



ROOSTER DOODLES

April 2021

Message from the Community Lay Director

DeColores Emmaus Sisters and Brothers!

I pray that you and your loved ones are all doing well! Like me, I am sure you are looking forward to a gradual return to activities we have had to give up this past year due to the pandemic. Your Emmaus Board of Directors has started meeting on a regular basis (by Zoom), with renewed hope and enthusiasm for bringing our community together again in the near future.

We have a couple of changes on the Board that I would like to share. First, Artcel Ruiz was recently voted in as our new Assistant Community Lay Director. Previously, Artcel had been serving on the Board as the Discovery Board Representative and we are very happy to have her fill this important position that has been vacant for quite a while. Second, we are thrilled to have Barb Eveland join the Board in the role of Chrysalis Board Representative. Barb has a passion for young people and is seeking others in the community who would like to partner with her to revive the Chrysalis movement in San Diego. (Look for her message in this Rooster Doodles.) Barb has been a long-time member of the San Diego Emmaus Community and served as the Lay Director for Walk E48.

The Emmaus Board is in active discussions about next steps for our community. You will read articles in this newsletter from members of the Board about the challenges that we face in planning for future Walks and Encounters, and keeping the community viable. It will require many members of the community to get involved by SPONSORING Pilgrims and WORKING at the events. We are prayerful that we can generate renewed interest in providing the amazing and life-changing experience for others that each of us experienced during our Walk or Encounter. Please be in prayer about how you might get involved and renew your commitment to the San Diego Emmaus Community. GOD IS COUNTING ON YOU!

Stay tuned for information to come about a community gathering later this year. God bless you!

Cindy Chappell, Community Lay Director

Grouping Updates and Encouragement

As the grouping coordinator I am responsible for helping Emmaus community members get plugged into an active grouping that meets regularly in their area.

It is a great way to stay connected & to continue your 4th Day experience. This last year has looked so different; many groupings have met regularly on Zoom rather than in person. The key here is to meet, talk & pray with each other.

In my grouping, we meet every other Saturday. We go over our closest moments with Christ & our call to discipleship as well as praying & sharing what's on our hearts. We have grown to be a great sisterhood.

I would encourage you to get connected with one of our many groupings. I have the list. You can also call me if you'd like to set up a NEW one. I have 2 gals from the last Walk E-114 that attend mine.

Anyone can join at any time.

- Matthew 18:20 - For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.
- Matthew 18:19-20 - Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.



Annette Caldwell 619-807-4330



Board of Directors

Officers

Community Lay Director – Cindy Chappell

Assistant Community Lay Director - Artcel Ruiz

Community Lay Director Emeritus –
Mary Beth Klauer

Spiritual Director – Rev. Phyllis Ashe

Asst. Spiritual Director – Rev. Brian Parcel

Secretary – Barb Bennett

Treasurer – Charlene Patterson

Directors

Agape - Frank Ruiz

Communications - Gary Jackson

Gatherings – Vacant

Groupings – Annette Caldwell

Logistics – Steve Chappell

Musician – Vacant

Registrar – Teresa Vaca

SDEmmausregistrar@att.net

Face2Face Board Rep– Diana Hall

Chrysalis Board Rep – Barb Eveland

Team Selection Chairperson – Scott Caldwell

Other

San Diego Walk to Emmaus

P.O. Box 502385, San Diego, CA 92150-2385

Web Site:

<http://www.sdemmauss.org>

Web Master – Mike Sorce

RD Editors - Mike & Sharon Sorce

Looking for Help in Presenting the Walk to Emmaus (and Face2Face) to someone?

You can show them the Introduction Video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PvS8AJOZs4s>

THOUGHTS ON YOUTH AND CHRYSALIS

From the Chrysalis Board rep.

I recently attended an update meeting for the new program for Chrysalis. Changes are made in the talks, reducing 2 talks into 1 relationship talk with a focus on relationships that express God's love for each other and a program that allows expression of differing doctrines. The youth will be encouraged to share their faith without judgement.

