



Walk to Emmaus
FILE UPPER ROOMS

L.O.V. Emmaus Community

Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

Spring Issue

L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY NEWS

April

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them.

Luke 24:15

Upcoming Events:

- Gathering April 22
- Ruggles Clean-Up: April 28 (9:00 am) & April 30 (5:00 pm)
- Men's Walk #15: May 1-4
- Gathering May 27

IMPORTANT NOTE:

All Community Gatherings are held at 7:00 p.m. at Washington United Methodist Church

If possible, please bring a snack to share!

Board of Directors:

4/22/08 at 5:45 pm
5/27/08 at 5:45 pm

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From The Spiritual Director

From the Old Reverend:

My friend Cliff Campbell has a nickname for everyone. He calls me "the Rev", so, as Spiritual Director of our Community this year I'll be as reverent as is possible, the Lord being my helper.

We have begun the third week of the Easter Season. Those who were present in the Community of Faith yesterday were there as either disciples or seekers. A seeker is someone hunting for the truth. By definition, they haven't found it yet. On the other hand disciples have found the truth and are submitting their lives to its call. A disciple is a learner - one who understands that walking with Jesus is the Way to truth and life, a continuing journey that ends in heaven. Easy to say and easy to see - right?

Cleopas and his fellow traveler were disciples. They were there when the women reported the vision of angels and the empty tomb. They knew of Peter and John's visit to the tomb. They were on the road to Emmaus, probably going home, and they were talking about the things that had happened in Jerusalem. But Luke's account of their journey as Jesus joins them that day says, "... Their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him." You may have your idea as to why their eyes were restrained. I don't think God had anything to do with it, but rather the cares of this world — the things that were making them "sad" as they walked along, the things that caused them to reason among themselves. I believe Jesus' parable of the sower is applicable here. The soil of their lives was "a hard wayside", or "stony", or maybe full of weeds and thorns.

How are disciples going to keep their eyes opened so that they recognize the resurrected Christ when they meet Him? Jesus gave us some of the answers in His conversation with Cleopas and his fellow disciple.

In the first place Jesus in Luke 24:25-27 implies that a disciple needs to know and believe the scripture. Do you have a plan for Bible study? Have you ever read the bible through from Genesis 1 - Revelation 22? Have you, with your fellow travelers, dug into the parables of Jesus until you have a general idea about the truths they give? If Moses doesn't turn aside to find out why the burning bush is not being consumed, God will probably not call him to lead Israel from its bondage in Egypt.

Second, disciples' eyes are opened in fellowship with one another and with Jesus who has promised to be there. Verse 30 speaks of how their eyes were opened as Jesus broke bread with them. Disciples love to be around other disciples — singing, shouting, preaching, praying and eating - just like Jesus and the guys on the road.

Third, as we remember our experiences with Jesus our "hearts burn within us". We gotta go tell somebody. Let's load Tim and Donna and their teams up - pilgrims coming out of the cracks of life — from everywhere.

There's a story that goes like this: *Once upon a time there was a little boy who decided he wanted to find God. He knew it would probably be a long trip, so he decided to pack a lunch—four packs of Twinkies and two cans of root beer. He set out on his journey and went a few blocks until he came to a park. On one of the park benches sat an old woman looking at the pigeons.*

The little boy sat down beside her and watched the pigeons too. When he grew hungry, he pulled out some Twinkies. As he ate, he noticed the woman watching him, so he offered her one. She accepted it gratefully and smiled at him. He thought she had the most beautiful smile in the world. Wanting to see it again, he opened a can of root beer and offered her the other one. Once again she smiled that beautiful smile.

For a long time the two sat on that park bench eating Twinkies, drinking root beer, smiling at each other, and watching the pigeons. Neither said a word. Finally, the little boy realized that it was getting late and he needed to go home. He started to leave, took a few steps, turned back and gave the woman a big hug. Her smile was brighter than ever before.

When he arrived home, his mother noticed that he was happy, but strangely quiet. "What did you do today?" she asked. "Oh, I had lunch in the park with God," he said. Before his mother could reply, he added, "You know, she has the most beautiful smile in the world."

Meanwhile, the old woman left the park and returned to her home. Her son noticed something different about her. "What did you do today, Mom?" he asked. "Oh, I ate Twinkies and drank root beer in the park with God." And before her son could say anything at all, she added, "You know, God's a lot younger than I imagined."

Let's go hunting for God as we get in the Word, have fellowship with one another in the Body of Christ, and let's remember our experiences with Jesus so we can go tell others of the love that surpasses knowledge.

DeColores!

Jim Finch—Community Spiritual Director

Greater Scioto Emmaus News!

Les Grooms has been selected as the Spiritual Director of the Greater Scioto Emmaus community for 2008. Les was elected for a three year term on the board in 2007.

The greater Scioto Emmaus Community sponsors four walks per year - two for women and two for men. The walks are held in the Trinity United Methodist Church in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Les has been the Spiritual Director for two walks for the Greater Scioto Emmaus Community as well as one Kairos walk and one Chrysalis flight.



Men's Walk #15 Team News

Our team began meeting the last Friday in March at the Winchester Church of Christ in Christian Union in Winchester, Ohio. We have a blend of first-timers on the team who do not understand much about the preparation process at this point to former Lay Directors who know more about it than I do. I will need the help. God has been good to us in the forming of the team and we look forward to serving the Pilgrims of Walk #15. We become better friends every time we meet, clinging to each other and to God in our 4th Days.

With God's help we will be able to effectively portray His Grace to each and every Pilgrim on the walk. Please continue to pray for the team and the Pilgrims so that God's will can be completed in our lives. We go into the walk seeking to serve the Pilgrims and come out having been served. God has met me on every walk that I have been a part of, just where I needed to be met. Thanks so much for allowing me to be a part of the L.O.V.E. Community. Once again I will tell you that you are my safe haven.

DeColores!

Tim Naylor—Lay Director, Men's Walk #15

Women's Walk #16 Team News

Hello and Hallelujah!

Or should I say, "Greetings and God has the team together for Women's Walk #16!" I know there have been many people in prayer for this Walk already and I can't begin to tell you how very much I appreciate those prayers.

We are anxiously awaiting our first team meeting on April 26th at Sunshine UMC. Before we even meet I can tell that God has put together an awesome team. As I look down the tem roster, I feel like I am the most unqualified servant on the list. But I take great comfort in remembering that sometimes He does His greatest work through the "weakest link".

I have chosen Isaiah 49:16 for the scripture verse for the Walk: "Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands." I thought maybe some of those wonderful agape makers might like to have the verse to use on some of the agape. I'm sure many of you are already hard at work cranking out agape to bless these Pilgrims just like you were blessed by it on your Walk.

Please keep the team, the Pilgrims and myself in your prayers. I am nervous but soooooo excited!

DeColores!

Donna Tavis—Lay Director, Women's Walk #16

COOKBOOK UPDATE ...

We have started collecting recipes for a *L.O.V.E. Community Cookbook*. Thus far I have sixteen recipes - a long way from the number of recipes needed! It would be ideal if we could have several from each of you.

The more recipes we have the larger the book. There is even a section for "This & That" - many of you are very clever, so send some ideas for that section (it could be a poem, a friendship recipe, etc.).

Please get the recipes coming. If you are interested in helping with the preparation part - let me know that also. Several decisions need to be made and we really would love to hear your ideas.

You can email me at recipe@lovemmaus.org or kitchen@lovemmaus.org. My mailing address is Kay Grooms, PO Box 98, Manchester, OH 45144.

DeColores,

Kay Grooms—Kitchen Coordinator



Men's Walk #15 Women's Walk #16 Team Members

Spiritual Director	Jim Finch	Ken Harmon
- Assistant	Charlie Shoemaker	Jaime Wirth
Lay Director	Tim Naylor	Donna Tavis
-Assistants	Alan Leonard	Cyndi Frogde
	Michael Starkey	Sally Teegarden
	Tom Tavis	Elise Starkey
Board Rep.	George Smith	Stella Hull
Table Leaders	Bill Perry	Karen Hughes
	Joe Howard	Floretta Rice
	Barry Rodbell	Casey Reed
	Jonathan King	Carol Spriggs
	Jim DeAtley	Amanda King
		Alice Bailey
-Assistants	Steve Waterfield	Tammy Unger
	Fred Kragler	Carrie Bolender
	Roger Cheesbro	Sue Young
	Wayne Harper	Shirley Link
	Joe Robinson	Judy Gray
		Dorothy Bentley
Music Director	Ryan Mountjoy	Tami Conrad
-Assistants		Renee King
		Linda Naylor
Prayer Servants	Bill Henry	Nancy Harmon
	Tim Ratcliff	Brenda Reed
Logistics	Mike Burke	Judy Nolte
	Harlan Moore	Vickie Click
	Dan Reed	Rebecca Smith
-Tech-Log	David Lewis	Colette McGinnis

Please pray for our team members, that they will serve in humility, and with gratitude for the opportunity. That they will be reminded that the Holy Spirit calls for their love, patience, kindness, gentleness, and self control in all things!



Thursday Evening Send-Off For Pilgrims & Teams

Even if you're not bringing a Pilgrim, there are many ways to be involved from the very beginning of a Walk. It's important that we give the Pilgrims and Team Members support and encouragement by being at the Thursday evening send-off. Actually I remember when I went on my walk at Wilmington; there were people there ready to take your luggage, help you find a place to sleep and get you settled in for the week-end. We sure could use a lot of folks for that!

My actual responsibility and concern is for the Thursday evening meal. The community will be providing hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. We are asking you to come with a vegetable, salad or dessert (heavier on the veggies and salads, please). You know - like our annual picnic.

There is also a Sponsor's Hour in the tabernacle for sponsors and anyone else who can go there to pray for the Pilgrims and team members. We can never have too many involved in this.

So please put the following dates on your calendars - Thursday, May 1st; Thursday, June 5th; Thursday, September 4th; and Thursday, October 2nd. These are the Thursdays when upcoming Walks will begin. The picnic dinner begins at 6:30, but team and Pilgrims begin gathering at Ruggles between 5:00 and 6:00 (so if you're going to be one of those servants who offers to carry luggage, find a room or just makes a Pilgrim feel welcome, come early).

If you plan to come it would be helpful to let me know by emailing me at kitchen@lovemmaus.org. We want to have enough hamburgers and hot dogs on hand! Hope to see you there!

DeColores
Kay Grooms—Kitchen Coordinator



Hello Emmaus Community!

As your new Agape Coordinator, I would like each of you to look back to your own Walk to Emmaus. Remember going into your dorm room and you were so tired you just wanted to hit the sack? Then you looked at your bed that you just wanted to flop onto and you might have said something like, "My goodness, what is all this stuff on top on my bed?"

You got curious and looked a little more carefully. As you picked up each item and discovered what it was or what message it conveyed, your tiredness disappeared and you couldn't wait to see the next treasure. Then with every meal, you received goodies and more goodies on your bed at night. It finally dawned on you what AGAPE really means. You felt these items were gifts of love directly from God.

Now, what I am asking you all to do is to give gifts of love to the Pilgrims and team members. Show them what God's love is all about just as you found out on your Walk.

AGAPE is something Share Groups can get together and make or an individual may make something to give. Items can be purchased to give as Agape. It really doesn't matter how it is done - the main thing is that **we do it**. I think you know what I am talking about.

If you intend for it to be table or bedtime AGAPE for both Pilgrims and team, then you will need 60 pieces. If it is just for the Pilgrims, there should be 30 pieces. Be sure that you put on the outside of your container how many pieces you brought. It is okay to put your Share Group's name or the name of your church on the Agape. But please don't put individual names on it - remember, it is not about "me". AGAPE is just one way of showing the Pilgrims and team that "God Loves You".

