

The Rainbow Connection

Volume 10 ~ Issue 4

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Success?

by Greg Rush, Community Lay Director

How do you define success? Is it having a good paying job, a new car, a nice house? God wants us to succeed, but he wants us to succeed by following his will for our lives. How do we know what God's will for us means? I still struggle with this, but I am finding that if I really look for it during my daily bible reading, God's message starts making sense in my life.

Just before Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised Land, God spoke to him. God told him, *"Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do."* Joshua 1:8. At that time God was telling Joshua to study and meditate on His Holy Word, and he would succeed and conquer the people who were living in their promised land.

I believe this message also applies to us today. If we are not reading the bible and thinking about it daily, how can we possibly know what God has planned for our lives? This world's definition of success is not what God defines as success. *"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."* Romans 12:2. Maybe success means having loving family and friends, or the awesome feeling of being able to help someone in need. That doesn't mean that we won't have a nice house or a new car. It means that our first priority should be to know and follow His instructions. When we follow His instructions, God will bless in ways we can't imagine. Remember, when you know Jesus as your Savior and really let Him be Lord in your life, the greatest success will be living forever with Him in heaven.

DeColores,
Greg Rush

Upcoming Schedule of Events

Date for the Spring Mens Walk:

Men's Walk #56
May 1st – 4th

Dates for the Fall Walks:

Women's Walk #57
September 11th – 14th

Men's Walk #57
October 2nd – 5th

Address and phone number for Camp Akita:

29746 Logan-Hornsmill Road
Logan, Ohio 43138
740-385-3827

Map and directions can be found
on the Emmaus Website; just click
on Directions.

For surrounding Satellite Gatherings, see page 3

Sponsorship Forms, Previous Newsletters and Additional Information Available at:

www.southernohioemmaus.com

NOT RECEIVING NEWSLETTER?

Please update your information;
being that there are multiple returns
when the newsletter is being sent
out. Send your email address to
soemmausnewsletter@yahoo.com



Would You Like to Volunteer?

By Heather Pullins , Community Social Chair

Hello Southern Ohio Emmaus Community! I'm Heather Pullins and my position on the SOE board is the Social chairperson. What does the Social chairperson do? I'm glad you asked! I am in charge of the food. Doesn't get much better than that does it? :) At each Gathering, I make sure we have the supplies needed (utensils/plates, etc.) and I try to get it set-up before everyone comes downstairs to eat. I also stay to clean up/wipe down tables/wash anything that we used from the kitchen, etc. During the walks, I need to do the same thing with food/setup on Thursday night and Sunday night.

I could use your help! If you are available to help out (especially during the walk), please send me an email hpullins@columbus.rr.com or call me at 614-307-4227

DeColores!
Heather

Food For Thought and Soul

By Barb Harkless, Community Newsletter

Question: "Christian fasting - what does the Bible say?"

Answer: Scripture does not command Christians to fast. God does not require or demand it of Christians. At the same time, the Bible presents fasting as something that is good, profitable, and beneficial. The book of Acts records believers fasting before they made important decisions (Acts 13:2; 14:23). Fasting and prayer are often linked together (Luke 2:37; 5:33). Too often, the focus of fasting is on the lack of food. Instead, the purpose of fasting should be to take your eyes off the things of this world to focus completely on God. Fasting is a way to demonstrate to God, and to ourselves, that we are serious about our relationship with Him. Fasting helps us gain a new perspective and a renewed reliance upon God.

Although fasting in Scripture is almost always a fasting from food, there are other ways to fast. Anything given up temporarily in order to focus all our attention on God can be considered a fast (1 Corinthians 7:1-5). Fasting should be limited to a set time, especially when fasting from food. Extended periods of time without eating can be harmful to the body. Fasting is not intended to punish the flesh, but to redirect attention to God. Fasting should not be considered a "dieting method" either. The purpose of a biblical fast is not to lose weight, but rather to gain deeper fellowship with God. Anyone can fast, but some may not be able to fast from food (diabetics, for example). Everyone can temporarily give up something in order to draw closer to God.

By taking our eyes off the things of this world, we can more successfully turn our attention to Christ. Fasting is not a way to get God to do what we want. Fasting changes us, not God. Fasting is not a way to appear more spiritual than others. Fasting is to be done in a spirit of humility and a joyful attitude. Matthew 6:16-18 declares, "When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (GotQuestions.org)

De Colores!!
Barb



Prayer Vigil Reminder

By Emma Hockenbery, Community Worship

The online sign-up for the Men's walks is available online at <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml>, we are the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community. There will also be the chart to sign-up at the gathering. Please encourage those you know who have been on an Emmaus walk to support the women and men on their walk as this is an easy way to share that agape love.

DeColores,
Emma

Satellite Gatherings

Lancaster Area

The Lancaster area holds their monthly gatherings on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. They meet at the Sixth Avenue United Methodist Church at 1004 West Sixth Avenue, Lancaster, Oh. For more details or information please contact Donna Dickson at 740-687-1791 or ddickson9@columbus.rr.com.

