

A LIGHT SHINING

From the Community Lay Director
Sandy Ott

Weaknesses, Where God is Strong!

Recently I have had the privilege of participating in a study on Gideon. At first glance, Gideon seems to be a rather insignificant figure in the whole of God's Word. There are only 3 chapters in the book of Judges that tell his story. At that, he is described as being weak and small, seeing himself as a coward. However, in the very first encounter with the Angel of the Lord, Gideon is referred to as a mighty warrior of God.

If you are familiar with the story you know that Gideon went on to lead a very minimal army of 300 men to defeat the 135,000 member army of Midian. How incredible is that? If God had anointed a stronger, seemingly capable warrior to lead the army of Israel we would not have seen so readily the power of God at work. The victory would have been attributed to the might and power of the warrior himself rather than God working through him, through his weaknesses. What makes this all the more remarkable and important to us today is we can put ourselves in this scenario.

We are no different today. Gideon did not see himself as the 'mighty warrior' just as many of us do not see ourselves as worthy, capable or strong enough to be a faithful disciple that leads others to our one true God. We need to realize and recognize our weaknesses, whatever they may be, so that we can more accurately see the hand of God at work in and through us. We can be willing to let God use us and we can give Him the glory and honor for whatever triumph, no matter how large or small it may seem, properly crediting the power of God through us, not the power of us.



April 2014

Gathering Info



Next Gathering:

Friday, May 16, 2014
1st United Methodist Church
Potluck 6:30pm
Worship 7:30pm



Fall Walk Dates

Men's Walk #33
October 9-12, 2014

Women's Walk #40
October 23-26, 2014



Praying for our Leaders:

Local, State and National

Emmaus Walk Prayer Support

Be a part of the Prayer Vigil For Walks all over the world!

Our God in Heaven,

Father we praise you at all times. We give you all honor and glory. Our trust in you is unshakable. Your wisdom, Lord, is all knowing and infallible.

As we near election day we humble our hearts before you to lead and guide our choices. Reveal to us the true heart and intention of those who seek to lead and serve the community, state or nation. Help us to discern what is true and trustworthy. Identify that which is not.

Raise up the leaders needed that will follow you and not be dissuaded or easily misguided. May your hand of mercy be upon this nation as we seek to follow you.

In Jesus name, Amen.

A NOTE FROM WOMEN'S WALK #39 LAY DIRECTOR

From the moment I started to form the Team, "God's Girls", for walk #39, God reminded me the women that the women He ordained to be there would say yes to serving. Those that said no, for whatever reason, were of my choosing not His.

The walk began as usual introducing our new best friends and by Friday at lunch the Team and Pilgrims had meshed like family at a family reunion. The Holy Spirit filled the room as we listened to the speakers present their talks.

On Saturday night the anticipation of God's presence was overwhelming. We blew off some steam with Emmaus 1st God's 80's Disco Party. The team dressed up in Valley Girl, gag me with a spoon, blue eye shadow and leg warmers to the Max. We sang and danced to 80's music with a God twist. As we walked in to the garden the soft angelic voice of Jamie Prater met us, I just knew this is what heaven would be like. The love song from the community poured from the double doors as we walked into the church. The sanctuary filled with the Love of Christ that was reflected through each of the community members eyes. Tears of pure JOY streamed down our faces as we looked out into the community of "LOVE". After Candle Light Pastor Pete suggested if we wanted to we could dedicate or rededicate our hearts and lives to Christ. The altar rail was open to all. A sea of women stood up, almost running to the altar, hitting their knees rejoicing in the Love of Christ. I was in amazement of the Love of Christ. Sunday the good-byes were bitter sweet. Each one missing their families and home, but having to leave their new Emmaus family they just met 72 hours ago.

GOD SHOWED UP IN A POWERFUL WAY! Praise be to God!

DeColores,

Dana Krofcheck



A NOTE FROM MEN'S WALK #32 LAY DIRECTOR

Our God is an Awesome God. God worked with us prior to the walk overcoming obstacles we were facing. The development of the table dynamics was amazing. The pilgrims hit the ground running Friday morning and did not stop all weekend. We even learned how to pronounce everyone's name by Sunday. By the end of Sunday afternoon, we could say that we felt God's presence in the conference room all weekend, and it was a GREAT walk.

De Colores,

Rich Barber



Welcome to the New Community Members

Men's Walk 32

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| John | Bower |
| Drew | Bressler |
| Eddie | Clark |
| Mark | Harris |
| Kevin | Harrison |
| Brian | Hayton |
| James | Higgins |
| Darrein | Keeling |
| Steve | Little |
| Louis | Nichols |
| Jeff | Pitchford |
| Mark | Walz ,Jr. |

Women's Walk 39

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Joan | Arnold |
| Sheri | Brown |
| Connie | Chaney |
| Joan | Cline |
| Lechia | Davis |
| Stacy | Dobson |
| Lori | Halstead |
| Lisa | Harris |
| Wendy | Harris |
| Donna | Kiser |
| Karen | Mullins |
| Kimberly | Porter |
| Faith | Watson |
| Samantha | Woodall |

We are thankful for God's blessing in each of you!

We look forward to sharing life, sharing prayer, serving and celebrating Him through your Fourth Days!



Emmaus Community

| | Offered by | Concerning | Request |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Prayer | Bill and Sandy Ott | Keith Robinette | Healing and strength through a battle with brain cancer. |
| Prayer | Ellen Fryman | Will Caudill (nephew) | Ill with meningitis |
| Prayer | Pam Beacham | Viki Freeman & Zack | Loss of husband, father |



New to the Community?

Are you ready to get involved in the ministry of the Ashland Area Emmaus Community? Here are some ideas:

1. Join or start a reunion group. Reunion groups will help you to stay connected to God and to persevere.
2. Come to the Gatherings. These get together are held on the third Fridays of each month.
3. Read your newsletter - Hey! You are already doing that one! The newsletter is published once a month and is a great way to stay connected to the Community.
4. Make some agape. Looking for some ideas? Google "Emmaus Agape" for lots of ideas. Our community needs 55 pieces of each type of agape for a walk.
5. Pray about how God wants you to get involved.

Gathering Schedule—Mark Your Calendars!!

MAY 16, 2014

AUGUST 15, 2014

JUNE 19, 2014

SEPTEMBER 19, 2014

JULY 18,, 2014

NO GATHERING IN OCTOBER

