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Blossoms from Bloom

"The
battle
belongs to
the Lord!"

QUICK MESSAGES

Let's FILL
the
Women's
Walk in
October!
Prayer Vigil
can be
signed
online!

Beloved, It is that time of year again, Autumn. Our world is changing. I can feel myself yielding to a peaceful, quieter spirit, yet one that is anticipating and savoring each moment as the colorful paintings of nature in my Father's world are welcomed visually and the breathtaking splendor of it all is embrace by the heart! :o)

Our lives are so like the seasons. Just when we think God is closing the door on our abilities, He splashes in with colorful change reminding us that He is near, that He is in control, and with breathtaking amazement reveals to us a new plan for our future! A future that is more challenging, one that stretches the limits of our abilities to the discomfort zone...only to take us to places we never thought possible.

I am blessed to work with Christian people. And occasionally on Monday mornings my co-worker and I feast, for a second time, on the sermon from our Sunday church services. On this particular Monday morning it was her turn to share. It had been youth Sunday, at her church, and the kids had led the worship. She could not get over how boldly the children sang in front of the congregation; how they fearlessly held the microphones and confidently raised their voices to the Father with their praise and adoration!

The sermon had been spectacular, too, taken from the

book of I Samuel 17, the story of David and Goliath. One of the youth leaders had recreated a life size Goliath over nine feet tall to show the children the obstacle that David faced. The Israelite people were afraid of Goliath. None of them wanted to fight with the giant Philistine...even Saul the leader of the Israelite people! For 40 days the giant taunted Israel to come fight him and they did not respond.

But David, a shepherd boy, was not afraid and went to Saul, the Israelite leader, and said, "Let no one lose heart on account of the Philistine; your servant will go and fight him." When David looked at Goliath, he did not see a giant, he saw a mortal man defying God. How could David be so bold? Because *David knew* the Lord would deliver him. While protecting his father's flock, God had rescued him from the paw of the lion and the bear and he knew the He would protect him from the Philistine.

We know the rest of the story. David went before Goliath and with five smooth stones with his sling in his hand, and he slew the giant. The Israelite people were victorious over the Philistines that day...because of the faith of one boy...*who believed* when faced with insurmountable odds... the battle belongs to the Lord.

What giants might you be facing today in the Autumn of your life? Has the Lord colorfully brought opportunities before you to seize? Opportunities to grow in Him that seem too big for you to conquer? Remember...*the battle belongs to the Lord.*

Are you struggling with a divisive individual whose relentless taunting seems like it will never end? *Don't let anyone* discourage you with their negative comments or actions...*continue to do what you know is right.* By doing right, you will be pleasing God, **whose opinion matters most!** And remember...*the battle belongs to the Lord.*

Are there people in your life you have nurtured and shared your faith with who have turned their backs on loving Jesus and you don't know what to do? Continue to be the lighthouse of the Lord...remembering...*the battle belongs to the Lord...*and He will make all things beautiful in His time.

Beloved, I don't know if I have said this to you before or not, but it is so true. *Our lives are like the flowers of the field... here today and gone tomorrow!* We must not waste one moment, one breath of our lives! There are battles to be won with the Lord! There are huge battles and there are small. We can do what the Lord wants us to accomplish in our lives because the battle does not belong to us! It is not in our own strength that we so boldly do these things...it is in the strength of the Lord. And, *His strength is perfect!*

Oh, I pray, that the joy I received from my co-worker's sharing of her faith has spilt over into your lives. And may the battles that you face be seen... *through the eyes of David.*

Loving you all so much,

Cindy

WOMEN'S WALK #87
October 27-30
FEAST ON GOD'S WORD!

