

Wilmington Area Emmaus Community Newsletter

God works through Emmaus

Lord,

Today I experienced my first rainbow. Not the first one I have ever seen with my eyes, but the first one I have ever experienced with my heart. I thought of Your covenant with us never to destroy the earth again with floods. Mostly though, I thought of Your grace. De Colores, all the many beautiful colors of Your grace! I thought of how You offer all of this to me, not because of who I am, but, because of who You are. As I savored all of Your glory in those colors, I felt Your hands on my shoulders and Your loving, warm embrace. I wondered how many others were having this same experience at this same moment. Ten's, hundred's, thousand's? I could not know. And then I realized that even though some would not be able to see this magnificent sight as I did, that Your grace was there for all to experience. Your offer is there always. An offer of grace that was there before any of us were even thought of by human minds, and is still there for us today only because You love us. Thank You for Your beautiful gift! I know I don't deserve it and never could, but I accept it and will always cherish it. And one more thing Lord, I'll tell others about it.

In Jesus Name, Amen

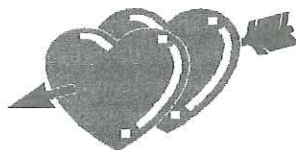
This beautiful prayer was written by a special friend, two days

after his walk to Emmaus. I have often thought of how this gentleman's life has changed over the last few years, and even more so in 72 hours.

We also spent 72 hours on an Emmaus walk. Do we still see life differently? Do we still carry the Emmaus experience with us? Do we recognize God and His Grace around us? And, most importantly, do we tell others about it?

Let us prayerfully share Emmaus, keeping in mind that Emmaus is not for everyone. It isn't a quick fix for any or all problems. Prayerfully consider those whom you would sponsor and take being a sponsor seriously, during and after your pilgrim's walk. Most of all, take your relationship with God seriously. Let's not let Emmaus be our main focus. Let us focus on God and serve Him through our local church, Emmaus and our lives.

Serving Christ with you,
Diana Preston



A Letter From Holmes

As I write this article for the newsletter, two Emmaus teams are in preparation for their walks. This is always an exciting time for our community as well as a personal time of growth for the team members, let alone all of the wonders the pilgrims will experience once they join the team on Thursday evening!

But why should that be so? Why shouldn't all of us grow in our faith from the experience of each and every walk? All we need is a little time to sit down and review our notes on the five grace talks. Let me challenge you this month to review your notes and then answer the following questions. It's a challenge because I know the Spirit of God will give you insights which may be a little uncomfortable, but then isn't that what growth is all about?

Prevenient Grace

What moments can you identify where God's Prevenient Grace was significant in your life? How in the past several months have you been an instrument of His Prevenient Grace?

Justifying Grace

What role does justifying grace play in your life? How many times in the past months have you claimed God's justification in your life?

(continued p.2 "Letter From Holmes")

("Letter From Holmes" cont. from p.1)

Means of Grace

Please take a few moments and identify those means of grace that you have recognized that God has used in your life to assist in your personal spiritual growth. Remember, they are there every day. The issue is your recognition of what God is doing in your life.

Obstacles to Grace

Ouch! What are some of your personal obstacles to God's Grace in your life? If you have recognized some, how are you handling them?

Sanctifying Grace

Where have you seen God's Spirit at work in your life? What are you doing in your life to listen to the voice of His Spirit? What steps are you taking on a daily basis to grow based on His counsel, the urging and the convicting of His Spirit in your life? If you have not seen evidence of His working in your life, why haven't you?

Happy growing and De Colores,
Darrell Holmes

EMMAUS ROSTER

Yes, that's ROSTER, not ROOSTER! The full, updated 1998 Roster of Emmaus community members is being planned. Would you like your E-MAIL address included in this new publication? Just jump on that information highway and E-MAIL your name and E-MAIL address to Ed Hiestand:

ED.HIESTAND@USA.NET

and, if there is sufficient interest, we will find a way to include this information in the new roster.

New Application

Has it been a while since you picked up a new application for the Walk to Emmaus? Included in this month's newsletter is the most up-to-date

version. Please destroy that one you've been copying since 1988 and start using this new version! Remember, the deposit amount is now **\$15.00**.

CHRYSALIS NEWS

Hey kids...of all ages - do you know about Chrysalis? Some of our new community members here in Wilmington may not - and some visitors may not - so let me take a minute to shed some light on the subject (you'll probably enjoy my articles a whole lot more if you know what Chrysalis is all about!)

Chrysalis is the same thing as Emmaus, except it's for the younger age groups, 15 to 18 and 18 to 22. If you know what Emmaus is - you're set. If not - let me try again.

A Chrysalis weekend is a spiritual weekend of fun, love, learning, sharing, eating and, most importantly, looking at one's relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. The focus of Chrysalis is to teach the youth how to take the information they've learned home to their church and to get involved, get others involved and spread the Good News.

