

Springfield Area Emmaus News

*Happy New
Year!*

January 2006

SNOWFLAKES, FINGERPRINTS AND YOU!

Did you ever see pictures of snowflakes? There are books and internet sites loaded with nothing but picture after picture of snowflakes. They are some of God's most beautiful creations. The astounding fact is that there are no two snowflakes alike. Do you realize what a tall order this is? After researching the subject, I've learned that somewhere in the neighborhood of 10 to the 24th power of snowflakes fall each year. That number is unpronounceable but it looks like this; 10,000,000,000,000,000,000,000, 000. (I don't claim to be a mathematician, that's my best guess.) Scientists say that if that many snowflakes fell from now until the end of the universe, it would be extremely unlikely that any two snowflakes would be exactly the same!

In 1970 I went to work for J. Edgar Hoover as a fingerprint technician in D.C. Back then every thing was done by hand. Prints were taken with ink and paper and were classified by a person with a magnifying glass and a pencil and the cards were stored in huge warehouses. Everything I learned has changed. We have a machine that takes the print, stores it in a national database and instantly checks the print against any unsolved case or unidentified prints. This is the AFIS system you here about on the CSI shows. One thing I learned that didn't change is that of all the people in the world, (6,581,843,250 as of 1-3-06) no two people have the same fingerprints. Multiply that by 20 digits per person, including toes. Fingerprints are so unique, (pardon my grammar) that the AFIS system only needs six similar points to make a positive match.

This brings us to you. Do you see to what lengths God went to make the universe? Did you ever think that God would go to so much trouble to make snow? How about the grains of sand or water molecules, insects and animals as numerous as the blades of grass! After seeing the complexity of this world is it so hard to know that He has numbered the hairs on your head? He made your fingerprints, DNA and eyes unique, and here's the BEST PART, YOU are *HIS* NUMBER 1 CREATION!

REJOICE! REJOICE! AGAIN I SAY REJOICE!

For the very God who spoke the whole universe into existence wants to have a personal, one on one, loving relationship with YOU!

In His Love,
Roy

Gathering on Sunday, January 15th – 7 p.m. Training at 6:30 p.m. on Emmaus Walk Music

Important Dates to Remember...

Upcoming "WALK" Dates

Women's Walk # 46 February 23-26, 2006
Men's Walk # 31 April 27-30, 2006
Women's Walk # 47 June 22-25, 2006
Men's Walk # 32 August 17-20, 2006
Women's Walk # 48 November 2-5, 2006

All walk dates are tentative.

Emmaus Walk
Spiritual Director Assignments

Women's Walk # 46 Pat Van Gorder LD
Lead Spiritual Director
Bill Kelley
Men's Walk # 31 Dan Warren LD
Lead Spiritual Director
Dennis Moritz
Women's Walk # 47 Lead Spiritual Director
Bob Scott
Men's Walk # 32 Lead Spiritual Director
Ray Harper
Women's Walk # 48 Lead Spiritual Director
Chris Farmer

TRAINING SESSION FOR JANUARY

Prior to the January 15th gathering,
there will be a training session on
Emmaus Walk music.

Please mark your calendar and attend.

KAIROS

Want to become a Kairos volunteer or learn more about
it? Call Sam at 937-399-3724.

Upcoming Kairos weekends are as follows:

Ohio Reformatory for Women - #25 - May 18-21, 2006.
Ohio State Penitentiary - #1 - TBA.
Lebanon Correctional - #32 - March 16-19, 2006.
Ross Correctional #12 - February 23-26, 2006;
#13 - August 17-20, 2006.
Toledo Correctional - #6 - May 4-7, 2006.

Don't forget to check out the Kairos website during your
next surfing session at www.kairosOhio.org.

In His Love, Sam Poston

Attention GFS shoppers...

If you tell the cashier, you would like your
purchase to benefit the Springfield Area
Emmaus, the dollar amount will contribute
towards the percentage of discount when we
make purchases for walks and gatherings.
Thank you!

PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED

This is directed to all 2005 Emmaus pilgrims. Now that
you have been in your fourth days, I pray that you have
gotten into a share group. If you have an email address,
please contact me and I will gladly add you to the 386
addresses that reach around the world. There are people
receiving email messages in all fifty states and in seven
foreign countries.

No prayer request is too small or too big for those who are
committed to pray! We have seen wonderful things
happen and it only takes a few moments of your time to
get connected to the email prayer chain.

Simply send me your email address at
ramaster@iapdatacom.net. In the subject space write
"Prayer Request" and I will take all praises, all concerns
and send out information about church dinners and
projects to benefit anyone in need. Each of you have
received one of our prayer chain cards in your Sunday
packets.

If you do not have email, you can call Pam Peterman at
325-3629 and you will be connected to the phone prayer
chain. She will call me and I will get your request out as
soon as possible.

We have had five walks in 2005. I have only received
three email addresses from these new community
members. I think this is a vital part of why the Springfield
Emmaus community is so close and caring. Please make
my mission a little easier by sending me your email
address. Stay on the Emmaus Road!

Love in Christ,
Becky Master,
"The Email Lady"

Do you have a share group?

Remember that you need to be active in a share group. It is
essential in maintaining the experience of your walk! Call
Patty Aliff (325-6270) for women's share groups and Jerry
Peterman (325-3629) for men's share groups.

Thoughts from one of the Spiritual Directors...

