

# PIONEER COUNTRY EMMAUS



## NEWSLETTER

"Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread." Luke 24:35

(NRSV)

## CALENDAR: CALENDAR:

### MARCH IS "FIESTA" TIME!

March means it's time for one of Pioneer Country's fantastic "themed" gatherings! New Beginnings Worldwide Church of God in northwest OKC will host a Mexican Fiesta Gathering on March 21, 2009 beginning at 5:30pm. Worship will follow at 7:00pm. Our wonderful hosts will provide the food and the community is asked to bring drinks and desserts. We hope to see everyone there for a time of worship, sharing, fellowship, FOOD and fun!

*Need directions? New Beginnings is located at 7221 Lyrewood Ln, OKC. Take NW Expressway (from east) or Kilpatrick Turnpike (from west) to Wilshire. Turn south on Lyrewood Ln. (between Rockwell and NW Expressway) The church is a half-mile south on the west side of the street.*

March GATHERING  
March 21, 2009 - 5:30pm  
New Beginnings Church

#### Looking Ahead...

TORCH  
March 27-29, 2009  
Central Okla. Juvenile  
Center- Tecumseh

KAIROS  
April 16 - 19, 2009  
Mabel Bassett Correctional  
Center - McLoud, OK

PIONEER COUNTRY  
EMMAUS GATHERING  
April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
St. Matthew United Methodist  
Church  
Midwest City, OK

KAIROS  
April 23-26  
Cimmaron Correctional Center,  
Cushing

#### IT'S TIME FOR COMMUNITY TRAINING!!!

**Have you ever wondered how everything gets done on a Walk weekend? Would you like to know more about what goes on behind the scenes? We invite you to come to our Community Training on April 18, 2009, from 5:00 - 6:55 p.m., just prior to the April Community Gathering at St Matthew's UMC. There will be a general discussion about the flow of the weekend, and then two break-out sessions - one for serving in the Conference Room, leading the Prayer Room, sponsoring Pilgrims and serving on the Board, and another session for serving in the kitchen, dining room, snacks and agape, serving as a Team Assistant and how you can help set up for the Walk and tear back down for the Church's Sunday morning. By attending both break-out sessions, you will come away with a pretty good understanding of a Walk weekend and how you can be involved. We look forward to seeing you there!**

Welcome the Men & Women from  
Walks #113 & #114



**Men's Walk:**

Martin Czarneski  
Michael Watson  
Rick Akers  
Chris King  
Bob Guthery  
Micah Parker  
Stuart Powell  
Burt Chester  
Darrell Davenport  
Richard Ames  
David Wrights  
Stuart Rising  
Ken Doyle  
Chris Westhof  
Brian Glover  
Michael Pelletier  
David Smith  
Keith Hamel  
Vance Law  
Renn Law  
Bill Bunch  
Woodie Kimble  
Jason Duff  
Rustin Hurst  
Terry Parrott  
Daniel McNickle  
Josh Leach  
Curt Kimble  
Scott Burns  
Paul Coulter  
Phil Altes  
Terry Grayson  
Gordon Loveless  
Charley Fielder

**Women's Walk:**

Patty Loveless  
Adelina Longoria  
Lorri Czarneski  
Ginene Akers  
Mellodie King  
Rena Britt  
Jean Arbuckle  
Tiffany Smith  
Lisa Hood  
Gloria Carmichael  
Robbie Powell  
Shannon Wrights  
Cathy Shuppert  
DeLissa F. Mingee  
Karri Smith  
Sharon Larios  
Joe Ann Porter  
Julie Bunch  
Mary Kephart  
Margaret Beck  
Dorrie Parrott  
Carole Gossett  
Stephanie Leach  
Rebecca Bye  
Linda Merriweather  
Roberta Carrier  
Cindy Ng  
Jean Whittington  
Kathy Dillon  
Nona Burling  
Debi Bibb  
Pat Fielder  
Melissa Mahaffey



Pioneer Country Emmaus would like to thank Mustang  
United Methodist Church for hosting our February Men's  
and Women's Walk.

