



CO-COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

"Let's go fishing!" That was my parent's way of getting away from the normal routine of the day. Get out into nature, put a fishing pole in the water and wait for a fish to bite the bait. I didn't mind fishing if I was catching something, but most of the time I would spend the entire time fishing with not even a nibble on the line.

Fishing can be exciting if the fish are biting, but if they are not the fishing trip can be frustrating. The knowledge and skill of those who are fishing will often determine if they will find a fishing hole where the fish are biting.

The same thing goes for us in the Springfield Emmaus community. Jesus told his disciples that they would be fishers of men and that is what we as the Emmaus Community are also called to do; fish for people who are ready to experience the love and grace of God in an overwhelming abundance. It can be exciting to be a part of the faith community that goes fishing for people. But it can also be down right frustrating if all we do is put in the pole and wait for the people to take our bait. If we are going to be fishing for people we will need to be knowledgeable and skilled in being able to find a fishing hole where the people are in need of a deeper walk with Jesus Christ. Many people are worried and concerned about what the future holds for them; the downturn in the economy and the

loss of a job, health or housing. Even if they do go to church each Sunday, they may have an emptiness inside of them that only the Lord can fill. They often try to fill the emptiness themselves with all kinds of activities and addictions but in reality they are hungry—hungry for more of the Lord and they don't even know it.

As the Springfield Emmaus Community we have been called to fish for people who don't even know they are hungry for more of the Lord. Therefore, we need to know that Emmaus not only trains Christians to be leaders in their own church but that a person's faith can grow deeper and more mature as they participate in each aspect of Emmaus. We also need to be able to talk about our beliefs and share with others our own personal story of what difference Jesus Christ has made in our life. We will need to be aware of the various ways people can be reached through the Word of God, Spiritual Experience, Prayer and Song. We also need to be aware of God's fishing plan for the Springfield Emmaus Community and let God lead us into the future. Jesus is calling us, do you hear the call? "Let's go fishing!"

Fishing Blessings,
Carolyn Peacock
Community Co-Spiritual Director

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST

As I sit down to write my first article for the Emmaus newsletter, I wonder what I can say that hasn't been said before. First off, I want to thank my good friend, Larry McMahan for all his service to the community for the last 5 years and I want to say, well done good and faithful servant, He continues to serve the community as the leadership chairman and I look forward to working with him for another year.

Serving as your community lay director is new to me and it is something that was never in my plans, but as always, God has plans for all of us as we continue our journey with Him and I know this is just another step in His plan for me. Having served in leadership roles at my church, New Moorefield UMC, hopefully has helped prepare me for this role and I look forward to serving the community and working with the board.

We all need to remember that this is a community for all of us and we all need to give of ourselves, whether it be as team members, sponsors, logistics kitchen help or whatever we are called to do. I have noticed that attendance at gatherings has fallen off and this is another way we can serve, being with other Christians and seeking fellowship. We all need to support our community I went on Men's walk # 20 and sat at the table of John and since my walk, I have tried to support the community in any way I could. My wife, Barb went on women's walk # 30 and has been at my side in all God has called me to do. So as I continue my journey, I ask for your prayers of support and I will do my best as your community lay director. I ask for God's blessing on the community as we all work towards another great year.

In His service,
John Baugh

IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM THE AGAPE ROOM

Pilgrims are NOT to receive gifts, flowers or other items during a week-end. Anything larger than a letter/card is considered "Super Agape" and is to be given to the pilgrims at the conclusion of the week-end away from display of other pilgrims. Sponsors, friends and family may typically place small items such as a pin, pencil/pen, or book mark within cards and letters, which is acceptable. ANY larger items, gift bags, books, etc, are NOT acceptable agape to be given to a pilgrim during a walk or for their Sunday packets. These items are held back from the pilgrims as instructed in the Emmaus Handbook. The agape room then has to make arrangements to see to it that the pilgrims receive their super agape away from all other pilgrims. This past women's week-end we had 12 pilgrims receive from 1-3 items of super agape. That leaves approximately 17 pilgrims not receiving special gifts. Can you see how that would make others feel if several at their table had 1-3 gifts, and they did not have any? The agape portion of the week-end is to lift up the pilgrim and to show them how much they are loved by God, Family, Friends and Community. That is why pilgrims can NOT receive super agape during a week-end. Please avoid bringing books, gift bags, t-shirts, Bibles, etc for pilgrims on a week-end. Take the special opportunity to give it to your pilgrims one on one as special time spent together.

Thanks!

The Agape Room

WHAT DOES IT COST PER WALK WEEKEND?

Food (estimate) -	2,300
Cleaning/paper products	60
Essential Supplies fm HQ Emmaus	260
Other supplies (notebooks/markers)	60
Medical supplies--aprox.	30
Rent to High St UMC	200
Upper Room cost per Pilgrim (\$10 @ 35)	350
Approx. printing/ mailing costs	400
Carpet cleaning of conference room	90
Photo of Pilgrims	150
Name Badges (usually paid by LD)	100
Miscellaneous	65
<u>TOTAL ESTIMATE COST PER WALK</u>	<u>\$4,065</u>

Income per Walk \$65 fee x 35 Pilgrims= \$2,275

Team members (excluding Clergy and Lay Director) = 21 x \$30 = \$630 + 2,275 = \$2,905

There is a difference per Walk of -\$1,160 – How does this work? How has Springfield Area Emmaus balanced “the books”?

To date, we are **NOT IN DEBT** – but also continue to contribute to Kairos and Chrysalisas needed.

Thanks in part to generous donations at Gatherings and Candlelight functions as well as personal monetary gifts.
PRAISE GOD!!

With all the above “frightening figures”– we, as a Body of Christ, can clearly see how God has blessed Springfield Area Emmaus. He has allowed us to keep our Walk registration fee at \$65 per Pilgrim in spite of outside increased costs – no one is ever turned away because they cannot pay the registration fee.

Often, we complain we’ve never seen a miracle – examine the above data/information, what’cha think?

GOD IS GOOD, ALL THE TIME, ALL THE TIME, GOD IS GOOD!!!

DIRECTORY UPATE

The Springfield Area Emmaus directory will be updated in August. If you have changes in your address or phone numbers, please let us know. If you have a minute to look through the directory, you may wish to let us know if you see other Emmaus members' addresses, name changes, or phone numbers that need to be updated. Also, should you see the name of a deceased member, please, please let us know. It is very helpful to have the correct information when contacting someone to serve on a live-in team. New directories will be available at the September Gathering for a \$1.00 donation.

Blessings, John and Mary Ahlborn, email: jahlborn@woh.rr.com or phone 322-1958

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www.spfldemmaus.com
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UPCOMING GATHERING!

Sunday, July 12, 2009 at 7 PM

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.

2009 WALK DATES:

Men's Walks

#38 August 13-16

Women's Walks

#57 November 5-8

***May the words of my mouth and the meditation
of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock
and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14***

PLEASE HELP!

***We have no more new applications for Men's walks, and are in
need of more pilgrims to complete the roster for the August walk.
Please consider sponsoring a pilgrim!***
