

# Wilmington Area Emmaus Community Newsletter

## HE JUST WANTED A BODY

There was a lot of work to be done that anybody could do. Everybody knew about the work, but nobody stepped out to do it. Then everybody complained that nobody was doing the work that anybody could do.

Finally, somebody started on the work that anybody could have done. Somebody was very excited about doing the work using ideas God had placed on their heart. Again, everybody complained, saying that somebody wasn't doing the work the way it had always been done. Everybody complained to everybody, sharing their opinions. Somebody heard about the comments everybody was making about the work they were doing. The work anybody could do, that nobody wanted. Somebody didn't volunteer because nobody asked them personally. Somebody else wouldn't do the work because they didn't like the one with whom they would have to work.

Christ, who needed the work done, was saddened that everybody was wasting precious time sharing with everybody what somebody had told them. The work everybody needed to be doing, that anybody could do, that nobody wanted, went undone. Precious time was wasted, souls were lost, hearts remained unloved and broken. Nobody cared because everybody wanted it done the way everybody was used to it being done.

Who will do the work that Christ needs done? EVERYBODY? SOMEBODY? ANYBODY? NO-

BODY? Christ just needs a body. The body of Christ working together in unity.

I am looking forward to serving the Lord with you in this new year. My prayer is for God to use us all to further His work. I want to share with you that I believe with all my heart that I cannot serve God or this community unless my personal relationship with God is right with Him. I feel this applies for every one of us. If our relationship with God is not what it should be, there will be grumbling, strife, bitterness, complaints, jealousy, selfishness and trials among us. If there is no spiritual growth in us as individuals, there will be no spiritual growth as a community. Please be praying for me, as I will be praying for you.

God Bless You,  
Diana



## Tabor Talk

*"But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*  
(Philippians 3:13-14)

How quickly 1997 has passed and the New Year is upon us! Have you made any resolutions yet? Did you make any resolutions for the New Year that you have not yet broken? Howard Hendricks once wrote: "In all my travels this has never happened to me, and I hope it never happens to you: Imagine that I board a plane leaving Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport for Chicago. Twenty minutes into our flight the pilot comes on the speaker and says, 'Well, folks, we're leveling off at our cruising altitude of 36,000 feet. By the way, I know this flight is booked for Chicago, but I thought we would just fly around instead and see the countryside. We'll land whenever we're low on fuel. I really can't say where we'll end up. We'll just see what happens.'" Hendricks goes on to say, "Imagine such an announcement! A flight like that not only would be ridiculous--it could be perilous!"

I guess that story is my way of asking, "Where are you going for the coming year? Are you just flying around enjoying the sunshine and the scenery, (continued p.2 "Tabor Talk")

*("Tabor Talk" continued from p.1)*  
 or are you heading for a specific goal?" I am not a great fan of resolutions, but I do find that they give us some sense of direction for the coming year.

In Philippians chapter 3, we find the Apostle Paul giving us, by his own example, some real specific words of wisdom along these lines. He says he is forgetting what lies behind him and straining toward what lies ahead--and that is the heavenly prize of God IN CHRIST JESUS! In other words, Paul was not just roaming through life with nowhere to go. He was living each day of his life as a new day in his journey toward heaven. And each day brought with it a myriad of opportunities to be more and more like Jesus Christ--to think more like Him, to act more like Him, to respond to people and situations more like He would respond, to serve more like He would serve, - in short, to live more like Christ. And if that was his goal, it should also be our goal, shouldn't it?

I once read a story about a student at Amherst College. Soon after entering the school, he put on the door of his dormitory room the letter V. Fellow students wondered what it signified, but he only smiled when questioned as to its meaning and said nothing. When his 4 years of study were over and graduation day came, the announcement was made that he was the top student in the group and had therefore been selected to deliver an address on behalf of the graduating class. Then the mystery of that letter V was made clear. It stood for valedictorian. Throughout his 4 years of study, it represented the high ideal that he had set for himself.

Whether we recognize it or not, most of us have within our hearts some goal for which we too are striving. Some put the letter M on their heart--for their motive is to make money. Others put up F for fame, while almost all put up S which stands for self. It is a good idea to step outside the door of your

heart once in a while and look at the letter you have put there. It may be that when you realize what is is, you will want to change it.

Paul obviously had the letters WWJD on his heart's door, for he said, "For to me to live is Christ." And he was always asking, "What would Jesus do?" What letter(s) will the year 1998 find on the door of *your* heart?

