



SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

Recently I had begun to notice that my car was sounding noisy, there seemed to be a constant road noise that just wouldn't go away. I made the assumption that my car was just getting old and it was in need of some kind of repair. But a few weeks ago I noticed that the road noise had all but disappeared. We had just put new tires on the car and it was as good as new. I discovered that having the right depth of tread on the tire makes the car ride much smoother and much less noisy.

Our spiritual life often seems like my car problem; there is a lot of noise that misdirects our thoughts and actions, the cares of the world occupy our time and drain us of energy. When we think we just need a little rest we find that all we really need is a deeper walk with the Lord. Just like the depth of the tire tread makes the ride smoother and less noisy, the depth of our prayer life centers us on the road that allows us to experience Pentecost Power which shuts out the noise of the world and creates a smoother spiritual journey. This becomes the place where every thought and action is in God's will as the cares of the world give way to spiritual insights which propel us into being the hands and feet of Christ. We find that we are energized by the Holy Spirit Pentecost Power as we decrease and Christ increases.

As Pentecost Sunday is celebrated on May 23rd let us pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Springfield Emmaus Community. Prayer has always been the foundation of each Emmaus walk. And I believe that prayer is also essential to the life of a vibrant Emmaus Community. As one of the Community Spiritual Directors I call us to a time of prayer and fasting to seek God's Pentecost Power for the Emmaus Community as we move forward in unity with the God's will for us. There is nothing like centering our lives in the Lord's will and then smoothly going forward.

I invite you to join me in a concentrated time of prayer and fasting. I will be fasting after my evening meal on Thursday evening until my evening meal on Friday evening each week. During the normal lunch time on Friday I will be in a concentrated time of prayer for our Emmaus Community. As you will remember from your Emmaus Walk, prayer and fasting are spiritual disciplines that help enhance our walk with the Lord. As we pray for renewed life for the Springfield Emmaus Community let us also be praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit and then prepare ourselves for the outpouring of the Pentecost Power that will empower and transform us into true Disciples of Jesus Christ who can't wait to share in the Lord's work.

De Colores,
Rev. Carolyn Peacock
Co-Community Spiritual Director

GREETINGS TO THE EMMAUS COMMUNITY

Well here it is May already and the year is almost half over and our community has had two awesome walks this year. Speaking of the walks, I once again want to welcome the men of Walk#39 to the community. My prayer is that I see you serving the community at future walks in some capacity and seeing God's presence at work here. I also want to remind you of your reunion at 6:00pm on Sunday, May 16 just before the gathering and then stay for the gathering for fellowship and food. Everyone please bring a dish to share. The changes made by the board this year have not been received with great enthusiasm from some corners, but they are changes that needed to be made. They were made in the in the best interest of the community and already are starting to save dollars for the community. We are constantly looking for ways to improve the community and if anyone has any suggestions, please let any board member know. One thing the board would like to address is how we can increase attendance at gatherings and we would welcome any ideas that anyone would have to reach that goal. Remember, this is your community and the board is here to implement anything that will improve us as an Emmaus community, so please give us your input. A change made at last board meeting was made in regards to team formation in that the fourth day table leader will no longer be drawn from the past lay directors, but from first time table leaders like it used to be. The board feels this gives more experience to developing future teams. The team for WW#59 has been assembled by LD Millie Luttrull and will begin meeting on May 15, so please keep Millie and the team in your prayers. Remember the gathering on May 16 and I look forward to seeing you all there.

God bless,
John

WW#59 TEAM LIST

Lay Director	Millie Luttrull	Spiritual	Pastor Cindee Johnson
Board Rep	Karen Speas		Rev Kenneth Woode, Jr
ALDs	Pat Dever, Belinda Montgomery, Elaina Speas		
Logistics	Shelly Canan & Rhonda Voorhees		
Music	Becky Frantz & Mary Lu Moss		
Table Leader	Mary Ahlborn	ATL	Diahann Blackburn
	Lisa Cox		Nancy Freshour
	Teresa Fout		Anna Hurst
	Sue Neves		Milli Jefferson
	Kay Weller		Tonya Johnson
	Kathy Zimmerman		Shannon Moerch
	Cheryl Jurkat		Karen Newton

THE PRIVILEGE OF BEING A SPONSOR

“We are simply God’s servants...Each one of us does the work which the Lord gave him to do: I planted the seed, Apollos watered the plant, but it was God who made the plant grow.”