At Emery Chapel we have for some time now been gathering in prayer circles and lifting up to God those concerns on our hearts and on the list of prayer concerns in the bulletin. I hear one person pleading for healing, another for a child still another for a family yet another for comfort and peace. When I hear the sacred sounds of people lifting their voices to God in heartfelt prayer, I find myself transported to another realm of being, standing in the very presence of God who hears and answers prayer. It isn't a sound of wild emotion like the priests of Baal on the mountain with Elijah but a sweet sound of people with quiet confidence in the goodness of God, freely raising to Him the deepest desires and praises of their hearts. This calling out to God is not anything new. It is as old as humanity. In the years after Adam and Eve's generation, in the days of Seth and Cain, the Bible says: "At that time men and women began to call on the name of the Lord." (Genesis 4: 26)

Think about that. Adam and Eve knew and spoke with God face to face but then came the fall and separation from God. Murder and vengeance swept the knowledge of God from people's minds. Lamech told his wives "I killed a man for wounding me, a young man who attacked me. If Cain is avenged seven times, for Lamech, it's seventy-seven!" Satan had the upper hand. But the grace and love of God would not leave us alone. Into the hearts of a faith-filled few came this fresh breath of prayer and fellowship with God. God's first people weren't called Jews or Christians but "Men and women who called on the name of the Lord." God gave to some people the faith that if you called out to God in your need, He would answer; He would intervene in your situation. I can imagine one woman coming to another in deep distress and that other woman saying: "Did you know that if you prayed to the one true God that He will answer and help you? He did more than just make everything; He cares about you and me. He understands and will help you. Why don't we pray to Him now?"

When the Hebrews used the word "To call" it actually meant: "To cry out". That kind of prayer touches the heart of God. Charles Spurgeon once said that: "The best style of prayer is that which cannot be called anything but a cry." God Himself promises us: "Call to me and I will answer you.." (Jeremiah 33:3) Moses at the end of his life remarked: "What other nation is so great as to have their gods with them the way our Lord is near to us whenever we pray to Him? (Deuteronomy 4:7) The Hebrews were a downright backward people: newly released from slavery, they had none of the horses, chariots and iron weapons of those nations around them. But they had what no one else had: a God who would hear and answer their prayers. As long as Israel called on God, victory was theirs. If they failed to call on Him, defeat was sure to follow. Satan's plan was to do just that; persuade the people that calling on God will do no good. They must trust to their own energy and resources. What God wants most is our attention and devotion. When the street people asked Peter what they needed to do, he told them one thing: "Call on the name of the Lord and you will be saved." God promises us: "Call upon me in the day of trouble. I will deliver you and you will honor me." (Psalm 50:15) When we come to God in times of trouble and need, He meets those needs and fresh praise pours forth from us. We know that God has done these things.

A voice sounded in the sanctuary a few days ago: "Is anybody here?" I was in my office and went out to see who was speaking. An African American man was standing there and told me was on his way home to Columbus from visiting a sick relative in Indianapolis. His van needed a new alternator or he would never make it home. He had already spent one night out in the cold. I found I had enough to give him for the balance of the part but not for the core charge of \$50. I called Urban Light and they said they had no more money. I prayed and asked God what to do and felt led to send the man up to Urban Light anyway, promising to pay the balance if he could come up with the \$50. He met a man outside Urban Light who simply handed him the \$50 saying he didn't want to see him spend another night out in the cold. When the man came back he said: "I just can't figure why that man just gave me the money." I told him to glorify God because He had provided in answer to prayer. I also told Him that if he went to a church regularly he would know a lot more about all that God could and would do. The funny thing is that when I called his home number in Columbus to see if he had arrived safely at first I just got his answering machine whose intro ended with him saying "God bless you." If we come to God in prayer and expectation this will no longer be just a common, empty phrase. We will realize just how much God will bless us and experience the victories He wants to win in and through our lives.

Is there some need in your life? Is there someone whose physical health is in danger? A son, daughter, wife, husband or friend who is lost? A pastor or church that is struggling? A person at a crossroads in life?

This new year give prayer a bigger, more consistent part in your life. You may not be able to make a great change. However even a small change is so much better than none. God will bless your fellowship with Him so much more than you expect. And there is someone else out there who will be so glad you did.

Your Co-Spiritual Director
Bill Kelley

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

**High Street
United Methodist Church
230 East High Street
Springfield, Ohio 45505**

**Newsletter Email:
pmcbeth@sbcglobal.net**

CHECK OUT THE EMMAUS
WEBSITE AT
[HTTP://SPFLDEMMAUS.COM](http://SPFLDEMMAUS.COM)
YOU CAN ALSO SEE OUR
NEWSLETTER AT
WWW.HIGHSTREETUMC.COM

Women's Walk # 46 Live-In Team February 23-26, 2006

Pat Van Gorder, LD
Terri Rinkoski, ALD
Leslie Vasquez, ALD
Viki Hyslop, ALD
Pat McBeth, MD
Mandy Holcomb, AMD
Sherry Porter, LOG
Jo Ann Horrocks, LOG

Maggie Myers, TL
Susan Hillman, TL
Shelly Canan, TL
Ellen Smith, TL
Kim Stehle, TL
Judy Hopkins, TL
Bobbie Ward, TL

Kelly Crain, ATL
Melody Leonard, ATL
Pearl Rice, ATL
Amy Canan, ATL
Gwyn Studebaker, ATL
Angela Hines, ATL
Brooke Miller, ATL