

The Emmaus News

Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

April 2020 volume 28 issue 4

Hi, my name is Debbie Raynor, Walk #36, Table of Deborah. One month ago, the Lord and I were working on weaving the March Emmaus Newsletter together. Around that time, the Emmaus Board learned that the Walks were a "Go" and we were all so excited! And, hey, the Chrysalis Flights were coming up, too!

Just a short two and a half weeks later, the March Gathering, Emmaus Board Meeting, the Chrysalis Flights and the Spring Emmaus Walks were canceled. Rightly so, to protect each other physically, due to the Coronavirus. Even though this decision was not made lightly but with much prayer seeking the wisdom of the Lord, my heart knew that was the right decision but also felt saddened and shocked. I'm sure I was not alone.

As the Coronavirus officially began to make itself known in our country around the third week of January, most Americans had absolutely no idea that this would become a global pandemic. But the Lord knew! *Matthew 10:29 - 31 says, Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*

God is being glorified in this! I recently spoke to a healthcare person who told me that this virus is causing people to pray! And I agreed, of course, and was able to tell her that we know Who hears our prayers. He is sovereign! He says, *I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity. I am the LORD, who does all these things. Isaiah 45:7*

We all are in this together and even though we have to be physically apart, we know Who is holding us in His hands.

DeColores,
Debbie Raynor, Newsletter

*He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.
Colossians 1:17*



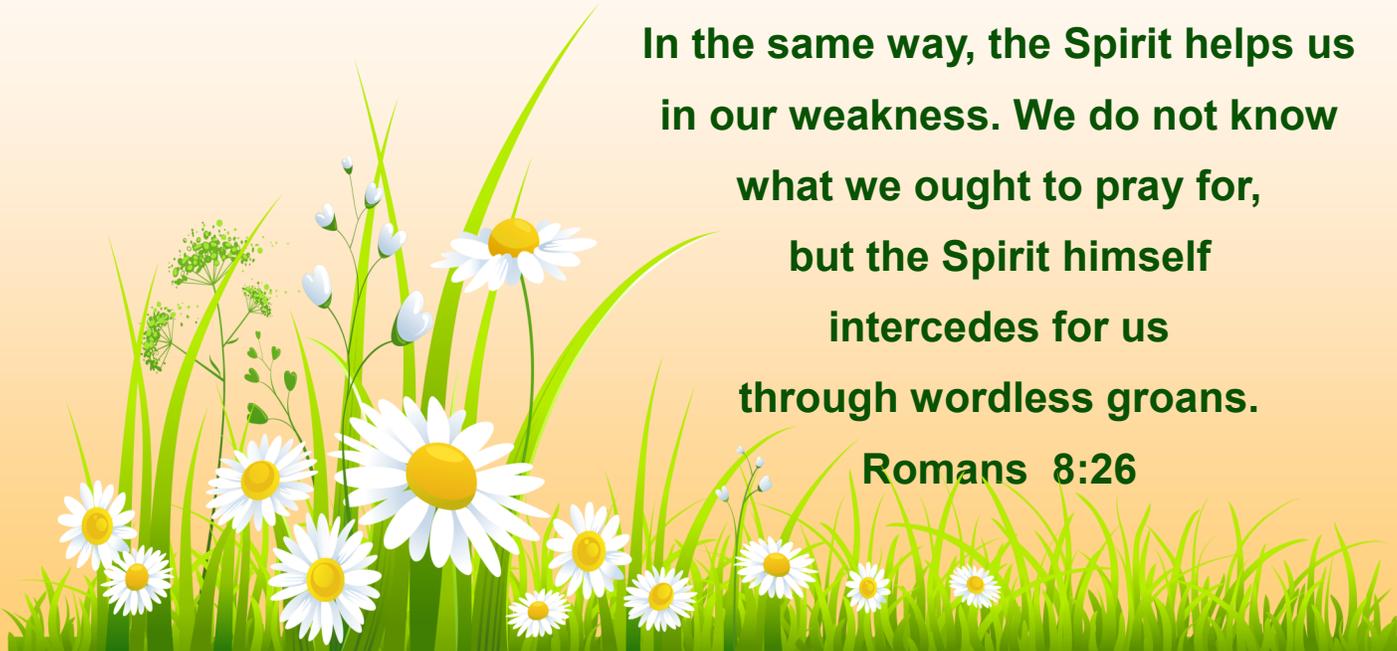
A Note from Our Community Spiritual Director...