I was a part of the first Chrysalis weekends in San Diego, thus, I feel a strong connection to Chrysalis. It is a slow process of discernment that I am starting.



Youth are our future, and they deserve a total spiritual commitment from us. They need to know that they are supported as they learn that they are loved by God; that they are called to love themselves; and that they are called to love others, as God loves them.

The world is changing, yet life still calls and spiritual support is still necessary. It will take time to gather information and discern God's call for our community concerning youth.

I need the input of anyone with thoughts on Chrysalis or other programs. I especially want to hear from anyone who remembers Chrysalis and has a desire to serve in any capacity.

I am committed to seek answers and discover new life in our community.

Please feel free to contact me and give feedback, ask questions, or offer talents. Peace in Christ.

Barb Eveland barbaraeveland993@gmail.com

TEAM SELECTION COMMITTEE

We are in the process of putting together a committee which puts together Walk and Encounter Teams. They also bring forth people to serve as Lay Director.

If you would be interested in serving on this committee, please email me.

Scott Caldwell

SDBusman@yahoo.com

Also, "Like" us on Facebook to view Community activities.





Future of SD Emmaus – Thoughts from the Asst. Spiritual Director

De Colores brothers and sisters. I wanted to write to encourage you to consider what part you can play in reviving the San Diego Emmaus Community. Covid has dealt us a blow, but even before that, the community was waning...fewer Walks, not enough people to have Walks, lack of new leadership, few groupings ongoing, little interest in gatherings, small responses to Candlelight and Closing ceremonies....all of these are signs of a diminishing community.

It may be that this is the time for the San Diego Emmaus Community to close, as scripture suggests there is a time for everything and death is a necessary step towards resurrection. Perhaps, the SD Emmaus Community has served it's purpose, and done so well, and now is the time to celebrate it's life and prepare for what is next. As the Assistant Spiritual Director of the Community and the Pastor of a church (First UMC Chula Vista) that has benefited greatly from the SD Emmaus Community, I encourage us to take a sober and critical look at the future of our Emmaus Community.

This community has provided an essential ministry for local churches in our region, the building up of disciplined leaders for the local church. We have all benefited from this and our churches will continue to be in need of some ministry that builds disciplined leaders for the future. There are many ways to do this and for the last few decades Emmaus has been one of the important ways this work has been accomplished. As a local church Pastor I encourage my colleagues in this community to consider how you might do this work of building disciplined leaders if Emmaus goes away. Would it be wiser for us to invest in Emmaus now in order to strengthen this ministry rather than be left with a void that we will have to fill later?

For the Lay People in our community, I encourage you to remember back to your Walk and then to spend some time thinking about the impact your Walk has had on your life. Are the memories and impacts great enough to inspire you to:

1. Re-engage in the San Diego Emmaus Community by attending gatherings
2. Provide leadership at a Walk in the coming year
3. Take a turn serving on the Emmaus Board
4. Invite one person in your life to be a Pilgrim in the coming year
5. Attend Candlelight and/or Closing for the coming Walks

In many ways the Covid pandemic has caused us to step back in evaluation of life. Perhaps, this is the perfect time for us to do the same with our Emmaus Community. If we don't, we definitely know the community will die and that will happen sooner than later. Fortunately, we still have the ability to change this course or to make the decision to end the ministry. Whatever we decide, let it not be from silence and lack of intention, let it be with a discerning, thoughtful and prayerful spirit.

De Colores,
Pastor Brian Parcel





Waiting on the Lord

The pandemic has thrown us all for a loop! We miss hugging. We miss being in the sanctuary for church. We miss our family and friends. As we learned on the Emmaus weekend, we must have perseverance. We are almost done with isolation and distancing and are thinking again about having Walks and Gatherings.

