



**CO-COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord

***“God knew what he was doing from the very beginning. He decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love him along the same lines as the life of his Son.” (Romans 8:29)***

The first of the Four Spiritual Laws in the classic tract put out by Campus Crusade for Christ says, “God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.” You ask, “What is this plan and how will I find out what it is so I can get started on it?”

The tract goes on to say that once you have received Jesus as your Savior you become one of the people Paul is writing about in the above quotation from Romans – those who love Jesus.

From this point on God has one object in mind for you - to make you like his Son.

This was God’s intention from the first moment of creation when he said,

***“Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature.” (Gen. 1: 26)***

God breathed into us the breath of life, his own breath, so that we could be like him. From then on, God’s purpose for your life has been to make you like his Son Jesus. Why? So that you can reflect his glory and rejoice in him.

We often wish, and live, as though God’s goal for us was our own comfort and personal indulgence. However God’s goal for your life is development of your character.

Paul outlines this process in Ephesians

***“Take on an entirely new way of life – a God-fashioned life, a life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces his character in you. “***

***(Eph. 4:22)***

What is this character like? You can find a perfect picture of it in Galatians 5:22, 23

***“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”***

This process of transformation is very unsettling, uncomfortable, frequently dangerous, often seemingly defeated. We can see in Paul that in the real world a Christian life will be no picnic

***“We are hard-pressed on ever side, but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned; struck down but not destroyed...We who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake so that his life may be revealed in us.”***

***(2 Cor. 4: 8,11)***

Far from indulging us or making us comfortable, God develops character in us through circumstances and people who tempt and try us to be the exact opposite.

Really now, isn’t it obvious when you look closely at life? You will never really learn how to love by simply hanging out with lovely people. God teaches us how to love by bringing us alongside some pretty unlovely types. Being happy when things are going well is no sweat. There isn’t any growth then, ei-

ther. We grow into joy when we find ourselves able to praise God in hope even when everything is turning against us. Where can you learn to be at peace? Out on a scenic lake with a warm sun and gentle breeze rippling the waters? Or when the clouds gather and the winds rise so that the waves threaten to swamp your little boat? That is when you learn the truth

***“When you pass through the waters I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers they will not sweep over you.” (Isaiah 43:2)***

I am not wishing trials and troubles like these on anyone; they are painful and difficult, like putting metal through a refining process. But when they come, and they will, forewarned is forearmed. If we are aware of what God is trying to accomplish in us we will wonder a little less, “Why is this happening to me?” and ask a little more, “What do you want to do in me through this, Father?” Face it, once you understand that God’s purpose for your life is to make you like Christ his Son, life makes a lot more sense

***“You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors. So don’t try to get out of anything prematurely. Let it do its work so you become mature and well-developed, not deficient in any way” (James 1: 3,4 The Message)***

De Colores!  
Bill Kelley

**KITCHEN HELP NEEDED**

We appreciate all the time the members of the community have volunteered to help in the kitchens on Walks, but we have a few vital areas that need attention:

Helpers on Wednesday Evening (6:00 PM – 8:00 PM), Thursday Morning (8AM-Noon), Thursday Evening Cleanup (6:00 PM - 8:00 PM) Friday Evening (2:00 PM – 7:00 PM), Monday Morning Cleanup (8:00 AM – Until Finished).

Any time you can give is acceptable. You do not have to be there for the whole shift but let the daily coordinator know or note it down when you sign up on the sign up roster.

## GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST

When I entered the job market over forty years ago, I was lucky enough to work for a company that was run by the great-great grandson of the man who invented the product we manufactured and started the original business. Because the heir was dedicated to the family business and adhered to and followed the guidelines set by his ancestors, the company continued to flourish and grow. However, as he grew older and had health problems he stepped down from managing the company. New people replaced him – with “better” ideas – they threw out the old guidelines and set up new ones. Soon the lack of dedication and rejection of the old guidelines by new management began to show flaws. You guessed it....unfortunately; the company is now a mere shadow of what it once was.

