



The Emmaus News

Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

Volume 16 Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2008

Dates for Upcoming Walks & Flights

Men's Walk #69	Oct 16-19, 2008
Women's Walk #70	Oct 23-26, 2008
Chrysalis Flights #31 & #32	Jan 17-19 2009

Letter to the Community:

The Statement and the Possibility of a Life Changing Response

At our last Gathering we had a small technical problem that prevented us from singing as much as we generally do. We had no words. Yes Gents, even the ladies had no words. A very temporary situation I assure you.

But as our God is always apt to do, He gave us a new assignment, which may well have been His agenda from the start. This question came to us: On your Walk or Flight when your lay director said to you, "Christ is counting on you" and you were instructed to respond, "And I am counting on Christ", what did you think and feel as you responded? This question has haunted me all week.

Three brave, faith walkers gave us their answers, one from a Flight two from Walks. It is a courageous thing to put your feelings into words and express them aloud at a meeting even if it is a church related meeting. Others may have responded, but I moved on to the next thing. I wish I had spent more time on that one item. What is **your** answer? Take all the time you need, but please, think about and formulate an answer to this question.

I know when first asked about something, my first answer may not be my final answer. But after spending 72 hours in the lap of God, I suspect, many times our first answer is our best and final answer.

I have been on both sides of the question. Aside from Dying Moments, the Commissioning is the highest point of the Walk for me. As a lay director, I had the privilege of looking down into the eyes of washed clean, hopeful and empowered women that had seen Jesus. I got to lean into their faces and ask them to make a response that would resound in the very halls of Heaven. I wonder if Jesus, on hearing our responses, says to the Father, "These are the ones I have brought to you, just listen to these hearts".

Although the response is prescribed, I have never heard anyone say the words flippantly.

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Praise the Lord,
O my soul
Psalm 103:1a

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The knowledge that precedes the response is too convicting to allow a glib answer. "Christ is counting on you", is not something that we can dismiss. If we are to be worthy of such an honor, we will definitely need help. Therefore "We are counting on Christ". What was your unspoken response to the throne room of God?

I did not answer the question last Friday night. But I have an answer, a final answer. At the moment of responding to the statement, I knew I would never walk alone. I would always be well accompanied in life, in death, or whatever came my way. I was, on that very day, five days away from my sixth chemo-therapy treatment. My hair was barely there, my shirt hung empty and I had never been so beautiful in all my life.

Thinking of you often,

Renée Casting
Community Lay Director

The Emmaus Walks are approaching and we always appreciate your homemade agape items. Remember to make 90 pieces for each walk for both team and pilgrims. Or if you prefer, about 70 items for conference room only.

Don't forget to sign the prayer charts and the snack agape charts available at the gatherings. You can also sign the prayer charts online at www.columbusinemmaus.org

Also, we have several items in our lost and found. Among the items are a pillow with a green leaf print along with a sheet to match and also a nice red and white quilt. If you have lost these items or others during a walk please contact Pat Shoemaker (812-988-2310) or Christine Griggs (812- 378-9697).

DeColores!

Pat & Christine

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

New Board Member Profile:

My name is Lee Marshall and I am the new Music representative for the Columbus IN Area Emmaus Community. I also served in this capacity on the Board from 1998-2001.

I went on Walk #45 with the Indianapolis Community in 1991. I was at the table of Mary. I have had the privilege of serving on several teams and continue to treasure each opportunity to actively participate in **team** ministry in such a life-impacting way. **Personal** ministry experiences have been in the area of music, mentoring, and prayer.

My husband, Dick, and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary this year. We are the parents of four children. Our son Christopher went home to the Lord as an infant. Our son Kevin resides in Alexandria, VA, with his wife, Heidi, and our two precious granddaughters, Lydia Grace (3 ½) and Anna Elisabeth (4 months). Our daughter Lisa moved last month from Los Angeles to Virginia Beach, VA, where she will be pursuing a post-graduate degree at Regent University. Our daughter, Kathryn, is in Bloomington completing her undergraduate degree at I.U.

It is time for changes. It is my goal to simplify where possible and update [adding and archiving (but available upon request)] our music collection over my three years of service. We have already begun the process of placing our songs in projection format (Media Shout) for Walks and Gatherings. It is also my desire to identify, invite, and equip more musicians in the Community to utilize their gifts and talents to glorify GOD in this ministry.

I was surprised, but am thankful GOD has called me again to this area of service. The last time was about laying a foundation. I perceive this time is more about growing and building—resources and relationships. Sometimes I feel overwhelmed with what needs to be done—but only when I ‘lose focus.’ Years ago I learned a poem that GOD continually brings back to my thinking each time He calls me to the challenge of change:

Healthy things grow.
 Growing things change.
 Changing things challenge us.
 Challenge leads us to trust GOD.
 Trust leads to obedience.
 Obedience makes us healthy.
 And healthy things grow.
 James Ryle

DeColores,
 Lee Marshall

FIRST CALL TO ALL MUSICIANS: JOIN US!
Pianists, guitarists, bass players, drummers, etc.
Vocalists

(soprano, alto, tenor, bass)

Send me an email: lmarshall@columbusinemmaus.org

DeColores

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www.upperroom.org

September Gathering

~Fall Teams Dedication~

Friday, Sept 19, 7 pm, East Columbus UM,
2439 Indiana Ave., Columbus—J-Z bring drinks,
snacks—Childcare provided for ages 6 & under

No October Gathering due to Walks

