



The Rainbow Connection

Volume 11 ~ Issue 2

March 2015

Change

Jeff Bender, Community Lay Director

As I get older, I find myself more and more resistant to change. I used to be able to fix things on my car. Good luck doing that today without a computer. Maybe that is why I still own a 1995 Ford truck. I heard a United States Senator say this weekend that he has never sent an email. My first thought was that he was a “dinosaur”. But, I don’t ‘tweet’ and rarely text, or use much social media; so, I guess I am a dinosaur too. Change is a fact of life, but that doesn’t mean I like change.

My suspicion is that 2000 years ago the Pharisees thought the same thing about Jesus. Here they are with a rather neat setup. Only the high priest has the direct spiritual link with God. Only the priesthood has a direct relationship with the high priest. Only the priests can perform the sacrifices to God. The law is the sole province of the priesthood. Better yet, you have to go through the money changers and market, which the priesthood gets a cut, to get your sacrifice and get right with God. Ultimately, the Romans, in particular Tiberius, the emperor of Rome, thought highly of the zeal of Jewish belief, as long as they (the priests) cooperated with the Empire. Everything was just fine, and then came Jesus.

Jesus did more than say he was the Son of God. Jesus did more than just upset a few tables and run out the money changers. Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of the hierarchy and the fact that those without means were being left behind. “The law” had become a straight-jacket for the ordinary person and a means to narrow access to God’s love and forgiveness. He suggested the unthinkable when he said, “destroy this temple and I will raise it again in three days,” John 2:19 (NIV). Proclaiming, for those with understanding, He as the “temple.” As Jesus entered the gates of Jerusalem, on what we now know as Palm Sunday, the Pharisees were not ready for change.

When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we must accept change. We must change our hearts, minds, and souls. In doing so, we renew our relationship with God as if we were reborn. In order to enter the kingdom of God, one must do so “like a little child.” Mark 10: 5 (NIV). Thus, change is not just a fact of life, it is necessary to our salvation.

De Colores,
Jeff Bender

Upcoming Schedule of Events

Gatherings at New Lexington:

126 S. High Street
New Lexington, Oh 43764

**All gatherings at 3:00 with
Board meeting at 2:00**

*****Watch for special notice by
email for cancelation due to
inclement weather!**

Dates for monthly gatherings:

March 29th
April 26th
May 31st
June 28th

Men’s Spring Walk #58:
April 16-19

Dates for Fall Walks #59:

Women’s – September 17-20
Men’s – October 22-25

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

NOT RECEIVING NEWSLETTER?
Please update your information if it
has changed in the past year. Send to
rbharkless@yahoo.com or
soemmausnewsletter@yahoo.com



Change of Venue

Jeff Bender, Community Lay Director

The current venue of the board meetings and main gathering is First United Methodist Church in New Lexington, Perry County. A number of the board members, including myself, have been asked by members to reconsider this location. The suggested alternative is The Plains United Methodist Church which can accommodate us on our traditional time of the last Sunday of the month. There are two major considerations for changing to this venue.

One consideration is that the locus of the membership has shifted. According to long standing members, the change to New Lexington many years ago reflected the primary location of new pilgrims in our community and a fair percentage of the board members. It is my understanding that Marietta used to be part of our community until they started their own community. That eastern locus is no longer the case as pilgrims are spread widely across our community. The Plains would be a bit more centrally located.

The second consideration is one that I have heard on numerous occasions, “why aren’t we near a 4-lane highway?” In other words, why aren’t the meetings and gatherings more accessible? The recent weather problems make being near a major highway a better choice, though many will still need to navigate the roads in their county. Mainly, however, over all, ease of use is the main reason. For instance, someone like me coming from the north, the Nelsonville by-pass makes getting to The Plains a reasonable proposition.

While the by-laws provide that the Board may change the site, we will be polling the community on this suggested change to The Plains United Methodist Church at the up-coming Walks. Further, you may write to a board member or e-mail a board member as to a move to The Plains. The addresses and e-mails are at the end of this Newsletter.

De Colores,
Jeff Bender

Women’s Walk 58

By Barb Harkless, Community Newsletter

Well, the Women’s Walk has come and gone and all the hard work has paid off. But then, anytime we are doing God’s work, no matter how exhausting, it always pays off. I have been so blessed over the years as I have taken part on several different teams for the Walks. But I got to admit, being God’s co-pilot in putting a team together, organizing the team meetings, preparing all the outlines, distributing the Talks, forming the Tables, and a number of other duties which are expected of the Lay Director, this had to be one of the most humbling experiences I have ever had. I just don’t know where the part was during the weekend where I was suppose to sit back and enjoy and take it all in; but with all the blessings that were pouring, maybe I missed it somehow ☺ and that’s okay! God is still wooing me and as long as I continue saying yes to doing His work with Emmaus or Church, well, I know He is still preparing me for greater things. I’m not where I should be but I’m not where I used be, and I can thank Emmaus for that.

It is through Emmaus and volunteering for the different journey’s that helps me grow in my faith and closer to God. I learn something new every time I work a Walk, whether it’s in the conference room or behind the scene. We had great Logistics and Agape teams for this Walk and they mean so much to a Lay Director. I was very pleased with those who were learning being their first time and how both teams worked together and helped one another out. The conference room team, the clergy that came in and spoke were all fantastic and really showed the love of Christ. Sustaining The Spirit truly is a wonderful tool in bringing back the Spirit to these teams and the Walks. Thank you Karen and Ricci!!

