

The Rainbow Connection

Volume 5 ~ Issue 5a

May 2009

Upcoming Events

Women's Spring Walk #46

May 14-17, 2009

Men's Spring Walk #46

May 21-24, 2009

Emmaus Monthly Gathering

May 31, 2009, 3:00pm

First UMC

New Lexington

Satellite Emmaus Gatherings

Cancelled

~~June 8, 2009, 7:00pm~~

~~Logan Gathering~~

~~Trinity Lutheran~~

Emmaus Monthly Gathering

June 28, 2009, 3:00pm

First UMC

New Lexington

Mark your calendar

Emmaus Family Picnic

August 8, 2009

Please share picnic information with other Emmaus members

Inside this issue:

Team List for the Spring Emmaus Walks

...Please pray for the spring walks

Boardmember Contact Information

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

From the Community Lay Director

Spring is one of my favorite times of the year. The temperature is basically perfect, the humidity is generally low, and there's enough rain to bring life back into my yard. Spring is also the time when we hold our Walk to Emmaus (along with the Fall). By the time that many of you read this, both the Women's and the Men's Spring Walk to Emmaus (#46) will have concluded. On that note, we wish to warmly welcome to the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community our newest members, along with the desire to see you remain connected to your Community.

Each table formed a mini Emmaus community during the Walk. In our Fourth Days since, we can remain connected through our group reunions (share groups), our participation in satellite and main Gatherings (see the information elsewhere in the *Rainbow Connection*), being a part of the 72 hour Prayer Vigil, and our presence at the Send Off, Candlelight and Closing events for each Walk. I know that for me, one of the best ways was to become part of the process – to work on a team in one capacity or another. For our new community members (and our seasoned ones as well), filling out the volunteer information sheet at least gives us an idea of who wants to continue to participate. We are always looking for persons to serve on the Agape, Logistics and live-in teams.

I am reminded that one of the phrases from our old meal graces spoke about how our friendships “bloom and grow.” Is not Spring the time for growing and blooming? Is not the Walk to Emmaus one way for us to accomplish that spiritually? Spring is the time for us to awake from that long winter's nap, to open our eyes from the hibernation, and to shake off all the old and dead from the prior year.

For those of you who have just finished your Walk to Emmaus, we have prayed that Christ touched you as deeply as He touched us. It is now so much easier to visualize the Holy Scripture passage from Luke 24 when Jesus appeared to the men on the road to Emmaus. Having been in their shoes, we now know what it was like to encounter the Risen Christ in a personal and dramatic way in an unexpected place. Did you honestly think that coming to Camp Akita would.... *(continued on page 2)*



(continued from page 1) ...have resulted in an experience comparable to that of what you heard in the Bible? Perhaps not, but perhaps some of you anticipated such an encounter, or at least prayed that something would happen. Although we tell you over and over not to anticipate, it's kind of hard not to, especially when you ride that roller coaster of emotions all weekend. We begin to wonder, aloud frequently, what is going to happen next. And *something* always does.

Maybe you are reading this on Sunday afternoon, not knowing what comes next. This much I can tell you – God knows, even if you and I don't! He has a plan for you and your life. Part of that plan was to place you in Camp Akita for three days away from everyone and everything that normally make you comfortable. His plan called for you to leave your comfort zone and discover what it is like to be in His presence. His plan may call for you to do even more, to achieve greater and more far-reaching spiritual heights. You may be called to find a new comfort zone (think of Peter at Pentecost, compared to Peter at the crucifixion). Some of you may be called to be evangelists (simply put, someone who spreads the Good News!). Some of you may not, but God's plan for you is still out there.

De Colores!

Dave Shoemaker

Lay Directors for Fall Walks

The Southern Ohio Emmaus Board has selected the Lay Directors for the Fall Walks. It is my pleasure to announce that Penny Canter and Kevin Westfall have both accepted the responsibility of being our Fall Walk to Emmaus Lay Directors. Please pray that God will give them guidance as they will soon begin their preparation to serve as lay directors.

Dave Shoemaker
Community Lay Director



April 2009 Emmaus Gathering Praises and Prayer Concerns

Praises: Judy & Tom West's daughter and her 4th grade class; David Bankes' new grandchild; Rick Clawson's thankful for God's mercy; Marlene & Andy Frazier give thanks; Wilma for her son Chris; Theresa Ward

Concerns: Darby; Mrs. Perini; Ralph Bauserman; Darren Franks; Carol Masters; Tyler Taylor; Jim Bartimus family; Misty Wintgens; Chuck Spires; Laura Fast; Heidi Norman; Christi Eyerman; our children going to proms; Sadie Reece; the Women's and Men's Emmaus Walks.





Please pray for Women's and Men's Walks #46 and for the lives that will be changed!

