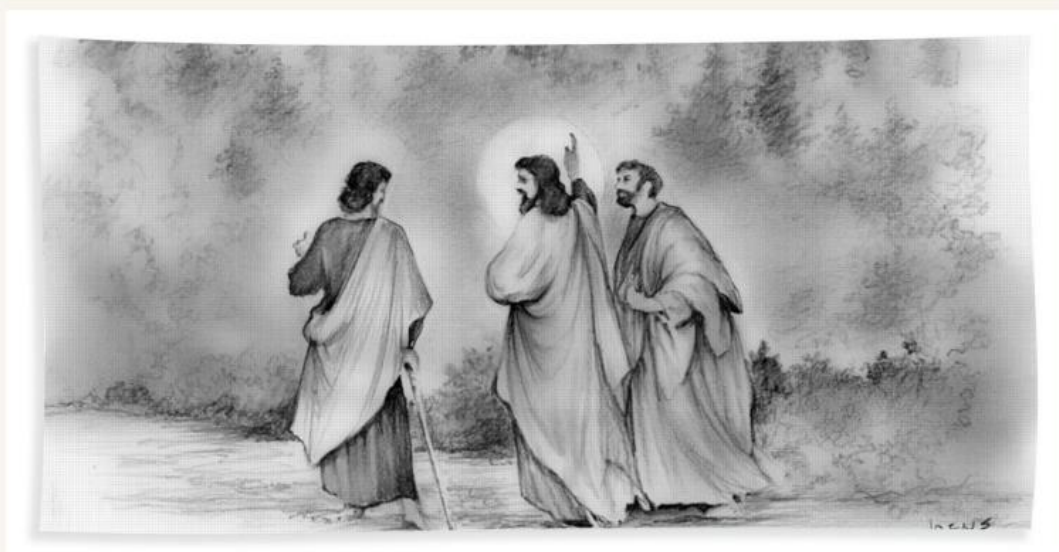

Born Again Emmaus Community

March 2024 Newsletter



While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. Luke 24:15

I am counting on Christ!

Christ is counting on You!

Join our Community at the next Gathering

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Spring Creek United Methodist Church

9200 Dietz-Elkhorn Road, Boerne, Tx 78015

Join Zoom Meeting

For those who prefer to join us via Zoom
use the following Link

Meeting ID: 830 7492 7328

Passcode: 682411

For those of you requiring **CHILDCARE** during the Gathering:
Childcare is provided for children between the age of 0 and 11 years of age

RESERVATION REQUIRED

PLEASE email us at boerne.emmaus@gmail.com

no later than Sunday March 10th

Provide the Child's full name and age (or grade)



March Gathering - Mar 12, 2024

Patrick's Day — Mar 17, 2024

First Day of Spring — Mar 19, 2024

Palm Sunday — Mar 24, 2024

Maundy Thursday — Mar 28, 2024

Good Friday — Mar 29, 2024

Easter — Mar 31, 2024



COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL

DIRECTOR

Lori Balensiefen,
Executive Pastor
First United Methodist Church

Being a Child of God

But those who did welcome him, those who believed in his name, he authorized to become God's children . . . John 1:1

Before I became a pastor, I worked as the Children's Ministry Director at my church. Whenever we would gather the kids together for worship, we would ask: "Who are you?" And the kids would respond with "I am a child of God!" But what does it mean to be a child of God?

First, it means that we are loved. Deeply, dearly, beyond the scope of our experience and imagination, God loves us. God loves us so much that God adopted us into God's family. We aren't a burden; we aren't an obligation. We are God's beloved children.

Second, it means that someone else is in charge. The world isn't mine to control and all my vain attempts to act as if it is end in frustration, anger, and heartbreak. The alternative to the control we often crave is surrender. God is in each of us, changing us, guiding us, giving us direction – sometimes direction we don't want to take. And so, we fight against the guidance, the change, the direction. But when we can surrender to God's direction, we find peace, freedom, and assurance.

If you take the first letter of each word in the phrase child of God, it forms the word COG. A cog is a tooth on the rim of a wheel or gear. It also can mean a subordinate person or thing that has an integral part to play. Cogs, when engaged with other cogs, transmit power from a power source out to the parts of a machine that need power. Without the cogs in place, power doesn't get transmitted very far and the machine does not function the way it was designed to.

We are COGs (Children of God). We can spin on our own, connected to just a few friends that travel in the same circle we do. Or we can connect to Jesus, connecting ourselves to a power far greater than ourselves. We receive Jesus' love and grace and transmit it to those we encounter. They transmit God's love to those they encounter. And so, it continues, on and on until the world around us begins to look a lot like heaven – God's kingdom breaking through here on earth. God's power flowing through God's people so that God will renew the face of the earth. Come, Holy Spirit, come!

De Colores, Pastor Lori

COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Ralph Rodriguez



As we head towards the Men's Walk to Emmaus #65 please continue to pray for this team and for the Pilgrims that will be called to attend. One of the main purposes of the Walk is to teach & prepare men to become leaders in their churches and church communities. This is supported by small groups called 4th Day or Reunion Groups and the good men of CTC(Connected through Christ) is an example of one of these groups. The Walks are usually amazing experiences for Men (and women for their walk) but we must support each other when "Monday Comes" as it always does. Come join us for the next Gathering event on March 12th at 7:00, Spring Creek United Methodist Church. We gather to support each other and to support the upcoming walks so hope to see you. May God continue to watch over you and your families always.

De Colores!

Ralph

Community Lay Director



COMMUNITY TREASURER

Chris Hornburg

Chris reported that we had a total of 56 Community Members at the February Gathering and 0 Member that connected with us on Zoom.

Total offering was \$110.00

Chris Hornburg is also serving as Assistant Lay Director #2 on Men's Walk #65

One of Chris's responsibilities on Walk #65 is coordinating the Food Agape, the General Agape and the Prayer Vigil.

You can access Sign Up Genius by clicking on the buttons below sign up to provide these different

FOOD AGAPE

GENERAL AGAPE

PRAYER VIGIL

GATHERING COORDINATOR

Dory Martinez



As part of the Worship Service during our Community Gatherings every month there is a time to share the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. 2024 has blessed us with a generous community that has already signed up to provide the communion elements for the next several months . . .

Hal Hornburg has signed up for March 12th
Dwane Brown has signed up for April 9th

What a blessing these Gentlemen are!
De Colores - Dory

4th DAY REUNION GROUPS

Bill Walker



Sending out the disciples . . . Jesus told them . . .
"The Harvest is plentiful . . . but the WORKERS are few"
Luke 10:2

Call to Discipleship

Fourth Day - Your 3 day Walk is over, every day thereafter for the rest of our lives is 4th Day. This is Emmaus's purpose, a lifetime of discipleship, bringing new life to our churches and conveying grace where we live.

Following the Order of Reunion - the 5th item is Your Plan. What is your plan of prayer, study, and action for the week to come? Knowing that you will be sharing your plan with your Reunion Group as part of your accountability - this gives you time to reflect on the past week and take the steps to make plans, to study and to act upon that decision.

If you would like to view the lists of both women's and men's reunion groups please open the Born Again Emmaus Community Website @ www.bornagainemmaus.org. On the Home Page you will see an Information Button - click on it - on the Drop Down you will see a choice "What is a 4th Day Reunion Group" - once you click on it you will see 4th Day Reunion Group Information. You will also see 2 buttons you can click on for information on Women's Groups and Men's Groups.

If you have questions or need help with anything, please contact Bill Walker at billwal@outlook.com

De Colores - Bill

KARIOS

Tom Patterson



Friends- Kairos #44 at the Torres prison in Hondo starts on March 7th and ends on March 10th. We have about 9 volunteers on the team from Boerne Emmaus and more coming to the Closing Ceremony! Praise God. We are so very blessed to be a part of this wonderful community we call Emmaus. Please - please - please stay in prayer for the 42 brothers in white (inmate participants) we will be loving on, for all the volunteers and for all the residents and employees of the prison. May God's love and peace fill this entire prison in an undeniable way. If you want more information about Kairos Prison Ministry, please reach out to me anytime to tom@tpatterson.org.