I hope everyone fills out their volunteer forms, new members and old, and allow the Holy Spirit to lead you in helping in some way in our Emmaus Community! Believe me my friends, it is well worth it!! De Colores!

Blessings, Barb



A Mission in Mexico

By Cathy Powell

Ola, from Guadalupe, Mexico! I'm finishing my fourth week in Mexico, and I just finished reading DS Miller's article in the district newsletter about servings in the mission field. I've had similar questions asked of me about why I would want to go to Mexico. My brother told me they have drug problems down there, their killing people, and you can't trust the police! Thank goodness we don't have those problems in America! I believe God called me here, and I have no fear for my safety.

This is my third trip to Guadalupe, and I fell in love with the people and the country on my first visit. The town is at the foot of the Sierra Madre Mountains, and I call it God's Mountain because this how I picture Mt Sinai. I arrived with the mission team from Albany UMC, in Albany, OH on February 7th. We helped removed roofing, electrical (already disconnected), and cinder block walls to make way for a new roof. The team left on the 14th with their tasks completed. I will remain until April 10th.

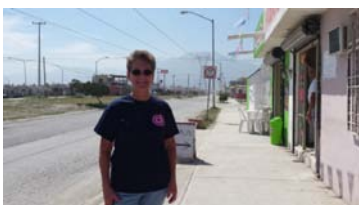
My goals (and I hope God's goals) are to learn some Spanish, teach some English, build relationships, grow spiritually, and to take part in building a church that will last for hundreds of years. Leaving the comforts of my home, my family, and staying in a country where I don't speak the language has been a challenge! I continue to pray for wisdom and guidance to follow the path God has mapped for me. I'm living with a young couple and their two small children. They have gone out of their way to make me comfortable, and I'm humbled by their hospitality.

My Walk to Emmaus confirmed that working in missions was my calling. If you are not sure what God has called you to do; continue to pray, listen for His voice, and trust in His guidance. Please pray for me, the people of Refugio de Paz, and missionaries around the world.

DeColores,

Cathy Powell

SOE Women's Walk 49...Table of Mary





Got Books? Video's? CD's?

Lena Bruno, Community Literature

Just a reminder for you all to be pondering! The Women's Walk has come and gone along with many books and such; and, the Men's Walks upon us. I am asking you again, our Emmaus Community, for any books, CD's, or video's that you may want to donate to the Men's Walk. This is a wonderful way to serve and be the hands and feet of our Lord and Savior. Sometimes it's hard for us to let go of these items, but just think of the blessings someone else may receive because of our willingness and our sacrifice. May God continue to bless you as you search through your personal collection or library's for any of these items.

Whatever items you can donate, please bring them to me at this week's gathering in New Lexington. Or, you may contact me for other arrangements. Let us all be in prayer for this upcoming Men's Walk! God bless each and every one of you.

De Colores,
Lena

Prayer Vigil Available

Emma Hockenbery, Community Worship

Just a reminder to sign up for a spot on the prayer vigil...this is an awesome and easy way to show agape love during the 72 hours of the upcoming Men's Walks. If you didn't get a chance to sign the vigil at the closing, you will have a chance at the Gathering this Sunday; or, go online and sign a spot that way. It's simple and easy.

The link for the Men's vigil:

Men's: <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?pvid=10269&commid=1473> .

Thank you all for your continued support.

De Colores,
Emma Hockenbery

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

The Rio Grande satellite gatherings have moved to Grace United Methodist Church in Gallipolis at 6:30 on the fourth Thursday of the month. For more details and information please contact Rick Howell via phone 740-446-4624.



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.

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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 rbharkless@yahoo.com</p> | <p>Note: Each board member's name is followed by the year their term ends</p> <p>Updated: January 1, 2015</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> Suzette Shuster (2017) 622 Eastern Avenue New Lexington, Oh 43764 740-621-6754 suznlfd@gmail.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> Jeff Bender (2015) 4500 Coonpath Rd. NE Lancaster, Oh 43130 740-215-1791 bendej1@gmail.com</p> | <p><u>Outreach</u> Chuck Shuster (2017) 622 Eastern Avenue New Lexington, Oh 43764 740-621-6753 cshusternlpd@gmail.com</p> | <p><u>Social</u> Sarah Zinn (2017) 512 Madison Avenue McArthur, Oh 45651 740-596-3263 zinns01@gmail.com</p> |
| <p><u>Vice Chairperson</u> Penny Canter 505 N Pleasant Street New Lexington, Oh 43764 740-605-1835 pennycanter@hotmail.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> Debbie Brookins (2016) 44 Columbia Road Albany, Oh 45710 740-698-6818 brookins.debbie@yahoo.com</p> | <p><u>Sponsorship</u> Bill Butterworth (2017) 525 SR 143 Albany, Oh 45710 740-856-0771 butterworthw@yahoo.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> April Butterworth (2017) 525 SR 143 Albany, Oh 45710 740-856-0772 aprilbutterworth@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> | <p>Being the hands and feet for Jesus Christ as we serve!</p> |

Southern Ohio Emmaus

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED