

Wilmington Area Emmaus Community Newsletter

LET'S PUSH AND LET GOD MOVE

Saying yes to God when I was asked to be the chairman of Emmaus was tough. I have been challenged and, to be honest, at times discouraged. I heard the following story that helped me put things in perspective and would like to share it with you.

"God spoke to a man and said, 'I need you to push on this rock.' The man looked at the rock and replied, 'Lord, I can't move this huge rock.' God continued to speak to his heart telling him to push on the rock. The man pushed and pushed and didn't move the rock. He went to the Lord and again told Him, 'Lord, I can't move this rock, you know I can't.' The Lord spoke again to the man and asked him to continue to push on the rock. The man was ridiculed by many people around him, some he considered friends. He heard comments such as, 'You can't move that rock, you're wasting your time.' When he felt he had taken all he could take, he went once again to the Lord telling Him he couldn't move the rock. God replied, 'I never told you to move the rock, that's my job. I just asked you to push.'"

So many times God needs His children to be His hands, feet, voice, etc., and we tell Him no. We are pretty comfortable where we are. We tell God, "I can't, you have the wrong person."

We need to understand that God sometimes needs us to push so He can

do the moving. He will not ask of us more than that of which we are capable. We need to say yes more often and step out of our comfort zone.

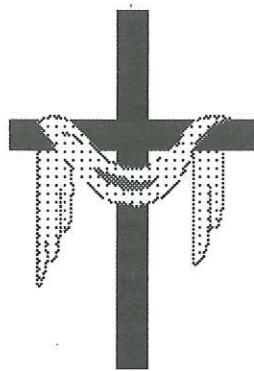
*"I love you, O Lord, my strength.
The Lord is my rock my fortress and
my deliverer; my God is my rock, in
whom I take refuge."
Psalm 18:1-2*

If we are doing what God asks of us, we don't need to worry about what others are saying. God is our rock. Let's focus on Him and draw our strength from Him.

Are you pushing on a rock or doing nothing at all because you know you can't move it?

Let's push and let God move!

Because He's Alive,
Diana Preston



Maurice's Musings

Do you know what I hate about sports? It's all so irreversible! Take a softball team I once played on, as an example. It had a talent of giving up a lot of runs quickly. After getting warmed up an inning or two, we did great, but the scorekeeper wouldn't say, "Wow, that was inspiring! We'll forget about those fourteen runs you gave up in the first inning." Nope, they stayed there.

Or in golf, when a golfer hits a chip shot sideways (it keeps everyone awake), you can't say, "Oops! I hit that one way off course. Do you think I could try again?" Those unreasonable rules dictate that every shot counts!

Sometimes this sporting mind set can affect our view of God. We think that if we have a bad inning, a bad day, or an error in judgment -- if we do something wrong -- we'll lose the whole game. We might as well forfeit, throw in the towel, or just give up.

But God's ways are not like that. Because Jesus Christ died on the cross, God's requirement for our justification has been satisfied. Our sins are completely forgiven. Of course, the consequences of sins -- whether substance or pornography addiction, an out-of-wedlock pregnancy, or even a prison term -- may not disappear. But we can move ahead, knowing that the score is not stacking (cont. on p.2 "Musings")

CHRYSALIS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sept 21st - GUMC, Faith in Flight Hoot, 7pm

Sept 29th - MUMC, Cincinnati Hoot, 7pm

All is going well, it seems, in the Chrysalis world this month...somewhat quiet for a while, as far as flights go.

But the Chrysalis communities are as far from quiet as possible--if you know where to look!

Steering committees for "Faith In Flight" are working hard to prepare the church for weekends, set up storage, receive applications, agape, supplies and praying hard for some real teen leaders to step up and fill some positions. If you can help out, in any way, please call someone today! Kids in our towns and countryside need Jesus--maybe you'll be the hands and feet that give Him to them!

We are also running a list of items we still need for Faith In Flight. Storage, at this point, is still an issue with the church, but not with me. Items can be given or sent to me for storage. If you are planning to donate items or monetary gifts (checks made payable to "Faith In Flight Chrysalis Community") you can call or send them to me. Please enclose a full list of your items so they can be checked off our lists. Thank you so much already for your love, support and care! My address: M.L. Silveous/Faith In Flight Supplies/1212 S Main St/WCH, Oh 43160. PH-740-437-7512.

If your church or community is wondering "What IS Chrysalis?" or have other related questions, a small group of experience Butterflies and adults would love to come and answer some of those questions. Contact Darrell Holmes or me.

Until next time--Love One Another!

