



Cross Point Emmaus

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January 2012

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Kelly Shannon

Community Lay Director

For me, one of the highlights during the Walk to Emmaus is the Prayer Room. I know immediately when I approach the Prayer Room that I will be stepping onto Holy ground, and will be immersed into a Holy atmosphere. I can only imagine what it must have felt to be in the Tabernacle during Moses' time or in the synagogue during Jesus' time on Earth. It's very humbling, as I feel inadequate when I approach the Throne of God to petition Him on behalf of others. Many times, clay and ceramic vases are set throughout the Prayer Room, symbolic of 2 Corinthians 4:7, "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us." I am always reminded in the Prayer Room that even though I am just a dull, broken jar of clay, Christ's power will be seen first and foremost, not my inadequate self. The atmosphere is evidence of Christ's words spoken in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." I can truly say that my experiences in the Prayer Room have been ones of sincere love for one an-

other as Christ commands us to do.

As an Emmaus Community, we should continually love our brothers and sisters in Christ, whether inside or outside of the Prayer Room. Cross Point Emmaus Community is the letter from Christ, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts (2 Cor. 3:3). Remember, your love and actions are writing this letter from Christ, and will affect many human hearts. Write well...and with positive influence, as you will affect relationships with Christ!

I encourage you to continue supporting the Cross Point Emmaus Community by attending the monthly Gatherings, sponsoring Pilgrims for the Walks, organizing reunion groups, communicating with the Board, and supporting our Cross Point Camp. And, I

See Kelly, pg. 2

Walk Information

The Men's Walk #85 led by Daniel Oyler will be April 19th through 22nd, and the Women's Walk # 86 will be led by Sammie Thomas April 26th through 29th. Teams have been selected but remember that you can still volunteer to help as the weekends are always needing people to "pitch in."

Set up and tear down is a vital area and the more help the easier it is on the team. Contact Mark Newman

at 580-653-2477 to enlist. Also it is not too early to volunteer for the Prayer Vigil and Food Agape. There are two "links" on the website to an electronic list where you can sign up.

Waiting until the last minute makes it hard for the agape teams to plan their supplies, so if you are considering help in this area, please decide early and get on the list. The links are at: crosspointemmaus.org



would ask that you, as a Community, prayerfully consider developing Chrysalis as part of the Cross Point Emmaus Community.

As my Board term comes to an end, I want to express my deepest appreciation to you for allowing me to serve as your Community Lay Director during this past year. I have grown to love the Emmaus model even more than before, and have so enjoyed working with and getting to know many of you. YOU have enriched my life tremendously and I am forever grateful. Sharing with you in Christ's Love,

DeColores!

Kelly Shannon

January Gathering

The January gathering will be held January 14th at the Colvert Ministry Center of the First United Methodist Church, 503 West Broadway, Ardmore at the **6:00 pm. (this is the new time)**. A map link is on the website under "Maps" (go figure). The new gathering format will be followed:

First fellowship/eating, then praise & worship songs, laity witness, and Holy Communion

Steve Swigert will be the lay speaker. Please come and re-united with Emmaus members!



2011 Cross Point Board Members

Kelly Shannon Community Lay Director
 Rev. Roger Wood Community Spiritual Director
 Nancy Smith Assist. Lay Director
 Karin Nuner Secretary
 Dewayne Gipson Treasurer
 Jeannie Owens Registrar
 Rick Drummond Newsletter
 Shawna Carnahan Kitchen | Snack Agape
 Dale Monkres Music
 Jerry Howry Table Agape
 Mike Carnahan Letter Agape
 Mark Newman Setup | Tear Down
 Karen Black Literature and Supplies
 Rev. Gloria McGee-Denton Gatherings
 Rev. Sharen Hale Fourth Day
 Rev. Tony Caro Candlelight | Sponsors Hour

New Fees

Due to increased camp fees, the Board voted to raise walk fees beginning with the Spring 2012 walks, as follows:

Team fee, \$160

Pilgrim fee, \$175 (\$75 deposit)

These fees cover lodging, meals, insurance, literature, and some Walk supplies.

New Scholarship Fund Established: In order to fund future pilgrim and team scholarships, the Board has established the Scholarship Fund. Since Cross point Emmaus Community of Oklahoma, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, donations are tax-deductible and letters may be issued for donations to the Scholarship Fund. Future scholarships will be limited to the balance of the Scholarship Fund, so contributions are very much appreciated.

Faith Now

—By Janis Bart

“Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.” (Isaiah 65:24 ESV)

I’m very fortunate to have access to a treasure trove of words of wisdom, knowledge, and prophecy given to my friend Thera and her prayer partner, Lillian more than thirty years ago. They wrote these words down and kept them stored in a popcorn can until Thera brought them to a group of us a few years ago *“to see what we thought about them.”*

It is not much of an exaggeration to say we were brought to our knees in tears as we read page after page of these incredible gems. As I helped in typing them and preserving them on flash drives I often had difficulty seeing the computer screen because they so corresponded with what was going on in my life at that moment!

