



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.
O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
Grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy your consolations.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen

SPRINGFIELD AREA EMMAUS MARCH 2021

From our Co-Spiritual Director

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

Can you believe it has been over a year since this deadly pandemic covered the world in disease and death? All of our lives have been disrupted, the labor market and the economy as a whole have been thrown into turmoil, we have gone into isolation mode with many churches unable to hold worship services and of course, eliminating the prospect of Emmaus (or Kairos) weekends. Only now have vaccinations really ramped up and provide a bright spot on the horizon. That and the coming of Spring with the promise of warmer weather and outdoor activity are bright spots on the horizon in a dark world. Some of us are presently observing the period of Lent which is a spiritual preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-sacrifice and spiritual preparation recalling Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the wilderness before the beginning of his public ministry. It serves as a forcible reminder that this is no spiritual game we are playing. The world and Satan present real obstacles to the will of God being done in the world and to our witness for Christ. We have obstacles within us, in our sinful attitudes and actions and outside such as the advent of this pandemic.

The question we must face is “What will be our response to these obstacles and challenges”?

We can throw up our hands in defeat or simply quietly slink away in discouragement. Or we can look forward to fulfillment of God's purpose in the coming dawn of Easter. It is our tendency when life gets challenging to draw in on ourselves and go into a self-protective mode, looking out for number one. After all, we have a lot of concerns about our own ability to make it through. I myself have had a real struggle since the first of the year with spikes in my blood pressure (up to 210/122) coupled with anxiety attacks which have brought me to emergency rooms several times and one overnight stay in Springfield Regional. As I have suffered these episodes, I found myself closing to others around me in a downward spiral. My world was my problem. However, God offered me a way out in the form of an invitation to play in the new praise band forming at Faith Community UMC in Xenia with someone many of you know well, Rev. Ben Webster. Emery Chapel is not meeting for the present so I took him up on the invitation. I must say the first practice and playing was a struggle for me for several logistical and mental reasons. However, the second time we rehearsed and played I felt as if a massive weight had been taken off my heart and mind. It's only been a week since my last episode but I can tell things are different now. A victory, a new harvest, is in the works and I praise God for it.

A new day is coming for us in the Springfield Emmaus community if we don't give up. If we persist in well-doing, live and plan in hope, we will reap a harvest. There are people who are ready to come on the next weekends if we keep together and are willing to stay the course and keep on doing the work necessary to be ready for the coming of the new day.

I know I am looking forward to the next weekend if the Lord and the Emmaus community asks me to serve. I hope that you also have not grown weary in doing good and are on tiptoe in anticipation of the glory that will be revealed in the next weekend.

The new day is coming! Wait and work for it with rejoicing and hope!

Your Spiritual Director and friend

Bill Kelley

(PLEASE GET VACCINATED!)



Emmaus Newsletter March Message Community Lay Director

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” Jn. 3:16

God gave His only Son for us so that we could live with Him in heaven when we pass forward from our earthly lives. God is a generous God- (2Cor. 9:7). God will generously provide all you need (2Cor. 9:8). God loves you and giving is a natural response of that love. When you love someone, you want to give them your time and attention and you want to provide for them.

Paul encouraged the Corinthians to be generous. “But just as you excel in everything--- in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us---see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” (2Cor. 8:7)

We cannot out give God. “Remember this---a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” (2Cor. 9:6-7)

Please be thinking and praying about WW#75 which we will hopefully host in the fall 2021. How will you contribute to it? How will you give your time serving during the walk? Will you sponsor someone?

Will you help in the kitchen? Will you help restore the church on Sunday morning? There are so many ways to serve God in our community. I hope that you will find at least one way during the weekend.

I regularly watch Joyce Meyer on TBN. She says, “God gives His provision to us to be given to others through us. TO US & THROUGH US.”

In closing I quote Galatians 6:10. “Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.” Be mindful to be a blessing as often as you can. God wants to use us to meet a need when given the opportunity. In Acts 20:35 Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than receive.”

In His Service,
Libby Hammond

“Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He will give you the desires *and* secret petitions of your heart” Psalm 37:4



Please be in prayer for our Emmaus Community. God willing, we will have Women’s walk #75 this year!

Pray for the Lay Director, the team, and the Pilgrims, and their families.



Good morning brothers and sisters in Christ.

I pray that each of you and your families are doing well. We are going through an unprecedented time (for us, anyway) of crisis and change. The things that we used to do, the way we live, and most importantly, the ways we serve the Lord, have all been turned upside down. Simple things we used to take for granted are no longer simple things to accomplish. We have face masks, social distancing, minimized or postponed gatherings, closed businesses, job losses, health issues, etc. It seems harder for us to serve the Lord if we can't do things the way that we used to do. It is just down-right frustrating!

