

Three Rivers Walk To Emmaus

August 2004

IMPORTANT DATES

FALL 2004 WALKS

Men's Nov. 4-7
Candlelight Nov. 6
Women's Nov. 18-21
Candlelight Nov 20

GATHERINGS

September 10, 2004
October 8, 2004
November TBA
December 10, 2004

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FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR:

The summertime days of lemonade, picnics and resting in the shade are passing by for another season. A nip in the morning air is upon us with kids returning to school. The colors of fall will soon follow.

In our Christian education cycle, summertime provides a break just like the school year. In spring, I am always anxious for my winter-long classes to end, but by the end of summer I am ready for classes to resume. As short as the summer is, I experience a little drifting without the connections and pressure to study I get from being part of a class. I know it's best to make a new commitment to Christian study each fall. As Jesus speaks about in John chapter 15, I stay a little more connected to the vine.

Please join me in seeking out some form of Christian study this fall. Find a group to connect with and learn from each other as God's word is studied.

Interestingly, right after I finished writing this article, my daughter came home from her breakfast bible meeting where they talked about the importance of daily bible reading—challenging her not to be lax in her connection to God. They then read Psalm 1.

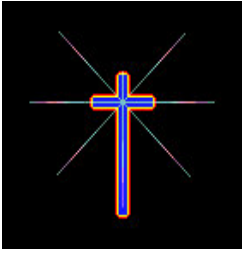
Psalm 1:

Oh the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
Or stand around with sinners,
Or join in with scoffers.
But they delight in doing everything the Lord wants,
Day and night they think about his law
They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season
without fail.
Their leaves never wither,
And in all they do, they prosper.
But this is not true of the wicked.
They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind.
They will be condemned at the time of judgment.
Sinners will have no place among the godly.
For the Lord watches over the path of the godly,
But the path of the wicked leads to destruction.

Rolen Burnette TRWE 27 Table of Abraham

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FROM YOUR COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR



I pray all of you have had a great summer. I have been very busy with church stuff as usual. VBS was the last week of July and that is always interesting.

In an email I received was this quote **“To the world you may be only one person, but to one person you may be the world.”** As I have reflected on this statement my mind returns time and time again to one little fellow who attended VBS and the effect he had on the adults. Anthony is a special needs child who loves shiny watches and his new twin baby brothers.

Through his attendance at Bible School I have seen the truth of this quote. The adults at Bible School came to realize that they make a difference in the life of a little child, even ones like Anthony. The love of Christ spans all levels of understanding from the oldest to the youngest, from the brightest to the disabled.

Why bring this up? Easy. When we offer someone the opportunity to take the Walk to Emmaus we make a difference in that person’s life forever. I have seen the difference TRWE has made in the lives of many people and I rejoice in the love of God that flows through everyone who sets priorities that focus on God’s desire for our lives.

Please take time to pray about who might need the experience of TRWE to jump-start their Spiritual lives and invite them to take a Walk to Emmaus this fall. I know I am.

DeColores, Barb Moore, TRWE # 8 Community Spiritual Director

Creative Communication



Creative Communication is the divine enablement to communicate God’s truth using artistic skills such as drama, writing, art, music, etc.

*Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet
Praise him with the harp and lyre
Praise him with tambourine and dancing
Praise him with the strings and flutes
Praise him with the clash of cymbals
Praise him with resounding cymbals
Let everything that has breath Praise the Lord
Psalm 150: 3-5*



The TRWE Community is looking to update the Creative Communication database. Specifically, if you have been given the gifts in music, either by voice or instrument, or technical skills, either with a presentation application (like PowerPoint) or set-up, we would like to know.



Please let your gifts be known - and perhaps your calling will be an opportunity to glorify God on a future walk or gathering.

For inclusion in the database, send your name and your gift (singing, playing piano, PowerPoint, etc) to gabrooks@yahoo.com.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ. I hope that your summer has been very enjoyable. It is now time for us to start thinking about the fall walks. I know that Kay Rahuba and Bill Korbel have been very busy getting everything ready. It's time that we prayerfully consider where we are being called to help. Whether it's signing the prayer vigil, baking, or cleaning bathrooms, I pray that God will speak to your heart to let you know how you can best serve Him. Remember that you can sign the prayer vigil by going to our web site at <http://www.trwe.org>. To volunteer for any of the other jobs, please contact me at dj.turnbull@integrity.com or come to Gathering. I will have sign up sheets there. Thank you and may God richly bless your efforts.

Your brother in Christ, John Turnbull Fourth Day Coordinator TRWE 21



WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF SERVING?

A big thank you goes to all who attended the Family Picnic and E-Day on July 17 and especially to those who shared their knowledge. We had a great time in spite of the rainy weather, enjoyed each other's fellowship, a really good meal, and His divine guidance. We appreciate the willingness of Ingomar United Methodist Church to share their

wonderful facilities at Camp Davis. It is a very special place and we thank them.

?? Tabitha Burkhart won the "How Many Are In The Bag" guessing contest. There were 501 pieces of gum in the bag. Congratulations Tabitha! Bonnie Wiegand Ass't. Lay Director TRWE 34

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Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus received memorial contributions in memory of Sara Griffith, mother of Dave Griffith.

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DeColores

Fourth Day Corner



It has been almost two years since I made my walk and as I think back on it, I recall the first (of many) moments on that walk that really struck me. It was on Friday afternoon, after the Justifying Grace talk, when the prayer vigils and agape letters from other communities were shown. I remember that every time I left the conference room there were more letters in the lobby, and every time I came back into the conference there were more letters on the wall. I was astounded at the love and community offered through the body of Christ that was available from people I didn't know, all around the world. Even just thinking about it now amazes me! For me, it started a transition from isolation into community, a transition that continues in my Fourth Day. Through the Walk, Teams, Gathering, and Reunion Groups, I find myself in constant community with other Christians. When I travel on business, I find myself searching for that community that I know is out there. I am surprised at how easy it is to find, whether it is meeting others reading the Bible on planes, seeing a WWJD bracelet in a meeting, or even a big colorful rooster on someone's briefcase at the breakfast buffet in a San Antonio hotel. I've come to realize that the only reason I never noticed it before was that I wasn't looking; I wasn't even aware it was there. You can't see much in the dark. My walk made me aware of the body of Christ, and my Fourth Day has kept me connected to it through Emmaus activities. But there are still those times when I feel myself trying to revert back to my old ways of isolation. This is when I think of all the friends I have met through the TRWE community and the fellowship and faith that we share and I realize I desperately need the community of faith. Without it I would still be stumbling around in the dark.

DeColores - Jeff Clark, TRWE #43, Table of Luke.



Did you ever think that your problems weren't big enough to "trouble" God with? When it came to prayer requests, I didn't have any - My husband, family and I were all healthy. God had blessed us with lots of friends, good jobs and a nice home. I only had prayers of thanksgiving to offer. There were people out there with "real" problems, I always thought, those who were sick, unemployed or in need. I would have been selfish to ask for God's time and love when he had already done so much for me.

But then what could I do about all of this "stress"? I was overwhelmed by work and my responsibilities at home. How could I handle all of this and still try to be a good wife and make time for my family and friends? And the Walk to Emmaus, how could I take off work during my "busy season" and still meet those deadlines? What if I lost my job? If there was only someone that I could turn to, someone to help me through my days.

And then I went on the Walk to Emmaus. And what I learned and experienced through the love that I felt that weekend was that there was someone that I could turn to. He had been there all along. God had been with me every day and he was just waiting for me to reach out to him. And it didn't matter if my problems were "big" or "small. When I turned to God, there was a sense of peace and love and I knew that I didn't have to go through another day alone. My fourth days have been filled with joy and that "stress", well, it went away. And if it ever does come back, I know whom I'm going to turn to.

DeColores! Jenny Stoecklein TRWE #50 Table of Anna.



CAPE OF GOOD HOPE WALKS

This fall we will again have the opportunity to support Cape of Good Hope Emmaus Walks with prayer. This community is our sister community. How amazing it has been to share with our brothers and sisters in South Africa a connection that can only be made through prayer to our Heavenly Father. Their (spring) weekends are Men #43, September 23-26 and Women #44 September 30-October 3. Sign up sheets for half hour times will be available at Gathering September 10th or you can contact me directly at (412)672-8453 (new) or sbmould@hotmail.com Below are excerpts from Ruth Leverton's e-mails. She expresses so well the joy of the connection we share.

Blessings!

Pat Mould 1118 Portsmouth Drive McKeesport, PA 15133 (new address, phone number, and email address)

4/16/04

THANK YOU more than words can say for all you do to circulate the names of team and pilgrim so that the prayers of your people are more personal.

The Prayer Vigil for Walk #40 arrived safely and I've passed it on to the men who are presently traveling the Emmaus Road (in very cold, rainy conditions - the first signs of our winter setting in!) I've grown accustomed to sending and receiving the vigils every six months - but I still get choked up when I see the names in each time slot and realize that there are people thousands of miles away who are faithfully holding us up in prayer. What an amazing, humbling, rewarding gift. Please convey our very special thanks and deepest appreciation to the Three Rivers Community. God is so-o-o-o good and he uses the simplest yet most meaningful ways to show his overwhelming love for us. I know that these Walks will be blessed beyond measure and our brothers and sisters of Three Rivers are a very real part of that blessing.

God bless you richly,

Ruth

4/26/04

Walks #40 and #41 have been completed - and from all accounts both were richly blessed. I was able to attend Closing yesterday afternoon and the atmosphere was one of great celebration, touched with an awesome, overwhelming new awareness of God's love and grace. One pilgrim in particular spoke of the blessing of knowing that, even while they were sleeping, folk over the seas were praying for them. That was a special moment for me, having been a very small cog in the wheel, which brought those prayers to them.

DID YOU KNOW???

- That you can take a Spiritual Gifts Test on our website?
- That you can get an application for a prospective pilgrim on our website?
- That you can view this newsletter on our website?
- That you can sign up for the Prayer Vigil on our Website?

Visit www.trwe.org to see what's new!



If you have a prayer concern that you would like lifted in prayer, please send your request to **Rpratt2707@aol.com** (Note email change)

STEPS TO TAKE TO BE A GOOD SPONSOR

1. Pray about and for the potential candidate.
2. Talk with the candidate.
3. Help the candidate fill out both pages of the application (which can be found at www.trwe.org).
4. Mail the application and the \$25 deposit to
Peg Nicholas, Registrar 108 Dover Drive, Moon, PA 15108.
5. Get at least twelve letters for the pilgrim's Sunday packet.
6. Check with family to see if you can be of any help while the Pilgrim is away.
7. Bring the Pilgrim to camp on Thursday, check him/her in and help to set up the bed.
8. Go to Sponsor's Hour on Thursday.
9. Attend Candlelight.
10. Attend Closing.
11. Take your new Community Member home.

Note: A place for your pilgrim will not be held unless the Registrar has all of the paperwork and the deposit.

*We live and work in the present,
Expecting God's victory in the future,
Secure in knowing the end—
Whenever it comes—is in God's hands.*

Dear Friends,

DeColores!! I miss you all soooooo much!

I wanted to thank you for all your prayers for Angela, Tim and Reagan after the accident. And for the donations that were truly a Godsend.

Angela took her driver's test last week and is now driving again. She has gone back to work as of 8/23 and so far she is doing well. She does not have headaches like she had before and vision, hearing etc. seem to be okay. I notice a few mistakes in her e-mails but nothing major.

Reegan bonded with her mommy again and now she will be adjusting to a new day

care center – one closer to Butler. She really has done well through all of this. Her walking was a bit delayed but now she is walking and talking up a storm. It amazes me all the words she knows! She is now 16 months old. Please continue to pray for Tim, Angela and Reagan as things get back to “normal”.

I went to my first Emmaus gathering here on Sat. night 8/14 – it wasn't like TRWE of course, but hopefully it will get better. Please don't forget to make strangers and newcomers feel welcome at gatherings etc. May God bless you all your fourth days! Hugs to everyone!

Love, Sandy Zeigler TRWE #8 Table of
Priscilla (Clap) szeitler@GBOD.org

Dear TRWE Community,

On behalf of Hockey Ministries International, I am writing to thank you for all of the gracious support you offered and provided to Pittsburgh's first Christian hockey camp. During the last week of July, dozens of volunteers offered the message of Jesus to 118 young hockey players. Many of those volunteers were members of the TWRE community, who supported the camp with their service, gifts and prayers.



It was a very humbling experience to witness the impact that God had on these young people during the week of the camp. Hockey pros such as Troy Loney, John Vanbiesbrouck, Laurie Boschman and Dean Prentice shared more than just their hockey knowledge with the campers—they shared their faith. Praise God for the seeds that were

planted during that week.

But the pros would never have had an opportunity to tell their stories if it wasn't for all of the gracious support provided by members of this community. I thank my God every time I remember you. Blessings, Scott Robinette TRWE # 35

ANNUAL BOARD ELECTIONS



Our annual election for incoming members for our Board of Directors is upon us. Our election will be at the Gathering on September 10 with our newly elected board members beginning service in January 2005, as long as our slate is ready in time to give ample notice prior to September Gathering.

This slate will be placed before you for election. Should you choose to nominate others, you will have the opportunity to do so. However, **it is your responsibility to get prior approval from the person you wish to nominate.** One thing to keep in mind is that the slate should reflect a balance represented in the Community--in areas of denomination, gender and congregation. The Board meets monthly and each member serves for a three-year term. Please keep this in mind if choosing to nominate someone--discuss this level of commitment with him/her--before placing a name before the Community.

EVERYTHING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LIFE, I LEARNED FROM Noah!

1. Don't miss the boat.
 2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
 3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
 4. Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
 5. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
 6. Build your future on high ground.
 7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
 8. Speed isn't always an advantage. Snails were on board along with cheetahs.
 9. When you're stressed, float a while.
 10. Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals.
 11. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.
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