



Walk to Emmaus  
THE UPPER ROOM

# L.O.V.Emmaus Community

Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

Christmas Issue

L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY NEWS

December

**While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them.**

Luke 24:15

### Upcoming Events:

- Gathering December 18
- Gathering January 22

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**  
All Community Gatherings are held at 7:00 p.m. at Washington United Methodist Church.

*If possible, please bring a covered dish and share in our special Holiday Feast!*

Board of Directors:  
12/18/07 at 5:45 pm  
1/22/08 at 5:45 pm

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## More of Jesus

Christmas is not about the tinsel and trim  
It's all about Jesus and what we do for Him.  
Yes, the parties are fun and the food is good  
But it's the who we celebrate that is misunderstood.  
Too much emphasis placed on the man dressed in red  
And not on the One whose precious blood was shed.  
We spend hours and hours decorating our home  
And not much time worshipping the One on the throne.  
We shop and we order, we buy and we wrap  
Giving things we can't afford until our wallets are tapped.  
Oh, the effort we make trying to please those we love  
When the best gift is free if we'll just shop "above"  
So if you're missing real joy I can tell you the reason  
You need more of Jesus in your holiday season.  
Go to church, light a candle, sing hymns of praise  
Fill your heart up with love and then give it away  
Spend time and not money on others this year  
Lift everyone's spirit with laughter and cheer  
Reflect on your blessings and what He has done  
Thank God for His love and the gift of His Son  
And you'll find that Christmas is good once again  
And means so much more when you spend it with Him.

Merry Christmas!  
Donna Tavis

## From the Spiritual Director

Please read the Emmaus Road experience found in Luke 24:13-35. (Preferably from a different translation than you routinely use.)

May we be eager for Jesus to approach us this Christmas. Perhaps we could make some time and effort to let Him actually walk with us a while even during this busy, hectic season. Will we recognize Him in the crowds that press in upon us at the store, the malls, the jam-packed liens and highways? Will we let Him (Jesus) enter into our thoughts and our discussions without letting His wisdom of the ages mold and shape our opinions about policies and our actions regarding social justice?

Could we hear (really receive) scriptural and Holy Ghost information about Himself and His Kingdom (the Church) that would make us more likely to cling to His salvation for ourselves and share His salvation with others?

Are we spiritually able to urge Him to keep company with us during the holidays? Surely we would not let the Savior of our souls, the one who died for us on the tree, remain among the countless others who will feel alone this Christmas. Won't we take the bread and cup He offers and be fed with holy food to sustain us throughout the coming new year?

What can we do to keep Jesus from vanishing from our sight as the cares of a busy season press in? At Christmas and into next year, how may we remain energized and excited about the One true God, the only Savior, the Eternal Spirit?

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Amen.

De Colores,  
Ray Snider  
LOVE Community Spiritual Director

## Special Christmas Gathering!

Please gather with us to celebrate this special season at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 18 at Washington UMC.

The gathering will feature a variety of special music and sharing. If you have a selection to share, please contact Music Director Phil Brown (jogger2doc@roadrunner.com).

Following worship, we will share in a wonderful Christmas Feast & Fellowship with our Emmaus Brothers and Sisters. Meats will be provided, so please bring your favorite side dish or dessert and join us in celebrating this holiday season!

## New Emmaus Cookbook!

Your participation is requested in the creation of a LOVE Community Cookbook, *Where Emmaus Meets, Emmaus Eats!*

Please share all your favorite recipes by emailing them to our new email box: [recipe@lovemmaus.org](mailto:recipe@lovemmaus.org). Please remember to include your name and town you are from, for inclusion.

A donation to Ruggles Camp will be made from part of the proceeds to assist them in the completion of paving the driveway.

Should you not have access to email, feel free to mail your recipes to the return address on this newsletter!

Your help will be greatly appreciated. We hope to have cookbooks available for purchase by the Spring Walks.



## From the Community Lay Director

I would like to thank everyone for all their help this past year in anything they have done in service to the Community. No job or service is small when we are working for Jesus.