NAME	HOMETOWN	SPONSOR
Annetta Baker	Washington CH	Rob & Martha Scott
Joy Barton	Blanchester	Jennifer Kiphart
Barb Bates	New Vienna	Mildred "Midge" Rose
Kim Bolden	Washington CH	Nancy Penwell
Louise Butts	Laurelville	Marty James
Victoria Cardenas	Washington CH	Robin Dolphin
Holli Ertel	Greenfield	Matt & Nikki Estep/Roxann Stonerock
Laura Hannah	Hillsboro	Mildred "Midge" Rose
Tracey Harper	Washington CH	Herma Current
Judy Henry	Wilmington	Kevin & Mary Ellis
Kendra Kerns	Clarksville	Calvin & Carla Martin
Nancy Moore	Wilmington	Josh & Ashton Adkins
Marlene Morris	Wilmington	Kevin & Mary Ellis
Pat Palmer	Goshen	Barbara Oehler & Kim Carpenter
Bonnie Reynolds	Lynchburg	Pete & Barb Little
Amy Thirey	New Vienna	Dave & Robyn Hinman
Rhonda Woodgeard	Sabina	Pam & Chet Adkins

Maurice's Musings

Read Psalm 119:103.

Can you think of a certain type of food that makes you go "Mmmmm," when you taste it? Or perhaps there's a favorite dessert that when you take your first bite it makes you close your eyes, puts a smile on your face, and you think to yourself, "That is so good." In our food-obsessed culture all of us have cravings and special foods that make us say "Mmm mmmm!" (I have two favorite foods - hot and cold!)

In C. S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Edmund, one of the children, was tempted by the White Witch's Turkish Delight. He was willing to do almost anything to receive more. And the more he ate the more he craved it.

Just as we need physical

sustenance, we also need spiritual sustenance, which is satisfied only by the Word of God.

The Psalmist in Psalm 119 references to the Word of God in 172 verses out of the 176 (Yes, this is the longest chapter in the Bible). He is completely convinced that the truth of God is what he needs most and what he should love the most. He states this truth and then lives out this truth when he says that God's Word tastes so good to him, even sweeter than honey to his mouth. (In the culture when this was written, honey was one of the most sought after natural sweeteners.)

It was Jesus who confirmed, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." This means that more important than our physical sustenance is our spiritual sustenance, only found in

the Word of God. The person who lives by this truth will also live by the power of God and can be used of God. To deny this truth is to deny the power of God in our lives.

The lesson for us today is to be convinced as you approach God's Word that you are about to say, "Mmmm mmmm!" There is no greater taste than having God's Word in our minds, our hearts, and through our lives. So put down that piece of pie, that donut or that cup of coffee or latte, and pick up that which truly satisfies. Watch the Word of God become your greatest delight. **"My soul is consumed with longing for Your rules at all times"** (Psalm 119:20).

Maurice Mitchell

A Community SD

LIVE-IN TEAM	POSITION	TALK
Robyn Hinman	Lay Director	Perseverance
Kendra Young	Assistant Lay Director	Fourth Day
Chandra Bills	Assistant Lay Director	Grow Through Study
Jennifer Brown	Assistant Lay Director	Priority
Toni Jenkins	Table Leader	Changing Our World
Tiffany Walls	Table Leader	Priesthood of All B.
Georgialia Hannah	Table Leader	Life in Piety
Pam Clayborn	Table Leader	Christian Action
Robin Smalley	Table Leader	Discipleship
Jenny Dobbs	Table Leader	Body of Christ
Ashton Adkins	Assistant Table Leader	
Natalie Barnett	Assistant Table Leader	
Herma Current	Assistant Table Leader	
Mary Ellis	Assistant Table Leader	
Jeanne Garman	Assistant Table Leader	
Lynn Wagner	Assistant Table Leader	
Joy Stanforth	Spiritual Director	
Janette Post	Ass't Spiritual Director	
Cindy Bloom	Music Director	
Nancy Mink	Ass't Music Director	
Barb Little	Board Rep	
Sarah Kelch	Audio Visual	