Molly L Silveous

FAITH IN FLIGHT Community Needs

- 8' cross
- 2 sets team binders
- manila envelopes
- service card
- 9 candy baskets
- 1 black cloth 60'
- 1 wooden mallet
- ass't construction paper
- clothes pin caterpil
- 1 ice chest
- case poster paper
- bed tags
- 72 mats
- 9 supply boxes
- 1 Bible stand
- 1 lg cream pitcher
- 3 railroad spikes
- 2 brass bells
- 2 5gal coolers
- 25 taper candles
- 1 cereal size bowl
- canvas butterflies
- rainbow colored cords, butterfly crosses & tags
- 9 54 X 108 plastic table coverings in rainbow colors
- 10 lighters
- 2 lg chalice/bread plates and coverings
- paper supplies
- 9 NIV Bibles
- 1 crown of thorns
- 2lb 2 1/2" concrete nails
- 1 white bard table cloth
- 9 indiv pencil sharpener
- 21 taper candle holders
- name tag supplies
- rubber bands
- song books
- 2 walk sets of votive candles & holders
- 9 rolls Scotch tape
- 1 pr sandals
- 2 2lb hammers
- 9 table name holders
- asst personal need items
- 1 pad of newsprint
- decorations for formal dinner of day 2

NOTICE!!
 *WOMEN'S GOOD SHEPHERD, SHANNON STRYKER ANNOUNCES YOU CAN REACH HER AT THIS TEMPORARY NUMBER FROM SEP 1 TO MID-OCT: 937-486-4235.
 *THERE IS A CHRYSALIS HOOT BEING ORGANIZED FOR BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER INTERESTED YOUNG PEOPLE AT WILMINGTON COLLEGE. WATCH THE NEWSLETTER FOR MORE DETAILS!

"Musings" (cont from p.1)
 up against us.

Read again Jesus' words in John 8:1-11, especially verse 11:

"Go, and do not sin again." (RSV)
 Jesus was speaking to the woman caught in adultery. He extended forgiveness, and perhaps even showed a degree of confidence in her, regardless of her past. In the same way, when we accept God's forgiveness, He points us toward the future, not the past. He erases the score and lets us start over again. If only golf and softball could be so forgiving!

De Colores,
 Maurice G Mitchell

PHENOMENAL FOURTH DAYS

by Debbie Geer

We just never know what God will do with us when we open ourselves up to Him. Our life has undergone a lot of changes in these Fourth Days - sometimes we just can't begin to believe what God has wrought.

In January 1994, I attended the Women's Walk to Emmaus #29. At that time, I was a very successful surgeon, proud of all my efforts. We had a huge house, pool, a gorgeous office building, land to build a surgery center, and all kinds of great toys. Our practice was the largest in town, and I really thought people couldn't live without me. Oh, I gave God credit - for blessing MY efforts. He was in no way first in my life, but it really didn't matter because my life was so good.

Well, everyone knows what an Emmaus Walk can do for you. I remember being broken in Dying Communion as the Holy Spirit convicted me to turn my pride over to the Lord. NEVER have I shed such tears. Then Candlelight came--there just are no words. Saturday night, Kathy Reiff lovingly gave me her ear, her heart and her wisdom. She told me God would use me in very special ways when I could give up self and truly become a new creation in Christ. Little did I know what her words meant. That night, I rededicated my life to the Lord, and an amazing process began.

It took the Lord almost two years to work on Skip (my husband). It was a rough time in our marriage. I tried to nag him into finding what I found on the Emmaus Walk. It doesn't work!! However, in September 1995, Skip asked Christ into his heart for the first time on his own Walk to Emmaus. We began to pray together and really focused on the concern of the priorities in our life. They were all mixed up. We were so fixed on materialism that we couldn't even see God. To keep up with our lifestyle, I had to work very long hours and never even saw our kids. We prayed and just assumed that God would find us an answer in Wilmington. Well, His ways are (cont. on back page)

Pilgrim List - Men's Walk #28

September 24-27, 1998

Pilgrim	City	Sponsor
Mike Alden	Wilmington	Jay Molitor
Preston Bartlett	Kettering	Randy Riley
Phil Butler	Wilmington	Jim & Kandy Compton
Matthew Butler	Hillsboro	John & Melissa Gillespie
Gary Campbell	Washington CH	Dan McDaniel
Tim Carr	Wilmington	John O'Rourke
Warren Craig	Washington CH	John & Penne Halliday
Arthur Deakynne	Washington CH	Dick Leslie
Thomas Downey	Sabina	Darren Stricker
Johnny Downey	Miamisburg	Ken Colvin
Tim Ellis	Wilmington	Sue Ellis
Dean Faris	Washington CH	Connie Faris
John Free	Greenfield	Jay Harmount
Philip Funk	New Holland	Dorothy Morton
Les Grooms	Manchester	Nancy Horvath
Tony Gulley	Hillsboro	Doug & Julie Walker
Victor Haines	Wilmington	Lisa Haines
Stan Hannah	New Vienna	Randy & Judy Scott
Danny Harp	Wilmington	Pete & Barb Little
Kirk Keller	Cedarville	Roy & Joan Brandenburg
James Kenbeek	Waynesville	Amy Ryan
Jim Krusling	Lynchburg	Cecilia Krusling
Keith Little	Jamestown	David & Shirley Morrow
Gene Loftin	Blanchester	Madalyn Loftin
Bob Long	Xenia	Wallace Campbell
George Lundberg	Dayton	Mel Wickensimer
Seth Marsh	Lebanon	Cliff Klutts
Bill Meyers	Hillsboro	Bill Bowman
Ronald Molitor	Xenia	David Fisher
Rob Morris	Leesburg	Roy & Joan Brandenburg
David Parry	Hillsboro	Joseph West
Gary Pearson	Greenfield	Larry Hayes
Jon Phillips	Washington CH	Dan Berry
Steve Roe	Wilmington	Paul & Lori Winters
Randy Slocum	Wilmington	Mark Williams
Gary Smaltz	Lynchburg	Tom & Margaret Horst
Charley Snider	Wilmington	Jodi Snider
Greg Stewart	Greenfield	Lisa Stewart
Rich Vinup	Wilmington	Angie Vinup
Larry Walker	Hillsboro	Doug & Julie Walker
Jerry Walker	Blanchester	Judy Jones
Kenneth Woleab	Leesburg	Aaron Brown