Time for an attitude adjustment-we know that when serving the Lord, that if one door is closed, another one is opened. We can't meet in person so we call, e-mail, or have zoom meetings to stay in touch. We can't go to our favorite restaurants, so we eat at home more often. We can't do a lot of things the way that we used to do. Maybe that is not all bad?

We can't fellowship the way that we used to so now we have online services. We have health issues so we use masks and other ways to help keep us safe. We don't drive as much so we save a bundle on gas costs and environmental concerns. We don't eat out as much so we dine at home and get to know our families better. Do you see where this is going? For every problem, the Lord has provided a silver lining.

We, as Christians, want to do our best when serving the Lord. As the Bible has shown us over and over again, we need to take our problems and concerns to the Lord. Seek the Holy Spirit's guidance to find new ways to serve and to find the "silver lining".

My original intent for this letter was just to say "Hi" and pass on some financial information in my role as the Emmaus Treasurer. But as you can tell, I seem to have gotten carried away. We know that whenever we are serving the Lord, we need to pray and seek His guidance first; the letter is what I felt led to do.

As your Emmaus treasurer, I need share some information concerning the financial aspects of our shared ministry. When we have several walks during the year, money is raised through the pilgrim and team fees plus the Candlelight offering on Saturday to pay the expenses of the walks. The excess monies are used to pay the fixed costs such as insurance, website service and copyright fees.

As you can imagine, if no money is coming in, there is no money for the fixed costs. Currently, those bills are being paid out of the Emmaus checking account. Unfortunately, that account is dwindling. We are still in decent financial shape but unless things are turned around, eventually the continue drain of fixed expenses will be a problem.

Please pray about this and if the Lord leads you to help, please send any contributions to:

High Street United Methodist Church/EmmausTreasurer

230 E. High Street

Springfield, ohio 45505

(Make checks out to-Springfield Emmaus)

Until we can meet again, I pray that the Lord will keep you safe and fruitful in His service.

De Colores!

Terry Johnson

Emmaus Treasurer



Spring

Forward!!



Springfield Area Emmaus Willing Servant Sheet

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____

Home Ph: _____ Cell Ph: _____ Regularly Attend Share Group? Y / N

Church Attending: _____ Walk # _____ Walk Location _____

Email: _____

Information is current as of: (Date) _____

===== I Am Willing To Serve In These Areas:=====

Please Check All That Apply

Help serving meals Be a Meal Coordinator Help with Agape for weekend

Help Registrar (contact pilgrims before walk) Help Set up/Tear Down for weekend

Help with Sponsorship (help get info to Sponsors) Help get word out about Emmaus

Help on purchasing team for weekend Be on a Live-In Team Lead Music

Play an instrument: _____ Offer special music for Gatherings or walks

Help with the newsletter Help with social after Gatherings Help set up Worship

Provide secretarial help at Board Meetings Help inventory and organize supplies

Help with cleaning bathrooms during a walk Help get people connected to Share Groups

To learn more about Emmaus by attending the Leadership Development Event (LDE)

Help in other ways: _____

Please Mail to Springfield Area Emmaus, 230 East High Street, Springfield OH 45505, or drop off at the back table at any Gathering.

SPRINGFIELD AREA WALK TO EMMAUS (Please PRINT and fill in ALL blanks)

Name _____ (as preferred on name tag) Age _____

Sex M _____ F _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ - _____

Church now attending:

Pastor: _____

Church Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Married _____ Single _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ Separated _____

Spouse's name _____ Walk spouse attended _____

Sponsor's name _____

Phone _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Walk attended _____

Dietary concerns Medical concerns Disability concerns

Occupation: _____ Company Name: _____

Name of a close friend: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/State _____

Zip: _____

Briefly state why you want to attend a Walk to Emmaus and what you expect.

Would you be able to attend on short notice? Yes _____ No _____ Perhaps _____

I understand that this application does not reserve a position on a particular Walk but does place me on a list for future Walks to Emmaus in Springfield.

Signature _____

Date _____

Enclose a **NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-TRANSFERRABLE** deposit of \$25.00, which applies to your \$75.00 donation to offset expenses. Make checks payable to Springfield Area Emmaus. Remit to: Registrar, Springfield Area Emmaus, High Street United Methodist Church, 230 E. High St., Springfield, OH 45505.

REGISTRATION ONLY Date received _____ Card sent to: _____

Sponsor _____ Pilgrim _____ Deposit rec'd _____

Cash _____ Check # _____ Rec'd from _____ 1st

Invite _____ 2nd Invite _____ 3rd Invite _____

Inactive _____ Revised Sept. 2013