



BORN AGAIN EMMAUS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NEXT GATHERING: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2020 (Zoom)

ALL ARE WELCOME

"Christ Is Counting On You"

November 30, 2020

DECEMBER EMMAUS GATHERING VIA ZOOM

We miss each of you and with the daily changes in this world, we are unsure of when we will meet again in person as a Community. BUT we want to see your smiling faces. We are continuing doing a Zoom Gathering! The details are listed here.

DATE/TIME: Dec 8, 2020
07:00 PM **Every month on the Second Tuesday.**

LINK:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79862813056?pwd=VWnV2dXB1QkdqbHgx2tZdnZMTFhodz09>

PASSWORD: 1cmHDg



EMMAUS BREAKFAST TAILGATE GATHERING

DATE/TIME: Dec 5, 2020 9:30AM

LOCATION: Spring Creek UMC Parking Lot

Breakfast tailgate in the church parking lot - bring your own breakfast and drink and see your Emmaus brothers and sisters in person. (Social distancing and facemasks strongly suggested while walking around).

COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR – *Mary Kruse*

De Colores Brothers and Sisters!

This is the last month of the year 2020 ... and, my last newsletter article as your Community Lay Director. This has been a different year for us. One thing that has been really different for me is trying to share my wonderful sense of humor and amazing personality with you guys virtually ... it is just not the same as seeing you in person. BUT, we have an opportunity to see each other from an appropriate distance at the Breakfast Tailgate this month! Please come! I want to air hug you!

I woke up the other morning with Jesus' words from Mark 12:31 making circles in my mind. "Love your neighbor." We all know what this means. We have all heard a sermon or ten based on this verse. We have read devotionals and contemplated what this means for us personally in our quiet times. But, I am so convicted to say that we MUST actually DO this! How that plays out for each of us individually will be, well, individual. And that is good and true and right. We are created to be unique, so love others in your own unique way, and love them in their uniqueness!

One of the biggest ways we can love is to listen. Listening is an active task involving our full attention, all our senses, without talking. Since our mouths are between our ears, maybe we should sandwich our words between periods of listening ... Listen, Speak, Listen. Or maybe we should think of it like: Listen, Love, Listen. Listen, Love, Listen. Since we cannot love in person like we are used to, maybe we can love with our listening.

One more thought to share ... something that struck me over the summer. It was a "Wow", "Whoa" and a "Duh", all at the same time. We are created in God's image. We are all unique creations. Maybe there are so many differences between us all because God is so big, no one human could even come close to reflecting His full image. So, all together, we reflect God. We cannot belittle any person's uniqueness because their uniqueness reflects God. Makes me look at everyone with different lenses. I try (not perfect by any means) to see the light of the Spirit in everyone. I hope that you see a reflection of God in my attempts to do this. To Him be all the glory!

Keep being the light and love in the world. Christ is counting on you.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT NEW DATABASE COMING

Please click on the link provided and complete the information.

[NEW DATABASE](#)

Thank you and God Bless.

COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR – Mary D D’Alessio

In 1849 while pastoring his congregation in Wayland, MA, Unitarian parish minister Edmund Hamilton Sears crafted a poem entitled “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear.” The next year at his request, it was set to music by New York organist, Richard Storrs Willis. The words penned by Rev. Sears, a pacifist and champion in the battle against slavery, still beckon us to remember that the world in which we live, the world we see, is mysteriously “shot through” by the eternal world unseen, and our gracious heavenly King still desires peace for us.

For well over a century and a half, “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear,” along with many other carols—“O Come, All Ye Faithful,” “Joy to the World”, “O Little Town of Bethlehem”, have been sung in churches by choirs and congregations, in living rooms by families gathered ‘round a piano, in nursing homes and hospital hallways and on the lawns of shut-ins by visiting friends who lift up Christmas songs of good cheer.

This year, 2020, is oh so different, for our desire to spread joy has been usurped by our desire NOT to spread that nasty virus. So, we

hide our smiles behind masks. We hush our glorious songs of joy all the while yearning for times of warm fellowship.

