

you at the team buildings and on the walk!

As you may already know, the verse for the women's walk is Jeremiah 29:11... *For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.* As I have prayed about this upcoming walk God has revealed to me that this walk is about His plan for each of our futures; not just the pilgrims. And, as we serve Him on this walk pieces of His plans for our futures will be revealed to us as well. For me, this has been an exciting revelation and I can't wait to see what He has planned.

I hope that you will answer His call and serve in whatever capacity He wants.

Serving Him,

Janet Chu-Hooker
Women's Walk 46 Lay Director

4th Day Group for the Holidays

December 26: The holiday is over, the hustle and bustle done with, and the wrappings are scattered all over the room. Now is a perfect time to reflect on the meaning of Christ in our lives. Whether your holiday was filled with joy among family and friends, or perhaps you've faced challenges and difficulties, this is a time to share with your 4th Day group. My prayer is that each of us has a group we can share our lives with, a place to find support and love, and a place to share our joys. It's a special place to meet with brothers and sisters in Christ who have all experienced the depth of God's love through the Walk to Emmaus. It's a bond that is rare in this world and age. I encourage each of you, if you haven't already done so, to find a 4th Day group that fits your schedule, and call or email the contact person. If you are having difficulty finding an existing group that works for you, you can also start a new group! Please feel free to contact me by email (mom4jnw@aol.com) or cell phone (805-341-1057). Celebrate the birth of our Lord throughout the year by sharing yourself with others and receiving love in return!!

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

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January 2012

The Fishnet



From the Community Director:

De Colores! Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Now that the holidays have come and gone, it is a good time to pause a bit and remember what the Christmas Celebration was all about. Christmas can be a joyful time, but it can also be a stressful time because our schedules become busier than ever as we try to squeeze everything into a short window of time. But God did not create the Christmas holiday season, and he certainly did not intend for us to be distracted from the real message of Christmas. It was an opportunity for us to actually slow down, take a deep breath and then consider the wondrous event of Christ's birth. No event in human history would have as much meaning and impact on the world as the birth of Jesus Christ. Likewise, no other event will have as much eternal impact on your life either. Let us not lose sight of what is truly important as we strive to live our lives as His faithful disciples.

Even though Christmas 2011 is over, it is not too late to offer someone an early gift for 2012. The Walk to Emmaus is one of the best gifts we can offer to our friends and family. As you all know, it truly is the gift that keeps on giving for a lifetime, and beyond. Now is the time, because we will soon be deep into preparations for Walk 46. God already knows who will be attending this walk, but it is up to us to extend the invitation and plant the seeds for his Walk 46 Harvest. Walk 46 will be a wonderful walk, especially if we are all actively praying, serving and sponsoring, so please keep the entire team in your prayers, as well as all the pilgrims who will be attending.

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas – and that you had a chance to pause and reflect on the many blessings right in front of you in your homes and with your families. Listen to the rhythms of God's Spirit as you spend your quiet-time with Him during the coming days. You are in my thoughts and prayers as we enter into a New Year and season of spiritual growth for our community at large.

May God Bless You and Yours Richly.

Richard Lolley
CIE Community Director

Thank You Kevin!

Kevin Ferguson, our beloved Community Director for the past 3 ½ years has officially rolled off the Board and is now enjoying some quality time with his family away from the busy CIE board schedule. Kevin has been an outstanding and dedicated leader for our community, and his absence as Community Director will be missed by all of us. He served with great humility, strength and honor, and we have all benefited from his leadership and friendship. Thank you Kevin, for all you have done for our community and all you have done to advance God's Kingdom during your time as CIE Community Director. May God continue to bless you and your family.

From Our Walk 46 Lay Directors

De Colores!

I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and that 2012 is a joyous and prosperous one for you and your family!

As we embrace 2012, and prepare for Walk 46, I hope and pray that you will take some time to sit quietly at Jesus' feet and seek out His plan for your life. I also hope that in that time, you will ask Him what He has planned for you for these upcoming walks.... Has He placed someone on your heart to sponsor? Does He want you to be part of the team, work the entire walk and take part in the team buildings? Does He want you to angel the walk? Does He want you to take an hour to pray during the prayer vigils? Or, does He want you to attend candlelight and/or closing to show your love to the pilgrims? Whatever He has planned for you, I hope that you will faithfully listen.

He is calling you to work this walk, please download an application, fill it out and send it back. I would be honored and thrilled to serve as Jesus' hands and feet with you! The team buildings will be January 14th, January 28th and February 11th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Ventura First United Methodist Church, and I would love to see

(Continued on last page)

De Colores Channel Islands Emmaus Community,

First off I'd like to say what an honor and privilege it is to be able to serve as part of this community. Preparations are well under way for Walk 46. If you have not sent in an application, please prayerfully consider joining us. From talk I have heard, many of you are planning to sponsor. I'm praying for and preparing for a large group of pilgrims. Each and every one of you can be used by God to touch the hearts of the pilgrims attending Walk 46. The scripture verse for the Men's Walk 46 is 2 Peter 1: 5-7 and reads ... ***make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self control; and to self control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness, and to godliness; brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love.*** From working past walks I can tell you all of the qualities listed above will be available to you to add to your faith during Walk 46. I also ask you to keep all of Walk 46 team, potential pilgrims, and the families of everyone involved in your daily prayers.

