

The Rainbow Connection

Volume 4 ~ Issue 10

October 2008

Upcoming Events

October 26, 2008
Monthly Gathering
First UMC, New Lex

December 7, 2008
**Emmaus Family
Christmas Party**
First UMC, New Lex

Inside this issue:

Welcome Pilgrims
Women's Walk 45
& Men's Walk 45

**Ballot for Election of
SOE Boardmembers**
Vote, then mail your
ballot or bring it to the
Gathering

**Boardmember Contact
Information**
Keep this handy in
case you would like to
contact a board
member.

From the Community Lay Director

Fall has taken a firm hold on us. Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas are all just around the corner. Leaves are falling and piling up, colors are exploding, and apple butter is being made. There are warm days and crisp, cool nights, with beautiful clear skies. Don't you just wonder about the hand that created all of this? Don't you just wonder at the majesty of Him?

Spring and Fall are my favorite times of the year. I enjoy the new growth and greening of everything in the Spring, but I like the moderate weather of the Fall. They say it's the best time of year for your yard planting—seeds and such. It's no wonder, then, that I like the Walks to Emmaus so much—they happen in our Community during my favorite times of the year.

We, as a Community, just finished our Fall Walks for the men and women and welcome a whole new group into our family. God has, once again, moved in truly mysterious and wonderful ways during those two weekends. He has been faithful to us, and now we must be faithful to him. Over and over at Closing we hear of new commitments to serving the Lord. We must now put those commitments into action. Our first obligation is to our local churches. This is where most of our Fourth Days will be lived out. What is it that you can do? What is it that God wants you to do? How can you carry the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others because of your Emmaus experience?

These are just a few of the questions that come into our minds as we live out our lives as servants of Christ. There is a song that we used to sing that had the words, "...it only takes a spark to keep the fire burning. That's how it is with God's love." As Fall encroaches on us, and as we prepare for Winter, then we know that the fire that burns within us today must be kept bright and hot. If we allow it to go dim, if we allow other things and concerns take over our priorities, then we may just find ourselves on the cold end of a very long winter. It is so important that we take that 'spark' to someone else, perhaps to light a new fire or to relight an old one, and continue on with the work of making disciples in the world for Christ.

We are committed to be servants of the Lord. We are committed to our local churches. We are committed to this Community of believers called the Walk to Emmaus. We are committed to our families and to our friends and to all the things we hold dear in our lives.

Fall is also harvest time. I wonder if there is some deeper meaning for us as a body of Christ to go forth and help with the harvest of souls. Perhaps this fall your role is to be a 'seed planter'. It's also a perfect time for that.

If our first obligation is to our local churches, then we also have another obligation to our Community. You will notice that this issue of the *Rainbow Connection* has a ballot in it for you to consider for the Board of Directors. Those who have been nominated will be voted upon by you as the leaders of this Community. These people, in addition to the other currently serving Directors, chart the path of your Community as we strive to carry out the Walk to Emmaus guidelines. Please take a moment and prayerfully vote. Each year we elect about a third of our Board as new members—people just like you—who are willing to serve and be committed to their churches, this Community and the Walk to Emmaus. Perhaps next year it may be one of you. One way to be sure is to be stay involved and to fill out and send in a Volunteer Sheet.

We look forward to hearing from all of you. May all of your Falls be filled with joy and the Spirit of the Living God as He guides you in these Fourth Days.

De Colores!

Dave Shoemaker



From the Treasurer,

Thank you Community for the extra giving of your money at gatherings, candlelight and closings.

Southern Ohio Emmaus raised the fees for pilgrims to cover the cost of the walk, however, this does not cover the cost of supplies extra food or unexpected needs of pilgrims. Your generous giving will help to cover these expenses. God does provide for our needs.

Thank you also for coming to camp to help Agape and Logistics with the extra work. You have asked for the costs of meals, the cost of meals for the 2008 contract are breakfast \$5.75, lunch \$6.75 and dinner \$8.00. It is a blessing to be God's servant on a walk and please return to help again.

I will have the shirts and sweatshirts that were ordered at the Fall Walks with me at the October Gathering.

Thank you again for your financial support.

God Bless,

Joyce Drake, Treasurer

2008 Fee Schedule

Weekend Fees

Pilgrim Fee	\$125
Team Member	\$115
Logistics & Agape	\$75
Meals:	
breakfast	\$5.75
lunch	\$6.75
dinner	\$8.00

Mailed Newsletter	\$7.50/year
Emailed Newsletter	Free

“Looking for God”

Psalm 100 (The Message)

On your feet now—applaud GOD! Bring a gift of laughter, sing yourselves into his presence.

Know this: GOD is God, and God, GOD.

He made us; we didn't make him.

We're his people, his well-tended sheep.

Enter with the password: "Thank you!"

Make yourselves at home, talking praise.

Thank him. Worship him.

