

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR**

Another year is upon us and if we listen to all those who say they have an inside track on the future; it is not going to be a good year. But, we know that the only person who knows what the future holds is our Savior, Jesus Christ. And, He has told us that if we believe and trust in Him that we can have eternal life by living our life here on earth in a manner which reflects the things He has taught us. So, regardless of what earthly things may come tomorrow, we may truly look forward to eternal life with Jesus.

Life truly is so precious and we do not know what tomorrow brings. Just watch the Emmaus Prayer Chain and other events around us to see that we need to be prepared today to meet Jesus and not put it off until tomorrow. As my church family went through the Christmas season we saw many who suffered but we also saw God working miracles in people's life. One comment I heard was the question of how do people handle the bad times if they do not have Jesus in their life and a church family to support them.

My challenge to you as we start this New Year is who do you know that needs Jesus in their life. As Jesus walked the earth He worked to bring people to the Lord and as we walk the earth, we should do the same. Let us spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our Fourth Days. Remember the talk on Priesthood.

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

-Tom

**UPCOMING GATHERINGS!**

- Sunday, January 21st at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, February 18th at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Immediately following each gathering, we will have a time for fellowship and food. If you plan to stay, please bring a dish to share.

*Reunion*

**Men's Walk # 26** (Larry Cogan, L.D.) will hold their reunion at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday February 18th, 2006 in the choir room.

**IMPORTANT DATES  
2007 WALKS**

Women's Walks

- # 49 February 22-25
- # 50 June 21-24
- # 51 November 1-4

Men's Walks

- # 33 April 19-22
- # 34 August 16-19

\*All Walk Dates Are Tentative

**THANK YOU RECEIVED**

Thank you to all in the Emmaus community who contributed to the "Big E" costume project. It was a privilege to make the costume and to serve the community in this capacity. Your generosity has been a blessing from God.

Decolores,  
Cindy Stone  
Women's Walk #42

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

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 he 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

**Women's Walk #49  
Team Roster  
February 22-25, 2007**

Karen Speas	LD	Perseverance
Debbie Ehrhard	Board Representative	
Rev. Carolyn Peacock	SD	Means of Grace
Rev. Ruth Pribe	ASD	Justifying Grace
Rev. Sherry Blackwell		Sanctifying Grace
Rev. Dennis Moritz		Prevenient Grace
Rev. Barry Baughman		Obstacles to Grace
Elaina Speas	ALD	Priority
Susan LaPrise	ALD	Priesthood All Believers
Sherry Porter	ALD	Fourth Day
Carolyn Bode	MD	
Becky Frantz	AMD	
Jean Stout	Log	
Ellen Haley	Log	
Joyce Penwell	TL	Christian Action
Dee Moore	TL	Growth through Study
Selena Martin	TL	4th Day Example
Rita Chapman	TL	Life in Piety
Debbie Mefford	TL	Body of Christ
Nanette Moss	TL	Changing our World
Kathy Zimmerman	TL	Discipleship
Nellie Gardner	ATL	
Reva Hutchins	ATL	
Vivian Lewis	ATL	
Anne Van Pelt	ATL	
Jodi Fisher	ATL	
Sandy Falkner	ATL	
Holly Inskeep	ATL	

**Answers to December Crossword Puzzle**

**ACROSS**

- 3. Pick-up, collate, seal, & label (2 Words) **(Help Wanted)**
- 6. Co-Spiritual Director **(Chris)**
- 7. Kairos Contact **(Jim)**
- 9. December 17th at 7:00 p.m. **(Gathering)**
- 11. After Gatherings **(Food)**

**DOWN**

- 1. Reason for the Season **(Jesus)**
- 2. Accountability (2 Words) **(Share Groups)**
- 4. Online source for info on Emmaus, Chrysalis, & Kairos **(Website)**
- 5. Lay Director **(Tom)**
- 8. Chrysalis Contact **(Gene)**
- 10. February 1st - 4th **(Gathering)**

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Newsletter e-mail:

Pam Crosby  
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## KAIROS

The scheduled weekends for the institutions near us are:

**Ross Correctional - #14**  
February 1—4

**Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville - # 6**  
March 2007

**Lebanon Correctional Institute - #34**  
March 15-18

There will be men from our community as a part of the teams at each one of these weekends and COOKIES WILL BE NEEDED. If there are any questions, please give me a call at 324-4333 or contact me via e-mail at [lorijim@woh.rr.com](mailto:lorijim@woh.rr.com).

Remember what Jesus said: "When did you see me in prison and come to visit me? When you have done it to the least of these, you have done it unto me."

-Jim Vineyard

## EMMAUS NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

You can receive the Emmaus Newsletter via e-mail each month by e-mailing Pam Crosby at [pascot@prodigy.net](mailto:pascot@prodigy.net) with your request.

## Chrysalis

Next weekends for High School Age Youth:

Girls #43	January 13-15
Boys #43	February 17-19
Girls #44	July 6-8
Boys # 44	July 27-29

*Young Ladies & Young Men's (Age 18—24) will be in September and October 2007 (Exact Dates TBD).*

Additional information and applications available at [www.gbgm-umc.org/westohiochrysalis](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/westohiochrysalis). If you have additional questions, please e-mail Gene Porter at [gporter1@woh.rr.com](mailto:gporter1@woh.rr.com).