



# The Emmaus News

Columbus Indiana Area Emmaus Community  
NOVEMBER 2024 Volume 32 Issue 11

## ***A Note from Our Community Lay Director...***

“Dear Community, before the Fall Walks, I was asked, “Why can’t I serve in the conference room if I am sponsoring a pilgrim?”

The easy answer is, we have a signed agreement, covenant, with the Upper Room to follow their guidelines for walks to maintain consistency and standardization of walks across the world. Subsequently, you could attend a walk anywhere and have the same experience as in Columbus, with small exceptions. For instance, not every community uses clown ministry on Friday night, but has another similar activity.

Each year, your board must read and sign this covenant to ensure the integrity of the walks. The guidelines state “sponsors should not serve on team for their pilgrims.”

Because we sometimes have difficulties filling a team, we have amended our local guidelines to allow sponsors to serve on the team, but not in the conference room.

If you do choose to serve on the team, you must get someone to take over your tasks of a sponsor, so your pilgrim and his/her family is not neglected.

Your job as sponsor is to bring your pilgrim to camp, attend sponsor’s hour, participate in the 72-hour prayer vigil, attend candlelight, and bring him/her home from closing. During the three days, you are to check on the family, provide assistance as needed, collect agape letters, and even milk the cows if that is what your pilgrim normally does.

That was the easy answer. There are many reasons NOT to serve in the conference room, so let me list just a few.

1. Most pilgrims are stressed about attending with a bunch of strangers and having no friends to increase their comfort. If other pilgrims see you and your pilgrim hanging out, it may raise questions about why their sponsor didn’t attend with them.
2. Your presence in the conference room, may distract your pilgrim and distract you from doing your assigned duties.
3. Some pilgrims will not open up and be vulnerable if someone they know is present. There is fear they may be judged or may tell others their story.
4. You can’t do the tasks of a sponsor, as mentioned above, if you are in the conference room.

For these same reasons, sponsors should not serve the Agape Dinner on Saturday night. Why not take your pilgrim’s family out for dinner?

Pray about your decision. If you are led to serve, maybe this is not the right time to be a sponsor, or perhaps it is time to sponsor and not serve on the team.

As Pastor Mike Seaney always tells us at Candlelight, “Remember, it is not about us, it is about the pilgrims.”

**DeColores,**

Dave Goodner, Community Lay Director

## ***A Note from our Community Spiritual Director...***

It was 60 years ago when Bob Dylan released “The Times They Are A-Changin’” That would be a good theme song for us this month. For we will be changing our clocks, changing political leaders from local to national levels, and even changing our Emmaus community. We’ll be welcoming some 100 new Community members this year, welcoming some new members to the Emmaus Board of Directors, and seeking a new Conference room for our Walks next year.

In these changing times, this month may foster some tension and worry on our part. Add in all of the upcoming holiday events and family gatherings, and this could be one stressful month!

So it will be crucial to make time in these weeks to seek God’s peace, and choose to focus on what we can still give thanks for. Focus on the promises you hear at Worship, or read in your private devotions, or those you can recall with your Reunion group.

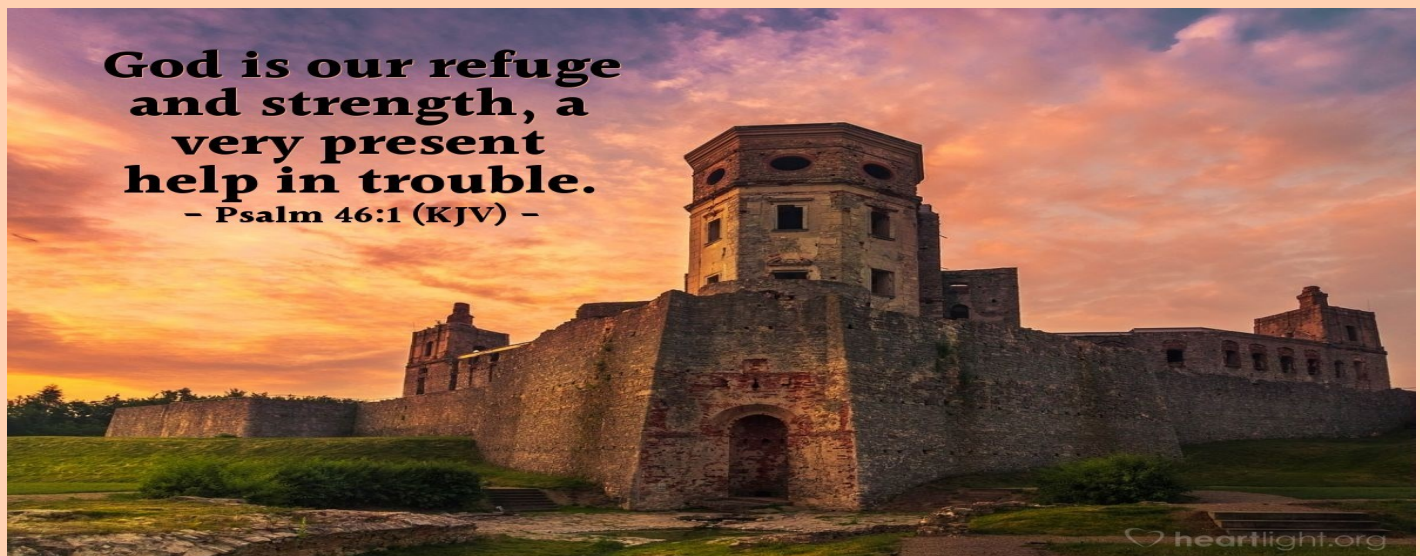
For the writer of Psalm 46 declares:

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.”

In the midst of the frightening chaos, cling to our unchanging God and Savior!

**DE COLORES**

Mike Seaney, Community Lay Director



## ***UPDATE from Our Men's Fall Lay Director, Walk #133***

Dear Emmaus Community,

I know that no walk is perfect but walk #133 was close. It went remarkably smooth and I give all the credit to God and the team. I always believed that the right team makes all the difference. Not only a good team but a team of doers. People that just get the job done. This team was filled with hard-working doers.

To begin with I have to say John Michael did excellent as Board Rep. I picked on him at closing but I would not have wanted anyone else.

I truly loved this clergy team. That is because they are my personal spiritual team in life. It meant the world to me that they were there. We missed John Weintraut but he is healing and will be joining us again soon.

My ALD's had a tough assignment. That was working with me. I had high expectations and they rose to the occasion. Jamie, Baylee, and Chris all have an agape heart. They will work themselves into the dirt so that someone else can take the credit.

Our table leaders and assistant table leaders were on it from the first time they sat down as a table group. These are the guys who, in my opinion, carry the bulk of the ministry during the walk. Every table was actively engaging with each other. They all did really well.

Our agape team ran like a well-oiled machine. Everything was done and waiting for us. Agape is a job that gives and gives so others can reap the rewards. They gave so we could reap. Caleb Lammert brought joy to the entire conference room and touched the hearts of many. But it was Dale Guse who gave all weekend. A perfect example of agape by taking care of Caleb.

The food was simply amazing. Every meal seemed to top the last and even on days when it is not uncommon to have leftovers, we had a new meal waiting for us. This was another group of men who worked tirelessly to serve us and helped make the walk what it was.

I'm still trying to put into words what the music team led us in this weekend. I have never experienced such spirit-filled and powerful worship before. Such a tremendously talented group that blessed us all weekend long.

What a great group of men that we got to serve. I look forward to serving with them and getting to know them better someday soon.

I don't know what else to say. I have no regrets. I would not change a thing. I was able to leave camp with a sense of peace and deeply satisfied with the work that was done. All credit goes to God and the team. I could not have done it without them.

It definitely got gooder.

**DE COLORES**

Jeremy Keller  
Lay Director  
Walk #133





***UPDATE from Our Women's Fall Lay Director, Walk #134***

Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together! Psalm 34:3

Here's what I know about the Fall Emmaus Women's Walk #134; the LORD was in and through this walk from the beginning and is still working in our hearts today. He will continue to work in the future in ways that we may never see – but OH what He has let us see so far!

As our Great Shepherd, He led each one chosen for His team. It was an honor to be part of it. He gave us His wisdom and let each other know He was present with every single one of us, every single moment. It was amazing to see His brilliance shine through so many faces in JOY and in service to each other and to our beautiful pilgrims. Our lives will never be the same for we have seen the face of Jesus.

