

The Rainbow Connection

Volume 5 ~ Issue 7

July 2009

Upcoming Events

Emmaus Monthly Gathering

None in July

Satellite Emmaus Gatherings

None in July

Emmaus Family Picnic and Hog Roast

August 8, 2009, 12:00noon

August 7 – Fellowship/Camping

8905 Vanatta Rd, Logan, Ohio

Tell your Emmaus friends who may not receive this newsletter

Emmaus Monthly Gathering

August 30, 2009, 3:00pm

First UMC

New Lexington

Inside this issue:

Online Prayer Vigil Links

for Fall Walks

Understanding the Bible (part 2)

The Geography of the Old Testament

Updated Boardmember Contact Information

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

2009 Fee Schedule

Weekend Fees

Pilgrim Fee	\$125
Team Member.....	\$120
Logistics & Agape.....	\$75
Extra Meals:.....breakfast -	\$5.75
.....lunch -	\$6.75
.....dinner -	\$8.00

Mailed Newsletter.....	\$7.50/year
Emailed Newsletter.....	Free

From the Community Lay Director

If I were to paraphrase one of my favorite passages in the Holy bible (Ecclesiastes 3), I could say that there is a “season for every time” as opposed to a “time for every season”. Quite honestly, we are in the midst of summer, although it hasn’t seemed like it up to this point. Abnormally low temperatures to begin July (who would have thought you needed a sweatshirt in July?), higher than average rainfall in the spring (reminds me of Seattle anytime of the year), and what promises to be a hot and humid weekend as I write this column just reminds me that the seasons of time we are so used to often blend together. We seemingly can’t tell when one season ends before another takes over, and, as often is the case when winter finally calls it quits, we sometimes jump seasons, like when summer begins before spring even gets a chance!

I am reminded of all of this because my wife told me that the Hobby Lobby store in Lancaster was getting out their fall goods for sale, as well as some Christmas material. Last weekend, we saw a sign at a small Christmas shop that proudly announced “175 shopping days left”. Now, since it was very cool last weekend, it almost put you in the mood for that season, but there were no snowflakes falling or leaves changing color. It was, as I was reminded by looking at the calendar, July. Not October, November or December. *July.*

I, for one, struggle with the notion that I should be thinking about winter coats when it’s 90° outside. I also have a problem with looking at shorts when the snow is piling up. I like to see one season at a time. I want to celebrate the 4th of July before I have to plan on buying my Thanksgiving turkey. The Christmas season shouldn’t start before Labor Day and end by Halloween...otherwise, what good is that calendar anyway?

Fortunately, we are at the right time for a particular type of(continued on page 2)



(continued from page 1)..... season—picnics! In just a few short weeks, we are going to have our summer Emmaus family picnic, albeit slightly different than before. In an effort to generate a better turnout than in past years, we have decided that a hog roast, with some activities beginning on a Friday evening, would be a great thing. Most of the activity will be on Saturday, August 8. Dinner will begin around noon. But you need not decide to wait until then. Come on over on Friday and join some friends around the campfire. There will be space available to camp out, if you wish. There's additional information included elsewhere in the *Rainbow Connection* for you to read about this.

In these difficult economic times, perhaps we all need a season to have some fun and relax, even if it's just for a few hours. It's also the season of Emmaus team selection and preparation for the Fall Walk to Emmaus. As God calls those persons together to be Emmaus teams, be praying for them! Their call and responsibility is enormous, and their time and season is coming. Further, God even now is tugging at the heartstrings of some soon-to-be-named Pilgrims to attend those Walks. We need to pray for them as well.

One other thing about seasons. There is no limit to the season of giving. The calendar doesn't mark any particular date to begin and end. The moon and the tides don't dictate this either. The angle of the sun in the sky and the relative temperature of the air don't affect it. The season of giving involves far more than money. It involves your time and your talents. Take this season to give of yourself until it feels good. Only you will know when that is.

