



From the Community Lay Director

Within the past week two rather joyful events occurred in our family.

The first was that my daughter and son-in-law had a bid accepted to purchase their first house. Very exciting to say the least! The second was that on New Year's Eve my niece and her husband welcomed their first child into the world. Uber exciting!



Within the past week two rather scary events occurred in our family. The first was that my daughter and son-in-law had a bid accepted to purchase their first house. The second was on New Year's Eve when my niece and her husband welcomed their first child into the world.

Now I don't mean to imply that something bad has happened here. What I'm saying is that there are some mixed feelings here. Sure it is a wonderful thing to purchase a new house. But the process can be a bit intimidating. The wait now begins to see if some little detail gets in the way of the joy – house inspection, some snag in the paper work, and on and on. A time of anxiety and worry.

And what isn't anxious or worrisome about being first time parents? How do I hold this squirming thing? How do we know when he's hungry? What if he cries too much? What if he cries too little? When do we get some sleep?

I'm sure we have all experienced at one time or another these same feelings for a single event. That's kind of how I feel right on the brink of a new year and of being the new Community Lay Director (CLD) for

Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus.

I am excited to be working with the Board of Directors (old and new) and to carry out the duties spelled out in the manual. Last year was a time of change for our community; namely, we went to one set of walks per year and we held our walks at Mt. Chestnut Nazarene Center. Chub did a superb job in leading the Board to these and other decisions. I am going to depend on his guidance in the following year.

Now the worrisome part. One of the reasons we went to one set of walks per year is community involvement. This has been a troubling trend in recent times. There have been challenges in getting pilgrims, getting team members, filling out the prayer vigils, finding enough Fourth Day help, having the community attend gatherings, and having people serve on the Board of Directors. We still need to fill a clergy position. Basically, if it involved the community it was a problem. I don't know if it's apathy, a change in priorities, or what. What I do know is that this is affecting the vitality of our community.

And it could affect our future as a community. As of now we have no Assistant Community Lay Director (ACL D) to serve in 2018. This person of course becomes the CLD in 2019. Many people have been asked and just as many turned it down. Now usually on the Board if a vacancy occurs, the members step up and cover the position until a replacement is found. The problem is that with no ACLD this year there will be no CLD next year. And if my reading is accurate, without a CLD, Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus will cease to exist. See what I mean by worrisome? Maybe you are a bit worried too.

But, Jesus tells us in Matthew 7 that we should not worry. We need to "seek first His kingdom and His righteousness"—turn to God for help, fill our thoughts with God's desires and to serve and obey God in everything. Jesus wants us to replace worry with concern. Worry immobilizes, but concern should move us to action.

So I pray that as this year begins, and my time as CLD commences, our concerns will move us to action both as a board and as a community. Please join me and the Board of Directors in changing our mindset to return new vitality and growth to Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus.

God's Peace to you all
Ron Hujik

A NOTE FROM THE REGISTRAR

Baby it's COLD outside but the next set of Walks will be here before you know it. It's never too early to send in a pilgrim application!

We've already got some folks registered for the Spring Walks. Please begin praying for. **Walk # 103-Allen Hoke; Walk # 104-Michelle Hoke, Karin Nass, Elaine George, Kylene Frye,**



A Reminder from the
Community

Thelma Hassler.

For a [pilgrim application](#) (please use updated ones) and/or [sponsor information](#) please go to our trwe.org website.

Despite the snow and frigid temps, my mailbox is open for God's business!

Remember how God has richly blessed YOU? Now YOU can pass it on and be a blessing to others!!

DeColores,
Judy Grice TRWE #40,
Sharon Gallagher #72



**Make a friend.
Be a friend.
Bring a friend
to Christ.**

Reunion/Follow-up Coordinator

It is important to spend time with others that share the love of God and God's grace. The Bible tells us this in many passages.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT) says, "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."

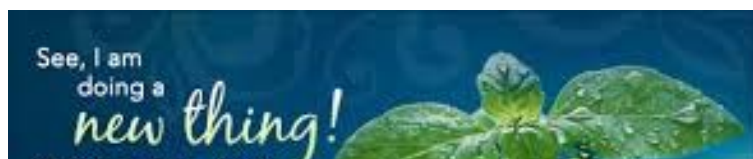
To find reunion groups near you, visit our website at trwe.org and then the type of group you are interested in: Men Reunion Groups; Women Reunion Groups; or Mixed Reunion Groups. If you don't see one close to you, consider starting your own group!

If you need more information, send me an email at Reunion@trwe.org. Your Emmaus family is looking forward to seeing you there.

Gary Kanouff
Community Group Reunion/Follow-up Coordinator
TRWE #98

A NEW THING

January brings lots of new things. New resolutions...a new



chance for the someone to win another Super Bowl...and, new TRWE Board members.

As we begin this new year, we say goodbye and a GREAT BIG "Thank you" to Lill Griffith, Lois Dille, Bob Dove, and Janet McKibbon. These four

individuals have served tirelessly for the last three years (four in the case of Lill) on the Board, and their input, time, prayers, efforts, and support have been a huge reason for the many successes that our community has experienced. They have been a HUGE blessing to the community and to me personally. Please join me in thanking them for their service.

And so, with the departure of Lill, Lois, Bob, and Janet, we have the opportunity to welcome the newest members of the Board: Karen Edwards, Ron Saccol, Pam Walter, and Gary Kanouff. I am so looking forward to working with these wonderful individuals. Please join me in welcoming them and encouraging them in their new roles.

God Bless!
Chub Dietz



NEW OPPORTUNITIES

For many years, leaders in the Emmaus Communities, including TRWE, had the opportunity to be trained at "Leadership Development Events". These training events were held in several geographical regions and leaders, or potential leaders, were invited to attend this day-long training event. TRWE has been a host for these events in the past.

Starting in 2018, the Emmaus Organization will be implementing a new structure and approach to educating leaders in the Walk to Emmaus program. In place of regional Leadership Development Events, each community, for example TRWE, will be asked to identify a "Community Trainer". This Community Trainer will receive training and guidance from staff at Nashville, as well as online training, to give them the tools and confidence to conduct more local training of Board members, Team Leaders, potential leaders, and anyone else who has a passion and desire to learn more about the Emmaus programs and goals.

As more information is known on how you can participate in these leadership development opportunities, we will pass it on to you. For now, I have something for you to pray about.... Have you been active in the TRWE Community for a considerable period of time? Have you served on the TRWE Board or have you been a Lay Director or Spiritual Director on a Walk to Emmaus? Do you have a passion for wanting to further develop individuals in the values and goals of the Walk to Emmaus? Do you have a desire to help share these values and goals with others in order to further Christ's mission through the Emmaus programs? If so, then I'd ask you to pray about whether God is perhaps calling you to play a more active role in training others.

You don't need to know "everything"; you just need to be willing to step up and answer that call. Think about it and pray about. If you want to discuss this more, please contact Chub Dietz at chub.dietz1@comcast.net or Ron Hujik at rkhuji@aol.com.

To learn more about these changes, click on this link to watch a 10-minute YouTube video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NAUJysO6s_0&feature=youtu.be

One More Hug

The monthly Emmaus gatherings were canceled due to bad weather. So I decided to do something constructive with my time other than digging into the snacks I was going to bring.

I decided to spend the evening reading my Christmas cards one last time before passing the pretty pictures off to a church ministry that recycles them and uses them for craft projects.

I read every card and every Christmas letter once more, treasuring the memories of those who sent them to me and treasuring their friendship. I closed my eyes and gave them one more hug.

I have Christmas decorations and ornaments that were given to us from family and friends. Each of them bring memories of Christmases past and present. It was time for them all to go back to where they belong, back in the red bin with the Christmas green lid.

* Isn't it funny that when you think your sweeper has gotten the last of the glitter from those beautiful cards, you see something twinkling on the floor.

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.
Philippians 1:3

Pam Walter
TRWE #42
Table of Rachel



From Our Community Spiritual Director

Dear Emmaus friends:

I hope this finds you well and warm. The past two weeks have been an adventure of sorts. Frozen pipes at my daughter's house and my home occupancy went from one to four humans and four dogs!!?@#. Not to mention snow. Freezing rain. Frozen cars. School delays and closings. And then came THE FLU!! Day 9.

In the midst of this chaos a song occupies my thoughts. "Strength will rise when we wait upon the Lord...". So true, for this will pass.

But God is our strong deliverer. Our strength is in the Lord, Creator of heaven and earth.

Regardless of circumstances or situations, God reigns. Keep our eyes on the prize, not our

problems. Don't blame, pass the buck or whine. That wastes precious prayer time. Instead, "seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near..." and God will answer. God is faithful.

Thanks for eavesdropping.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Merle Timko
Community Spiritual Director

TREASURER'S REPORT

Happy New Year!

As my term comes to a close on the TRWE Community Board, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Community for the privilege of serving on the board for the past three years and learning more about the Emmaus community.

My last two years I served as treasurer and was responsible to keeping track of all income that was received through donations, gathering collections, Walk fees etc, and all disbursements that were paid out. I want to give a BIG THANK YOU to Chub Dietz for making my job very easy due to all the forms and financial spreadsheets he provided, as well guidance along the way.

TRWE Community received a large donation in 2017 for which we are very thankful. Also, I am happy to report that through the generosity of the Community at the two Candlelight services during the Walks and the contribution from the Board, TRWE Community donated \$1,137.00 to "The Gift", a program through Emmaus that helps other communities to start up.

As I finish my duties as treasurer, here is a Treasurer's Report for the Year of 2017:

| 2017 BEGINNING BALANCES | Scholarship Funds | General Fund | Total |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | \$ 2,620.56 | \$ 6,973.10 | \$ 9,593.66 |
| REVENUE | | | |
| Gathering Collections | \$ 792.62 | \$ 2,736.44 | \$ 3,529.06 |
| Spring Walk Registrations (2018) | | \$ 75.00 | \$ 75.00 |
| Fall Walk Registrations (2017) | | \$ 15,350.00 | \$ 15,350.00 |
| Walk Donations for Pilgrims/Team | | \$ 415.00 | \$ 415.00 |
| Scholarship Donations | \$ 691.00 | | \$ 691.00 |
| Book Sales | | \$ 20.00 | \$ 20.00 |
| Other (large donation + other) _____ | | \$ 4,015.04 | \$ 4,015.04 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$ 1,483.62 | \$ 22,611.48 | \$ 24,095.10 |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Newsletter (including internet) | | | |
| Spring Walk Expenses | | \$ 600.00 | \$ 600.00 |
| Fall Walk Expenses | \$ 975.00 | \$ 14,306.14 | \$ 15,281.14 |
| General Walk Expenses | | \$ 1,185.15 | \$ 1,185.15 |
| Manuals & Literature | | \$ 163.41 | \$ 163.41 |
| Office Supplies | | \$ 177.01 | \$ 177.01 |
| E-Day Picnic | | \$ 159.98 | \$ 159.98 |
| CCLU(Music License) | | \$ 276.00 | \$ 276.00 |
| Insurance, Legal, Filing Fees | | \$ 1,117.50 | \$ 1,117.50 |
| Pilgrim Fees | | \$ 442.00 | \$ 442.00 |
| Fund Raising | | \$ 207.00 | \$ 207.00 |
| Miscellaneous("The Gift") _____ | | \$ 1,137.00 | \$ 1,137.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$ 975.00 | \$ 19,897.39 | \$ 20,872.39 |
| ENDING BALANCES | \$ 3,129.18 | \$ 9,687.19 | \$ 12,816.37 |

Best Wishes to TRWE Community and Board in their endeavor to continue with the Walk to Emmaus weekend for future Pilgrims to experience such a God filled weekend. I look forward to helping TRWE Community in any capacity the Lord has for me to do.

Lois Dille

Christmas Traditions

It is wonderful to be able to celebrate Christmas. Every family has its own traditions that signify this special season as one to celebrate with joy and exuberance. One of those traditions is going to a Christmas Eve service.

My husband and I were able to go to our own church service this year. The program was, "Lessons & Carols". It was a wonderful service that wove scripture and music together.

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first celebrated at King's College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve, 1918. The lessons and music



move from the season of Advent into Christmas Day.

It can be performed as a big production with accomplished musicians and gospel choirs or it can be a simple program that is led by the minister with music provided by the church organist.

Such was the case at our little country church by the side of the road. The evening began with prayer and scripture and ended with candles lit and the traditional song that unites us all, "Silent Night, Holy Night."

It is interesting to me that a Christmas program was able to connect the first words printed in the Old Testament to what happened in the New Testament. And it did it in less than an hour. I learned something new from an old lesson.

"Sleep in heavenly peace",

Pam Walter
TRWE #42,
Table of Rachel

Thought for the Day

"It is not a mistake that music has been in the church forever and ever. The church knew about the spiritual appeal of being in music; the wanting to feel the magnificence of that which created us, out of which we emerged."

James Taylor
Folk Song Singer,

Writer



IMPORTANT DATES

FALL WALKS @ Mt Chestnut Nazarene Center

Men's Walk #103, May 10-13, 2018

Women's Walk #104, May 17-20, 2018

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

February 9, 2018 @ 7pm

North - Leesburg Presbyterian

East - TBA

South - Meadowlands UMC

TRWE

Ron Hujik
Community Lay Director
4972 Mayfair Rd. North Canton, OH
44720
(330) 896-0481 
CLD@trwe.org

Merle Timko
Community Spiritual Director
CSD@trwe.org

Judy Grice
Registrar
1105 Vista Valley Rd
Washington, Pa. 15301
724-225-7806 
registrar@trwe.org



Ed Saxman
Newsletter Editor
3936 State Route 417
Cooperstown, Pa. 16317
814-676-0959 
communications@trwe.org



Copyright © 2017 T.R.W.E., All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
communications@trwe.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

Please visit our website at TRWE.ORG

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus · 1605 Shadow Ridge Ct · Pittsburgh, PA 15237 · USA



