



ROOSTER TALES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Pioneer Country Emmaus Community

March 2018

Welcome the Pilgrims from Men's Walk #145



"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)

**WE NEED YOUR HELP WEDNESDAY,
3/14 AT OAK PARK TO REPLACE THE
FOAM MATTRESSES WITH THE AIR
ONES. PLEASE TRY TO COME
HELP!!**

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www.pioneercountryemmaus.com

Thoughts from your Community Lay Director

"Have you ever been on a Walk to Emmaus?" How wonderful those words ring in my ears, because they were asked of me by 2 people I had never met. I was attending a district church training session one morning when I first heard it and again that afternoon in a different session by someone else! Was this God talking to me? I won't argue that, but why did they ask me that question? What did they see in me after 10 minutes of chatting? The truth is, I don't know! But, it set my feet on a path that has brought me into leadership of this Emmaus Community. True 4th Day story!!

I share this story, because I need **YOU** to ask this very question! Not just of people you know, but of those your **heart** tells you to reach out to! They're Pilgrims! 10 minutes is all it took for a stranger to see something in me that I didn't see in myself! Last month I wrote that **"Pilgrims are our life blood"** and your support is crucial if we are to rebuild our base.

This letter is written in between our Spring Walks and the Men's Walk has been a resounding success with 14 Pilgrims joining our community! The Women's Walk is also at max capacity with 30!! **Praise God!!** BUT, the Men's Walk occurred because 7 of those Pilgrims came from the Northwest Emmaus Community. How grateful I am for their support!

The real work has begun, but we cannot rest on our successes. Last month I asked for a volunteer(s) to conduct Sponsorship training at Gatherings. I can't expect new Pilgrims to immediately become good Sponsors without this training assistance. So far no call, text or email, so I'm asking again. You've got my number!

One last item to wrap up this month's letter. The Chrysalis Flight I was praying for will occur. July 11-14 is the proposed time frame at New Covenant UMC in Edmond, OK and more details are pending! Continue to pray for this Community, these Walks, and these Flights!

De Colores!

In Christ's service

Jim Swaim

WALK #146 SCHEDULED

WOMEN'S WALK - March 15-18, 2018

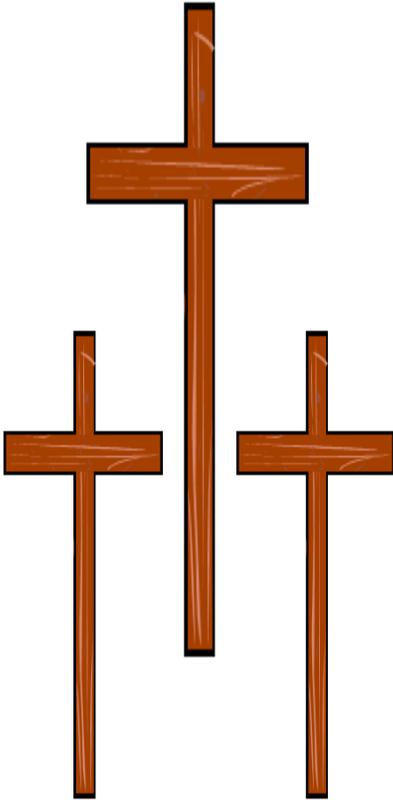
THE WALK WILL BE HELD AT OAK PARK RETREAT CENTER IN PERKINS, OK

REMEMBER!! There is no Gathering the month we have the walks, so plan on attending the Candelight Services. That service is so important to let the Pilgrims know you care!

When each of you send out your respective correspondence to the community, will you please add::

for Pilgrim Agape Letters: any letters that are from family members need to be marked with an "F" in the top, right hand corner (the Stamp spot) or write FAMILY on the envelope

Thank you!!



Heard At Closing of the Men's Walk #145—March 4, 2018

This is the closest I have come to God. I'm 71, so it's been a long time. This group will be a part of my life. I am getting closer to Jesus. God has more Grace than we have sin – thank God for that! This is just the start of my process to get closer to Jesus and God.

Last week I was going to be the first guy to flunk out of Emmaus! I found a bunch of guys that struggle with the same things I do. As we go back into the real world, I know how to handle things better.

I finally saw a touch of Agape love. And I didn't realize how much I needed it. There are some things I would like to do in my home town, and I would like to serve Don and his churches and Emmaus.

It was amazing to have 3 days to focus on God while I haven't have 3 hours to do it in the past 20 years. Last night at Candlelight I have never felt closer to God than I did then. I have to throw a lot of things out to be able to get the right things in, and I'm going to start doing that.

My sponsor was trying to get me to do this 2 years ago. I picked up a Bible about 3 months ago, and as I started to understand the scriptures, I realized there was something in me that was not right. It was the Holy Spirit! If it rains 30 inches in 5 minutes it will just roll off, but if it rains that much over 2 weeks, it will soak in! I want to be able to pass along this experience to someone else.



Heard At Closing of the Men's Walk #145—March 4, 2018

I have never felt as much peace as I have felt here. What am I going to do? I am trying to emulate some of the leaders here (they wake up early).

I heard that I had a couple of people fighting over who was going to be my sponsor! One night, I felt like someone was tapping me on the shoulder. I finally got up and read the scripture that we would study that day. I am just going to open the Word, listen to what He has to tell me, and go from there.