De Colores!
Dave Shoemaker

Spiritual Director Update

Please make note that Pastor David Rohrer has replaced Tom Hite as Community Spiritual Director due to Tom's appointment to a church outside the Southern Ohio Emmaus area. Pastor Ricci Arthur has assumed the position of Assistant Spiritual Director

Prayer Vigil

The Fall Emmaus Walks are fast approaching! As we prepare to bring others closer to Christ may we all remember the awesome feeling we had on our walk when the Prayer Vigil was brought out in the conference room. To realize those people whose names are on the poster are praying for you. If you have not signed up for a prayer time and would like to be a part of the Prayer Vigil please call me at 740-982-4729 or go to these websites



www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?pvid=3648

www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?pvid=3649

For other helpful information (including a **prayer guide** for some prayer ideas), see the Southern Ohio Emmaus website and click "**Prayer Vigil**": www.southernohioemmaus.com

Your Brother in Christ,
Bob Birkimer

Work with God

My personal Bible reading recently brought me into the book of Nehemiah, which finds Jerusalem in an interesting situation. Not many years before, the temple had been rebuilt under the leadership of Ezra. Now Nehemiah has been given permission to return to Jerusalem. The temple looks good, but the city is still a shambles, especially the walls, which lie in ruins, their gates burned away.

In that condition, the city is open to all kinds of outside forces, from wild animals to thieves to invading enemies. Nehemiah faces the daunting job of rebuilding the walls while keeping up defenses and weathering all sorts of criticism.

Little wonder, then, that Nehemiah is feeling overwhelmed. It's hard to stay motivated when your critics are out to kill you.

Nehemiah has an answer, however. It can be summed up in three words: "work with God." Pray and trust in God, but have a plan. Post a guard. Keep your defenses up. Using that strategy, Nehemiah is able to complete the



rebuilding of the walls in an incredible 52 days, thereby restoring the protection and security of the walls to Jerusalem.

Pretty clearly, we can learn from Nehemiah's example. Thankfully, very few of us have critics who are out to kill us, but the world can be a tough place anyway. We too need to be alert so that the world doesn't overwhelm us.

Work with God. Know when to pray and when to act, and how to combine the two into a way of life that is pleasing to God. May God be with you and strengthen you on the way.

David Rohrer
Emmaus Community Spiritual Director

The Geography of the Old Testament (part two in a series)

If there are two subjects that tend to put people to sleep, they are history and geography. We mentioned last time that there is a lot of history in

