

The Rainbow Connection

Volume 10 ~ Issue 3

March 2014

Meeting Together

by Greg Rush, Community Lay Director

As I write this, the Spring Women's Walk is getting close. I encourage you to pray for the new pilgrims who will soon learn what the Walk to Emmaus means in their life as faithful Christians. We live in a misguided world that has a strange way of distracting us from what Christ calls us to do and we must resist letting the world change us. We are called to change our world through Christian action; start small so you aren't overwhelmed. We must trust the Holy Spirit to guide us, and study God's word so that we can know God's will for us.

As believers in Christ, we have the privilege and responsibility to encourage one another in our faith. We learned of this on our Emmaus Walk and were encouraged to continue meeting in small groups. The writer of Hebrews said, "*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near* (Hebrews 10:24-25)."

We can't really expect to function alone as Christians, we need to be part of a community of believers. By worshipping together in our churches, we begin to feel what it's like to be with other believers, but we are called to a deeper level of accountability. Being part of a small group, what the Walk to Emmaus calls a Share Group or Group Reunion, can be a very effective way to encourage one another. At times, I have found that I need someone to hold me accountable when I fall short in my call to discipleship, and a Share Group can help. Hopefully you have a Share Group you can trust to be honest with you when you confess to falling short. Your Share Group can also be a great source of encouragement in living the life Christ calls you to live. I pray that if you don't have a small group to encourage you, you will find a few faithful Christians and begin meeting. Remember, we are called to encourage and motivate each other to acts of love and good works.

DeColores,
Greg Rush, Board Chairperson

Upcoming Schedule of Events

Dates for the Spring Walks:

Women's Walk #56
March 27th – 30th

Men's Walk #56
May 1st – 4th

March 28 -29 – Ohio Leadership Development Day in Cleveland, Oh

Dates for the Fall Walks:

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

Men's Walk #57
October 2nd – 5th

Faith Step

Take time today to enjoy Jesus's presence and all the good things He has prepared for you!

Rebecca Barlow Jordan

For surrounding Satellite Gatherings, see page 5

Sponsorship Forms, Previous Newsletters and Additional Information Available at:
www.southernohioemmaus.com



NO MARCH GATHERING

By Debbie Brookins, Community Good Shepherd

I've been asked to remind everyone that our gathering for March has been moved to the 1st Sunday in April. Holding the gathering at the walk closing & trying to have a business meeting at closing is nearly impossible. Plus this gives the new pilgrims a chance to attend a gathering fresh off their walk so the board decided to move the gathering to April 6th. It will be at New Lexington as usual. Please pass this on to anyone you know who may attend.

Thank you and God bless.

De Colores,

Debbie

Ways To Serve With Agape Love

By Betty Clark, Community Agape Chair

Spring is here and with it we are again reminded of the creativity of our God in the beautiful colors being painted across our world for our enjoyment. I love topping the hill to see that glorious sunrise reminding me daily that the "Son" is already here and sharing His love with us.

You too can be a messenger of Christ's love. Remember the smiles when you received those pieces of agape at meals and bedtime? You can bring joy to the pilgrims by making agape. We need 60 pieces of agape for mealtime and 36 pieces for bedtime. You are welcome to put the name of your share/reunion group on the agape, but please do not use individual names.

I encourage you to also fill out a volunteer sheet to serve on a Walk. There are numerous ways to serve including the conference room team, logistics and agape, 72-hour prayer vigil, prayer partners for speakers, helping set-up and tear-down camp or supplying food for the snack table. Each area of service is needed for a successful Walk to bathe the pilgrims in agape love.

DeColores,

Betty

The Promise of Spring

By Cathy Powell, Community Outreach Chair

The snow has melted enough that I can see my grass and the damage this endless winter and the moles have inflicted on my yard. I can pick up the trees limbs, replace plants that didn't survive, and put down more mulch, but the damage from the moles will not be as easy to fix. I love nature and believe that everything God created has a purpose – even moles. Humans have caused nature's imbalance so many of God's creatures have had to find other ways to achieve their purpose. I just wish the moles would find their purpose in someone else's yard! Moles are animals about the size of a rat and they are blind. They tunnel through a yard looking for the Holy Grail – grubs! Evidently, my yard is a grub factory, and it looks like the moles are here to stay. We humans are a lot like those moles. We scurry around blind with our head in the ground looking for the next pot of grubs that will fill us and make us happy. We are bombarded with commercials that promise us we will be happy if we if we have a bigger house or a nicer car. You will be thinner, look younger, or have a better love life if you buy this product or that product. In the words of Dr. Phil; "How's that working for you?"



Maybe it's because I have fewer years ahead of me than behind me that "stuff" has become less important. For many years I was just like the moles looking for the grubs that will make me happy and fill my life. I've lived through hard times, and felt proud that I was able to get through it alone and without any help. Looking back I can see those footprints in the sand were not mine. What made me think I survived those years without God's help? I search now with open eyes for a deeper relationship with the One who carried me through those rough years, and the One who will be with me in the years to come.

As I survey the damage in my yard, I see daffodils poking their heads up out of the ground, and they have been that way through the last two snow storms. I tried to tell them that winter is not over, but they stand proud and fearless. They know God will take care of them. They're not going to dwell on winter past but on the promise of Spring where they will celebrate the risen Christ with their beautiful blooms. As you witness the daffodils, the crocus, and the forsythia announce the coming of spring, may your focus be on Easter Sunday and not on Good Friday. He lives!

I would like to welcome the women of Walk #56. Take time to breath and digest all you experienced this weekend. I hope you will stay involved in the community by filling out your volunteer form, and don't forget to attend Education Day. Keep praying for the men's team and the pilgrims God will send.

DeColores,
Cathy

Fourth Day Talk

By Charlie Penix, S.O. Men's Emmaus Walk #41. . . Table of Luke



The Lord was speaking to me at the February 23rd Emmaus Gathering with the 4th day testimonies given. The Lord is helping me with my family's loss. At first, I thought I should go up at the Gathering, but I found it impossible to reduce down 65 years to 15 minutes. (I was getting hungry) ☺ My brother Fred went home on evening of February 4th, 2014 after intense complications from Diabetes passed away from a coma at a hospice facility after 24 hours there. Just 3 weeks before, he was alive and no signs of illness. He had been a diabetic for years but managed it well. I am still having hard time with this as he was 1 year younger than me. See ... I thought I was the one that would be telling our mother to fix, from scratch, chocolate cake with chocolate icing. His being a Viet Nam Era Vet as I am was buried with full military honors for he was a lifetime member of the VFW.

My two brothers, Fred a year younger, Richard 12 years younger were born and raised on a dairy farm outside of Winfield, Ohio in Tuscarawas County. Being a year older than Fred, we fought like brothers, and were as ornery as brothers could be and very good at it, sometimes together and sometimes separately. Richard being the youngest was more separated from us because of the age difference.

Has anyone ever been 8,000 miles from home and have his brother or sister 3 miles away and NOT able to see or contact them? My wife Sue has given a talk about this incident, but tells it from her



view. She only lived the after effects upon me. This is to tell it from my view and the challenges that faced me and my brother. I found this out 2 ½ years later after I finally saw him a day or so after he got out of the Navy and I getting out 6 months prior.

Back in 1970 (approximately August or September) as I finished up moving some Polaris Missiles and their Nuclear War Heads, exiting out of the crane cab (about 80 or 90 feet of the water) of the 47 ½ ton Missile Crane I saw a very large ship on the horizon. As it came closer I identified it as an Aircraft Carrier. After going through my Decontamination Film Strip Check for radiation and checking out of the Marine Security parameter, I went down to the quarter deck of the USS Holland Sub Tender and asked what Carrier that was. The Officer of the Deck told me he was informed it was the USS Saratoga and she's in a hurry.

I first went to the Duty Boatswain Mate for that day and asked if I could hitch a ride out the Sara. He said NO, no room in any of the boats after the base supply stores are loaded in them for the runs out. I asked if I could relieve one the crew on any the craft (for I was a qualified Boat Coxswain from the LCM's Down to the smallest small boat.) He said to try but said ..."remember you're not on Duty Status, but Open Gangway in port for you're a side cleaner when not in a crane and hanging over the side." The guys in the boats have their say. It was late in the day and my liberty had already started. Getting no cooperation from any of the boat crews, I went to the Signal Bridge for the Sara and my ship had been "Signal Flashing" for over an hour way before she anchored out. I wrote a message that stated: "To Fred Penix Yeoman Air Attack Squadron 75 Commander's Office. You have been an uncle since August 17th 1970. It's a boy. If you can hop one of your Hughie's to meet me at the Tarmac, I'll be waiting there. Reply to this message priority." Waiting for about 20 minutes(A life Time), I decided to get to the Enlisted Men's Locker Building, change to civvies and hop onto my motorcycle and get to the air station as quickly as I could without paying a large speeding ticket. I got there and he had not shown. The Hughie's were running mail bags and I knew they'd have a few touch and goes. I waited for a complete cycle of choppers and no Fred. So I wrote another note with the same text and asked one of the pilots if he could let me jump out there and back on the next trip. He said NO NOT ALLOWED! So I asked him if he'd get this note to my brother's Squadron's Commander's Office and told him who he was and I was his older brother. Waiting for a few more touch and goes, that same chopper never returned to tell me he delivered the note. I asked one of the other choppers where the number such and such chopper was and he said the pilot and crew went to chow and would NOT be back for he was on his last hop then and so am now and, away Sara goes. ☹ ☹

I knew that my brother Fred was one of the Yeomen in the Air Attack Squadron 75 Commander's Office aboard the Saratoga. So I immediately started attempts to get out to the Saratoga. All our small boats, (LCM's, UT Boat's and smaller craft) were being put into the water. Knowing what was about to happen for I saw the Saratoga drop anchor outside the Cadiz Bay Break Wall of Cadiz, Spain about 3 miles from us. Her draft being too deep to come into the bay let alone the Rota Naval Base to the piers where I was. Really discouraged of this ...I got on my motorcycle and went to the apartment off base where Sue and I lived. I told her why I was late, and started to tear when I told her I failed to contact Fred. I would not see him for about another 2 years as least. Around 2 ½ years later, after I'd been out of the Navy 6 or so months Fred's service was up and he came home. We talked about that day to great detail. It seems he was trying the same things I did and after they got underway he was taking out the trash to feed to the albatross, he noticed the note addressed to him. He as ecstatic with the news and yet sad that **we were not allowed to see each other 8,000 miles from home and 3 miles apart.**

Here is something of a lighter note about his first experience of flying in an F-4 Tomcat Fighter Jet. He was in the 75th Attack Air Squadron.



I remembered this story at the funeral for quite a few people including relatives wondered what he did in the Navy since he was in a fighter jet flight suit, mask draped over his shoulder and helmet in hand. I told them of his story about his first ride on his first rotation out to the Saratoga. At the least, Fighter Jets are rotated out at sea for port safety. They are armed, fully fueled and ready. A hazard if the rotation happens in port.



