

Ashland Area Emmaus Community A LIGHT SHINING

From the Community Lay Director

Cheryl Lemons

Are you missing out on the blessings that God wants you to have? Emmaus is structured so that the inexperienced will succeed. Remember the purpose of Emmaus is to grow leaders for HIS church.

“The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.”

You are not expected to know what to do. God only expects you to rely on Him and trust Him! It is in the moments when we are most weak that God’s strength is revealed through us. For example, Moses couldn’t talk and therefore didn’t think he could lead, but in that weakness, God provided the answer which glorified Him. Furthermore, if God really wants YOU to do something, He will be relentless in pursuing you until you give in. Remember what happened to Jonah when he said “no” and ran away. God found a way to get him right back in the game. God says 365 times in the Bible to “fear not.” And he promises that He will be with you always.

I was blessed to go on my Walk in 2002. If I was told then that in 2013 I would be the Community Lay Director, I would not believe it. There was a need for a Tech/Media person on a Women’s Walk a few years ago. My name was mentioned as a possible...but I didn’t know how to do that job, and I didn’t have a computer background. But, knowing that God would be with me, I accepted the challenge, and what a pleasure it’s been serving as Tech/Media on many walks. Each time I ran into a problem during that first walk as a Tech/Media, **God** sent the RIGHT person to literally walk in front of me. I didn’t have to hunt anyone down! Many times during my 4th days, I have experienced tremendous spiritual growth that God has freely given to me.

How do you know if it’s YOU wanting something done or GOD wanting it done? If I am asked to help with an activity that glorifies God and furthers God’s kingdom, I believe it is God who is asking, and I will always do my best. Why hesitate? Afraid of failing? Afraid of glorifying self?

August 2013

Gathering Info

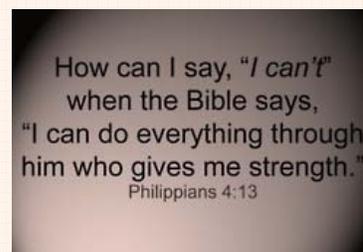


Friday August 16, 2013

First United Methodist

Potluck 6:30 p.m.

Worship 7:30 p.m.



Fourth Day Speaker

Janie Moore

Worship

Lee Ann Bower

September Gathering

**Friday
September 20th, 2013**

Lay Director's comments continued...

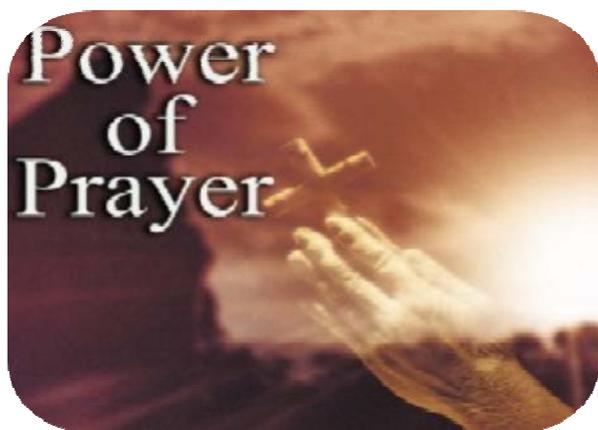
If you are called to be on a Walk team, give a 4th day talk, or run for the Board, it's not that you already know how – It's because God believes you are ready and you will grow. Emmaus helps you grow whether *you want to or not*. We as servants need to remind ourselves that God will be in it with us.

It's always a blessing when someone replies to a request to do this work, "Not something I have to think about real hard. If my name is brought up, then God gave it to you. So, no need to hesitate." and "... God's timing does not always follow the schedule we set for ourselves. We do not know what tomorrow brings nor do we fully understand the plans God has for us. We cannot get so hung up on such details that we miss out on the obvious opportunities God gives us to serve His kingdom."

I do pray that this encourages those who haven't yet been asked, or those who have been asked and have hesitated to heed the call. Jesus did not say to put Him on a shelf and bring him down on Sundays. He said to take up your cross and follow Him or you cannot be His disciple. Luke 14:27. He did not say life here would be easy or that following Him would be easy, but He did **promise** to be with you through it all and it would be worth it.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. – Isaiah 43:2

And you know what? It's all true! DeColores



Pray for the Emmaus Community, leaders and volunteers...

Heavenly Father, God, our creator, we give you praise and thanksgiving. Your wisdom, grace and mercy surround us as we gather together as a body of believers.

The prayer of our hearts is to build the Emmaus community through sharing your love and grace through service. Encourage leaders to be humble yet bold for your kingdom. Inspire the hearts of community members to plug into the ministry always seeking be your hands and feet to others through action.

May each of us be filled with the Holy Spirit, always seeking your will not our own.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen

Support other communities! Emmaus Walk Prayer Support

Be a part of the Prayer Vigil.

Go to www.3dayol.org

(or click here from the [Ashland Emmaus website](#)).

Treasurer's Report

June 2013

Beginning Balance	\$5,339.79
Receipts	\$453.00
Disbursements	\$65.00
Ending Balance	\$5,727.79



Emmaus Community Prayer Requests and Praise Reports

	Offered by	Concerning	Request
Prayer	Bill and Sandy Ott	Keith Robinette (Brother-in-law)	Beginning treatments for Brain Cancer
Prayer	Sandy Ott	Linda Smith	Taking radiation treatments for Breast cancer
Prayer	Dianne Herrell	Pastor Ruth Carter Crist	Healing after motorcyle wreck
Prayer	Rob Newman	Caroll Newman	Illness, unwanted weightloss
Prayer	First Baptist Church	Ralph Carrico	Stomach problems, hospital
Prayer	Fred & Melanie Herr	Jim Perry	Back pain, hip surgery
Praise	Peter & Trish Shaffer	Teen class at VBS	6 kids made decision for Christ
Praise	Ken Walker	Ken Walker	Answered prayer, God's blessing on his business

Emmaus Board Elections

A Nominations team is being appointed by the Board of Directors to begin the process of election of new board members.

Elections will be held in September. The ballot will be distributed after the August Board meeting via email and/or mail. It will also be published in the September newsletter.

If you are asked if you would be willing to place your name in nomination, please be aware that the Board of Directors is a working Board – everyone on the board has a field of ministry within the community to coordinate. Please prayerfully consider the opportunity.



Applications for the Walk

Walk applications are available on the web at www.ashlandemmaus.com. Send the applications to the address on the form. Remember to be specific about the needs of your pilgrim, including food requirements and sleeping arrangements.

Fall Walk Dates:

Men's Walk #32 -- October 10-13, 2013
Women's Walk #38 -- October 24-27, 2013

Serve the community through
childcare...

Make a little extra \$\$\$\$\$\$\$



Child Care Workers needed...

The Ashland Area Emmaus Community Board discussed at the May meeting the ongoing issue with providing childcare at Emmaus gatherings and community events during walks. This paid service has been offered for many years to allow members of the AAEC to be able to participate without worrying about what they would do with their children. In recent months, we have been unable to secure regular helpers to take on this responsibility.

Because we want to be sure the children are safe, we follow the Safe Sanctuary guidelines and require at least one adult to be with them at all times even with the faithful teens who have volunteered to assist. However, because we are constantly coming up short we, the Board, are considering discontinuing this service. Please contact Cheryl or one of the Board members and let us know if you would like to volunteer to assist with the childcare. If we can get a few volunteers then we can rotate the responsibility. In the event we cannot secure persons to serve in this manner then we will have no choice but to discontinue offering this service to community members.

Sponsorship is an act of love for God, for the Pilgrims, for the church, and for the Emmaus Community.

It is a demonstration of agape love and an instrument of prevenient Grace.

4. Encourage the commitment once interest has been given. Have the application with you and ask the prospective pilgrim to fill it out while you are there so you can answer any questions they may have.
5. Continue to prepare... prayer support, answering questions, gathering agape letters. Talk to the pilgrims pastor to elicit support and explain the Walk to Emmaus.
6. Handle the pilgrim's weekend responsibilities. Help with family, home, animals, pick up mail or just be available in case something is needed. Be sure to bring your pilgrim, attend sponsors hours, Candle light, closing and don't forget to take them home with that silly grin on their face!