



Rooster Crow June 2020

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

**WE ARE INTO OUR STANDARD
ROTATION FOR GATHERINGS:**

JULY 19: First UMC

AUGUST 16: St John's UMC

SEPTEMBER 20: Wellspring UMC

**Emmaus Gatherings are the third
Sunday each month at 5:30 pm**

GEORGETOWN EMMAUS COMMUNITY GATHERING

Sunday, June 21

**Gathering for June is
cancelled. Watch for
separate email with the 4th
day talk information.**

FOURTH DAY SPEAKER: Nikki Underwood

The June talk will be published electronically.

From our Spiritual Director, Rev. Dr. Ann Hagmann

Dear Emmaus Co-journeymers,

It was with sadness today that I went to the closing sale of *For the Birds*. Like so many businesses, it couldn't survive Covid-19. One of the owners commented to me that this was the start of their 5th year and was the year the business was supposed to really "take off." Their situation raises the question, How do we contend with disappointment? Closed doors? Losses?

At 72 years of life I have learned that life is full of losses. Many of these losses are welcomed as they are the result of growing up – graduating schools, leaving families, moving away for work, having children grow up etc. These losses are positive and associated with growth. The hard part is the *change* they involve.

Other losses are deep wounds in life that knock us down. These negative losses can gain positive power by spiritually embracing them as little "*surrenders*," if you will, "little deaths" across time as we lose people, time itself, youth, robust health and hundreds of other little losses and *surrenders* in our lives. Indeed, *surrender* is spiritually essential with positive losses as well. It reflects the **attitude of "letting go and letting God into the situation, the change, the loss."** Oddly enough all *surrenders* prepare us for the ultimate physical *surrender* in this life, physical death, as we trust and entrust ourselves and all we love into God's care.

I also know that *surrender* was the key action that ignited my adult relationship with God, when I *surrendered* what I wanted for what God wanted for me. I gave up the control of my life, and it was the best decision I ever made!!! (of course I've tried to take it back off and on over the decades...)

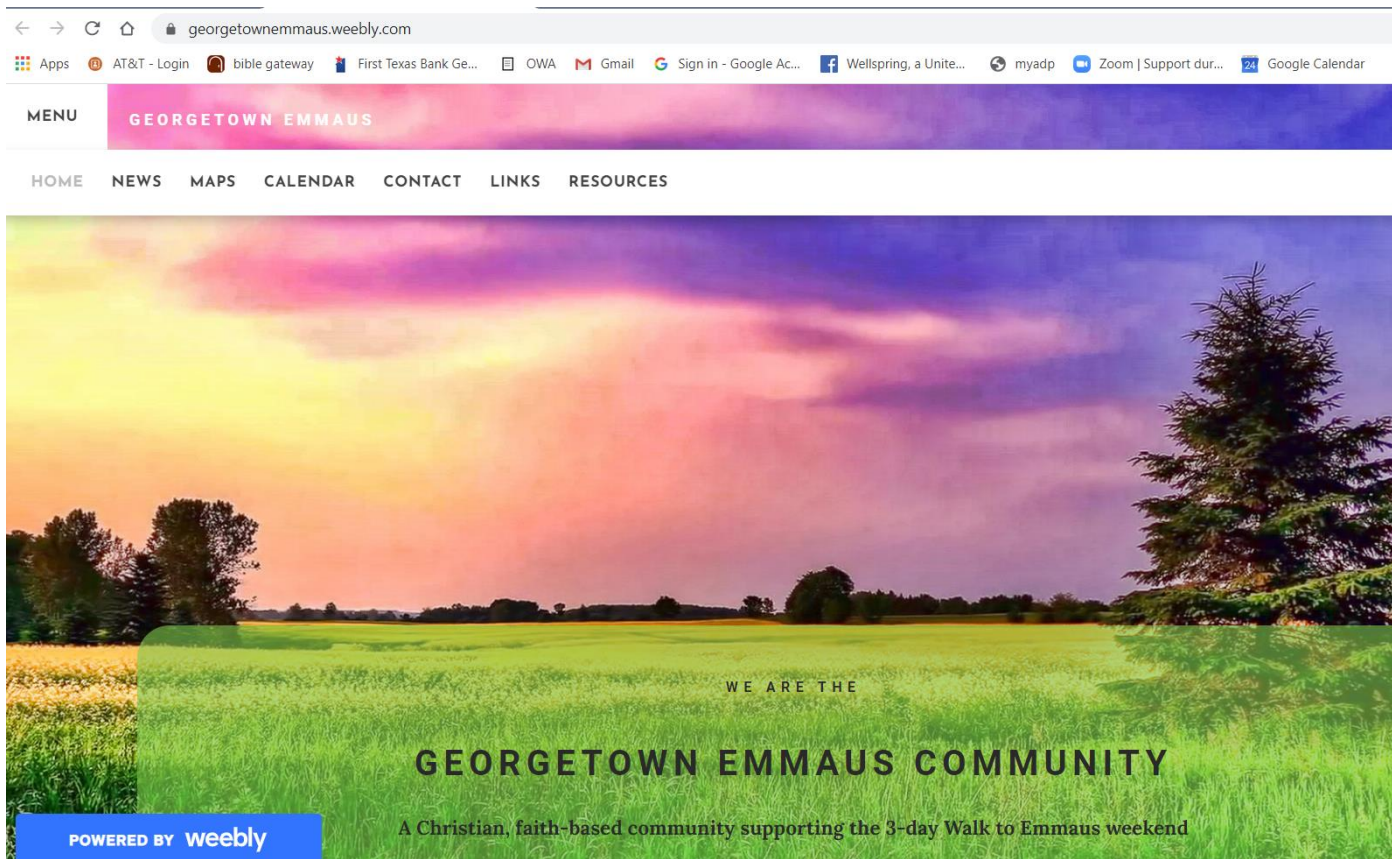
So my word to all of us today is to embrace the changes and losses coming our way with the reality of our world's Covid-19 and racial inequality crises, and exercise the spiritual discipline of *surrender* to what we cannot change and courage to change what we can. Let us view *surrender* as a gift. For it was Jesus who said: "If any want to become My followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life" (*Matthew 17:24-26a*).