My dear, Christian friends, I suggest there is no better time than the “NOW” in which we live to reflect and absorb the words of Sears’ carol. The angels still sing. Be still. Be quiet. Believe and listen.

(The following are Sears’ words, copied from a likeness of his hand penned poem as displayed in the Wayland Museum in Massachusetts.)

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

*It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the Earth
to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the Earth, good will to men
from heaven’s all gracious King” --
the world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they
come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o’er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing
and ever o’er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.*

*But with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the angel strain have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and man, at war with man, hears not
the love-song which they bring--
O hush the noise ye men of strife
and hear the angels sing!*

*And ye beneath life’s crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
we toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow.
Look now! for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;--
O rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!*

*For lo! the days are hastening on
by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever-circling years
comes round the age of gold;
when peace shall over all the
earth
its ancient splendors fling, and
the whole world give back the
song which now the angels sing.*

GATHERING SPEAKERS NEEDED FOR 2021 – Dory Martinez

Even during COVID 19 – our Gathering is still meeting and we need speakers for 2021. Please go to Sign-up Genius and choose a date. Let’s keep Emmaus alive during these trying circumstances. Christ is counting on you!

Go to Sign-up Genius [HERE](#) If you have any questions please contact me at dory_martinez84@yahoo.com

REUNION GROUPS – Carol Wilson

Reunion Groups are a vital part of your Emmaus experience. Are you in a REUNION GROUP? If not, please [CLICK HERE](#) to see the groups we currently have. If you need more help to make contact, etc, please let me know. I want to help you...if you have questions, please email gwilson0630@att.net

KAIROS – Tom Patterson

Friends - I am very disappointed to report that the Kairos weekend in January has been postponed again until July 2021. The state has continued to lock out volunteers and family from the prison system in Texas. I'm happy to report that our local Kairos Unit Advisory Council organized the delivery of cookies for every resident and employee of the Torres and Ney units along with notes of God's love and encouragement. Please continue to pray for all those incarcerated and for the families that cannot see their loved ones. Please pray that we are able to continue God's work through Kairos Prison Ministry in 2021. Please contact me if you would like information about Kairos tom@tpatterson.org or 210-573-5909.

We're on the Web!

<https://www.bornagainemmaus.org>

Monthly Gathering Location

Spring Creek UMC
9200 Dietz Elkhorn Rd
Fair Oaks Ranch, TX 78015

Mailing Address

Born Again Emmaus Community
P.O. Box 292
Boerne, TX 78006

We're on Facebook!

Born Again Emmaus Community

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Kruse	Lay Director
Hal Hornburg	Asst. Lay Director
Tim Hickman	Secretary
Denise Vadnais	Treasurer
Steve Stricklin	Community Trainer / LD Men's Walk #61
Ginny Stricklin	Walk Coordinator / Team Selection Committee Chair / Walk #62 Board Rep. / Newsletter Editor
Dennis Kruse	Agape Coordinator
Carol Wilson	Reunion Group Liaison
Freddie Loeber	Agape Committee - Wall Agape
Karen Loeber	Agape Committee - Wall Agape

Darryl Reid	Member
Michelle Reid	Member
Maurine Maloy	Audit Committee
Empty	Member
Empty	Member
Mary D D'Alessio	Spiritual Director

Non-Voting Members

Nikki Decker	LD Women's Walk #62
Curtis Lang	Website
Tom Patterson	Kairos Liaison
John Politi	Upper Room Liaison/Librarian
Terri Politi	Registrar
Dory Martinez	Gathering Coordinator

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gathering - 2nd Tuesday of every month

Dec 8	Gathering (Zoom)
Jan 12	Gathering (TBD)
Feb 9	Gathering (TBD)
Mar 9	Gathering (TBD)

UPCOMING WALKS

Men's Walk 61 – TBD 2021
Women's Walk 62 – TBD