

# A Stone is not Just a Stone and A Brick Is Not Just A Brick

**By Msgr. Elmer Holtman  
EWRC Chaplain**

What an impressive sight it was last fall when I first saw our new buildings that had just been completed here at Eagle's Wings. I saw beautiful stone walls and then I noticed how meticulously the stones had been laid in place. What a work of art the stone masons had created.

As the days passed I noticed that the stones were not all alike. Each one had its' own character. The ones that really caught my eye were those which had fossils embedded in them. It was the first time these former living crustaceans had seen the light of day since they were buried in the ocean sediments hundreds of thousands of years ago. These particular stones tell a story about life in the sea dating back to pre-historic times. These unusual cuts of stone are not just stones but memorials to the creatures that made up the ocean's ecosystem at that time in history. These stones are special because they allow us to name the sea life of that place and era.

That's what we had in mind when we invited you to purchase a special memorial brick - not just any ole ordinary brick - but a very special one naming you or someone you love. Like the fossils in the

limestone these names will speak of history long after we're gone. Jesus is remembered in the bread and wine of the Eucharist. Memory of us will live on through a special inscribed brick.

As we will approach the new cha-

pel you too will notice that not all the bricks are alike. Some have been made to stand out from the rest with special names and events engraved on them. Please make the decision today that you will be represented among them.



**Msgr. Elmer Holtman performs  
Blessing on new buildings**

# THANK YOU!

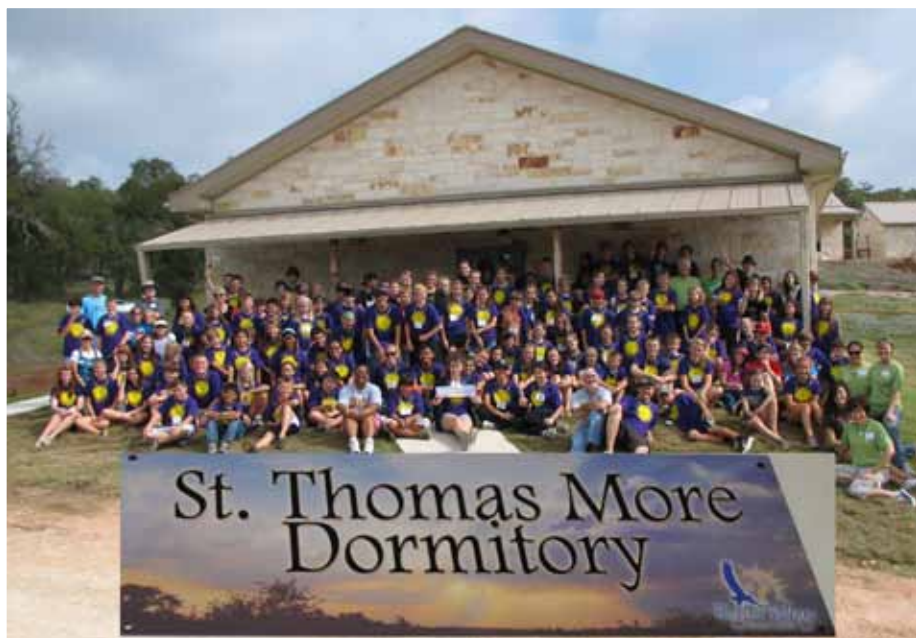
O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

