



Walk to Emmaus[®]

THE UPPER ROOM[®]

Vol. 15, Issue 33

Little Pencil...

Greetings to all my brothers and sisters in the Emmaus and Chrysalis Communities around the world! Not only do these movements connect Chrysalis and Emmaus communities globally, but they really tie to all people living on this planet. We are Christ's disciples making more disciples! This call doesn't restrict us to making disciples to some of God's children but it challenges us to be disciples to all of our neighbors – no matter where they live. I keep a saying on my desk; a quote from Mother Teresa:



"I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world"

This should be our motto every day of our lives. Let's stop being concerned about whether or not we're going to heaven and a little more concerned with bringing a little bit of heaven down to earth with our words, our deeds...our discipleship.

Jesus said, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (NIV) Eugene Petersen says it this way, "Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in the way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you." (The Message)

"The holidays" are upon us. A time of thanksgiving, a time for family and a time

of giving is drawing near. It is a time of anticipation because He is coming. And He is coming for all of us, everywhere, around the world. This child is coming and we need to be His hands and feet. Christ is counting on us.

May God bless you in your Fourth Day.

Gregory Engroff

*International Lay Director
December 10, 2007*

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Ordering Emmaus Materials and Supplies

Place orders through our Customer Service Staff by calling 1-800-972-0433 or faxing 1-615-430-7590. Allow six to eight weeks in advance of your Walk for processing.

You must have your community account number, mail to and ship to addresses available when placing your order.

One Presbyterian Pastor's Reflection on the Walk to Emmaus

I have been a Presbyterian pastor for 33 years and went on a Walk to Emmaus (WTE) in October 1999 and sat at the Table of Peter. I have been an assistant spiritual director for two walks and am convinced that this 3 day experience is anointed by God and can be one of the most effective means through which God transforms lives.

The highlight of the experience for me is to attend "closing" and hear the men and women tell stories of what the WTE has meant to them and what they are going to do about it. When I hear how God's love has been awakened in the pilgrims' lives through the experience of listening to 15 talks, Candlelight, Dying Moments and interacting with new friends at their table, their testimonies often move me to tears and bring encouragement to my own life and ministry. Good people who have been so used to controlling every facet of their lives begin to see that it is much more joyous to allow God's grace to flow from their hearts to the world around them. I heartily recommend the WTE to lay people as well as pastors. It may not be the answer to all the problems that we face in life as Christians, but it may offer one seeking a deeper relationship with God an indelible impression of God's love from which one may discover new freedom and many more choices on their life's journey than one could ever dream possible.

While the Walk to Emmaus may not be for everyone, it could be the way in which God speaks and moves in your life to enable and empower you to discover and use your unique gifts. It could be the way you find the special purpose that God has given you. I have heard many testimonies at repeated "closings" that bear witness to the power of God's love that changed the direction of people's lives. From the "Walk to Emmaus" I have seen many people discover new possibilities for their lives. They were given hope. Their lives gained a new dimension as they began to hear with new ears the promise of Christ: "I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:11). God's unconditional love is that great and more.

Tom Baughman

*Pastor, First Presbyterian Church
Lewisville, Texas*

The Lord Knows No Limits

As the 2007 Lay Director for the Aldersgate Emmaus Community of Florida, I witnessed "The New Pentecost," as Aldersgate became the third community on the U.S. mainland and the first Emmaus community in Florida to host men's and women's Spanish-language weekends this past October.

We followed the leading of the Holy Spirit when Ann Leavens, our 2006 Lay Director, asked us early in 2006 to be in covenant with her to pray about holding Spanish-language walks. Later that year, in God's timing and at His kairoic moment, our English-speaking board stepped out in faith and scheduled the walks with no idea of what we had committed to and how we might proceed. However, we worked closely with Victor Perez and the Upper Room and identified Spanish-speaking members of the Emmaus community who made their walks and served on teams in Cuba, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Georgia. We met, prayed, spread the word, and worked. We faced some incredible obstacles and some discouragements along the way, yet the Lord sustained us through the faithfulness and the efforts of others whenever we considered postponing or cancelling the walks. Our Spanish-language walks happened because of the God-inspired vision and commitment of Emmaus members everywhere.

The walks not only occurred, they flourished! Twelve Spanish-speaking pilgrims—including three pastors--attended Men's Walk #119. On their first Fourth Days, the men sponsored an additional 31 women, bringing the total number of women who attended the Women's Walk #119 to 35—our largest walk in 2007. The team for Women's Walk #119 included 21 women from Puerto Rico who each arrived dragging two suitcases—one filled with her clothes and another filled w/ agape for the pilgrims and for the Aldersgate community.

One unexpected result from these first Spanish-language walks was that the Lord provided us connections with Emmaus people from many backgrounds and communities. Some of our sisters from Puerto Rico will return to serve again next October; in addition, I plan to serve on the women's team for Puerto Rico Walk #50 in Spring 2008. And, at this early writing, Aldersgate Emmaus has applications from more than a dozen pilgrims for the 2008 Spanish-language walks.

When the Holy Spirit inspires us, we can follow God's leading even when we face barriers of language and distance. Jesus knows no borders.

De Colores!

Maggie Boreman

2007 Lay Director, Florida Aldersgate Emmaus

Welcome to our new Staff!



Ilyse Johnson is the Emmaus Regional Representative for the North East. After her Walk in 1997, Ilyse has served on Emmaus teams and as a Board member. She has served as Weekend Lay Director and Community Lay Director in the Richmond, VA community. Ilyse is the Senior Account Manager for the Richmond Magazine. Her church involvement includes participating in "Women's Ministries" and leading "Prism Weight Loss". She is married to Mike and is the mother of two sons.



Brenda Photivihok is the Assistant to the International Lay Director. Brenda grew up in the south as a member of a U. S. Air Force family. She has worked in various positions with Gaylord Opryland and most recently, she worked for AIM, a hospital auditing company. Brenda took her Walk in the spring of 2003. She is the mother of three sons, Matthew, Luke and Mark. She believes that sharing God's love is the most important job we have in life.

Walk to Emmaus & Chrysalis Database Service

Many Emmaus and Chrysalis Communities have been seeking a database program that can be used in their area. On November 10, 2007, Internet Membership Services introduced a database program for Emmaus and Chrysalis communities. After two years in the making, Larry Deel, President, has presented an excellent tool that can be used by any and all Emmaus and Chrysalis communities. The IMS Emmaus database has been tested in several South East Region communities and the response has been very positive. If you want to find out more information, go to www.inetmember.com.

Merry Christmas!

*From the International Chrysalis and Emmaus Office:
Victor and Laura, Wayne and Edna,
and Greg and Brenda*

Every year we look at Advent and the Christmas seasons as a time of joy, love, giving and hope. Jesus didn't have a season for joy, love, giving or hope. He lived that way everyday. During this season of joy, let us remember that Jesus wants us to be more like Him and we can do that by being disciples of hope, love, joy and giving – all year long.



Our Emmaus/Chrysalis Journey: Part One

We are a people on a journey that:

- we call our 4th day;
- is for spiritual growth and transformation;
- is not done alone but in community;
- is guided by our Lord Jesus who constantly walks with us;
- is with those who represent the Christian church, the body of Christ;
- is teaching us how to work together in accomplishing God's will for us; and
- asks us to guide others through their journey.

For many of us this journey started the day we offered our lives to Christ, but it acquired a special meaning once we experienced our 72-hour Emmaus/Chrysalis weekend. It acquired that special meaning because of:

- What we heard and experienced during the E/C weekend;
- The new friendships that we developed during our weekend and through our community activities, our reunion groups, serving on teams;
- Our new understanding of how God's grace is available to us every day of our life;
- The power of prayer that we have rediscovered, in our personal time with God, with our brothers and sisters in reunion groups, at church; and
- The way we have continued to discern God's will for us as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and as members of the body of Christ.