If you want to learn more about this experience, Chrysalis hold monthly services, similar to the Emmaus Gathering, called Hoots. Everyone is welcome to see the joy Jesus is putting in our lives. Contact me for Hoot info nearest you, or for answers to any questions you may have about Chrysalis.

There is a Boys' Chrysalis weekend for Piqua/Milford Feb 14-16. All special events are one day later than Emmaus. If you would like to provide Agape, plan 62 pieces (team & butterflies) and have it to the church (Milford UM) by Friday (or me prior to that).

Hey, until next time, keep smiling!
God's Grace, Molly L Silveous

DeColores

AWESOME RESPONSIBILITY

The Men's and Women's Registrars need the help of the community and specifically the sponsors of pilgrims, to keep the waiting list organized and up-to-date.

If you, as a sponsor, receive a note that your pilgrim has been invited on Walk, please contact your pilgrim as soon as possible and be sure to return your response card promptly to the registrar. Encourage your pilgrim to also return his or her card as quickly as possible. Be sure you and your pilgrim agree about whether he or she will be attending. You would be surprised how often the sponsor card says the pilgrim will be attending, but the pilgrim's card states they won't be able to attend.

We also quite often receive calls from sponsors wanting to know where their pilgrim is on the list... how soon will he or she be invited on a Walk? This is fine. We encourage the telephone calls, but sometimes we get calls from sponsors who are then surprised that their pilgrim isn't even on the list. They never sent in the application.

Please keep in touch with your pilgrims. Make sure they have sent in their applications. Make sure we are aware of any changes of address or phone. If a pilgrim who is waiting on the list has their spouse attend a Walk (*any* Walk to Emmaus) be sure to let us know so that we can move them up to a "first available walk" status.

Keeping the Women's and Men's Lists organized is quite a task. Please keep in touch with your pilgrim and help us when the invitations are being sent.

When you returned home from your walk, you were excited and wanted to share the experience with the world! "The strength of any Emmaus community is a direct result of that community's recruiting practices. If the Walk to Emmaus is looked upon as a hospital where every human ill can be cured, it will have a weakening effect on the entire community. Emmaus is designed to spiritually renew church members who, in turn, can Christianize their environments." (*Day Four, p.51*) It is wise NOT to return home passing out applications to everyone (*cont. p.3 "Awesome"*)

Pilgrim List - Men's Walk #27

February 19-22, 1998

Pilgrim	City	Sponsor
Dave Armstrong	Wilmington	Jim Armstrong
Ernie Baldridge	Hillsboro	Ellen Alexander
John Beireis	Wilmington	Jim Armstrong
Kevin Benne	Clarksville	Randy Riley
Steve Bradshaw	Midland	Pete & Barb Little
Phil Butler	Wilmington	Jim & Kandy Compton
Rick Clevenger	Wilmington	Phil & Lori Winters
Craig Cook	Sabina	Lori Winters
Jason Cox	Mason	Jenni & Rod Bryant
Terry Davis	Lynchburg	Bonnie Davis
Craig Edgington	Hillsboro	Dorothy Hodson
Roger Epley	Hillsboro	Mark Williams
Sean Fox	Washington CH	Melody Farmer
John Giga	Beavercreek	Randy Riley
Charles Gorman	Peebles	Maurice Mitchell
Chester Hayslip	Hillsboro	Tom & Sherry Rhinehart
Daryl Hibbs	Sardinia	Sharon Hibbs
David Hodson	Cornelius	Bob & Dorothy Hodson
Dale Inwood	Wilmington	Ron Wills
Steve Janosov	Washington CH	Jeff & Phyllis Hodson
Gary Kersey	Wilmington	Butch Peele
Ralph Leeds	Washington CH	Jeff & Phyllis Hodson
Larry Lewis	Xenia	Mike Smith
George Lundberg	Dayton	Harold Stafford
John MacMillian	Hillsboro	Jeanette MacMillian
Oscar McKinney	Washington CH	Scott Baker
Dan Meade	Xenia	Shelly Meade
Ken Miller	Washington CH	Jeff & Phyllis Hodson
John Ogden	Washington CH	Rodney Farmer
George Phillips	Dayton	John Tonkin
Vic Pontious	Washington CH	Jeff & Phyllis Hodson
Doug Savage	Hillsboro	Cathy Savage
Chris Schmidt	Columbus	Tom & Margaret Horst
Thom Snyder	Hillsboro	Bill Newland
Rodney Stewart	Peebles	Robert Tira
Randy Stewart	Xenia	Deena Stewart
Steve Terrell	Morrow	Janel Terrell
Ken Turner	Amelia	Jim Bailey
Mike Wilson	Washington CH	Karen & Toby Wilson
Jesse Winkle	Batavia	George & Linda Cordy
Kenneth Woleab	Leesburg	Aaron Brown
Matthew Zimmerman	Leesburg	Jerry & Lela McWhorter

Men's Walk #27 Live-In Team

Jeff Hodson, LD
 Jeff Curry, ALD
 Mark Crosier, ALD
 Tom Jenkins, ALD
 Bud Marsh, Priesthood of All Believers
 Bill Newland, Growth Through Study
 Mell Wickensimer, Discipleship
 Robert Hodson, Fourth Days
 Ron Countryman, Changing Our World
 Randy Riley, Life In Piety
 Dick Glass, Music Director
 Ron Wilt
 Kevin Zimmerman
 Tom Rankin
 Herb Mihalik
 Jim Frazer
 Jay Molitor
 Jim Blair
 Ron Dowler
 Scott Amen, Logistics
 Chuck Tabor, Spiritual Director
 Ken Colvin, Ass't Spiritual Director

Agape?

Bedtime agape for Pilgrims: 42 items

Bedtime agape for all: 64 items

Table agape: 64 items

Be in prayer for the Pilgrims, as well as all
 of the teams: Live-In, Agape, Sponsors,
 Logistics and Kitchen!

"Awesome" (cont. from p2)

with whom you have a casual acquaintance. (Hopefully) your sponsor was a close friend or family member who recognized in you something special...qualities of a leader who would likely respond to the wooing of the Holy Spirit to be a stronger disciple and to want to grow and move forward in your journey of faith. In seeking prospective Pilgrims, give prayerful attention to these things. Once the application is mailed in, the sponsor's **AWESOME RESPONSIBILITY** just begins. If you don't have a copy of *Day Four-The Pilgrim's Continued Journey*, we suggest you get one. It will supply you with more information to make your Emmaus experience something even more special, whether you've just returned from your walk, or you were on Walk #1! Talk to a board member for help in purchasing one of these wonderful booklets.

Dorothy Hodson, Women's Registrar, Randy Riley, Men's Registrar, John Glaze, Editor

WILMINGTON AREA EMMAUS
c/o Wilmington United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 927
Wilmington, OH 45177

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Calendar - February 1998

Emmaus - Wilmington UMC

Welcome Women of Walk #47!

10 Reunions - meeting at 6:00pm
Women's #40 & Men's #24
Gathering - 7:00 p.m.
(Singing starts at 6:45 p.m.)

19-22 Men's Walk #27

P.S. When attending a Gathering or Closing, remember to bring a snack or finger food to share during fellowship time!



BOOK NOOK

In The Footsteps of Jesus, Bruce Marchiano, © 1997, Harvest House Pub.

Chosen to play the role of Jesus in the film *"The Gospel According to Matthew"* (The Visual Bible; available on home video) as a new Christian, Mr. Marchiano brings to his book a joy and excitement that can best be described in his own words: "Before *Matthew*, I knew Jesus as my Lord and loved Him. But in doing the film--in walking through His life, in speaking His words, in putting my fingers into the eyes of a blind man, and more than anything else, in hanging on a cross--I fell *in love* with Jesus. Oh, who I discovered Him to be! A Man among men--joyous, dynamic, passionate, full of life; a picture of heroism, integrity, and truth--the Son of the Living God in every sense of the title; and His story is not merely 'the greatest story ever told,' but the greatest *LOVE* story ever told." Mr. Marchiano takes the reader behind the scenes, sharing the rewards and challenges of the *Matthew* production. The infectious enthusiasm he brings to his writing is refreshing as he relates the memorable scenes of the movie and how he felt the Lord's presence and leading as the director sought the will of God in the making of this film. Although I would be hard pressed to choose only one chapter as a favorite, I must share part of Chapter Five, titled *Jesus, Man of Joy*. "Yes, Jesus smiled; yes, Jesus laughed. Jesus smiled bigger and laughed heartier than any human being who's ever walked the planet....The joy of Jesus, I discovered, was wrapped up in His living all the fullness of life's ultimate adventure--a bigger-than-lifeness, robustness, victoriousness that comes with living 100 percent in the Father's will 100 percent of the time. Can you imagine the level of joy in your heart if you could live just ten seconds that way? Jesus lived *every breathing* moment that way. It's beyond comprehension! Love unbounded, truth unrestrained, purpose maximized, victory realized, enemy pulverized, humanity eternalized, God glorified--it's just too much to think about." The other chapter that touched me was seven, *"It kills Him, Reg. It Just Kills Him."* This chapter describes the feelings of playing Jesus to those who, knowing the outreached hand that Jesus offered, chose to go their own way. Well, this volume is full of such wisdom seen through the eyes of Bruce who truly walked in the footsteps of Jesus during this filming. Somehow you get to know this man as one who wasn't simply acting the part of Jesus, but is a true believer in all that he did and said in the role. I haven't watched the movie yet, but as a point of information, this project presents the book of Matthew word for word from the NIV translation. Expect to pay about \$80.00 for the 4 VCR tape set. After seeing the many photos in the book, I look forward to seeing the movie! Seek out this book, which has been seen at prices ranging from \$14.95 to \$20.88. It would also make a neat gift of Agape for your pilgrim as he or she returns home. (Editor)