De Colores and God bless you, Ann Hagmann SD



May Gathering Business Meeting Highlights

The Leadership team approved the publication of the updated Georgetown Emmaus Community Website. Much thanks to Ken Sommerville who developed the website and has published it for our use. The link to the website has not changed; so please go out to georgetownemmaus.org or use the direct link at <https://georgetownemmaus.weebly.com>. Browse through the menu to see links, resources, calendars, addresses for gatherings, newsletter archive and much more. Ken did a wonderful job and would like feedback from the community.



Needing CHILDCARE for our GATHERINGS?
Please contact Sarah Shackelford at (512) 508-2659
ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE GATHERING!

Newsletter Articles and Devotionals WANTED:

If you have any inspirational or wonderful devotionals you would like to share with our Emmaus brothers and sisters, please send to Linda Miles at mileslm75@gmail.com .

A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

Submitted by Chuck Rohre
Walk 186, Table of Paul

It was a short and relatively brief e-mail; yet, it made my day! “Chuck, Great article in this Month’s Koinonia! Just wanted to let you know it’s being read and appreciated! De Colores, JW.” Other than my loyal fan and critic, my lovely bride, and one of my reunion brothers, I was unsure anyone was actually reading what I wrote in the monthly Dallas Emmaus Community newsletter. Having no delusions of grandeur, it was still a nice affirmation and a kind gesture.

Motivational writers and speakers talk about “Balcony People.” This is a brief description of a book by that title, written by Joyce Landorf Heatherly: “There are some people in the ‘balconies’ of our lives who cheer us on, energizing us by their warm affirmations. There are others who live down in the ‘basement,’ coldly tearing away at our souls with their unfair and critical judgments. This book is about discovering the balcony people in your life and about being a balcony person to others.”

The Apostle Paul wrote, in 1 Thessalonians 5: *For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*

In the Emmaus tradition, we have a marvelous way of encouraging each other. When we see one in distress, we say “De Colores.” Are we sincere when we do so? When talks are introduced on the Walks, the Pilgrims are called to exhibit a spirit of cooperation and charity. When the talks are previewed during team meetings, the reviewers are called to be kind and positive as they affirm the speaker and the talk. We drive sometimes considerable distances to be at Candlelight for Pilgrims we hardly know, if at all. Will we exhibit that same spirit of cooperation, charity and encouragement in the rest of our life or only during Emmaus? Will you be a balcony person for a brother or sister this week or next? Will you be the positive voice in a sea of gloom? And most importantly, will you see the spark of Jesus that lives in all of us and honor that little piece of divinity innate in our fellow man? As we consider our options, we should remember that from all reports, the view is better from the balcony than in the cellar.

DE COLORES!!





SERVICE OF WHOLENESS/TAIZE

Taize services will begin again in the fall. We will publish the schedule when received

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance as of May Gathering:
Not Available

Upcoming Fourth Day Speakers

Please consider presenting the 4th Day Talk at a gathering this year. See our Georgetown Emmaus Website for 4th Day Talk Information. Both you and the community will be blessed by your witness.

June 21	Nikki Underwood
July 19	Open
August 16	Carolyn Henry
September 20	Open
October 18	Open
November 15	Elaine Jackson
December 20	Ann & John

Please contact Ronan Shackelford or Mary Jane Berry if you are willing to present your witness.

For our Community, this is a devotion submitted by Renee Crabtree that touched her heart. From the Henri Nouwen inspired “Now and Then” Podcast on May 23

We Are Windows to God's Love

The discipline of community makes us persons; that is, people who are sounding through to each other (the Latin *personare* means “sounding through”) a truth, a beauty, and a love that is greater, fuller, and richer than we ourselves can grasp. In true community we are windows constantly offering each other new views on the mystery of God's presence in our lives. Thus the discipline of community is a true discipline of prayer. It makes us alert to the presence of the Spirit who cries out “Abba,” Father, among us and thus prays from the center of our common life. Community thus is obedience practiced together. The question is not simply “Where does God lead me as an individual person who tried to do his will?” More basic and more significant is the question “Where does God lead us as a people?”

UPCOMING CENTRAL TEXAS WALKS

Due to concerns of the Covid 19 virus, the Central Texas Emmaus Board made the very difficult decision to postpone the remaining walks for 2020. We will assess the situation for the February walk in 2021 when the time arises. In the mean-time think about how we can keep the fire alive in Emmaus. Keep in contact with your reunion groups and let's think about creative ways that Georgetown community can start have gatherings via zoom or whatever outlet people feel comfortable with, whether it be outside at the park or virtual. I know during the last board meeting I have heard about other communities doing such as these.

De Colores,

Crystal Jackson
CTC Board Rep

Women's Walk 448 – Rescheduled for 2021

Latham Springs Baptist Camp, Aquilla, TX
Sponsoring 4th Day Group: DeCorEllis

Women's Walk 450 – Rescheduled for 2021

Solid Rock Camp, Eastland, TX
Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Breckenridge

Women's Walk 452 – Rescheduled for 2021

Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX
Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Twin Lakes

Women's Walk 454 – February 25, 2021

TBD
TBD

Men's Walk 447 – Rescheduled for 2021

Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX
Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Twin Lakes

Men's Walk 449 – Rescheduled for 2021

Heart of Texas Baptist Camp, Brownwood, TX
Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Pecan Valley

Men's Walk 451 – Rescheduled for 2021

Latham Springs Baptist Camp, Aquilla, TX
Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Greater Waco

Men's Walk 453 – Rescheduled for 2021

Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center, Glen Rose, TX
Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Tarrant County

Sign up for participation on a team!!! Contact Crystal Jackson or Anne Castle if you are interested. You will be blessed by participating in the Emmaus weekend. You can find the team application form on the Central Texas Emmaus website at <http://ctcemmaus.org/index.php/walk-info/2020walks>.

Greater Austin Emmaus Community 2020 Walks

Women's Walk #147 is being rescheduled to 2021

Women's Walk #148

Debby Duplantis, Lay Director
Spiritual Director TBD

Diane Merwarth, Board Rep.
Bob Duplantis, Servant Team Coor.

November 5 – 8, 2020

Contact: Debby@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Diane@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Bob@austinemmaus.org

Both of these Walks will be held at Eagle's Wings Retreat Center in Burnet.
The fee is \$210.00 each.



