

Wilmington Emmaus

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It's not too early to sign up a pilgrim for Men's Walk #59! (In case you were wondering.....)

Quintessential Quigley!

Wow! Month two down. Boy is this year moving along! Last month we had a lot of big sporting events take place—among them, the Olympics and the Daytona 500. How many of you had the opportunity to watch either of these sporting events? At each of these events, the announcers picks a few of the participants and does a background on them. They take a look at where they are from and what they have had to endure to get to where they are now. They look at the training and at what age they may have started training at. Some of these athletes start at a very young age; some that I saw started at ages 3 to 5. Their parents start taking them to practices and this continues through the years. As things progress they start-

ing setting their hopes and dreams on winning the race in their prospective field. Olympians are going for the medals, Nascar drivers going for the trophies. Each of these individuals train non-stop to reach their goals, their dedication to their prospective sport is an awesome sight to see.

As I sit and watch these events I can't help to think if all of us Christians worked as hard as these athletes on doing the work of Christ what would our world look like. Hebrews 12:1 (NIV) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses (our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ), let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the

race marked out for us. We all need to train and practice daily. Train ourselves with the word of God, practice by doing Christ's will to the people he brings into our paths each day. We may not be competing in the Olympics or driving at Daytona, but we are competing in the game of life. We do not have the luxury of retiring when we get to old to compete. Our race is ongoing until God calls us home or he comes back. 2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV) I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. We are not going for medals or trophy's we are going for the crown. 1 Corinthians 9:25 (NIV) everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, **BUT WE (US CHRISTIANS) DO IT TO GET A CROWN THAT WILL LAST FOREVER.**

God has given each of us different talents or gifts to use for his glory. So let's figure out what our talents or gifts are and improve them so we are prepared for what we face each and every day.

De Colores,

Quig

MUSIC IN OUR WORSHIP

The 21st Century, and, indeed, the last quarter of the 20th Century, brought ever quickening changes not only to our world, but also to our worship. Where we once only sang time-tested and tried hymns, we now find a myriad of musical styles. Whether good or bad is strictly a matter of taste, assuming, of course, that

lyrics are sound and based on the truths of God's word. However, when we look for comfort when tragedy, death or other sadness visit us, the majority of folks look to the older, traditional hymns to find that comfort. Words from this style of music give us solid, beautiful and usually Biblically-based (continued on page 2)

MUSIC (continued from page 1)

poetry to comfort and center us.

Unlike most other music found in your life, music used for worship must be judged on soundness of message as well as melodic and harmonic accuracy and interest. Just as we must combine our faith with our works, worship music must have both a sound lyric as well as musical interest, and, it must be singable!

The movement toward casting aside the “old hymns” in favor of praise choruses is, in this writer’s opinion, a mistake. There is a place, and necessity, for both. I challenge you to look at some of your

favorite old hymns with new eyes. Open a hymn book and, without singing the melody, nor even hearing the melody in your mind, read the message of the hymn. Read it aloud and immerse yourself in the message and the meaning contained therein. There is much “meat” to be found in those old songs.

A friend who moved to Arkansas, after finding their new church home there, reported back to me that their music leader referred to many of the newer “praise songs” as “seven-elevens” (7-11s), named after the convenience stores which used to be so

prevalent in our land. He said that you take the same seven phrases and sing them eleven times each and you have your song. While that certainly is true of many of the praise songs, there truly are some new ones being composed which meet the requirements of the marrying of sound lyric with sound music.

So, just as with the books you read, as the “GROW THROUGH STUDY” talk states, “Don’t just read any book, read the best.”, we must also not just sing any music, but sing the best! Sound lyrics combined with sound music!

Editor

THE GOOD SHEPHERD WINDOW

Ask almost any pilgrim on any weekend Walk to Emmaus held at the Wilmington United Methodist Church about one of the most significant element of their weekend there, and they will refer you to the chapel times there, where they were encouraged to sit and prayerfully observe the Good Shepherd stained glass window above the chancel. For me, this window, although it plays a small part in the effectiveness of the overall weekend, is such a magnificent portrayal of the role that Jesus the Good Shepherd wants to have in our lives. He is the Pro-

vider and the Protector of our lives. This window very accurately portrays the words of the psalmist when he says, “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want...” Night or day, this window does its job effectively. But that message is aided in large part at night by the outside lights which backlight the window and beautifully illuminates the features of this magnificent stained glass portrait.

On the most recent men’s walk weekend, this window played no less of a role, but observing its features were made more difficult at night by

Thoughts from Chuck Tabor

the high winds that penetrated the area on Thursday night. These winds knocked out the light, leaving behind a pile of broken glass and PVC pipes. Some very innovative and creative Emmaus servants were able to quickly rig together an alternative lighting system which made seeing those features of the window possible.

Now, there are all sorts of spiritual applications of this problem – that we need the Light of the world to light our way, that no one can see even the Good Shepherd without (continued on page 4)

PRAYER LIST

Prayer was requested for these people at our January Gathering:

Dave & Dinah Bond
The Family of Kathy Bright
The Butcher Family
George & Marilyn Fenner
Family/Friends of Dr. Patrick Gentile
Kent Hamann & Family
Lorine Harner

Roger Maines
T J McClellan
Delpha Mitchell
Paula Mitchell
Scottie Moore
Cliff P.
Family of Nancy Puckett
Sharon’s daughters
Pastor Dillon Staas

Chester Wheeler

At the Gathering, folks present names of friends and family in need of prayer. We pray for them at the Gathering and then, during communion, others are invited to take one of the cards and pray over the next month for the individual whose name appears on the card.