With Thera’s permission, I sometimes use those words for my morning devotional time. Often the Holy Spirit will use one of them to fall to make a point about something that needs attention in my Christian walk. So today, when a copy of one of them fell out of my bible as I was looking for a scripture to pray for someone else, I wasn’t surprised to have a portion of it jump out to me as though it was highlighted, but my toes sure got stepped on when I read it! It said,

*“I remind you again to have a real sense of expectancy when you pray. Be so expectant that you will think, ‘this may be the day of deliverance, this could be the day I have waited for.’ You still tend to put your answers into the future. You are protecting yourselves from disappointment. This is not necessary for I will not disappoint you. I have told there is a time element and this is true. **Often, however, your faith is for the future answer. Can you not believe me for today?**”*

Ouch! Pray with expectancy to receive the answer even before we finish uttering the prayer . . . what a novel idea! Of course I do that regularly when I’m praying for someone else, but I knew this morning this particular word was meant for me . . . I’d asked a friend to pray specifically about something for me. She did, then sent me a message that God had given

her a word *“As I was praying about all that is going on, I heard this: ALL IS WELL!!!! So, amen and amen to that!”*

Now in my mind this meant **sometime soon** everything **was going to be** good . . . but the word my friend got was ALL IS WELL, not all is going to be well. As the morning went on, God proceeded to provide me with information to back up His promise. Of course, the answer looks much different than the blueprint I had drawn up for God to use in answering my prayer . . . (imagine that!) . . . but there was no doubt in my mind that I was being shown I have the answer NOW!

The Holy Spirit then pointed out I was not believing God for today, but still holding out for **the future answer that would look more like the plan I had in mind!** As I thought about this, it occurred to me that the reason I asked (and always ask) this person to pray for me was that I know she prays the Word over each situation! I knew she would find a scripture and simply pray for me in that way.

We often put clauses in our prayers like *“If it’s your will. . .”* to protect ourselves from disappointment if our prayer isn’t answered in exactly the way we want it to be. But God’s Word promises that He hears us even before we call out to Him and He answers! It’s filled with His covenant promises and when we are praying His Word back to Him, it IS His will!

In Mark 11:24, Jesus tells us to pray with confidence.

“Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you.”

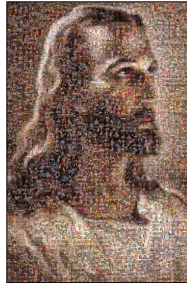
Not necessarily exactly as we requested, but with the assurance that God always has our best interest at heart. When someone asks me to pray for them, one of my favorite passages of scripture to pray is Philippians 4:6-7

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Faith is simply taking God at His Word and acting on it!



Prayer for the Walks —Al Hamilton



I woke around 3:15 am, with 'heavy things of work' on my mind.

My wife awoke briefly; I shared what was on my mind and she prayed encouraging, strengthening words over me. A calm came over me. Then, I turned to prayers of thanksgiving for being so richly blessed with such a "devoted, spirit-filled messenger of God" that I started praising him prayerfully. As I prayed, my words turned to our Emmaus Walks. Since I was asked me to serve in the Prayer Room, I have prayed daily for both walks. I pray it blesses and inspires you. If we all, "share" this vision - two separate walks will be "united in a perfect picture of Christ."

Father, the God who is worthy of the throne of righteousness, glory and honor, I thank you for the opportunity to serve you and those you have called for this "special time with Christ". I'm humbled and honored. I'm also confident – everything will go as you have planned before we were even "called." Help us to walk with you, every step of this journey.

As I prayed this, the Spirit joined with this:

Lord we pray that each team member realizes they were "specially selected" for a particular part of this walk. Some handle a large role....some a small role. A walk utilizing many different colors on many different sizes of glass, the end result of bringing the "meaningless pieces" together – is a beautiful Picture of Christ.

As the Spirit prayed this, my mind saw a large mosaic of Christ. Looking at it, I totally understood what the Spirit was teaching us. Each piece of glass in and of itself – isn't worth much. Just an "old broken piece of glass" that is useless and could hurt someone. Some 'broken pieces' are large, some small; some misshaped, some weird looking. Some are of colors that are unattractive.

But, when carefully pieced together by the "Hand of God", what was useless and unattractive before God's involvement is now an important part of God's Mosaic Picture of His Son! As I looked at this picture God painted in my mind, I noticed some things I have never thought about before concerning the different pieces (people working the walk). It was clearly revealed in this Mosaic of Christ that I was now looking at.

In addition to a mosaic made of "useless" parts in harmony and according to a "Master Plan"; a mosaic that allows the light to pass through; the colors of the mosaic are reflected on those looking at it. Literally, the colors are reflected on them, because the light is shining on them, through the mosaic (you).

Each team member (*different size and color of glass*) in the Mosaic of Christ on these two walks will allow the "SON"-light to shine through them onto the pilgrims. You don't have to worry about remembering the lines in your talk, fretting over getting things done on time, or the right way, and so on. No,

just ask God to help you understand which "piece of glass" you are, where and how He wants to use you. Imagine, starting today (as you finish reading this) that all team members will pray the same prayer below. Not "do it later" or "tomorrow" – right now. I'll venture the "Mosaic of Christ" of the Men's Walk and the "Mosaic of Christ" of the Women's Walk will look EXACTLY ALIKE.