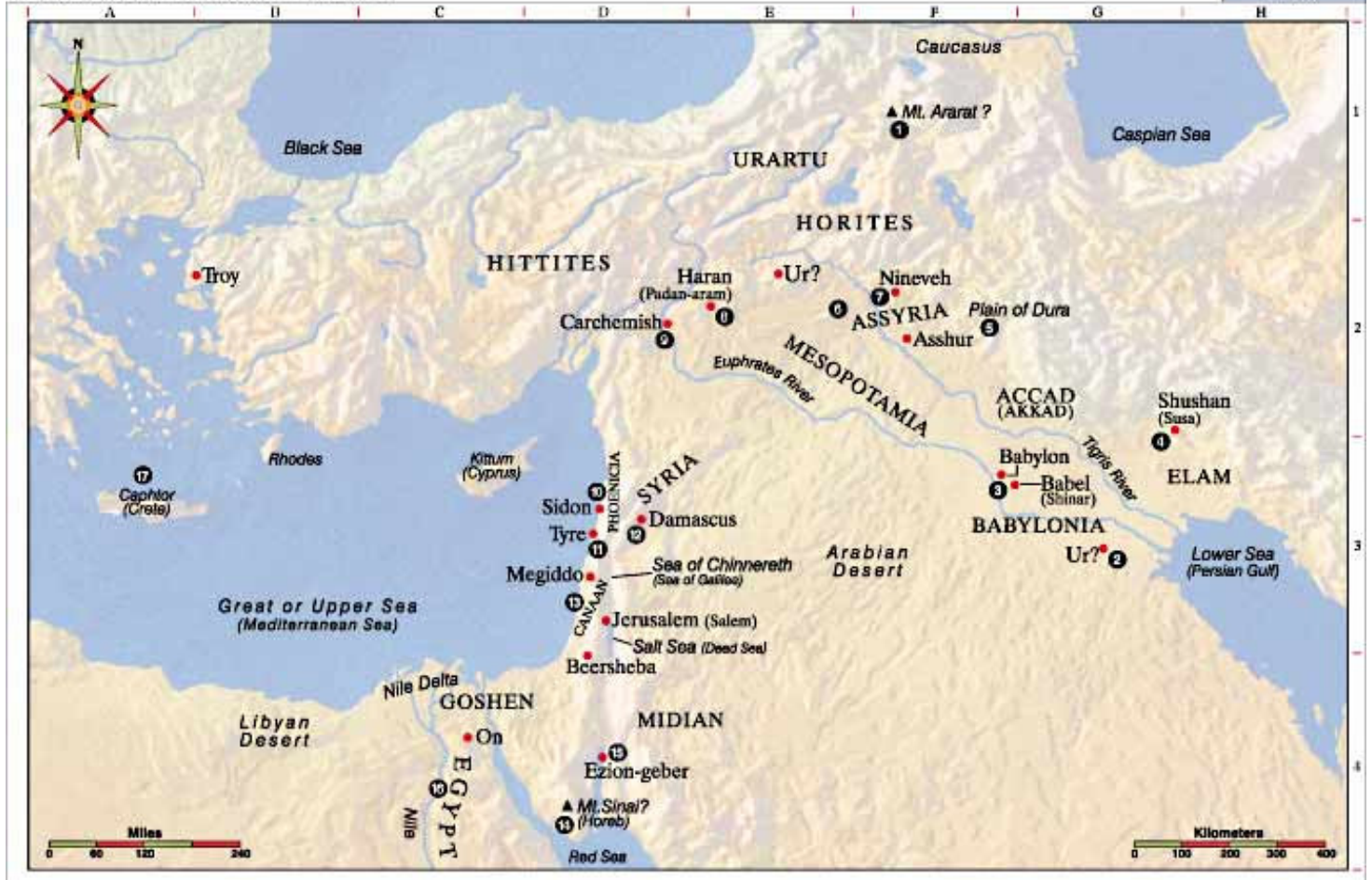
the Bible, and that we need to understand that history in order to understand God's story. Well, we also need to understand the geography of the Bible, the names, locations, and distances between places, in order to understand the history. So, bear with me, because if you do, you will be rewarded with a greater knowledge of God's Word.

I've included a map for reference. Since we have to deal with a lot of bodies of water and locations, I couldn't find a map with everything on it that we need to refer to. But this map has most of them, and we'll be able to locate the others by reference points on the map. Also, my apologies to those of you who are getting hard copies in grayscale. You'll have to compensate a little. For you, the sort of solid gray areas are the bodies of water, and the rest is the land area. With that, here is what you need to be able to locate:

The Mediterranean Sea. The biggest blue area, to the west (left) on the map.

The Sea of Galilee. Really just a small lake, fourteen miles long and seven miles wide, it is not ...*(continued on page 4)*

THE WORLD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT





(continued from page 3).....quite visible on the map, but there is a marker for it about the middle of the east end of the Mediterranean. It's about 36 miles inland.

The Dead Sea. The lowest point on earth, almost 3,000 feet below sea level, it is just barely visible, and clearly marked, south of (below) the Sea of Galilee.

The Jordan River. It is not visible on the map, but flows south out of the Sea of Galilee into the Dead Sea.

The Nile River. You will find the Nile River and the Nile Delta both clearly marked at the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea, just to the left of center on the map.

The Persian Gulf. The body of water toward the lower right corner of the map.

The Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. Look for the two rivers that run into the Persian Gulf at its upper left. When you trace them back, you can see which river is which.

The Garden of Eden. No one knows exactly where it was; however, we know that it was located around four rivers, and that the Tigris and Euphrates were two of them. Therefore, the Garden was located somewhere in the general area marked "Mesopotamia" in the right center area of the map.

Canaan (aka Israel and Palestine at various times). A relatively small piece of land at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea, and located between it and the Sea of Galilee, Jordan River and Dead Sea.

Jerusalem. The capital of the nation of Israel, located at the top of the Dead Sea.

Egypt. The Nile River flows through the heart of Egypt, so look for Egypt in the area of the Nile.

Assyria. Located in the general area of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, and the land of Mesopotamia.

Babylonia. You'll find it just to the west (left) of the Persian Gulf.

Persia. Not identified on the map, but not surprisingly, it is located at the top of the Persian Gulf.

If you're new to all this, don't worry. These names will soon mean more to you, as they play a huge part in the story that will unfold as you dig deeper into your Bible.

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

This article is part two of a series. The first article, "The Structure of the Bible," was printed in the June, 2009 Rainbow Connection, available at <http://www.southernohioemmaus.com/documents/newsletter.html>

Next: The Historical Books.
Pastor David Rohrer

Sponsorship Training

Yes, once again there will be a Sponsors Education day, on August 8, 2009. It will be held before the hog roast, from 10:00am to 11:30am. You will learn about a sponsor's responsibilities. Remember, you need to take this class in order to sponsor a pilgrim, or you will need a co-sponsor. Remember it is so important that you understand the ins and outs of sponsorship. If you think you might want to sponsor a pilgrim, we would love to see you there. Even though we are not planning a full education day for this date, we hope to have time for questions. No surprises, just listen to the information, it's free.

So please come, and be a part of a GREAT movement Southern Ohio Emmaus Community. GOD BLESS.

Chair of Sponsorship
Chuck Moore
Men's Walk 16
Table of Mark

SOUTHERN OHIO EMMAUS VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET

Date: _____

Yes! I would like to participate in Emmaus Programs and Functions in the future.

Music: I play: _____

I play nothing, but I sing: _____

Entertainment:

I can do: Standup Comedy: () Clowning: () Other: _____

I am willing to:

- Take part in the 74 Hour Prayer Vigil
- Be a Prayer Partner for someone giving a Talk
- Be on the "Before Walk Cleaning Team"
- Be on the After Sunday Closing "Pack-up" Team

On Thursday, Arrival of Pilgrims, I would like to:

- Help with Registration
- Help Carry Luggage
- Send Food

I am Artistic; I would like to help with:

- Prayer Vigil Poster
- Name Tags
- Table Name Tags
- Name Cards for Pilgrim's Beds

I would like to work on:

- Logistics (requires physical work)
- Agape (requires organizational skills)

I would like to serve on

- An Emmaus Team (Team service requires attending 4 pre-Walk meetings)
- Spring Walk Fall Walk Either
- The Board of Directors (3 year term/monthly meetings)

Please note: It is recommended in the Emmaus Handbook that persons serving on the "Walk Team" begin their experience by serving first on Logistics and/or Agape. They would serve as an Assistant Table Leader, Table Leader, Etc...Your commitment is important.

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Emmaus Community Attended: _____ Walk #: _____

Reunion/Share Group Name : _____

Gathering Attended (Where): _____

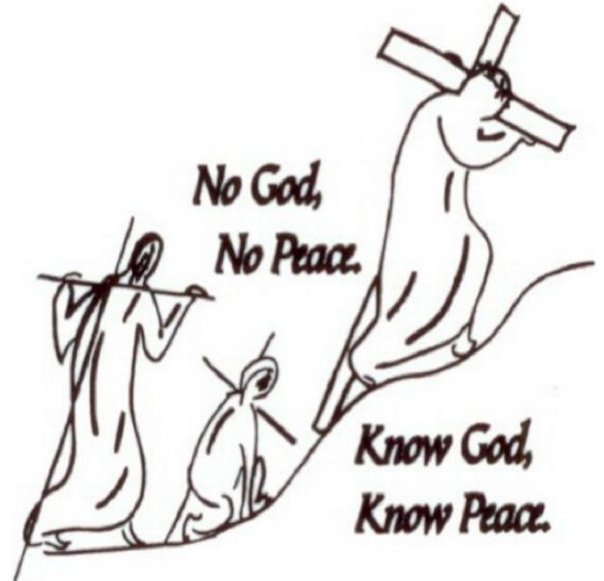
Note: Conference Room Team Members pay a Fee of \$120.00 to cover expenses.

Agape and Logistics Team Members pay a Fee of \$75.

Remember: Don't let team fees keep you from serving, Let someone know your desire to serve.

