



**CO-COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS**

Dear Emmaus Friends,

What do we look for when our lives reach a crisis?

We need someone we can look to, someone who will provide guidance, who will bring order into the painful chaos. Someone who will know what went wrong and who will be able to fix it.

When we turn to God in our crisis we first of all acknowledge that He is able to reign over our circumstances. We make Him the object of our praise and worship. We also admit that he has the right to rule over us. We remove ourselves from having control over the situation and in essence say, "Lord, I have made a mess of this. Would you please take over?"

I am reminded of one of my favorite movies, "Tender Mercies" in which a Christian woman, newly married to a former alcoholic (Robert Duvall), lies in bed at night alone while her angry husband is tearing around the countryside in his pickup. Not knowing what condition he will be in when, or if, he comes back home, she prays this psalm,

*"Show me thy ways, O Lord, teach me thy paths  
Lead me in thy truth, and teach me;  
For thou art the God of my salvation;  
On thee do I wait all the day."  
Psalm 25: 5*

He does come back contrite and they are reconciled. Her faith wins his heart to Christ as well as to her and he and her son are baptized. God does help her through this crisis because she has given control to God, not only of this situation but of her (and his) life.

Yet this is often not the route we take when we turn to God. An easy trap for us to get caught in is to ask God to take control of every aspect of the situation except us.

We want God to control the people who are giving us problems, to change the circumstances that are causing us stress, to provide the resources we are lacking, to remove the threats to our well-being. But then we want to be able, after everything is made right, to do whatever it is we want to do and live however it is we want to live.

In other words, we want God to fix things. We just don't want him to fix us.

Friends, God doesn't work that way. In fact this crisis has probably come so that God can wake you up to what needs to be different, not in the world around you but in the world within you.

The Israelites were facing hard times. Everything was in ruins,

including the Temple. They tried one thing after another and nothing worked. They even tried extended fasts before God but life just kept getting worse.

Finally God sent them a wakeup call through the prophet Isaiah.

*"The bottom line on your fast days is profit.  
You drive your employees much too hard.  
You fast, but at the same time you bicker and fight.  
You fast, but you swing a mean fist.  
The kind of fasting you do won't get your prayers off the ground.*

*This is the kind of fast day I'm after:  
To break the chains of injustice,  
Get rid of exploitation in the workplace,  
Free the oppressed, cancel debts.  
What I'm interested in seeing you do is;  
Sharing your food with the hungry,  
Inviting the homeless poor into your homes,  
Putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad  
Being available to your own families.  
Do this and the lights will come on  
And your lives will turn around at once.  
Your righteousness will pave your way.  
The God of glory will secure your passage.  
The when you pray, God will answer.  
You'll call out for help and I'll say, "Here I am."  
(Isaiah 58: 3,4, 6-9 The Message)*

God wants to bring us to the point when we are willing to sacrifice our self-will so that He can intervene.

God has to save us not only from our circumstances but from ourselves – our plans, false hopes, our determination to hold on to who we are and what we have.

He has to break us of our self-direction if He is really going to direct us.

For God to take control, we have to give up the steering wheel. There is no other way.

De Colores!

Your friend and co-Spiritual Director

Bill Kelley

## GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST

As our board met in July to start another "board" year, the Emmaus community welcomed numerous new board members. Karen Packer started as our new board secretary, Dene Voorhees as Chrysalis Rep., Walter Mock as Epiphany Rep., Lisa Cox as women's Good Shepherd, Pinky Pendleton as Kairos rep., Rhonda Crist as women's registration, Bill Crist as men's sponsorship and Shawn Clark as Worship co-chair. I want to thank all of you for saying yes to serving our Lord and the community in these positions. However, we are still in need of someone to fill the position of Social on the board. The social position is in charge of the kitchen at gatherings and the ice cream party on Saturday nights after candlelight. It is not a position that requires you to personally do the work, but one that requires you to line up help in the way of share groups or individuals who are willing to come help at these critical times. If you feel called to take this responsibility, please call me anytime or contact a board member and let them know, sometimes the work seems hard, but the pay is great.

Once again I want to welcome the men of walk 37 and the ladies of walk 56 to our community and urge you to serve the upcoming walks by sponsoring a pilgrim, cleaning restrooms and showers, carrying luggage, helping to set up the church for a walk, or serving in the kitchen.

If you have questions or comments, please feel to contact me at any time. Please remember to attend the monthly gatherings, it's your community and we all need to support it. I look forward to seeing you all there.

God Bless,  
John Baugh

## SPECIAL AGAPE MUSIC AT GATHERINGS

We would like to encourage those groups or individuals who would like to nominate themselves for Special Agape Music for the upcoming Emmaus Gatherings (starting in October). This would involve starting the gathering by leading congregational singing (about 4 songs), and then singing/playing 2 agape songs interspersed throughout the gathering when requested by the Community Lay Director.

