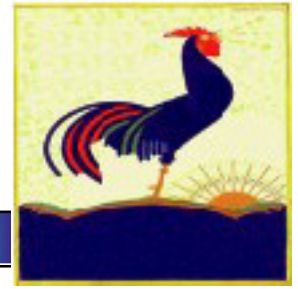


Rooster Tales



Vol. 15 No. 1



January 2014



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM®

Gathering/Hoot/Training Schedule

Flagstaff Area:

Jan 11 - Trinity Heights UMC.

Training at 2:00 PM. **Potluck** at 5:00 PM with **worship** at 6:00 PM. Childcare provided, if needed. Contact John ahead to schedule. *John Weber's email is jweber@juno.com
Sarah McGuire's email is sammx5@aol.com*

Jan 25 - Chino Valley UMC 1:00 PM for fellowship, snacks, music and communion. Plan to join us!

Jeannie Ward's email is cjward44@q.com / Phone 928-772-6760

Phoenix Area:

Jan 10 - West Side Gathering at Spirit of Hope UMC, 14403 N 75th Ave, Peoria. **3:00 PM Training for both guys and gals.** Grab some dinner with the group after training and then return for the regular dessert/gathering!

Dessert 6:30 PM, Gathering/worship 7:00 PM

Spirit of Hope's Valerie Fairchild's number is 623-824-1357

Jan 11 - Paradise Valley UMC Training 2:00 PM, **Potluck** 5:00 PM, **Gathering** 6:15 PM

Cindy McFadden's email is Cindymcfadden53@yahoo.com or call Jim McFadden at 602-881-0328.

Tucson Area: Potluck 5:00 PM/6:15 PM Gathering

Jan 18 - Sierra Vista UMC, 3225 St Andrews Dr in Sierra Vista

Manny Abeles' email is mannyct1@yahoo.com

Yuma Area: Potluck at 6:00 PM/Gathering 7:00 PM

Jan 10 - Gila Mountain UMC, 12714 E N Frontage Rd
AnnaMarie Sollars' email is amsazmama@aol.com

Walk Schedule

Walk #227, Feb. 20-23, 2014 St. Paul's UMC, Tucson, **Don Booth**, Lay Director

Walk #228, Feb. 27-Mar. 2, 2014 St. Paul's UMC, Tucson, **Gretchen Lofgren**, Lay Director

Walk #229, June 5-8, 2014 Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, **John Weber**, Lay Director

Walk #230, June 12-15, 2014 Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, **Colleen Centner**, Lay Director

LOCATION OF TUCSON WALKS

The February Walks are being held at **St. Paul's UMC** located at 8051 E. Broadway Blvd in Tucson. If you are sponsoring a pilgrim, please be certain to have fed him/her before you arrive at the church. **Please be on time, 7:00 PM**, as the evening cannot begin until everyone is there! Sponsors, **please stay for the sponsor's hour** after the pilgrims are called out. You will be privileged and blessed to pray over your pilgrim's cross. It should be YOU, not just a stand-in doing this special job. Be sure to join us for Saturday night Candlelight and let the pilgrims see Jesus in your eyes! Be there on Sunday when the pilgrims share their heart-warming testimonies of what the weekend meant to them.

SCHEDULE REMINDERS:

Thursday night 7:00 PM Sanctuary

(PLEASE be on time!)

8:00 PM **Sponsor's Hour**

Saturday night 8:00 PM **Candlelight**

Sunday evening 5:00 PM **Closure**



TRAINING TO SERVE GOD

Do you want to sponsor a pilgrim or to serve on a Walk weekend? Getting trained allows you to be eligible to do both of these things. Beginning Jan 11 training will be available prior to every gathering in the Phoenix area. It is scheduled from 2:00-4:00 pm at Paradise Valley UMC, 4455 E Lincoln Dr.
~Terry Price, 602-863-6975

**Walk #227 Feb. 20-23, 2014
St. Paul's UMC, Tucson**

~ ~ ~ **LEADERS TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Don Booth	Lay Director
Doug Bowers	Assistant Lay Director
Gary Jay	Assistant Lay Director
Jim Moffett	Assistant Lay Director
Fred Pascoe	Assistant Lay Director
Ed Denham	Head Spiritual Director
Doug Bobbit	Assistant Spiritual Director
Bob Holliday	Assistant Spiritual Director
Manny Abeles	Music Leader
Dennis Foster	Head Cook
Kim Riddlesworth	Assistant Head Cook

~ ~ ~ **TALK TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Jim Beaman	Dave Camp	Tom Ellis
Randy Gaines	Brian Nikkari	Jeff Robbins
Al Robles	Ron Salik	Mike Smith
Dick Spining		

~ ~ ~ **COOK TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Carl Bowden	Jim Buttke	David Cridland
Peter Daniels	Charlie Edwards	Jim Evans
Everett Greenwood	Jon Hearn	Bob Hooper
Bob Howard	Roger Hunter	Hal Lofgren
Wade Martin	Kim Marinelli	Ron Pitt
Bill Ralston	Don Sell	
Dennis Swerline	Bill Whealy	Jim Wiltbank

~ ~ ~ **3-Day TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Charlie Edwards	Hal Lofgren	Matt Sheeringa
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~ ~ ~ **PILGRIMS** ~ ~ ~

Randy Britto	David Daniels	Joseph DeBenny
John Ollwine	Norman Story	Tom Suits

After printing of the Rooster Tales, lists will be updated on the website, www.azemmaus.org. Check it out before writing agape notes.