CHRISTMAS GATHERING

By now we have entered one of the most colorful seasons of the year: Autumn. Children are excited about their outfits for trick-or-treating, families gather for a sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner, while the glittering colors and cheerful strains of Christmas are sneaking into our everyday lives. We are so busy, but there are wonderful holiday traditions we look forward to every year. Our Emmaus Community is no exception, as we enjoy a varied music program each December. John Glaze will accompany the congregation singing familiar carols that will ring throughout the sanctuary, but to complete the evening, we need a variety of other talent from the community. If you sing, play an instrument, enjoy telling a short story, dance, or have another talent to share, please offer to share with our community at the December Gathering on December 13, 2011. There are few rules, but we want a variety to keep the program interesting. First come, first served will be followed, so whomever asks (first) to perform a particular selection will be doing it. Sorry, but there are so many beautiful musical numbers available that we do not need duplications. We will work with you in any way you wish; if you need an accompanist, we will do our best to meet your standards. We are fortunate to have several folks quite knowledgeable with the sound system--please have the accompaniment CD labeled with your name and track number, and tapes should also be cued as well as labeled with your name. We plan to have a printed bulletin, therefore I need to know what you are willing to share with us by November 25, 2011. (Please understand the first come, first served criteria, so contact me early--yes, right now would be fine!) Since we expect to have a one-hour program, there will be no Fourth-Day talk, but the evening will be closed with a short meditation from one of our spiritual directors, and as usual, communion will be celebrated! Of course, we will eat afterwards, "When Emmaus meets, Emmaus eats!"

This program is open to the entire community, and all members are welcome to share their talent whether they be from the Wilmington Community, another Emmaus Community, or a Chrysalis Community. Please consider being a part of the program, whether singing in the congregation or providing your special inspiration for all of us. Feel free to invite your friends, family members, and anyone you would like to introduce to the Emmaus community; everyone is welcome. If you have any questions and/or plan to be a part of the program, contact Jennie Harner at 937-987-2518 or zap an e-mail to harnersewing@yahoo.com.

Jennie Harner, Music Chairperson

Welcome to the men of Walk #53

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP	PHONE
Charles Adkins	965 W Market St	Germantown	45327	937-684-1229
Tony Harper	504 Gibbs Ave	Washington CH	43160	740-333-3309
Jamie Johnson	4864 Gallop Run	Mason	45040	513-616-1513
Robert Kelsey	293 Triple Crown Dr	Lebanon	45036	513-932-6618
David Maines	7875 Keplinger Rd	Hillsboro	45133	513-546-5007
Jack Mitera	303 Whiteoak Dr	Wilmington	45177	937-488-3020
Glenn Ohusky	352 Johnson St Lot #27	Hillsboro	45133	614-403-7050
Earl Roberts	300 N South St Lot #68	New Vienna	45159	937-987-4057
Tony Williams	1100 Northview Dr #12E	Hillsboro	45133	937-402-4913

October!





Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus—WUMC
 PO Box 191
 Wilmington, OH 45177

SEE YOU AT THE GATHERING!
 October 11
 Singing starts at 6:45pm
 Men's Walk #53 Reunion at 6:00 PM
 Women's Walk #85 Reunion at 6:00 PM
 Bring a snack to share after the Gathering



Emmaus Choir
 Did you know that we have started an EMMAUS CHOIR? We meet for 15-20 minutes after the Gatherings to practice and will sing at an occasional Gathering. JOIN US!

**WOMEN'S WALK #85
 ONE YEAR REUNION
 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011 at 6:00 PM**

MUSIC FOR GATHERINGS

MUSIC FOR GATHERINGS

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SPECIAL MUSIC</u>	<u>PIANO</u>	<u>SONG LEADER</u>
OCTOBER	Sandie Wingo	Jennie Harner	Judith Sturgeon
NOVEMBER	Justin Tong	Carl Guenther	Ed Ramey

Planning ahead! Do you have musical talent you would be willing to share with the Emmaus Community? As you can see, the months are filling up. We typically have two music specials at a Gathering and need a song leader and an accompanist. Although "piano" is listed, we can have guitar accompaniment...or any other instrument able to lead group singing.

To volunteer for a monthly Gathering contact JENNIE HARNER at 937-987-2518 or harnersewing@yahoo.com.



Christmas Gathering is coming!

Check out the article on page 3!