If I may help you in any way, please feel free to contact me at: agape@LOVEmmaus.org

DeColores!
Bren Frodge—Agape Coordinator

From the Community Lay Director

Welcome to Emmaus 2008!

We've gotten off to shaky start with the January gathering being cancelled due to the cold and nasty weather. And then I had to be out of town in February but Alison Dunn did a great job covering for us. March was a great gathering! But we do miss those who can't come for one reason or another.

God has been so good to us! We have had great walks and I know we'll continue to have as long as we keep with God and the Upper Room guidelines. I have been told both men and women's teams are together. Now we need to find pilgrims for the walks.

The nominating committee has selected a great group of people for the board members. Please pray we make good decisions for the year. I would like to personally thank the past board members for their service -- they did a great job. I love the Emmaus Community and what God does to help people learn more on how they can be better servants for Him in their church and community. Remember John 3:16.

God Bless!
Georgjean Shelton—Community Lay Director



It's that time again to think about helping your Emmaus Community. The kitchen is a great way to get started - this was the first place I helped out! The Teegardens have done a great job of getting names to me. However, I haven't received the ones from the March gathering - so if you checked you would be willing to assist in the kitchen - please contact me. My email address is kitchen@lovemmaus.org.

At the present time where I need the most help is on Friday and Sunday. Friday breakfast we can use people to get the fruit tray ready, cook oatmeal, preparing drinks, and serving the casseroles. Friday lunch is not 100% set, we'll need assistance getting fruit trays and veggie trays ready as well as drinks. I'm not a tea drinker so it would be good to have someone who can make some good sweet tea! Friday evening and Saturday are pretty much covered; however, there are always the fruit and vegetable trays to do as well as drink preparation and extra hands to help serve. Don't forget that team members' spouses/parents/family serve and entertain on Saturday night!

Thus far we have no one signed up for Sunday - perhaps you can come be a servant for God's people on Sunday. It's not formal worship, but you certainly feel God's presence all around! Come give it a try.

Oh! I forgot there are always dishes that need washed, dining room and kitchen cleaned after each meal, tables that need resetting and on Sunday afternoon major cleaning, boxing up and storing of all our Emmaus supplies. There is something for everyone to do. Let me know if you'll take this opportunity to be blessed and be a blessing!

DeColores
Kay Grooms—Kitchen Coordinator

Greetings from the Good Shepherd!

You may ask, "What is a Good Shepherd?" The Good Shepherd is the one you seek out to help answer any questions you have about share groups.

I am happy to help you with such frequently asked questions like: How can I find one or maybe even start one? What do you do, and when do you meet? How often do you meet and for how long?

If you need help or suggestions, feel free to contact me, Tom Tavis, at goodshepherd@lovemmaus.org. I look forward to hearing from you!



Upcoming Walk Dates Announced!

Men #15: May 1-4, 2008

Women #16: June 5-8, 2008

Men #16: September 4-7, 2008

Women #17 October 2-5, 2008

www.lovemmas.org

L.O.V.E. Community Board of Directors

Community Lay Director	Georgjean Shelton
Assistant Community Lay Director	George Smith
Secretary	Alison Dunn
Treasurer	Dave Lewis
Community Spiritual Director	Jim Finch
Kitchen	Kay Grooms
Communications	Karen Hughes
Music	Phil Brown
Good Shepherd	Tom Tavis
Agape	Brenda Frodge
Chrysalis Representative	Acynda Spriggs
Registrar / Membership	Nicole George
Sponsorship	Michael Starkey
Volunteer Coordinators	Tim & Sally Teegarden
Facilities Set up/Clean up	Bill Shelton
Worship	Janice Edingfield
Logistics Coordinators	Dan & Brenda Reed
Social Coordinators	R.C. & Shirley Miller
L.E.A.D.	Delace Canada
Ruggles Liaison	Stella Hull



L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY

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