**Walk #228 Feb 27– Mar 2, 2014
St. Paul's UMC, Tucson**

~ ~ ~ **LEADERS TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Gretchen Lofgren	Lay Director
Holly Abeles	Assistant Lay Director
Becky Case	Assistant Lay Director
Lorene Sparks	Assistant Lay Director
Carl Peterson	Head Spiritual Director
Mary Lou Adame	Assistant Spiritual Director
Jennifer Hageman	Assistant Spiritual Director
Frank Peters	Assistant Spiritual Director
Ann Gaines	Music Leader
Kaye Jay	Prayer Warrior
April Tucker	Head Cook
Kay Pitt	Assistant Head Cook
Barbie Spining	Assistant Head Cook

~ ~ ~ **TALK TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Jan Beaman	Vickie Bishop	Gwyn Dickson
Bernice Edwards	Janice Foster	Jane Furr
Susan Gerstad	Cheryl Holliday	Rosemary Kilby
Janet Luke	Christine Maglott	Jinx Nevins
Cheryl Smith	Lee Ann Vasquez	

~ ~ ~ **COOK TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Karen Anderson	Linda Connolly	Nina Conrad
Sandy Featherston	Jeanie Folstad	Kristin Forrester
Elaine Gokey	Ellen Greenwood	Michele Jones
Nancy Kern	Crystalle Kirkbride	Mary Kotnour
Ainsley Legner	Judi van Loben Sels	
Doris Magargee	Leanne Martin	Daniella Mendoza
Donna Northrup	Dee Ormond	Claudia Perry
Bonnie Peterson	Shelley Randall	Dana Ralston
Marian Rogerson	Tamara Swerline	

~ ~ ~ **3-Day TEAM** ~ ~ ~

Michelle Beckelhimer	Robbin Brooks	Kelly Capps
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~ ~ ~ **PILGRIMS** ~ ~ ~

Polly Britto	Loretta Camp	Janessa Chastain
Kristen DeBenny	Betty Edwardson	Jessica Goad
Dianne Hoelscher	Mary Lou Lancaster	Shirley Lindquist
Julie Martin	Teresa Patterson	Alice Perkins
Donnel Puckett	Kristin Rhodes	Odessa Stewart
Carol Story	Tami Tozer	Patricia White

**Time to pay for your Snail
Mail Rooster Tales**

If you prefer to have your monthly copy of the newsletter, the Rooster Tales, mailed the old-fashioned way to your mailbox, then it is time to pay the \$7 fee. Please **mail it directly to AZ Walk to Emmaus, c/o Janet Paterson, 2246 E Tahitian Way, Gilbert, AZ 85234.**

For those of you who have recently completed walks, you will receive it for one year free. This time next year you can order it, if you choose. It will come free online if you sign up with your email address.



Watch for the new web page in 2014. Keep watching for the new version of the website! The January Rooster Tales will be posted as usual, www.azemmaus.org

A Christmas Story

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 the metaphysical meaning of Jesus The Christ, despite her husband's disparaging comments.

One snowy Christmas Eve, the 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 through a man called Jesus who became the Christ? 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 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 bread crumb 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 lower Himself 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 enlighten us.

That was the meaning of Christmas, he realized. As the winds and blinding snow died down, his soul became quiet and he pondered this wonderful thought.

Suddenly he understood what Christmas was all about, why Jesus who became the Christ had come, so that we could become the sons and daughters of the Living Christ.

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!"

Janet Paterson, editor

(Received this as an email prior to Christmas. What a great message!)





BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2014



EMMAUS OFFICE

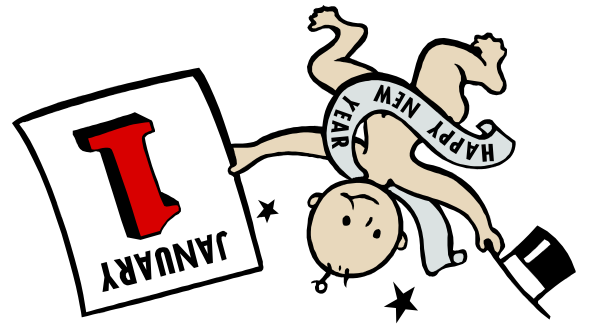
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JANUARY, 2014



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