Chuck Tabor

## Notes from the Board Meeting

- ▶ The board welcomed several new members. Please keep these and continuing board members in your prayers.
- ▶ The January board meeting will be a special training session.
- ▶ Many sponsors are sending in applications with only a \$10.00 deposit. Please be sure to send **\$15.00** with ALL applications, even old ones that may still list \$10.00 as the deposit amount. Again, the proper deposit amount to send with your pilgrim's application is **\$15.00**.
- ▶ Larry Stewart attended his final meeting as Spiritual Director for the Community.
- ▶ The Board position of Logistics is still open and available for a willing person. Until such time as a servant is found for this position, the President and Leadership will act as a team to assemble Logistics positions for walks.
- ▶ There are currently about 160 men and 360 women on waiting lists for upcoming walks.
- ▶ The July walk has been designated as a women's walk.

## "Another Year Is Dawning"

Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be,  
 In working or in waiting, another year with Thee,  
 Another year of progress, another year of praise,  
 Another year of proving Thy presence all the days.

Another year of mercies, of faithfulness and grace,  
 Another year of gladness, In the shining of Thy face;

Another year of leaning upon Thy loving breast,  
 Another year of trusting, of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of service, of witness for Thy love,  
 Another year of training for holier work above;  
 Another year is dawning! Dear Father, let it be,  
 On earth, or else in Heaven, another year for Thee.  
 Frances R. Havergal (1874)

A new year generally brings thoughts of a new beginning--leaving something in the past--resolving to make a change, to do better. The words of this old hymn, "Another Year Is Dawning!" seem to embody all of the hope and expectation we experience when the new year comes.

How many correlations with the Walk to Emmaus can you find in the poem? My favorite is:

*"Another year of service,  
 of witness for Thy love."*

The Emmaus community offers so many venues for service. There are jobs for just about any talent. As a movement which is basically laity driven, we all are needed to make the Walk to Emmaus a success. We must all use our talents as much as our time permits. (Remember, home church comes first!) I don't know who should get the credit for this quote, but it should apply to our attitude in our home church and in the Emmaus Community.

*"If it is to be, it is up to me!"*

Our service to others should be one of our witnesses to God's love. The line quoted should not be taken as two separate thoughts: "Another year of service, of witness to God's love." No! (continued p.3 "Another Year")

## *Pilgrim List - Women's Walk #47*

*January 22-25, 1998*

Pilgrim	City	Sponsor
Cathy Andrews	Dublin	Dale & Susie Reno
Sherri Barrett	Leesburg	Linda Brown
Linda Beam	Xenia	Mike Labig
Mary Blade	Washington C.H.	David Morrow
Kris Blosser	Oregonia	Dianne Kronour
Jan Cooper	Grove City	Rod Bryant
Naomi Dolph	Wilmington	Eleanor Baxter
Helen Ellison	Wilmington	Charles Ellison
Janet Epley	Hillsboro	Lisa Williams
Deborah Etienne	Mt. Orab	Jill Shank
Pam Fabin	Greenfield	Teresa Friedman
Donna Ford	Washington C.H.	Doug & Diana Ford
Charity Gehringer	Wilmington	Judy Brumbaugh
Karen Golick	Columbus	Gina Atha
Patti Hagler	Washington C.H.	Doug & Diana Ford
Lisa Haines	Wilmington	Arlafaye Carnahan
Sue Hanna	Wilmington	Pat Marder
Tammy Hicks	Columbus	Gina Dillon
Marsha Hoover	Massillon	Mike & Susan Jenks
Jamye Jennings	Washington C.H.	Dale & Susie Reno
Jane Johnston	Washington C.H.	Kirk Hardman
Connie Jones	Greenfield	Faitha Shelton
Jimette Kenney	Washington C.H.	Wanda Armstrong
Terri Linz	Cincinnati	Susan Halley
Pat Louiso	Batavia	Bryanne Peck
Rosemary Lumbatis	Hillsboro	Wilma Burton
Linda Miller	Waynesville	Myron & Thelma Halley
Mindy Provost	Washington C.H.	Martha Preston
Stephanie Raker	Lebanon	Jeff Raker
Les Lee Rudduck	Wilmington	Tim Rudduck
Faye Savasta	Wilmington	Debbie Hook
Sandy Shoemaker	Hillsboro	Beverly Grover
Ellen Simkin	Wilmington	Jeffrey Johnson
Julie Slocum	Hillsboro	Debbie Kidwell
Kathy Sprowle	Wilmington	John & Karen O'Rourke
Joy Stanforth	Washington C.H.	Bob & Lisa Peterson
Mary Stolsenberg	Washington C.H.	John & Mary Lachat
Janet Treen	Wilmington	Lori Winters
Theda Trick	Wilmington	Mildred Shumaker
Roseenna Vance	Hillsboro	David Stratton
Tina Wagner	South Holland, IL	Linda Miller
Margaret Wilson	Wilmington	Pauline Cameron

