

A Light Shining

News from the Ashland Area Emmaus Community

April 2010

April Gathering
Friday
April 16 at
6:30 PM

The celebration begins at 6:30 with a potluck dinner in the Fellowship Hall, worship at 7:30 in the Sanctuary, followed by dessert back in the Fellowship Hall.

Child care is provided.

Women's Walk

April 22-25
Women's walk #31

Thursday, 6:30
Send Off

Saturday, 8:00pm
*Community gathers for
Candlelight*

Sunday, 4:15pm
Closing

Afterglow

Tuesday, April 27,
7:00pm
For all new Community members, sponsors, team members and board members. See you there!

A Note from our Community Lay Director

I stood there saved—surprised to be loved!

Psalm 18:19 The Message

Dear Emmaus Friends,

Has God ever taken you by surprise? Has he ever blessed you so completely that you just stood there saved - surprised to be loved?

That is such a neat phrase, and I stumbled on it completely by accident while scrolling down a Facebook page. That discovery has convinced me that I need to reread Psalms from the Message. Revisiting God's word is always a good thing. Whenever I read the bible I find something new. Not because I don't read it as often as I should, but because we always find what we need when we go to God's word with a searching heart. Perhaps that is why the impact of the Emmaus Walk is so strong, because we come with a searching heart and God reaches out to us with the answers we need.

I was so excited to be a part of the many events of the Men's Walk in March. I think it is safe to say that many of those pilgrims were standing before us at closing Sunday evening saved—surprised by the extent of God's marvelous love poured out so generously by the community.

I was especially blessed that every time I walked through the doors, there were new and different faces serving behind the scenes. Perhaps as CLD I should have been shocked and ashamed that I didn't know the name of every one of God's Emmaus servants. That wasn't how I felt! I felt absolutely overjoyed that new faces are appearing in the kitchen and the agape room and at the candlelight service. We must constantly grow to be a vital community. I am pretty sure God was grinning too, when he watched how you loved these pilgrims on His behalf.

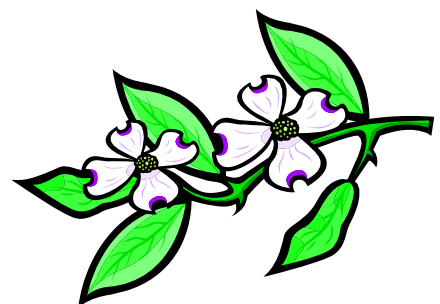
In a little more than a week we will have the opportunity to do it all over again! If the pilgrims from Men's Walk #26 are there full force, as they have declared their intentions, I will have several more names and faces to learn. I hope to see all of my Emmaus friends for send off, or candlelight, or closing or dish washing, or toilet cleaning or errand running.

Let's surprise them with His love!

Standing saved and surprised,

Janie Moore

Community Lay Director



Send Off

We are in need of volunteers to bring food for the Women's Send Off Supper including sandwiches, soup, veggie tray, brownies, cookies, cupcakes, and salads such as potato salad, jello salad and pasta salad. The items need to be at church on Thursday April 22nd by 6:15pm

A sign up sheet will be available at the next gathering; however, if you cannot make the gathering please contact Sue Yancy and let her know how you can help.

Fiesta!



Do you have an idea to add to our options for entertainment during the Fiesta Dinner? Are you willing to be involved? Contact Sue Yancy:

sue-yancy@live.com

home: 740-532-6936 ♦ cell: 304-751-7076

Women's Walk #31 – April 22-25 Conference Room Team

Lay Director – Angie Smart

Lay Director in Training – Nobelita Crace

Assistant Lay Directors – Jacquie Loschert,
Kim Matthews, Nicole Franklin

Table Leaders – Lori Hale, Cindy Barker,
Trish Shaffer, Ramona McCollister,
Sue Yancy, Anita Estep

Assistant Table Leaders – Kristy Adkins,
Cindy Jackson, Amy Chapman, Daniele
Kibbey, Cindy Morrow, Melinda Strawn

Prayer Chapel – Mary Ann Galloway,
Janet Hogg

Media – Anita Fitzpatrick, Donna Barber

Music – Bev Moore, Martha Rice, Stella Shattles

Board Representative – Teddy Cole

Spiritual Director – Tami Coleman

Assistant Spiritual Directors: Jim Coleman,
Pete Shaffer, Charles Mallory, Terry
Washburn

Welcome –
New Community
Members
Men's Walk #26

Fred Bledsoe
Hulse Budd
Chris Dickess
Michael Dickess
Bret Evanich
Michael Franklin
Greg Hager
Ron Henry
Clark Hughes
Michael Kibbey
Vern Mullins
Brian Poling
Phillip Staton
Steve Shaffer
Justin Strawn
Josh Yates
Dave Vogelsong

How was the Men's Walk?