What do we do until that time when we can get together in person? Participate regularly in your grouping. Stay in the word. Think about who it is you will sponsor once the Walks return. Don't rely on others to sponsor. It is all our responsibility to further His Kingdom. Be prepared to ask others to attend a Walk once dates are set in the future.

Meanwhile, my discipleship group is there to remind me to rely on scriptures and God's promises, to trust God that he is working toward all things good. As it says in Proverbs 3:5, not to rely on my own understanding but to rely on God's power. I can let go of doubt and fear trusting God is in control.

Mary Beth Klauer

Community Lay Director Emeritus

SPONSORSHIP

EMMAUS future – by Gary Jackson

deColores:

As I write this we are one year into the pandemic crisis. Like everyone else, we have suffered through that year “locked down” with very little opportunity to travel or meet others in person. But Ginny and I now have our Covid vaccinations and we're slowly moving toward the “new normal.”

As our country emerges from restrictions it is time to consider moving forward and for us, Walk to Emmaus is an important part of this. Ginny and I were Pilgrims in E56 (Nov. 1998) and E57 (April 1999) and the experience started us on a spiritual journey that helped us get through the last year with the pandemic and various health issues.

What should the future of San Diego Emmaus be? Should we continue the Emmaus Walks (which started in 1985), change to only senior or youth retreats, or should San Diego Emmaus be discontinued? The answer really depends on you, the community. As others have noted, participation by the community has fallen off and it is the community that makes Emmaus successful and brings others to Jesus. I think of John 21:17 where Jesus told Peter “feed my sheep.”

There are many ways you could participate:

- Sponsor a Pilgrim when (and if) the Walks are restarted
- Join an Emmaus small group if not already a member
- Participate in 4th day gatherings (which we hope to restart later this year)
- Work the Walks in any capacity including Pilgrim letters, agape, music, kitchen, or many other roles
- Come to candlelight
- Join the Emmaus board
- Mention Emmaus to those whom you think would benefit from a closer Walk with Jesus

Remember, continuing San Diego Emmaus resides in community support and you are an important part of this!

Your brother in Christ,

Gary Jackson, E57



AGAPE

My name is Frank Ruiz, Walk E 99, Board Agape Director

I was fortunate to meet and see the love of God in so many people during my Walk and the Walks that I continued to serve. I'm on the board of Emmaus as the Agape Person for the last four years and served in plenty of Walks. It has been a privilege.

The best thing about The Walks to Emmaus is how many lives it has changed because of God's Word and the Emmaus Community. But I must ask you: have you kept your commitment you took on your fourth day--"I'm counting on Christ, and He is counting on me???" Our community is hurting right now--outside and inside. What do I mean? We are the light of this world, and what we do for others, we do for God. I have been tremendously changed by this EVENT, RETREAT, PROGRAM, MINISTRY, or whatever you want to call it. Lol. But I'm sure I'm not the only one that feels this way. This is a great ministry. Sadly, we might be losing it if our community doesn't keep its commitment—the commitment of sponsorship of Pilgrims, your participation in our Gatherings, and being in small groups. Your action is needed. We are counting on you to do God's work: being His hands and feet. Please join in praying with the Emmaus Board that when we get back to our new normal and when we can see each other in person, we will persist in spreading God's word to others. Please be in prayer with us and keep supporting your Emmaus community.

De Colores!!!

Frank Ruiz



Agape Letters

As many of you may or not know, Face to Face #7 was in progress last March 2020 when the Coronavirus pandemic caused the four-day encounter to be closed down after the completion of Day 2. The Pilgrims were notified before the second weekend that we were in "lockdown" until further notice. We were hoping to get the "go ahead" to resume the encounter as soon as possible. At that time, no one could anticipate such a long period of social distancing!

By now you must know that F2F#7 has not been completed. You might wonder what happened to the letters of agape that were written by family members, friends and community members. The San Diego Emmaus Board has been meeting via Zoom to conduct business. Last fall, the board discussed what should be done with the letters. It was decided wholeheartedly that the Pilgrims should receive their letters. Lay Director of F2F#7, Scott Wood, made sure that the letters were explained and distributed to the Pilgrims. What a blessing to know that each participant was able to read those letters of love and encouragement during the pandemic!

