

A Light Shining

News from the Ashland Area Emmaus Community

January 2010

A Note from our Community Lay Director

Dear Community,

January is a time for new beginnings. Journals, calendars and day planners are pulled from their wrappings and fresh new pages are thumbed through and examined. We have the potential to fill these pages with so many things. We have the potential to make 2010 an amazing year in our lives, at home, at work, at church, and in this Emmaus Community.

Yesterday I began to enter important dates in my brand new planner. I started off by entering dates for Emmaus events. I have only filled in the first quarter of the year so far, but it made me aware of just how soon our Spring walks will be here. **Men's Walk #26 will be March 18 – 21, with Women's Walk #31 a month later, April 22 – 25.**

I hope you will join me in writing those dates in your calendar and in praying for these walks. Pray for our Lay Directors, Steve Matthews and Angie Smart. Pray for the teams as they begin meetings to form the spirit filled groups that will lead our walks. Pray for the pilgrims, especially those God is calling you to sponsor. Pray for the community to give the essential background support that each walk requires. Pray about the role you will play in the upcoming walks.

Two important events which are even closer are the Southern Ohio Chrysalis Flights. The Girl's Flight will be January 15 – 18. The Boy's Flight will follow from February 12 -15. There are available slots in both prayer vigils. Just go to the Southern Ohio Chrysalis link from our web page.

As you write these dates in your brand new calendar, consider adding our monthly gatherings. Reserve the third Friday of each month as a time of renewal for you. I look forward to seeing you!

DeColores!
Janie Moore
Community Lay Director



Gathering
Friday
January 15 at
6:30 PM

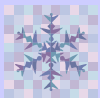
**Child care
is provided.**

**The celebration
begins at 6:30 with
a potluck dinner,
worship at 7:30
followed by dessert.**



Snow Policy

**If Ashland
Independent school
district closes
schools for the day,
then the Gathering
is cancelled.**



Spring Walk Dates

**March 18-21
Men's walk # 26**

***Note the earlier than
usual date!***

**April 22-25
Women's walk #31**

**Fourth Day Speaker
for January Gathering
*Dana Krofcheck***



November Financial Report

Beginning Balance: \$2,450.47

Income: \$1,038.00

Expenses: \$736.91

Ending Balance: \$2,751.56

Your generosity, along with registration fees from pilgrims, helped to fund the publication and mailing of the November newsletter, babysitting for community events, walk expenses and Emmaus pilgrim registration.

Thank you.



Testimony of Grace

My Reunion Group is one of, if the not single, most important group of friends and brothers in my life. We hold each other up through our trials, struggles and failures in all aspects of our lives and celebrate together the victories. This group has been together for a significant time and the level of trust present is a tremendous blessing. Yes, it takes time to develop trust but it only came through each being committed to the group. I look upon each of these men as treasured brothers and with full confidence would place my life in any of their hands knowing they would suffer harm to themselves before they would see me hurt. What a blessing. I need the grounding and centering of my Walk with Jesus that this group provides and the way it helps focus my daily Walk as I continue to try to live life as a Disciple of Christ. Like all of us, I often fail. But I know each Saturday morning that we can honestly talk about where we have failed without condemnation or judgment, share where each of us experienced oneness with Jesus with joy and share together the concerns each of us have in our life knowing that those listening truly care.

DeColores!

Tony Anders,

AAEC MW 13, Table of Joseph

If you would like to start a reunion group or would like help finding one, please contact the Good Shepherd Committee.

Be a clown, Be a Clown....

Are you interested in learning how to clown around? Would you like to share your gifts on a walk through the clown skit?

Clowning workshops will be held by Steve Berry on the following dates. Contact Steve for more information

Saturday, January 9th

Saturday, January 23rd

Saturday, January 30th

All workshops begin at 10:00am and last until noon.





