Springfield Area

# **EMMAUS NEWS**

April 2007

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Men's Walk #33 is rapidly approaching. The team under the leadership of Lay Director Jim Mayhugh is working hard in preparation for the 37 pilgrims that have accepted being part of this walk. Let each of us remember both the team and the pilgrims in our prayers as Satan has already started his attacks. God will bless this walk as he does each walk but our prayers and support are vitally important to let God know how much we love him. If you have not already, there will be an opportunity to sign up to help at the April Gathering.

Women's Walk #50 has started the team formation under the leadership of Lay Director Mary Casto. Please pray for her and those being asked to serve with her that they may answer God's call and allow their servant hearts to be prepared for the ladies who will be pilgrims on the walk.

Here are some quick reminders of importance to each of us. If you are working the kitchen, remember there may or may not be food left over after serving the pilgrims. Those working the kitchen will be allowed to eat if there are leftovers. Candlelight and Closing are for those who have been through a week-end. It is not a place to bring children. Your cooperation with this would be greatly appreciated.

By the time you read this, Easter will be over but let us not forget the true meaning of this time. Jesus Christ gave His life for each of us in order that our sins could be forgiven. What a gift! Let us praise God every day and thank him for the blessings He has provided.

May the love of God shine in you every day! God Bless and Decolores!

-Tom

#### IMPORTANT DATES 2007 WALKS

<u>Women's Walks</u> #50 June 21-24 #51 November 1-4

<u>Men's Walks</u> #33 April 19-22 #34 August 16-19

\*All Walk Dates Are Tentative

# UPCOMING GATHERINGS!

Sunday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, May 20th at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, June 17th at 7:00 p.m.

**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.

# April / May Reunions

The following Walks will hold their reunions one hour prior to the April Gathering, April 15th — at 6:00 p.m.:

Women's Walk #35 (Teresa Ehalt, Lay Director) will hold their reunion in the choir room. Men's Walk #27 (Chris Ehrhard, Lay Director) will hold their reunion in the parlor.

**Women's Walk #36** (Marty Scott , LD) will hold their reunion one hour prior to the May Gathering, May 20th, at 6:00 p.m. in the choir room.

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## SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

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I am reminded of Jesus' words to his disciples spoken in the Upper Room, "You did not chose me, but I have chosen you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, then my Father will give to you whatever you ask in my name." John 15:16 Moreover, I am reminded that the Walk to Emmaus is one way in which God has provided to bring about personal spiritual renewal in order to strengthen the local church through the empowerment of Christian disciples and leaders. As fourth day pilgrims, God sends us out to replicate Christ- centered living among our families, in our job, and out into our community through the ministry of our congregations. This three-day Emmaus experience and participation in share groups strengthens and renews Christian people as disciples of Jesus Christ and as active members of the body of Christ in mission to the world. Indeed the Walk to	Emmaus unleashes the power of the Resurrected Christ so that our churches would be place where we find church growers rather than churchgoers. As a pastor, I find that I am frequently invited to walk in a cemetery. I can't but wonder about the lives that are represented by gravestones that are inscribed with lifespan dates of various lengths. I rarely know the names on each gravestone. I don't know how they lived, who they loved and didn't love. I wonder what they would say today to those of us left behind. I wondered if they spent their time living for what really matters. I wonder if their priorities matched the fruits of their lives. I wonder if they were often distracted by the trivial and temporary stuff of life. I wonder if they made a courageous difference in the lives of others. I wonder about what kind of legacy they left behind.	At every funeral, every grave site, I am reminded of the precious gift I am given each day, the gift of life. Now is the time to make my life count for something that will make an eternal difference. Now is the time to love, to lead, to learn, and to live in God's presence. Today is the day to persevere through life's challenges and to overcome crisis. Today is the day to rejoice in all things and to reconnect with others. Today is the day to die to ego, self- significance, and self- imagined importance of position in order to rise to increasing effectiveness in advancing God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Now is the day of resurrection. Then the Father will give us whatever we ask in Jesus' name. DeColores, Chris Farmer Co-Spiritual Director		

A new Emmaus Directory will be published in May 2007. If you have any changes in your address and / or phone number or do not wish to have your name, address, and telephone number printed in the directory, please notify John Ahlborn, Emmaus Data Manager, (937)322-1 1958 no later than April 30, 2007.

