

The Rainbow Connection

Volume 4 ~ Issue 1

January 2008

Upcoming Events

January 27, 2008

Monthly Gathering

First United Methodist
126 S. High St
New Lexington, Ohio

February 2, 2008 7-9pm

Singspiration

Malta United Methodist
390 S. Main St
Malta, Ohio

February 15-18, 2008

Boy's Chrysalis Flight

First UMC, New Lex.

April 3-6, 2008

SOE Women's Walk 44

Camp Akita

April 17-20, 2008

SOE Men's Walk 44

Camp Akita

Inside this issue:

Good Shepherd List

They can help you find a share group or help you start your own share group.

Boardmember Contact Information

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

FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Greetings to all of our Brothers and Sisters of the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community!

As I sit to write this article, I realize it's January 15, 2008. I don't know about you, but it seems as though time continues to speed up, and 2007 is now just a memory. Time is relative, of course, as some of us wish we had more, even as some wish for it to go even faster.

One thing I realize about myself, however, is that I often procrastinate. My wife is probably shouting "Amen!" as she reads this. I reveal this about myself because as I was driving home from work today, I realized it was January 15 – the deadline for this article! Nothing like waiting until the last minute.

But that reminds me that all of us procrastinate on occasion. Even today, we, as a community, procrastinate, waiting to send in our volunteer sheets, or waiting to decide to become a member of the live-in team, or waiting to decide to be part of Agape or Logistics or whatever.

Please don't get the idea that I'm complaining, especially since I am waiting to send my volunteer sheet in as well. I just know that sometimes time flies by, or events overtake our memory, or we just don't make it a priority. Nonetheless, we still need all of you to be a part of this Community of Faith – as volunteers, as a Board of Directors, as sponsors, as prayer partners, as participants at Candlelight and Closing, and, of course, at our monthly Gatherings. Among the many things that Jesus teaches us, He teaches us to be in community with one another – procrastinator or not. I hope, therefore, to see all of you at our next Gathering, January 27, 2008 at 3:00 pm.

As the newly elected Chair of the Board of Directors, I feel it an honor to thank all of our Directors who faithfully completed their terms in December. Linda Rose, our past Chair, identified them in the December newsletter. However, she didn't identify herself among those whose term had ended. Linda has faithfully served this Board and Community for three years, the last two as Chair. While we learn as an Emmaus team to not seek glory for self nor to bring any special attention on an individual, I would be remiss if I didn't thank Linda for her work, from myself and this Community. She has been tireless in her efforts to keep this organization going, and will continue to do so. She may be smaller than I am, but I feel as though I cannot even fit in the very large shoes she has left us with. Linda, thank you, and we will see you out there in the Community. God has blessed us as a Community and as individuals with your talent and presence.

It's now 2008, and it's time to get moving. There's a lot to be done, and a lot of blessings to be received from doing it. Let's not wait – let's do it together!

De Colores!

Dave Shoemaker



Southern Ohio Emmaus

Singspiration

Come enjoy an evening of entertainment from numerous Christian musicians and vocalists.

Saturday, February 2, 2008 7 – 9pm
 Location: Malta United Methodist Church
 390 S Main St
 Malta, Ohio

Open to the Public, Bring your family and friends

Proceeds donated will benefit:

Southern Ohio Emmaus

and will be used to offset expenses

Bring a Dessert item to share in fellowship following the Singspiration.

For more information contact:

Teresa Garey 740-342-1428



New Fee Schedule

Notice: Some fees have increased due to rising costs associated with the Walk to Emmaus weekend expenses

Weekend Fees

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Pilgrim Fee | \$125 |
| Team Member | \$115 |
| Logistics & Agape | \$75 |
| Mailed Newsletter | \$7.50/year |
| Emailed Newsletter | Free |

How are you sharing?

Happy New Year All! Hope your holidays were blessed and the New Year has started well for you. Some Fourth Days are better than others, huh? Don't forget that God is with you and you have your Christian friends. You are never alone.

Whether you are a new member or you have been here a while, have you joined a Share (Reunion) Group yet? Please let that be a priority for you this year. Be held accountable by caring friends and see every week where you have been Jesus for someone. It does make a difference in your walk when you have to consciously answer those questions. It helps us to keep our focus in the right place. It keeps us connected to our Christian friends. It helps us to remember when the Walks and Flights are and to send Agape to our newest members, reaching out to them in love the way someone did for you. Please, if you want to be part of a Share Group ask your sponsor to help or call your Good Shepherd. We will help you find people in your area that you can meet with.

Also, please remember that there is an Emmaus Prayer Chain that will pray for you or a loved one if you will just give us a call. **The Good Shepherd's** are:

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Bev Shoemaker, | Athens Area | 740-753-3580 |
| Jane Moody, | Zanesville Area | 740-450-2402 |
| Judy West, | Lancaster Area | 740-569-7342 |
| Marcia Hynus, | Logan Area | 740-385-7396 |
| Margie Moody, | Cheshire Area, | 740-367-7575 |
| Marna Hyett, | McConnelsville Area, | 740-962-9030 |
| Connie Walker, | New Lexington Area, | 740-342-4680 |

Just call who ever is your nearest contact and we will call your request around. If you prefer you may email me at conniewalker29@yahoo.com

If you would like to be one of the persons that we call and give the gift of Intercessory Prayer for someone just call your local Good Shepherd and let them know. God bless you for your gift of Agape love.

I wish you and yours all the best in 2008.