If you are able, I would encourage each of you to pull out the letters that were given to you on your own Walk or Encounter and read them over again...maybe even be inspired to write a letter or two to someone special on your own faith journey. We all can be nourished by words of faith and encouragement from our dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

De Colores,

Teresa Vaca, Registrar for SD Emmaus



Face to Face 2020

An encounter to remember.....

We had just finished our first weekend. It was Thursday before the second weekend. Everyone was excited. The Pilgrims were already bonded; they were sharing on a deep level, personally, and spiritually. Many had already prayed together. The speakers were exceptional, giving lots of discussion materials that created an openness to the tables.

Then we got the word the virus hit: no gatherings; no leaving your home; isolate. We contacted everyone and hoped and prayed this would only last a few weeks and that we would be able to gather again soon.

Only God knew it would be over a year and we can still not schedule a time to finish this Face to Face Encounter.

Please be in prayer for this Encounter, the Pilgrims and team.

Our hope as an Emmaus Board is to finish this Encounter and schedule many more.
De Colores!
Diana Hall

From the Treasurer

De Colores to YOU!

I have the honor to serve on the SD Emmaus Board as the Treasurer. I feel a strong calling to let you know that we prayed over you, the Emmaus Community, at our Board meeting today. I wanted to reach out and let you know we are still a thriving community albeit virtual for the most part. Because I serve as Treasurer, I get to pay all the bills and balance the checkbook. Yes, there is an actual checkbook.

I wanted to ask you, as you feel led, to make a donation to the SD Walk to Emmaus. Because we have not hosted any Walks this year, we have not generated any income, but the bills continue to come in. If you want to send in a check please make it payable to San Diego Emmaus Community and mail it to PO Box 502385, San Diego, CA 92105.

We are excited about some changes coming from the Upper Room with regards to some programming. Stay tuned!

Praying over you, Charlene Patterson, Treasurer

Our purpose remains to renew Christian disciples to be the hands and feet of Christ and thereby strengthen the local church.



Sponsorship and Fellowship

During this time of Covid quarantine and restricted socializing, I have been so grateful for the connections I have made with the Emmaus Community. Even though I've followed guidelines set by "the experts," I came to truly understand why God created His children to be in fellowship with other believers. What joy has been experienced when sisters in my two reunion groups get together (virtually or in person) to share our closet moments to Christ. One attendee refers to the reunion as her "therapy group."

And I'm so thankful that my friend who sponsored me over a decade ago, was persistent for **four years** in her efforts to convince me to attend the Walk to Emmaus. What a life changing experience! But now we're struggling. In order to keep this ministry alive and thriving in San Diego, it demands that we **all** sponsor someone for every Walk. Without Pilgrims there can be no future Walks to Emmaus or Face to Face encounters. Please consider – Who can YOU sponsor? Your adult children? Your young adult grandchildren? There's a place for everyone!

The restrictions of Covid-19 have hit the future of the Emmaus movement in San Diego very hard. If you have walked, we look to each of you to sponsor a brother or sister to experience how God changed you. Maybe a friend from your church or a neighbor? Who in your circle of influence would be changed by this experience?

We know that Christ meets us at our place of greatest need. He wants to see us whole and healed. What better place for this to occur than during a Walk to Emmaus surrounded by other Christ followers pouring our abundant agape love?

For more information, contact an Emmaus board member. Or invite the Holy Spirit to bring someone to mind who needs more Jesus in their lives. Watch for important details in future Rooster Doodles.

Blessings to all ~
Barbara Bennett, Emmaus Board Secretary



San Diego Walk to Emmaus

P.O. Box 502385
San Diego, CA 92150-2385

April, 2021



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

There are no events scheduled

We are working on a virtual gathering (date not determined).