### *Women's Walk #47 Live-In Team*

Lois Hall, LD Perseverance  
 Peggy Groff, ALD Priorities  
 Thelma Halley, ALD Life in Piety  
 Dee Tussey, ALD Christian Action  
 Paul Antek, TL Priesthood  
 Raymona Bogardus, TL  
 Janey Cook, TL Discipleship  
 Carolyn Chambers, TL Growth Thru Study  
 Pat Marder, TL Body of Christ  
 Terri Miller, TL Changing Our World  
 Pauline Stewart, TL  
 Jodi Baker, ATL  
 Linda Greathouse, ATL  
 Carol Hixson, ATL  
 Sharon Irons, ATL  
 Nancy Labig, ATL  
 Joyce Lott, ATL  
 Jeannie Pares, ATL  
 Linda Rulon, ATL  
 Ellie Dowler, Logistics  
 Nancy Colvin, Fourth Days & MD  
 Rev. Darrell Holmes, SD  
 Rev. Wayne Clark, ASD

### *Agape?*

Bedtime agape for Pilgrims: 42 items

Bedtime agape for all: 65 items

Table agape: 65 items

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

*("Another Year" cont from p.2)*

This is one thought. The first part is tied up with the second part. And if we truly are witnesses to God's love, must we not serve?

*"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12 (NIV)*

*"Realizing that life is short helps us use the little time we have more wisely and for eternal good." (commentary from Life Application Bible)*

So, look for ways to serve. Ask what you can do to help out. When all else fails, pray for others: those in leadership roles, those who are on live-in teams, pilgrims on upcoming walks, clergy, those who prepare meals, those who clean, and so on and so on! *Editor*

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*Calendar - January 1998*

Emmaus - Wilmington UMC

13 Gathering - 7:00 p.m.  
(Singing starts at 6:45 p.m.)

22-25 Women's Walk #47

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



## BOOK NOOK

**A SHEPHERD LOOKS AT PSALM 23** by W. Phillip Keller c. 1970, Zondervan

You may already be aware of this book, as it has sold over 1.5 million copies since it was first published over 25 years ago. If not, it warrants your time, as Mr. Keller shares what he learned during his own years as a shepherd. As a young man he made his living as a sheep owner and rancher. Now as the lay pastor of a church, he shares the truths of Psalm 23 seen from the eyes of one who has the firsthand experiences with sheep. "Page by page, Keller reveals new facets of the Shepherd of Psalm 23 and his untiring care for his sheep. Here is an uplifting expression of Christ's love for those who trust in Him as their guide, protector, source of provision and faithful keeper." (from dust jacket notes)

I found this entire book fascinating and one that brought me to a new awareness of these familiar words which I, as I am sure most of you, memorized as a child. While the book is only 141 pages, I found myself not wanting to rush through it, but spending time in each chapter, often re-reading to soak it all in. Keller breaks down the phrases of the Psalm and explains what each means in "shepherd talk" (for lack of a better description). For example, in the chapter, "He Restoreth My Soul," Keller reminds us that it is a sheep in the Good Shepherd's care who is speaking in Psalm 23.

"He restoreth my soul?" Surely it would be assumed that anyone in the Good Shepherd's care could never become so distressed in soul as to need restoration. But the fact remains that this does happen. Even David, the author of the Psalm, who was much loved of God, knew what it was to be cast down and dejected. He had tasted defeat in his life and felt the frustration of having fallen under temptation." (page 58)

Keller then relates the facts of a "cast" sheep and the life threatening meaning of this term, comparing this with us and "being restored." Fascinating book! It makes a wonderful gift for a pilgrim on the way home from his or her walk. I was made aware of this book by Gaylord Myers while serving on Walk #23 (note the correlation!) and thank him for sharing.

(Editor)

Do you have a favorite book you'd like to share with the community? Write up a review and send it to the editor.