Fill out and mail to (Outreach Chairperson):

Marna Hyett
539 E. Main St
McConnelsville, OH 43756
740-962-9030
e-mail: teach@embarqmail.com



Things to consider

You can always find the latest information and updated forms on the Southern Ohio Emmaus website www.southernohioemmaus.com . God may be ready to use you to sponsor a Pilgrim on an upcoming Emmaus Walk.

Remember that it's not too early to be in prayer about serving on an Emmaus team in the coming year. As the Lay Directors for the Fall Walks begin to contact community members about serving, they will ask those contacted to prayerfully consider serving on a team. If you have already been in prayer, you may be ready to say yes if you are asked.

Please review the *Volunteer Information Form* contained in this newsletter. This is a great way for you to indicate where you are willing to serve your Emmaus Community. The more community members that get involved, the more effective we can be as an Emmaus Community

Attention: Pilgrims from Men and Women's Spring Walks 46

2009/2010 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

It's time to make sure you continue to stay connected with your Southern Ohio Emmaus Community.

One way we stay connected is by sharing community news via our newsletter the "Rainbow Connection". New members should have received two issues (including this issue) by mail at no charge. You can receive the newsletter for free by email or our website www.southernohioemmaus.com. If you want to continue receiving the newsletter by mail, you must renew your subscription at a cost of \$7.50 per year. Please let us know how you would prefer to continue receiving your copy of the newsletter. Use the form below to provide your information and delivery preference.

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I would like my newsletter e-mailed at no charge

Name: _____, Phone: _____

E-MAIL Address: _____

I would like my newsletter mailed to the following address:

Since our subscription period normally begins in January, \$11.00 covers the cost of the newsletter for August 2009 through December 2010 (1 ½ years)

(include a check for \$11.00, payable to **Southern Ohio Emmaus**)

For Mailed Newsletter: **PLEASE PRINT**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Send to: Greg Rush, 38032 Scout Rd, Logan, Ohio 43138.
phone: 740.385.0945 email: gr44gregr@yahoo.com

2009 Southern Ohio Emmaus Board of Directors

This is the current contact list of our 2009 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

David Rohrer
9825 Gore Church Rd.
Logan, OH 43138
740-394-2705
pastordavid@newhopelogan.org

Newsletter

Greg Rush
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Logan, OH 43138
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gr44gregr@yahoo.com

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dbirkime@columbus.rr.com

Asst. Spiritual Director

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pastorric@verizon.net

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westfallkevin@yahoo.com

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740-654-3131
sjadwin@gmail.com

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740-342-4297

Vice Chairperson

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chuck71980@yahoo.com

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740-962-4401

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barnbskt@yahoo.com

Secretary

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bshiplett@sbcglobal.net

Good Shepherd

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740-342-5429
mqueen342@att.net

Outreach

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539 E. Main St
McConnelsville, OH 43756
740-962-9030
teach@embarqmail.com

Updated: July 15, 2009

Southern Ohio Emmaus – Family Picnic and Hog Roast

When: Saturday August 8, 2009 (campfire fellowship and camping Friday night, Aug 7)

Where: 8905 Vanatta Rd, Logan, Ohio (Webb Summit, SR93 - 4 miles north of Logan)
(See May or June newsletters for a map)

What to Bring: Food, Lawn Chairs, Musical Instruments

Plan on a day of great music, fellowship and delicious food.

Schedule of Events:

Friday August 7, 2009 (after 5:00pm)

Primitive Camping (bring your camper or tent)
...or just come for the evening
Campfire
Fellowship & Music
Help Roast the Hog

Saturday August 8, 2009 (come anytime)

Family Picnic and Hog Roast
Outdoor Games
Bring your favorite game
Fishing (bring your pole)
Fellowship & Music

Sponsorship Class at 10:00am

Covered Dish Dinner at 12:00 noon

Worship at 2:00pm

Fellowship & Music

More Outdoor Games & Fishing

Note: *Children will need adult supervision while fishing*

Contact Greg Rush for more Information or if you have some ideas:

(740) 385-0945 gr44gregr@yahoo.com

If you intend to camp, please RSVP (385-0945) so we can plan space for your camper

Southern Ohio Emmaus

c/o Greg Rush
38032 Scout Rd.
Logan, Ohio 43138

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE POSTAGE HERE
