



## ***TRWE Memorial Service, April 7, 2017***

***Ingomar UMC Sanctuary, 1500 Ingomar Rd, Pgh, PA 15237***

***We are Easter people, so let us join together Palm Sunday weekend to celebrate the lives of those TRWE saints who have gone to be with the Lord!!***

*1 Thess. 4:13-14 "Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him." NIV*

***Those community members we will be remembering are:***

***Lynne Cameron TRWE #12    Warren Johnson TRWE#9    Cynthia McCuen TRWE#80  
Dottie Means TRWE#36    Clint Rudy TRWE#59    Jenn Walter TRWE#40  
Patti Wilson TRWE #26***

***If you know of any other community members that passed away in the last year, please let Judy Grice know asap @ [judygrice74@gmail.com](mailto:judygrice74@gmail.com) or call 724-225-7806***



***If It's NOT YOUR Coffee Pot...  
the Rest of the Story***

Anyone who has ever served on team for a Walk to Emmaus (and even many who haven't), have been exposed to

the folklore of the "It's not your coffee pot" story.

For those who DON'T know the story.... Once upon a time there was a Walk to Emmaus. Early one morning a Team member happened to be walking through the kitchen and noticed that the coffee pot was not plugged in. Trying to be helpful, this team member (whose job was NOT to take care of the coffee pots) plugged it in. Unfortunately, there was no water in the coffee pot. The pot overheated and caught fire. In one version of this folklore, an entire town was burned to the ground and wiped off the map. (No one was harmed by the way.)

So, the moral of the story: don't drink coffee.... Actually, the message of this story is that, as part of a team, we all have our roles to play. When we start to take on responsibilities that we are not trained for or for things for which we don't have all the information, even though our intentions are good, we can create havoc and unfortunate results.

This is a valuable message... for building teamwork...for building trust. But what's the REST of the story?

There is another famous quote: "If not me, then who? If not now, then when?" This quote has been attributed by many sources to many famous people from Mikhail Gorbachev to Ivanka Trump. The source of this message is unimportant. What I do want to suggest is that when our "It's not my coffee pot" message becomes a justification for not using our gifts or talents, time or resources to further God's mission, then we are missing a wonderful opportunity to show Christ's love.

When we see someone who is hurting or in need, if WE don't offer a kind word, a gentle hug, or other support, then whom do we expect to do so? When our Church needs individuals to welcome guests, to care for children in the nursery so their parents can worship, or serve on leadership committees to help guide the Church, and we don't step forward, then whom do we expect to fill those needs? When we see someone who is ready for an opportunity to grow spiritually and don't offer to sponsor them on a Walk to Emmaus, then whom do we expect to offer that opportunity? When our TRWE community is in need of individuals to serve on Team, offer 4th day support, serve on the Board, offer Agape to pilgrims, or join the Prayer vigil, and we don't answer the call, whom do we expect to be Christ's hands and feet?

So, although we need to avoid plugging in someone else's coffee pot, we ARE called to serve.

De Colores

Chub Dietz, CLD

## A NOTE FROM THE REGISTRAR

We are happy to report one woman has been registered to attend Walk 102!!

Please begin praying for **Cindy Rumbaugh** and all the other pilgrims that God is calling to attend.

**Next set of Walks dates are:**

**Men's Walk #101  
October 12-15 and**

**Women's Walk #  
102, October 19-22.**

**It's never too early to send in a pilgrim application☺** Teaming starts mid-August. Wouldn't it be **great** to have 25 pilgrims' applications in for each Walk before teaming begins?

***What a blessing that would be for God, the***



I have a challenge for each of you reading this article; be deliberate, genuine and real.

I ask that you slow your busy day and take the time to ask, "How are you?" and listen for the answer. Rather than replying, "I'll pray for you," stop and say, "Can we pray right now?" Listen when God puts a name on your heart and make the phone call, set up the time to get together and be deliberate in your friendships. Perhaps God is using your presence to help another or you are the one in need.

Emmaus is more than an awesome weekend. We have built community and have been blessed to be a blessing. Don't forget it. Stay warm, stay safe and make it count!

Missy Shaw Davies, TRWE #99

## **Pilgrims, Team and Community!**

For a pilgrim application and/or sponsor information please go to our [www.trwe.org](http://www.trwe.org) website. My mailbox is open for God's business!

DeColores,

Judy Grice TRWE #40,  
Sharon Gallagher #72  
and Lisa Wahl TRWE #  
54

## **BOOK ENDS**

When any story is told, and retold, there are elements that surround it. Those elements directly influence, add details, and can even increase the understanding of the story. I call those elements "book ends". The story of the encounter along the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) is not exempt from that reality. If you may humor me for a moment, I would like to share with you some revelations and traditions about the persons involved in the encounter.

There were two disciples walking along the road to Emmaus who encountered Jesus. We are only given one name, Cleopas. There is a long-standing question about who the other disciple was. Tradition points to Cleopas' companion being his wife, Mary. Why would we think this was his wife and that her name is Mary? Well, we have to turn to the Gospel of John for that, "Mary the wife of Clopas" (John 19:25). Clopas is another way of spelling Cleopas. Mark 15:40-41 adds further detail to this Mary by saying, "Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome." We then find what seems to be this same Mary with the women going to the tomb early that first Easter morning, "When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles." (Luke 24:9-10)

Let us go with the tradition and analysis of the Early Church Fathers and many modern scholars and say that the two on the road to Emmaus were Cleopas and his wife Mary. This will be our first book-end. What does this tell us? Cleopas and Mary were aware of not only the events in Jerusalem, but had seen, known, and experienced Jesus. They were gathered with the core group of disciples and Mary was close enough (along with their daughter Salome) to go to the tomb early in the morning. Yet, the message of the Resurrection brought back from the empty tomb by the women was dealt with so out of hand, and dismissed, that Cleopas and Mary began the journey home filled with a sense of defeat, Cleopas in his unbelief and Mary in her disbelief in the rejection of her shared testimony. Maybe, just maybe, this was the discussion they were having along the road and later with Jesus.

After the revelation at the dinner table, Cleopas and Mary returned to Jerusalem to share their experience. The others had also experienced Jesus. Suddenly, Jesus entered into their company. This return to Jerusalem, the shared testimony, and the communal encounter with Jesus is our other bookend. I would like to say that the story is then complete, but this has all now become part of the story and so what are the new book ends of this larger story? This is what Bible Study is and does...it challenges, grows, and speaks to our current state.

So, what does this larger understanding say to us today? Reflect back to your experience prior to your Walk. Chances are we had all had a relationship with Christ, we had experienced the cross, the empty tomb, and had participated in ministry (like Mary's witness). But, as with all Christians there comes a time when we grow stagnant, the weight of the world's problems, life experiences, etc...draw us away from that closeness. In a way we all slowly turn and begin the road back home to where we began, we remember and share, but something is different, something has crept into our faith. Then we experience the Walk to Emmaus, we encounter Christ anew, refreshed, and we once again see Him clearly.

We rush back to our churches to share our experience. Sometimes we are met as Cleopas and Mary with open arms of shared testimony. Sometimes we are met with disbelief. And sometimes we are met with apathy. In any case our experience needs to be shared, Cleopas and Mary rushed back and shared, they did not know how it would be received (when they had left before they faced disbelief). When we come back to our churches we need to not only share our experience, but enable others to experience the same.

Maybe Jesus will walk into the space in which you are sharing. Or maybe, just maybe, your role is to sponsor someone for a walk so that they may have their own Emmaus experience. It is also important to know that the Walk to Emmaus is for persons who have experienced Jesus, just like Cleopas and Mary had...it is to expand and grow our faith and leadership.

It is also important to remember that we don't see or hear of Cleopas or Mary again in the New Testament. Sponsoring, serving on team, serving as fourth day help, and all the other ways in which we can support the community are not for recognition, but for the Glory of God.

DeColores,  
Scott Gallagher



**TRWE IS CELEBRATING**

**25 YEARS DeColores**

**IF YOU MISSED THE ALL COMMUNITY GATHERING ON MARCH 10,**  
here's what you missed...

**4<sup>TH</sup> DAY TALK BY BOB AND JANET RUCKEL, PILGRIMS ON WALKS 1  
AND 2**

**Walk #1 October 1992**

**Walk #2 November 1992**

**8,888 and 8,895 4<sup>th</sup> Days since their Walks!**

Humorous and inspiring message about the impact of Emmaus on their faith journeys.....how TRWE got its start in western PA.....where the first Walks were held.....pictures to remind us of the early members of TRWE.....their experience in sponsoring others and results of good or not so good sponsorship.

**CHALLENGE BY REV KELLIE WILD**

Kellie reminded us that Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples. She challenged us to see sponsorship as a way of following that command. When we sponsor a pilgrim we are telling them of an experience we have had with Jesus that is so meaningful to us that we want to share it with others. They, in turn, have an opportunity to deepen their relationship with Christ. And, together, disciples are made in many communities of faith, opportunities to spread the love of Christ because someone asked ..."have you ever gone on a Walk to Emmaus?"

**GIFT OF AGAPE LOVE**

Patty Houy TRWE #40 has been on TRWE prayer chain several times due to her having experienced cancer over the last several years. Her journey with that disease has now brought her to hospice care. A phone call to Patty was made, and all in attendance gathered around – guitars started and we sang to Patty – "Let Your Light Shine", just like at Candlelight. Through tears and smiles God's agape love was shared and received.

**OTHER STUFF**

Some business was done...Walks #101 and #102 need pilgrims (we have 1 so far) ...whole group discussion about who to sponsor/who not to sponsor...welcome Robert DiPollito to Board of Directors...

**AND THEN FELLOWSHIP**

(lots of time for this!)

We ate and visited with Emmaus friends, some we see only at Emmaus...why don't you join us on April 7 (first Friday) at Ingomar UM (change of location) for our Memorial Service as we remember the lives of those Emmaus friends who have gone home.

**NOTE THE CHANGE**

**\* DATE AND LOCATION \***

**FOR**

**APRIL GATHERING**

**APRIL 7, 2017**

**@**

## DEVOTIONS

If you are like me, you get exposed to numerous devotions during Lent. I'm typically reading four devotions a day, three that appear in my email and one that I read daily from *These Days*, the Presbyterian version of *The Upper Room*. Each of the readings provides a reflection on a different Bible passage with suggestions for daily spiritual application. Most of the time I consider those suggestions and discard them for one reason or another; but occasionally, I decide to make an effort that day to apply the message that resonated with me.

As members of the Emmaus community, we often reflect on Luke 24: 13-34, when Jesus appeared to two believers traveling on the road. I often liken this to the times when I feel that I have had a guide with me on the many roads that I travel. I may not recognize it at the time, but I know that I am not alone as I journey through this life.

Consider reflecting on this passage from Luke during this season of Lent. Consider what it would mean to walk with Jesus and not recognize Him. Was it your experience on the Walk to Emmaus that helped you recognize that Jesus walks with you? Think about what it would mean to help others open their eyes to the Jesus who walks with them. Now consider acting on this reflection by sponsoring a pilgrim on the next Walk.

De Colores,

Bob Dove, Literature Board Rep

## GOD IS WITH YOU

In the devotional book *God Is With You Every Day* by Max Lucado, the devotion for January 2, 2017 is titled "Today I Will..." and quotes this verse from Ephesians:

***Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.*** Ephesians 5: 15-16

And the first sentence says – "Today I will make a difference." Lucado follows that with many examples of how we can make a difference in our walk with Christ and keeps repeating: "***Today I will make a difference.***"

But as I read that, I also kept seeing the part in the verse that says, "***making the most of every opportunity***".

So, combine the two and we are challenged to make a difference by making the most of every opportunity presented to us!

How can we do that in the TRWE Community?

We have OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the life of a person who can experience a deeper relationship with Christ and feel the love of Christ in tangible ways. Walks #101 and #102 are scheduled. Pray for and sponsor someone you know who deserves this gift called the Walk to Emmaus. Get the applications in so that the Walks are filled before teaming starts!

We have OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE by serving the Walks – on team, if asked, or as 4<sup>th</sup> day servants during the weekend. How grateful Lay Directors would be if teams would fill easily and how grateful support team would be if they didn't have to serve meals and clean bathrooms. And we all know the DIFFERENCE THAT PRAYER MAKES – sign up for the prayer vigils now!

We have OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE by serving on the Board of Directors. Can you serve on the Board, commit to monthly meetings? Or can you help by being on a Board committee, helping a Board member with his or her responsibilities, easing the load – no meetings to attend.

Please MAKE THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY you have to MAKE A DIFFERENCE in the Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus Community. We can't do it without YOU!

DeColores,

Lill Griffith, Community Lay Director, Emeritus

## FOURTH DAY

As you may be aware, there are **many** ways to participate in the TRWE community. Some of the many ways are to:

## FOURTH DAY LIVING

Have you ever had a mountaintop spiritual experience and then had trouble returning to the reality of your daily life?

The book *Loving the World with God: Fourth Day Living* by

- Attend gatherings & candlelights
- Serve on teams
- Sponsor pilgrims
- Serve meals during walks
- Attend E-Day
- Join a reunion group
- Clean bathrooms during walks
- Participate in the prayer vigils
- Assist in set-up/tear-down of walks
- Supply agape

But one of the lesser known ways to participate in the TRWE community is to serve as a member of the Board of Directors. Did you know that you (**yes, you!**) can serve on the Board? If you have made a walk, you are eligible to serve on the Board.

What does the Board of Directors do, you ask? **Great question!** The Board has general oversight in all matters relating to the TRWE community. Each member has a “job” that they perform to make sure the walks, gatherings, and other community events are organized, and have plenty of supplies and help (and food, of course!). There are administrative tasks, like finances and purchasing, as well as social tasks, like outreach and fellowship.

You know the saying, “many hands make light work”? It’s true for the TRWE Board of Directors too! Many of the Board members have committees to assist them in their roles. If you are unsure whether you can make the 3-year commitment, or are not yet ready for a leadership role, serving on a committee is a great way to get started.

Stay tuned for more information in future newsletters about serving on the Board of Directors in future newsletters! If you are interested in serving the TRWE community in this capacity. If you have any questions, please contact Katy Selzer at [4thDay@trwe.org](mailto:4thDay@trwe.org).

Rebecca Dwight Bruff is for those who have gone on a Walk to Emmaus weekend or another intense spiritual experience such as a retreat, mission trip, or sabbatical.

After such a time of spiritual growth, you need practical, hands-on ways to continue your daily walk with Jesus Christ and love the world with God. Bruff offers guidance and inspiration for living the rest of your life after your mountaintop experience.

\* Emmaus sponsors: A great gift to give pilgrims whom you sponsor.



## WORDS FOR REFLECTION

The writer of the letter to the Colossians is aware of the centrality of prayer in the process of spreading God’s grace. He wrote:

*“... we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God ... so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work...”*

—Colossians 1:9-10

How can you pray for your Emmaus community leaders and upcoming weekend teams today?

## PRAY FOR OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Please pray for our 17 Regional Leaders who support our communities around the world.

They are available to answer questions by phone or by email. They also schedule Leadership Development Events and Community Trainings throughout the year.

Visit our website: <http://emmaus.upperroom.org/about/contact> to [pray for each Regional Leader by name](#), and for the [Leadership Development Events](#) they host.

## A LETTER FROM THE TREASURER

Dear TRWE Community,

As I began to write this article, I started writing about the finances for 2017 as of today, for the Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus Community and decided that I should let you all know about the past year, 2016, first where the income came from and expenses we paid out.

We began January 1, 2016 with a balance of \$10,113.58 in the bank as follows:

General Account	\$6,817.83	Scholarship Account	\$ 3,295.75
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### INCOME:

Gatherings Collections	\$ 1,819.55		\$ 789.81
Spring Walk Registrations	\$18,575.00		
Fall Walk Registrations	\$14,730.00		
Walk Donations	\$ 3,990.00 (for Team & Pilgrims)		
Scholarship Donations	\$ 1,160.00		
Book Sales	\$ 30.00		
Other	\$ 1,118.83		
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$40,263.38</b>		<b>\$ 1,949.81</b>

### EXPENSES:

Spring Walk Expenses	\$19,575.27	\$ 1,650.00
Fall Walk Expenses	\$16,553.45	\$ 975.00
Manuals & Literature	\$ 698.79	
Office Supplies	\$ 397.29	
E-Day/Picnic	\$ 100.00	
Insurance, Legal, etc.	\$ 578.50	
Pilgrim Fees	\$ 2,054.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 88.34	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$40,045.64</b>	<b>\$ 2,625.00</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 9,656.13</b>	<b>\$ 2,620.56</b>

As of today, March 14, 2017 the balances are as follows:

General Account	\$ 9,254.54
Scholarship Account	\$ 2,993.68

We received a generous donation the first of March which boosted our General Account to the above figure. A letter of sincere thanks was sent to the donors.

If and when you make a donation, please note on your check where you would like it to be placed – General Account or Scholarship Account. If donated for General Account, the Board can use it for expenditures for the Community as needed, and can move money to Scholarship Account if necessary to help with Walk Sponsorships.

If you should have any questions about the finances of the TRWE Community, please contact me at [ljdille@gmail.com](mailto:ljdille@gmail.com) or phone 412-997-0719

DeColores!  
Lois Dille, Treasurer

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**FALL WALKS @ Mt Chestnut Nazarene Center**

Men's Walk #101, October 12-15, 2017

Women's Walk #102, October 19-22, 2017

**ALL COMMUNITY GATHERING**

April 7, 2017 @ 7pm

**INGOMAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



**TRWE**

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