

IMPORTANT DATES

GATHERINGS

May 12th at Ingomar UMC

June 9th at Ingomar UMC

July 8th at Family Resources Retreat Center (The Fresh Air Camp)

August 11th at Ingomar UMC

September 8th at Ingomar UMC

CHRYSALIS FLIGHTS

Family Resources Retreat Center

Boy's Flight #4 June 23-25, 2006

Girls Flight #5 July 7-9, 2006

FALL WALKS

LUTHERLYN

Men's Walk October 26 – 29, 2006

Women's Walk November 2–5, 2006

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5877 PLEASANT STREET
SOUTH PARK, PA 15129.

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Three Rivers Walk To Emmaus

May 2006

FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Spring is such a wonderful time of the year. God's wonderful earth is coming alive. The colors of the flowers, trees, and grass are so beautiful. The sounds and smells of spring are so amazing. Every season has its beauty, winter is my least favorite. It is too grey, too quiet and much too cold. About mid January I am ready for spring. Many people in Pennsylvania look towards the famous Groundhog, Phil to look for the start of spring. I listen for the sound of the birds singing. When I here that beautiful sound, I know that spring is on its way.

Spring is new life, everything comes alive. God promises us new life is Jesus Christ. There is a hymn we sang at the last gathering that really spoke to me. It is HYMN OF PROMISE, it says:

Verse 1 In a bulb there is a flower; in the seed, and apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Verse 2 There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

Verse 3 In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,
in our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

We have celebrated Easter, the celebration of our Risen Lord. JESUS LIVES!!

He lives in our hearts, our minds, and he lives in our actions. This time of years makes look at my life. Am I doing what I should as a disciple of Christ?

Do I love my neighbor as myself ?

Do I spend enough time studying God's word ?

Where are my priorities?

I think it is time for a little Spring Cleaning in my heart.

What about you?

Decolores.

Linda Claypool



FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Love Notes from Linda

Let your Light Shine

Having finally recovered from a Spirit-filled Walk #58, I bring to the table some thoughts. They are thoughts derived from experience and feed back, and hopefully they will have meaning for all of us.

- 1) A walk could not be held if it were not for having the support team. Not one of us clearly knows how much love, work, and overall effort is given by those who are not in the conference room. To you, I give a loving thanks. You all Let Your Lights Shine!
- 2) The implementation of the “support team and 4th day chapel” made a huge difference in the hearts of those who served. There is something to be said about being prayed over before endeavoring to perform for Christ. Thanks to Mike and Joan for implementing this. Thanks for letting your lights shine.
- 3) Not all of the people will be happy all of the time, no matter how hard one tries because we all have an expectation as to how the weekend should occur. Therefore, the Board is moving back to closely following the Model. It’s tried and proven to work, so we are faithfully trying to follow its example. We signed a covenant to follow the Model.
- 4) We need to be people who think of how we can encourage and lift up rather than discourage and tear down. Every walk is going to have its moments where things are not going the way they should – someone makes a mistake. In the true manner of Christ, we need to let the Holy Spirit attend to the mistakes. If it is a mistake that truly makes a difference in how the pilgrims experience the walk, believe me, The Holy Spirit will let us know.
- 5) We need to be grateful for those willing to serve and give of their personal time – time away from family – time given so that others might experience Christ in new and marvelous ways.
- 6) And, no one is perfect, including and often, especially me. I seek your forgiveness if in any way I offended. Help me to keep my Light lit!

The beauty for me in being a Christian is that while my Light often dims, it never goes out. I always have so much to learn; and usually I learn it through mistakes. I don’t mind making mistakes; I only hate it when my mistake causes another to doubt, to feel disrespected, or to somehow feel less competent. A former boss of mine used to say, “Making mistakes is God’s way of keeping us humble.” Perhaps she was right. I know that my Light is always on, it’s just not so bright when I mess up, and then I remember humility.

We are a community which seeks to be more Christlike by becoming fully-committed servants of Jesus. Let your light shine. Amen and praise the Lord

DeColores!

Linda Tunnell (big hug)



TRWE LOGO WEAR



HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO HAVE A DENIM SHIRT, TEE SHIRT, AND GOLF SHIRT OR SWEAT SHIRT, OR ANY OTHER ITEMS WITH THE TRWE LOGO ON IT? NOW IS YOUR CHANCE. WE CAN GET REASONABLY PRICED ITEMS WITH THE LOGO EMBROIDERED ON THEM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED AND HAVE NOT CONTACTED ME PLEASE EMAIL ME WITH WHAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AND I WILL GIVE YOU PRICES.