Sometimes we lose track of what we are to do, but Christmas is the time to reflect on what we have and why we have it. God is so good to us! We have just shared Thanksgiving with our families and friends. What did you have to be thankful for?

Stop and think - Jesus went to the cross for us so we can have that Blessed gift. Christmas is a great time to share what we have with others. A small a gift from the heart is better than anything you can buy in a store. This Christmas make use of the gifts you have, and help someone who needs a little love. Jesus shared His Great Love . . . so go and do likewise!

Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hope to see you December 18th to share in the fun and food at Jesus table. God's Blessings to all this Christmas.

*Love in the name of Christ,  
Georgjean Shelton  
LOVE Community Lay Director*


## News from Women's Walk #15

It's Holiday time and we are all busy decorating and cleaning our houses for our special guests. The Women's Walk #15 has come and gone, and soon the Holidays will come and go. But how is your house? I'm talking about your "physical house" - your body. This is the only house you have and you must take special care of it.

One of the ladies on the walk said it so perfectly: When she was first saved, she wasn't a very good hostess. She didn't talk to God or read her Bible like she should have. When we have guests in, we treat them special and talk to them and get to know them in a close relationship. And that's one thing we all learn on the Walk to Emmaus, to have a special relationship with our Savior.

So, we should pay special attention to our guest, the Holy Spirit. We should pray on a regular basis and read His Word to get to know Him better. This will make Him feel more "at home". Being a part of this past Walk was a very humbling experience, one on which we had to rely completely on the Holy Spirit to guide and direct our every step. Let us all truly trust Him with our every care and concern and He will direct our paths. From my house to yours, Merry Christmas and may God bless you!

*DeColores,  
Lori Perry, Lay Director, Women's Walk #15*

 December, month of holly,  
pine, and balsam,  
Of berries red, of candles'  
mellow light,  
Of home and fireside laughter,  
happy faces,  
Of peace that comes upon  
the holy night



Dear Community,

This past year of serving as "Kitchen Chairperson" has been a real pleasure for me. In this capacity I have gotten to know so many new community members. And it is always a joy to watch the pilgrims each day and to see the joy of Christ in their faces and smiles.

To all who have helped in any way (prepping food, cooking, serving food, cleaning, clearing tables, doing dishes, setting tables, folding napkins, furnishing food, moving supplies from storage room to kitchen and back again, etc., etc.) I say a huge "THANK YOU!"

I keep hearing from others that people want to know how they can help. You just need to get me your name, phone number and/or email. We can then talk to see just how and when you can help - there is plenty to do as you can see from the above list. If you can help with any or all of them that would be great - but I need to know how to keep in contact with you. My phone number at home is 937-549-2113 (there is an answering machine there), my cell phone number is 937-213-0415 but I do not get reception at Manchester as yet, but do when we are in Augusta, and the church's number in Augusta is 606-756-3961 (an answering machine is there also). My email address is [kitchen@lovemmaus.org](mailto:kitchen@lovemmaus.org).

Looking forward to hearing from many of you - it's always good to meet and work with new Christian friends.

*DeColores,  
Kay Grooms  
Kitchen Chairperson*

Please take a moment and send a holiday greeting to our Emmaus family members serving our Country far away from home. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them and their families!

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Joy To The World, The Lord Is Come

# From the Good Shepherd

Luke 22:27 states "But I am among you as one who serves." Ephesians 4:12 states "to prepare God's people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up." "God has given his church an enormous responsibility, to make disciples in every nation." (Matt 28:18-20).

If we had to fulfill this commandment as individuals, it would surely be impossible. But God calls us as members of his body. As the Body of Christ, we can accomplish more together than we would dream possible working by ourselves. Working together the church can express the fullness of Christ. This also holds true for the Emmaus community as we have witnessed throughout each walk. Some of us can do one task; some can do another. As this time of year comes upon us, we may see it as finishing the last walks of 2007, but let's look at it as preparing for the upcoming walks of 2008. The dates have already been set, and Share Groups have an important role.

As The Good Shepherd, if there are any members looking to start or join a share group please contact me at the email address below. But also, all you share groups out there, if you would take a moment to email the name of your share group and the name of the people in your group, as we begin to plan for the upcoming walks, just maybe, you would like to serve/prepare a meal, help get the campground ready, help get the conference room and log room reassembled after the walk and the list goes on. If all you share groups out there in "Share Group Land" can let me know who you are, I will help put you in touch with the right people and I promise you will get a blessing.

"Cast yourself in the arms of God and be very sure that if he wants anything of you, He will fit you for the work and give you strength". Remember, "What lies behind us, and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

As this holiday season approaches and we celebrate the Birth of our Savior, I wish you love, and strength, and faith, and wisdom, goods, gold enough to help some needy one. I wish you songs to sing, but also blessed silence and God's sweet peace when every day is done.

*DeColores,  
Alison Dunn—The Good Shepherd  
GoodShepherd@LOVEmmaus.org*

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11  
11

## THE BELL

I KNOW WHO I AM

- I am God's child (John 1:12)
- I am Christ's friend (John 15:15)
- I am united with the Lord(1 Cor. 6:17)
- I am bought with a price(1 Cor. 6:19-20)
- I am a saint (set apart for God). (Eph. 1:1)
- I am a personal witness of Christ. (Acts 1:8)
- I am the salt & light of the earth ( Matt.5:13-14)
- I am a member of the body of Christ(1 Cor 12:27)
- I am free forever from condemnation ( Rom. 8: 1-2)
- I am a citizen of Heaven. I am significant ( Phil.3:20)
- I am free from any charge against me (Rom. 8:31 -34)
- I am a minister of reconciliation for God(2 Cor.5:17-21)
- I have access to God through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 2:18)
- I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realms (Eph. 2:6)
- I cannot be separated from the love of God( Rom.8:35-39)
- I am established, anointed, sealed by God (2 Cor.1:21-22)
- I am assured all things work together for good (Rom. 8: 28)
- I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit (John 15:16)
- I may approach God with freedom and confidence (Eph. 3: 12)
- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Phil. 4:13)
- I am the branch of the true vine, a channel of His life (John 15: 1-5)
- I am God's temple (1 Cor. 3: 16 ). I am complete in Christ (Col. 2: 10)
- I am hidden with Christ in God (Col. 3:3). I have been justified (Romans 5:1)
- I am God's co-worker (1 Cor.. 3:9; 2 Cor 6:1). I am God's workmanship(Eph. 2:10)
- I am confident that the good works God has begun in me will be perfected. (Phil 1: 5)
- I have been redeemed and forgiven(Col.1:14).I have been adopted as God's child(Eph 1:5)

**I belong to God  
Do you know  
who you are?**

*Special thanks to Kay Grooms for sharing this piece.*

WISHING YOU A VERY  
MERRY CHRISTMAS



**L.O.V.Emmaus Community**  
Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

## Upcoming 2008 Walk Dates Announced!

### Spring

Men #15: May 1-4, 2008

Women #16: June 5-8, 2008

### Fall

Men #16: September 4-7, 2009

Women #17: October 2-5, 2008

[www.LOVEmmaus.org](http://www.LOVEmmaus.org)

## L.O.V.E. Community Board of Directors

Community Lay Director	Georgjean Shelton
Assistant Community Lay Director	George Smith
Secretary	Donna Tavis
Treasurer	Cyndi Frodge
Community Spiritual Director	Ray Snider
Kitchen	Kay Grooms
Communications	Rebecca Smith
Music	Phil Brown
Good Shepherd	Alison Dunn
Agape	Colette McGinnis
Chrysalis Representative	Acynda Spriggs
Registrar / Membership	Nicole George
Sponsorship	Dave Lewis
Volunteer Coordinators	Donnie and Walene Bennett
Facilities Set up/Clean up	Bill Shelton
Worship	Tim Naylor
Logistics Coordinators	Dan & Brenda Reed
Social Coordinators	Jim and Wanda Bowman
L.E.A.D.	John Bisotti
Ruggles Liaison	Stella Hull



### L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY

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