Rio Grande Area

Satellite gatherings for the Rio Grande area are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Simpson Chapel UM Church on Lake Dr, in Rio Grande. For more details and information please contact Roberta 'Robie' Wilson via phone 740-441-7494 or by email at robertawilson@sbcglobal.net.

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A young man was getting ready to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom, and knowing his father could well afford it, he told him that was all he wanted.

As Graduation Day approached, the young man awaited signs that his father had purchased the car. Finally, on the morning of his graduation, his father called him into his private study told him how proud he was to have such a fine son, and how much he loved him. He handed him a beautifully wrapped gift box. Curious, but somewhat disappointed, the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible, with his name embossed in gold. Angrily, he raised his voice to his father and said, "With all your money you give me a Bible?" He stormed out of the house, leaving the Bible behind.

Many years passed and the young man was very successful in business. He had a beautiful home and wonderful family, but realized his father was very old. He thought perhaps he should go to him. He had not seen him since that graduation day. But before he could make arrangements, he received a telegram telling him his father had passed away, and willed all of his possessions to him. He needed to come home immediately and take care of things.

When he arrived at his father's house, sadness and regret filled his heart. He began to search through his father's important documents and saw the Bible, new, just as he had left it years ago. With tears, he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages. His father had carefully underlined a verse, Matt 7:11, "And if ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Heavenly Father which is in Heaven, give to those who ask Him?" As he read those words, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired.

On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words...PAID IN FULL. How many times do we miss God's blessings because they are not packaged as we expected?



2014 Southern Ohio Emmaus Board of Directors

This is the current contact list of our Board of Directors. Keep this list so you can contact the board with questions concerns, and ideas. Please keep the board in your prayers as they serve the Lord and our community.

<p><u>Spiritual Director</u> Ricci Arthur 395 Mae St Logan, Oh 43138 740-385-4127 pastorric@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Newsletter</u> Barb Harkless (2015) PO Box 52 Haydenville, Oh 43127 740-385-4359 soemmausnewsletter@yahoo.com rbharkless@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Note: Each board member's name is followed by the year their term ends Updated: January 20, 2014</p>
<p><u>Asst. Spiritual Director</u> Karen Crawford 60 Pomeroy Rd. Athens, Oh 45701 740-593-8541 pastorkaren@richlandumc.org</p>	<p><u>Agape</u> Betty Clark (2014) 645 Connett Rd. Nelsonville, Oh 45764 740-664-5040 bwclark@nelsonvilletv.com</p>	<p><u>Logistics</u> Steve Rinehart (2016) 33324 Knox Rd. Logan, Oh 43138 740-380-6850 ritapeanutrinehart@yahoo.com</p>
<p><u>Board Chairperson</u> Greg Rush (2014) 38032 Scout Rd Logan, Oh 43138 740-385-0945 gr44gregr@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Outreach</u> Cathy Powell (2014) 1852 Mill St. Albany, Oh 45701 740-698-6145 cpowell1669@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Social</u> Heather Pullins (2016) 142 S. Center St. West Jefferson, Oh 43162 614-307-4227 hpullins@columbus.rr.com</p>
<p><u>Vice Chairperson</u> Jeff Bender (2015) 1 East Main Street Logan, Ohio 43138 740-653-0184 bendej1@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Women's Registrar</u> Kim Russell-Reed (2015) 12804 Twp. Rd. 1001, NE, Crooksville, Oh 43731 740-808-7081 k12russell@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Supplies</u> Jeff Cupp (2016) 13995 St. Rte. 93 S. Logan, Oh 43138 740-385-8168 No Email</p>
<p><u>Treasurer</u> Alice Moneypenny (2016) 1450 Ginder Rd. NW Lancaster, Oh 43130 740-756-9148 buckeyept@columbus.rr.com</p>	<p><u>Men's Registrar</u> Rita Rinehart (2016) 33324 Knox Rd. Logan, Oh 43138 740-380-6850 ritapeanutrinehart@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Worship</u> Emma Hockenberry (2015) 7280 Gregg Rd. West Jefferson, Oh 43162 614-843-1919 emma19marie@yahoo.com</p>
<p><u>Secretary</u> Linda Lohse-Smith (2014) 7140 Selby Rd., Lot 103 Athens, Oh 45701 740-594-9296 Lindadavid77@frontier.com</p>	<p><u>Sponsorship</u> Floyd Tackett (2014) 226 Cedar Cove Asheville, Oh 43103 740-983-6565 fltack@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Music</u> Tom West (2015) 9727 Old Rushville Rd., Rushville, Oh 43150 740-569-7342 jatbwest@yahoo.com</p>
<p><u>Good Shepherd</u> Debbie Brookins (2016) 44 Columbia Road Albany, Oh 45710 740-698-6818 brookins.debbie@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Literature</u> Lena Bruno (2016) P.O. Box 87 Haydenville, Oh 43127 740-974-2612 lena_bruno@yahoo.com</p>	

Southern Ohio Emmaus

c/o Barb Harkless
P.O. Box 52
Haydenville, Ohio 43127

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED