

Wilmington Emmaus

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Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

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COMMUNITY CHAIR *from 5 years ago*, RANDY RILEY

It's Saturday, 26 July, 4:00 PM. I Just returned home from another meeting where we continue discussing the situation surrounding the announcement that DHL is pursuing a contract with UPS, a contract that would virtually end their involvement at the Wilmington Air Park.

Today, Lt. Governor, Lee Fisher was addressing the community; looking for information from small businesses and non-profit organizations.

Part of the task force that is dealing with this problem involves Community Outreach and Communications. It has been recognized that while it is vital that we address this problem from all angles, we can never forget to go to God in prayer. So, we

have had one prayer rally and are planning another. We must pray for God's blessing on our community and on all of those who are in a decision making position. We must pray that the decisions being made will help all of those living and working in our community. We must maintain hope.

The Lt. Governor told a true story about hope and survival.

During WWII, Lee Fisher's father-in-law was a prisoner of war in Germany. Like many WWII veterans, he rarely talked about the experience. Some time ago, Lee Fisher's wife was given her father's diary; a journal that he had kept the whole time he was a prisoner. In the diary, he had

written at length about food and recipes. Food was apparently an obsession with many of the men.

But he also wrote at length about the future; not the futures of tomorrow or next week, but he wrote about the future life he and his family would live. He had married just before going to war, but he and his wife had not yet started a family. Yet he placed his hope in their future. He lived for a future of peace and of family. He wrote with confidence about the future. In his journal, he even selected names for all eight of his yet-to-be-born children; names that would eventually be given to all *(continued on page 2)*

*Men's Walk
still needs
Pilgrims!
With whom can
you share
Emmaus?*

Editorial

Let's Get It Started!

What? Huh? Get WHAT started? I'm so confused!

Whether you just completed your Emmaus Walk, or you went three years ago, if you've not grasped the experience and jumped into the community with both feet, you may be missing out on the best part!

There is a reason that you see many folks working in the kitchen or logistics at some point during EVERY walk. Their servants' hearts have

found that those personal relationships that are built when laboring together to serve others is sweet indeed.

What if you're a bit on the shy side? You just are not sure about taking that step of signing up. What if you get there and you don't know ANY of the other workers? What will you talk about? What if they ask you something and you don't know the answer? What if you arrive and you're wearing green

socks and everyone else has on purple socks?

Did you find that last question a bit silly? Well, I can just about guarantee that, very few minutes after you've arrived, you'll find the rest of the questions just as silly. Seriously!

You'll find that there will be someone who knows someone you know and before long you feel like old friends. Get it started! Sign up at the August Gathering!

Join our FACEBOOK page!

Is this your last issue of the Wilmington Emmaus Newsletter? Check your mailing label. To keep the newsletter coming to you, send \$6.00 (which partially covers the cost of the mailing) to the address on the back of this newsletter.

DEVOTION

“Our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.”

Christians of the twentieth century, to Paul, apostle, missionary to the world in every generation: grace be unto you, and peace.

We regret to say we do not deserve your opening remarks to our brothers who lived in Thessalonica. The gospel is received here, and in such numbers that would astonish you. But the Thessalonians received the gospel “not in word only, but in power.” Our problem is that while the word is with us, the power is missing. As a result, we are not “an example to the believers.” You

may have had “no need to speak about it” to the Thessalonians, but we need you to speak. We read your letters over and over, but with results that would disappoint you. The Thessalonians imitated the Lord so well that their lives demonstrated the gospel to the world. It is sometimes said of us that no one can tell a Christian from a non-Christian on a clear day at high noon.

This is our “affliction.” After many years of established Christianity we are being smothered by our own success. (1960)

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Contact Forward Movement at 800-543-1813 or visit www.forwardmovement.org*

COMMUNITY CHAIR

(continued from page 1)

eight of the children he and his wife would raise.

He wrote of the future with confidence. He wrote of the future with hope.....

Much has been written about people surviving dire circumstances. The common thread woven throughout those survival stories is the thread of hope.

Our hope is in the Lord.

Whatever trials we face, we need not face them alone. The Lord is our strength, our hope and our salvation.

God Bless you all.

De Colores,

Randy Riley

TABOR TALK

My bride and I just returned from a summer vacation in New England. Anyone who has ever taken a “vacation” knows that sometimes you find yourselves having to come home to recover from the trip! We visited nine different states (and Canada), drove over 2,600 miles, and did it all in ten days! One of my aunts used to tell me that she thought I was a cab driver in a previous life! I don’t know, but maybe I was an over-the-road truck driver!

One of the most beautiful sites we visited was a place called Acadia National Park. This popular site is the only National Park in the state of Maine, and includes some of the most picturesque coastlines in America. We stayed in the community of Bar Harbor, so named because of the sand bar which “appears” at low tide and provides a land-bridge connection to a small island in the harbor there.

One of the first things we noticed when we arrived in Bar Harbor was the main dock in the harbor where three boats were moored. Each of these boats was advertising a variety of whale-watching tours! Now on previous vacations, we have visited the Inside Passage in Alaska, where we had a phenomenal side trip of whale-watching, but, call it my own naïveté, it never dawned on me that whales would be in this part of the ocean as well. After examining the cost for such a trip, we decided that we would indeed reserve spots on one of the trips during the weekend.

Having already cemented the idea of whale-watching in our minds, we then determined to travel through the National Park. One of the first stops on the perimeter road through the park was a place called Gorham Peak. Now this is a fairly popular spot for tour-

ists, an easy hike to the peak about 500 feet above sea level. From that peak the view is outstanding, and although it is not the highest point of the island, as you look out over the coastline, the panoramic vista is breath-taking!

As we are standing atop Gorham Peak, looking out over the Atlantic Ocean and coastline of this island park, and having just been discussing whale-watching on the ocean, we began watching a curious activity not far a coastal point in the distance.

To the naked eye, and even to the magnified eye, as much as anyone in our party and those around us could determine, it looked like two fairly large whales were cavorting in the waters just off that point. I began to immediately click picture after picture, expecting to see those distinctive tail flukes of the humpback *(continued on page 3)*

TABOR TALK *(continued from page 2)*

whales in the very next moment.

These whales seemed to be fairly intent on staying that same area though, and we were surprised at their lack of movement in the ocean currents. We even watched with curiosity as one sea-going motorcraft headed toward the whales there just off the point. This craft cruised on by the cavorting whales with relative indifference to them, but giving them a wide berth.

We knew that our journey the rest of the day would take us closer to this spot in the ocean, but we also figured that the whales would be long gone by the time we arrived at the point overlooking their activity. We descended the peak, got into our vehicle and moved toward that point. There just happened to be a parking lot close by the point, as it indeed in its own right is a very scenic spot on the perimeter route. But from the parking lot to the point is a blind walk. As we rounded the point, it became obvious that what we thought were whales were nothing but rocks!

What is true in “whale” watching is also true in life. Oftentimes we see things, and make serious observations about what we have seen, and then draw conclusions based upon those observations, only to discover that our conclusions were wrong because our observations were erroneous. Standing on that peak, I would have sworn that there were at least two whales out there in the ocean not far from the coast line.

But how often do we do the same thing in life? We draw conclusions about what is happening based upon what we observe. But then the closer we get to the situation, we discover that our observations were mistaken. This is true in relationships, in news

events, and even in sports. In fact, in sports, that is one reason why the “instant replay” rules are changing and becoming more prominent.

But it is also true in the spiritual realm. I believe that oftentimes we make observations about God and His workings in our lives or the lives of others and then draw conclusions based upon those observations. For example, how many times have you heard of people rejecting God or asking questions like “God, don’t you care that I’m dying here?”, when we are awash in a sea of debt or depression or sickness or whatever?

While we were standing on that peak, looking out over the ocean, we could have continued to look down upon those “whales”, walked away, and never doubted that we saw two whales cavorting in the ocean foam that day. But our continued persistence to observe more closely brought us to the truth.

So too when you and I find ourselves doubting God, His power, His faithfulness, and His love for you and me, we need to continue to persist in observing His works – up close and more personal than perhaps we have ever done so. And who knows? We might actually come upon a whale! (We did – on the whale-watching boat!)

God bless...

Chuck Tabor



Please join in praying for Bob Brown, Lay Director for the September Men's Walk. Pray for willing servants to answer the calls to be on the team, Pray for pilgrims to say "Yes" when invited to be on the walk.

PRAYER LIST

Prayer was requested for these people at our July Gathering. Please join us in intercession for return to health, overcoming adversities of life, recovery from loss.

Hazel Becraft
Dave & Dinah Bond
John Carnes
Tyler Carnes
Daniel Carter
Joshua Carter

Rachel Carter
Sally Chappell
David & Melissa
Britny Elam
Scott Elam
Matthew Gery
Marianne Gilbert
Charlene Hamann
Darius Henthorn
Jeff
Kairos #29
Teresa Kellis

Zach King
Garry Kirk
Aaron Martin
Elizabeth Myers
Jeff Randolph
Duane Rice
Sara
Brittany Shoemaker
Bill Snowball (son of Bill)
Kathy Snowball
Pastor Dillon Staas
Iris Wilkinson

Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus

Wilmington United Methodist Church
PO Box 191
Wilmington, OH 45177

We're on the web:
www.wilmingtonemmaus.org

See you at the GATHERING:
August 12
Singing starts at
6:45pm
Wear your nametag!
Bring a snack to share!
LADIES #92
WALK REUNION
6PM

Share Groups!

During several of the talks, you heard about the importance of a Share Group and that we need to maintain a Christ-Centered fellowship with other Christians. Through Share Groups we can help support others and ourselves and provide mutual support, encouragement and accountability in a life of grace.

If you need help in finding a Share group, your sponsor can be a source and is expected to give you advice and support. Another option is to start a new Share Group with other Emmaus community members in your area. Sometimes, if some of the individuals seated at your table on the walk live close-by, you'll find a wonderful starting place for a new share group.

The community has Good Shepherd positions for men and women. They are available to assist you in finding a Share Group in your community. Feel free to contact these people for assistance in locating a Share Group. You can find the name and phone number, as well as email address for each of the Good Shepherds on the Emmaus website: www.wilmingtonemmaus.org.

Just remember that you can start a share group with friends—they need not have been on an Emmaus walk. You'll find you have more to talk about if they HAVE been on a walk, but invite folks who enjoy being together and love the Lord! You'll also find that if you stay true to the Share Group Service Card, your group will stick with the program. You may even find some pilgrims for an upcoming walk!

Be A Winner!

The **WINNER** is always part of the answer.
The loser is always part of the problem.

The **WINNER** always has a program.
The loser always has an excuse.

The **WINNER** says, "Let me do it for you."
The loser says, "That is not my job."

The **WINNER** sees an answer for every problem.
The loser sees a problem for every answer.

The **WINNER** sees a green near every sand trap.
The loser sees a sand trap near every green.

The **WINNER** says it may be difficult but it is possible.
The loser says it may be possible but it is too difficult.

-Author Unknown