For GOD is sheer beauty,
all-generous in love,
loyal always and ever.

Once upon a time, there was a far-away land that was ruled by a vicious king. His iron hand reached into every corner of his subjects' lives. Every corner - except one. Try as he might, he couldn't destroy their belief in God.

In his frustration, he finally summoned his advisors and asked them: "Where can I hide God so the people will end up forgetting about him?"

One suggested hiding God on the dark side of the moon. This idea was debated, but was voted down because the advisors feared that their scientists would one day discover a way to travel into space and God would be discovered again.

Another suggested burying God in the deepest part of the ocean. But there was the same problem with this idea, so it was voted down.

One idea after another was suggested and debated and rejected. Until finally, the oldest and wisest advisor had a flash of insight. "I know," he said, "why don't we hide God where no one will ever even think to look?" And he explained, "If we hide God in the ordinary events of people's everyday lives, they'll never find him!"

And so it was done. And they say people in that land are still looking for God - even today. Source Unknown

I always look forward to the holiday season of Thanksgiving because it reminds me of how I "hide God in the ordinary events" of my life. Every breath is a gift from Him. God has blessed me with a wonderful wife and family. Every beautiful autumn leaf was put there by God for me to enjoy. Even many trials and tribulations are opportunities to experience God's peace and presence.

Remember how you felt when you went on your Emmaus walk and following that walk? Remember how close you felt to Christ and how you saw God in every thing and every person?

Has that feeling faded? Have you forgotten that joyful feeling. I'd be willing to bet God has been "hidden in the ordinary events" of your life. If you aren't in a small group, find one! They will help you find Him. Have you attended a Community Gathering on the last Sunday afternoon of the month? Come and see familiar faces, hear fourth-day stories and sense His presence!

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor Tom



Decolores

Have you seen God's artistry? Just look outside. Wow, all the beautiful colors He uses to tell us He is in our lives.

God blesses us each and every day, and as we become more aware of His presence using the information that we received from our personal Walk to Emmaus, we will see the gifts He has in store for us.

Now as we think of loved ones or persons we would like to send on an Emmaus Walk, we must first prepare ourselves to do the best job possible. How, you might be asking yourself; by attending a sponsorship orientation. You must attend only one education class to be a sponsor. It's not hard, just come to the next education day and learn about Emmaus and the different workings behind the scenes that makes the 72 hours a blessed event. What might be your part in this class? No surprises, all we ask for is your attention, just listen to the information. If you have questions you can ask, it's that simple. Sorry no poster parties.

Working as the part of sponsorship, I feel blessed to be a part of each Emmaus Walk behind the scenes. This job is to help the sponsors like yours, by sending information they will need to make sure that everything is done in order to make the walk more spiritual for you. I also get to talk to the sponsor when questions come up.

Please, if you are a sponsor, fill out your information sheet completely, please make sure you include your email address. Your email will only be shared with the Emmaus board to send important information you will need, and it helps us reduce costs.

There is a lot to know about Emmaus, so please do your part and attend an education day, so our Emmaus Community can grow stronger.

If you have questions about sponsoring someone please do not hesitate to call or email

740-385-3758, or chuck71980@yahoo.com

God Bless,

Chuck Moore, Sponsorship

Ballot for Southern Ohio Emmaus Board of Directors
Three Year Term ending 12/31/2011
Vote for not more than six (6)

Kevin Westfall, MW35	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bobbi Parsons, W29	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barb Shiplett, WW2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Martha Pickenpough, *WW6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stacey Queen, WW21	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shirley Jadwin, WW17	<input type="checkbox"/>
Larry Money penny, MW44	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rick Clawson, MW37	<input type="checkbox"/>

* denotes Central Ohio Emmaus Community, All others are SOE walks

Ballots must be returned by November 21, 2008
Cast your votes for not more than six (6) and Return Ballot to:

Erin Beal
75 Hill Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

(Or bring ballot to October 26th Gathering)



Please welcome the newest members of the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community!

Women's Walk #45

Janet Bachelor	Lancaster, Ohio	Alice Moneypenny	Lancaster, Ohio
Pat Baum	Logan, Ohio	Paula Peters	W Jefferson, Ohio
Linda Berry	Carbon Hill, Ohio	Sue Price	Logan, Ohio
Linda Brown	Junction City, Ohio	Pat Ray	Lancaster, Ohio
April Butterworth	Albany, Ohio	Rita Rinehart	Logan, Ohio
Linda Carney	Thornville, Ohio	Jill Saylor	Buchtel, Ohio
Lea Chiki	Athens, Ohio	Pat Shoemaker	Albany, Ohio
Stacie Dearth	Amanda, Ohio	Rhonda Stone	Lancaster, Ohio
Rachael Gardner	Lancaster, Ohio	Susan Thogmartin	Lancaster, Ohio
Tara Garey	Sugar Grove, Ohio	Louise Thompson	Logan, Ohio
Ann Goins	Athens, Ohio	Jennifer Valentine	Nelsonville, Ohio
Amy Guda	Logan, Ohio	Julie Verdow	Lancaster, Ohio
Cora Marchington	Lancaster, Ohio	Mary Wake	Lancaster, Ohio
Barbara McBride	Logan, Ohio	Crys Walker	Logan, Ohio
Diane McGuire	Nelsonville, Ohio	Brenda Wildermuth	Lancaster, Ohio