BARB MOORE, pbixoye@yahoo.com 724-654-3390



Fourth Day Corner

My fourth day I would like to back up a little and tell you about my experience on the walk first. I was very apprehensive about the walk. I have many fears and going somewhere without my watch and cell phone, well I was not sure if I could breath without my phone. I am a control freak, I am getting better at the control thing, still I was not sure about this whole Walk to Emmaus *no anticipation*- let it just happen thing. Where was my sponsor taking me? No clue. How long to get there? No clue. Was it a primitive camp or a nice college like setting? No clue. Don't *anticipate* was always staring at me. If you don't *anticipate* you will not be disappointed. *Problem was - I was the mother of anticipation.* I am Mrs. Gravits from Bewitched. I was so worried about where I was going to sleep, what I was going to eat, were they going to leave me in the woods at night to find and trust God? Man, the fears went on and on.

Then I thought of my Sponsor Sandy. She had changed over the years since I first met her, she was very shy and it took a lot to get her to talk, now she had kind of a peaceful glow about her a self assurance, I really kinda envied. All the Emmaus walkers from my church had this peace. I wanted that peace in the worst way.

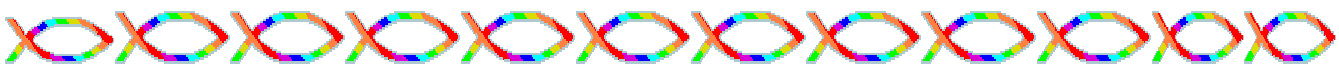
What a gift my walk was. People that love the Lord where everywhere. They served you, gave you agape that never ended, even days after you were home. The Lord serves us with his grace, full of love, that was something that I became fully aware of. The world is discouraging sometimes, but in my fourth day (s) I am more at peace with the knowledge that it is okay, just do your best to serve, share God's love and maybe you might show someone else that peace. The atmosphere at Emmaus takes all the discouragement in the world away. My description when people ask me, *how was your religious walk to wherever you went?* - I respond with, how do you think 72 hours with God would be? ☺ I say - Incredible, can't really describe it to you, sorry, *no anticipation*, just in case you ever have the calling to go! ☺ My fourth day was (is) very emotional I love my family, but when I saw them, I was overwhelmed with the love I had taken for granted for all these years. I could not wait to serve them, and serve them with a want in my heart not a task theology. I go into the grocery store and since I have not stopped smiling at this point, I want to grab people by the arms look into their eyes and say Jesus loves you.... Really loves you, - it is not about you it is about him! But as hard as it is I refrain - because I could get arrested for the amount of joy I have. Yeah and then true life hits.... The tragedy of family sickness, the stress of balancing everything, and this unbelievable urge to basically do very little and study scripture has me juggling again. I have become more faithful with my studying; I get more out of it. To know me is to know that I am a doer, the more stuff I do the more I enjoy life. I am involved in a lot at my church. I have always done it to thank the Lord for all my many blessings. I feel compelled to continue and maybe switch roles a little bit, we'll see.

I do seem a bit lonelier now, I guess once my husband goes on the walk we can share. I yearn to speak to God a lot more. I look at everything thru DeColores eyes. And I realize wow God is an awesome God and I thank him for everything. I thank all who served me on my walk. I want to give back to the Emmaus community so that someone else will say - How would you expect 72 hours with God to be?

DeColores

Barb Clark

TRWE # 56 Table of Mary



AGAPE

YOU ARE NEEDED FOR THESE FLIGHTS

Please participate. We need **AGAPE** for both the boy's flight and the girl's flights. For team and caterpillars we would need 60 pieces each flight. For caterpillars only we would need about 20 each flight. We need **PRAYERS**. Please sign up for the Prayer Vigil either on-line or at the April, May or June Gathering. We must surround these kids and the team with Prayer and need everyone to participate as an act of agape. We need meal **SERVERS**. The hardest spots to fill are Friday Lunch, and Sunday both Breakfast and Lunch. If you are available—Please make the trip to Cranberry to serve these kids a meal! You can sign up at April, May or June Gathering or you may e-mail me at heidiv491@msn.com and I will get you signed up. We need **BATHROOM CLEANING SERVERS**. Please volunteer. You can show these kids the sacrificial agape love by serving them on these flights. Finally we need **DISCIPLES – FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST**. We need YOU to join the Priesthood of All Believers and Let the Light of Jesus Shine Through you by attending The Boys Candlelight on Saturday, June 24th and The Girls Candlelight on Saturday, July 8th at The Fresh Air Camp (now Family Resources Center) in Cranberry Twp. Directions to the Camp are on Three Rivers Emmaus web-site (www.trwe.org).