I've had a lot of doubts for a long time. I've finally been able to let go of a lot of things that I needed to let go of. I have courage to tackle some things that I have been putting off.

I'm glad that I had the opportunity to do this. I learned how much Jesus has been reaching for me my entire life – more than I knew. I'm going to take baby steps until I can do the bigger ones. If I stumble, I am going to keep trying until I do it the right way.

I came up here and I didn't know what I was looking for – but I found that Jesus was looking for me! My heart, my mind, my compassion has been opened, and God has shown me these things in ways I didn't understand before.

I feel a little bit like I am floating – I think part of it is the Spirit (or maybe the food?). Very reassuring to see other men having the openness to share and be willing to teach.

I'm a lot closer to God.

I believe it was at least 12 years ago I was supposed to do this the first time, but it turns out God's timing is better than mine. I want to be able to serve in the Emmaus Community and do the hard work of the Kingdom every day.

Meet Your Board!

Hello Emmaus Community,

I am Linda Edmondson, and I have accepted the position of Treasurer for Pioneer Country Emmaus. Here's a bit about me.

My original walk was Walk 62, in June of 1999 and I was at the table of Ruth. I am a long time member of Lost Creek Church in Stillwater. I've held several roles there. Some of those are/have been Prayer Response Team member, News Reporter for The Perkins Journal weekly newspaper and Stillwater NewsPress daily newspaper, Secretary of the UMW, and currently I serve by counting the weekly cash intake and preparing it for bank deposit.

A few more personal things.... I was born on a farm in Indiana and spent my first 18 years milking cows and doing all sorts of manual labor required to keep up a farm of over 200 acres. We were pretty much self-sufficient and there were very few trips to town. I attended the same little country school from first grade through 12th. There were only 17 students in my graduating class.

I dropped out of college, married a young man from Ohio where I spent the next 18 years, and had three wonderful children, 2 girls and one boy.

Sadly, that marriage ended in divorce. I moved to Stillwater Oklahoma, where I raised my children alone. After they were raised, I met and married my current husband Kenneth. We've been married 23 years.

I retired, after 25 and a half years, from Stillwater Police Department where I was a 911 Dispatcher, and later a Police Records Clerk. I now spend my free time doing genealogy research, cooking, crafting, traveling, and spending time with my grandkids.

I have been very active with the Emmaus community for the past few years serving behind the scenes as well as in the conference room. My most recent service was Lay Director for Walk 144. I look forward to serving as your Treasurer.

@ gmail.com

roostertales

Do you have a 4th Day Story?

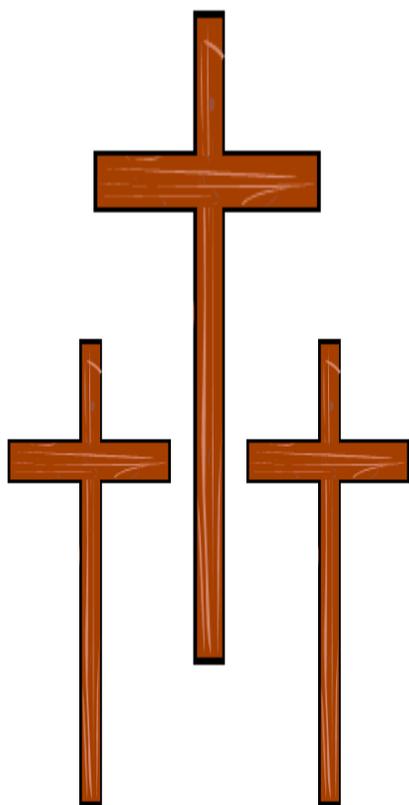
How about a good study or devotional that's worked for you?

Why not share them with the PCE community?

Email to:

roostertales@gmail.com

www.pioneercountryemmaus.com



CALENDAR

April 21, 2018

New Hope UMC

Oklahoma City, OK

Potluck dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Praise and worship follows at 7:00 PM. Childcare is by RVSP. Please contact Debbie Rowland at 681-2135 or 802-8113 to make the necessary preparations.

Gatherings are open to all, so please invite a friend!

Women's Walk #146

March 15-18, 2018

Oak Park Retreat Center

Perkins, OK

April 21, 2018

Apr. Gathering - 5:30 p.m.

Worship - 7:00 p.m.

New Hope UMC

Oklahoma City, OK

May 19, 2018

Gathering - 5:30 p.m.

Worship - 7:00 p.m.

Quayle UMC

Oklahoma City, OK

June 16, 2018

PIONEER COUNTRY EMMAUS

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Swaim	Community Lay Director	c: 405 850-6338	jmswaim85@gmail.com
Ken Edmondson	Asst. Community Lay Director	c: 405 612-3082	kdedmondson@att.net
David Smith	Past Community Lay Director	c: 405 612-2642	Capeboy_1@yahoo.com
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Tony Zahn	Asst. Community Spiritual Director	c: 405 748-4348	revzahn17@yahoo.com
Karren Brown	Secretary/Training	c: 405 306-6534	karrenbrow@aol.com
Linda Edmondson	Treasurer	c: 405 742-5019	Lin.edmondson@att.net
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