



# Crossroads Emmaus

March 2026

## UNSEEN EXCHANGE

Have you ever carried a financial debt that just would not go away? The kind that shows up in your mailbox and your inbox. The kind that sits in the back of your mind when you're trying to fall asleep. You make payments. You adjust your budget. You skip things you would have enjoyed because paying your debt means sacrifice.

And then one day, the balance reads zero. No fireworks. No parade. Just a quiet line on a statement: Paid in full. And something inside you exhales. You are free. The debt is gone – not because it disappeared, not because it was ignored, but because it was paid.

That is what was happening at the cross.

**John 19:16–30**

Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. Then they took Jesus [and led Him away.

And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. . .

## WHAT THE WORLD SAW

As Passover preparation got underway throughout the land, the crowds saw a man beaten beyond recognition carrying a wooden beam through crowded streets. They saw soldiers doing what soldiers did. They saw religious leaders satisfied that a problem had been removed. They saw a public execution outside the city gates.

They saw nails driven into flesh, blood staining wood, darkness falling at midday. They heard mocking. They heard weeping. They heard a man cry, "It is finished."

From the ground, it looked like loss. It looked like humiliation. It looked like another life crushed under the weight of power and politics. Even to the eyes of Jesus' friends, all they could see was suffering.

What they did not see was a debt being paid.

They did not see what Isaiah had written centuries earlier – that "the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." They did not see sin, in all its weight and rebellion, settling on the only One who had never known it. They did not see justice being satisfied in full.

The world saw a criminal getting what he deserved. His friends saw an innocent man dying.

Heaven saw something else entirely.



You Version  
Holy Bible  
Unseen Easter  
Devotional  
Day 2

## Dates of Interest:

### Board Meeting

April 21, 2026  
7:00 p.m. Zoom

### Gathering

#### FRIDAY

April 17, 2026 – 6:30 PM  
Port Lavaca  
Port Lavaca UMC  
814 N. San Antonio St  
Port Lavaca, TX 77979

## Up Coming Gatherings

## Exciting Walk News!

### Upcoming Walks

Crossroads Women's Walk

#### **93-2026**

September 24, 2026

Cathedral Oaks Retreat Center

Weimer, Texas

*Scholarships are AVAILABLE*

## Reunion Groups

### 2024-2025 Community Officers

Interim Community Lay Director & Board

Chairperson: Cindy Krause

Secretary: Belinda Waters

Treasurer: Retha Hahn

Immediate Past LD: Mike Alderson

Spiritual Director : Debbie Head



## **WHAT HEAVEN SAW**

**Heaven saw a transfer.**

**Paul would later write, “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” In simple terms, our guilt was placed on Christ, and His righteousness was credited to us. The debt was not waved away or minimized. It was paid.**

**The cross is not a picture of a cruel God demanding blood. It is the Father and the Son together accomplishing what love required and justice demanded. It is not anger out of control; it is mercy working through justice.**

**The crowd saw execution. Heaven saw atonement.**

**Every sacrifice in Israel’s history had pointed to this moment. Every Passover lamb. Every altar. Every whispered prayer for forgiveness. And when Jesus said, “It is finished,” it was not resignation. It was declaration. The debt had been paid in full.**

**Here is where the good news becomes personal.**

**The debt was ours, but we were never going to pay it off ourselves. No amount of effort, goodness, or religious activity could erase what separated us from God. The balance was beyond us to settle.**

**Jesus did not brush it aside. He stepped in and paid it personally, at great cost.**

**But here is the difference between your bank statement and the cross: when your debt is marked “paid,” it is because you made the payments. At Calvary, the payment was made for you – and it must be received.**

**You do not add to it. You do not improve upon it. You stop trying to settle your own balance and trust His finished work instead. That is what Scripture calls repentance and faith – turning from your own effort and resting in His.**

**And when you do, the cross no longer looks like loss.**

**It looks like freedom.**

**And if that were not enough, Jesus did not simply clear your debt. He credited you with His own righteousness. The exchange was not only subtraction – sin removed – but addition – His righteous life given to you.**

**What the world saw as death and defeat, heaven saw as redemption fully purchased, freedom extended, and righteousness credited to all who would receive it.**

**And that is why the cross, as brutal as it was, is glorious.**

## **REFLECT**

**What does it mean to you that Jesus paid your debt in full – not partially, not temporarily, but completely?**

**How does seeing the cross as a loving exchange reshape your view of Jesus?**

**In what ways might you still be trying to “pay” what Christ has already paid for you?**



# Crossroads Emmaus



**Crossroads Emmaus Meeting Minutes-February 17, 2026**

**Attendees:**

**Board Members:** Cindy Krause, Wes Dukes, Retha Hahn, Cindy Krause, Bill Rakowitz and Karen Webb.

**Call to Order:** Cindy Krause called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and opened with prayer.

**Community Lay Director's Report:** Cindy Krause nothing to report.

**Community Spiritual Director's Report:** Debbie Head- No report

**Minutes:** Minutes from December 16, 2025, meeting were reviewed. Retha Hahn motioned to accept; Karen Webb seconded; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Retha Hahn submitted report as information. Use of the debit and reloadable cards are working well in preparation for Walk 92.

Cindy Krause and Linda Alderson will work with Retha to audit 2025 Financials.

**Gatherings Report:** Cindy Krause reported the last gathering was very nice. Next gathering is Friday the 20 th at Point Comfort Methodist Church.

March gathering will be Friday the 20 th at Ganado Methodist Church. It will be the Babe Chick gathering. Cindy will be contacting The Lighthouse Methodist Church as a potential gathering host.

**Committee Reports:**

**Agape Letters (Wall):** Cheryl Worley – No report

**Candlelight:** Mike Kinsey – No report

**Community Trainer:** Kimberly Blezinger-No report

**Ministry Manager/Website:** Bill Rakowitz reported team members and registered pilgrims are up to date on the website

**Prayer Vigils:** Linda Alderson – The prayer vigil for Walk 92 has been sent to the Prayer Circle.

**Music:** Jay Thigpen – No report

**Newsletter-Perseverance Press –** Cindy Krause reported it should be out soon.

**Reunion Groups:** Cindy Krause reported no new reunion groups to add at this time.

**Registrar Report:** Retha Hahn reported 20 registered pilgrims and expecting 2 more for the upcoming Men's Walk #92.

**Team Selection:** Karen Webb- ready to move forward on setting up the next Women's Walk. Retha Hahn will be contacting Cathedral Oaks for available dates in August and September2026.

**Trailer-Sharing the Love of Christ Reunion Group, Salem Lutheran:**

Steve Bales, Bobby Hahn and Joan Behrens completed the trailer inventory. Joan identified items formerly used at Spiritual Renewal Center were not needed at Cathedral Oaks.

**Lay Director's Report:** Wes Dukes reported everything is on track for Walk #92. He thanked the board for support in postponing the walk until March. He reported that they may lose team members, but they do have backups.

**Spiritual Director's Report:** No report

**Old Business:** No old business

**New Business:** No new business

**Next Meeting:** March 17, 2026, at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

**Adjourn:** Cindy Krause closed the meeting with prayer at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Retha Hahn

03.16.2026