Women's Walk 46 (May 14-17, 2009)

Spiritual Director: Jim Lambert
Assist. Spiritual Director: Rodney Rogers

Lay Director: Betty Clark

Assistant Lay Directors:
 Penny Canter, Lynda Fink, Heather Pullins

Table Leaders: Georganne Thomas, Kim Reed, LeeAnn Herron, Tina Simmons, Dawn Barnes, Karcy Rush

Assistant Table Leaders:
 Debby Highbargin, Crystal Ratliff, Katy Kudlapur, Brenda Stimmel, Sue Penix, Linda Lohse Smith

Music Directors:
 Barb Harkless, Ruth Nicholson

Clergy Talks:
 Brent Watson, Carolyn Hoskinson, Walt Goble

Agape: Judy West, Alice Moneypenny, Rita Kehl

Logistics: David Bankes, Deb Rannells, Rachael Gardner, Tom Parrish, Ed Smith, Kathy Morgan, Roger Harris

Men's Walk 46 (May 21-24, 2009)

Spiritual Director: Tom Hite
Assist. Spiritual Director: Stanley Strode

Lay Director: Bob Barnhart

Assistant Lay Directors:
 Kevin Westfall, Floyd Tackett, Greg Rush

Table Leaders: Jim Cooke, Dave Kelch, Richard Fast, Sterling Dietrich, Bob Hughes, Jim Stimmel Jr.

Assistant Table Leaders: Mike Helber, Christopher Stone, Jayme Arnett, Larry Moneypenny, Clyde Garey

Music Director:
 Dwayne Tackett

Clergy Talks:
 Ricci Arthur, Jessie Blevins, Clarence Thompson

Agape: Joyce Drake, Karcy Rush, Cora Marchington

Logistics: Roger Harris, Tom Parrish, Jim Bartimus, Cheri Bauman

Prayer Vigil

The Spring Emmaus Walks are here! 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 this website

www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml .

For other helpful information (including a **prayer guide** for some prayer ideas), see the Southern Ohio Emmaus website:

www.southernohioemmaus.com

Your Brother in Christ,

Bob Birkimer

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 Good Shepherd

First, I would love to welcome all the new ladies and gentlemen to our Southern Ohio Emmaus community.

I just want to encourage those who are not in a share group to really pray about joining a group. I know that in my share group there are some wonderful Christian women who help hold me accountable, and who encourage me greatly. Not only that, but just spending a little extra time with Jesus, because in the Bible it says in Matthew.18:20

" For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them"

So every time my share group comes together "GOD" is right there with us. HOW AWESOME!!!!

Those of you who have a share group, please contact me by email (mqueen342@att.net) or phone (740)342-5429 to let me know. I'm trying to compile a list of all the share groups, so if someone is looking for share group I'll know where to direct them.

Also, please continue to pray about becoming part of our Emmaus prayer chain.

Thank you and God Bless,

Stacy Queen

SOE Community Good Shepherd

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES...

...actually in this particular instance – a youth. I attended the closing for the Boy's Chrysalis Flight on Monday evening, April 20. What a blessing!!! When one teen gave his answer to the "two questions", I heard a response that I had not heard in all the many closings I have attended for both Emmaus and Chrysalis. He shared that the phrase "*participate don't anticipate*" had really made an impact on his life this weekend. That he felt that this applied to life in general. That we go through our lives anticipating and worrying about tomorrow and not living each day to the fullest. Wow!! It is

so uplifting and inspiring to listen to our youth as they share how much the weekend meant to them, and not only the youth but the adults, especially, the team members working a FLIGHT for the first time.

Have you worked a Chrysalis Flight? Have you ever sponsored a youth so that they may have the opportunity to experience what you did on your walk? Has God put a youth on your heart and you missed that opportunity? There is such a short time span to give them that chance. Chrysalis is for youth ages 15 to 19. There is also an Emmaus ministry for ages 19 to 24 called Journey but we do not have that in our area. Emmaus is opened to persons that are 18 and older. Emmaus is wonderful but there are talks that they hear on a Chrysalis flight that they do not hear on Emmaus; talks that give them a chance to learn more about God's love and living as a Christian. Talks I would love for every youth to hear before they leave their homes for college or enter the work force on a full time basis. Currently Chrysalis R.O.C.S. has only two flights each year – one for girls and one for boys. These flights are on the holiday weekends in January and February. Chrysalis R.O.C.S. like Emmaus, used to have two flights each year for both girls and boys. But with lack of volunteers to serve on teams and the lack of community sponsoring our youth it is now down to the two. If the flights were full that would mean reaching 24 boys and 24 girls each year. So how many youth are we missing!?! God loves us and we are to share that love with others. Remember "make a friend", "be a friend", and "bring your friend to Christ."

I am challenging the Southern Ohio Emmaus and Chrysalis R.O.C.S. communities to prayerfully seek God's guidance in sponsoring our youth and also adults on a Flight or Walk and to volunteer to work on a team. Thank you!

Fly with Christ and De Colores!

Lynda Fink,

SOE Women's Walk # 23, Table of Esther

Southern Ohio Emmaus – Family Picnic and Hog Roast

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

Where: 8905 Vanatta Rd, Logan, Ohio (Webb Summit, SR93 - 4 miles north of Logan)
(See map on other side)

What to Bring: Food, Lawn Chairs, Musical Instruments

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

Bring your family, a friend, someone from your walk and come for the day. Roast pork and tableware will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to complete the meal. Great desserts are always appreciated!

Want to come early? You can actually spend **Friday night** assisting in the roasting of the pork. Campers and motor homes are welcome. There will likely **not** be Electric or Water for campers in the camping area, so generators would work well. Bring your camper, or stop in for a while for informal fellowship and to help roast the hog. We'll have a campfire and put the hog on to roast all night while we fellowship and share music throughout the evening

Those spending the night: make sure you bring your campfire food for the evening and don't forget all the ingredients for s'mores made around the fire.

Special Music will be provided by those from the Community.

If you would like to participate in the music or provide some sort of entertainment, let us know.

Schedule of Events:

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

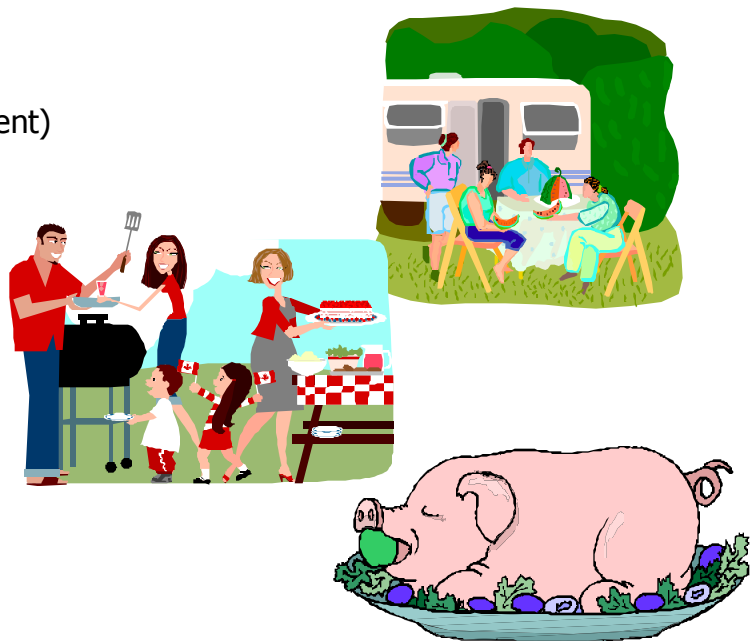
Primitive Camping (bring your camper or tent)
Campfire
Fellowship & Music
Help Roast the Hog

Saturday August 8, 2009 (come anytime)

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

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:

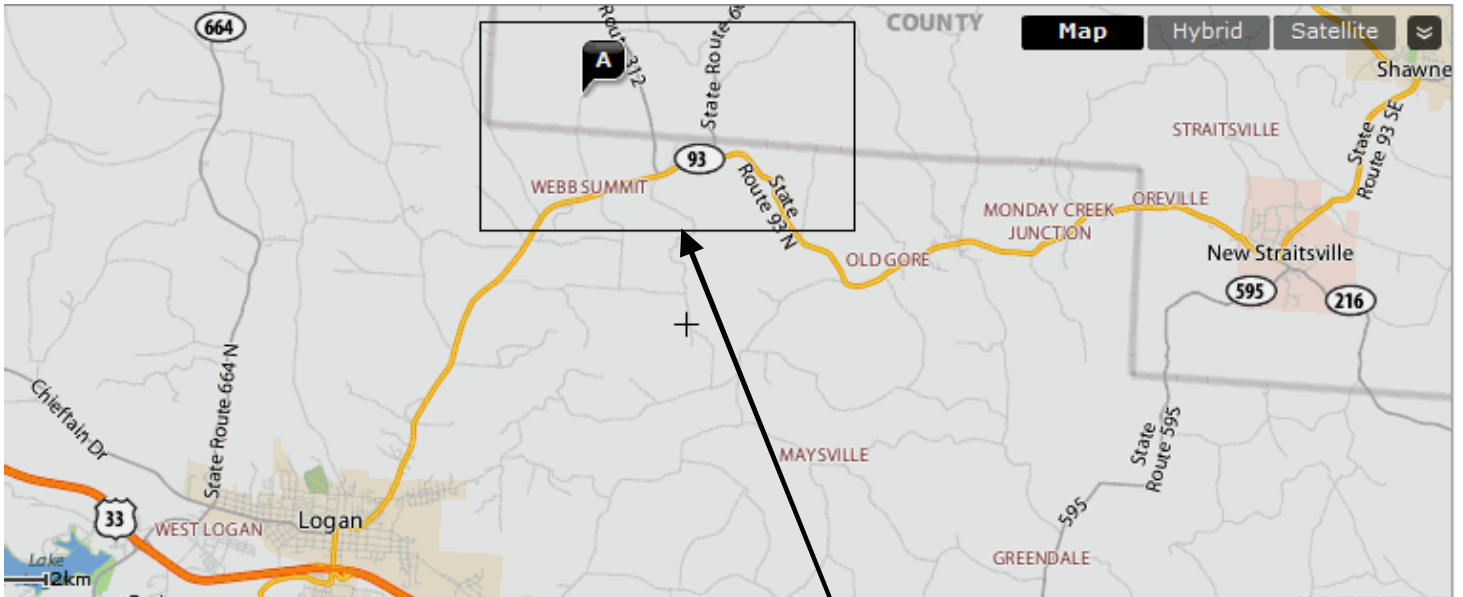
(740) 385-0945

gr44gregr@yahoo.com

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

Location for Southern Ohio Emmaus – Family Picnic 2009

8905 Vanatta Rd, Logan, Ohio (Webb Summit, SR93 - 4 miles north of Logan)



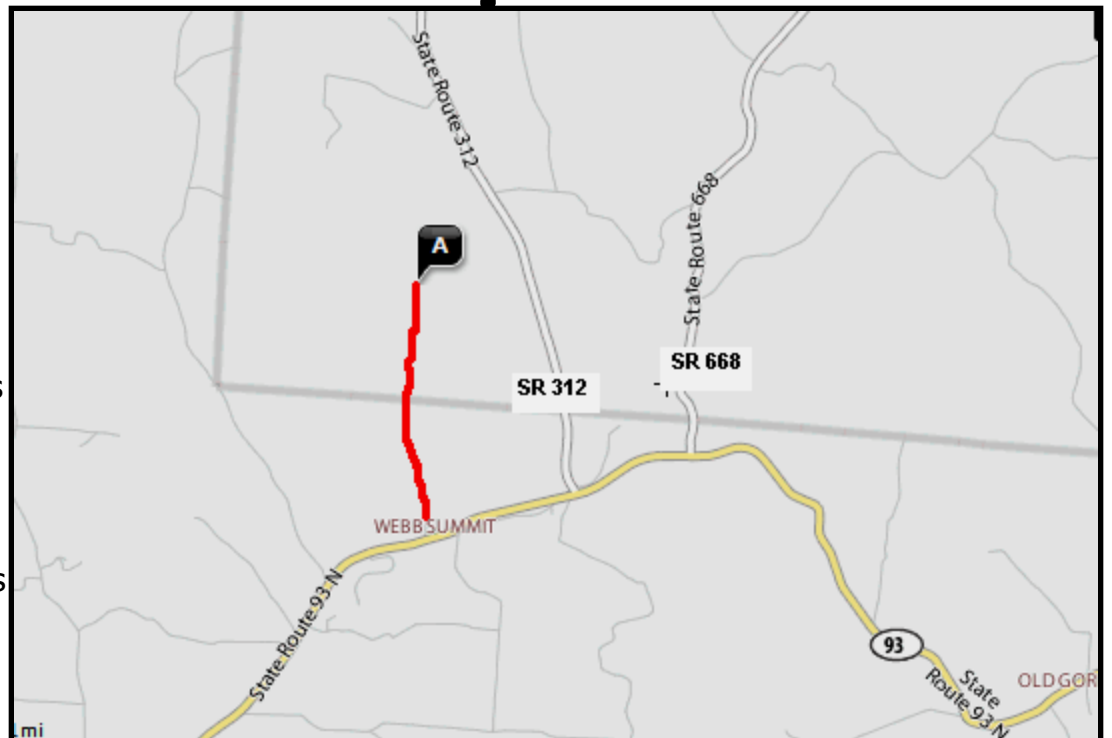
Address:

8905 Vanatta Rd
(Webb Summit)
Logan, Ohio

Directions:

(From Logan)
Take SR 93 north 4 miles
Turn left on Vanatta Rd
Follow road to the end.

(from New Straitsville)
Take SR 93 south 7 miles
Turn right on Vanatta Rd
Follow road to the end



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

Tom Hite
PO Box 237
Malta, OH 43758
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pastortomhite@embarqmail.com

Newsletter

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teach@embarqmail.com

Updated: Jan 12, 2009

Southern Ohio Emmaus

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE