



REYNOLDSBURG
emmaus COMMUNITY

1636 Graham Road
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

OCTOBER 2009

Return Service Requested



EMMAUS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2009

TOGETHER WE STAND

AS WE CELEBRATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REYNOLDSBURG EMMAUS COMMUNITY, I FIND MYSELF BEING FILLED WITH GRATITUDE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE COME BEFORE US.

In the late 1980's, led by the late Rev. Ralph Bauserman, a number of faithful people answered the call of God and followed a bold vision to begin an Emmaus Community in Reynoldsburg. Saints from the Central Ohio Emmaus Community in Marysville partnered with those in the Reynoldsburg area and the first walks were held.

It was difficult work for a small group of people, but the upstart community stood together on the promises of God and began to flourish. Monthly gatherings were held, initially in one family's living room, and the community began to grow. The love of Christ was evident then, even as it is now, and lives were transformed.

Over the years, not only did many souls come to Christ, but countless more grew by leaps and bounds in their faith as God used the Emmaus movement as a powerful instrument for spiritual formation. Numerous people have heard and answered the call to full time ministry as a direct result of their Emmaus experience. Twenty years later, the Reynoldsburg Emmaus Community, some 4,500 members strong, remains as one of most vibrant communities in the country.

Each time that we gather for one of our seven Emmaus weekends or one of our monthly gatherings, remember this: together we stand on the shoulders of giants. That reality will never be clearer than it will be during our gathering on October 6. The intentionality and faithfulness of those who first stood together twenty years ago, as well as those who have stood together over the years, is still evident today.

As we prepare for the next 20 years, let us stand together, not only on the shoulders of giants, but on tip toes, as we anticipate what God will do next. May God continue to bless the good work of the Reynoldsburg Emmaus Community!

Stay close to Jesus,

Dave
Dave

2009 REYNOLDSBURG EMMAUS COMMUNITY WALK CALENDAR

Men's Walk #61	October 8-11
Women's Walk #81	November 12-15

*Gatherings - the first Tuesday of each month at 7:15pm
Candlelight - Saturday of each walk at 8:30pm. Meet in the Worship Center
Closing - begins at 4:30pm on the Sunday of each walk. Meet in Kirsch Hall
Note: Children & guests are welcome at gatherings; however, candlelight & closings are for those who have attended The Walk to Emmaus.

Reynoldsburg Emmaus Community Web Site: www.rumc.org/emmaus

MEN'S GOOD SHEPHERD - Bill Ulm

COINCIDENCE?

Peace be to all of you. God has put on my heart to share with you my closest to Christ moment for week ending 9/5/09. August 31 was one of those days. Everything seemed to go wrong, and to be very honest, I felt very distant from God. Indeed I felt abandoned and unloved, very alone. Then during devotions the next morning, during my prayer time, the Holy Spirit gave me a nudge. I realized, Jesus was not loved and indeed felt abandoned too in his darkest hour as a human being. I felt very close to Him. Suddenly I knew that what I suffered was nothing compared to what He suffered. I knew peace again. I have never been unloved. I shared this with a brother and sister in Christ at the Gathering later that day. The real blessing was at the Gathering, where a video was presented and the last frame of the video had these words "you have never been unloved". A coincidence? God is good. Brothers and sisters, persevere. I pray your 4th days are abundantly blessed.

Decolores. Bill Ulm

MEN'S WALK #61 LIVE IN TEAM, OCTOBER 8-11, 2009

NAME	ROLE	TALK
David Cady	Spiritual Director	Means of Grace
Rich Allen	Asst. Spiritual Director	Prevenient Grace
Dan Kopp	Asst. Spiritual Director	Justifying Grace
Jeff Greenway	Asst. Spiritual Director	Obstacles to Grace
Jim Rhein	Asst. Spiritual Director	Sanctifying Grace
Monty Adams	Lay Director	Perseverance
Dave Stoffel	Lay Director in Training	
Mike Allen	Asst. Lay Director	Discipleship
Randy Higgenbotham	Asst. Lay Director	Priority
Ed Canter	Music Director	
John Miller	Asst. Music Director	
John Vingle	Technical Director	
Chris Stoffel	Table Leader	Priesthood of All Believers
RJ Schirtzinger	Asst. Table Leader	
Ed Overturf	Table Leader	Life in Piety
Bob Dowler	Asst. Table Leader	
Jeff Sheets	Table Leader	Growth Through Study
Tom Helber	Asst. Table Leader	
Bill Ischy	Table Leader	Christian Action
Ron Stebleton	Asst. Table Leader	
Roger Moody	Table Leader	Changing Our World
Mike Miller	Asst. Table Leader	
Elton Acker	Table Leader	Body of Christ
Paul Tussing	Asst. Table Leader	
Sam Schirtzinger	Table Leader	Fourth Day
Bruce Bailey	Asst. Table Leader	

EMMAUS BOARD 2009

David Cady Spiritual Director	740-927-3540 dcady@columbus.rr.com
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Kim Rodgers Supplies	614-452-1232 kim.rodgers0708@hotmail.com

PILGRIM	CHURCH NAME	SPONSOR NAME
Erik Lambert	Sycamore Creek Non-denominational	Dan & Linda Jones
Rick Breusch	Karl Road Baptist Church	John Kirn
James Davis	Madison Christian Church	Sarah Davis
Dale James	Bexley UMC	Dale Heiser
Steven Wallace	Shepherd Church of the Nazarene	Doug Dahms
Tim O'Daniel	Grace Fellowship	Jan O'Daniel
Ricky Klema	Summit Station UMC	Cassie Rowley
Ed Jaeger	New Hope Bible Church	Mark Shell / Hans Dreyer
Mike Blankenship	Violet Baptist Church	Elton Acker
Scott Wagner	Genoa Christian Church	Chris Combs
Wilson Puckett	South Bloomfield UMC	Charles Moody
Larry Parsons	Obetz UMC	Bob & Carol Bock / Don & Belle Smith
Eric Mason	Blessed Assembly House of Prayer	Kimberly Lloyd
Ryan Whisler	Karl Road Baptist Church	John Kim
Tim Barnhart	Somerset UMC	Suzanne Barnhart
Gary Kubicki	Grove City Church of the Nazarene	Terry Habegger
Marlin Hart	Reynoldsburg UMC	Dave Travis
David Barber	Summit Station UMC	Dave Cady
Greg Brown	Summit Station UMC	Rich Blanton
Scott Noble	American Baptist of Westerville	Troy Conner
Carlo Lawrence	Reynoldsburg UMC	Jeff & Linda Puckett
David Ward	Somerset UMC	Teresa Ward
Daryl Reynolds	Salvation Army	Tommy Bruce
Paul Gibson	Refuge Ministries	Robert Sellman
Rodney Storts	Hope UMC	Tom Helber / Dave Marion
Don Roof	Summit Station UMC	Cheri Roof
Greg Ickes	Reynoldsburg UMC	Jeff & Linda Puckett
Kenneth Sellers	Way of the Cross	Gregory LaPaugh

**Check Emmaus link for Pilgrim updates:
www.rumc.org/emmaus/walks/index.html**

EMMAUS COMMUNITY SHARE GROUP INFORMATION

Women's Good Shepherd _____ Men's Good Shepherd _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

SHARE GROUP LOCATION _____

SHARE DAY & TIME _____

SHARE PARTNERS _____

Are you willing to accept additional share partners? yes no

Mail to: Reynoldsburg Emmaus Community
1636 Graham Rd. Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

Register your e-mail address at the Emmaus home page:

**http://rumc.org/emmaus/
(enter your e-mail at top right of the home page)**

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

I recently read this from someone named Alan Cohen: *"We function most powerfully when we are giving love. The world has led us to believe that our well-being is dependent on other people loving us. But this is the upside-down thinking that has caused so many of our problems. The truth is that our well-being is dependent on our giving love. It is not about what comes back; it is about what goes out."* Bits and Pieces, August 2009, pg.1

I have nothing against Alan Cohen, and I agree with what he says, but those of us who are followers of Jesus know that this is not new with Mr. Cohen. All we have to do is read the words of Jesus in Matthew 19:19 that say ". . . love your neighbor as yourself." That is what we are all about in this ministry known as the Walk to Emmaus. If you are serving with the right heart, you are doing everything in whatever situation or role you are in to "give love" in Mr. Cohen's words, or to "love your neighbor" in the words of Jesus. Serving for any other reason except to show God's love to the pilgrims goes against the purposes of Emmaus. Walk after Walk, the pilgrims talk at Closing about how they are amazed at how much love they feel, how much others have served them during the weekend, and how cool it is to see the Body of Christ in action.

As our community prepares to receive the pilgrims that God has called to attend Men's Walk #61 October 8-11, I pray that you will join me in concentrating on showing these men the love of Christ in a way that they have never seen before—doing everything we can to make their weekend with God a very special time for them, just as it was for us.

I hope you will attend the Closing on Sunday evening to hear them express their appreciation for the love they have received. For all of you who will carry luggage, pray, sponsor, cook, serve, wash dishes, clean bathrooms, move mattresses and furniture, sort agape, provide special music, serve on the live in team, greet the pilgrims at the registration desk, make ice cream sundaes, or any other of the many roles needed to put on a Walk to Emmaus weekend, serve with your heart bursting with God's love for the pilgrims—because someone did it for you. You know Him—His name is Jesus.

Grace and peace,

Steve Friece,
Emmaus Board Chair

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF EMMAUS AT REYNOLDSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Come join us in celebrating 20 years of the Walk to Emmaus at Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church. There will be a special Gathering in the Worship Center on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:15pm, to focus on what the Walk to Emmaus has meant to Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church. You won't want to miss this milestone event. All are invited to come and celebrate with us.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME AN EMMAUS LIAISON?

Think back to when you first left the church the Sunday night of your pilgrim walk weekend. Were you overwhelmed with the anticipation of what God was calling you to do? Did you have a plan already set in motion? Did you ask yourself, "So what now?"

For many of us the question of how to connect with other Christians, particularly in a share group, can be daunting coming off of our Walk. Who else has been to Emmaus at our church? Can I find one or two other people to meet with me for an hour each week? How does the card work?

Over the last twenty years, the Walk to Emmaus, at Reynoldsburg, has had over 4,500 participants, and the list of newly refreshed disciples in Christ continues to grow. One of the most important pieces to continued Christian growth is accountability and community support. A key to the Emmaus movement, growing leaders for the local church, is through share groups which encourage members of the Emmaus community to stay on their path with Christ while serving their local congregation. Although the Good Shepherds would like to personally help connect each pilgrim with a share group, the simple logistics of connecting over four thousand people in over 200 churches is not realistic. We simply need help.

In an effort to reach as many Emmaus Community members as possible we are looking for volunteers from each of the churches touched by the Reynoldsburg Emmaus Community to serve as an Emmaus Community Liaison.

The Emmaus Liaison would be notified when someone from your church was scheduled to attend a

walk and the pilgrim(s) who attend the walk would be given your church's Liaison's name as a contact. The Emmaus Liaison would help connect people with others who have attended the walk from your church, work with the Community Good Shepherds to help make connections for share groups within your church, and to simply be a bridge back to the pilgrim's local congregation.

The key to the Emmaus Liaison position would be to be a friend to their brother or sister in Christ as they come off of his or her walk. Truly living out one of our favorite Emmaus catch phrases: "Make a Friend; Be a Friend; Bring a Friend to Christ!"

If you are interested in being an Emmaus Liaison, or simply learning more about the role, please contact either the Men's Good Shepherd, Bill Ulm, at 614-837-9588 or email at wjulum@yahoo.com or the Women's Good Shepherd, Courtney Hilbert, at 614-595-4803 or email at courtney_hilbert@abercrombie.com for further details.

May God continue to bless your 4th days.

2009

GATHERINGS (7:15pm)

October 6
November 3
December 1

WALK DATES

Men's #61
October 8-11
Women's #81
November 12-15

EMMAUS WALKS

How will you be the hands and feet of Christ? Sign-up sheets are displayed in the Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church kitchen and in St. Andrew's Hall on the Gathering evenings or call the board representative. Christ gave His life for you. Will you give you hands and feet for Him?

- 24-hour Prayer Vigil
- Carry Luggage
- Bedtime Agape
- Mealtimes Agape
- Logistics: Set-up, clean, tear down
- Agape Room
- Kitchen
- Attend Candlelight
- Write Pilgrim Agape

Are you persevering in your walk with Christ? Are you utilizing all the tools you learned on your Walk to Emmaus?

- Seek Discipleship Opportunities
- Serve the Emmaus Community
- Use the Reunion Group Card
- Sunday School Attendance
- Share Group Attendance
- Daily Morning Devotions
- Bible Study Attendance
- Daily Morning Prayer
- Study the Scriptures
- Serve Your Church
- Worship Attendance
- Daily Meditation