

# Rooster Tales

Vol. 7 No 10

December 2006

## Gathering/Training Schedule

### **Flagstaff Area** (all at Trinity Heights UMC, Fellowship Hall, childcare provided):

*Cindi Martinez's email for more information is [gemartinez@juno.com](mailto:gemartinez@juno.com)*

### **Phoenix Area:**

**Jan. 12** - First UMC, Phoenix, Asbury Hall, 7:15 p.m.

*Steve & Toni Berg's email for more information is [toni.berg@bnaneuro.net](mailto:toni.berg@bnaneuro.net)*

### **East Valley Area:**

**1st Sunday of each Month**- Gathering at 11:45 a.m.

at Grace UMC at the corner of Gilbert & University.

*Rich & Nancy Foster's email for more information is [ndmfoster@aol.com](mailto:ndmfoster@aol.com) or (480) 982-9141*

**Tucson Area:** (all of the following begin at 5:00 p.m. with a potluck & 6:30 p.m. for Gathering)

**Jan. 27** - Sierra Vista UMC (3225 St. Andrews Dr., Sierra Vista)

*Dave Camp's email for more information is [J.D.Camp@att.net](mailto:J.D.Camp@att.net)*

### **Yuma Emmaus/Cursillo Community:**

*Paula Volenstine's email for more information is [jpvolenstine@msn.com](mailto:jpvolenstine@msn.com)*

### **NW Valley Area:**

Gathering at Shepherd of the Hills UMC (13658 W. Meeker Blvd. right off Johnson Blvd.) the first Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m. starting the first Sunday of October - April.

*Mary Jo Torbet's email for more information is [Marjot4@cox.net](mailto:Marjot4@cox.net)*



## Walk Schedule

**Walk 169, February 8-11**, Grace Fellowship, Buckeye, Art Brooks, Lay Director

**Walk 170, February 22-25**, Grace Fellowship, Buckeye, Dusty LaNoue, Lay Director

**Walk 171 April 12-15, 2007**, St. Paul's UMC, Tucson, Harry Magargee, Lay Director

**Walk 172 April 26-29, 2007**, St. Paul's UMC, Tucson, Jessie Hansen, Lay Director

**Walk 173 June 14-17, 2007**, Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, Lay Director TBD

**Walk 174 June 21-24, 2007**, Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, Lay Director TBD

## Why Would God Want to be Like Us?

There was once a man who didn't believe in God, and he didn't hesitate to let others know how he felt about religion and religious holidays like Christmas. His wife, however, did believe, and she raised their children to also have faith in God and Jesus, despite his disparaging comments.

One snowy Christmas Eve, his wife was taking their children to a Christmas Eve service in the farm community in which they lived. She asked him to come, but he refused. "That story is nonsense!" he said. "Why would God lower Himself to come to Earth as a man? That's ridiculous!" So she and the children left and he stayed home.

A while later, the winds grew stronger and the snow turned into a blizzard. As the man looked out the window, all he saw was a blinding snowstorm. He sat down to relax before the fire for the evening. Then he heard a loud thump. Something had hit the window, then another thump. He looked out but couldn't see more than a few feet. When the snow let up a little, he ventured outside to see what could have been beating on his window.

In the field near his house he saw a flock of wild geese. Apparently they had been flying south for the winter when they got caught in the snowstorm and couldn't go on. They were

## MOVING?

**Please, Please let us know when you move!** Email the Director of Communications, Julie Jensen, at [skyacres01@msn.com](mailto:skyacres01@msn.com); or 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 N. 55th Dr., Glendale, AZ 85301.

lost and stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter. They just flapped their wings and flew around the field in low circles, blindly and aimlessly. A couple of them had flown into his window, it seemed.

The man felt sorry for the geese and wanted to help them. The barn would be a great place for them to stay he thought. It's warm and safe; surely they could spend the night and wait out the storm. So he walked over to the barn and opened the doors wide, then watched and waited, hoping they would notice the open barn and go inside. But the geese just fluttered around aimlessly and didn't seem to notice the barn or realize what it could mean for them. The man tried to get their attention, but that just seemed to scare them and they moved further away.

He went into the house and came with some bread, broke it up, and made a breadcrumb trail leading to the barn. They still didn't catch on. Now he was getting frustrated. He got behind them and tried to shoo them toward the barn, but they only got more scared and scattered in every direction except toward the barn. Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn where they would be warm and safe. "Why don't they follow me?!" he exclaimed. "Can't they see this is the only place where they can survive the storm?" He thought for a moment and realized that they just wouldn't follow a human. "If only I were a goose, then I could save them," he said out loud. Then he had an idea.

He went into barn, got one of his own geese, and carried it in his arms as he circled around behind the flock of wild geese. He then released it. His goose flew through the flock and straight into the barn--and one by one the other geese followed it to safety. He stood silently for a moment as the words he had spoken a few minutes earlier replayed in his mind: "If only I were a goose, then I could save them!" Then he thought about what he had said to his wife earlier. "Why would God want to be like us? That's ridiculous!" Suddenly it all made sense. That is what God had done. We were like the geese--blind, lost, perishing. God had His Son become like us so He could show us the way and save us. That was the meaning of Christmas, he realized. As the winds and blinding snow died down, his soul became quiet and pondered this wonderful thought. Suddenly he understood what Christmas was all about and why Christ had come. Years of doubt and disbelief vanished like the passing storm.