I wrote you this story to lead you into my concern about Emmaus. We, too, have a history. In 1988 a group of people in Springfield saw a definite need to bring Emmaus to our city. They realized the Walk to Emmaus was a product of the Holy Spirit and could not be altered. After two years of diligent work, study, testing, and trials the first Walk was held in November 1990. The core group quickly learned, as each Walk progressed, that much prayer plus dedication to original guidelines would enable Walks to continue to be an instrument of the Holy Spirit. Continuity is key and imperative -- Emmaus must parallel the Holy Spirit driven ideas that came as answers to the prayers of those who originated the first Walk way back in 1940.

Your Board, too, is dedicated to insuring every live-in Team previews talks and music for continuity. Continuity enables us to stay focused on the purpose of each Walk – a closer, more personal walk with our Lord, Jesus Christ. While new ideas, altered timing, or different music may seem like good ideas, it is not necessary to change what is set in place. In other words, “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it!” Sharing your Emmaus experience with someone who has attended a Walk in a different locale is pretty awesome when you speak of similar aspects of the Walk.

Many of the charter members of the first Board still actively serve this Community. How blessed we’ve been by their loyalty. They have helped us to see the value of following the Emmaus guidelines and have shared what it takes to keep our Community strong. It is a thrilling experience for them to see how much the Holy Spirit is working in the lives of church leaders because of their Walk to Emmaus experience. Every prayer, every effort, every dime spent, and every year has made it all worthwhile. God has truly used Emmaus as His instrument to bring His children closer to Him.

As your Community Lay Director (CLD), I have persisted in keeping Emmaus unchanged. There is no reason for change, no need to change, and no place for change in this Community. And now that my year of being your CLD comes to a close, I am happy to say that your new CLD, John Baugh, will be a dedicated, serving Leader for you.

Thank you, for allowing me to be a small part of this Community’s effort to keeping Emmaus on solid ground, blessed by the Holy Spirit, and instrumental in giving Pilgrims life-changing experiences.

***In prayer with you, Larry McMahan, Community Lay Director***

Note: The June Walk will be held **June 25-28** – I had the wrong date in my May article – please be in prayer for Barb Baugh and her Team plus the 37 Pilgrims that are registered to attend.

## WOMEN’S SPONSORSHIP

We are so thankful for all the hard work and sacrifices you give for your Pilgrim. We cannot have walks without someone sponsoring a pilgrim. So with out you we would not have any walks. There is one area we seem to continue to have problems with and we know you will work with us on this area. That is the area of special agape during the weekend. In the sponsor letter we send you it states that there is to be NO special agape given to ANY pilgrim during the weekend. Not during candlelight, not at bedtime, not at meal time, no time except Sunday evening AFTER closing when you are taking your pilgrim home. The reason behind this is that no one is to be treated any different then anyone else. This is so important and we are sorry we have to remind you but it is important that no pilgrim is left feeling less important than another. We are asking you to please, please remember this rule and abide by it. We have highlighted this information on the sponsorship letter, we have put \*s next to this information, so please read the letter you receive and it will tell you everything you will need to know to be a sponsor. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. May God continue to bless you as you pray about who to sponsor.

## PRAISE CONCERT IN HONOR OF BRENDA WARNER

Brenda Warner (Mary Beth Cheeseman’s sister) is battling cancer for the third time. The Praise Concert will be held at **Grace United Methodist Church. Saturday June 13, 2009 at 6:30 pm.** There will be a variety of Christian music. Many of the singers will be from Emmaus. We will collect a Love offering and refreshments will be served. Brenda attended women's walk #51 and sat at the table of Abigail.

If you have any questions, contact Mary Beth Cheeseman: home ph.# is 882-1349, work # 342-8440