Psalms 107:1

**As we come to the end of 2010, we at EWRC are especially thankful for:**

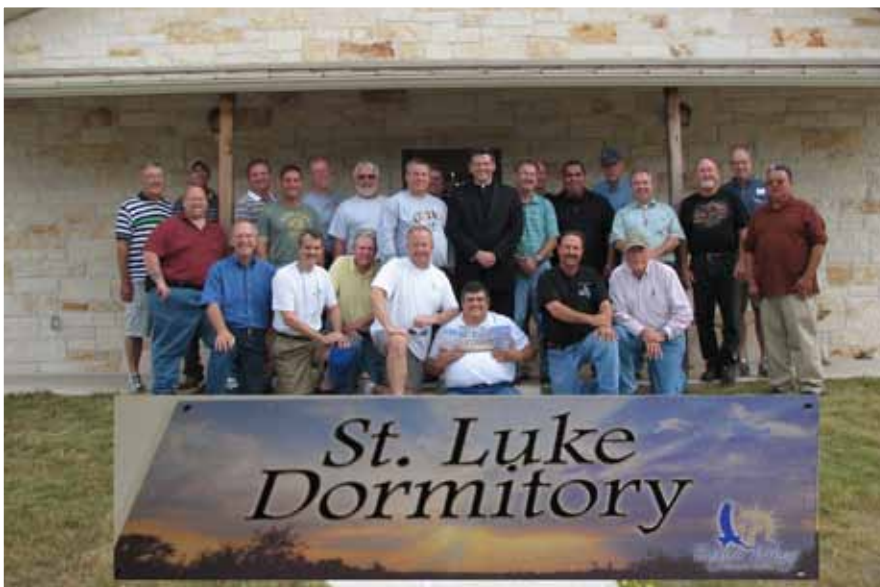
Volunteers for office work, electrical work, newsletter mail out, cooks, sewing, pulpit talks, tree removal, stuffing envelopes, hay wagon drivers, spreading sand, painting, digging, planting trees, pizza cooks, on-site supervisors and maintenance personal for retreats, photography, celebration of mass, aerial shots of EWRC, Godstock and Fall Festival volunteers and most importantly for all those that PRAY for the success of GOD's retreat center.

And the list goes on, donation of the printing for the Phase III brochure, excavation work, backhoe, picnic tables, statues of Jesus and eagle, road base, retreats, brick donors, pledges from Phase II, board members, resident clergy (Msg. Elmer Holtman), donated sand, retreat presenters, signage (directional and building), plastic folding chairs, monetary donations and pledges and the Jumpy-Bouncy-House-Thingy.



## New Buildings Named & Dedicated

Eagle's Wings Retreat Center has recently dedicated and named the new buildings that were completed in 2009. Because of the huge support that St. Luke's in Temple and St. Thomas More in Austin have provided to Eagle's Wings both financially and in service hours the Board of Directors decided to name each of the dorms after the two parishes. At the Fall Festival in October 2010, St. Thomas More Middle School kids, many of the Life Teens and lots of volunteers gathered to pose in front of the newly named St. Thomas More Dormitory. Also pictured is a men's group from St. Lukes after their annual retreat. The other buildings named were Holtman House and The John Paul II Dining Hall.



### Donations

**EWRC is a 501(c)(3) Corporation and donations may be tax deductible. Convenient ways to make donations:**

1. Personal or Company Check
2. Credit Card
3. Brick purchase
4. Stock & Securities
6. Bequests

**THANKS TO YOU**  
**We have met the first**  
**Challenge Donation**  
**\$50,000**

**The next challenge opportunity**  
**is a \$100,000 donation**

We need your brick purchase so we can begin Phase III Construction



**Cost of a brick - \$200**

**Cost of a Chapel - \$400,000**

**Cost of a Soul - PRICELESS**

**Bought A Brick? - THANK YOU!**

**Haven't Bought a Brick? - Please Buy Now!**

# EWRC Phase III Brick Program

Please join us by having your name cut in stone to honor or memorialize someone special or a special event. Honor your children and their date of birth; your marriage; graduation; your parents; or any special person or event. All bricks will be placed in a special patio area near the new chapel.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form to:

**Eagle's Wings Retreat Center**

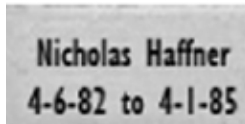
**PO Box 248**

**Burnet, TX 78611**

check enclosed  Credit Card

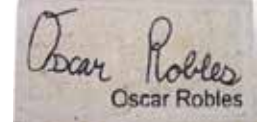
**Bricks are \$200 each**

\_\_\_\_\_ exp. date \_\_\_\_\_



**ENGRAVED BRICK**

Choose either two or three line **ENGRAVED BRICK**  
or  
**SIGNATURE BRICK**. Please use a new form for  
**EACH brick.**



**SIGNATURE BRICK**

**Engraved Brick:** Engraving to read: (16 characters per line including spaces and punctuation. All text will be automatically centered.

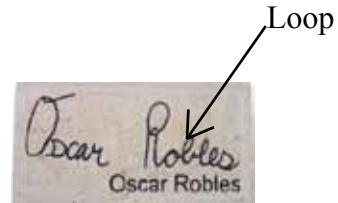

**Signature Brick:** Print full name below in blocks and a date or age may be added and will be engraved if room permits. Only 16 spaces total available.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### Directions for writing signature:

1. Use black sharpie marker and use entire space to sign.
2. Open all loops (e's, o's and a's, etc.) in name.
3. Sign first name only

Sign Name below this line



\_\_\_\_\_

# Community Is Fringe Benefit to EWRC Volunteers

By Curt Haffner  
EWRC Executive Director

I've always liked the fall of the year. The days grow shorter, the temperatures cool and the sunlight prior to sunset is prettier than at any other time of the year. Nature seems to recognize the change as well. The trees turn yellow with minor splashes of red and shed their leaves, birds begin their migrations with some species leaving and other species arriving and local wildlife begin their ritual preparations for winter. We have developed a similar rhythm here at the retreat center as we prepare the buildings and grounds for the colder temperatures, review our operations and prepare budgets and plans for a new year that is fast approaching. It is that time of year when we need to take time to reflect back on the year to gain perspective on what the focus of our activities has been and if we were successful in building God's kingdom.

Unlike nature, which continues through its set seasons with an almost predictable cadence, we on the other hand choose how we respond to God's plan. It seems like it would be a wonderful thing if the Master plan for Eagle's Wings moved forward just like the seasons. We would not have to fund raise because everyone would provide just like the squirrels packing up stashes of nuts for the winter. God would **JUST HAVE EVERYONE GIVE!** He would just require us all to love Him and each other. It would just happen like the seasons. OOPS--that really isn't freedom is it? We can't be forced to love and we can't be forced to be community. God made us in His image which is perfect love. Love can only be a choice. True community is the same. It is through relationship with others, that we are given the chance and the choice, to encounter God, to know God and to love Him.

Eagle's Wings has become a place where encounters with God are a dai-

ly occurrence. They are not burning bush encounters. They are encounters where people come together for the benefit of others. Many volunteers start helping at Eagle's Wings out of a sense of duty but quickly discover that in the giving of themselves they become a part of something much bigger. They experience true community which is the Body of Christ in action. Some retreatants arrive here hurt, dejected, feeling abandoned and feeling hopeless. They leave having met Jesus through those who ministered to them in a retreat. Some share the hardships of their lives and how their renewed relationship with Jesus changed their life, others share their talents thru music, cooking, cleaning, helping in the office or maintaining facilities. It is through these giving relationships that God's love becomes so evident. Tom & Peggy Hansen, our 2010 recipients of the Eagle's Wings **Volunteer of the Year Award**, are great examples of unconditional giving. Tom cooks for retreats regularly and Peggy cleans the Chaplain's residence, helps with retreats and often works in the kitchen.

They along with others have brought new meaning to the word volunteerism and this is the reason the community of Eagle's Wings is growing and is able to serve the larger community of Central Texas.

The stated mission of Eagle's Wings is being achieved because a community has grown by answering God's call and Jesus' command to love one another. This community has revealed itself in many ways and is not just here in Burnet but in many parts of our state and country. We are very thankful to all and to all who say yes. The community of Eagle's Wings will keep all of you in our prayers during this Thanksgiving and Christmas Season. **We look forward to serving** those who come to Eagle's Wings in 2011 and invite you to help us in whatever way you can. Paraphrasing St. Theresa, you are His hands, His feet, His eyes, His ears, His mouth, His heart. Thank you to those of you who have shared your gifts and to those of you who are still thinking about it----we need you! Please join the community of Eagle's Wings!



**Tom and Peggy Hansen  
2010 Volunteers of the year**



**St. John's, San Marcos - Confirmation Retreat**

US Postage Paid  
 NonProfit Org.  
 Permit #15  
 Burnet, Texas

Eagle's Wings Retreat Center  
 PO Box 248  
 Burnet, TX 78611  
 Return Service Requested



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 Community

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 Thank You!

Page 1  
 A Stone is not a stone