Did I hear someone say, but Al – Men & Women see things differently?? Well, Praise The Lord! I agree and that's another reason God made us differently. Imagine the Men sharing with the Women what they saw in the mosaic. Different? I pray that to be. Now, by sharing with others "what I saw and experienced" with the Emmaus Community, we could spend the rest of our lives sharing the different ways Jesus has revealed and expressed himself TO us and THROUGH us.

That's another thing: Have you used our Emmaus Newsletter to share your latest view of the mosaic from your Emmaus walks? Every time you look at the mosaic, you see something you didn't see before. The more you look, the more you see!

The Prayer for Both Teams:

Lord, you know our hearts, situations, obligations and our spirit you placed inside of us. Thank you! That is the only way we can approach your throne with our prayers and supplications. It is your spirit that lives inside us, leading and guiding us.

I ask you to turn up the Light of Christ and Shine Through This "Piece of Glass". I realize, the Son's light is what brings you glory. If there's any dirt on me that would diminish that light, I ask you to clean it off as I pray. If this glass is trying to suggest to you – how it should be used, humble us.

Because "...you know the plans you have for us..." before we were even born. "The steps of the righteous" are set by the Lord. We're not concerned about this walk....we're only focused on our next step. One Step, but in Your Direction, at Your Pace.

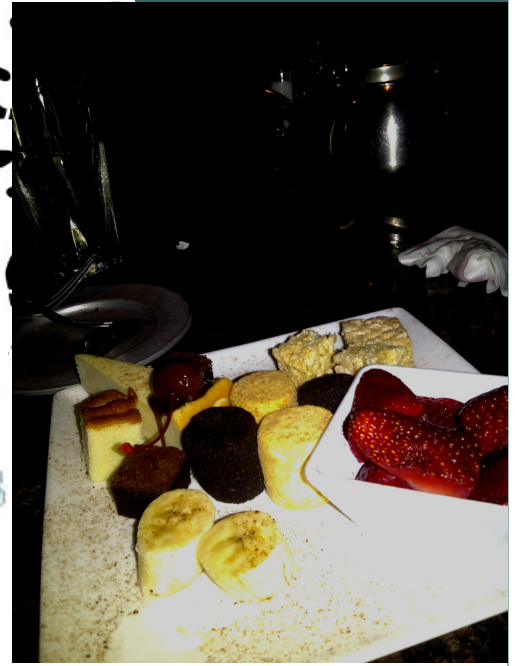
If there are any rough edges to this 'piece of glass', I ask you to take it and sands it, cut it, shine it – whatever you need to do, so the Light that shines through me, reflects off others and bounces from them to your Holy Throne. If any 'piece of glass' is trapped in a drawer, open it, set it free to be used by you. You have power of All things – nothing stands in your way.

Mountains, oceans, EVERYTHING moves as you direct. So, we can pray with confidence that you will move what, how, where, when you wish to move this "piece of glass" as you prepare it and begin building the "Mosaic of Christ" during each of these walks. I pray for the 'broken pieces of glass that doesn't now know that they are a valuable part of this mosaic....but, they will learn it somewhere on the "Walk to Emmaus".

Thank you Lord for what you are about to do and for allowing me to experience how you use all things for your glory. We pray in the name of our Lord and Savior – You Son, Our King -- - Jesus Christ. Amen!



“With God all things are possible.”



Daniel Oyler
 #85 — Men’s Lay Director

Sammie Thomas
 #86 — Women’s Lay Director

Contact Information

Note: If you have anything to add to next month’s newsletter, send your copy or photos to Rick Drummond at crdiii@sbcglobal.net or mail to: 1331 Crestpark, Ada OK 74820. Please be mindful of space considerations, relevancy, and credit as necessary. No copyrighted works can be included without permissions. All submissions will be subject to editing as to length and content.

Most members of the Cross Point Emmaus community receive newsletters and information by email. If you do not have an email address, then we send the newsletter by U.S. mail. If you receive the newsletter by regular mail but also have an email address, then please let us know by sending a note to:

info@crosspointemmaus.org

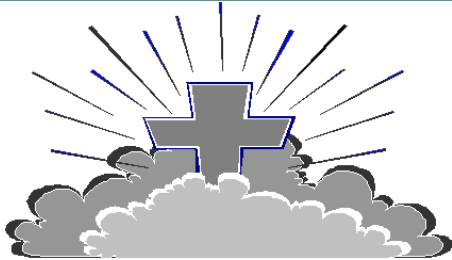
Also, please ask your Emmaus friends if they receive the newsletter? We do not want to accidentally omit anyone.

CROSS POINT NEWSLETTER

Address:

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Ada OK 74820-8557

Phone: 580-332-5545
E-mail: crdiii@sbcglobal.net



Cross Point Emmaus

We're on the web
crosspointemmaus.org

On the Road to Emmaus

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

....

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

—Luke 24: 13-16, 28-32