Your Brother in Christ,

Rob Nowakowski
LD Walk 46

Gatherings

De Colores all!

Please join with your Emmaus sisters and brothers in a joyful experience as we gather together to glorify our Father in heaven through worship and fellowship. Outside of team training weekends, a gathering such as this is the only opportunity many of us have to keep in contact with our Emmaus friends. Please keep March 17, 2012 open for the Walk #46 reunion. The reunion will be held at First United Methodist Church in Ventura (where the walks were held) in Trotter Hall (where we ate!) from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please bring a snack to share, your nametag and your purple Pilgrim Worship book. I encourage you to bring your heart full of joy and excitement as we share in this opportunity to worship our Glorious Father in heaven through worship, music, and camaraderie. We will also learn the names of those community members who have accepted the call to serve our Lord and this community as Lay Directors for Walk #47 in the summer of 2012.

One of the strengths of this community is that we maintain our involvement through sponsorship, working the walks, through being servant-leaders *and* by attending gathering events. Attendance at the gatherings allows us to help our community grow by worshipping together, by praying for and with one another,

by encouraging each other, and by building new friendships and strengthening and deepening existing ones. Let us continue to build the Channel Islands Emmaus community by service to our Heavenly Father, by our servant-leadership, and by our commitment to this community.

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone at (805)937-5190 or by email at

bwade@hancockcollege.edu.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Bruce Wade

Be an Angel

De Colores Brothers & Sisters!

Can you believe it? Another year has come & gone! Our community was blessed once again with the addition of so many wonderful Pilgrims. With the coming of the new year, also comes the opportunity to serve our Lord with two new Walks to Emmaus. Walk 46 is fast approaching, Rob & Janet have been working tireless hours to fill their teams with eager servants. For those of you who would like to serve on the upcoming Walk, but cannot take time off for the complete weekend, please consider the position of "Angel". Angels provide vital support to the teams during the 72 hours of the Walks. Your time spent as an Angel can be as little as: 1 hr, or as much as you can afford to spare. If you are interested in "Angel-ing", or if you'd like to be put on a contact list for future Angel calls, please contact me at: (805) 206-8453, or at: steveorainer56@yahoo.com for more detailed information. Have a blessed New Year!

Steve Rainer, Head Angel

Sponsorship

Walk #46 is rapidly approaching. The Men's Walk on February 23-26 and the Women's Walk on March 1-4. The Lord already knows who the Walk #46 pilgrims will be. It is for us to invite them, but for God to call them. So above all please pray about those you may consider sponsoring. When God's time is right they will say "yes".

The purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is the renewal of the church through the renewal of individual Christians, the development of Christian leaders, and changing our world for Christ. Sponsorship is key to the fulfillment of this purpose and is at the heart of why we are a community.

Pilgrims should be:

- Active in their local congregation
- Involved or willing to be involved in leadership
- Not people needing to be "fixed"
- Not people in a crisis; whether personal, emotional, or medical
- Not people with non-Trinitarian theology (e.g. LDS, JW)
- Spouses of married pilgrims

If you are planning to sponsor 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 March 17 (1 - 4PM). 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.

So pray about someone you are considering sponsoring and get the application in as soon as you can. Sponsor and pilgrim application forms can be downloaded from the community website at www.emmausci.org. 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

Treasury Year End Summary

Cash balance at 12/27/11
\$2,675.29
Estimated cost for one set of Walks
\$7,625.00

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

Luke 6:38(NIV)
Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

De Colores
Charles Laing, Treasurer

From Our Community Spiritual Director

Have You Grown?

Have you heard the story of the little boy who fell out of bed? When his mom asked him what happened, he answered, "I don't know. I guess I fell asleep too close to where I got in."

Have you ever thought about how easy it is to do the same thing with our **faith**? It's tempting just to stay where we were when we got in — to "fall asleep" and never move . . . never grow. This may be a particular temptation for those who were "awakened" on a walk and didn't continue growing.

How is YOUR faith-health growing lately?

For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

- Jeremiah 29:11

How does your prayer life today compare with that right after your Walk? Has your joy in giving increased, along with the amount? Can you tell that your church loyalty and participation have grown? Are you studying your Bible more?

Since my heart surgery a number of years ago, my vocabulary has been expanding. I've learned how to ask for "heart-healthy" things on the menu, and what "saturated fats" have to do with anything important — like staying alive! For years I was able to eat whatever I wanted to, and if I ever wanted to lose weight, I just cut down on my midnight snacks! Then, about a decade ago, I discovered that I had to ELIMINATE the midnight snacks, and stop having "thirds." (That was a rude awakening!) But one might say I became a little more "motivated."

Over the last eight years, I've learned that walking, "working out" regularly at the gym, lifting weights, and doing push-ups aren't enough — now I have to do "push-aways!" I have REALLY been having trouble with that one! (Christmas doesn't help!) How motivated are **we** to become more "faith-healthy"? When a Christian stops growing in faith, he or she needs to check it out. If you are the same Christian you were a few months ago, or a few years ago, or before your walk, maybe you "fell asleep too close to where you got in." IF you think that could have happened to you, **let's talk**. It's never too late!

— Lew Fry, Your "Spiritual therapist"