Fresh out of Boot Camp One morning a fighter pilot came into his office and told Fred to go with him to the Master at Arms for Fighter Suit Fitting. He brought his new attire back to his locker and the next morning the same pilot came and told him to suit up and go with him to the tarmac. So doing as ordered, the pilot and Fred walked out the pilot's F-4 Tomcat Fighter Jet on the tarmac. Still not really knowing what was going on, (his being fresh out of boot camp) but knowing better not to ask but do as instructed he climbed up and got into the rumble seat WITHOUT touching anything. (Back Seat) 😊 He was hooked up to everything needed by a Plane Maintenance guy who was chuckling the whole time while the pilot was getting in the front (his) seat. The pilot said over the radio to him in his helmetthere is ONE THING you may touch The Ejection Handle, BUT ONLY WHEN YOU HEAR ME YELL: "EJECT, EJECT, EJECT!" then close your eyes and mouth until you are wet!! Got it?? Fred repeated it and they were off to a thrill flight of a lifetime for my brother Fred. Fred said the take off was Very Cool and NOT like a commercial flight either. He was pushed into the upholstery stitching of the back of his seat and what seemed to be straight up like a rocket. After they leveled off he was at awe, as to how much higher he was than a commercial flight and felt like he was inside the Head of an Eagle in flight.

About 10 minutes went by of his awesome experience and noticing they were getting closer to the water suddenly the pilot initiated a steep right turn that caused his head to feel like it was pushing into his seat and trying to get further through. The pilot said to look down to the right and see old Sara. He looked down and noticed she was only ½ the size of his little finger nail. As he was about to ask "when are we to land", never getting that out but a 10 second scream and they were slamming on the deck and hooked that threw his eyeballs into the dash as he was throwing up his last 3 meals into his oxygen mask, helmet, new flight suit and the seat. 😊 😊

There's more.As he was getting out and still gagging, the flyer that usually sets in that seat yelled: I WILL BE BACK IN 1 HOUR to inspect MY SEAT!! I expect NOT to set in anything, smell anything, OR SEE anything that is YOUR'S GOT IT!!! 😊 😊 He was also told to go over to a gear locker and there he'd find disinfectant, Soap and HOT Water and a means to apply such. After that he was instructed to take his suit to laundry, with the left over water and disinfectant to clean his mask, hose and helmet. And, all this time, the pilot was rolling around on the deck with laughter. 😊 And still the rumble seat flyer was yelling. 😊 The next day after at his normal work, but on board the Saratoga's Attack Squadron's office, the pilot came in and asked if his helmet, mask, and hose were clean. Fred said he answereduuhhm yea sir??



...thinking he was going to fly again that day. The pilot said he just needed the helmet and would return it the next day. The next morning the pilot brought in the helmet ...with Fred's Call sign on it. ☺☺ He never really talked over the radio other than to the pilot during the following years of rotations, but all knew him as Pukie. He kind of liked it and the attention according to him. He actually had a call sign and he was NOT a pilot. ☺

These are the things I experienced and the things he experienced as we lived our lives while serving our Country during the Viet Nam War.

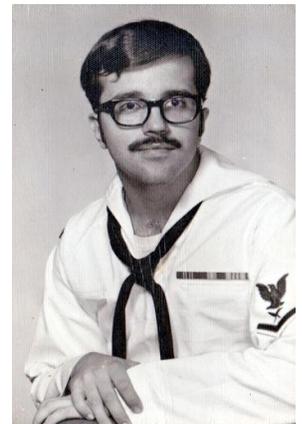
One additional Note ...as Fred told me of the Sara being in a hurry that day ...she was on her way to stand off the coast of where the PLO High Jacking of the Commercial Jet liners were in 1970. He went to Combat Status for that.

9,087,000 Severed During the Viet Nam War Era from August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975.

3,582,000 Served In Viet Nam and many died. Also, many were killed over there and died over here ---cause: AO.

5,505,000 Served Support for Those in Viet Nam. I and my brother Fred were two of these during the Viet Nam War.

DeColores!!



Pukie



Son's of the American Revolution

Charlie Penix 5th G Grandson of Thomas Penix ~ 1748-1825

Revolutionary War, - Private in Capt. Bond's company of the Harford County [Maryland] Militia Volunteers in 1775.

Signer of Association Of Freeman, Upper Spesutie 100 [Maryland] 1776.

Rangers Of The Frontiers, -1778-1783 Westmoreland County PA. Marched with Col. Crawford on the Upper Sandusky Expedition in May of 1782.

<http://penix-oh.net/thomaspics.htm>

<http://penix-oh.net/Neisel-NeuselFamilyTree.htm>

<http://penix-oh.net/BakerTree.htm>

Website Front Door: <http://penix-oh.net/>

Cell: 1-740-591-3850

Charlie Penix, Webmaster

United Methodist Churches:

[Albany United Methodist Church](#), Albany, Ohio

[McArthur United Methodist Church](#), McArthur, Ohio



A Word From The Clergy

Pastor Ricci Arthur, Community Spiritual Director

To the friends of the Emmaus Community:

When you are a "little older" (like I am) - you begin to think about the legacy you are leaving behind - actually, we should be thinking about that always. I have been contemplating a lot lately on what a "balanced Christian" looks like; the purpose of Emmaus is to develop Christian leaders. A balanced Christian is a leader. What does a balanced Christian do? Three things: 1) a balanced Christian does what it takes to develop a growing and private relationship with God. For any individual, the form of that will vary, but, it *is* important to have a regular time with God. Even the time is negotiable, but, a substantial amount of time is necessary. What would we think of a husband who says: "I love my wife so much I am willing to spend 2 minutes a day with her!" We would not think much about that commitment. So, a regular and substantial amount of time with God is necessary to grow in our relationship with Him. Start with 15 minutes a day and grow from there. As far as what to do - start with a devotional book and/or a chapter in the Bible each day, perhaps beginning with the Gospel of John.

2) A regular time of learning with other Christians. As some of you may know, in our church charge, we have regular ongoing and special small groups where people can learn and grow. Are you spending time with other Christians, trying to grow? An Emmaus Share Group is an obvious example, but, that is more of an accountability group than a learning group. Are you involved in a regular, ongoing relationship with other Christians, trying to grow with them? In the book of Hebrews it says: "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together." Although that would include a Sunday morning worship experience, the point of the passage is really to have *face-to-face* relationships with other Christians.

3) Having opportunities to serve. A balanced Christian spends time growing with God, growing with other Christians, and accepts Christ's mission to serve. Jesus, of course, is our prime example of serving. He said: "The Son of man comes not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." Are you serving somewhere? The Emmaus Community has ample opportunities to serve - why not fill out a volunteer form? Or - contact a Board member who is over an area where you would like to serve and ask for a service opportunity. Agape and Logistics are two of the main areas to serve, but, not the only ones. And of course, serving in your local church.

I thank God that in my life I am trying to be balanced in all of these areas. Not that I have arrived, but, I am trying to do what the Apostle Paul said: "Forgetting that which is behind (my mistakes and sins) - and pressing forward toward the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Decolores!

Ricci Arthur



Prayer Vigil

By Emma Hockenbery, Community Worship

The online sign-ups for the Spring Women's and Men's walks are available online at <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml>, we are the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community. There will also be the charts to sign-up at the gatherings. 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.

Great Response

By Barb Harkless, Community Newsletter

I would just like to say 'thanks' to all who submitted articles for this month's newsletter! I was very pleased, a little challenged, but pleased!! I enjoyed reading over each one and was blessed as I did so. I am truly enjoying this part of my service for the community and for the Lord! Please keep them coming; and, if you want it to be submitted for that month, please let me know just in case I get an over-abundance (that's faith), I may need to hold a couple for the following month. Hopefully all can be submitted for the month to come as I get them! God bless you all for your faithfulness. DeColores!!

Blessings,
Barb

S.O. Emmaus Website

Just a reminder that everyone can go to the Emmaus Website for any information they need; such as, dates of the Walks, contact information of the Board members, applications, etc. Jeff Weaver tries to keep the website updated, so all information should be current. Again, a *BIG* thank you goes to Jeff for the great job he does and for the support he gives to the Emmaus/Chrysalis Community!



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</p>	<p>Note: Each board member's name is followed by the year their term ends</p> <p>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@nelsonvillev.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 Money Penny (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