



The Emmaus News

Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

Welcome from the Community Spiritual Director:

Welcome in the name of Christ!

It is a special joy and privilege as the Community Spiritual Director to welcome our newest community members. We look forward to continuing our Fourth Day journey with you as we share God's blessings and Christ's promises. As your heart burned within, God has blessed you to be a blessing in and through your church. Christ promises that we will do the things he did and even greater things. We pray that all of Christ's promises will equip your life for a glorious and productive witness and ministry. We pray God's blessing upon you in each of your Fourth Days.

Jon Carlstrom, Community Spiritual Director Walk 19

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2005

DATES FOR UPCOMING FLIGHTS AND WALKS

Flights #21 & #22	Mar. 18-20, 06
Men's Walk #59	Apr. 20-23, 06
Women's Walk #60	Apr. 27-30, 06
Men's Walk # 61	Oct. 19-22, 06
Women's Walk #62	Oct. 26-29, 06

Letter to the Community:

In Our Prime Today and On Our Way!

The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus held their first Walks in 1978. The oldest communities are 27 years old. The Columbus community held their first Walk in March of 1993. We are now almost thirteen years old. That makes our community grown-up and middle-aged. We are in our prime! And like any wise prime-timer, we had a check-up this year.

The Triennial Training check-up our community received in August was timely and quite revealing. Admittedly, much of the training was a bit stressful and hard work as Cathi Eberly, our North Central Regional Representative, pointed out areas where our walk could come more in line with the Upper Room model. But, there was a time that morning that everyone got excited. Cathi contrasted the abundance and even excess with which many established communities in the United States carry out their Walks with those of communities in developing countries. In a developing country, agape may be a single tea bag. Paper and office supplies are lacking. What was the most astounding to me was that it costs about \$250,000 for each start-up community! Though that sounds incredible, once she explained all the flights and accommodations needed as members fly to and from the community to help with its first walks, it sounded reasonable. The excitement came as the trainees enthusiastically asked a good and right question, "How can we help a developing community?"

Even closer to home . . . in fact, right in our own house is the Chrysalis community. Cathi encouraged us to make Chrysalis our primary mission outreach. Any investment into the spiritual lives of our youth is precious.

When our community was an infant and growing up, it was appropriate for us to seek help from older communities and keep our focus on our own growth and development. God has blessed us as we have built His kingdom here in our community. We are now a community that is mature and in its prime. Our Triennial check-up revealed to me that we couldn't continue to feast at a spiritual buffet without working out those blessings on a regular basis. We will just end up fat with blessings among the starving of the world.

As 2005 starts to wind down, please be in thought and prayer as to how our prime-time community can start the new year by working out to be a blessing to others.

De Colores! Bev Earley, Community Lay Director

Letter from the Lay Director-Walk #57

What an honor it was to serve as Lay Director on Walk #57. God blessed this walk with a magnificent team. It was easy to see Jesus in each and every one of them. God performed many miracles before the walk even began so many of these men could serve on team. As we prayed for each other we witnessed the power of prayer and the work of the Holy Spirit in this team.

We had thirty wonderful pilgrims who experienced God's love in a powerful way. I know that new friendships were formed among the pilgrims that will last a lifetime. All the talks were anointed as the Holy Spirit spoke through each speaker. The posters and skits were great as the pilgrims shared with us their many talents as artists, musicians, and actors. Friday night was very special when we had two wonderful clowns come and share the love of Christ with us. It was very easy to see the face of Jesus and feel his love in those wonderful servants. Dying moments cleansed each heart and we all left the chapel a little lighter having left some heavy burdens behind. We saw a little what Heaven will be like when we entered candlelight service Saturday night. What a wonderful way to experience the love of God through the body of Christ.

The food was great as our cooks outdid themselves each and every meal. The music team was awesome as they led us in worship and celebration each day. How about that agape team? Everything was in place and on time, and we always had plenty of plain peanuts to eat.

Again, I want to thank the community for their support and sacrifices of time in attending sendoff, candlelight, and closing; for their many acts of agape; and especially all their prayers for Walk #57. I ask the community to continue to be in prayer for all the pilgrims who were on the fall walks.

My life will forever be changed because of this opportunity to serve as Lay Director on Walk #57. From the bottom of my heart I want to say **thank you** for giving me this opportunity to serve as Lay Director on Walk #57.

God Bless You!

Mike Hien, Lay Director Walk #57

Memories of Women's Walk # 58.

The spirit of the Lord was evident throughout Walk #58 from the training meetings until closing on Sunday the weekend of the walk. Our Lord had exciting plans for these women and each one of us has been called by God to be a part of his future plans. We are certain that lives have been changed forever by the Holy Spirit. We were all moved closer to God as we listened to the talks. The Lord was with us in Dying Moments, in our prayer times, in the faces of the clowns, at Candlelight, and in the most beautiful breathtaking sunrise we have ever seen. The Lord's hands and Christian friends were with us the 72 hours at camp Lakeview. God granted us a wonderful time with new Christian friends. He blessed us with great weather that was cool and sunny. Thanks for your prayers. The food was excellent. The agape team was efficient and their loving hands were busy everywhere. We had fun singing and making our posters/skits. Dying moments was a powerful and genuine experience. Burdens, old wounds, and sins were left at the foot of the cross. So many prayers were and still are being answered. Praise God for His gift of grace for us all.

The whole weekend was full of joy, laughter, hugs, singing, great food, and praising our Lord. If you were at closing, there is nothing else to add to the wonderful testimonies of the pilgrims except, "Thank You Lord Jesus."

What a joy and privilege it has been for me and the team members of Walk #58 to respond to His call to servanthood. We are all deeply touched by the love, support, and thoughtfulness of the Columbus Area Emmaus Community.

Dear Father: We thank you for allowing us to be His hands and feet on Walk #58. We thank you for shared fellowship. Dear Father, thank you for your precious Son, Jesus Christ. We thank you for the joy you give us in big and small ways. Dear Father help us in the days ahead to give our strengths toward the service of others. And, Dear Father, continue to guide us daily with your loving hands as we go our separate ways. We give you all the praise and glory Lord. In Jesus' name I pray. God Bless you all.

De Colores,

Jewell Arthur, Lay Director Walk #58

HOW TO RECEIVE THE EMMAUS NEWSLETTER IN 2006

1. You can go to the Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community web site (see directions on page 5) and click on Newsletter Sub on the left hand side. You can subscribe for the e-mail or ground mail version on the web site.
2. You can fill out the subscription form below and return it to Mike Riley.

If you are currently receiving the newsletter by e-mail, you do not need to do anything UNLESS YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS CHANGES. If that happens, you can make the change at the Newspaper Sub link on the web site.

If you were a new pilgrim in 2005 you need to subscribe now to receive the newsletter in 2006. A five dollar contribution made any time during the year is appreciated to help defray printing and mailing costs.

If you filled out a subscription form and are currently receiving the newsletter by ground mail, you will continue to receive the newsletter. A five dollar contribution made any time during the year is appreciated to help defray printing and mailing costs.

If you know a community member who would like to be receiving this newsletter –

PLEASE GIVE HIM OR HER THIS INFORMATION.

Thank you so much!



LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY

The January Gathering will be held at East Columbus United Methodist Church on Friday, January 20th.

While you're marking dates of "MUST DO" activities on that spotless new calendar, be sure to include this one.

De Colores,
Dick Yeaton

2006

A note of thanks:

The Agape board directors want to take this time to say, "Thank-you" to all those who provided agape for the fall walks. We know how much it means to all the pilgrims. Also a big "Thanks" to the people who served at Send-off and all those who provided the wonderful snacks for the walks. Each one of you who serve in any way to make the walks so successful are truly appreciated and we pray God's blessing on you for your continued commitment to Him.

De Colores!
Karen and Anita

Subscription Form for Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc. Newsletter

I wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

Name _____ E-mail address _____

I wish to receive the newsletter by US mail. (A \$5 donation would help cover costs.)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Please make any check payable to Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community, Inc.

Return to:
Mike Riley
1630 Maple St.
Columbus, IN
47201



What's New in Sponsoring?

There are lots of jobs in the Emmaus community. One can serve as a musician, in the kitchen, on the board or as a walk LD. But there is one job that is the most dear to our hearts and the most important of all . . . **sponsorship!**

A few weeks ago there was a fourth day meeting that educated and gave guidance to those who wanted to learn how to sponsor. If you were not able to attend, there are still several ways to become a wise sponsor:

- ✂✂ Ask **YOUR sponsor** to help you be a sponsor the first couple times.
- ✂✂ Go to the **Community Member Page** at [www.columbusinemmaus.org/members/ Help](http://www.columbusinemmaus.org/members/Help)
Documents for Walks and Other Events / 1) Sponsor's Checklist 2) Suggestions for Sponsors
3) Emmaus Sponsorship
- ✂✂ A booklet from the Upper Room library called **Sponsorship.**
- ✂✂ A future Fourth Day meeting following a set of walks.
- ✂✂ The newsletter has information to help you be a wise sponsor.
- ✂✂ Attend **gatherings** to receive reminders and updates

Let me tell you something new from the board meeting last Saturday. Listen up, because this is going to change the way we do business!