He fell to his knees in the snow, and prayed his first prayer: "Thank You, God, for coming in human form to get me out of the storm!"



## **WALK 169 - February 8-11, Grace Fellowship,**

### **Buckeye**

#### **LEADERS TEAM**

Art Brooks	Lay Director
Jim Wiltbank	Head Spiritual Director
Paul Cleaveland	Assistant Lay Director
Brian LaTour	Assistant Lay Director
Larry Pierce	Assistant Lay Director
Karen Eynon	Assistant Spiritual Director
John Fairchild	Assistant Spiritual Director
Tom Wick	Assistant Spiritual Director
Ed Taylor	Music Leader
David Mueller	Head Cook
Red Hinckley	Assistant Head Cook

#### **TALK TEAM**

Greg Caarmichael	Jeffrey Cook
Gary Edwards	Duane Kiddoo
Mel Lewis	Tom McGraw
Steve Searle	Jim Ellis
Bill LaNoue	John Ross

#### **COOK TEAM**

Phil Cushman	Gene Lumba	Peter Martinello
Michael McCabe	Al Moore	Dave Mossman
Tim Ortega	John Petersen	Bill Powers
Donald Puryear	Rick Rives	

## **WALK 170 - February 22-25, Grace Fellowship,**

### **Buckeye**

#### **LEADERS TEAM**

Dusty LaNoue	Lay Director
Dan Morley	Head Spiritual Director
Dinah Brooks	Assistant Lay Director
Cindy Davis	Assistant Lay Director
Sharon Newberry	Assistant Lay Director
Jo Sharpe	Assistant Lay Director
Beverly Worden Devine	Assistant Spiritual Director
Louie Lyon	Assistant Spiritual Director
TBD	Assistant Spiritual Director
Linda Worsnop	Music Leader
Marilyn Dickens	Assistant Music Leader
Shirley Youngker	Head Cook
Debbie Bachelder	Assistant Head Cook
Mary Wilson	Assistant Head Cook

#### **TALK TEAM**

Kay Baysinger	Eude Gamble
June Hanson	Choppie Lewis
Joyce Lyon	Penny Malone
Kim Moore	Kari Plank

#### **COOK TEAM**

Ellen Abraham	Cindy Achilles	Nellie Amedee
Toni Berg	Janette Bressler	Denise Brubaker
Judy Crabb	Judy Decker	Janet Fleming
Gloria Gaasland	Darlene Goudie	Rosemary James
Julie Jensen	Vicki Lerdahl	Jill Lindstrom
Mary Lowdermilk	Bonnie Morley	Janet Paterson
Cheri Peterson	Sheila Petersen	Sharon Rayner
Debbie Rives	Peggy Shortridge	

#### **PILGRIMS**

Will be listed in the January issue.

## **Who started Christmas?**

This morning I heard a story on the radio of a woman who was out Christmas shopping with her two children. After many hours of looking at row after row of toys and everything else imaginable, and after hours of hearing both her children asking for everything they saw on those many shelves, she finally made it to the elevator with her kids. She was feeling what so many of us feel during the holiday season time of the year - Overwhelming pressure to go to every party, every house-warming, taste all the holiday food and treats, getting that perfect gift for every single person on our shopping list, making sure we don't forget anyone on our card list, and the pressure of making sure we respond to everyone who sent us a card. Finally the elevator doors opened and there was already a crowd in the car. She pushed her way into the car and dragged her two kids in with her and all the bags of stuff. When the doors closed she couldn't take it anymore and stated, "Whoever started this whole Christmas thing should be found, strung up and shot." From the back of the car everyone heard a quiet calm voice respond, "Don't worry, we already crucified him." For the rest of the trip down the elevator it was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. Don't forget this year to keep the One who started this whole Christmas thing in your every thought, deed, purchase, and word. If we all did it, just think of how different this whole world would be.



## **Spanish Anyone?**

The Arizona Walk to Emmaus Board of Directors is exploring the idea of having a Spanish-Speaking Walk. We want to include our Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters in our Arizona Walk to Emmaus community, and have them experience a comfortable and meaningful weekend.

In order to do that we need all of you in the Arizona Walk to Emmaus Community who speak Spanish, and would like an opportunity to serve on a Spanish-Speaking Walk to notify us. We also need to know if there are any of you who have served as Assistant Lay Directors (ALDs), speak Spanish, and would be interested in serving on the leader's team of such a walk.

If you are Spanish speaking and would like to serve on a Spanish-speaking Walk, please email Lynn Garner at [jack2lynn@cableone.net](mailto:jack2lynn@cableone.net). Please indicate if you have leadership experience or would like to serve on the cook or talk team.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the Arizona Walk to Emmaus Community, but we need to know the interest level, and if we have enough members of our community who speak Spanish. If you speak Spanish, let us know right away.

DeColores,  
Lynn Garner  
President



## **ROOSTER TALES ON LINE**

Please remember to access the Rooster Tales on line at [www.azemmaus.org](http://www.azemmaus.org) and remove your name and address from the postal mailing list. This saves money and time in the distribution of our newsletter and you will receive it much faster. Your name will remain on the active discernment list.

DeColores  
Julie Jensen  
Communications

# DECEMBER, 2006



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006

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