Agape can include: playing/singing with live instruments, singing to CD recordings (Karaoke/ Accompaniment tracks), or even acapella singing.

There will also be opportunities for singing/playing/reading/speaking at our Praise Gatherings which are usually in April and December.

Please contact Sue and Vic Neves if you are interested.

e-mail: [farmmama@netzero.net](mailto:farmmama@netzero.net)

phone: 937-767-2976

And we know that in all things  
God works for the good of those who love him,  
who have been called according to his purpose.  
**Romans 8:28**

## MEN'S EMMAUS WALK #38

Pilgrim	Church	Sponsor
Charles Abbey	Covenant Presbyterian Church	Barbara Fields
Scott Acord	N/A	Sim Bowen
Rashon Ancrum	Revival Center Ministries	Lindsey Ancrum
Michael Castin	Enon United Methodist Church	Dennis Hoffman
Lonnie Caupp	First Christian Church	Bob Summers
Nick Christian	Urbana Nazarene	Shane Burgel
Kyle Coberly	F P C G	Sim Bowen
Wilson Cook	Midway United Methodist Church	Melissa Fowler
Edward Crockran	N/A	Jacob & Silke Berner
William Crump	St. John Missionary Baptist Church	Kimberly Cobb
Daniel Cullum	The Bridge Community Church	Becky Cullum
Bob Czerniak	Shawnee Hills Baptist	Jerry Jones
Roland Galbreath	Zion Hill Baptist	Joyce & Elmer Penwell
Ernest Glenn	Phillips Chapel CME	Alma Glenn
Steve Hamill	Nation Chapel UMC	Dave Johnson
Mark Harrison	Lake Ave. Christian Church	Jacob Berner
Bryon Hollenbeck	Grace Missionary Baptist Church	Bonnie Johnson
Bill Howard	Enon United Methodist Church	Mike Edwards
Eddie Jaudon	New Vision Church of God	Norman & Dedria Moore
Keith Justice	North Hampton Community Church	Dene Voorhees
Steve Knisley	First Church of the Nazarene	Dan Runyan
Raheem Langston	N/A	Nita Jenkins & Melody Boyd
Robby Manley	New Moorefield United Methodist	Dave & Teresa Fout
George Muroki	St Andrews Episcopal Church	Cliff & Sue Rodriguez
Paul Neff	N/A	Deanna Bennett
Forest Nott II	Journey of Faith	P A Rummel
Warren Parks	Nation Chapel UMC	Dave Johnson
Erik Riggie	Nation Chapel UMC	Rev. Cindee Johnson
Keith Sarver	Springfield First Church of the Nazarene	Dr. Daniel Runyan
Aaron Seery	Emery Chapel United Methodist	Bill Kelley
Kyle Shahan	F P C G	Sim & Corina Bowen
Matt Shroyer	First Christian Church	Dan Shroyer
Mike Stapleton	Lake Ave. Christian Church	Jacob Berner
Tom Tressler	Bethlehem Lutheran Church	Penny Thomas
Jesse Wilson	F P C G	Sim & Corina Bowen
Darren Wurz	Edgewood Baptist Center	Chip Comer & Russ Whyde
Gary Yowler	Nation Chapel UMC	Rev. Cindee Johnson

### Team Roster

<b>Lay Director</b>	Keith Hyslop	<b>Board Representative</b>	Jim Ehalt
<b>ALDs</b>	Greg Bachman, Johnnie Williams, Randy McHenry		
<b>Table Leaders</b>	Gene Porter	<b>Assistant Table Leaders</b>	Steve Hoberty
	Elmer Penwell		Tim Wiant
	Doug Gardner Jr.		Terry Johnson
	Richard Cox		Greg Dixon
	Gary Hollander		Ken Peacock
	Steve Green		Jeff Montgomery
	Rick Clark		Steve Wylie
<b>Music Directors</b>	Derf Page, Jim Spanel		
<b>Logistics</b>	Jerry Hess, Ed Jurkat		
<b>Spiritual Directors</b>	Rev. Bill Kelley, Rev. Walter Mock		

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### **UPCOMING GATHERING!**

**Sunday, August 9, 2009 at 7 PM**

#### **FOOD & FELLOWSHIP:**

After each gathering, there will be a time of fellowship and food.

**If you plan to stay, please bring a dish to share.**

### **2009 WALK DATES:**

#### **Men's Walks**

#38 August 13-16  
LD: Keith Hyslop

#### **Women's Walks**

#57 November 5-8  
LD: Shelly Canan

### **Reunion**

Women's Walk # 42

**August 9 at 6 PM**

in the Choir Room at High Street UMC

LD: Mary Cogan

### **PLEASE HELP!**

***We are still in need of more men's applications.  
Please consider sponsoring a pilgrim!***