



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

L.O.V. Emmaus Community

Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

Winter Issue

L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY NEWS

January

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

Luke 24:15

Upcoming Events:

- Gathering January 27
- Gathering February 24

Next Community Gatherings at 7:00 p.m. The Maysville Church of the Nazarene 156 Maple Leaf Rd.

If possible, bring a snack to share.

Board of Directors Meeting at 5:45 p.m.

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Men's Walk #8 Team Selection Committee Meets!

The LOVEmmaus community team selection committee met for the first time Saturday morning, January 10th. We decided to have a working breakfast since we didn't want to violate the unwritten rule "when Emmaus meets, Emmaus eats." No one was in danger of passing out from hunger when they left.

The Team consists of the three past Lay Directors, the Community Spiritual Director, the next Lay Director, an experienced Log, and a representative appointed from the LOVEmmaus board for a total of seven members. This applies to both the Men's and the Women's teams.

The team selection committee was organized and implemented to improve our commitment to the Upper Room and to the Emmaus movement. The committee helps the Lay Director select the team for the next Walk. By bringing our community closer to the Upper Room's model we believe we will improve the ex-

perience for future Pilgrims and help avoid potential problems in the Walks and in the Community.

The guidelines recommended by the Upper Room included the one-third rule where we

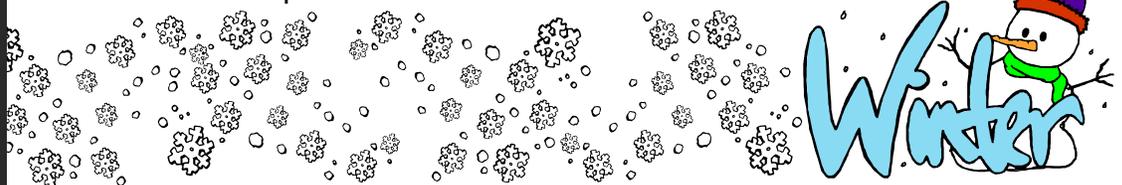
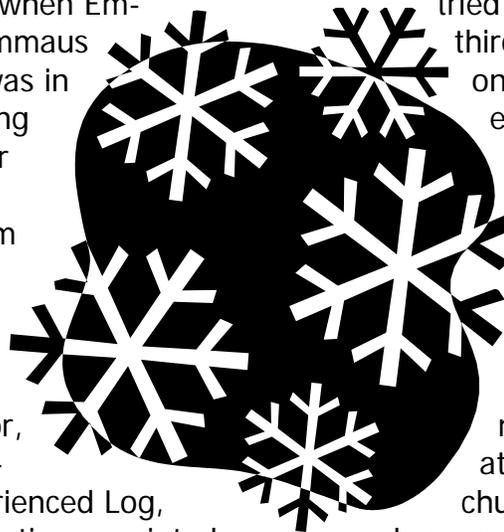
tried for a mix of one-third very experienced, one-third moderately experienced, and one-third as their first experience.

This applies to each position. The guidelines for eligibility also recommends the team members be actively attending your home church, be active in a share group, and have been

at least a year since their own Walk. So please get into a share group and get active in your church. We don't want to leave you out!!!

We had a great meeting and all agreed this is the way to do the selection. I believe you will see the results of it at the end of Walk #8.

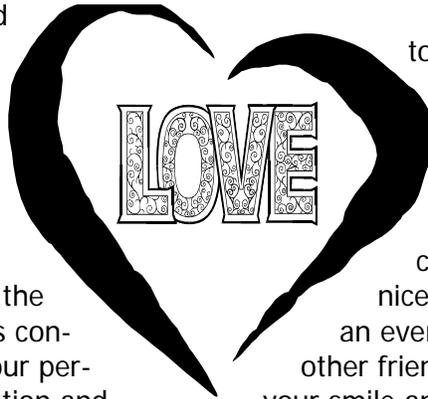
*De Colores,
Bob Bennington,
Lay Director, Men's Walk #8*



Heart-Felt Thanks to the Emmaus Community

First, let me thank the L.O.V.E. Community for allowing the Sunshine Community Choir present its cantata, "Hope Has Come". I have had a lot of positive feed-back from the Emmaus Community about this musical ministry. Yes, it is very tiring and takes energy we sometimes find hard to regenerate. However, once we began our warm-up and devotion, the joy of sharing Jesus Christ kicked in and away we went with a song in our hearts.

There is another feed-back that I would like to share and it comes from the cantata members to the Emmaus Community. There is always conversation afterwards that relates to our perception of the 'audience' or congregation and how they seemed to receive the message in song and how they responded to the message of Jesus. The cantata members were delighted in your Christian outreach to them. You truly exhibited the love of Christ during the entire evening. They saw the body of Christ as it is meant to be seen. Praise the



Lord that Christians can gather together and not worry about crossing denominational lines, but just fellowship and worship God in the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus. You have blessed many with your love and kindness.

Let me encourage you to continue to eagerly gather on the Tuesday evenings once a month to fellowship and worship together. You may not feel up to getting out on a cold or damp evening, but once you enter the doors of the church, I know you will meet the nicest person there ~ Jesus! The rest is an evening of joy because many of your other friends will be there also waiting to see your smile and hear your voice. May God bless your ministry outreach of sharing the love of Christ to all people.

