

ROOSTER TALES



AUG 2012

The Monthly Newsletter of the Pioneer Country Emmaus Community

“Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.” Luke 24:35 (NRSV)

August Gathering to be Held at Lost Creek UMC

It's August, and you know what that means... Homemade ice cream at Lost Creek! I don't know about you, but this is something that my family looks forward to every year.

The gathering on August 18th will be extra special this year, because we will be commissioning the teams for Walks #127 and #128! **Team Commissioning** will take place during the Praise & Worship service. Please come and be a part of this special time.

Sponsorship Training will be conducted at 6:30 PM, just prior to Praise & Worship. If you have never sponsored anyone on a Walk, or if it's been a long time since you've sponsored a pilgrim, you really need to attend this training.

Remember, we must have at least 20 completed pilgrim applications two weeks prior to each Walk, or that Walk will be postponed until the next scheduled Walk. The deadline for Men's Walk #127 is September 20th, and the deadline for Women's Walk #128 is October 4th.

Here is the schedule of events for the gathering on Saturday, August 18th:

5:30 PM	Ice Cream Social and Indoor Picnic
6:30 PM	Sponsorship Training
7:00 PM	Praise & Worship, including Team Commissioning for Walks #127 & #128

In addition to Sponsorship Training and Team Commissioning, we will also have **Board Questionnaires** available for those of you who is interested in serving on the Board for Pioneer Country Emmaus. Elections will take place in October, so fill out the Board Questionnaire and get it to one of the current board members by Sunday, September 16th. Serving on the Board for Pioneer Country Emmaus is a very rewarding experience, and a way for you to be involved in the continued success of our Emmaus community. If you have any questions about the Pioneer Country Emmaus Board, please find a current board member at the gathering, or you can find the contact information for the current board members on the back page of this newsletter.

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And now a word from.... Your Assistant Community Spiritual Director

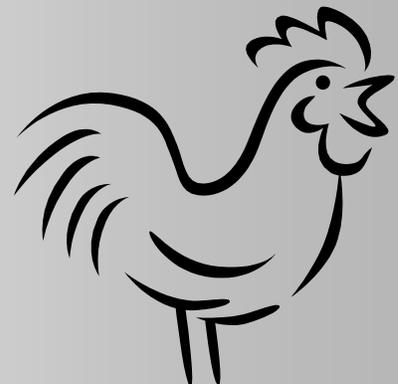
I attended Pioneer Country Walk to Emmaus #33 in 1993. At that time, my wife, Diann, and I were just the second batch of people to attend, so we knew very little and were quite anxious. There are several impressions I recall from that weekend. First is the fervent prayer I offered when the “helpers” are introduced: *“Please God, don’t let them pick me!”* I think I’m not the only one to ever offer that prayer. Second, the Talk that grabbed my attention was *Priorities*. Right off the bat, I began a journey of self-examination and prayer that still continues to influence me to this day. Third, I remained utterly clueless regarding the speakers being Assistant Table Leaders, but as a pastor, I quickly grasped that this was a big deal. As meals were served and rooms prepared, I realized that many, many people must be serving in places that I did not see. This was very humbling for me, and a genuine blessing. The whole weekend just swirled and moved together to remind me of God’s abundant love for me. Fourth, and my most special memory of my walk, was returning home to my wife and preparing her for her Emmaus journey. In doing so, I told her that we had made our colorful lanyards during craft time! When I read my Bible, I would begin by reverently bowing my head and saying, “Kiri, kiri, kiri. Kara, kara, kara. Pio, pio, pio, pi.” Then I would glance at her, smile a holy smile and say, “You’ll understand soon.”

Since that weekend almost 20 years ago, I have had the privilege of being a part of many teams. I have enjoyed sending over 1/3 of the adult population of my congregation on the weekend. I have never regretted their attendance. I have watched several have faith ignite within them during those 72 hours. I have watched marginal members return from the weekend ready to engage in meaningful service here at Lost Creek. I have celebrated hyperactive, key leaders at Lost Creek who return from the weekend to do *less* in the church! Instead of scampering frantically from activity to activity, these individuals set priorities, sense calling and return to focus on those priorities. They do *less*, but they do it so much *better*! I can count five friends who attended their walk as lay persons and are now pastors or on the road to becoming pastors!

One of my favorite meditations during the weekend affirms that “there are no prescribed responses” to the experience of the weekend. I have long ago stopped trying to predict what God might do during those 72 hours or what someone might “get out of it.” I only know that God never fails to show up for the weekend! God’s grace is truly amazing!

De Colores!

Max Rudd
Pioneer Country Walk to Emmaus
Assistant Community Spiritual Director



SPONSORSHIP

Our October Walks will be here before we know it. Men's Walk #127 is October 4 - 7, and Women's Walk #128 is October 18 - 21. Now is the time to begin the Sponsorship process. Let's work together and have full Walks this October. YOU, OUR EMMAUS COMMUNITY, DETERMINES HOW MANY PILGRIMS WE WILL HAVE ON EACH WALK. *In other words, we don't have Pilgrims without sponsorship.* AND, don't forget the new rule. **The Board must have in hand 20 completed applications by September 20, or the Walk will be postponed.**

Sponsorship is the most important job of all! Good sponsorship is the first act of agape before a Walk ever begins.

1. WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A SPONSOR?

Do you want to build up the Body of Christ by inviting people to participate in the Emmaus experience? Your invitation to a candidate is the first step on the Walk to Emmaus. To the candidate, you, as the sponsor, are the Emmaus Community and, as such, should walk with the candidate all the way to Emmaus and back.

2. WHO SHOULD YOU INVITE TO PARTICIPATE?

Emmaus is for active Christians who, through their personal renewal, will bring new energy, commitment, and vision to the church. Potential prospects include:

- Church leaders, both clergy and laity
- Christians who are the quiet backbone of the church
- Christians who need a rekindling of grace and an opportunity to renew their commitment to our Lord
- Christians who are hungry for something more and who want to grow spiritually
- Christians whose spouses want to attend, too

3. WHO SHOULD YOU NOT INVITE TO PARTICIPATE:

Emmaus is a wonderful experience for many people, but not for all people. As a sponsor, you must be aware of, and sensitive to, the factors that may have a negative effect on the weekend or be divisive to the church.

(continued on next page...)

Examples of questionable sponsorship include:

- Non-Christians with no relationship with the church or our Lord
- Persons undergoing an emotional crisis. These folks may need to wait until later to attend, when they are able to fully participate and get the full benefit of the Walk
- Persons whose theology or practice is notably different or incompatible with the theology or practice represented by the Walk to Emmaus
- Persons who continually find fault with the church and may want to create an “Emmaus Church”
- Persons who are continually looking for another spiritual high

4. HOW DO YOU SPONSOR A CANDIDATE?

- Pray for the person’s openness to God’s call to discipleship
- Make an appointment with the person or couple to explain the logistics of the weekend and to discuss their participation in Emmaus
- Invite them to attend for the sake of a more vital relationship with Jesus Christ
- Ask them to make a commitment by filling out the registration form
- Continue to pray and request agape letters **but not gifts**
- Participate in the 72 hour prayer vigil for the Walk
- Bring your pilgrim to send-off and help with check in and luggage
- Attend Sponsor’s Hour after send-off. Make your pilgrim’s bed afterward, lay-out sleepwear and open their Bible to Luke 24:13 and place it on their pillow
- Attend Candlelight and Closing
- Work behind the scenes to help make the Walk a success
- Bring your pilgrim to the 4th Day meeting following the walk
- Encourage your pilgrim in his or her 4th Day involvement.
- Help find a Reunion Group
- Invite to Gatherings and offer a ride
- Help the new pilgrim find ways to act out their new commitment and enthusiasm in their home church
- Help the pilgrim sponsor others

We would ask that all of our community members prayerfully consider sponsoring men and women for the next set of walks, and be in prayer that the Walks are filled with pilgrims who the Lord has called to be there.

DeColores!

“What’s In The Nest?”

Since we have had unusually hot weather for the past two months, I thought I would list some of the records related to temperatures...

Highest temperature ever recorded:

136.4 °F (58.0 °C) El Azizia, Libya - September 13, 1922

Lowest temperature ever recorded:

-128.6 °F (-89.2 °C) Vostok Station, Antarctica - July 21, 1983

Lowest temperature ever recorded in the United States:

-80.0 °F (-62.0 °C) Prospect Creek, Alaska - January 23, 1971

Lowest temperature ever recorded in Oklahoma:

-31.0 °F (-35.0 °C) Nowata, OK - February 10, 2011

Highest temperature ever recorded in Oklahoma:

120.0 °F (49.0 °C) Tipton, OK - June 27, 1994

Fastest temperature rise:

49.0 °F (27.0 °C) in two minutes Spearfish, South Dakota - January 22, 1943

Fastest temperature drop:

49.0 °F (27.2 °C) in 15 minutes Rapid City, South Dakota - January 10, 1911

Most consecutive days above 100 °F (37.8 °C):

160 days Marble Bar, Western Australia - October 31, 1923 to April 7, 1924

* NOTE: The standard measuring conditions for temperature are two meters above the ground, and shielded from direct sunlight (hence the term, x degrees “in the shade”).

**PIONEER COUNTRY EMMAUS
BOARD QUESTIONNAIRE**

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE DECISION TO RUN FOR THE PIONEER COUNTRY EMMAUS BOARD. PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AND RETURN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE TO A CURRENT BOARD MEMBER:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

WALK # _____ COMMUNITY _____

NAME OF REUNION GROUP _____

CHURCH _____

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & LEADERSHIP

WHY DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON THE PCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

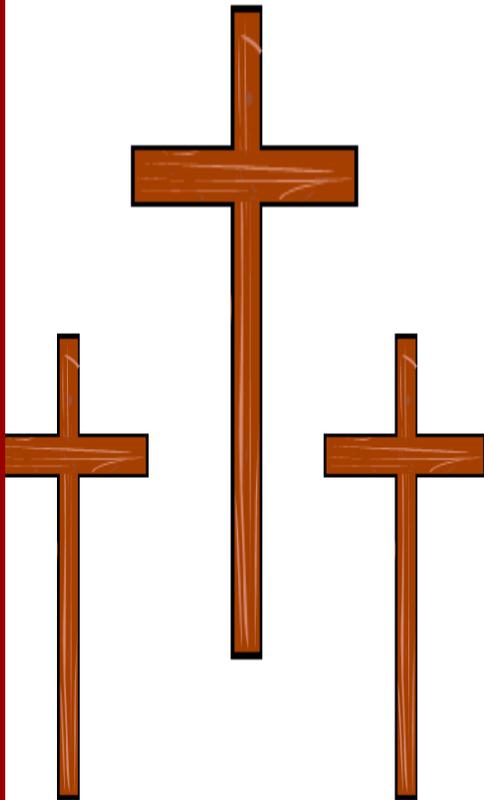
Do you have a 4th Day Story?

How about a good study or devotional idea that's worked for you?

Why not share them with the PCE community?

Just email it to :

roostertales@gmail.com



rooster-
tales@gmail.com



CALENDAR



August 18, 2012

August Gathering

Lost Creek UMC
8002 S. Washington, Stillwater, OK

Annual Ice Cream Social and Indoor Picnic begins at 5:30 PM, followed by Sponsorship Training at 6:30 PM and then Praise and worship at 7:00 PM. Teams #127 and #128 will be commissioned during the service. The community is asked to bring picnic type food and drinks. Childcare is available, PLEASE RSVP with Debbie Rowland at 681-2135 or 802-8113 to make the necessary preparations for your child.

Gatherings are open to all so please invite a friend!

- August 18, 2012** Team Training for Men's Walk #127 and Women's Walk #128 at Lost Creek UMC in Stillwater. Training begins at 8:00 AM.
- August 18, 2012** August Gathering - 5:30 PM Annual Ice Cream Social and Indoor Picnic at Lost Creek UMC, followed by Sponsorship Training and Praise & Worship (and Team Commissioning!) 8002 S. Washington - Stillwater, OK
- September 8, 2012** Team Training for Men's Walk #127 and Women's Walk #128 at Church of the Servant in OKC
- September 15, 2012** September Gathering - 7:00 PM Church of the Good Shepherd UMC 10928 SW 15th - Yukon, OK
- September 22, 2012** Final Team Training and Walk-Thru for Men's Walk #127 and Women's Walk #128 at First Church in downtown OKC
- October 4-7, 2012** Pioneer Country Emmaus Men's Walk #127 at First Church in downtown OKC
- October 18-21, 2012** Pioneer Country Emmaus Women's Walk #128 at First Church in downtown OKC

PIONEER COUNTRY EMMAUS 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Questions / Comments ?

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ROOSTER TALES newsletter is published by the Pioneer Country Emmaus Board of Directors for the local Emmaus Community with editions every month except for December. The Newsletter Editor, David Smith, can be reached by email at roostertales@gmail.com or by phone at 918-285-1874. The electronic version is available on the web @ www.pioneercountryemmaus.com.

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