

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself came near and walked with them. Luke 24:15

L.O.V.Emmaus Community Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

Winter Edition L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY NEWS February 2011

Walking with Purpose

Dear LOVE Community,

I am excited by the challenge of a new year as we serve the Lord! As a witness to this challenge, I would like to forward the following letter that came to our Community from our Upper Room officers. The letter is as follows:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Did you ever wonder why God chose to reveal Himself to shepherds? Why did He announce the birth of His Son to a band of

grubby shepherds? Why did Mary give birth to the Savior in a little town like Bethlehem and not the holy city of Jerusalem?

Consider this: God reveals Himself to those who are humble enough to receive him. The angels chanted, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace to men on whom his favor rests." The kind of peace they were talking about was peace with God; forgiveness and right relationship with the Almighty; peace within ourselves. There's also a peace in knowing that no matter what dark valley you have to walk through, God is still there - just a shepherd with his sheep. He's there even when we can't see Him and He's leading us in the path of His purpose. That's real peace and it comes to those whom God favors. He favors those who are humble enough to receive Him.

Friends, He is coming and it is very exciting. Let's promise to humbly walk with Him each day of our lives."

The past year has caused me to walk more humbly with God as my family faced perhaps our most difficult struggle to date. It is only by His favor resting on us that we have been guided through this ordeal. But it is also knowing that "He's leading us in the path of His purpose" that gives us the hope for the future.

My prayer for our Community is that each of us live so we are prepared for His coming.

Phil Brown Community Lay Director

COMING UP!

* Gathering - 2/22/11 - 3/22/11

NOTE: Gatherings are at Washington United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm -Board of Directors meet at 5:45 pm

Bring a snack & stay to eat after we meet!

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39 NKJV

And now ... a word from our Sponsorship Chair ...

Here we go again, the start of another great opportunity to show our Love for Christ through sponsorship. I am thrilled at the thought of another upcoming Walk (Men's #21)! Let's be in prayer and be ever thoughtful of those we all know in our churches and other Christian communities who would grow through this always-energizing experience.

I would ask also that you all, as our Community, be in prayer for those on the Team of this Walk, and those whom God would allow to be on all the following Walks this year. Let's all hold this Walk up in prayer and watch how the Lord will do amazing things in our little area of this great big world!

Don't forget to get those sponsorship papers in so that we can see God working in this Walk.

DeColores!
Jeremy Rutledge

IT'S TIME!!

Walk dates for 2011 have been announced and it's time – time to pray, time to ask God to lay a Pilgrim on your heart, time to invite and time to get those applications in! The deadline for Men's Walk #21 and Women's Walk #22

Spring:

Men #21: April 28 - May 1 Women #22: June 2 - 5

will be upon us before we know it!

Fall:

Men #22: Sept. 8 - 11 Women #23: Oct. 6 - 9

The Ultimate Valentine

While watching a little TV on Sunday instead of going to church, I watched a church in Atlanta honoring one of its senior pastors who had been retired many years. He was 92 at that time and I wondered why the church even bothered to ask the old gentleman to preach at that age.

After a warm introduction of this speaker, and as the applause quieted down, he rose from his high-back chair and walked slowly, with great effort and a sliding gait to the podium. Without a note or written paper of any kind he placed both hands on the pulpit to steady himself and then quietly and slowly he began to speak....

"When I was asked to come here today and talk to you, your pastor asked me to tell you what was the greatest lesson ever learned in my 50-odd years of preaching. I thought about it for a few days and boiled it down to just one thing that made the most difference in my life and sustained me through all my trials. The one thing that I could always rely on when tears and heartbreak and pain and fear and sorrow paralyzed me - the only thing that would comfort was this verse:

> 'Jesus loves me this I know. For the Bible tells me so Little ones to Him belong, We are weak but He is strong... Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.' "

When he finished, the church was quiet. You actually could hear his footsteps as he shuffled back to his chair. I don't believe I will ever forget it.

A pastor once stated, "I always noticed that it was the adults who chose the children's hymn 'Jesus Loves Me' (for the children, of course) during a hymn sing, and it was the adults who sang the loudest because I could see they knew it the best."

Senior version of 'Jesus Loves Me'

Here is a new version just for us who have white hair or no hair at all. For us over middle-age (or even those almost there) and all you others, check out this newest version of 'Jesus Loves Me'.

Jesus loves me, this I know, Though my hair is white as snow Though my sight is growing dim, Still He bids me trust in Him. (Chorus) YES, JESUS LOVES ME.. YES, JESUS LOVES ME.. YES, JESUS LOVES ME, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.

Though my steps are oh, so slow, With my hand in His I'll go On through life, let come what may, He'll be there to lead the way. (Chorus)

When the nights are dark and long, In my heart He puts a song. Telling me in words so clear. "Have no fear, for I am near." (Chorus)

When my work on earth is done.

And life's vict'ries have been won.

He will take me home above. Then I'll understand His love. (Chorus)

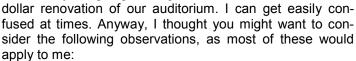
I love Jesus, does He know? Have I ever told Him so? Jesus loves to hear me say, That I love Him every day. (Chorus)

(Found on the internet - Author Unknown)

She's kidding ... RIGHT??

Dear Community,

I want to thank you for choosing me to be the Board Secretary. I am also secretary for the Russell Theatre Corporation, so don't be alarmed if, at some point I report that the Community is going through a \$2-million-



Signs of a Bad Secretary

- She has a hard time alphabetizing a bag of M&M's
- She doesn't get the hang of Post-it Notes
- · You have to frequently scrape White-Out off her computer monitor
- · At the board meeting for which she is recording the minutes, she stops the proceedings to ask, "What did old what-his-name say?"
- When she gets low on typing paper she asks you what to do; you tell her to use copy paper. She then takes a blank piece of typing paper and puts it into the copy machine and makes 10 copies.

Just thought I would start the year with a laugh. Seriously, I look forward to serving.

De Colores Sally Teegarden, Secretary

"Getting things accomplished isn't nearly as important as taking time for love."

Janette Oke



From the *Good Shepherd* . . .

Hello, everyone!

Hope you had a blessed Christmas and are having a wonderful and prosperous new year!

I can't stress enough the need to be in a Reunion or Share Group. Please don't hesitate to email me at my4thdays@yahoo.com or at the

LOVEmmaus website at www.lovemmaus.org at "the good shepherd" if I can be of any assistance.

In Christ's Love, Mike Burke

Introducing...

Our new Volunteer Chaircouple

Hello Emmaus Community!

I pray so far you have had a wonderful beginning to a beautiful New Year. As we begin a new year we also have new opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ and to serve Him, not only as a Community but as individual volunteers in all kinds of aspects: praying for the Pilgrims, serving as team members, cleaning campgrounds and lots of other areas.

This year please be praying as to how you can be a wonderful servant of God. You won't be disappointed.

DeColores, Jim & Tammy Unger



All You Need is LOVE ...

Línda Naylor, Music Chair



Greetings, LOVEmmaus Community!! What better time to write about "love" than in the month that celebrates love and Valentine's Day! As you will recall, for awhile now I've been writing installments from the book, "*The Five Love Languages*" by Dr. Gary Chapman. As a quick review, Dr. Chapman through years of marriage counseling identified what he calls "five love languages."

The big theme that runs through the entire book is that each of us has a primary love language that has developed in us based on how God wired us in the beginning, and the experiences of our lives. Other people seeking to show us love must speak in our language, or we do not recognize it as love. There is a communication barrier, so to speak, and we can completely miss the love intended behind the act. Dr. Chapman tells us that we must be tuned in to the primary love language of the one we are trying to love. Think about the implications of this as we try to love each other as the body of Christ!

The third love language described by Dr. Chapman is **Receiving Gifts**. Think about this: Gift giving is a fundamental expression of love that transcends cultural barriers. You must be thinking of someone to give them a gift. It is not the thought only from the mind that counts, but the thought expressed in actually securing the gift and giving it as the expression of love.

Gifts are visual symbols of love. Visual symbols are more important to some people than to others. If receiving gifts is my primary love language, I will place great value on the gifts. And, without gifts as visual symbols, I may question your love.

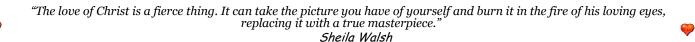
If your spouse's primary love language is receiving gifts, you can become a proficient gift giver. In fact, it is one of the easiest languages to learn. Begin by making a list of gifts your spouse has expressed excitement about over the years from you or other family members or friends. You can even recruit the help of friends or family members if you get really stuck. Gifts can be bought, found, or made. Some greatly treasured gifts are items found naturally on a special walk or outdoor event. But don't wait for a special occasion...if this is your spouse's love language, give gifts regularly!

Now this is important: If you have a saving orientation, you will need to think through the importance of giving your primary-love-language-is-receiving-gifts spouse gifts. In other words, you will have to overcome that "savings orientation" in this area. This will speak even more loudly to your spouse! Remember, you are meeting their emotional needs by giving gifts!

Dr. Chapman talks about one other aspect of receiving gifts, the <u>Gift of Self</u>. Physical presence in the time of crisis is the most powerful gift you can give if your spouse's primary love language is receiving gifts. In these moments, just being with your spouse can speak love to them.

Now, how does **Receiving Gifts** play out in Emmaus? This one is easy!! Just think of all that agape! All the time, energy, thought, and prayers that are represented by the small tokens...and don't forget ALL the food. For those Pilgrims (and Community members) whose primary love language is receiving gifts, all these items represent our love for Christ, and through Him, our love for the Body of Christ.

De Colores!





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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

WALK DATES FOR 2010:

Men #21: 4/28 - 5/1 Women #22: 6/2 - 5

Men #22: 9/8 - 11 Women #23: 10/6 - 9



Maysville, Kentucky

www.lovemmaus.org



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