

Springfield Area Emmaus News

God Bless
America

July 2006

Community Lay Director's Comments

I am not sure what I have gotten myself into but I am confident that the good Lord had a reason behind my being asked and accepting the position of Community Lay Director. I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve our Savior, Jesus Christ and the Springfield Area Emmaus Community.

As I look back over the 10+ years since I took my Walk to Emmaus, it just amazes me at what is happening in our community. Last year when I was Lay Director of Walk # 29, the things that I watched God do as the week-end progressed were almost unbelievable. I say almost because I know that God has the power to do anything he desires to woo us into his kingdom. I am sure that as each of you reflect upon what God has done both in your lives and the lives of those around you, that you would agree that our God is truly an Awesome God! His Amazing Grace is truly all we need!

Several years before my walk, I went through a long period of unemployment that at times tested my trust in God. But as that time went by, I became more and more dependent upon some scripture that kept me going. I Corinthians 13 is known as the Love chapter but it had more meaning than that for me. Verse 13 states "*And now, these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*" I had "faith" in God and believed that I had a good personal relationship with Him. What he taught me during this time was that I needed to have "hope" and to trust in Him that he would see me through. I trusted and he not only got me through but he gave me a dose of his "love" when I finally got a full time job.

Then, a few years later I took my Emmaus Walk and really found out how great God's love is for each of us. When we let our light shine for Jesus Christ, we allow God's love to rain upon everyone around us. Isn't it great when you feel the warmth of God's love from those around you?

My challenge to you is the same one that was given to you when you completed your Walk to Emmaus. Christ is counting on you and you need to count on Christ. Let the light and love of Jesus Christ be everywhere you go! DeColores! Tom

**Important Dates to Remember...
Upcoming "WALK" Dates**

*Men's Walk # 32
August 17-20, 2006
Women's Walk # 48
November 2-5, 2006*

All walk dates are tentative.

**Attention
GFS & OfficeMax shoppers...**

The Springfield Emmaus Community receives benefits from your shopping at Gordon Food Service and at Office Max. 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!

EMMAUS PICNIC

SUNDAY July 16. Begins at 3:00 p.m., we will eat at 5:00 p.m., and worship at 7:00 p.m. Drinks and eating utensils will be provided. PLEASE BRING PLENTY OF FOOD TO SHARE. (COVERED DISH, MEAT, SALADS, DESSERT ETC.) There will be games for the kids, music, clowns and communion. Held at the 402 Recreational Park on the corner of Derr Road and Moorefield Road

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. Simply send me your email address at bamaster@bright.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. Stay on the Emmaus Road!

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

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 State Penitentiary - #1 – TBA.
Ross Correctional #13 – August 17-20, 2006.
Lebanon - September 14-17, 2006
Lucasville - October 26-29, 2006
Marion Correctional - October 26-29, 2006
Toledo Correctional - November 2 - 5, 2006
Ohio Reformatory for Women –
November 16-19, 2006

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

In His Love, Sam Poston

SHARE GROUP INFORMATION

Remember that you need to be active in a share group. It is essential in maintaining the experience of your walk! Call Patty Aliff *408-5775 or email her at paliff@tacind.com for women's share groups
Call Jerry Peterman at 325-3629 for men's share groups.
(* new phone and email)

Thoughts from one of your Spiritual Directors

Life is difficult. That much most of us are aware of.

The number of wounded and weary people in our circle of acquaintances seems to grow larger every day. Here at Emery chapel our prayer list grows longer every week as we lift our burdened hearts to God. We look out at this hurting world and wonder what we can do to help. One resource to which we are drawn is Emmaus. We think of the disciples walking back to Emmaus with their heads down and their feet dragging, meeting Jesus and then returning to Jerusalem with joy in their hearts. Why not the same result for all these wounded people that we know, many of them without Christ? Isn't a Walk the ideal place to find healing and salvation? To find Jesus Himself?

Well, no, not really. I don't mean to sound cruel or exclusive but Emmaus is designed for those who are already committed to Christ and are ready for a still-closer walk with Him.

Note that the two men on the road to Emmaus already had their hopes set on Christ. They simply did not yet know that those hopes had been realized beyond their wildest dreams.

Speaking as a veteran Spiritual Director of several walks, what I am seeing in many cases, are sponsors recommending pilgrims who have not yet met Christ or who are dealing with deeply hurtful situations in their lives that require long-term counseling relationships, not a three-day experience, however deep and meaningful.

Beloved, dealing with such situations places an excessive burden and expectation on the team and especially on the Spiritual Directors. We know that we depend on God to do the healing and that all things are possible in God. However, what we are doing when we recommend deeply wounded and/or pre-Christian pilgrims is asking God and the team to do in three days the hard work of evangelism, counseling and reconciliation that we as sponsors and our local church, with God's help, should be doing faithfully week in and week out. I know that such work can be challenging, even intimidating and we may think we are not up to it, particularly when those involved are near and dear to us. But Emmaus, dynamic and Spirit-filled as it is, is simply not the place where this work is best done.

Sponsors, please be aware that those whom you recommend should be Christian and not presently in some crisis mode.

No one that I know is free of problems or issues. If that is the requirement for being a pilgrim or even serving on a team, then I, for one, am out. As are Peter, Paul and Mary and whatever "saintly" disciples you can think of. However, dear people, let us be aware of both the purpose and the limitations of the Emmaus weekend.

Your co-Spiritual Director
Serving you in Christ's love

Bill Kelley

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

Men's Walk to Emmaus # 32 Team, August 17-20, 2006

Gene Porter, LD Perseverance

**John Chambers, ALD Fourth Day
Jerry Hess, ALD Priority
Keith Hyslop, ALD Growth through study**

**Ray Harper, SD Means of Grace
Kevin Moehn, ASD Obstacles to Grace**

**Jim Mayhugh, Log
Charles "Pinky" Pendleton, Log
Dorf Page, MD
Corey Pearson, AMD
Roy Mulkey, Board Rep**

Table Leaders

Jeff Canan	Changing Our World
Dan DeArmond	Life of Piety
Tom Dever, Sr	Fourth Day Example
Lynn Dickerson	Discipleship
Randy McHenry	Christian Action
Alcides Vasquez	Priesthood of all Believers
Tobias Wilson	Body of Christ

Assistant Table Leaders

Jim Ballard	Paul Luttrell
John Nixon	Joe Datko
Ricardo Smith	Steve Green
Doug Gardner, Sr.	

**Clergy Speakers: Ernest Brown, Sanctifying Grace Robert Martin, Justifying Grace
Bill Turner, Preventive Grace**