Charles
Charles Mallory
LOVE Community Spiritual Director

THE WOODEN BOWL

I guarantee you will remember the tale of the Wooden Bowl tomorrow, a week from now, a month from now, a year from now.

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about Grandfather," said the son. I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor.

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl.

When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

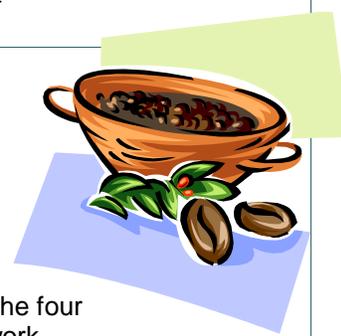
The four year old watched it all in silence. One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing

with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up." The four year old smiled and went back to work.

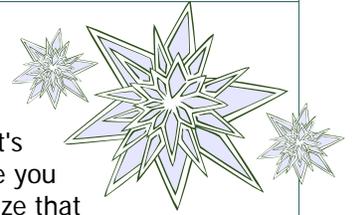
The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

I've learned that, regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life. I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But, if you focus on your family, your friends, the needs of others, your work and doing the very best you can, happiness will find you. People love that human touch—holding hands, a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back. *God bless you!*



To Start Your Day . . .



As you got up this morning, I watched you, and hoped you would talk to me, even if it was just a few words, asking my opinion or thanking me for something good that happened in your life yesterday. But I noticed you were too busy, trying to find the right outfit to wear.

When you ran around the house getting ready, I knew there would be a few minutes for you to stop and say hello, but you were too busy. At one point you had to wait fifteen minutes with nothing to do except sit in a chair. Then I saw you spring to your feet. I thought you wanted to talk to me but you ran to the phone and called a friend to get the latest gossip instead. I watched patiently all day long. With all our activities I guess you were too busy to say anything to me.

I noticed that before lunch

you looked around, maybe you felt embarrassed to talk to me, that is why you didn't bow your head. You glanced three or four tables over and you noticed some of your friends talking to me briefly before they ate, but you didn't. That's okay. There is still more time left, and I hope that you will talk to me yet.

You went home and it seems as if you had lots of things to do. After a few of them were done, you turned on the TV. I don't know if you like TV or not, just about anything goes there and you spend a lot of time each day in front of it not thinking about anything, just enjoying the show. I waited patiently again as you watched the TV and ate your meal, but again you didn't talk to me.

Bedtime I guess you felt too tired. After you said goodnight to your family you plopped into bed and

fell asleep in no time. That's okay because you may not realize that I am always there for you. I've got patience, more than you will ever know. I even want to teach you how to be patient with others as well.

I love you so much that I wait everyday for a nod, prayer or thought, or a thankful part of your heart. It is hard to have a one-sided conversation.

Well, you are getting up once again. Once again I will wait, with nothing but love for you. Hoping that today you will give me some time. Have a nice day!

Your friend,
GOD

A Chinese Fable

A water bearer in China had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which he carried across his neck. One pot had a crack in it, while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water.

At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his house.

Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After 2 years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream... "I am ashamed of myself, because this crack in my side causes

water to leak out all the way back to your house." The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?"

"That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I planted flower seeds on your side of the path. Every day while we walk back, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

Moral: Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take each person for what they are, and look for the good in them.

Submitted by Bren Frogde



\$20? A well-known speaker started off his seminar by holding up a

\$20.00 bill. In the room of 200, he asked, "Who would like this \$20 bill?" Hands started going up. He said, "I am going to give this \$20 to one of you but first, let me do this. He proceeded to crumple the \$20 dollar bill up. He then asked, "Who still wants it?" Still the hands were up in the air.

"Well, he replied, "What if I do this?" And he dropped it on the ground and started to grind it into the floor with his shoe. He picked it up, now crumpled and dirty. "Now, who still wants it?" Still the hands went into the air.

"My friends, we have all learned a very valuable lesson. No matter what I did to the money, you still wanted it because it did not decrease in value. It was still worth \$20. Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled, and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way. We feel as though we are worthless. But no matter what has happened or what will happen, you will never lose your value. Dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, you are still priceless to God and those who DO LOVE you. The worth of our lives comes not in what we do or who we know, but by WHO WE ARE.!

YOU are special, - Don't EVER forget it."



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UPCOMING WALK DATES ANNOUNCED!

MEN'S WALK #8:
APRIL 29 - May 2, 2004

WOMEN'S WALK #8:
JUNE 3 - 6, 2004

MEN'S WALK #9
SEPTEMBER 9 - 12, 2004

WOMEN'S WALK #9
OCTOBER 7 - 10, 2004

www.lovemmaus.org

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

Chairman:

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Vice-Chairman:

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Stella Hull

Treasurer:

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& Sponsorship:**

Jim Downing

Spiritual Director:

Charles Mallory

Music Director:

Roger Cheesbro

Registrar/Membership:

Cyndi Frodge

Newsletter Chair:

Rod Baker
Newsletter@lovemmaus.org

Agape Correspondence:

Dena Pully

Gathering Committee:

Bill Henry

Good Shepherd:

Kirk Tolle

Chrysalis Coordinator:

Debbie Shoemaker

Worship:

Delace Canada

Volunteer Coordinators:

Steve and Kathy Weber

Logistics:

Jutta King

Social:

Bill and Georjean Shelton

Kitchen:

Jennifer Vaden



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