



IMPORTANT DATES

GATHERINGS:

Oct 8th **Gathering at Regional Locations**

Nov 6th **Gathering at Candlelight**

Dec 12th **All Community Gathering at Ingomar UMC**

2010 TRWE FALL WALKS at CAMP LUTHERLYN

Men's Walk #75, Nov 4-7

Women's Walk #76, Nov 11-14

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Three Rivers Walk To Emmaus

Eighteen Years of Walking with Jesus

September 2010

Milk to Solid Food

We all need training if we want to succeed. This is clearly seen for young boys that enter Boy Scouts. Our troop returned from a week at Summer Camp. Mothers love to see their young scout come home with smelly, moldy wet clothes after a week of ignoring personal hygiene. But, I digress.

Our Scout Council (Westmoreland-Fayette) has a program for first year Boy Scouts called Path Finder. It teaches them basic skills in fire building, tent setup, patrol assignments, axe handling, etc. These skills are necessary for advancement in scouting and learning how to cope in the outdoors.

As Christians, where do we go for Path Finder training? We are tasked with learning about our faith so that we can be a light unto the world. Unfortunately, we find that Hebrews 5:12 may apply for many of us. How do we progress from milk to solid food? That can only be done through Bible Study. Remember the three-legged stool – piety, study and action. We make progress only when the Holy Spirit reveals to us the Word. This task is made easier if it is done in a Small Group Bible Study.

This should be an on-going process. I participated in the four year Disciple Bible Study as a student and then again as a Facilitator. What a marvelous experience! Nothing focuses the mind as much as serving as a Bible Study Facilitator. The Holy Spirit was definitely in that class room.

But that effort must continue. You may receive a certificate at the end of the class, but that is just a milestone in your education. The same Scripture read today will not convey the same meaning as when read last year or five years ago. So, how are you doing on that second leg of the three-legged stool?

DeColores!
Larry Simmons, TRWE #55
Community Lay Director



FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Notes from Jerry Belloit

Exodus 13:18-21

18 So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt armed for battle. **19** Moses took the bones of Joseph with him because Joseph had made the sons of Israel swear an oath. He had said, "God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up with you from this place." **20** After leaving Succoth they camped at Etham on the edge of the desert. **21** By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.

It was a little more than 14 years ago. I was sitting in the doctor's office waiting to be seen. It had started about a month before. I felt a lump in my neck and it would not go away so I saw my doctor. He did not like what he felt and sent me to the surgeon. Then came surgery and sending the tissue to the pathologists both in Clarion and the University of Pittsburgh. Now we were waiting for the report. Like most doctor's visits, the doctor did not come in right away. In fact, it seemed like an eternity. My wife and I sat there in silence. I began to study the wall paper. I think I found every defect in the wall paper job. Finally the doctor entered the room. My wife reached over and took my hand. Then the doctor spoke the word none of us want to hear. Cancer! His words cut through me like a sharp knife responding to a ripe watermelon. My mind began to race. They talked about my age, how the cancer had already spread. He began to talk risk, statistics, odds. You know, I never realized how meaningless statistics are when you are the object of those statistics.

As I thought about an article for the newsletter this morning, the scripture from Exodus came to mind. The people of Israel had been led out of Egypt into the wilderness. In their minds, their future was uncertain. At times they wanted to give up. Some even questioned whether they should return to slavery in Egypt. They complained about the journey. They complained about the food. They complained about their leaders. It is clear that their wilderness experience was not an enjoyable experience.

When the doctor says Cancer, you begin a wilderness experience. You are no longer in control. You are ready for a fight but you don't know which enemies you will encounter on the journey. The cancer is tough, but sometimes there are other enemies we initially did not think about. Sometimes it is the enemy of nausea. Sometimes it is the enemy of hair loss. Sometimes it is the enemy of financial concerns. Sometimes it is the enemy of abandoned friends. Sometimes it is the enemy of isolation. Always it is a journey. Always it takes time—a lot of time.

The good news is that we don't have to make this journey alone. Like God did for the people of Israel as he led them out of slavery in Egypt, God can make this wilderness journey with you. God can show you the way by day and light up your world by night. God can provide you with what you need along the way.

It was less than three months ago. I was having my routine cancer testing and follow-up. Then the call comes. They are concerned with the results. More tests, a full body scan, two biopsies, and then, once again, we were waiting in the doctor's office. Again the "C" word. As you can see, I have already had an additional surgery—less than six weeks ago. This time it is different. I am at peace. I know that God is with me. I am

Exodus 13:18-21 (Continued)

not wandering in the wilderness of life alone. God will direct me by day and light up my world by night. I will not be alone.

