

The Fishnet



From the Community Director:

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

- Ephesians 6:18

I work for a school district in the district office. Friday, August 20, was our last day of summer school so I went to the school to see how things were going. As I walked across the parking lot I saw a teacher I haven't seen in a while. As I started to greet her I could tell she was upset. Her first words to me were, "I know you pray for people." She proceeded to tell me that her son and his friend were in Aurora, Colorado and that

neither family had been able to reach them. Now, in case you've been without television, radio or newspaper this was the morning of the tragic mass shooting in a movie theater in Aurora, Colorado. She was understandably distraught at not being able to reach her son. I prayed for her son and his friend.

What struck me as I continued about my day was the importance of prayer. We are a people of prayer. Whether it is done as a community or in the quiet of our home, prayer is essential. You are probably thinking, "Did she just figure this out?" No, I knew it, but I think sometimes my focus on service causes me to forget that

prayer is as important and sometimes more important. After all, there are plenty of generous philanthropists out there who don't believe in God. The Bible is filled with scripture telling us to pray. Mark 11:24 tells us "Therefore, I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." Prayer makes things happen.

As we approach Walk #47, I want us to remember we are a people of prayer. There is much to do for a Walk – gathering team, setting up the facilities, buying food, preparing agape. The list goes on and on.

But, all of it means nothing if it isn't covered in prayer. I hope many of you can attend candlelight, flower

shower or closing. But, even if you can't be there in person, you can be there in prayer. Pray for the pilgrims, for their hearts to be open to all the blessings God has in store for them. Pray for the clergy who sacrifice time with their congregations. Pray for the team who serve with joy in their hearts even when their feet hurt. Just pray!

God bless,

Cathy Bojorquez
Community Director

Update: My co-worker's son and friends were at the Century 16 in Colorado but were in a different theater. They are all safe. Please continue to pray for all those affected by this tragedy.

Walk 47 Community Events

All Events will take place at:

First United Methodist Church, Ventura

1338 E. Santa Clara Street, Ventura, CA 93001 (805) 643-8621

Men's Sponsor's Hour: Thursday, August 2, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

Men's Candlelight: Saturday, August 4, 8:00 pm, Sanctuary

Men's Mañanitas: Sunday, August 5, 6:00 am, Trotter Hall

Men's Closing Sunday: August 5, 2:30 pm, Sanctuary

Women's Sponsor's Hour: Thursday, August 9, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

Women's Candlelight: Saturday, August 11, 8:00 pm, Sanctuary

Women's Mañanitas: Sunday, August 12, 6:00 am, Trotter Hall

Women's Closing: Sunday, August 12, 2:30 pm, Sanctuary

Walk 47 Reunion Saturday, August 25, 1:00 – 4:00 pm, Trotter Hall

Current Treasury Summary

Current Cash Balance at 07/21/2012

\$6,489.42

Estimated cost for one set of Walks \$7,373.00

At \$75 per Team Fee Unit, need to collect 102 Units for a set of Walks

Team Fee Units Collected to Date

29 30% NEED TEAM FEES!

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10

Thought for the Day: Generosity is a matter of attitude, not amount

De Colores

Charles Laing, Treasurer

From Our Community Spiritual Director

Some of you know that one of my favorite Scriptures passages is Romans 5:12: **“where sin increased, grace increased all the more.”**

Perhaps you also know that one of my favorite hymns is one with words by Julia H. Johnston dating back to 1910, but conveys a timeless truth:

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our
guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured,
There where the blood of the Lamb was
spilled.

Refrain:

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse
within;*

***Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin.***

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;

Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
Points to the refuge, the mighty cross.
Refrain

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide.
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide,
Brighter than snow you may be today.
Refrain

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,
Freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see His face,
Will you this moment His grace receive?
Refrain

Isn't it amazing how often we try to limit the Grace of God? How often, when we hear of a tragedy like the recent theater shooting spree in Colorado, we might assume that there is **no way** God's grace would be extended to the perpetrator of such a crime. Or how often, when honestly confronting our own sin,

we just **know** that God could not possibly forgive **us**.

I am so grateful that **I'm not God!** I am so grateful that such decisions are **not left up to me** – they are far beyond my pay grade! I am **even more grateful** that God has already declared, as both St. Paul and this hymn-writer have so aptly put it, **God's grace is greater than all our sin!**

My prayer for us is that we all **accept this marvelous Good News, and actually LIVE as forgiven children of God!**

De Colores!

R. Lewis Fry,

Channel Islands Community
Spiritual Director

Sponsorship

Walk #47 is rapidly approaching. The Men's Walk on August 2-5 and the Women's Walk on August 9-12. If you are sponsoring a pilgrim remember that there are several key responsibilities that you have taken on.

- (1) Collect Agape letters from family and friends and bring them with you on Thursday night.
- (2) Take your pilgrim to dinner prior to bringing them to the Walk.
- (3) Make sure your pilgrim has an air mattress and adequate bedding
- (4) Stay for Sponsors' Hour beginning at 8:00 PM sharp in the Sanctuary.
- (5) Come to Candlelight on Saturday evening.

- (6) Come to Closing on Sunday prepared to deliver your pilgrim home.

Consider taking your pilgrim to dinner following closing. Remember that all of these actions are important ways of showing God's agape love to your pilgrim. Bring your pilgrim to the Reunion on August 25 1:00 to 4:00 PM.

Last but not least, remember that your relationship with your pilgrim involves a long term commitment on your part. You are their first friend in their Fourth Day. Please don't hesitate to call (805 504 1378) or email

(bsteve@zontar.com) me anytime with questions about sponsorship.

Yours in Christ,

Steve Blasingame

4th Day Groupings

De Colores!

Yesterday my Pastor gave an amazing sermon on listening for God's voice and how difficult that can be for us (based on 1 Samuel 3:3-9). He asked us to ponder two questions: 1) Does God call each of us *by name*? And 2) How do you respond when He does call? I know that since my own Walk to Emmaus experience, one of the ways I hear the voice of God is through the people He has placed in my life. By attending a 4th Day group, I have been given opportunities to know what God's voice sounds like and to see firsthand how others choose to respond, which helps me grow in my faith and trust when God calls me to action in one way or another.

(continued on page 3)

From Our Men's Walk 47 Lay Director

Wow, where does the time go? It seems like just yesterday that Richard asked me to be the Lay Director for Walk 47 and here we are just a few days from the walk. God has blessed me with an awesome team of men who love Him and want to love Him and others more and more. The team buildings have been encouraging and uplifting listening to the outstanding talks, opening sharing and testimonies of how we sinful men have been lifted up and redeemed by our gracious loving God. This walk promises to be filled with the Holy Spirit and God's mighty love and power to be at work transforming the hearts and minds of the Pilgrims and team members as He does on every walk.

God has blessed us with 8 pilgrims for Walk 47 and we look forward to sharing His love and encouragement with each one. I would be grateful if each one of you would write Agape letters for each of these men as an act of love and encouragement, as you were given on your walk. We are still looking for some men to come out and play keyboard or other musical instruments with Bill and team, even if it's only for a couple of hours.

I would love to see each one of you Men of God come out this weekend to Angel for even a couple of hours and share in the blessing of serving and loving these men. Wow could you imagine how 8 guys would feel to have 60 men or more loving and encouraging them? Probably the same way you did on your walk.

"A new commandment I give you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know you are my disciples, if you love one another."

- John 13:34-35

What better way to show our love then by all of my brothers and sisters in Christ going out of their way, to support these men on their journey Saturday night, August 4th, for Candlelight service and Sunday afternoon, August 5th, for closing.

Thank you for all your prayers and support

Mark Swink

Walk 47 Lay Director

From Our Women's Walk 47 Lay Director

...What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.

- Micah 6:8

We have made all of our plans, came together at the Team Building meetings and now it is time to celebrate this wonderful community of ours. This community that welcomed each of us with open arms and loving hearts, this commu-

nity that accepts us as we are and asks simply that we do the same for others.

I am truly blessed and humbled by each member of this team. Each of you have given up many hours to make Walk #47 a wonderful gift for the 12 Sisters we will be welcoming into our community as Pilgrims.

Please pray for each of our Pilgrims and on Thursday evening welcome

each of them. The Pilgrims are:

**Maila Paz, Laura Marlow,
Edith Swetman, Christin Jones,
Alex McCarty, Krysta Christensen,
Toni Gallucci, Susan Celoni,
Joanne Harrington,
Chrystal Rodriguez,
Gloria Gonzales & Stephanie Leedy**

Also, please know that each of you is in my Heart and Prayers .

Sandi Wilson

4th Day Groupings cont.

er (you know...that still, small voice). Having the support of a Christian community, and finding a 4th Day reunion group that fits your schedule, helps you to exercise that 'listening muscle' so that you become more in-tuned to God's voice; it does take practice!

Check out the list of Reunion Groups handed out in the 4th Day packets, and if you have difficulty finding an existing group that works for you, please feel free to start a new group! Contact me by email (mom4jnw@aol.com) or cell phone (805-341-1057) for information.

De Colores!

Peggy Donavon

Groupings

And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

- 2 Corinthians 1:7

Please keep these people in your prayers during the Walks

Men's Walk Pilgrims

**Tom Beaudine
Randy Davis
Jim Harrington
Jeremiah Johnson
John Johnson
Daniel Rodriguez**

Men's Team:

Jim Anglin
Steve Blasingame
Dan Bojorquez
Jeff Brown
David Burgeson
Paul Dixon
Boyd Donavon
Tom Egan
Dave Faulkner
Raul Fletes
Kent Fromer
Lew Fry

Mark Gupton
Kent Hamilton
Dale Holland
Joel Hortiales
Dean Huebert
Tom Hundley
Steve Koep
Paul Krieg
Steve Ladwig
Charles Laing
Nick Lambert
Jason Leedy
Glenn Lowes
Rob Nowakowski
Steve Peralta
Randy Perez
Kris Pohlman
David Prieto
Steve Rainer
Josh Romanelli

Joe Simonson
Mike Smith
Jamie Swanson
Mark Swink
Bruce Taylor
Bruce Wade
Steve Westerfield
Bill Williams
LeRoy Wojciechowski

Women's Walk Pilgrims

**Susan Celoni
Krysta Christensen
Toni Gallucci
Gloria Gonzales
Joanne Harrington
Christin Jones
Stephanie Leedy
Laura Marlow
Alex McCarty
Malia Paz
Crystal Rodriguez
Edith Swetman**

Women's Team:

Beth Huebert
Carolyn DeVore
Cathy Bojorquez
Dan Bojorquez
David Burgeson
Debbie Westerfield
Diane Kunz
Diane Prieto
Diane White
Donna Wojciechowski
Elizabeth Schottger
Fil Hower
Gayle Brown
Edith Swanson
Jan Newton
Janel Perez
Janet Chu-Hooker
Janice Jennett
Jean McMullen

Jenny Fletes
JoAnn Babock
Joyce Ladwig
Kathy Wade
Kate Horowitz
Lew Fry
Linda St. Clair
Mimi Burns
Lynne Hartley
Marian Lydick
Mary Hawkins
Michele Krieg
Oleta Bennet
Peggy "PJ" Vernon
Sarah Burgeson
Sandi Wilson
Susan Arentzoff
Tanya Ferguson
Teri Fouch
Tina Moore
Tom Hower

Gatherings

De Colores!

Please join with me at the reunion for Walk #47 on August 25, 2012 at Ventura First United Methodist Church from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to come together to celebrate new friendships, to welcome new brothers and sisters into our community and to worship our Lord in unity with one another. Please keep your calendars clear as we gather to worship and celebrate our lives together in our Channel Islands Emmaus community.

Please bring with you a snack to

share, your name tag, and your Pilgrim Worship book. We come together during this time to build new friendships and to strengthen old relationships; we'll hear community news and hear the names of those called to serve God and this community as Lay Directors for Walk #48 next spring.

Our community will remain strong and continue to grow even stronger as each of us works at maintaining our community involvement through sponsorship, working the walks, and by being examples of servant/

leaders to one another as well as those new brothers and sisters who will be joining with us. Let us continue to build and strengthen our Channel Islands Emmaus community by our faithful leadership and commitment as we lift it up to the Glory of God!

As always, if you have any questions, I can be reached by phone at (805)937-5190 or by email at bwade@hancockcollege.edu.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Bruce Wade

Gatherings