Please participate as we really need you to be a part of these flights. Thank you! Heidi Varner TRWE # 4



Board Notes



Starting with the fall walks the maximum number of Pilgrims per walk will be 30_Motion

To Add Kairos Corner To Newsletter



Calling All Musicians!

We are presently in the process of developing a more accurate email list of Emmaus folks who would like to help lead music at gatherings and other community events.

There may be those in our midst who have musical talents of which we are unaware!

If you have an interest in sharing in music – whether as a vocalist or instrumentalist – please send an email to me at marys@zoominternet.net and indicate your area of interest (vocals, guitar, piano, percussion, kazoo, etc.).

We will then notify you by email about opportunities to meet for practice, and let you know about what's happening with music at upcoming events.

Those of you who have already shared music at Emmaus events – please respond also, so that I will receive any corrections to your email addresses and/or present musical interests.

Many thanks!

Mary Sickels

Board of Directors Music Coordinator

Three Rivers CHRYsalis

A word from The Next Flight Lay Directors.....

How often do you get a real opportunity to make a difference? Do you remember the ‘Changing Our World’ talk from your walk? Have you finished changing or at least improving yourself?, your family?, your street?, or further?

You can sponsor a teen for the upcoming Chrysalis flights and let Chrysalis teach them about making new faith commitments. They will be inspired, challenged, and equipped to have a closer relationship, perhaps even a friendship, with Jesus.

Here’s what you should tell a teen about Chrysalis:

You’ll spend three days with other people your age in worship, prayer, fellowship, creative expression, recreation, singing, and discussion. You’ll experience the love of God through prayers and acts of service from a loving support community.

You’ll hear talks, given by youth, and adults, which focus on the needs of maturing youth, offer the message of the gospel and the friendship and example of Jesus Christ. Each day you’ll hear five talks, followed by discussion, reflection, and expression of how these messages can encourage your personal faith. The discussions explore how friendship with Jesus can help you live out your faith with family, friends, and other people in your world.

Any teen who has completed the ninth grade is eligible. Can you think of one who needs to hear about God’s unconditional love? Print out an application from the web site – www.trwe.org and talk to them about the best three days of their life.

Bonnie Wiegand
Lay Director, Three Rives Chrysalis #5

KAIROS KORNER



Welcome, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, to the first installment of the **KAIROS KORNER**. Each month, we will present an article that tries to give you insights into the incredible prison ministry of the Kairos movement. Kairos of Western Pennsylvania and Kairos International extend their heartfelt thanks to the Board of Directors of the Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus Community for finding it in their hearts to open up this avenue of communication with you.

As time goes on, we will explain the inner workings of the KAIROS movement to you. We will discuss their ministry approach, the ecumenical nature of the movement, opportunities for TRWE Community involvement—such as prayer wheels, serving on teams, letter agape and so forth, “Riverbanks,” (their word for team involvement and limitations), and much, much, more. We also hope to, from time to time, get articles and testimonies from seasoned KAIROS veterans to share with you.

For this NEWSLETTER, we wish only to remind you that KAIROS-1 (which would be equivalent to TRWE #1) was held at the State Correctional Institution of Greene County in Waynesburg on the weekend of April 27 -30. Thirty residents were selected to attend this weekend. Of local interest, Ed Dunne opened the weekend giving the Choices (Priorities) talk, Randy Stevens gave the Discover (GTS) talk on Saturday morning and yours truly gave the Action (Christian Action) talk on Saturday afternoon. Speaking for our team, (both inside and outside), for the Corrections Officers and officials of the prison, and especially for the 30 residents chosen to attend, we thank you for your prayers and your letters of support.

More next month, but until then, may God bless you and keep you.

Fly with Christ,
Bill Korb, TRWE #31

Three Rivers CHRYsalis

Boys TRCF #4

Priesthood Bill Korbel
 God's Gift to You Andy Wahl
 God Designed You Les Boone
 God Loves You Janet Furer
 God Sustains You TBD
 God Empowers You TBD
 Single Life John Ruppel
 The Prodigal Chris Amodeo
 Ideals Andrew DeBonis
 Marriage (given with Wally) Dean Wells
 Mike Wild
 Buddy Fickley
 Tim Spence
 Wally Wells
 Donnie Fickley
 Mike Varner
 Jim Grant

 Bud Fickley
 Larry Burkhardt
 Glenn Brooks
 Dwight Willaman
 Kim Fickley
 Bob Lytle
 Bill Wiegand
 Rick Rackley
 Randy Stevens
 Bryan McClaine
 Garth Johnston