## WOMEN'S EMMAUS WALK #56, JUNE 25—28, 2009

PILGRIM	CHURCH NAME	SPONSOR
Melanie Acton	Yellowsprings U.M.C.	Libby Hammond
Helen Anderson	Good Shepherd Baptist	Ray & Linda Harper
Carrie Arblaster	Lake Ave. Christian Church	Silke & Jacob Berner
Kathy Bartlett	New Moorefield U.M.C.	Ray Bartlett
Abby Berry	Harvest	Mary Perry
Trish Byus	Assumption Greek Orthodox	Bud Addis
Dawn Cline	Maiden Lane Church of God	Pam Freshour
Amy DeWitt	First Church of the Nazarene	Judy Brammer
Lorene Diehl	Christian Life Center	Kenneth Diehl
Marva Dodge	St. Johns Missionary Baptist	Louise Burley
Susana Ferryman	Liberty Baptist	Anne VanPelt
Kay Flowers	First Presbyterian Church - Urbana	Marion Johnson
Barbara Grimm	High St. Church of the Nazarene	Maggie Myers
Emily Jordan	Urbana Church of Christ	Tracy Wilson
Kimberly Kelley	None Listed	Erick & Sabrina Collins
Cathy King	First Christian	Tena Hopper & Randy McHenry
Vivalyn Knight	Covenant Presbyterian Church	Silke Berner
Phyllis LeFever	New Moorefield U.M.C.	Sandra Scholl
Carey Manley	New Moorefield U.M.C.	Teresa & Sherry Fout
Christina McKinley	St. John's Lutheran	Peggy Jones
Paula Mehdawi	Fairfield Christian Church	Debbie Johnson
Kandi Moore	St. John Missionary Baptist	Dorothy Higginbotham
Flo Jean Packer	Hillside Church of God	Terry & Karen Packer
Becky Piper	None Listed	Terri Rinkoski
Sharita Portis	None Listed	Wanda Walker
Diann Reno	Fellowship Christian Church	Johnnie & Sharon Williams
Janet Schilliger	Mutual Grace U.M.C.	Charles & Pam Pendleton
Cathy Schlabach	High St. Church of the Nazarene	Pearl Rice
Veronica Smith	Crosspointe Community Church	P.A. Rummel
Stephanie Swenson	Mechanicsburg U.M.C.	Yolanda Rosten
Regina Taylor	St. Bernard	Nanette Moss
Shirley Teets	N. Hampton Community Church	Roger Teets
Tara VanBeber	Lake Ave. Christian Church	Clara Griffin
Lisa Webb	Lake Ave. Christian Church	Jeffrey Webb
Kelly Weber	Nation Chapel U.M.C.	Rick Weber
Mandi White	Lake Ave. Christian Church	Silke & Jacob Berner
Kathy Young	St. Johns Missionary Baptist	Louise Burley

Lay Director:	Barb Baugh	LOG:	Yvonne Dobbins
Board Rep:	Betty Yoakem	LOG:	Susan Hillman
Spiritual Director:	Rev. Cindee Johnson	Music Director:	Diane Page
Asst. Spiritual Director:	Rev. Don Trumbull	Asst. Music Director:	Sue Neves
ALD:	Debbie Mefford		
ALD:	Sarah Cogan		
ALD:	Beth Tullis		

Table Leaders:	Rhonda Crist	ATL:	Andrea Cheeseman
	Teresa Fout		Claudia Truman
	Shawn Clark		Judy Hoberty
	Mary Lu Moss		Mallory Cheeseman
	Dawn Parcels		Missy Trumbull
	Mary Casto		Nita Jenkins
	Candy Blakely		Becky Cullum

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### **UPCOMING GATHERING!**

**Sunday, June 14, 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**

#56 June 25-28 LD: Barb Baugh

#57 November 5-8

### **HELP!**

I need help for the closing for women's walk in June and for the gathering. Please help.

You can call me at 937-399-9886.

Thank you,

Johnnie Williams

### **REUNION**

Walk # 29,

LD: Tom Dever

June 14 @ 6 PM in the Choir Room

### **APPLICATIONS**

We are in need of men's applications.

Please consider sponsoring a pilgrim!

### **A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!**

I would just like to say a great big thank you to the Emmaus Community before I leave for overseas ministry. I don't think this would have been possible without the love, teaching, leadership training or fellowship and encouragement of my Emmaus friends. Thank you all!

I would also like to invite all of you to come to an auction at my home on June 14th at 2 PM to sell all of my household furnishings, linens, glassware, dishes, collectibles etc., to help fund my ministry. I am located at 308 Dover Road and look forward to seeing many of you that day before I leave the area. De Colores! Katy Roark