Rooster Tales

Vol. 5 No. 9

November 2004

GATHERING/TRAINING SCHEDULE

Flagstaff Area (all at Trinity Heights UMC):

November 13 - Training 3:30 p.m., Potluck 6:00 p.m., Gathering 7:00 p.m., childcare provided Cindi Martinex's email for more information is cjemartinez@juno.com

Phoenix Area:

Nov. 12 - Gathering at 7:15 p.m., at Central UMC

Nov. 13 - Training from 1 - 3 p.m., at Epworth UMC, 59th Ave. & Camelback

Dec. 10 - Gathering at 7:15 p.m., at Central UMC

Jan. 14 - Gathering at 7:15 p.m., at Central UMC George and Cathy Smoot's email for more information is gwsmoot@inficad.com

NW Valley Area:

1st Sunday of each Month. Gathering at 6:30 p.m. at first UMC of Sun City, 9849 N. 105th Ave. *Iain Glithero's phone # for more information is 602-770-4858.*

East Valley Area:

1st Sunday of each Month- Gathering at 3:00 p.m. at Desert Chapel UMC on Palo Verde in Apache Junction.

Rich & Nancy Foster's email for more information is ndwfoster@aol.com

Tucson Area:

Frank Northrup's email for more information is frankndonna@comcast.net

Tri City Area:

LOOKING FOR NEW COORDINATOR!

Lynn Garner's email for more information is jack2lynn@cableone.net

Mt. Graham Emmaus Community:

November 13 - Potluck at 6:00 p.m., Gathering to follow at First UMC, Fellowship Hall. Child Care will be available.

Peggy Hunter's email for more information is raggedyana@hotmail.com



WALK SCHEDULE

Walk 150, Feb. 10-13, Central UMC, Phoenix, Lay Director Ted Bachelder

Walk 151, Feb. 24-27, Central UMC, Phoenix, Lay Director Ann Butrum

Walk 152, April 7-10, 2005, Catalina UMC, Tucson, Lay Director George Hegeman

Walk 153, April 21-24, 2005, Catalina UMC, Tucson, Lay Director Elaine Roberts

Walk 154, April 28-May 1, 2005, Tucson First UMC, Tucson, Lay Director Deanne Kelly

Walk 155, June 2-5, 2005, Trinity Heights, Flagstaff, Lay Director Rob Roehler

Walk 156, June 16-19, 2005, Trinity Heights, Flagstaff, Lay Director Judy Crabb

CONTRIBUTION MONTH

November is the month we have selected to seek your tax-deductible contribution for the Arizona Walk to Emmaus. Your support is needed for scholarships, songbooks, Bibles, Chrysalis, equipment, and Rooster Tales. An envelope is included in each Rooster Tales this month for your donation. Those of you who receive the Rooster Tales on-line have been mailed this copy of the Rooster Tales to provide you with an envelope for your contribution.

Thank you in advance for your contribution and please keep the Walks and the pilgrims in your prayers.

MOVING?

Please, please let us know when you move! Email the Director of Communications, Mike Fleming, at agestocks@cox.net; by calling the Emmaus Office at 623-937-9391 and leaving a message on the answering machine; or mailing us notification at Arizona Walk to Emmaus, 6826 North 55th Drive, Glendale, AZ 85301

ROOSTER TALES

Currently, we are mailing approximately 3200 copies of the Rooster Tales each month.

We need to know if you are receiving the Rooster Tales and if you want to continue to receive a printed copy.

- If you want to continue to receive the printed copy of the Rooster Tales, fill out the Name and Address information and mail the envelope back to us.
- If you want to receive a printed copy, check the Rooster Tales box on the envelope, and consider making an annual donation of \$5 for bulk mail. If you would like first-class mail, include \$8 for a years mailing. Check the "Other" box and write in first- class mail.

Thank you in advance for your contribution and please keep the Walks and the pilgrims in your prayers.

ON-LINE SERVICES

- The Rooster Tales is available on-line. Check out our web page at http://azemmaus.org/.
- If you would like to receive the Rooster Tales on line and stop receiving the printed copy: e-mail Mike Fleming at agestocks@cox.net.
- You can sign up for the 72 hour Prayer Vigil for upcoming walks.

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

We are updating our membership status also with this contribution envelope. We need ALL Emmaus members to return the envelope regardless if you are able to make a contribution at this time. Below is some additional information that will help us update our records.

- If you no longer wish to receive a Rooster Tales, please return the envelope and write on the envelope a note requesting the Rooster Tales to be discontinued.
- If you no longer wish to be included on the Emmaus Roster for consideration to work on a Walk, please return the envelope and indicate that you would like to have your name removed from the roster.
- If your phone number has changed since your Walk, please include an updated phone number.

Have You Lost the Fire!