 Cory McClaine
 Patrick Remington
 Andrew Johnston
 Rich Bewley
 Lance Vene

 Mary Spence

 John DeBonis

Girls TRCF #5

Priesthood Bonnie Wiegand
 God's Gift to You Mary Sickles
 God Designed You Agnes Brady
 God Sustains You Jim Swanson
 God Loves You Andy Wahl
 God Empowers You Maggie Foreman
 Erlina Mae Bowers
 Suzanne Rackley
 Joanna Sickels
 Rachel Claypool
 Emily Gusew
 Robin McRoberts
 Rachel Claypool
 Flo Willamon
 Sue Write
 Jan Lovich
 Karen Burns
 Andrew Burnette
 Cindy Korbel
 Heidi Walker
 Katie Kostelansky

 Jessica Elliott

 Jill Cheetham-Mitchell
 June O'Masta
 Heidi Pifer
 Jessica Baier
 Kimberly Zielinski
 Amy Stevens
 Lauren Blaze
 Julie DeBonis
 Patty Walter
 Allie Koser
 Kristin Rackley

 Angela Minyon
 Monica Minyon
 Amy Brooks

 Prayer
 Faith
 Single Life
 Prodigal

 Ideals
 Growth thru Study

 Marriage (given with Glenn)

Three Rivers CHRYsalis

Fourth Day Corner...

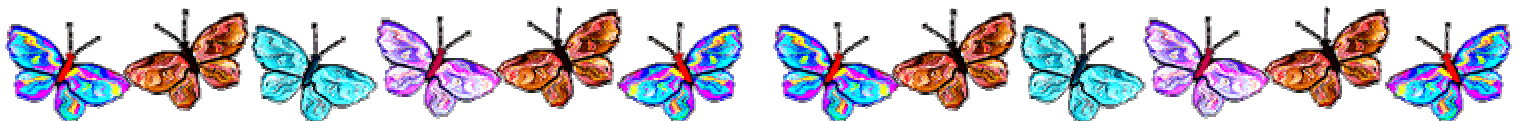
Hello my name is Lance Vene and I am 18 years old and I was on Northeast Ohio Boys Chrysalis flight # 16 and I sat at the table of the new beginnings. When I went on my flight I had just turned the right age to go and I am super glad I was able because if I didn't I would probably not be where I am today with Christ. When I first went on my flight I was anxious to go but I was a little nervous because I did not know anybody there except for the Lay Director. I did not know what to expect. How people would take me in. Well I found out I had nothing to worry about. I found out there were people there with the same problems as me. On the weekend all the talks were awesome. But they did not start to hit home until I heard the Prodigal talk. During the weekend we kept on getting surprise after surprise and we could actually feel the love of the community even though we did not know them. Candle light was the most awesome experience I have ever felt. It hit home in my heart just where I needed it. I cried and let it all out to God. After my flight when I first got home I started to become a better christian for the Lord. I could not wait for Chrysalis to come back around because I wanted to go back and help and I did. Since my flight I have served on two conference room teams and served on like 8 outside team positions. I have even gave a talk. I served on board for three years and now am planing to go back. I wanted to share my experience with everyone I came into contact with. Every body deserved to hear what I had to say. I tried telling some people and they did not care. but I got some to come on a flight. The way I keep my faith going in the real world is I just pray and talk to all my christian friends. God answers prayers and he gets you through everything. Believe me when I say that I know from him answering mine. So stay with him and you will be blessed. It might not be the way you want but remember its the way God wants. God has the plans for you, you dont have the plans for you. Just remember one thing FLY WITH CHRIST.

Lance Vene North East Ohio Chrysalis #16 Table Of New Beginnings and Three Rivers Chrysalis Flight # 4 coming this summer!

FLY WITH CHRIST!



Did you sign up to receive the prayer chain requests but are not receiving them? Did you change your email address and not let Bo Pratt know? If you want to be included in the prayer chain, please send your correct email address to Rpratt2707@aol.com. Prayer requests may also be sent here.



Tribute to Jill Grant:

"But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus to testify the gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:24

Jill was a lovely young woman who was a contented soul. She loved her church, loved her family. But she felt restless and was longing for a new adventure. Someone suggested that she get away for the weekend. So she decided to do that, just get away and think about what she was going to do with her life and what God was calling her to do with it.

She decided to go on a walk with her grandma. That walk led her to a retreat called Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus. She met new friends, sang some old hymns, learned some new ones. There were lessons there that taught her of God's great love for her and those around her.

