



Cross Point Emmaus

XXVIII Number 12

December 2018



The Gift That Keeps On Giving!

Do you have that person in your family that is difficult to find a Christmas present for? Or the person that has everything. How about giving them a gift that gives back? You can make a donation to Cross Point Emmaus in honor of a friend, family member or loved one. You can designate your donation towards the general funds, Volunteer Scholarship Fund, or Pilgrim Scholarship Fund. All of the events of Emmaus are funded through your generous donations. Thank you so much for funding this wonderful ministry that continues to change lives!

Your name Your email address Your phone number

Who you are making the donation in honor of. Amount of Donation

Street Address of Honoree City State Zip Code

General fund Volunteer Scholarship Fund Pilgrim Scholarship Fund

Send your donations to Cherri Bradley 261 Hampton Rd, Ardmore OK, 73401.

A card will be mailed to the Honoree.





WE NEED YOU!

The Emmaus weekends are dependent on volunteers who are willing to give up their time and money to serve the Pilgrims. The Team Selection Committee of the Emmaus Board has begun the process of putting together the teams that will serve for those two spirit-filled weekends in the Spring of 2019 but we still haven't received enough volunteer applications to complete our task. Would you pray about serving and then complete the volunteer application as soon as possible? Although we are technically past the established deadline for volunteer applications, Joe Rison and Patty Tickel, our Spring Walk Lay Directors, **NEED YOU**, as do all of the Pilgrims! Your weekend experience as part of the Emmaus Team will be very rewarding and you will truly see a lot of "Servant's Hearts".

Tem Barrett

Assistant Community Lay Director

Spring Walks

* **March 28-31, 2019 for the Men**

* **April 4-7, 2019 for the Women**

If our walks become overflowing with candidates we will revisit opening up a second walk in the same year.



It is with excitement and anticipation that we offer you a chance to vote on the next class of The Board of Directors. Although it is a big commitment, it is also such an honor to serve. There are things for you to consider when voting. The board needs come from a variety of locations, have a variety of talents to fill the working positions that we are responsible for, and a mix of gender and experience. Please pray over the list of names below and vote for those you feel God is calling. **Ballots are due Dec.15. 2018**

Laity* (Vote for 4)

- Becca Glaser
- Ricky Hamilton
- Kirk Blancett
- Mandi Goodman
- Jerold Phillips
- Melissa West
- Michael Roberts
- Ricky Henshaw

Clergy* (Normally you would have a choice of at least 2 clergy to vote for. This year, we had 4 on the ballot but 3 have requested that their names be removed. Please be praying over the clergy in our area, that more will come forward to be involved in Emmaus.)

- David Shahan

Mail your ballot to:

