



# The Emmaus News

Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

## Letter to the Community:

**Blessings** to all of you,

None of you is as surprised as I am to find me writing an article for the newsletter. I thought I was finished with all of these duties. I thought I was doing what I was supposed to do. I had experienced and benefited from the aspects of the Walk to Emmaus. I had been blessed, my life had been changed and now it was time for me to get out of the way and let the young ones enjoy what many of us older Emmaus Community members had known.

God had even asked me to put down a part of the Walk experience that I treasured. I knew I was having trouble with the physical aspects of the skit. I felt God was maybe saying to me, "Put it down". But I did nothing about it. The next set of walks I was so incapacitated that I had to have a back-up person just in case I could not function. I prayed that prayer of submission, "Lord, if you will enable me to do this one last time I will do as you have already asked me to do and begin to look for the person you have selected to receive this wonderful blessing." As I came to the part in the skit in which my very sore knee was to bend and kneel down, before a waiting Savior, there was not a hint of pain, nothing but gratitude for being able to kneel this one last time in this precious skit.

At closing that same walk, God led me to the person who would take my place and I knew immediately it was right. Shortly after that the Holy Spirit confirmed in both of us that this was indeed a Divine appointment.

Following that, I soon recognized the nudge again to "put it down". So I prayed that God would show me who was to replace me as registrar. It was as though He wrote the name on a heavenly slate. I called her on the phone and her reply was, "Strange, but I have been praying that God would use me in some new way".

I had been in the Emmaus Community so long, I had become the one with all the answers to how things should go.

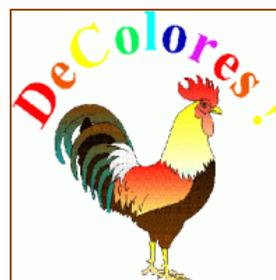
**Blessings, continued next page...**

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JANUARY 2008

### Dates for Upcoming Walks & Flights

<b>Chrysalis Flights #27 &amp; #28</b>	<b>January 19-21, 2008</b>
<b>Men's Walk #67</b>	<b>April 10-13, 2008</b>
<b>Women's Walk #68</b>	<b>April 17-20, 2008</b>



**Blessings, continued from page 1...**

Just ask me. Perhaps God had to intervene and wrestle from my hands what I had forgotten was His all along.

It had been years since I had worked a Walk, but when asked to work this last Walk, I knew I was to do it. I was a table leader...no skit to do, no registration to conclude, no talk to give, just to spend time with a group of God's girls that I had prayed for but had not yet met.

I was blessed to breathlessness by the power of the walk. Without my gifted help or supervision, there was that same sweetness and life changing, or not, experience that had rattled my life alive back in 1992. I saw like never before, His is the heart of the Emmaus Walk. Ours are the hands and feet He uses, but the preciousness and the ground shaking power come from Him and not our years of experience. I thank God for the lessons He gives us and places of danger He leads us through.

Then came the call from the board, "Would you be willing to pray about becoming the lay director of the community, we find ourselves in an unusual situation?". Even against advise from friends who know me well, I felt like I was to do this. I believe God has shown me that leadership does not come from the length of service or height you have reached in an organization, but from the depth of respect you have for God's ability to lead. I have much to learn, *come and join me.*

I am asking those of you who have been in the Emmaus Community so long that you feel your have served your purpose, to return. Come and see what those who have followed us have been able to do with the instrument of the Walk to Emmaus. It is in precious and caring hands. We need to be supporters of those who have come after us. Emmaus has always been a safe place to try new and shaky wings knowing that those around will uphold you and see you safely to success or until you know that this is not what God is calling you to do. It is not a place of condemnation or competition.

Please begin once again to join us at the gatherings. Just as a "V" of geese, we need some serious honking coming from the back. We can once again be renewed and bring blessing to those who are on the front lines. We need to be backers and encouragers for those who have followed us. The coals are still glowing in you senior members, come to the gatherings and once again let God bring the fire to your heart.

Emmaus never is to replace your own church, but by meeting together as the extended Body of Christ, we can be a blessing to every church. Hope to see you at a gathering soon.

**Blessings,** from your shaky and pruned new board member,  
Renée Kasting  
Community Lay Director



Isaiah 43:19

See, I am **doing a new thing!** Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.



### What Is Chrysalis?

Before it becomes a butterfly, a caterpillar goes through a growth stage during which it is called a "chrysalis." On the surface it may not look like much is happening, but the delicate chrysalis process changes the fuzzy caterpillar into an awesome butterfly with wings of intricate designs and intense colors. The chrysalis process symbolizes how Christ can transform you into something beyond your dreams. It happens when you grow beyond yourself, opening your life to Jesus' power and love.

"Chrysalis" is the name chosen for the youth version of The Walk to Emmaus, its parent movement, because it symbolizes the spiritual growth that is essential between adolescence and adulthood. That growth is as crucial for youth as the cocoon is for the caterpillar. It is that precious time of nurturing a person's faith for discipleship.

Chrysalis "Flights" (for 10th through 12th graders) are three-day events held at Hill Top Camp. This three-day spiritual renewal time provides an opportunity for teens to learn more about faith, to experience Christian love and support, and to make new faith commitments. The point is to inspire, challenge and equip them for a closer friendship with Christ and for Christian action at home, church, school, and community.

Chrysalis lifts up a way for youth to enjoy Christ's friendship and love and to be Christ's friend and partner in the world. The three days focus on God's grace, their experience with Christ as friend, what it means to be the body of Christ, and giving love to a needy world.

**[Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc. Home Page:](http://www.columbusinemmaus.org)**

[www.columbusinemmaus.org](http://www.columbusinemmaus.org)

**[Emmaus Information Page \(for community members\):](http://www.columbusinemmaus.org/emmaus/members)**

[www.columbusinemmaus.org/emmaus/members](http://www.columbusinemmaus.org/emmaus/members)

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COLUMBUS INDIANA AREA  
EMMAUS COMMUNITY, INC  
P.O. Box 2184  
Columbus, IN 47202-2184

[www.columbusinemmaus.org](http://www.columbusinemmaus.org)



[www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org)

**January Gathering**

Friday, January 11, 2008—7 pm  
East Columbus UM Church, 2439 Indiana Ave., Columbus

~ ***Chrysalis Team Dedication*** ~

J—Z bring snacks and drinks  
Childcare provided for ages 6 and under



**Chrysalis Flights #27 & #28**

**Sendoff/Sponsor's Hour** — Saturday, January 19, 2008  
Registration begins at 8:30 am, Sendoff begins at 9 am—  
Hilltop Camp, Brown County

**Candlelight**—Sun, Jan 20, 2008, 8 pm, Asbury UM Church,  
Columbus

**Closing**—Mon, Jan 21, 2008, 5 pm, Asbury UM Church, Col.