

# The Rainbow Connection

Volume 8 ~ Issue 3

March 2012

## After Your Walk

by Georganne Thomas, SOE Women's Walk #40, Table of Elizabeth

If you're counting, I experienced my walk 6 years ago, but sometimes it feels like yesterday. I remember the moment that I "got it!" and I remember my responses at closing. And how could anyone forget Candlelight! I just knew that all the talks were aimed at me. It was a life changing weekend for me.

In Luke 24:13 – 35, we read that their eyes were opened and their hearts were burning when Jesus opened the scriptures to them. Are your eyes still opened and is your heart still burning? Do you still feel loved?

I pray that all of you still carry *your* Emmaus walk in your heart. By the time you read this, 36 ladies will have experienced their Emmaus Walk (Southern Emmaus Women's Walk #52 March 15 -18). Southern Ohio Emmaus Men's Walk #52 will be held April 12 – 15. And of course, there will be walks in the fall. Do you still participate?

There are many ways that you can serve. You can pray! (Sign up on the prayer vigils or just commit to pray where you are...there can never be too many people praying.) You can provide food for the Thursday night send off and Sunday closing, you can provide treats and food for the agape tables, you can attend Candlelight service and closing and the monthly Gatherings. You can also serve on the Agape, Logistics or Conference Room teams. You can serve on the board and of course, you can sponsor someone.

If you have not attended a sponsorship class, you can co-sponsor with someone who has attended. An Education day will be held Saturday April 28 at New Hope United Methodist Church in Gore from 9am until noon. During that time, Chris Stone (Sponsorship Chair) will talk about the responsibilities of sponsorship. After your attendance that day, you also may sponsor a pilgrim. Other Southern Ohio Emmaus Board members will also be present to describe their positions.

May I tell you why I serve? When I travel, I pack too much stuff. If I'm going for two days, it looks like I'm planning to be gone a month! When I went on my walk, I packed at least three big bags plus shoes, makeup and coats and umbrellas. What couldn't be seen was the "baggage" that I carried with me every day...the baggage of resentment, unforgiveness, envy, feelings of unworthiness and being unloved. Each act of Agape, each talk and all the love I felt on my walk helped me leave that "baggage" there at the cross. I received the joy that I had been looking for and the determination to keep my joy (my answers to the two questions). I had been a Christian for over 20 years, sat in the same pew every Sunday morning, got involved in just about everything at church but never really understood and accepted the amazing love that Jesus has for me until I went on my walk.

Has my life been absolutely perfect since my walk? No, there have been struggles with illnesses and loss of family members but I know that I am loved and that in all things, Jesus loves me and is there with me. I remember His command as found in John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this, all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."(NIV) An Emmaus Walk is not the only way to show our love for our brothers and sisters but it is one way we can help someone experience God's love.

The next Gathering is March 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm at the New Lexington United Methodist Church. Please come out to welcome our newest members of the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community

### Upcoming Events

#### **March**

25<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m.  
Emmaus & Chrysalis Board Meetings  
3:00 p.m. Gathering First UMC, New Lexington

*Men's Spring Walk #52*  
*April 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>*  
*Camp Akita*

#### **April**

29<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m.  
Emmaus & Chrysalis Board Meetings  
3:00 p.m. Gathering First UMC, New Lexington

For Additional Details or Directions, visit:  
[www.southernohioemmaus.com](http://www.southernohioemmaus.com)



## Education Day Scheduled

Please come and join us for the Southern Ohio Emmaus Education Day. Education Day is scheduled for Saturday April 28th at New Hope United Methodist Church in Gore. We plan to start at 9am and hopefully finish around noon. Lots of roles/topics will be discussed, for example - Agape, Logistics, Team Selection, Sponsorship, Chrysalis, Share Groups and Board membership & duties. A sponsorship class is required before you can sponsor a pilgrim to attend a SOE Walk to Emmaus.

## The Importance of Sponsorship

Hopefully you have been praying about those in your life who may be ready to experience an Emmaus Walk. Remember, a sponsor is to care for the pilgrim and their families during that weekend, and bring food to share during the send-off and closing ceremonies. A sponsor also should participate in Candlelight and encourage other community members to participate in Candlelight. The prayer vigil is also an important part of the sponsor's duties. Being a good sponsor can make all the difference in how special the pilgrim's Emmaus experience will be.

\*scholarships are still available for 1/2 Pilgrim Fee, Don't ever let money stop you from sponsoring someone ready to experience Emmaus. Ask a board member for a sponsorship for your pilgrim or if you would like to donate to the Pilgrim Scholarship Fund.

*Men's Spring Walk #52*  
*April 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>*  
*Camp Akita*

**Fee Schedule**

<u><i>Weekend Fees</i></u>	
<i>Pilgrim Fee</i>	<i>\$125</i>
<i>Team Member</i>	<i>\$120</i>
<i>Logistics &amp; Agape</i>	<i>\$75</i>





## 2012 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.*

### Spiritual Director

Ricci Arthur  
395 Mae St  
Logan, OH 43138  
740-385-4127  
pastorric@aol.com

### Newsletter

Andy Ellinger (2013)  
PO Box 223  
New Straitsville, OH 43766  
740-394-2444  
andyellinger@yahoo.com

Note: Each board member's name is followed by the year their term ends

Updated: January 22, 2012

### Asst. Spiritual Director

David Rohrer  
9825 Gore Church Rd.  
Logan, OH 43138  
740-394-2705  
pastordavid@newhopelogan.org

### Agape

Cathy Powell (2014)  
1852 Mill St.  
Albany, OH 45701  
740-698-6145  
cpowell1669@yahoo.com

### Logistics

Tom Parrish (2013)  
3285 Meadowbrook Dr.  
Lancaster, OH 43130  
740-687-0910  
thparrish@columbus.rr.com

### Board Chairperson

Heather Pullins (2012)  
142 S Center St.  
West Jefferson, OH 43162  
614-307-4227  
hpullins@columbus.rr.com

### Outreach

Penny Canter (2012)  
505 N. Pleasant St.  
New Lexington, OH 43764  
740-605-4492  
pennycanter@hotmail.com

### Social

Karcy Rush (2012)  
38032 Scout Rd.  
Logan, OH 43138  
740-385-0945  
karcyrush@yahoo.com

### Vice Chairperson

Georganne Thomas (2013)  
PO Box 192  
Albany, Ohio 45710  
740-698-8571  
gat192@frontier.com

### Women's Registrar

Alice Moneypenny (2012)  
1450 Ginder Rd NW  
Lancaster, OH 43130  
740-756-9148  
buckeyept@columbus.rr.com

### Supplies

Sharla Snedden (2013)  
8027 Hirst Rd SE  
Newark, OH 43056  
740 323-4859  
sssned@windstream.net

### Treasurer

Greg Rush (2014)  
38032 Scout Rd  
Logan, OH 43138  
740-385-0945  
gr44gregr@yahoo.com

### Men's Registrar

Sterling Dietrich (2012)  
37524 Price Road  
Logan, OH 43138  
740-380-0339  
sterlingdietrich@yahoo.com

### Worship

Joyce Drake (2013)  
PO Box 177  
Malta, Ohio 43756  
740-962-4169  
jdrake@wmcap.org

### Secretary

Dawn Barnes (2014)  
357 Kellybrooke Place  
Galloway, OH 43110  
740-878-3561  
dbarns10@wowway.com

### Sponsorship

Christopher Stone (2012)  
744 Frederick St  
Lancaster, OH 43130  
740-652-9793  
stone3@columbus.rr.com

### Music

Betty Clark (2014)  
645 Connett Rd.  
Nelsonville, OH 45764  
740-664-5040  
bwclark@nelsonvilletv.com

### Good Shepherd

Floyd Tackett (2014)  
226 Cedar Cove  
Asheville, OH 43103  
740-983-6565  
fltack@aol.com

### Literature

Linda Lohse-Smith (2014)  
7140 Selby Rd., Lot 103  
Athens, Ohio 45701  
740-594-9296  
Lindadavid77@frontier.com

**Southern Ohio Emmaus**

c/o Andy Ellinger

PO Box 223

New Straitsville, Ohio 43766

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*

PLACE  
POSTAGE  
HERE

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