My friends, are you wandering in the wilderness? Is your wilderness an illness? Is your wilderness a job loss? Is your wilderness a broken relationship? Whatever your wilderness is, don't wander alone. Let God guide you and fill you with the light of his love.

Amen, Praise the Lord and DeColores!
Jerry Belloit

Board Notes

We had our Business Meeting at the September 10 Gathering at Ingomar UMC. An important item addressed there was the election of new members for the Board of Directors.

We are blessed to present the following new Emmaus Board members to the Community:

Laity: Judy Grice
 Lynne Johnson
 Sophie Park
 Gary Pennington

Clergy: Bill Saxman

The new members will serve a three year term, starting in January, 2011. Give them your support as they contribute to the Emmaus Community.

Mary (Bureau) Pellett has joined the Board of Directors as Secretary.

E-DAY Happenings

As you know the Board of Directors does a training day each year. We call it E-Day for Education Day. Well, we had our E-Day on August 14 at the Family Resources Center. Some of you may remember that we did our Walks there some years ago and did our last Chrysalis Flight there. The facility has been modernized since then and has several areas available for public use. Our E-Day utilized the Pavilions next to the soccer field and basketball courts.

A great big "Thank You" for all of the efforts that went into the E-day program and picnic (please be sure to pass that along to the spouses who also helped out). While the program didn't end up looking much like I had spelled it out, it shouldn't come as a surprise that the Holy Spirit had a much better plan than I did.

I think the whole board took a some major steps forward in "little c" communications, and those community members in attendance now have a much better picture of just how much work is involved in order to continue to have Walks and Gatherings that might otherwise seem to just pretty much happen all by themselves .

All the comments I heard said that it was all helpful information, and I even saw a few folks taking notes! I hope that translates into more involvement by the community and a more natural development of committees that support the BOD members.

Our picnic was a huge success. No one went away hungry. We concluded our E-Day with a Gospel Golf tournament. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John were a par-3 course set up on the soccer field. Jerry Belloit had the early lead coming back to the club house. However, he was crushed by one stroke by Tammy Debonis as she was in the next-to-last group off the course. Tammy walked away with the Grand Prize (it was the only prize) of a toy pistol fly swatter. We must conclude that she was embarrassed with that prize because she did not bring it to the September 10 Gathering to show it off.

So, E-Day was a success. The Holy Spirit guided the training sessions. Food was plentiful as was the fellowship. Maybe next year golf skills will improve to a point where Tammy DeBonis will be challenged to defend her title.

Mike Varner
Assistant Community Lay Director

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**Have you ever missed an opportunity
to serve because you missed the
sign-up sheet at Gathering?**

**Fear Not! – Sign-up sheets are now available on the
TRWE website (www.trwe.org)**

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From Fourth Day Corner: Ways You Can Serve

For you have been called to live in freedom -- not freedom to satisfy your sinful nature – but freedom to serve one another in love. Galatians 5:13

There are SO many ways you can serve the Emmaus Community in Love. For the upcoming Fall Men's Walk #75, (Nov 4-7, 2010) and Women's Walk #76, (Nov 11-14, 2010), you can:

Sponsor a Pilgrim

Come to Candlelight

Sign up for the prayer vigil

Be a Sunday Angel *

Serve a meal

Come to Closing

Clean a bathroom

Send an Agape item

Contribute to the scholarship fund

There are other opportunities to serve all year round. You can attend Gatherings and bring along a friend or two or help coordinate or lead a Regional Gathering.

We are also looking for community members to become part of the Nominating Committee. These individuals will lift up other members to be new candidates for the Emmaus Board of Directors.

After reading this list, I ask that you prayerfully consider the ways God can use your talents and love to serve the community. After you have your answer, you can sign up for 4th Day activities on the website, www.trwe.org

or contact me at 412-731-8260

or msamydove@aol.com.

I look forward to serving with you soon.

-Amy Dove, Community 4th Coordinator

* After Closing, there are never enough Sunday Angels to help clean, sort and pack up all of the materials that were used to conduct a Walk. There are office supplies, leftover Agape, window covers, furniture and equipment. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated by pitching in to help a tired team on Sunday afternoon.



Does the Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus know how to reach you?

Please keep the Emmaus Community up-to-date with any changes to your contact information.

If you move

If your email address changes....

If you are not getting news flashes or newsletters.....

Please send changes to: trwecomm@gmail.com

The Third Best Gift?

Did you know that there are about 100 days left until Christmas. Someone told me that there were 6 paydays until Christmas. Frightening words aren't they? We get so caught up in the planning, the shopping, the cleaning, the baking and so much more, we sometimes forget the reason we do all those things. We do them to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. The BEST Gift of all.

Stop for a moment and think who we want to give a special gift? It doesn't need to be a Christmas gift or a gift for any occasion for that matter. What would that gift be? How could it be truly amazing? God gave us Jesus, Jesus died to give us Life. How could we top that? We can't, but we can honor the words of Jesus to Love one another and to go make disciples of all nations.

The third best gift that we can give would be to give someone the gift of a stronger relationship with God; a gift where they could feel the Love of God for them in what could be a totally new way; a place where they can fellowship with other Christians; where they can grow in their faith and get a chance to relax; and be served by other God loving people. A gift where they can witness the Body of Christ working as God had intended it to be.

This gift you could give is called "sponsorship". As I write this to you there have been 10 men and 9 women to whom someone is giving that gift to this fall. There certainly are more people who deserve this gift. Who is God calling you to sponsor? Whose life can you impact? Who could benefit by coming on a Walk? Who could do new and helpful things in their church and community if this gift this gift were to be given to them?

The time is now; the gift of sponsorship is waiting for you to give!

Bill Wiegand,
Registrar

TRWE Men's Reunion Groups			
Area	Group Name	Meeting Time/Location	Contact
Clarion	Clarion Cluster	Monday – Weekly 7:15 a.m. Eat –N-Park, I-80 Exit 60	Rev. Jerry Belloit (814) 227-2673 belloit@clarion.edu
Green County	The Southern Cross	2nd & 4th Wednesday 8:00 a.m. The Hartley Inn in Carmichaels, PA.	Ernie DeLuca 724-883-2165 ernreb@helicon.net
McKeesport Area	IBSC	2nd & 4th Wednesday 6:00 a.m. Eat' N Park - McKeesport	Nick Denardo C: 412-780-3873 H: 412-673-4927 bigdumy@comcast.net
Penn Township	Mark 1:17	1 st & 3 rd Friday 6:30 a.m. Lumpy's Deli and Pie Shop, Rte 130	Scott Mains 724-454-9300 sjmains@comcast.net
Wexford	Wexford I	Monday 6:00 a.m. King's Restaurant on Route 910	Jeff Clark 412-364-1515 jac@astmtmc.cmu.edu
Wexford	The Friday Eat N' Park Wexford II Group	Friday 7:00 a.m. Eat' N Park, Wexford	Dave Claypool 724-443-5627 dwclaypool@yahoo.com
Wexford	Wexford III	Tuesday 7:00 a.m. King's Restaurant on Route 910	Bruce Corbett 724-935-0094

TRWE Women's Reunion Groups			
Area	Group Name	Meeting Date/Location	Contact
Green Tree	Mt. Pisgah	Tuesday 1:00 p.m. Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church	Luann Walton 412-787-3826 luann-w@vitac.com
Irwin/Harrison City	SonCatchers	Every Monday 5:30 p.m. Community UM Church Harrison City	Diane Simmons/Flo Willaman 724-744-1989 SimmonsDA@e2minc.com / floziejean@windstream.net
Oakmont		Thursday at 5:00 p.m.	Karen Jacobs 412-828-3854
South Hills/ Bethel Park	South Hill's Babe Chicks	1 st & 3 rd Mondays 7:00 p.m. Christ United Methodist Church	Suzanne Rackley 412-942-4214 suz728r@yahoo.com
Clarion	Clarion Third	3 rd Saturday of the Month 10:00 a.m.	Rev. Clara Belloit

	Saturday Reunion	175 Westwood Dr, Clarian PA	814-227-2673 mamabelloit@hotmail.com
TRWE Mixed Reunion Groups			
Area	Group Name	Meeting Date/Location	Contact
Butler Area	Hearts on Fire	2 nd Wednesday, 4 th Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Call for location of meeting	Mary Sickels 724-283-9597 marys@zoominternet.net
East McKeesport	Disciples of the East	2 nd & 4 th Monday 7:30 p.m. East McKeesport UMC	Bill and Bonnie Wiegand 412-824-7061 bandbwiegand@aol.com
North Hills	The King's Kids	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Panera Bread in Shoppers Plaza Rt 8	Bonnie Readie 412-487-5082 bleadie@verizon.net
South Hills	1Tuesday3	1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:00 p.m. Sams Place, Bethel Park	Sam Lindsay 412-628-9560 Sam4415@hotmail.com
Warren County	Roosters & Cluck Hens	Every other Thursday 7:00 p.m. Warren @ the Bonerigo Home	Kathy Bonerigo (814) 728-8597 (412) 671-5583 Cell

For corrections, additions, or removal of group information regarding **Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus** Reunion Groups, please contact Rev Thomas Topar at Dr.Topar@yahoo.com or www.TRWE.org web-site in a timely manner.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED