



The monthly newsletter of the Pioneer Country Emmaus Community Oct. 2024



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## Overview

The Walk to Emmaus develops Christian disciples and leaders by inspiring, challenging, and equipping active adult church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, workplaces, and communities. It also benefits less active members

who are seeking to renew a relationship with God, grow spiritually, or discover firmer foundations for their lives.

Through The Walk to Emmaus, as they seek to become healthy and vital congregations, local churches have both a means of growing disciples and a tool for developing leaders for their disciple-making systems.

The program begins with a 72-hour short course in Christianity that is wrapped in prayer and signs of sacrificial service. It continues for the rest of participants' lives with follow-up groups that, along with the local church's robust offerings, contribute to participants' ongoing growth in grace.

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## **\*Free\* Emmaus Training**

Emmaus University: Training is available for ALL community members at Emmaus Ministries University.

**The Why:** The Purpose of Emmaus

**Community Training:** General Training for All Emmaus Ministries Community Members

**Spiritual Directors Training:** Preparation for Emmaus Ministries Spiritual Directors

<https://emmausministriesuniversity.upperroom.org>

All Community Board Members are highly encouraged to take The "WHY" portion of this training at a minimum.

## **Walks Suspended**

Women's Walk #155 TBD

Men's Walk #156 TBD

Please be in prayer. Hosting consistent walks are an important part of keeping a community alive. We encourage everyone to be open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit for who you might sponsor and get their application in soon.

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Fourth Day Story  
by Les Hastings

An excerpt from my sermon titled "Parents' Reflections." I get tears in my eyes just reading it.

Happy Gotcha Day, Amy Lin Hastings Freeman. We love you so much!

Wednesday morning, July 13, 1983. It started out like any other day for me as the pastor of the Christian Church in Nash, Oklahoma. I got up, had some breakfast, then went downtown and made a couple of pastoral calls over coffee at the Mini Mart. From there I went down the street to the Post Office, called on three more members of my congregation in front of the lockboxes, picked up the mail, and went to the church office. So far, a fairly normal morning for a rural pastor.

I was at the typewriter working on my sermon when I remembered that I needed to call our adoption agency in Tulsa and tell them where Tracy and I would be while we were on vacation in case they needed to get in touch with us. We had been working for about seven months to adopt a baby. Our home study was completed, we had been accepted, and now we were very impatiently waiting. We were convinced that if we went on vacation and they couldn't get in touch with us, we would miss out on our chance to be parents, so I was set to give them a list of phone numbers where they could contact us every day.

But when I reached the agency the lady said, "We were just getting ready to call you. On May 31st a baby girl was born in Taegu City, South Korea. We're sending her file to your case worker. We need to know if you would like this child to be your daughter."

I'm not sure I even said good-bye to her. I know I didn't stay on the line long enough to give her that list of telephone numbers. I slammed the phone in her ear and ran to my car. I laid a strip of rubber that would have made a sixteen-year-old green with envy as I left the church, headed for home. (Hopefully people who were watching thought I had an emergency pastoral call to make.) I made the half-mile trip in twenty-seven seconds flat. The car was still rolling when I jumped out, ran to the

back door, and yanked it open. Our cat lost five of his nine lives when he tried to go out the door as I came in. I can still hear his indignant yowl and see him sailing into the family room like a furry football. We had that cat for seventeen years, and I loved him like a son, but that day I never even slowed down to see if he was OK.

"Tracy," I yelled, "We're having a baby!"

After we received that long-awaited phone call, I think we spent about half an hour alternately crying, laughing, hugging each other, and screaming with excitement. Then we realized that we knew nothing at all about this baby girl, and that we still had to tell the agency "Yes" or "No," did we want her, or did we want to wait for another baby. We called our case worker to set up a time, but couldn't see her until Saturday!!! Three days never seemed so long----it felt like an eternity before we were sitting in her office looking at a black and white snapshot and some comments about a six-week old baby girl named Tae Mee, Beautiful Star.

"She is fed with 8 cc. of formula every three hours. . .After having formula, she belches and has good digestion. . ."

As we sat there, looking at the picture and reading the comments, the fate of 46-day-old Tae Mee was completely in our hands. She could not fill out the stacks of forms, or go through the home study process, or save the money for her foster care and plane ticket. She could not get her visa, get on a plane, and end up on our doorstep, saying, "Hi! I'm adopting you as my parents!" When our caseworker said, "well, I need to know, do you want her as your daughter?" The choice was completely ours.

We looked at each other, then at the picture again, and said in unison, "Want her? Of course we do!" From that moment on, as far as we were concerned, little Tae Mee was our daughter, Amy Lin Hastings.

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## **Do You Remember This?**



**PIONEER COUNTRY MEN'S WALK #37**  
**JUNE 9 - 12, 1994**

PICTURE LIST LEFT TO RIGHT

Front: Max Rudd, Diana Rudd, Sharon Fisher

Row 1: Richard Whetsell, Paul Drumtra, George Smith, Ron Harshaw, J.T. Boswell  
 Cooper Ames, Jeff Bonds, Jim Matthew, Gale Izard, Ray Stinley

Row 2: Scott Lasiter, Gus Alfonzo, Terry Sanderson, Jerry Pults, Earl Moore,  
 Steve Rice, John Harrison, Scott Hillock, George Fry, Jim Key, Paul Thompson

Row 3: Ian Byers, Allan Snider, Jim Womack, Jim Wyman, David Thomas, Scotty Scott  
 Dallas Gandy, Mike Rosebeary, Tim Maharry, Charles Schmitt, Toxey Miller, Bill Barton

Row 4: Rusty Williams, Bill Scott, Bill Allison, Henry Bockus, Robert Willfong,  
 Tommy Boyer, Charles Clark, Larry Thomas, Jimmie Cassity, Richard Schneider

Row 5: Roy Clay, Tom Clyne, David Collins, DeWayne Huff, David Borst, Randy Jarvis  
 Chris Petermann, John Beckman, James Finch

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[www.pioneercountryemmaus.com](http://www.pioneercountryemmaus.com)

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