Decolores,

Connie

Community Good Shepherd



2008 Calendar of Events

| Date | Time(s) | Activity | Location |
|-----------------|---------|---|---|
| January 27 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| February 2 | 7:00pm | Singspiration | Malt UMC, Malta Ohio |
| February 15-18 | | Boy's Chrysalis Flight | First UMC, New Lexington |
| February 24 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| March 30 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| April 3-6 | | Women's Walk #44 | Camp Akita |
| April 5 | 8:00pm | Candlelight | |
| April 6 | 4:00pm | Closing | |
| April 17-20 | | Men's Walk #44 | Camp Akita |
| April 19 | 8:00pm | Candlelight | |
| April 20 | 4:00pm | Closing | |
| April 27 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| May 18 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| June 29 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| July 27 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| August 24 or 31 | 1:00pm | Family Picnic/Gathering (Bring your Family) | New Lexington City Park Fowler Lane, New Lexington |
| September 25-28 | | Women's Walk #45 | Camp Akita |
| September 27 | 8:00pm | Candlelight | |
| September 28 | 4:00pm | Closing/Gathering | Camp Akita |
| October 2-5 | | Men's Walk #45 | Camp Akita |
| October 4 | 8:00pm | Candlelight | |
| October 5 | 4:00pm | Closing | |
| October 26 | 3:00pm | Community Gathering | First UMC, New Lexington |
| November 27 | | Thanksgiving (No Gathering in November) | |
| December 7 | 3:00pm | Family Christmas Dinner (Bring a dish or two to share) | First UMC, New Lexington |

First United Methodist Church is located at 126 S. High Street, New Lexington, Ohio

The Community's board of directors meets at First United Methodist Church at 2:00p.m., the same day as the Gathering.

Did we miss anything?

Is there something we missed on our calendar of events? If you know of some event or activity that might be of interest to our Southern Ohio Emmaus community, let us know about it so we can include the information on our calendar. Let's make the Rainbow Connection the newsletter we all want it to be.

Do you need an updated Form?

The new **Pilgrim Sponsor Form** and the **Emmaus Volunteer Form** should be posted on the website soon. Please check for them at: www.southernohioemmaus.com You can also contact your board members for updated forms.



2008 Southern Ohio Emmaus Board of Directors

This is the current contact list of our 2008 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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Warming Up

I read about one occasion when Sadhu Sundar Singh and a companion were traveling through a pass high in the Himalayan Mountains. At one point they came across a body lying in the snow. Sundar Singh wished to stop and help the unfortunate man, but his companion refused, saying, "We shall lose our lives if we burden ourselves with him."

But Sundar Singh would not think of leaving the man to die in the ice and snow. As his companion made his farewell, Sundar Singh lifted the poor traveler onto his back. With great exertion on his part, he bore the man onward, but gradually the heat from Singh's body began to warm up the beleaguered frozen fellow, and he revived. Soon both were walking together side by side. Catching up with his former companion, they found him dead - frozen by the cold.

In the case of Sundar Singh, he was willing to lose his life on behalf of another, and in the process, found it; but in the case of his companion who sought only his own well-being, he only lost it.

ChristianGlobe Illustrations, Traditional, ChristianGlobe Networks, Inc., 2003, 0-000-0000-11

Being part of an Emmaus community is something like this traveler who saved his own life by giving of himself for the welfare of another. We've had a marvelous three-day experience that was for many of us life-changing and we long to cluster together and relive the memory with our friends in the community to keep the experience "burning within us." This is a very good thing.

But please...don't neglect that soul along your fourth-day path who has a frozen heart that needs to be thawed. In the process you may once again have your own heart "warmed."

²⁵ **For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.**

(Matthew 16:25)

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Tom, Spiritual Director

Please give us your thoughts and ideas...

What would you like to see in your newsletter? It's sometimes difficult to know what the readers want to see. Would you like to hear about someone's fourth day experiences? Maybe you would like to share something about your fourth days, but you've been reluctant to share by speaking at a Gathering. We would love to print your fourth day story in the newsletter and maybe that would inspire others to share their story. Send your ideas to Greg Rush (*see Board Member List for contact information*)

It's becoming more and more expensive to mail the newsletter via the postal service. In an effort to reduce the cost to our subscribers and our Emmaus community, we are trying to make the electronic version of the newsletter more readable and more efficient for those readers who may have slower internet connections. This issue's electronic size is less than 200Kb, and what that means is that even if your internet connection is only very slow, it should take less than 2 minutes to download. So, if you would like to receive your copy via email, we need to know your email address. You can email your request to gr44gregr@yahoo.com or telephone Greg Rush at (740) 385-0945.

As always, you will also be able to download your copy from the website:

<http://www.southernohioemmaus.com/documents/newsletter.html> If you need Adobe PDF viewer software to be able to read the newsletter on your computer, you can also find a link on the website to download the software from the internet.

2008 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

If you haven't already renewed for 2008, it is time to renew your newsletter subscription. If you would like to continue receiving, via mail, the Southern Ohio Emmaus newsletter, The Rainbow Connection for 2008, please complete and mail the form below, attach a check for **\$7.50** payable to **Southern Ohio Emmaus** and mail to:

Greg Rush, 38032 Scout Rd, Logan, Ohio 43138.

The \$7.50 helps to cover the cost of mailing and production. If you have Internet access, you may prefer to read the newsletter on our website: www.southernohioemmaus.com. This is at no cost to you and will be available on our website by the last week of each month. You can also request the newsletter be e-mailed to you. This is at no cost to you.

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Logan, Ohio 43138

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