When Jill came home from her weekend, she was revived and started to reach out to her community to show God's love to one and all. She served "Meals on Wheels" to those who were hungry. She pounded nails for a community outreach program called the Carpenter's Project. She heard the words, "Let the little children come to me" and prepare the volunteer roster for the church nursery. She even went back to Emmaus to be with her new buddies and help others on their road of faith

Contributed by: The Wurtemberger Reunion Group

Also --

To the Three Rivers Walk To Emmaus Community:

To all you blessed people who have been on that Emmaus walk, each of whom have felt God's great love in His way: You know now how God gives each all different talents to make us each unique but one great body to be used to further his kingdom.

Her is one small "thank you" from the Grant family, "Big Jim", Jeremy, Ethel Boots, mother of the late Judy (Boots) Grant and grandmother of the late Emmaus member, Jill Grant for all the love, cards, especially prayers and condolences all you children of God have expressed and acted upon. "Thank you" seems so small compared to the Greatness of the Jesus we strive to serve.

Our God is a truly awesome God.

DeColores,

God loves you all and so does grateful me.

Ethel Boots

A look at a Lenten tradition

During Lent season, we share a wooden community cross with other churches in the area.

I have seen it done before and have been moved by the whole experience.

Who wouldn't be, the cross is brought in and raised in front of the congregation to remind us all of what Jesus did for us and for all mankind.

This year was just a little different.

This year, the first person I saw bringing in the cross into the sanctuary was a young man of about ten years of age, if that, wearing his best suit and tie, holding onto the cross with all his might. Others were holding the cross, but my eyes kept focusing on this young child who clung to the cross until it was standing upright.

A few minutes later, as the congregation sang the last hymn of the service, the acolyte, a young girl, stood in front of the cross, holding a lit candle. She stood, looking straight ahead, still as a statue.

And that's when I saw it all come together.

Before me and all that were in the sanctuary, was Jesus. It was all about Jesus.

The acolyte held the light of Christ, behind her was the cross signifying the death of Christ, and behind the cross, was a huge framed picture of Jesus's glorious face signifying His life here on earth . . .

I got it. Did you?

. . . . Have you seen Jesus my Lord,

He's here in plain view.

Take a look, open your eyes.

He'll show real life to you.

Love In Christ,

Pam Walter,

TRWE #42, Table of Rachel



Dandelions & Servants

Frankly, the pastor felt pretty good. He knew that his congregation needed a message on love, and how God calls each of us to love one another, care for one another, and how God's love is all surpassing. He had worked hard on his Sunday message and felt that the Holy Spirit was with him as he studied the Scriptures and wrote the words he would speak that day. When he had completed his sermon, he re-read it as he always did, but knew he was blessed and led, because he didn't have to change a word...it was the right message.

The pastor's confidence was rewarded on Sunday morning, he felt good about his delivery, he felt a connection, he could see an eagerness in his congregation to hear his words, all the Scripture references tied perfectly with his message. His sermon had been welcomed; his prayer and faithfulness had been rewarded. The first person to greet him at the back of the church even rushed to say kind words about his sermon. Person after person said thanks, saying that the sermon was needed, and exactly the message they needed that day.

As the line exiting the sanctuary dwindled, Ed came forward. Ed had a look of concern on his face and the Pastor hoped that Ed was in the process of digesting the words of his sermon, and planning to put the message of love to work in his everyday life. Ed came forward, he did not offer his hand, and he looked up at the pastor and said, "You know of course that if we don't get those dandelions under control, they're going to take over the entire lawn in front of the church. Why, I've even noticed them creeping into the edge of the parking lot and begin to crack the asphalt. Something ought to be done."

The pastor had come face to face with a joysucker. Ed had managed to suck all the joy out of his faithful pastor with just a few words. The love that the pastor had prayed about all week, had lovingly sought out Scripture to illustrate in his sermon, which had been delivered forcefully and with compassion, was not as important to Ed as the dandelions in front of the church. The sermon just moments ago thought to be "just the right message" was now a failure in the eyes of a broken servant.

You might have noticed at Walk #57 and #58 that a new chapel was introduced, a "Servants Chapel". Fourth Day servants were asked to report first to the Servants Chapel, to be prayed in, to leave the world, all those dandelion's behind. We had faithful prayer warriors in the Servants Chapel to pray for each 4th Day Volunteer, to help each and every one focus on Jesus, on servanthood and on our reason to be at the Walk.

The entire community would like to thank all of the 4th Day Servants for their service, and for leaving all those dandelions outside the camp. And better yet, for not commenting on any of those "that's not the way we did it on my Walk" dandelions that you may have noticed while serving. Our God is good, we serve Him; he can handle all of life's dandelions, if we will only let Him. Thanks.

2 Corinthians 9

¹³Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.