

The Rainbow Connection

Volume 6 ~ Issue 4

April 2010

Upcoming Events

Emmaus Monthly Gathering

April 25, 2010, 3:00pm
First UMC
New Lexington

Satellite Emmaus Gatherings

May 10, 2010, 7:00pm
Logan Gathering
Trinity Lutheran Church
May 11, 2010, 7:00pm
Lancaster Gathering
6th Avenue UMC

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Emmaus Family Picnic

Mark your calendar

Understanding the Bible (part 10)

The Exile

Boardmember Contact Information

Keep this handy in case you would like to contact a board member.

2010 Fee Schedule

Weekend Fees

Pilgrim Fee	\$125
Team Member	\$120
Logistics & Agape	\$75
Extra Meals:	breakfast - \$6.00
.....	lunch - \$7.00
.....	dinner - \$8.50
Mailed Newsletter	\$7.50/year
Emailed Newsletter	Free

From the Community Lay Director

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Emmaus sisters. The Women's Spring Walk just ended and this is the first newsletter you will be receiving. We are blessed to have you as a part of The Southern Ohio Emmaus Community and I hope that this past weekend was as much of a blessing to you and it was to me when I went on my pilgrim walk.

As new members of Emmaus we hope that you will take advantage of all of the activities and gatherings we have each year. Monthly gatherings are the perfect way to meet up with the friends you made on your Emmaus Walk. As sponsors, please remember to bring your Pilgrim to at least the 1st gathering to introduce them and show them where the gatherings are held.

Along with gatherings, we have the 72 hour Prayer Vigil you can now be a part of, Education Day, Summer Picnic, Candlelight, Closing, Christmas Party for the entire family and so much more!

You also are able to volunteer to work an Emmaus Walk! Please remember to fill out your Volunteer sign up sheet and mail it in. What a wonderful blessing it is to give back to others and share the love you felt on your Emmaus Walk.

The men's Emmaus Walk will be held May 13-16th, 2010. I look forward to seeing you there!

DeColores

Debbie Birkimer
Board Chairperson ...



Dear Fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Hello! My name is Ricci Arthur and I am one of the newest members of your Emmaus Board as one of the Community Spiritual Directors, working with David Rohrer. It has been my privilege to be involved in the Emmaus Movement for many years, and we all know what a powerful tool of renewal it can be for everyone who participates.

As I thought about this first article, my heart was drawn to Lamentations 3:22 and 23, which says: "*Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your Faithfulness.*" It is a passage that I quote to myself often, for I need to be reminded of two things that this passage speaks about. First, we deserve to be "consumed." Because of our sin, God has every right to reject us, to throw us out. But God's Great Love was so wonderful that He sent Jesus to die on the Cross for us. And that is the second thing about this passage. God's love never fails - in fact, it is new every morning; when you woke up this morning, God's love was brand new for

you and me! It is because of God's love that we are not consumed. And God's love makes us aware that God is for us, not against us.

I think of my pilgrim Emmaus Walk and how, as I look back now, it was the beginning of a marvelous journey to discover God's love more and more. That, truly, God's love is new every morning. And, as we serve in various capacities in the Emmaus Community - be it as a Team Member or working on the Board or behind the scenes - we are aware that we are part of the larger drama of God's love working in the world! What a privilege it is to be a part of Emmaus! Perhaps some of you have chosen to remain inactive, and, for some, there are good reasons for that - church responsibilities, family responsibilities, etc. But for some of us it may be that we have lost our "first love" in Christ that we experienced on our walk. If that is true for you, choose to get active again. There are many opportunities for service to our Lord.

Decolores!
Ricci Arthur

Mark Your Calendar!

The **Emmaus Family Picnic** is scheduled for **Saturday August 7, 2010**.

Plan to come and bring your family for fun, games, music and fellowship with other Emmaus members and their families.

Last year, we tried something new, we combined a campfire (Friday night before the picnic) and some families even camped on Friday and Saturday nights. If you are interested in camping, we need to know so we can plan space for you this year. There will likely be some families camping on Thursday, Friday and Saturday this year, and we welcome any family who enjoys camping, to join in the camping this year.

If you have questions, would like more information or would like to help plan this event, contact Greg Rush (740) 385-0945 or email: gr44gregr@yahoo.com. It's also important that we know if you will be camping so that we can plan space for you.





March 2010 Emmaus Gathering Joys and Prayer Concerns

Praises: Jayden Smith's surgery had good results, Emmaus Community support for Dave Sherman, Lee Murphy was not seriously sick

Concerns: Leroy's daughter Amber (cancer), Darby Bolyard, Rachael Nichols, Heather's mother Dawn, Doris and Bill White, Our Country and President, Dolly Allen, Mike Queen's neighbor (house burned)

Agape

Welcome new members! I hope that receiving agape during your stay at camp was fun for you. It was made by many different Emmaus members that love our Lord. It was made with love and prayed over before you received it. Now you too can be a part of creating agape. Usually several Emmaus friends or share groups gather and work on these projects. Some meet in Churches and others in homes. After choosing a time and date, pack a box of supplies, an idea or two and set out for a fun time. If you wish your Agape to be used for mealtime we will need 60 pieces and the bedtime Agape number is 35. All left over agape may be picked up Saturday evening at candle-light. This is something that everyone can take part in for every walk!

Agape teams that work during the walk consist of 3 people, one of whom has worked twice before, one person that has worked one time, and the third person should be someone that has never worked. This is the ideal plan so that several are in training each walk. It is very important for you to fill out the volunteer form that comes in your packet if you wish to work on a team. I can guarantee you that working Agape is work and you will be exhausted by the time you finish on Sunday evening after clean-up. However it will be difficult to count the blessings!

A special thank you to everyone that supports Agape. God Bless You, Shirley

I Love Music!

I would like to take this time to introduce myself, (Penny Canter, Southern Ohio Emmaus Women's Walk #25, Table of Sarah) and welcome our new members to the Emmaus Family. As part of the Emmaus Community, you are now eligible to participate in many positions and share your gifts and talents with others. One way you can serve is by leading music at a Gathering or singing a special song of your choice.

I love music. Music has always been a big part of my life. Whether I am praying, meditating, relaxing, cooking, cleaning house or exercising, I love listening to music.

Music can be comforting, inspiring, motivating, relaxing, meditative or just plain enjoyable. Music can put us in the mood to praise our Lord and Savior, or help us sit quietly at His feet and meditate on His goodness.

Perhaps that is why I chose the Music seat on the Emmaus Board. Emmaus Gatherings are a great time of singing and praising our Lord. I love attending the Gatherings and singing the songs I learned on my Emmaus Walk. I am so blessed by those who still know the motions, springing up and waving their hands in the air and 'swish-swishing' (or grunting), opening prison doors, being shakers, vines and branches, and making a joyful noise. As much as I love music, I am not gifted in singing or playing any type of musical instrument, not even a tambourine. So, Emmaus Community – I need your assistance. If you are interested in leading music at a Gathering or have a song you would like to sing PLEASE let me know. Or if you know a member of the Emmaus Community that is gifted in music, please let me know and I will contact them. See you at the Gathering.

DeColores

Penny Canter
740-605-4492
pennycanter@hotmail.com



The Exile (Understanding the Bible)

As we saw in our last installment, the Kingdom Era was marked by a kind of roller coaster relationship between Israel and the Lord. For 400 years, their relationship went up and down, but in the end, as in an amusement ride, there were no more ups. It was time for Israel to pay the price for their continued rebellion against God.

Remember that the Northern Kingdom was conquered by Assyria in 722 B.C. and scattered. As we conclude the reading of 2 Kings, we also read about what happens to the Southern Kingdom in the prophetic books of Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel.

Jeremiah warns Judah about its approaching captivity at the hands of the Babylonians, a prophecy that comes true in 586 B.C., when King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon attacks Jerusalem, conquers it and destroys the city and the temple. The royal court, prominent citizens, skilled craftsmen and a large portion of the general population are taken to Babylon. As Jeremiah warns them, the captivity lasts for seventy years.

Ezekiel and Daniel write during the time of the Exile itself. Ezekiel encourages the exiles to be faithful to God, because, as he also accurately prophesies, there will be a time of restoration. Daniel, although one of the exiles, is chosen to be trained as a government leader in Babylon, in a way that is similar to Joseph's rise to power in Egypt (see part 5: The Exile). In addition to being a powerful government official, Daniel is skilled in the interpretation of dreams, an ability which he correctly attributes to his faithfulness to God, who reveals the meanings of the dreams to him. Daniel's life is an example for his people, but his prophecies foretell the future destruction of the world.

The book of Daniel also gives us a look into what life was like for the exiles. The Jews are assimilated into the Babylonian culture. As Daniel shows us, some rose to great power; others suffered the kind of discrimination that Jews have always suffered in other cultures.

The flow of power during this era is important to understand. It was Assyria that conquered

the Northern Kingdom. Babylonia then conquered Assyria as well as the Southern Kingdom. Finally, Persia conquered Babylonia, so Persia now rules all of the territory of all these other kingdoms. Its territory stretches from the Tigris River to the Mediterranean Sea.

Next: The Return.

This article is based on chapter ten of Max E. Anders' book *30 Days to Understanding the Bible*, available through amazon.com or christianbook.com.

This article is part ten of a series. Earlier articles in the series can be found in previous editions of The Rainbow Connection beginning in June 2009, available at <http://www.southernhioemmaus.com/documents/newsletter.html> Your comments and questions are welcome, send them to: pastordavid@newhopelogan.org.

Pastor David Rohrer

Sponsorship

Hi everyone. Some of you just went on a wonderful walk. What you may not realize is that your sponsor had a big responsibility when they agreed to sponsor you on an Emmaus Walk. And it's my job to keep you informed on the makings of how it happens when someone sponsors you and all that goes into the process. There are two important forms which are sent to your sponsor to remind them of their responsibilities as your sponsor. These forms provide guidelines to follow to make sure that your walk is a success. Your sponsor prays for you, requests and gathers those special letters you received, makes sure your family is taken care of. After your walk, your sponsor should help you stay connected with our community by bringing you to a monthly gathering.

If you are considering sponsoring someone, remember all new members should attend a sponsorship class before being a sponsor for someone else. Classes are scheduled throughout the year so you may be better prepared to sponsor those that God puts on your heart. May all your 4th days be blessed By God.

De Colores

Chuck Moore, Sponsorship Chairperson

2010 Southern Ohio Emmaus Board of Directors

This is the current contact list of our 2010 Board of Directors. Keep this list handy so you can contact the board with needs, concerns, ideas, and information. Please keep the board in your prayers that they may honor Our Lord as they serve Him and our community.

Spiritual Director

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Note: Each boardmember name is followed by the year their term ends

Updated: March 28, 2010

Southern Ohio Emmaus

c/o Greg Rush
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE