

July 2005

# The Fishnet



## From the Community Director:

Dear CIE Community Members,

This Fishnet is filled with information about our CIE Community that you will want to know! There is some great news and some not so great. Excitement is mounting as Walk #33 nears. We have had two blessed team building/formation meetings. In preparing our hearts for ministry, we have been challenged by powerful talks and uplifted in our spirit as we have waited before God in prayer and worship. God has already shown us His wonderful creative power to meet our needs! Thanks to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and lots of skill, one of our Community members has secured showers for this Walk in exchange for a \$1000.00 CIE donation to the Cystic Fibrosis foundation! Praise God! August in Thousand Oaks, we need showers! The "not so good" news is our CIE trailer has been stolen from the UMC Ventura parking lot, efforts to recover it have been unsuccessful! We lost the talk room tables, the Emmaus podium, the talk sign and most importantly, the previous Walk banners. We pray that the gospel contained on those banners will somehow touch a needy heart.

I would like to thank the outstanding Community members that have served on the CIE Board of Directors for the past three years: Rev. Dr. Giovan King, Tom Hower, Tim Nolan, Joe Simonson, Rick Schoonover and Leroy Wojciechowski. Please let them know they are appreciated. We welcome to the Board: Dan & Cathy Bojorquez, Diane Kunz & Mike Sorensen.

A reminder: although the normal pilgrim application deadline is the 2nd team building, we have extended it for this Walk to July 23, team building #3. God recently placed II Cor. 5:8 on my heart, "...they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will." This is our goal, to keep our priorities straight and first give ourselves completely and totally to the Lord, listening for His tender voice to lead us individually and as a Community and then to go forward in servant leadership. It is always a joy and blessing to see our Walk events well attended by our Community members, and it is one way to serve and encourage each other in Christ; so please, mark your calendars to come to Thousand Oaks UMC to support us all. Also, please continue to pray with us for God's continued work in the lives of the Walk #33 pilgrims and team, as well as, the additional funds needed for the extra expenses of the Walk and the trailer replacement items.

DeColores,  
Jeanne Catlett  
jcatlett@sbcglobal.net

## Inside this issue:

From the Community Director	1
Angeling	1
From Our Walk 33 Lay Leaders	2
From Our Community Spiritual Director	3
Sponsorship	3
Directions	4
Agape Lists	Insert

If you're not working this Walk because you couldn't commit to the whole weekend, please consider being an Angel. Typical duties include cleaning Pilgrim sleep rooms, returning equipment to Logistics, and returning the church to its pre-Walk condition.

Angels can work as their schedule permits. But there are particular times when they are needed. Both weekends we need help Thursdays from 9 to 5. Men's Weekend - Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup> 7:30am - 9:00am, and from 11:00am until Clostrum. Women's Weekend - Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup> especially from 10:00am until 12:00 noon, and Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup> 7:30am - 9:00am, and from 11:00am until Walk #33 is put away.

Additionally, there is a need for Guardian Angels during the women's weekend. As a community, we have asked the Pilgrims to place themselves in our care. They deserve our best efforts to ensure their safety. Our Guardian Angels serve Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. the following morning, in four hour shifts. Armed with flashlights and cell phones, they patrol the outside of the church and handle any problems. Coffee and light snacks are usually provided.

If you're interested in this special ministry, please contact Tom Hundley, (805) 658-7446 or venturahundleys@sbcglobal.net



***Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.***

**- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

God has called together a wonderful group of women to share this gift of Emmaus with the pilgrims. Each person on this team has expressed their desire to serve the Lord and a willingness to surrender their will to him. Our time together at team building was blessed as we shared worship, praise, singing, and fellowship. I was deeply moved and inspired by the preview talks we heard. Please continue to pray for the team for protection and courage as many of us face difficult times ahead. We are counting on God to show us his ways, so that placing our trust in him, we may be free to love and serve. Please pray for all the pilgrims, both men and women, that they might hear God calling to them and prepare for the weekends with assurance and peace. In all things, may His will be done.

There are still a few openings on the team. If you feel called to serve, contact me at (805) 498-6365.

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God has prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10

I am counting on Christ.

Your sister in Christ,

Lynne Hartley  
BluCru@aol.com

### **Important Walk Dates to Remember**

- **Men's Walk—August 4—7**
- **Women's Walk—August 11—14**
- Candlelight at **8:30 pm on both Saturdays**
- Flower Shower at 6:15 am (Reminder: only men may participate in the Flower Shower on the men's weekend; only women on the women's weekend.)
- Closing at **2:30 pm on both Sundays**
- **Walk 33 Reunion - August 27** from 3—5 pm  
Reunion: A time for the pilgrims and team of Walk #33 and the CIE community to come together and praise God, get CIE information, sing.

I would like to thank all the men who attended Team Building #1 on June 25<sup>th</sup> and Team Building #2 on July 9<sup>th</sup>. It was an exciting time thanks to the effective preparations by my Core Team. The theme and feeling for this Men's Walk was set by the powerful clergy messages, reflective music, and wonderful talks given by seven of the team members. I continue to stand in awe as I watch God use you men for His divine purposes.

The next Team Building date is July 23<sup>rd</sup> and will be held at Ventura First United Methodist Church. I plead with all of you on the team to come and experience what God has waiting for us there. He is preparing our hearts, minds, and souls for this noble cause called Walk #33. The pilgrims will be truly blessed by all of this mighty "Battle Training."

In closing, I would like you all to reflect on a Bible verse as you prepare yourself for the Walk:

***The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the LORD.***

**- Proverbs 21:31**

This scripture has been touching my heart in an incredible way for some time now. And I've realized that it is meant for the Walk #33 Men's Team. It is such a clear command of exactly where God wants our hearts to be as we approach our time of service for Him. This weekend is His, not ours, and as we serve Him we need to remember that it is for His glory that we sacrifice our time. Our sole purpose is to prepare ourselves spiritually for His "battle." Thank you again gentlemen for your commitment to serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Strength & Honor My Brothers,

Kevin Ferguson  
Lay Director  
Walk #33

VThunder1@aol.com

***I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.***

**- Galatians 2:20**

## From Our Community Spiritual Leader

*Journey of faith*

There are a few gems I would like to recapitulate relating to the four part series I recently preached: *Journey of Faith*.

As with Abraham and Sarah we all are being called by God, tested, refined to carry out His eternal will. We realize (of course) that sometimes there will be opposition, criticism and resistance by others as we step out in trusting and obey God. Can you think back on when you were last challenged to leave your comfort zone? It is not easy; it truly requires tenacity and strength that only God can give. What normally hinders us most is not seeing the result anticipated by our own planning and efforts. What we fail to take into account is that we are a people of faith, and as such, **we walk by faith and not by sight!** In our times of difficulty it is often hard to remember this theological gem or even embrace it. The enemy will always have you focus on the down side of issues and take your heart and mind off of the good Lord. But we must persevere and live Colossians 5:17-18. When God calls us we are not always informed to where he is calling us. He does not always give us all the pieces to the puzzle. But that is where our faith comes in, just like with Abraham and Sarah.

Lastly. **God will test your love; trust in Him.** He will allow you to see just how much you will obey Him Remember in the 22nd chapter of Genesis when he challenges Abraham to sacrifice his son, his only son that he loved. What we must remember on this journey of faith is that there should be nothing that comes between you and God. Absolutely nothing! It is only then that we have reached a level of spiritual maturity that will allow us to hear the words echoed from the mouth of God : "Well done My good and faithful servant."

Peace,

Love in Christ,

Rev.Cavalain

## Dispelling the Myths of Sponsorship

De Colores dear friends! I pray you are well and living in the incredible power, grace, and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I want to share with you why many of us have not sponsored and to encourage you to break free from these myths. You can take a step of faith and invite someone who God is putting on your heart!

**MYTH #1 I JUST WENT ON THE LAST WALK (or just last year)...I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EXPERIENCE!**

There is no experience necessary. Everything you need to sponsor someone is given and will be given to you by the Holy Spirit. Trust God to lead you. Also if you need a recipe for "how to do it" ... it can be found in your Fourth Day Book. You can also call the person who sponsored you and ask for help!

**MYTH #2 EMMAUS DOESN'T NEED ME TO SPONSOR ANYONE...THEY HAVE ENOUGH!**

This simply isn't true and this is the Evil One's attempt to ROB you of the joy of participating in Christ Jesus' great command to go and make disciples. Emmaus won't exist without pilgrims.

**MYTH #3 SPONSORING IS TOO HARD, TOO MUCH OF A TIME COMMITMENT, AND DOESN'T FIT INTO MY SCHEDULE!**

Sponsoring is not as hard as you think. In fact it is not hard at all. Praying for your pilgrim is mostly what being a sponsor is about, being a friend and allowing God to direct you. So is praying difficult? No, it is not and it is something we all can do even while doing other things. Praying always fits in our schedule...but doing it perfectly doesn't. Trust that Jesus will be interceding with you and He will bless you for your willingness and for that which you offer.

I challenge you to take this step of faith and allow God to show you who He is calling you to sponsor. Trust and Follow. He will do the rest!

God BlessYou,

Heidi Eseke  
805-692-8976

## Directions to Thousand Oaks United Methodist Church

The Thousand Oaks United Methodist Church is once again acting as a gracious host for the Walk weekends and for the reunion during the renovations at Ventura First United Methodist Church.

If you are not working as team, please support these weekends by attending Sponsor's Hour on Thursday, Candlelight on Friday, and Closing on Sunday.

The TO UMC provides easy access from Hwy 23 between the 101 and the 118. Take the Janss Road exit. If coming from Moorpark or Simi Valley (118), turn right at the end of the exit ramp; if from Thousand Oaks or Westlake Village (101), turn left at the end of the exit ramp.

Thousand Oaks United Methodist Church  
1000 E Janss Road.  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360  
805 495-7215

### LAST MAILING NOTICE:

Thank you, everyone who responded to our request for mailing address updates. To those of you who receive the *Fishnet* via traditional postal means, if you live outside Santa Barbara, Ventura, or Los Angeles Counties, this will be your last issue unless you confirm/ed your desire to remain on our "snail mail" list.

We certainly don't want to lose contact with those of you wishing to maintain a connection with CIE, but close to 500 paper issues take time and money to print and mail. Non-profit bulk mail takes only 1-2 days to arrive in the Ventura and Santa Barbara ZIP codes. Mail outside this area can take 1-3 weeks. So if you have not worked on a team or sponsored someone within the last two or three years but would still like to receive our mailings, please send a note (if you have not already done so) to <ciefishnet@yahoo.com> or to the return address listed on this issue. (You are strongly encouraged to join the 280+ people who receive the Fishnet by email - this saves time, money, and trees!)



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