God is good. All the time. I have been asked many times since the weekend of March 18th, "How was the Walk?" The ear to ear grin probably answers the question without words, but I do answer - out loud - words like wonderful, blessed, beautiful, stupendous and magical. If I had to sum it up in a single, all-time word, it would have to be "PERFECT." All good gifts around us come from heaven above. The process by which we get a Team together is accomplished by humans, so it therefore carries a certain amount of flaw. For Walk 26 it carried a tremendous amount of human baggage because it was my task to coordinate this Team assembly. The problem was - I tried to do it all myself. Once I came to myself and let go > and yes, let God, the Team began its journey down a PERFECT path. By the time Thursday evening arrived the community and the Pilgrims saw the PERFECT person for the PERFECT job. At the Team meetings we would incorporate the Team Canon, understanding that the weekend was to be about the Pilgrims. We never lost sight of that but as anyone who has ever been on a team will tell you there is as much gained by what the Pilgrims give as what we provide to them. They signed up and showed up; what a PERFECT beginning. They opened their hearts and minds and received the PERFECT love of our Lord. They bonded as Tables and they bonded as a Walk, and they have been changed, PERFECTly. I extend to everyone that had a hand in that Walk a million thanks you's. Without you we go nowhere. Yeah, I'd say it was, well, PERFECT. All the time, God is good.

Steve Matthews, Lay Director, Men's Walk #26

Prayer Concerns and Praise

	Offered By	Person (s)	Issue
Concern	Jacquie Loschert	Chris & Jessica Youngman	Baby born on 3/16 at 28 weeks; 1 pound, 7 ounces
Concern	Gary Edgel	Alex Nelson	7-year-old burn victim from Harman, WV
Concern	Billie Evanich	Karen Fortner	Critically ill and in hospice care
Concern	Debbie Davis	Ruth Bowles	Debbie's aunt; critically ill
Concern	Dan Hieronimus	Mary Ellen Smith	Dan's step-sister, who is very ill in Florida
Praise	Steve Berry	Bob Berry	Bob is doing much better. He is home after heart problems.
Concern	Fred Herr	Ken Massie	Lymphoma
Concern	Sandy Ott	Dana Vanover	Motorcycle accident on March 31
Concern		Rita Cunningham	Stage 4 lung cancer
Concern	Dan Hieronimus	Melinda Strawn's father	On ventilator in ICU in Florida
Concern	Trish Shaffer	Grover Skeens	One of the four miners who were not immediately found. He was a member of the Kanawha Valley Emmaus Community.
Concern	JM Emmaus Friends	Drew Powers	Toddler fighting cancer
Concern	Fred Herr	Mary Ann Culbertson	In constant pain from degenerative spine issue
Concern	Deb Davis	Doug Reed	Injured in Afghanistan



After the Men's Walk, the AAEC received a special agape letter, all the way from New Zealand. The note says:

Dear Pilgrims;

May the grace and peace of Jesus be yours this weekend and in the days to come.

*De Colores,
Tom March
L.O.V.E. Community
Men's Walk #14
Table of Nehemiah*

The LOVE Community is in Ohio, but Tom is in New Zealand, and he sent his prayers from across the world.

Note: Image above is of the stamps on the letter.

AGAPE WAYS TO SERVE FOR THE EMMAUS WALKS

Any amount of time you can give from 1 hour to the entire weekend is a blessing, and you will be blessed.

1. Sign up for the Prayer Vigil on line at www.3dayol.org.
2. Help set up before the walk begins, either in the Conference Room or for Send Off.
3. Sign up to help in the Agape room on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.
4. Bring your Agape Gifts for the pilgrims -- please bring 55 pieces.
5. Volunteer to help set up tables for meals. Table arrangements change for each meal – come learn how.
6. If you just love to clean, and keep things tidy, you can serve on the church side agape. This starts on Thursday, setting up the rooms, putting bed tags and room lists up, putting pillow agape out, putting out agape on tables.
7. Write Agape letters to the Pilgrims and team members.
8. Donate food for agape. Homemade items are great. Ideas include: fruit tray with dip, meat and cheese snack tray, veggie tray and dip, nuts, cheese ball and crackers, chips and salsa, 2-liter Pop (any kind), bottled water, hard candy, and chocolate candy, cookies, brownies, fudge, breads. Please remember some of our pilgrims are diabetics.
9. Serve meals on Friday, Saturday or Sunday (or all three!).
10. Volunteer on any evening after the pilgrims leave the conference room to prepare the room for the next day and on Sunday before Closing to help clean up the conference room and putting things back as they were before the walk.

We are always looking for new community members to help. If you feel called to serve come to the Gathering on April 16th and sign up on the sheets provided or contact Steve Berry (Cell phone: 606-831-3998 or bsahandyman@roadrunner.com (Agape Chair) or Melanie Herr -- me_herr@msn.com).

Candle Donations

In honor of **Andrew's Brothers Prayer Group** by Steve Matthews
In honor of **Bessie Baker** by Sue Roberts
In honor of **Anita Bellew** by Sue Roberts
In honor of **Chris Bellew** by Sue Roberts
In honor of **Gabby Brock** by Dan and Janet Hieronimus
In memory of **Doug Clark** by Jacquie Loschert
In memory of **Faye Clevenger** by Kim Matthews
In memory of **Oscar Cole** by Teddy Cole
In honor of **Aimee Cover** by Sue Roberts
In memory of **Wanda Fairchild** by Donita Cook (her mother)
In memory of **Frances Falcamato** by Antonia Wilkes
In honor of **Paula Ferguson** by Jeff Ferguson (8 candles)
In memory of **Paula Ferguson** by Jacquie Loschert
In memory of **Colleen (Jo Jo) Hackett** by Chris and Rick Wensits
In memory of **Marcia Harding** by Emily Strawn
In memory of **Marcia Harding** by Jacquie Loschert
In memory of **Marcia Harding** by Jenny Johnson
In memory of **Marcia Harding** by the Pastor's Corner Reunion Group
In honor of **Betty Hieronimus** by Dan and Janet Hieronimus
In honor of **Bill Hieronimus** by Dan and Janet Hieronimus
In honor of **Linda Howard** by Kay Gunter (2 candles)
In honor of **Kay Jarrell** by Sue Roberts
In memory of **Don Jenkins** by Jacquie Loschert
In memory of **Don Jenkins** by the AAEC (20 candles)
In honor of **Canaan Kibbey** by Dan and Janet Hieronimus
In honor of **MaKenna Kibbey** by Dan and Janet Hieronimus
In honor of **David and Julie Prokop Lambert** by Sue Lambert
In honor of **Jacquie Loschert** by Randy Loschert (8 candles)
In honor of **Steve Matthews** by Kim Matthews
In memory of **Judy Matthews** by Steve and Kim Matthews
In memory of **Cecelia Mayes** by Chris and Rick Wensits
In memory of **Hubert Mayes** by Chris and Rick Wensits
In honor of **AAEC Men's Walk #26 Team** by Steve Matthews
In honor of **Janie Moore** by Sue Roberts
In honor of **Ellen Motley** by Kay Gevedon (Kay's daughter)
In memory of **Cindy Moye** by Teddy Cole
In memory of **Sue Niestroy-Wilson** by Jenny Johnson
In honor of **Cara Prokop** by Sue Lambert
In honor of **Paulette Prokop** by Sue Lambert
In memory of **Jim Ray** by Fred and Melanie Herr (2 candles)
In memory of **Jim Ray** by Steve and Kim Matthews
In honor of **Martha Rice** by Kay Gevedon (Kay's sponsor)
In memory of **Lori Sanders** by Jenny Johnson
In honor of **Song of Grace Reunion Group** by Kim Matthews
In honor of **Jeff and Mary Taylor** by Steve and Kim Matthews
In honor of **Three Chicks plus Two** by Kay Gevedon (Reunion group)
In memory of **Edward Wensits** by Chris and Rick Wensits
In memory of **Fran Williams** by Fred and Melanie Herr (2 candles)
In honor of **Jimmy Winters** by Dan and Janet Hieronimus
In honor of **Sarah Winters** by Dan and Janet Hieronimus
Candle Donation made by Charles Cook

(as of March 18, 2010)



New Candles –
an Opportunity
for Grace

*Let your light
shine!*

For safety reasons – to avoid the dangers associated with a real flame – the Emmaus Board has decided to purchase battery operated candles to use in upcoming Candlelight Services. Candles similar to these are being used in our neighboring Chrysalis Community.

The white column candles with a flickering flame cost approximately \$5 each (including battery purchase). The Board is inviting Community members to purchase candles in honor or memory of someone else.

Please consider “letting your light shine” by making a donation in support of this effort. A few ideas:

- Purchase a candle in memory of a loved one – a former Community member – a family member.
- Sponsor the purchase of a candle in honor of the Table Leader or Lay Director of your walk. Sponsor a candle in honor of your sponsor.
- Honor a loved one with the purchase of a candle.
- Does your reunion group help you to let your light shine? Honor them with the purchase of new candles.

To donate funds to support the purchase of our new candles, fill out a form at the next gathering.