Anyone who has information regarding Emmaus members who are deceased or who have moved away may also contact John. This is your database — we want it to be the best and most current information available for your use.

#### Men's Walk #33 Pilgrim List April 19-22

#### Pilgrim

Church

Jack Baker Mike Bassell Eugene Bell **Doyle Bethel** John A. Blackburn Keith E. Bowen Wil Brandon Kenneth Diehl Ronnie Driver II Ronald Driver Sr **Richard Eash** Stephen E. Foster Larry Garber Larry Gathers William E. Green William J. Hester Grant Jacobs Vernon Johnson Mark Jones John P. Keeran Donald E. Kellis Wayne Lemay **Glenn Linnane** Gus Lippolis Jim McCarty Gary McWhorter **Robert Newman Terry Packer Brandon Sagraves Dean Settles** Jeff F. Sindle Jack C. Smith Wayne Smith Josh Taylor Marvin Walker Steve Ward

New Hope Pitchin United Methodist St. John Missionary Baptist **Greater Grace Temple** St. John Missionary Baptist Grace Evangelical Lutheran First Baptist **Christian Life Center** First Pentecostal Ch. Of God First Pentecostal Ch. Of God Concord United Methodist Word of Faith Family Ch. Grace United Methodist High St. Nazarene Lagonda Methodist Grace Lutheran Shawnee Hills Baptist Ch First Pentecostal Ch. Of God Far Hills Community Ch. Faith in Christ Lutheran Ch. High St Nazarene Vineyard Grace United Methodist St. Teresa First Christian Morehead Richard E. McClintock Cornerstone Baptist Ch. Grace Missionary Baptist Southgate Baptist Tremont City United Meth. First Pentecostal Ch. of God High St. United Methodist none listed Northridge United Methodist Living Faith Christian Center Fellowship Christian/New Hope Tom & Darla Comer St. John Missionary Baptist Grace United Methodist

#### <u>Sponsor</u>

John Chambers Paul Price & Lynda Johnson Pastor Ernst C. Brown Sr. Minnie Bethel **Richard Clark** Jim Mayhugh & 5 brothers Patty(Aliff) Brandon **Deron Blakely** Sim Bowen Sim Bowen Becky Master & Jim Ballard Jamie Beal **Phyllis Garber** Jim Vineyard Jim Mayhugh Dan Shroyer Jerry Jones Sim Bowen **Dene Voorhees** John Chambers & Ed Jones Jim Yoakem Sarah Lemay Jim and Whitney Mayhugh Jerry Hess Bill & Katie Oder P.A. Rummel Jennifer Anderson George Neville Karen Packer Sim Bowen Brett Boblitt P.A. Rummel Roland Wildman Jim Mayhugh & 5 brothers Mae Walker Pastor Bob Scott

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

We're On the Web! http://spfldemmaus.com You can also see our Newsletter at www.highstreetumc.com

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### SHARE GROUP UPDATES NEEDED!

Please stop by the sign up table in the back of the narthex (foyer) when you come to the April Gathering to update your share group information. Most of the info we have is not current. We are in need of ladies share groups that meet on Saturday.

Thanks and blessings,

Mary Ahlborn and Jerry Peterman

#### WHY SHARE GROUPS???

If you are interested in being a live in team member on a walk, please remember that being active in a Share Group is required. Share Groups help to keep us accountable by ensuring that we stay focused on our #1 Priority—Jesus Christ.

Lay Directors have been having difficulty finding new live-in team members because many are not in Share Groups. There must be a Share Group that needs YOU! Ask your Sponsor to help you find one--OR--call the Good Shepherds:

Men's Share Groups—	Jerry Peterman	325-3629
Women's Share Groups —	Mary Ahlborn	322-1958