Recently, we have seen a decline in attendance at Gatherings, Candlelights, and Closures. Oh, it can be explained and even understood. Life is so full of challenges and opportunities. There is always something going on in our daily lives that give us reasons to say "I just can't go tonight!" But think about this. Do you remember the glow of the candles and the love in the faces of all those people during Candlelight? Most of them were people that you had never seen before and didn't even know you. Do you remember the first Closure you attended after your pilgrim Walk? Do you remember how blessed you were as you heard the witnesses of those who had just gone through the Walk? You might even have thought of your experience of sharing the value of the Walk. Do you remember getting together with tablemates and fellow pilgrims at your first Gathering, and then hearing a couple of witnesses as they shared the joy of our Lord with you? Well, Brothers and Sisters, you can re-ignite the fire! You may not "feel" like it, but I can promise you that when you get there, you will be blessed. Come join us and support our Emmaus community. Be Blessed.

Bill LaNoue

Need New Coordinator for Tri City Gatherings!

If you are interested in coordinating the Gatherings for the Tri City area, please contact Lynn Garner at jack2lynn@cableone.net or call at 928-636-2732. This area needs a coordinator to set up and coordinate the Gatherings for 2005 and beyond. Pray about this fun opportunity, and see if this is a way for you to serve our precious Lord.

What is a Gathering ???

The heart of the Gathering is seen in Luke 24:33-35 after Cleopas and the other disciple's eyes are opened and they recognize Jesus as the stranger in their midst. Those two disciples returned within the hour to Jerusalem. They found the eleven gathered together with those who were with them. Then they shared their stories...how the Lord had appeared to them and of the breaking of the bread. Even as they shared, "Jesus himself stood among them."

The monthly Gathering is an opportunity: to come together with your brothers and sisters in Christ, to praise our Lord in song; and to hear witnesses share their stories. As we hear these stories and break bread together, the body of Christ is encouraged and strengthened.

Please mark your calendar and make plans to join us in praising our Lord and Savior.

See you there!

[A testimonial from a member of the Emmaus *Community*]

Why Come to the Gatherings?!

One of the most exciting and dynamic functions of the Arizona Walk to Emmaus is the opportunity to come together as a community once a month during our Gatherings. It is a chance to sing songs, share fellowship and renew old acquaintances within the community. Everyone is invited and we would love to see your smiling faces! It is also a place where we can learn about your upcoming events within the Arizona Walk to Emmaus community. If you haven't yet attended a Gathering, we urge you to come and see for yourself. If you are looking for a reunion group in your area, it is a great place to meet some new people who are already in reunion groups and may have a place for you, or, there may be some others who are looking for a group, so you may have the chance to start a brand new group. In addition, we have some wonderful DeColores merchandise available at the back tables. Whatever your reason for coming, we invite you and look forward to seeing you very soon. [Another testimonial from a member of the

Emmaus Community]

Group Reunion: Using the Card, PART I

Each person who attends the Walk to Emmaus receives a group reunion card on the third day. The outline of the card reflects the flow of the weekly meeting.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

The group begins the meeting by reciting the prayer on the card. The "Prayer to the Holy Spirit" is a centuries-old prayer paraphrase of Psalm 104:30, church celebrates God's sovereignty over humanity and the Spirit's recreative work in this world. The opening prayer is a reminder that the reason for meeting is not only to be with one another; it is to gather with openness to the renewing presence of the Holy Spirit.

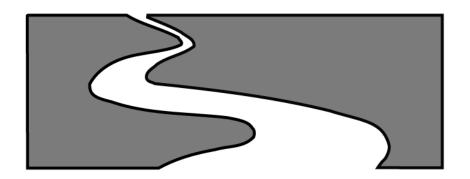
SERVICE SHEET

The service sheet represents a basic outline of each person's service to God in the areas of piety, study, and action. After the opening prayer, each member of the group reviews the service sheet. Each member shares what he or she did in each of these areas for the sake of being present to God during the week. The review is more meaningful when made in view of specific commitments. By sharing the benefits as well as the difficulties encountered in the keeping of the discipline, the review becomes more than a legalistic ticking off of pious practices. The time becomes a rich opportunity to insight into one's life patterns, areas of resistance, and learnings about the walk of faith.

CLOSEST MOMENT TO CHRIST

After everybody has reviewed the quality of their service and presence to God during the past week, the group moves on to the reflective questions. The attention shifts to their awareness of Christ's presence and call to them in the midst of everyday life. The first question is, "At what moment this past week did you feel closest to Christ?" We experience Christ's closeness in a moving worship service, in an act of compassion, in a time of joy and gratitude, or in a sense of assurance about a tough decision.

STAY TUNED FOR PART II NEXT ISSUE



NOVEMBER, 2004

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