set of Walks.

Thank You,
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National Agape Update

Please join us in prayer for these communities and their upcoming walks:

Hy Sky Emmaus (Midland, TX)
Nov. 12-15: Women's Walk

**Golden Triangle Emmaus
of SE Texas & SW Louisiana**
Oct. 22-25: Women's Walk # 126

Chesapeake Walk to Emmaus
October 22-25: Men's Walk
November 12-15: Women's Walk

Central Mississippi Walk to Emmaus
Oct. 22-25: Women's Walk

Southern Maryland Chrysalis
October 15-18: Boys Flight