Prayer Concerns and Praise

	Offered By	Person (s)	Issue
Concern	Rick Lemons	Adena McClure Harvey	Prayers request for Adena, who is Rick's oldest daughter, and her family.
Concern	Adkins family	Adkins family	Please bathe them in prayer during some trying times.
Joy	Richard Salmon	Deborah	Deborah is completely healed.
Joy	Steve and Pam Berry	Grandchild #10	Leana Ann Dunnill was born on December 2 nd , 5 th child in family.
Concern	Sherry McWatters Boyce	Dallas Corser	Surgery for bone cancer.
Concern	JM Emmaus Friends	Judith Lucas Wilburn	Tragic death of her cousin
Concern	JM Emmaus Friends	Drew Powers and family	Drew, who is 4, is battling neuroblastoma. He had had a clear scan, but the tumors have returned.
Concern	Dreama Pritt	Don Neal and family	Don has cancer.



Thank you to the Community

Our community received the following Christmas note from the Food Pantry:

Dear Ashland Area Emmaus Community:

Thank you for your support of the food pantries. We are currently helping over 190 families each month.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy, safe holiday season.

*Linda Firebaugh
Director*

Need a walk application? You can find them online at www.ashlandemmaus.com. Once you and your pilgrim have completed the application, mail it to the address on the form or bring it to the next Gathering.

Send your prayer requests to aaec@windstream.net

Have an email or snail mail address change? Don't forget to let the community know by sending the change to aaec@windstream.net

Ready to go electronic? To stop the delivery of your hardcopy of the newsletter and join the email list, let Kim know at <mailto:mom4gj@yahoo.com>. Help us to be good stewards of the Emmaus funds (and save some trees!





Emmaus New Year Resolutions

Looking for an Emmaus Resolution? Try one of these so that your walk with Christ will be strengthened and others may see the light of Christ shining through your life:

- Attend Emmaus Gatherings and bring friends.
- Invite others to go on Emmaus walks. Sponsor them.
- Provide agape (remember how meaningful it was on your walk?).
- Participate in the Prayer Vigils (there is power in prayer).
- Serve where your gifts are most useful and needed – in the kitchen, in the dining room, with the agape team, in the conference room – wherever God leads.
- Join a Reunion group and submit yourself to its accountability while growing through the agape provided by fellowship.
- Read your Emmaus Newsletter faithfully (OK, maybe that one is self-serving!).



Agape Ideas

1. Magnifying glass: "See everything clearly with Christ" or "Let your faith be magnified." Or "If they dusted your Bible for fingerprints, would they find any fresh ones? Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105."
2. Small bars of soap: "God can make all things clean."
3. Dinosaur eggs (the little capsules that hatch a dinosaur when soaked in hot water) or small plastic figures: Even when God was dealing with these guys, He was thinking of You! Card should include hatching directions if you use the capsules.
4. Emergency rain ponchos: "When life gives you rain, God gives you rainbows!"
5. Safety pin with brightly colored beads on it: "God will help you hold it all together."
6. Yo-yos: "God will be there though all your ups and downs."
7. Rock. Write "Jesus is the rock" and draw a cross on the rock.
8. Duct tape and nail. Put a small piece of duct tape on a card. Then put a nail through the card as if you were pinning something to it. On card write: "Men fix everything with duct tape. God used his son."
9. Penny hot glued to a card. "Jesus just makes 'cents'"
10. Runt's candies in a small bag. "The fruits of the spirit are."

Like these? You can find more on the internet at this address: <http://www.niemmaus.com/agape/>

I missed last December so:
Happy (2010) Birthday wishes to:

Daniele H. Kibbey (Dec. 13)
 Jim Howard (Dec. 16)
 Janet Hieronimus (Dec. 21)

and, "Above All"

Jesus, the Christ (Dec. 25)

In His honor, let's celebrate and share Christ every day, in every way, with those **He loves!**

OH! AND BY THE WAY ~

Happy Anniversary Janet!

(Dec. 30)

Start or join a

Reunion Group NOW!

Dan Hieronimus, fbiC, AAEMW17,
 Table: Sun of Righteousness