We appreciate your hospitality!  
May God bless you abundantly!



**A few words from the Men's Closing:**

"When I looked deep into your eyes I could see the light that lit the  
candles last night."

"I rededicated my life Friday night to Jesus Christ"

"The most amazing spiritual experience I've had"

"The walk allowed me to get in touch with the emotional side of me"

"God said he was tired of me being a part-time Christian,  
God has given me a brand new family!"

"The best journey I've taken in my life. I was at a spiritual exhaustion, this  
gave me what I need and allowed my true colors to shine."



**A few words from the Women's closing:**

"Most awesome thing I have ever experienced. I want to show this same  
love to others."

"My feet were washed with love and grace."

"Wow! I've never experienced so much love from God. I hope my friends  
can see Jesus in me."

"This Walk opened my eyes to how unconditional God's love really is. I  
Just want to keep spreading that love to everyone I meet."

"I came in here kicking and being dragged. It will take the same thing to  
get me out."



\*\*\* **REUNION GROUPS** \*\*\*

My Reunion Group Life by Rev. Karen Styers:

My original walk was High Sky Emmaus Walk #32, San Angelo, Texas, Table of Mary. I had good sponsorship and went right into a reunion group. Then, I sponsored a friend and we started a second group. I grew close to my sisters and the Lord in these groups for 5 years. Then my husband was transferred and we moved to Oklahoma City. The cool thing about Emmaus is that it is everywhere. So I found a group in Bethany. As groups do, people cycle in and out with changes in work and personal life. That was the case for me. My life became so full, I had trouble making reunion group a priority and fell away. My next group, one which I don't recommend, was a reunion group of one..me. The scheduling is pretty easy, but the accountability for this type of group is terrible. During this time, I was involved in small groups at my church, but I still felt a void. Then in the summer of 2007, when I was serving on Women's Walk #108, when the Holy Spirit gave me a nudge, no a big push to reenter a reunion group. I was in a very low time in my life. My autistic son was in a psychiatric hospital for trying to harm his sisters. God used this time in my life to love and support me through a reunion group. It was certainly His time. It's funny really. God put me with 6 incredible, faithful women. Among them are nurses, a teacher, a therapist and serious prayer warriors. Everything I needed..my reunion group dream team. I pray it will always be this way.

My reunion group isn't some magic group with all the answers but it is a group of believers seeking to be faithful. The members of a reunion group can be Christ present with us in the good and bad times. When you're looking for a group, try more than one. Look for a good fit. Find a place where you can grow. And remember the groups change, grow and sometimes die, so don't take it personally. When a change does come, look at it as an opportunity to connect with a new group of believers.

DeColores

### KAIROS TORCH

Torch is an introductory two-day program for youth 13 - 18 years of age who live in a juvenile detention center. The weekend is a combined effort of an ecumenical Torch Team with the Chaplaincy to provide for spiritual need of the youth and to lay the groundwork for the youth's spiritual life during the term of the detention and beyond.

The weekends will be followed with a mentoring program matching one to two adults with each youth, both by gender and race. The Torch weekend, combined with mentoring, is designed to build the self-esteem of each participating youth and to give each a greater hope and plan, apart from gangs and crime, for their lives.

The next Torch weekend will be held March 27-29 at the Central Oklahoma Juvenile Center in Tecumseh. Closing will be Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm.

For more information on Torch and how you can make a difference in the lives of these youth, contact Lynda Estes at 677-7201.

Dear Emmaus Family:

Words will never express our heartfelt thanks for your prayers, phone calls, visits and encouragement during Ross' recent hospitalization. As we sat down to write this note, an old poem came to mind:

Hearts, like doors, will open with ease

To very, very tiny keys.

For all the special things you do

There is in our heart

A special place for you.

From the bottom of our hearts, Thank You. Betty and Sharon Flowers