

Community Director

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generate enough interest that the Santa Barbara and Santa Clarita Valley regions start their own gatherings.

And finally, the Board thought that it would be a great idea to celebrate 20 years worth of Walks in the Channel Islands Emmaus Community! I must say that the Board actually got very excited and animated discussing this item at our meeting. We're planning a Saturday date in October. More to come in the next Fishnet. If you are interested in helping with the planning and organizing of this event, call me as soon as you can so we can get you plugged in. This will be a major event!

This will be an exciting year for our Community. And I look forward to sharing it with you.

In His love,

Dan Bojorquez



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If you want this newsletter delivered by E-mail, send a message to Michael Sorenson at channel.islands.emmaus.email@gmail.com (something like "Add me to the Fishnet distribution list."). Michael will add you to his distribution list and you'll get it that way. Remember, changes to your e-mail address will need to be directed to Michael, so add the e-mail address to your Address Book.

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The Fishnet



From the Community Director:

De Colores! My Brothers and Sisters,

Many thanks to all of you that are working, praying and especially sponsoring Pilgrims on these next Walk To Emmaus weekends. Without your time and efforts these weekends wouldn't happen in the manner that we've all come to know and appreciate. There is another group of people within our Community who help make these weekends possible – the Board of Directors. They are true examples of stewardship, which means that they have accepted the responsibility to take care of something they do not own. The reason why anyone would willingly do this is love. And in the Emmaus tradition that is the love of Christ and a desire to share it with others.

As a Board, we address the many logistical and administrative functions that are typical and necessary in any organization. Some of the issues and events that we'll address in the coming year are 1) Communications, 2) Regional Gatherings, and 3) a 20 Year Celebration Reunion.

Communications – This is an area where we as a Board are experiencing real difficulties. We know that the *Fishnet* is not finding its way to many of you. We are hoping to bring some technical expertise to the Board in establishing a Communication Coordinator. The position will advise and help organize our efforts with regard to the *Fishnet*, Prayer Chain, CIE website, and e-mails. If you have (or know) someone with the skills and a desire to help our Community, please give any Board member or me a call. We desperately need your help with this issue, which is of such importance and greatly impacts our Community.

Regional Gatherings – We've all heard lots of talk about this over the last couple of years but I think we're finally going to get it off the discussion table and stood up after the coming Walk. We will start with two regions: Simi Valley / Thousand Oaks and Ventura. The Regional Teams are already planning for the April/May time frame. We hope to

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From Our Men's Walk 40 Lay Director

Does God Really Care Who Wins the Super Bowl?

As I reflect on the preparations for the upcoming walk XL (or 40 to you non football fans out there), and on the outcome of Super Bowl XLIII (43), my curiosity was piqued by the repeated shots of the wife of Arizona Cardinal's quarterback Kurt Warner praying at many points during the game. I began to wonder "What is she praying for . . . That her husband do his best? ... That the Cardinals score a TD? . . . That the Cardinals win the game?" I also have been told repeatedly that "Big" Ben Roethlisberger, the quarterback for the Pittsburgh Steelers, is a devoted Christian as well. Then I wondered, "Well ... is he praying for a Steelers victory, too?" Undoubtedly there were many thousands of fans throughout the world praying for a victory for both teams in this biggest of NFL games.

So what does God do in the face of these conflicting prayers – count up the number of good prayers on each side and grant victory to the team with the most articulate prayer warriors? No one can say for certain (nothing is too big or small for our God to care about), but I suspect that He does not care as much about the outcome of the game as He does about the eternal fate of those playing and watching.

As our teams are entering "crunch time" in our preparations for the walk, and as anxieties about what still needs to be done may be increasing, let's remember to keep our prayers not on what God can do for us (as in "God please help me to find the time to get those agape letters written and not stress about the workdays I'm going to be losing because of my service") but rather on how we can glorify God in all that we do (as in "Use me, and the members of the Emmaus team, as your instruments to cause the pilgrims to glorify Your Holy Name" or "Give me peace and focus as I undertake these preparations for Your glory").

Philippians 4:6-9 says: "Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you."

May the God of peace be with you, my brothers and sisters (and also with the pilgrims of walk 40). Victory belongs to the Lord, and I am confident that we will be blessed later this month to see BOTH our men's and women's teams win big in His name.

Scott Hunter
(Micah 6:8; Psalm 40:1-3)

From Our Women's Walk 40 Lay Director

De Colores, everyone: We have a full team of spirit-filled women and men with servant's hearts who have been working hard in preparation for Women's Walk 40. As of this date the Board has approved twenty women as pilgrims (four more are on hold), and we anticipate having a full group of 26. The excitement is building – we can feel the Holy Spirit moving amongst us!

The themes that have been ever present in our minds are servanthood, humility and simplicity. We have decided not to have agape bags for team because we want to focus our time, energy and resources on providing agape for the pilgrims, whose Walk this is. We are servants who receive blessings overflowing from the Lord by serving Him. All glory and honor to Him! Please focus your attention on the pilgrims also, and bring agape only for them. If you bring agape for the Talk Room, you need only bring 26 items for the pilgrims. Since the pilgrims already know that table facilitators are team, there is no need to provide agape for them also. If you have already made team agape, consider whether you could save it for the next Walk. Head Cook Diana Rainer decided to make aprons only for new cooks, and have the rest of the Support Team bring aprons from previous Walks. We are limiting our use of both recyclable and non-recyclable items, and plan to recycle everything possible in order to be good stewards of the earth the Lord has entrusted to our care.

Thank you for your support and your prayers. We ask you to continue praying that the pilgrims the Lord is inviting to this Walk accept with open hearts and minds; that the Lord touch them in a special way during the Walk; and that the Lord channel His love through team, both to the pilgrims and to each other. As most of you know, working a Walk is such a blessing! It is difficult to describe to someone who hasn't worked a Walk how cleaning toilets, cooking, serving food, cleaning floors and washing dishes can fill our hearts with gratitude, love and humility, but it does. Nothing done for the Lord is insignificant or demeaning.

Please support the pilgrims by coming to Sponsors' Hour, Candlelight, Flower Shower (women only, please) and Closing. The dates and times are elsewhere in the Fishnet. Remember how much it meant to you to see the Community come just for you.

In His Service,

Linda Graul

"Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me."

- Revelation 3:20