

The Emmaus News

Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

Letter to the Community:

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2009

Wow, the May gathering was something special! At least for me it was. The fourth day meeting was well attended by our newest members of the community and their sponsors, the pitch-in dinner was fantastic, and the time of worship was awesome. Seeing all of the new members of the community in the front of the sanctuary at Asbury was enough to get me choked up. During the walks, the teams try to be the reflection of Christ to the pilgrims but last Friday night, I saw the face of Christ in that group standing in the front of the sanctuary. God has truly blessed our community with a new crop of members ready to continue the work of our community.

When I think back on everything that has been happening in our community during the past few months, I am encouraged to know that God is still at work in our world. Sometimes we get caught up in the news headlines that seem to focus on all of the bad stuff in the world but then we get to witness how God is really still at work in the lives of those who love him and want to serve him. God is great! All of the time!

The summer season has finally arrived, OK, I know it really isn't summer yet but the weather has changed and the temperatures are warmer. Anyway, everyone is probably getting busy with warm-weather activities. I just want to remind everyone that this would be a good time to continue to pray about the possibility of sponsoring someone on the fall walks. Maybe you could invite someone over for some hamburgers and hot dogs on the grill and casually work the topic of an Emmaus weekend into the conversation. Don't be pushy, but just plant the seed.

This would also be a good time to update information on a "team service application." Remember, we need new applications for the team selection process that will be getting started very soon.

I pray that everyone will have a blessed and safe Memorial Day weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone at the June gathering at Central Christian Church in Seymour.

Blessings to all,
Bill

Dates for Upcoming Walks & Flights

Chrysalis
Flights
#33 & #34

Sept.
5 - 7,
2009

Men's
Walk
#73

October
22 - 25,
2009

Women's
Walk
#74

Oct 29 -
Nov 1,
2009

A Note from Team Selection

Greetings, my name is Carolyn Pool, Walk # 27, Table of Sarah. I serve on the Emmaus Board as Team Selection. I am honored and humbled to serve our Lord and the Emmaus Community. My husband Steve and I have a son Christopher who just finished his freshman year at Purdue

Now enough about me, let's talk about how a person gets to serve on an Emmaus Team. Well, first you need to pray. Secondly, you need to pray. Thirdly is having your accountability group pray for you, with you. Pray for guidance, wisdom and to be able to make the commitment to serving in this way. Just what is the commitment you might ask?

When you are asked to serve on a Walk Team, the commitment is to attend all team meetings, if you are asked to serve in the conference room area and for those who are first time Emmaus servers. Those in the conference room are: Table leader, Assistant Table leader, Music and Assistant Lay Directors and of course the Walk Lay Director.

If you are asked to serve in the Agape or Kitchen areas and have served before, you can be excused from attending some of the meetings (but not all). However, and this is a **BIG HOWEVER**, missing any team meeting is discouraged. These meetings are also team building meetings. It is very important to come together and pray together as the Body of Christ sharing Christ's love for each other and for the pilgrims. How else are you going to get to know those cabin buddies if you miss the team building meetings?

There is also a 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 rule. Okay just what is that you ask? When putting together a team, the team selection committee and the Walk Lay Director must look at the big picture. One third of the team must consist of members who have done this thing before; multiple times. We loving call these team members the "ole timers". Then the next one third must be the "middle agers." These are the team members who have served once, twice, maybe three times. Then there's the next one third of the team that are comprised of brand new, never done this thing before, stepping out of the box team members.

We must also look at where the team members attend church. There needs to be a good mix of denominations. The weekend shows the unified Body of Christ coming from all different walks of life including jobs, churches, lifestyles, young and the young at heart serving together as one for the One.

There will be more to come about how to serve on an Emmaus weekend at a later time. The most important part is to be in prayer for how God wants you to serve. So when you receive a letter to serve on an Emmaus weekend look at the team meeting dates that are set up & pray. Remember that Priority Talk? What are you thinking about? What do you spend your money on? That is your priority!! When you make a commitment you should honor that commitment because you are not committing to the Walk Lay Director you are making a commitment to serve **Him**.

So I very much look forward to seeing your name written down on a Team Service Application. And I would ask that you keep the Team Selection Committee, Walks 73 & 74 Lay Directors, Cliff Putterill and Linda Leszcynski, in your prayers as we go forth serving Him together in this vessel called The Walk To Emmaus!

De Colores,

Carolyn Pool

Walk 71 Report

In the booklet Sustaining the Spirit, Emmaus team members are reminded “You were blessed to be a blessing in the lives of others.” If I ever needed living proof, Walk 71 provided it!

First, I was blessed to be Lay Director. Just when I accepted that Jon Carlstrom would be Spiritual Director for Walk 72 rather than Walk 71, he said “Yes” to both. At the team selection meeting, I was given an entire list of men—identified through prayer—to be called to pray about serving on team. From the first call when the man said “I have already prayed and the answer is ‘Yes!’” to the last call (only days before the walk) when the man said “If God wants me on the team, I have to say “Yes!”, God seemed to say “Trust me in this effort, and I will bless you.” And He did!

As I was seeking to trust God more, so were the men on that list. Many had to make personal sacrifices in order to be part of God’s team on Walk 71. For Jon, it meant investing twice as many weekends as anyone else on either team. One man shared his dilemma. “I don’t know why God is asking me to be on this team when He knows I already have a commitment during one team meeting.” Although appreciating his struggle, I felt led to insist on complete commitment not only to the walk weekend but also to the team meetings. While he took a few days to pray, a friend told him “True service includes sacrifice.” The man said “Yes!” to Walk 71.

At team meetings, it was clear these men could teach me about trusting God. Talk previews were clearly part of God’s plan for developing us into a unified team as speakers touched others’ hearts and those hearts in turn encouraged the speakers. And we all witnessed God leading two speakers to use the same story to clearly illustrate points in two different talks—perfectly! Throughout our prayer times, men thanked God for the opportunity to be used by Him in the lives of the pilgrims on Walk 71.

Send Off was not even done when a pilgrim I had not met walked along with me and shared his heart’s desires for Walk 71. God knew those desires were going to be mentioned in the talk I would present on Day 3. As Lay Director, I had the luxury to observe God’s team serving as one instrument to express His love to the pilgrims all weekend—beautifully!

The real proof of Walk 71 came at Closing. Pilgrims testified to feeling God’s limitless love and to having changed lives for Him. Incredible!

Before I close, here’s “the rest of the story” of the man who recognized true service includes sacrifice. At the last team meeting, I looked up to see him headed straight toward me. With a determined smile on his face, he said, “Thank you! Now, I know why I’m here.” Then, he shared how God used his participation on Walk 71 to enable him to have a long-overdue conversation with his wife, which began a revitalizing of their relationship. Then, God did the same for him with another family member. He concluded, “I’ve been blessed beyond anything I imagined by being on team. It’s already worth the sacrifice.” And Walk 71 hadn’t even started yet.

Sometimes, “Blessed to be a blessing” takes your breath away!

DeColores and Fly with Christ, Dan Boyer

Walk 72 Report

The Women's Walk #72 was a glorious walk. God granted us beautiful weather and as you know beautiful surroundings. Our Pilgrims were the most pleasant group of ladies than I can remember. At least I did not notice nor hear of any complaints or grumblings. They just went along with whatever we asked them to do. There was such a sweet, loving spirit among these ladies that started on Thursday evening and continued all the way through. The same applied to the team we had. They bonded together as a team but also blended together as a complete unit. He blessed us all.

Our Training Meetings had gone well as we began to hold one another in prayer. God took us through some team changes along the way but He let me know in His own special way, that He was most definitely in control.

God "wooded" us into our Dying Moments which became a precious gift. When Jon Carlstrom carried the bread away that carried all our sins, bitterness and strife with it, one could almost here the relief and lightness of heart.

On a lighter note:

I'm sure some of the Agape Team will remember their episode in entering a store late Saturday night with all their agape attire and the store clerk didn't know if they were being invaded or not. I think they are still laughing over it. I'm sure, too, their lack of sleep was beginning to show on them and being a little giddy probably added to it also.

Our Board Rep., Renee Kasting, will remember trying to fight a lot of balloons (trying to hang onto them in all the wind) on her way back to the Conference Room when along came Kathy Rudolph (Agape Team) to the rescue to give her a ride. Kathy, however, had to make another stop first down at the Dining Hall and Renee said that was okay she would just stay in the van and wait. Well.....Kathy, being the Agape person she was, started helping with the set ups etc. in the Dining Hall. Renee who was waiting patiently with the balloons decided maybe she should check to see where Kathy had gone and, well, you can figure out the rest. Renee had been forgotten about. When, finally reaching the Conference Room, with a panicked look on her face, balloons still in hand, she quotes "you're not going to believe where I have been".

There were many special times for all of us and it certainly was for me. Our skits were special and allowed us to have some wonderful laughs and fun. As a Lay Director you get to watch and listen to all those around you which provides much love and joy in your heart.

Thank you Pilgrims, Sponsors, Team, and Community,

Jeannie Wheeler, Lay Director Walk #72



Board Nominations

It is now time for us to begin praying for guidance in the selection process for new Columbus IN Emmaus Community Board members for 2010. Pray for discernment so we will know those servants that God wants to do His work on the Board for the next three years.

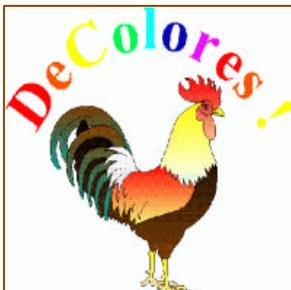
Approximately one-third of the current Board will be finishing their three year term in December. We will need to nominate and vote on new board members in October and November. So, now is the time to pray about this very important concern. Contact Carolyn Pool, Team Selection, if you have any questions or nominations.



Columbus Emmaus Community Needs You!

Especially if you know Microsoft Access.

Tom Ganus is looking for someone from the community that would consider themselves skilled enough at Microsoft Access database software to provide suggestions and guidance to the community Data Coordinator (Tom) regarding the community database. If you can help, please contact Tom at tganus@columbusinemmaus.org.



Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

Home Page:

www.columbusinemmaus.org

Emmaus Information Page (for community members):

www.columbusinemmaus.org/emmaus/members

User name: columbusemmaus password: 4thday

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Columbus, IN 47201
PERMIT #307

DeColores

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

www.columbusinemmaus.org



www.upperroom.org

June Chrysalis Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 2, 2009—6 pm
First Christian Church
531 Fifth St., Columbus, IN

June Emmaus Board Meeting

Saturday, June 13, 2009—9 am
Rocky Ford Free Methodist Church
3990 Rocky Ford Rd., Columbus, IN

June Gathering

Friday, June 19, 2009
Central Christian Church
1434 W. 2nd St., Seymour, IN
Childcare provided for ages 6 & under
Refreshments provided by J-Z

June Hoot

Sunday, June 28, 2009—2 pm
Check website for location