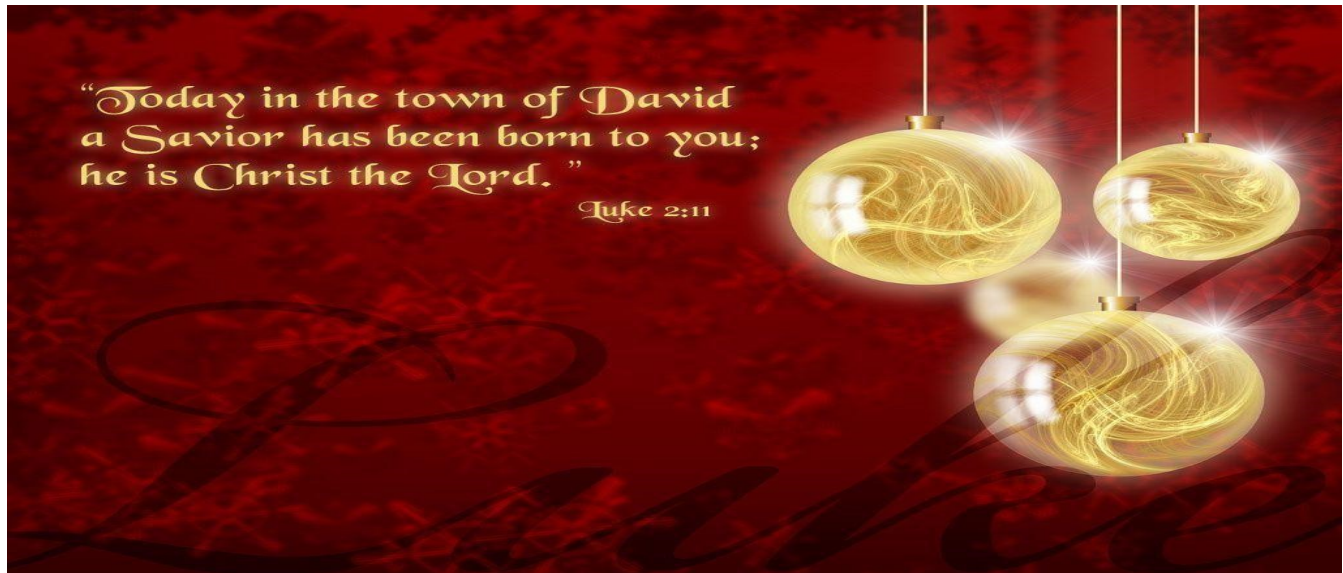
Tem Barrett

211 Meadow Rd, Ardmore, OK 73401

Scan and email you vote to:

tembarrett@gmail.com

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:10-11



Rejoice! Rejoice! December is always a month of great joy, hope, and love for all fellow man. It can also be filled, however, with pain and grief. As you enter this Christmas season, I pray you find joy and comfort somewhere amongst the celebration of Jesus' arrival. He not only came to bring hope, but restoration. Restoration of old wounds, broken hearts, depressed minds – of life! Jesus came to save us. Right now and right here. His joy is for all who come, so bring your struggle of losing a loved one, a dream, or a plan.

We sometimes overlook the fact that Mary felt great pain in giving birth to Jesus that night. Even Christ's arrival would not be pain free, and neither is His redemption. Jesus has overcome the world and yet we must still be steadfast in hope during troubles. Joy is not only the feeling of happiness, but the hope, greater than any disappointment, that God will give what you desire. If you do not feel joy today, I pray you will come to know the great joy that is going to come from your (birth) pains. Joy has come; Christ has come!

May you find the great joy in the answered promise of Jesus' birth. Come! Let us celebrate the arrival of our Savior! Immanuel!

Kenna

The Power of the Holy Spirit
Rev. Dr. David Mingus
Community Spiritual Director

When we speak of the power of the Holy Spirit, many people--even Christians--misunderstand the meaning of power. They tend to define power as the world defines it. They see power as a position or even a bully-pulpit from which we can proclaim Christ; often in the most un-Christ-like ways.

In the world's view, power conveys the ability to control people, events, and circumstances for our own advantage. We try to enforce our beliefs on others, often through caveat rather than love. In the world, power brings independence and self-sufficiency, with no need for God's help or the assurance of others.

And while many devote their lives to achieving this goal, this type of power can never satisfy the soul or bring joy or peace. The world's power is temporary, leaving a person always wanting more.

In describing the power of the Holy Spirit, the Bible paints quite a different picture (see Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 12:9). The word translated as "power" in the English Bible is the Greek word *dynamis*, from which we get the word dynamite. In Acts 1:8, Jesus told His disciples that before they would be able to evangelize the world, they must receive the *dynamis* of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit possesses a dynamite-like power that works within a believer to blast out anything that is unlike God. It's not a power that exalts one person above others. It does not manipulate or control others. Instead, the Holy Spirit uses His power to break us so that He might remake us. The more we get self out of the way and yield our will to His, the more powerfully He's able to pour Himself out through us to others, and the more powerfully He's able to transform our lives. We're merely the conduits, the channels through which God's power moves.

The Holy Spirit empowers us to be witnesses of God's love, to live in a way that pleases God, to meet fully the demands and pressures of life, and to resist temptation. The power of the Holy Spirit is the only power that's sufficient to win spiritual battles against our own selfish desires and the wiles of Satan. It's only the power of the Holy Spirit that allows us to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Set aside some time today to ask God to free you from the desire to control others and to lead you to become a clean vessel that can be used to transmit His power. Ask Him to do the same for your spouse, your children, your coworkers, your friends, and your Emmaus community.

One of my favorite expressions to use to remind people of the power that is available if we only would tap into it is: No prayer....No Power....Little Prayer....Little Power....Much Prayer...MUCH power! Many Christians have an unseemly relationship with power. We are not to be the first, but rather the last. Our Savior demonstrated that He came not to be served, but to serve. We seek the power of the Holy Spirit, not to uplift ourselves or to demonstrate our piety, but to submit to the will of our Triune God so that we might become more like Him.

Let's be in prayer as we approach the season of Advent. We hunger for Christ's kingdom to be brought to this earth and await His triumphal return. Let's also prepare our hearts to be His servants as we prepare for the upcoming walks. Seek His will and offer yourself to Him.

Prayer: Lord, teach me about the true power of Your Spirit and grant me the willingness to submit to Your power. I confess that You alone are God. Please display Your power in and through my life, my words, and my thoughts today. Give those spiritual communities who seek to make disciples for the transformation of the world the power that only comes from above. Make us clean and willing vessels. This I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

"My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power" (1 Corinthians 2:4).

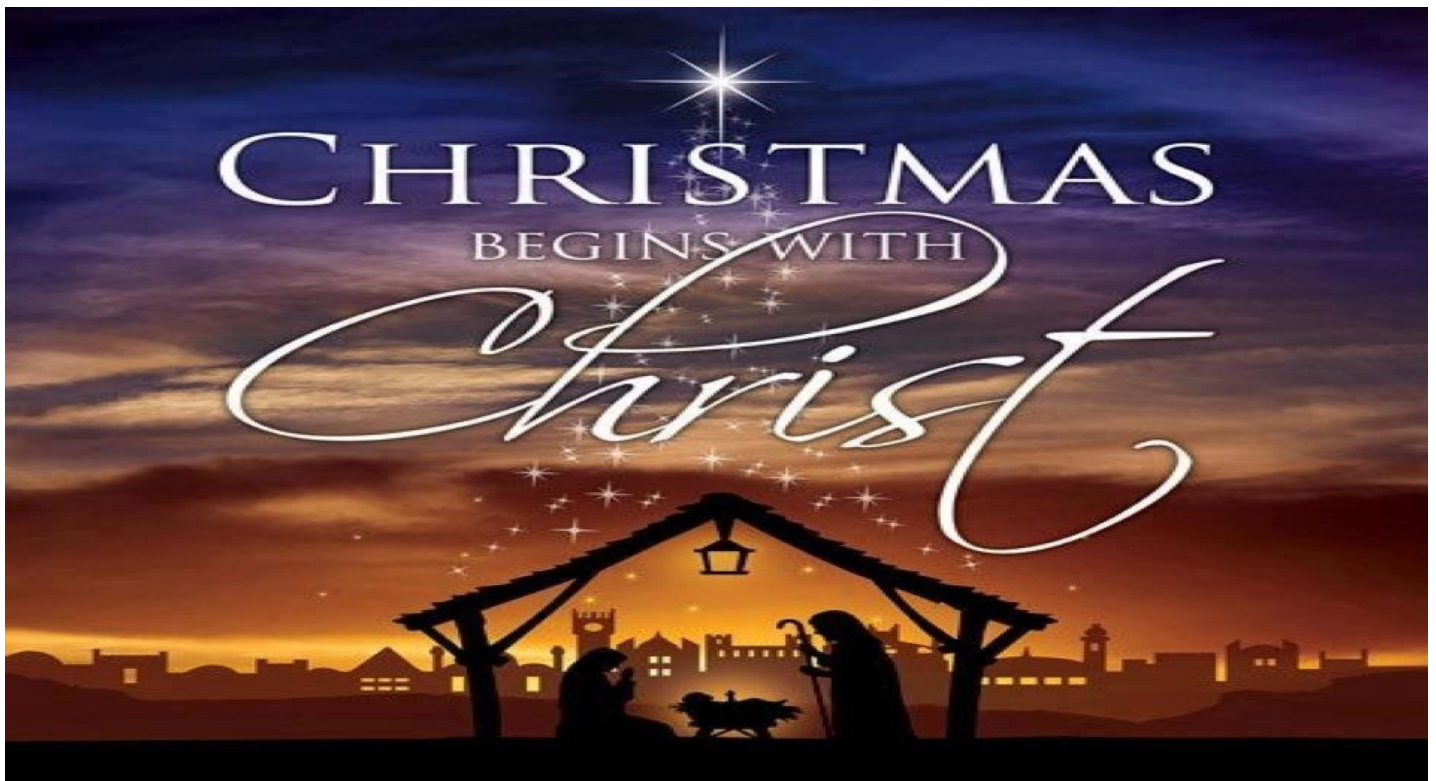
On the Road to Emmaus

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

....
²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

—Luke 24: 13-16, 28-32



Note: If you have anything to add to the next quarterly Newsletter, send your copy or photos to Sonya Morris at faronjrx@gmail.com or mail to: 330 Hope Ave, Ardmore, OK 73401. Please be mindful of space considerations, relevancy, and credit as necessary. No copyrighted works can be included without permissions. All submissions will be subject to editing as to length and content.

Most members of the Cross Point Emmaus community receive Newsletters and information by email. If you do not have an email address, then we send the Newsletter by U.S. mail. If you receive the Newsletter by regular mail but also have an email address, then please let us know by sending a note to: info@crosspointemmaus.org

Also, please ask your Emmaus friends if they receive the Newsletter? We do not want to accidentally omit anyone.