



Crossroads Emmaus

April 2026

Dates of Interest:

Board Meeting
May 19, 2026
7:00 p.m. Zoom

Gathering
FRIDAY
May 15, 2026 – 6:30 PM
To be determined

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

Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) by Matt Redman: Insights into the Song's Creation and Meaning

WL: Can you share how “10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)” came together and the heart behind its theme and focus?

Matt Redman: I co-wrote this song with my friend Jonas Myrin, a Swedish songwriter I've partnered with many times. Jonas shared an initial melody idea for the chorus that struck me instantly; it felt like the perfect fit for a song centered on the opening lines of Psalm 103. Remarkably, the song came together very quickly—much of it actually sprang up spontaneously. It's interesting; some songs like “Blessed Be Your Name” can take months of writing and refining, while others, like “10,000 Reasons,” flow almost effortlessly. Through these experiences, I've learned there's no rule that says something composed quickly is necessarily more spiritual or inspired. God-breathed songs can indeed emerge spontaneously, but they can also be the result of focused effort and perseverance.

Psalm 103 has long been one of my favorites because it lists so many powerful reasons to worship God: He heals our diseases, redeems us from the pit, and crowns us with love and compassion. In the verses of “10,000 Reasons,” we tried to create a list of our own, even though we're only just scratching the surface of God's infinite worth. The title's “10,000 Reasons” is a declaration of the countless motivations we have to praise Him. With anyone else, it would be an exaggeration, but with Jesus, it's an understatement. The core message of the song is this: if we ever find ourselves unable to think of a reason to thank or praise God, then the disconnect is on our side, not His. We live each day in the midst of an endless stream of His goodness, kindness, and holiness—each of which underscores how utterly worthy He is of our highest devotion.



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Crossroads Emmaus Meeting Minutes March 17, 2026

Attendees: Board Members: Retha Hahn, Cindy Krause, Bill Rakowitz, Belinda Waters, and Karen Webb.

(Bill had to leave the meeting at 7:29 pm)

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 the February 17, 2026 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Retha Hahn submitted report as information. The 99- N was filed. The audit needs to be done.

The financials from the men's Walk #93 are being worked on. Retha stated that only about \$300 green agape was received and no collection was done during candlelight so the walk will cost around \$2900.00.

Gatherings Report: Cindy Krause reported the last gathering in Point

Comfort and went great. 4 th day speakers were discussed and clarified that the host church is responsible for providing the 4 th Day speaker at the gatherings.

Next Gathering: Friday, March 20 th at Ganado Methodist Church

Committee Reports:

Agape Letters (Wall): Cheryl Worley – No report, but once again a great job was done for the men.

Candlelight: Mike Kinsey – no report

Community Trainer: Still need to fill this position. It was discussed and stated that more training is needed for a team prior to a walk.

Bill also expressed concern and the need for an easily accessible cloud-based storage where walk files can be stored and made available to each Lay Director so things aren't forgotten that need to be done.

Ministry Manager/Website: Bill Rakowitz reported the website is updated and Covenant signing is coming up soon.

Bill will get with Retha to ensure all necessary board positions are filled.

Prayer Vigils: Linda Alderson-no report.

Music: Jay Thigpen – No report

Newsletter-Perseverance Press – Cindy Krause- it will be done.

Reunion Groups: Cindy Krause - no report

Registrar Report: Retha Hahn – no report

Team Selection: Karen Webb- she and Retha will get a team selection committee together along with Belinda to meet this month to prepare a list of potential team members for Women's Walk #93. It was also stated that Team Service Applications need to be provided at the Gatherings.

Trailer-Sharing the Love of Christ Reunion Group, Salem Lutheran: No report

Lay Director's Report:

Spiritual Director's Report: No report

Old Business: Retha made the motion that Belinda Waters serve as the Lay Director for the next Women's Walk #93; Karen Webb 2 nd ; motion carried.

With the nomination of Belinda Waters as Lay Director, she has to step down as Secretary of the board until the walk is completed.

The election of Spiritual Director for the walk: Retha motioned for Belinda to select her SD of choice according to Emmaus guidelines; Karen 2 nd .

New Business: Women's Walk #93: dates set for September 24-27, 2026.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2026 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Adjourn: Cindy Krause closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Belinda Waters 04.01.2026

Attachment: A letter via email was received for Men's Walk #92 Lay Director Wes Dukes on March 18 th giving his final report.