Paul's words in Ephesians 4:15-16 remind us that as we move forward on our journey, we:

- are expected to grow and be transformed, "we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...";
- learn how to work together and to strengthen each other, "from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped...";
- learn the importance of doing a good job, how to perform with quality and with integrity the task that has been entrusted to us, "as each part is working properly..."; and
- learn about the results of our good work, so that others will receive the benefit of our actions and how we should be thankful to God for allowing us to be a part of his plans. We should rejoice as we hear how God continues to change and transform our lives, "promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love".

The image of the body that Paul presents in I Corinthians 12:14-26 shows the members' proper interrelation within the body. The "one body, many members" metaphor was selected by Paul

to teach the Christians in the early church about the need of unity within the Church. It uses the image of the human body which is formed by many members.

According to J. Paul Sampley, *The New Interpreter's Bible*, the metaphor serves two purposes. Verses 15-17 use the analogy to address persons who have a low self-estimation, who they wish they were rather than who they are, and seeks to assure them of their importance, even necessity, to the body.

Verses 21-24 address those who have a low estimation of others - that is, those who think they have greater importance - and reminds these people, that every member is equally important to the well being of the body.

Every part of the body has a particular function and is needed if the body is to function adequately. Paul sees the church as the body of Christ. The unity of the believers is grounded in that each person is an indispensable part of the body. The individuality is honored in that each believer serves the body in a distinct - neither less or greater - way.

Within the human body we find many parts with different functions. We can refer to the human body as a large system with many sub-systems wondrously intertwined. When one of the sub-systems (parts) is not working as it should, the large system is impacted.

All the sub-systems need to perform their particular tasks at the proper time. While parts of the body are working at a particular task, others might be resting, waiting for the moment they need to kick in and do their task. For example, we need to keep our eyes open while walking or driving so that we can see what's ahead of us. However, when we want to sleep we need to keep our eyes closed in order for the brain to know that it is time to rest. The eyes are still in the same place but are not performing an active part while other parts of the body are.

The image of the body used by Paul in his writings to the early church could be helpful to those of us who provide leadership in Emmaus/Chrysalis. We will continue this topic on our next issue.

De Colores!

Rev. Victor Perez

International Spiritual Director

Emmaus Funding Plan Donations

**Thank you to each of the following Emmaus Communities
for donations sent to the International Walk to Emmaus office.**

Grand Total as of October 31, 2007: \$169,941.50

COMMUNITY AND STATE

Alabama Emmaus	AL	Richmond Area Emmaus	IN	Northwest Ohio	OH
Blue Lake Meaux	AL	Southeastern Indiana	IN	Ohio Valley Emmaus	OH
Living Water	AL	Southwest Indiana	IN	Reynoldsburg Emmaus	OH
New Covenant	AL	Cedar Rapids	IA	Springfield Area	OH
Alaska Emmaus	AK	Iowa Emmaus	IA	Wilmington Area	OH
Arizona Emmaus	AZ	Terraced Hills Emmaus	IA	Great Plains	OK
Near the Cross Emmaus	AR	Bread of Life Emmaus	KS	Green Country	OK
Central California	CA	Campbellsville Emmaus	KY	Pioneer Country	OK
Channel Island	CA	Elizabethtown Emmaus	KY	Three Rivers Emmaus	PA
El Shaddai	CA	Lake Cumberland Area	KY	Emmaus of the Midlands	SC
Korean Speaking Emmaus	CA	Lexington Emmaus	KY	Foothills Emmaus	SC
Mountain Trials	CA	Louisville Area	KY	Low Country Emmaus	SC
Northern California/Nevada	CA	Owensboro Emmaus	KY	Seaside Emmaus	SC
San Diego Emmaus	CA	Pennyriile Emmaus	KY	Chattanooga-Lafayette	TN
Southern California	CA	Purchase Area Emmaus	KY	Cleveland Emmaus	TN
Emmaus of the Rockies	CO	Cross Bayou	LA	Emmaus of the Cumberlands	TN
Four Corners Emmaus	CO	Lagniappe Country	LA	Great Smoky Mountain	TN
Northern Colorado Emmaus	CO	Crossroads	MA	Highland Rims Emmaus	TN
Western Rockies	CO	Southern Maryland	MD	Memphis Emmaus	TN
Chesapeake Emmaus	DE	Emmaus of Southeast Michigan	MI	Nashville Emmaus	TN
Delmarva Emmaus	DE	Jackson Area	MI	Still Waters	TN
Aldersgate Emmaus	FL	Lansing Area	MI	West Tennessee	TN
Big Ben	FL	Mid-Michigan	MI	Big Country Emmaus	TX
Blue Lake	FL	Northeast Emmanuel	MI	Central Texas Conference	TX
Florida Crown	FL	Straits Area Emmaus	MI	Cross Country	TX
Florida Sunrise	FL	West Michigan Emmaus	MI	Diakonia	TX
Gulf Coast Emmaus	FL	Central Mississippi Emmaus	MS	East Texas	TX
Herat of Florida	FL	Heartland of Kansas	MO	Golden Spread	TX
Oceanside Emmaus	FL	Missouri East	MO	Golden Triangle	TX
Southeast Florida	FL	Show Me The Way	MO	Grace Emmaus	TX
Sun Coast Florida	FL	Billings Emmaus	MT	Hi-Sky	TX
Athens Emmaus	FL	Helena Emmaus	MT	La Mesa de Dios	TX
Atlanta South	GA	Four Corners	NM	Living Water	TX
Coastal Georgia	GA	Northeast New Mexico	NM	Llano Estacado	TX
Georgia Foothills	GA	Northwest New Mexico	NM	Mesquite Emmaus	TX
Georgia-Lina	GA	New York Annual Conference	NY	NET Northeast Texas	TX
Pathways East Georgia	GA	Troy Annual Conference	NY	New Horizon	TX
South Georgia	GA	Western New York	NY	Rainbow's End Emmaus	TX
Valley Georgia	GA	Wyoming Conference	NY	Red River Emmaus	TX
Hawaii	HI	Albemarle Emmaus	NC	Rushing Wind	TX
Idaho Emmaus	ID	Blue Ridge	NC	Sweetwater Emmaus	TX
Bloomington-Normal	IL	Grace of the Carolinas	NC	Wasatch Front Emmaus	UT
Elohim Emmaus	IL	Heart of Carolina	NC	Channel Island Emmaus	VA
Illinois Heartland	IL	Mountain Top	NC	Dan River	VA
Little Egypt	IL	Sandhills	NC	Eastern Shore	VA
Northern Illinois	IL	Nebraska Walk to Emmaus	NE	Loudoun Valley	VA
Dayspring Emmaus of Southern IN	IN	Central Ohio	OH	New River Valley	VA
Wabash Valley	IL	East Ohio Emmanuel	OH	Peninsula Rainbow	VA
Burning Hearts	IN	Greater Cincinnati	OH	Richmond Emmaus	VA
El Shaddai of Illiana	IN	Greater Dayton	OH	Shenadoah Valley	VA
Evansville District	IN	Greater Findlay Area	OH	Southside Emmaus	VA
Greater Indianapolis	IN	Greater Scioto Valley	OH	Southwest Virginia	VA
Greensburg Area	IN	Greater Sidney	OH	Eastern Panhandle	WV
Michiana	IN	Heart of Ohio Emmaus	OH	Kanawha Valley	WV
North Indiana Emmaus	IN	New-Ark Area	OH	Big Horn Basin	WY

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Regional Representatives are working hard to serve your community. When they make contact with your leaders, please make them feel welcome. Please contact them. Regional Representatives are available to serve. Here are the Regional Representatives and their contact information.

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