WELCOME THESE MEN FROM WALK #58

Doug Baker		Hillsboro	OH	45133	
Jim Bluck		Clarksburg	OH	43115	
Chris Branson		Wilmington	OH	45177	
Jimmy Carnes		Hillsboro	OH	45133	
Jim Cottie		Waynesville	OH	45068	
Kennie Engle		Jamestown	OH	45335	
Matt Gray		Wilmington	OH	45177	
Anthony Hannah		Highland	OH	45132	
Ken Houghtaling		Wilmington	OH	45177	
Ray Lewis		Mt Orab	OH	45154	
David Macauley		Jamestown	OH	45335	
Bob Macleod		Lynchburg	OH	45142	
Tony Mason		Wilmington	OH	45177	
Danny Merritt		Washington CH	OH	43160	
Paul Shivers		Wilmington	OH	45177	
Gene Stinson		Wilmington	OH	45177	
Joe Strunk		Mt Orab	OH	45154	
Coy Tite		Greenfield	OH	45123	
Rollin Tomlin		Wilmington	OH	45177	
Greg Turner		Hillsboro	OH	45133	
Bob Wilkin		Wilmington	OH	45177	

DAVE'S DISPENSES

Several times recently I've heard folks talking about Easter this year, saying "It is going to be really late." I found the statement interesting.

Easter Sunday can range anywhere from March 22 to April 25, and, since the annual celebration of Jesus' resurrection is on April 20 this year, it is relatively "late". But I found myself considering the timing of God, both while He ministered in the flesh as Jesus and thereafter, in the lives of those people representing His Son, i.e. you and me.

Is God ever late? Seriously, have we ever wondered if our Father God is so overwhelmed with responsibilities that we can't really expect timeliness? I think we do. I know of people who refuse to pray for their own needs because "God has too many other more important things to take care of." It's like our praying about personal concerns may interrupt an emergency meeting of the Holy Trinity to resolve other, more urgent

issues. You know, with all the atrocities occurring around the globe, God couldn't really care about my stuff, could He? Yes, God does care. He cares deeply about everything on our plate. He is not overwhelmed, and is never late. Granted, He is more patient than we are, and operates in a broader landscape than we do (after all, He lives in eternity ... *and we don't!*), but Father's timing is always PERFECT!

To illustrate this, let's consider when Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. As written in John 11 (you may want to read this – it is awesome), Lazarus' sister, Martha, though respectful, questioned the timeliness of Jesus' arrival. Verse 21 says: "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Martha and Mary had previously sent notice to Jesus that Lazarus was ill. They expected Jesus to make a beeline to their home to cure him NOW, but instead, He

"NEVER LATE"

arrived days later to find a dead corpse in grave clothes. It surely seemed that Jesus was late.

May I ask you a question? Does anybody think that Jesus could have performed what may be His most renowned miracle in raising Lazarus from the dead if Lazarus hadn't yet died? Martha wanted Lazarus cured before he died, but Jesus knew there was more glory in healing him afterwards instead. When considering Martha's request and Jesus' answer, I don't think there is any doubt about whose game plan was God's will: Jesus was perfectly in step with the will of God and so His timing was, as well. He is always on time.

Yes, Easter is going to be late this year ... but Jesus never is. Amen?

Dave Hinman

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:
March 11
Singing starts at
6:45pm
Wear your nametag!
Bring a snack to share!

MEN'S WALK 58 REUNION
6:00pm

GOOD SHEPHERD *(continued from page 2)*

the light of the Lord's Spirit being present in his/her heart and drawing him/her to the Savior, and so on, but for just a moment, allow me to digress to the point of the window in the first place.

In Luke 15, and again in John 10, Jesus relates to the realm of the shepherd. In Luke 15, He talks about the Good Shepherd who leaves the ninety-nine sheep and goes out to search for the one lost sheep in his care. In John 10, he refers to the fact that the Good Shepherd knows each one of His sheep and provides for them and protects them from the wolves and other predators who would seek to come into the fold and steal them away, kill and destroy them. In both of these accounts, Jesus' efforts here seem to point out that the Good Shepherd knows his sheep. He knows each of them by name and seeks to take care of their individual needs.

In Palestine today, it is still possible to witness a scene that Jesus almost certainly saw two thousand years ago, that of Bedouin shepherds bringing their flocks home from the various pastures they have grazed during the day. Now today,

you do not see these shepherds in the long flowing robes of their first century counterparts. More often than not, they are simply clad in tee shirts and jeans. But these modern-day shepherds take their flocks to the same watering hole around dusk, so that they get all mixed up together—eight or nine small flocks turning into a convention of thirsty sheep. Their shepherds do not worry about the mix-up, however. When it is time to go home, each one issues his or her own distinctive call—a special trill or whistle, or a particular tune on a particular reed pipe, and that shepherd's sheep withdraw from the crowd to follow their shepherd home. They know to whom they belong; they know their shepherd's voice, and it is the only one they will follow.

The Good Shepherd window is a reminder of this loyalty the sheep have for their Shepherd. But it is also a tremendous reflection of the great love the Good Shepherd has for the sheep.

So, whenever you find yourself discouraged or depressed, think about the truth of the matter: that Jesus IS the Good Shepherd, and the Good Shepherd loved you enough to lay down His life for you!