Applications are due and in the hands of the registrar 30 days prior to the start date of the walk.

Let's use the spring walks as a specific example. The Men's Walk #59 send-off is on April 20. Applications for men attending that walk will need to be in our registrar's hands by March 20. The Women's Walk #60 send-off is on April 27. The application for any woman attending that walk will need to be in the registrar's hands by March 27.

If an application is handed in less than 30 days prior to a spring walk, please do not consider it "missing the deadline". Consider it being at the top of the list for the fall walk!

Remember . . . applications for Pilgrims may be turned in 365 days of the year. Waiting until a walk is almost upon us should not be your cue to sponsor. Give your gift of sponsorship to a friend or family member as a Christmas present this year!

If a minimum of 20 applications is not received at that time of the deadline, the walk will be canceled.

This is more of an issue for the men's walks than the women's, so keep that in mind.

Maximum 36 pilgrims on a walk.

This was a strong recommendation from our Upper Room Regional Representative at the Triennial Training in August. It also would preserve the quality of the walk the way the Upper Room intended. What this means to us as a community is that we may see a waiting list to attend a walk begin to form again. Handing in an application earlier rather than later would increase the possibility of a Pilgrim attending this coming walk.

Closing Comments From Walk #57 & Walk #58

“What did this Walk to Emmaus mean to you?” and “What are you going to do about it?”

We experienced every emotion a human being can have . . . and we made some up, too! / I never experienced God's love like at this weekend. / Where He goes, I will follow. I will be His hands and feet. / Who am I to deserve this? It's all because of the grace of God. / The walk has allowed me to get rid of some baggage that I've carried for far too long. / He's convicted me that He expects more out of me. / I have not cried quite as much as in these last few days. / I'm going to let the Christ that is in me work through me. / My mission is to set people's hearts on fire. / I found out that I was a nobody, but with Christ I'm a somebody. / Here I am. Send me! / I don't think that I was a dead Christian, just one in a deep coma. . . . by the grace of God, I'm going to come back stronger . . . and look out! / When God poured His love, His word and His strength in me, all the garbage ran out. / This has meant the world to me. / I never knew how to take it to the next level. Now I do. / When my son, my sponsor, said, "check it out", I had to go. / I have an all-new meaning of love. / We were the good-looking table. / Things that haven't contributed to the great commission in my life will have to go. / I didn't realize that there could be this much love in the Christian community . . . boundless love, endless love, unearned love. / God can take dead situations and bring them back to life. / If you are not crying within five minutes, they feed you. / I'm going to spread that love to everyone I can. / Pastors are paid to be good. Lay people are good . . . for nothing. / I forgot how much God loved me. / Stay the course, because in the end, we win. / There's nothing that happens through us that doesn't first happen to us. / He has given me the courage to come forward to tell others what a glorious God He is. / God does not call the enabled, He enables the called. / These three days have been a cleansing. / I have never experienced so much love! / I can't imagine that heaven is any better than this! / I want to be a light for the Lord, because He is awesome. / I hope that people see me, they see that God's grace is sufficient. The past is behind. / This weekend was Windex for my windows. / I'm new in my faith. This has been perfect. / I can't share Christ if I don't know Him. I am going to do a daily Bible study. / God showed me that you don't know a person until you walk in his shoes. / I knew that I had to have Him and get back to Him if I was going to survive. / I feel like I had cataracts removed. / I lost both my mother and my father in the past 14 months. Now I don't feel like an orphan. / This has been a little bit of heaven on earth. / I've had a chance here to see what lavish love is.

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

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



December Hoot:

Sunday, Dec. 4, 2005 1:30 p.m.

First Methodist Church

201 E. 3rd St., Seymour



NO DECEMBER GATHERING

January Gathering:

Friday, Jan. 20, 2006

East Columbus United Methodist Church, Columbus

2439 Indiana Avenue, Columbus

J-Z bring snacks and drinks

Childcare provided.