Thank you, God bless you and De Colores Tom Patterson

LAY DIRECTOR MEN'S WALK #65

April 4th - 7th, 2024

John Decker



To the entire Emmaus community:

Please consider coming to the candlelight for Walk 65. It will be held on April 6th, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

I was asked to give the call to worship so that I might have the opportunity to invite the men of Spring Creek to join the Men's Walk. During the talk I asked the congregation to lift their hands if they have ever been on a Walk to Emmaus. Now, in my head I was counting maybe 10 to 12 people in the sanctuary who are Emmaus folk but when I asked the question I was dumbfounded. It looked as if half of the congregation were raising their hands. I thought to myself if we could just get this many people to show up to candlelight it would definitely be the best walk ever.

So make Walk #65 for these pilgrims and join us for Candlelight.

In other news, we have our 3rd and final team meeting on March 23rd. We still only have a handful of pilgrims so I am trying to motivate everyone to get those applications in. If you would like to help out we still have need of many agape items and for the prayer chain to be filled. We visited the Omega Center and it looks as though everything is going to be perfect for our return to those hallowed grounds.

We are all very excited. De Colores, John Decker

LAY DIRECTOR
WOMEN'S WALK #66

September 19th - 22nd, 2024
Denise Vadnais



The Men's Walk is just around the corner, less than a month away. As they prepare, we should keep them all in our prayers. Keep leadership wrapped in our love and prayers as they guide the preparations. Cover the team and ask God to open their hearts and hands as true servants of His people. Lift up the pilgrims that the Lord has chosen for this event. May He make them open to all that the weekend holds.

The Women's Walk is soon enough. Applications will be out very soon. But for now, we as a community should support the Men's Walk in every way.

De Colores!
Denise Vadnais
Lay Director

**WOULD YOU LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY
TO SPEAK AT THE GATHERINGS**

Back before COVID stopped us from meeting together on the 2nd Tuesdays at the Community Gatherings we would have random speakers come up to the front and share their Walk Stories with the Community.

Back in July of this year Larry Bader was our Guest Speaker and he shared his experience using the 2 questions we all answered at the end of our Walk.

- 1) What did this Walk to Emmaus mean to you?
- 2) What are you going to do with what you have learned?

Your time is limited to about 10 minutes and we would love to hear what you have to share. If you are interested in sharing with the Community please contact either Ralph Rodriguez or Dennis Kruse for more information.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR UPCOMING
GATHERINGS**

2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm
March 12th
April 9th

Call - Email - Text your friends and family - Invite them to join you!



BORN AGAIN EMMAUS COMMUNITY - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ralph Rodriguez - Community Lay Director

Dennis Kruse - Community Assistant Lay Director / Walk Coordinator

Maurine Maloy - Secretary & Newsletter

Chris Hornburg - Treasurer

Casey Purvis - Treasurer in Training

Lori Balensiefen - Spiritual Director

Dory Martinez - 4th Day Gathering Coordinator

Vipul Gupta - Community Trainer

Dale Schweers - Website Content Manager / Database Coordinator

Carol Wilson - Gathering Music Coordinator

William (Bill) Walker - Reunion Group Liaison

Hal Hornburg - Upper Room Liaison

Lawrence Bader - Member

Dennis Kruse & David Arringdale - Agape Coordinator / Wall Agape

Ex Officio Members

Tom Patterson - Kairos Liaison

Kathy Hubbard - Team Selection Chair

Jeri Willis - Walk Registrar

Dwane Brown - Men's Walk #65 Board Rep

John Decker - Men's Walk #65 Lay Director

Nikki Decker - Women's Walk #66 Board Rep

Denise Vadnais - Women's Walk #66 Lay Director

If you see any of these individuals, thank them for everything they have done for our community and will continue to do.

[Click Here for Website](#)



... just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may **live a new life.** ROMANS 6:4

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