**DE COLORES**

Debbie Raynor  
Lay Director, Walk #134



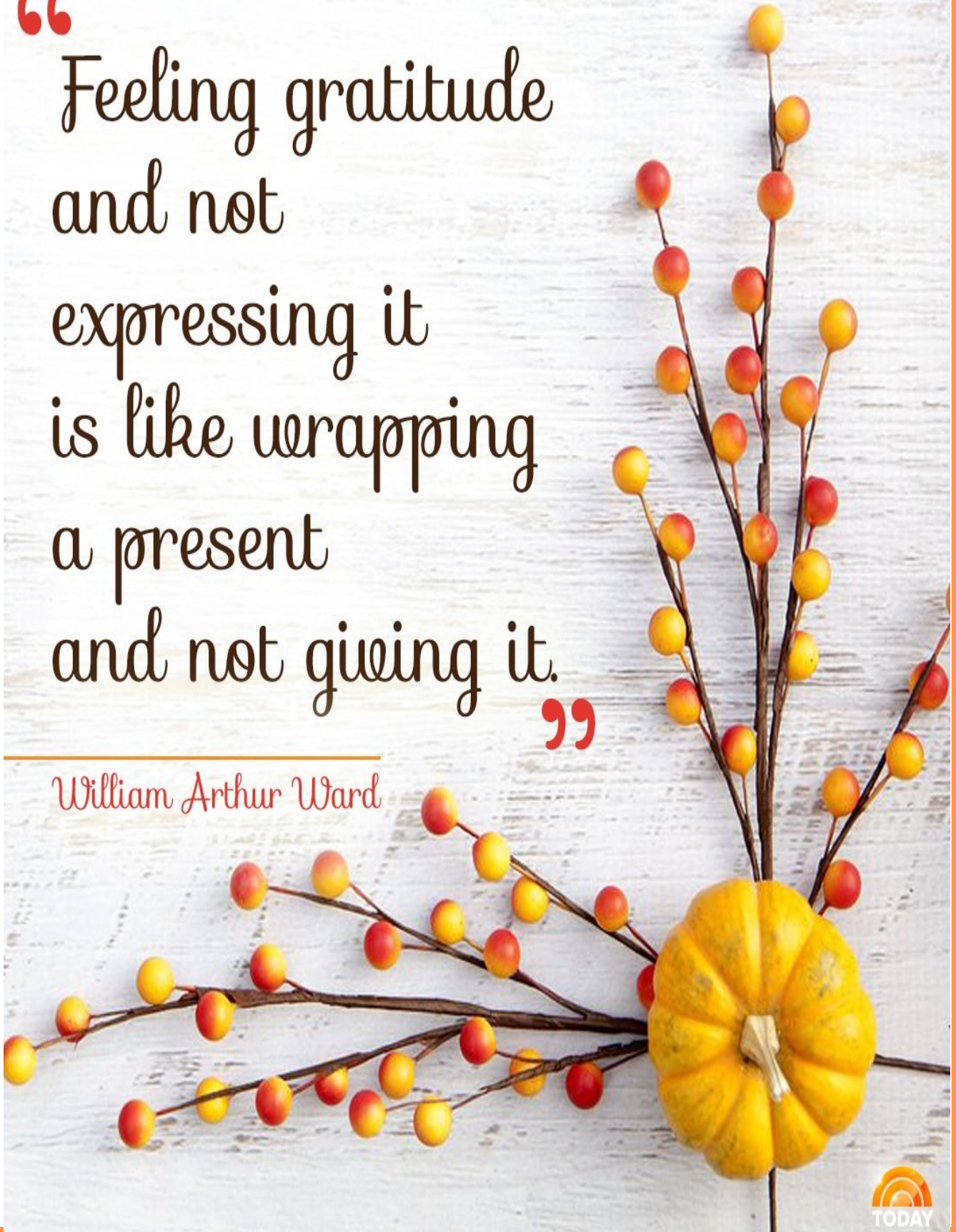
“

Feeling gratitude  
and not  
expressing it  
is like wrapping  
a present  
and not giving it.

”

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*William Arthur Ward*



## Upcoming Community Events

### Community Gatherings

Nov 15th — 5:30 PM 4th Day Meeting  
 6:30 PITCH IN DINNER  
 EVERYONE BRING A MAIN  
 DISH, SIDE, AND A BEVERAGE  
 TO WELCOME OUR PILGRIMS  
 SPONSORS PLEASE BRING  
 DINNERWARE FOR YOU AND  
 YOUR PILGRIM  
 7:30 PM Gathering

THE POINT  
311 Myers St.  
Seymour, IN 47274

NO DECEMBER GATHERING...GATHER WITH  
 YOUR FAMILY CELEBRATING OUR  
 SAVIORS BIRTH

**HE IS THE ONLY REASON!!!**

Jan 17th — 7 PM Worship  
 730 PM Service

ST LOUIS CROSSING  
6271 E. 800 N Co Rd  
Columbus, IN 47203

*Gather*  
 AND BE GRATEFUL

### Board Meetings

CHRYSALIS— Dec 10th at 6:00PM

AT THE ROCK 3990 ROCKYFORD RD CLMBS, IN

EMMAUS— Dec 14th- 9:00 AM

AT THE ROCK 3990 ROCKYFORD RD CLMBS, IN

### **BOARD CONTACT INFO**



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