1 Corinthians 3:5-6

One of the goals of the Emmaus Board is to help educate and train potential Sponsors. Being a Sponsor is a privilege and joy, but it does carry some definite responsibilities. Our Walk experiences generally bring us an awareness of how much we want our new found joy in our walk with Christ to be shared; consequently, we begin to think of family and friends we’d like to sponsor on a Walk.

Before deciding whom we’d like to Sponsor there are several “musts” we need to consider:

First... Is this a gift of love? Or am I trying to help them “**fix**” a situation in their life?

Secondly... Do they have a Christian orientation—a longing for a deeper relationship with Christ? Do they want to grow spiritually? Are they willing to change their priorities? After thinking through these questions, the real work of a Sponsor begins:

PRAYER – Pray for how a three-day Walk with Christ will affect their faith and ministry. Share with God your love, concern, and desire for “**MORE**” for them.

TALK TO THEM – Share your Emmaus experience with them. Explain how much Emmaus has benefited you and enriched your faith.

INVITE THEM – Explain in detail that Emmaus is not just a weekend experience—it’s a part of a whole new way of life. Tell them that each day following the weekend is an opportunity for witness and ministry within their family, church, and community. Explain share groups (reunion groups) and community gatherings. —**BUT**, please don’t overwhelm them! Answer all their questions, but it is not necessary to tell about all of the “surprises” (candlelight, agapé, personal agapé letters) or go into such great detail that it will spoil some of the special moments.

HELP THEM FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM – Ask them to fill out the form while you’re with them so you can answer any questions they may have. If your person is married, ask their spouse to fill out a form too. Explain the weekend cost, that the Walk is a 72-hour commitment (Thurs -7:00 P.M. until Sun - 7:00 P.M.) away from any outside activities, and that there is a waiting list, plus it is not possible to reserve a date to attend.

NOW-GET BUSY – Continue to pray for them. Talk to their Pastor and ask for prayerful support for your person. (If the pastor has not attended a Walk to Emmaus, tell him/her of your experience.) Stay close to them in case more questions arise.

PRIOR TO THE WEEKEND – Once you’ve been advised by letter that your Pilgrim has been given a Walk date; send out requests for agapé letters. Contact your Pilgrim to tell them when you’ll pick them up, what the weekend sleeping and showering arrangements are, meal times, what to wear, and express that there is no contact with family or their businesses, except for emergencies.

WEEKEND RESPONSIBILITIES – Pray, pray, pray. Be available for their family and prepared to assist them when needed. Bring your Pilgrim to the Walk, show them around the church, help them register, if necessary, pay for their additional fees, attend Sponsor’s Hour, sign up for the 72-hour prayer vigil, bring their agapé to the church that you have collected from family and friends, attend the candlelight service and closing. Help during the weekend by serving in the kitchen or with logistics, if possible. Be sure to give your Pilgrim his/her **SPACE**. If you are serving on the live-in Team, you must have someone assume your sponsor responsibilities.

DAY FOUR – Continue to pray for them, spend some time with them and talk about their Walk experiences. **Help them find and actively participate in a Share Group.** Help them understand how they can serve in the Emmaus community. Help your Pilgrim be a Sponsor! Encourage your Pilgrim to return to his/her church with a new enthusiasm for service (touched with a bit of sensitivity for those who have not yet attended Emmaus).

+++++

IS IT A NUMBERS OR A SPIRITUAL PROBLEM?

Springfield Area Emmaus Ohio Members = 3,206

Gathering attendance = 60 - 65

Women eligible for 1st time live in Team (7 positions) = 378

Number of calls made to fill those 7 positions = 60 - 70

High Street United Methodist Church
230 East High Street
Springfield, OH 45505

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Springfield, OH
Permit No. 27

Newsletter e-mail:
info@berners.com

Find us online:

www.spfldemmaus.com
www.highstreetumc.com

UPCOMING GATHERINGS!

Sunday, May 16, 2010 at 7 PM

REUNION

Sunday, May 16, 2010 at 6 PM

MW #39 (John Chambers) Conf. Room

Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 6 PM

WW #43 (Debbie Ehrhard) Choir Room

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.

2010 WALK DATES:

Women's Walks

59 JUNE 24-27

60 NOVEMBER 4-7

Men's Walks

40 AUG. 12-15

HELP!

***We are in need of applications.
Please consider sponsoring a pilgrim!***

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing,
but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching.