

# mmaus L.O.V.Emmaus Community

Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

Spring Issue II

L.OV.E. COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Luke 24:15

Upcoming Events:

- Gathering May 22
- Ruggles Clean-Up: June 2 (9:00 am) & June 4 (5:00 pm)
- Women's Walk #14 June 7—10, 2007
- Gathering June 26

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: 5/22/07 at 5:45 pm 6/26/07 at 5:45 pm

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## How to Forgive

One day a while back, a man, his heart heavy with grief, was walking in the woods. As he thought about his life this day, he knew many things were not right. He thought about those who had lied about him back when he had a job.

His thoughts turned to those who had stolen his things and cheated him. He remembered family that had passed on. His mind turned to the illness He had what no one could cure. His very soul was filled with anger, resentment and frustration.

Standing there this day, searching for answers he could not find, knowing all else had failed him, he knelt at the base of an old oak tree to seek the one he knew would always be there. And with tears in his eyes, he prayed:

"Lord- You have done wonderful things for me in this life. You have told me to do many things for you, and I happily obeyed. Today, you have told me to forgive. I am sad, Lord, because I cannot. I don't know how.

It is not fair Lord. I didn't deserve these wrongs that were done against me and I shouldn't have to forgive. As perfect as your way is Lord, this one thing I cannot do, for I don't know how to forgive. My anger is so deep Lord, I fear I may not hear you, but I pray that you teach me to do this one thing I cannot do - Teach me To Forgive."

As he knelt there in the quiet shade of that old oak tree, he felt something fall onto his shoulder. He opened his eyes. Out of the corner of one eye, he saw something red on his shirt. He could not turn to see what it was because where the oak tree had been was a large square piece of wood in the ground. He raised his head and saw t two feet held to the wood with a large spike through them. He raised his head more, and tears came to his eyes as he saw Jesus hanging on a cross. He saw spikes in His hands, a gash in His side, a torn and battered body, deep thorns sunk into His head. Finally he saw the suffering and pain on His precious face. As their eyes met, the man's tears turned to sobbing, and Jesus began to speak.

"Have you ever told a lie?" He asked.

The man answered - "Yes, Lord."

"Have you ever been given too much change and kept it?"

The man answered - "Yes. Lord." And the man sobbed more and more.

"Have you ever taken something from work that wasn't yours?" Jesus asked.

And the man answered - "Yes, Lord."

"Have you ever sworn, using my Father's name in vain?"

The man, crying now, answered - "Yes, Lord."

As Jesus asked many more times, "Have you ever"? The man's crying became uncontrollable, for he could only answer - "Yes, Lord."

Then Jesus turned His head from one side to the other, and the man felt something fall on his other shoulder. He looked and saw that it was the blood of Jesus. When he looked back up, his eyes met those of Jesus, and there was a look of love the man had never seen or known before.

Jesus said, "I didn't deserve this either, but I forgive you." It may be hard to see how you're going to get through something, but when you look back in life, you realize how true this statement is.

If God brings you to it - He will bring you through it. When Jesus died on the cross, He was thinking of you!

Thank you to Brenda Frodge for sharing this with us!

#### WELCOME Men's Walk #13 New Members!

May

Robert Brookover

Larry Brumley

**Buddy Cropper** 

Kevin Doyle

Ian Greene

Rick Kragler

Tony Liess

**Daniel Miller** 

Ryan Mountjoy

**Denny Perkins** 

Joe Robinson

#### Pilgrims— Women's Walk #14

Lauren Brown

Amanda Calvert

Natalie Cook

Carol Dugan

Sheila Euth

Judy Gambill

Carolyn Head

Carol King

Katie Kragler

Lynn Kragler

Karen Lewis

Michelle Mills

Judy Robinson

Please be in prayer, specifically by name, for these pilgrims who are answering God's call to participate in our upcoming walk. We ask that they have open ears, minds, and hearts to receive whatever He has in store for them!

Dear L.O.V.E. Community,

A lot of good food and smiling, helpful faces showed up for Men's Walk #13. I think the Pilgrims and Team left a few pounds heavier as a result. Thanks to all who brought food and/or helped serve.

In a few weeks we start over again. Liz and Brenda Reed will be in charge of the kitchen for Women's Walk #14. They will need your help. I will be at Ruggles to help when needed. If you will not be at the next gathering to sign up to help you can email me at

kitchen@lovemmaus.org with what you are welling to do - such as provide a meal, a portion of a meal, help cook, serve, clean up. Any and all assistance is appreciated, however we need to know ahead of time so that we do not over plan. Our goal is to serve meals that is economical, nutritionally balanced, generous, and appealing. We have a menu plan to go by so if your share group would like to provide and serve an entire meal let me know - I will provide you with a menu and if you would like to make any changes we can work that out I am certain.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

DeColores, Kay Grooms—Kitchen Chairperson

## More Blessings to

### be Found at Camp Ruggles!

Blessings! We all enjoy being a part of the "Walk to Emmaus" experience at Ruggles Camp Grounds & Retreat Center, but did you know there are other events going on there that you can participate in?

Just to mention a few, "Market Place" is a Bible Time Experience which will be held June 26-28. This years theme is "Sing Into The Lord A New Song". Last year over 300 young and old alike took part in authentic food, crafts, song, costumes, and the reconstruction of the Tabernacle. It was awesome!

Also, "Camp Meeting" will be held July 19-29. This has been going on annually since 1873. Just imagine all the sermons preached, the singing, and the prayers lifted to the Lord. No wonder it feels like Holy Ground! The Evangelist is Danny Frederick, and I can tell you if you want your "toes stepped on, your heart convicted, and your soul blessed " this is the man of God to do it! For more information check out www.rugglescamp.org!

DeColores, Stella Hull—Ruggles Liaison





#### If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

In happy moments, praise God.
In difficult moments, seek God.
In quiet moments, worship God.
In painful moments, trust God
In every moment, thank God.



## Women's Walk #14 Team Members

Spiritual Director Charles Mallory

Assistant Les Grooms

Lay Director Theresa Mallory

-Assistants Kathy Weber

Angie Bowling

Linda Ratcliff

Board Rep.

Table Leaders Janet Lester

Jutta King

Stella Hull

Tracy Berry

Elise Starkey

Sally Teegarden

Denise Burke

-Assistants

Floretta Rice

Peggy Rice

Kay Marshall

Vernice Smith

Lisa Leonard

April Henderson

**Music Director** 

Tami Conrad

-Assistants

Amanda Snodgrass

**Prayer Servants** 

Sandy Penrod

Julia Warner

Logistics

Cyndi Frodge

Jill Evans

Tammy Unger

Techno-Log

Rebecca Smith

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!

From the Good Shepherd

A great big welcome to the pilgrims of the LOVE community Men's Walk #13. I pray that your Emmaus weekend has brought you to a place in your life, where you have a closer walk with God. Sometimes at the end of our walk weekend, we have tried to absorb so much information that it makes us feel a little overwhelmed. Reflecting back on Sunday afternoon, the talk on Perseverence tells us that the key is regular contact with Christ and with other Chrisr tians who share the vision of life lived wholly in the grace of God. The group reunion or share group then becomes a dynamic means of support and maintenance of meaningful contact with Christ and other Christian friends. The spiritual companionship of the group encourages us in our practice of the means of grace, the ways Christ instructed and modeled for us to stay in touch with him, to share his life and mind and to grow in his love and likeness. I am here to help answer any questions you might have about a share group. Please feel free to contact me at the email listed below. May all your Fourth Days be filled with adventure, discovery, and indescribable joy as you continue on your journey.

Helen Hayes writes, "What is important is that one is capable of Love. It is perhaps the only glimpse we are permitted of eternity."

In Christ Love

Alison Dunn—The Good Shepherd

GoodShepherd@lovemmaus.org



#### Walk

#### Preparations

It is that time of year when we must have things organized for the LOVE Community Emmaus Walks. If you would like to help us reorganize the LOG building prior to a Walk, please let us know. It is one way to serve the community and learn something about preparations for a Walk.

Calling all lanyard makers!!!!! We will need additional lanyards for the upcoming Women's Walk and both of the Walks in the fall. Veteran lanyard makers, please get in touch with us, so we will know that there will be enough for the June Women's Walk. If you are interested in learning how to make the lanyards that each Pilgrim receives, contact us. We will find an experienced lanyard maker to teach you the skill. Please keep in mind that the length for the lanyards needs to be 28 inches with 6 inch tails on each end

DeColores, Dan and Brenda Reed Logistics Coordinators

### From the Spiritual

#### Director...

walk happen.

What a wonderful walk LOVE Community Men's Walk to Emmaus # 13 was. We had 11 wonderful pilgrims, a wonderful team, a wonderful spirit of cooperation, and most of all -- a wonderful Savior of life and love to bless us all. My personal thanks goes to all who worked in any capacity to make this

Two things now must follow. The first is adequate follow-up on our pilgrims in prayer, calls of continuing encouragement and making sure they are at the next gathering.

The second is starting <u>now</u> to sponsor pilgrims for our next walks. We all put a lot of effort into making the walks happen. We want to set as a community goal of having full walks with a worthy list every time. We must start <u>early</u> praying for and speaking to prospective pilgrims -- not just to keep our community going, but to fill God's Kingdom, His churches, with enthusiastic, powerful and loving Christian leaders.

"Let your light shine so they see Him."

Bro. Ray Snider Community Spiritual Director

#### From the Community

#### Lay Director . . .

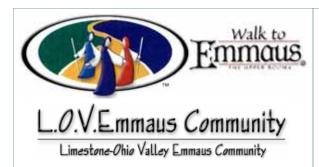
Dear LOVE Community -

I feel the Men's Walk went well despite some of the uncertainties. That proves God is in control. We as a community could do better with closing and candle light. There was a very small group at both. Just because we have few in numbers of pilgrims, doesn't mean we need to slack off. We need to remember how it was for our walk.

Let's remember Theresa Mallory and her team as it will not be long before the next walk. Clean up day is also a very important day as well. We need the help of more volunteers. I think changing Candle Light back to the old way went very well. It will be even better next time now that we know how it should work. Just remember that Jesus told us to go out and be His disciples and to work for Him. God Bless.

DeColores, Georgjean Shelton LOVE Community Lay Director





## Upcoming Walk Dates Announced!

Women's #14: June 7-10, 2007

Men's #14: September 6-9, 2007

Women's #15: October 4-7, 2007

www.lovemmaus.org

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

Community Lay Director Georgjean Shelton Assistant Community Lay Director George Smith Secretary Donna Tavis Treasurer Cyndi Frodge Community Spiritual Director Ray Snider Kitchen Kay Grooms Communications Rebecca Smith Phil Brown Music Good Shepherd Alison Dunn Colette McGinnis Chrysalis Representative Acynda Spriggs Registrar / Membership Nicole George

Volunteer Coordinators Donnie and Walene Bennett

Dave Lewis

Facilities Set up/Clean up Bill Shelton
Worship Tim Naylor

Sponsorship

Logistics Coordinators Dan & Brenda Reed
Social Coordinators Jim and Wanda Bowman

L.E.A.D. John Bisotti Ruggles Liaison Stella Hull



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