Live-In Team

Ed Hiestand - LD - Perseverance
 John Burton - ALD - Growth Thru Study
 Herb Johnson - ALD - Priorities
 Tom Horst - ALD - Changing Our World
 Harry Brumbaugh - LOG
 Cliff Klutts - MD
 John O'Rourke - TL
 Jeff Lockard - TL - Fourth Days
 Jim Runnels - TL - Priesthood of all Believers
 Randy Riley - TL - Body of Christ
 Mike Jenks - TL - Discipleship
 Dale Reno - TL - Christian Action
 Jim Bailey - TL - Life In Piety
 Ray Erickson - ATL
 Jeff Seip - ATL
 Steve Preston - ATL
 Dick Leslie - ATL
 Roger Littleton - ATL/AMD
 Joe Leigh - ATL
 Paul Lumbatis - ATL
 Chuck Tabor - SD
 Darrell Holmes - SD

Clergy Talks

Kim Armentrout, Andy Schulze, Larry Stewart

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!

God has truly blessed my life in so many ways through Emmaus and Chrysalis and I know he has done the same for Mark. To see the beautiful smiles, to feel the warm, genuine, loving hugs, to rejoice in praises and lend a comforting shoulder in tribulation. You all help me grow and be a better person. Mark and I would like to invite you to a very special day when, in front of God, we become man and wife. We want you to share this special time of our lives as you are all very special people in our lives.

Saturday, October 3, 1998 6:30pm

Heritage Memorial Church
Washington CH

Reception follows in Youth Hall
Mark Lotz & Molly Silveous

WILMINGTON AREA EMMAUS
c/o Wilmington United Methodist Church
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Calendar - September 1998

Emmaus - Wilmington UMC

- 8 Reunion: Men's #26 - 6pm
Gathering - 7:00 p.m.
(Singing starts at 6:45 p.m.)
- 12 Copy Deadline for
October Newsletter
- 24-27 Men's Walk #28

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

**PHENOMENAL
FOURTH DAYS**

(cont. from p.2)

not our ways, and the Lord orchestrated everything for us to move to Pennsylvania. Our house was sold to our next door neighbor without a realtor. The hospital bought our office and land at an agreeable price. We found a perfect house in Waynesboro. All this happened within three months. I took a part time job and a huge salary cut, but it was worth every penny. We have the most wonderful life enjoying our family and friends. We now have a wonderful church home, and we have put God first in our lives. I was able to do a short term mission project in El Salvador, and last summer our whole family performed mission work in western Kenya.

Why would God ever want to change anything so perfect? I had been struck with how many patients I see who do not really need a surgeon - or any other medical doctor. They need Jesus in their lives. I also have grave concerns about the condition of the medical profession and what we are truly doing for patients under to constraints of managed care. I had been praying about this -- not very confidently, as I didn't think God would give me an answer about this big a question. Well, one day shortly after Christmas, while kneeling at the altar, God spoke to my heart and told me I would continue to do medicine, but with a whole new focus of healing -- in the realm of hospital chaplaincy. Talk about the floor falling out from under you!! But God never gives you a task without providing the means for you to do it. He has opened up avenues for us to pursue this without moving. I have now started my Masters degree in Theology at Regent University. It is a program where I can do most of the work from home and on the internet with only one week a semester in Virginia Beach at the campus. In September I will start my Clinical Pastoral Education program at Hershey Medical Center. That is normally a one year full time program, but Hershey has a curriculum where one can do the work one day a week for four years. My boss is a wonderful Christian and is supporting me and allowing me to condense my already part time schedule. In four years, I should be prepared to go into full time ministry -- at age 47.

How life changes!! We never know what God will do. I had to opportunity to see Kathy a few weeks ago and tell her about what is happening. Her words were, "I knew it!". Skip and I just continue to praise God for what He is doing and working out. We are learning to just truly "let go and let God". Our kids are a vital part of all that is going on and have themselves become dedicated to the Lord. They are currently completing five weeks with Teen Missions this summer, and we know that God has great things in store for them.

When Greg and Erica were little, one of their favorite songs was "God's Still Working on Me". Well, that's where I am now and I pray that's where I always will be. I just want to be more like Jesus in everything I do, not conforming to this world, but transforming and renewing my mind as I strive to follow Him.

De Colores!!!

Debbie Geer