When I attended my Walk (over 30 years ago!), I found out quickly that I wasn't in charge of much for the next 3 days. Of course I felt uncomfortable because I didn't know what was coming next. But I had to trust that everything would be fine, that all that uncertainty would actually become a blessing, and that I'd finally get to go home in three days. Can you relate to such feelings from your own Walk?

In that way, our Walks were a little rehearsal for these days of social separation. We may feel we're not in charge of much today. It's uncomfortable to live cooped up in one place or with limited activities. Yet for those devoted to Christ, such a crisis as this can bring out the best in us! We can focus less on what we can't do, and more on what the Spirit can still do through us. The Spirit might use this season to increase our caring for others, or to stir up our creativity in service. We might be inspired to be the hands and feet of Christ in new and different ways. Could these unprecedented days actually become a blessing in disguise?

Until that day returns when we can finally leave our home detention and socially interact again, let's use this time to grow deeper in our faith, as well as to watch for new ways to serve our neighbors!

Mike Seaney,
Community Spiritual Director



**In the same way, the Spirit helps us
in our weakness. We do not know
what we ought to pray for,
but the Spirit himself
intercedes for us
through wordless groans.**

Romans 8:26

Update on Spring Walks/Fall Walks

COVID-19 has caused some unexpected events with our Emmaus community and in each of our lives. It seems like COVID is wreaking havoc and we are uncertain about anything. However, we serve a Mighty God and we can be certain that He holds tomorrow. I am grateful to be surrounded by the body of Christ even though it is through technology (phone calls, texting, videoconferencing, Facebook, etc.). There is hope because Jesus has already won the victory. As team selection, I wanted to give you an update. The spring teams completed their training and were ready to serve, but due to the current pandemic those walks were canceled. Rest assured that God knew that before any of us knew it. He had a plan! Jeff Sutton and Sue Putterill (Lay Directors for Spring walks) have graciously agreed to be the Lay Directors for the Fall walks in October. Jeff and Sue will be reaching out to their teams that have been trained to determine if they are willing to serve in the fall. I know that it might not be possible due to other conflicts, but we are praying that the teams will be able to remain intact as much as possible. For those team members who cannot serve in the fall, please remember that God had you go through the training for some reason and it was not wasted. For those team members who can serve in the fall, your lay director will reach out to you with more information. Community, there might be some spots open and will need to be filled. Please remember to send in your team service application form to be considered. When things seem uncertain, I am reminded of the words from this song: *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.*

DeColores,

Kim Bieker, Team Selection



Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus.

O soul are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior
And life more abundant and free

Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there
Over us sin no more hath dominion
For more than conquerors we are

And turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

His word shall not fail you, He promised
Believe Him and all will be well
Then go to a world that is dying
His perfect salvation to tell

And turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace



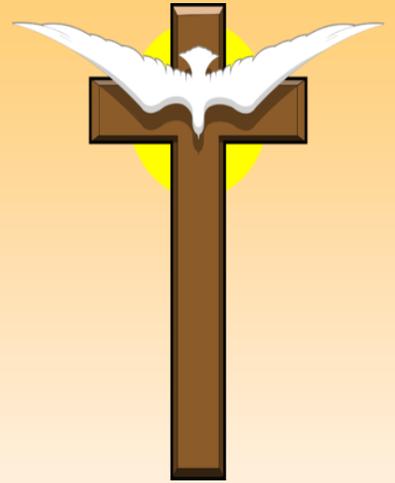
Community Gatherings

No April Gathering

May Gathering (if held)

Friday, May 15 ~ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

First Baptist Church, [3300 Fairlawn Dr., Columbus](https://www.google.com/maps/place/3300+Fairlawn+Dr,+Columbus,+IN+47301/@39.20875,-85.85875,15z)



FALL 2020 Flight & Walk Dates

Chrysalis Flights ~ Sept 5 - 7

Emmaus Men's Walk ~ Oct 22 - 25

Emmaus Women's Walk ~ Oct 29 - Nov 1

Board Meetings

Chrysalis -TBA @ The Rock, 3990 Rocky Ford Rd, Columbus

Emmaus -TBA @ Westside Community Church, Columbus

We are on:



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Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

www.columbusareaemmaus.community

Emmaus Information Page (for community members)

Username: columbus password: 4thday!