Men's Walk #45

Jim Bartimus	Pennsville, Ohio
Bud Fugett	Logan, Ohio
Robert McFarland	Ashville, Ohio
Jeff Mohler	Lancaster, Ohio
Larry Nichols	The Plains, Ohio
Roger Taylor	Stockport, Ohio
Bill Wine	Logan, Ohio
Bob Yingling	Lancaster, Ohio

How can you serve your Emmaus Community?

The 2009 spring walks will be here before you can believe it! Have you sent in your volunteer form? If not, may I encourage you to get up right now, fill it out and send it in?

These walks don't just happen. There's hours of work that goes on before and after the Pilgrims arrive. There are four team meetings that include everyone in the conference room. All conference room team must attend, held six weeks before each walk, usually 6-7 hours for each team meeting. The Agape and Logistics teams are at work before and long after the Pilgrims are in bed at night in the lodge. They work hard and long hours behind the scenes. All three of these teams require a commitment of time and money.

These volunteer forms should be submitted each year so we accurately know your interests. Would you believe as many as 80+ phone calls have been made to get a completed in conference room team?

It's not just that your work will be a blessing to others, but you know you will also be greatly blessed by the tireless work you do.

In addition, there are many things you can do at home, make agape; pray for the pilgrims and teams; sign-up for the 72 hour prayer vigil; send or better yet bring food for the snack table, sendoff and closing; sponsor a pilgrim. Come to help carry luggage when Pilgrims arrive. Attend candlelight on Saturday. Come to closing and stay to help put the dining room back in order following closing.

We are commanded to be Christ's hands and feet. Serve by volunteering for a spring or fall walk.

Marna Hyett, Outreach

Announcements

- The Southern Ohio Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Betty Clark, Nelsonville, and Bob Barnhart, Logan, have been selected to be the Lay Directors for the Women's and Men's Walk to Emmaus, respectively, next spring. Betty and Bob are both wonderful servants of the Lord and will be a blessing to the teams and to the Pilgrims. Please keep them in your prayers for the next several months.
- A new Emmaus community is about to be born in Northern Virginia – the NOVA Emmaus community is planning their first Walks in the Spring of 2009. This group is taking a leap of faith in that they are a group that is committed to the Upper Room Emmaus model even though almost all of them have never experienced it! They are asking for prayers, servanthood support or financial support from their brothers and sisters in the Emmaus movement. If you are interested in learning more, call Kathy Barton at 703-403-5870 or contact them at ld.novaemmaus@gmail.com for ways that you may help. Their website is www.novaemmaus.org.

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

Tom Hite
PO Box 237
Malta, OH 43758
740-962-4144
pastortomhite@embarqmail.com

Newsletter

Greg Rush
38032 Scout Rd
Logan, OH 43138
740-385-0945
gr44greg@yahoo.com

Worship

Bob Birkimer
11650 Tunnel Hill Rd
Crooksville, OH 43731
740-982-4729
dbirkime@columbus.rr.com

Asst. Spiritual Director

Dave Sherman
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Circleville, OH 43113
740-420-3054
musicguy32@hotmail.com

Supplies

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1577 Twp Rd 196 NE
Crooksville, OH 43731
740-342-4732
gallen17@columbus.rr.com

Agape

Paula Jasper
2425 Ervin Ln.
Stockport, OH 43787
740-559-3983
dijasper@earthlink.net

Board Chairperson

Dave Shoemaker
4518 Bessemer Rd
Nelsonville, OH 45764
740-753-3580
shoebopper@sbcglobal.net

Women's Registrar

Erin Beal
75 Hill Street
Logan, OH 43138
740-385-7989
larryb@ohiohills.com

Logistics

David Bankes
10171 W. Timberman Rd. NW
Malta, OH 43758
740-342-4297

Vice Chairperson

Debbie Birkimer
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740-982-4729
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Men's Registrar

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Music

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Treasurer

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Sponsorship

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Literature

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Secretary

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New Lexington, OH 43764
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bshiplett@sbcglobal.net

Good Shepherd

Connie Walker
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conniewalker29@yahoo.com

Outreach

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McConnelsville, OH 43756
740-962-9030
teach@embarqmail.com

Updated: Feb 24, 2008

2008 Calendar of Events

Date	Time(s)	Activity	Location
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.

Southern Ohio Emmaus

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE POSTAGE HERE
