mmous L.O.V.Emmaus Community

Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

Summer Issue

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. Luke 24:15

Upcoming Events:

- Gathering— July 25 at Washington United Methodist Church, 7:00 pm. If possible, please bring a snack to share.
- Gathering/Cookout August 22—at Camp Ruggles, meet at 6:00 pm, worship at 7:00! Meat & drinks will be provided, but please bring a potluck dish to share!

Board of Directors: July 25, 5:45 pm August 29, 7:00 pm

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L.OV.E. COMMUNITY NEWS

L.O.V.E. Community NEWS TO KNOW!

Welcome to the new members of the LOVE Community! Here is some information you might find helpful:

•The LOVE Community has a website, which is found at www.lovemmaus.org

•Were you wondering how you might join in servanthood, and take part in future walks and gatherings? The "Get Involved" page on the LOVE website is just one way to share ways you that you would like to help serve God in the Community. Servant Cards, which are handed out periodically at the Gatherings are another means to share ways you'd like to be involved, if you don't have internet access.

- •Directions to Gatherings and other helpful information, such as upcoming walk dates and walk applications can be found on the website under "Happenings".
- •If your church, share-group, or organization has a website, or you have other helpful links you'd like to share, just email them to:

newsletter@lovemmaus.org

•Do you have an article, poem, story, news, or information to share for the newsletter, but don't have internet access? Please feel free to pass along any suggested topics or information to:

LOVE Newsletter

PO Box 845—Greenup, KY 41144 •All gatherings are held at 7:00 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Washington United Methodist Church. Please see the website or your sponsor for directions. A praise and worship service is followed by food and fellowship. Please join us!

•We are urging everyone to help our community save dollars and trees by receiving the newsletter electronically, via email. Please email:

newsletter@lovemmaus.org and ask to be removed from the USPS list! A list of addresses will also be provided at the July and August Gatherings for you to edit or change the way you receive the newsletter. Thank you for your help on this matter!

DeColores & God bless! Rebecca Smith Communications Chair

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Please join us in August at Camp Ruggles for a Family Outdoor

July

Gathering and Cook-Out! Date: Tuesday—August 22, 2006 Time: 6:00 pm—Gather, Fellowship, Eat 7:00 pm—Worship Service

Tabernacle

Meats, buns, and drinks will be provided. Please bring a lawn chair and your favorite potluck dish or dessert to share.
Praise and worship music for the Gathering to be provided by *Table of Grace!*





From the Community Lay Director

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ! As I reflect upon the recent completion of Women's Walk #12, I am blessed to see the fruit of each of our personal walk experiences coming together in such a way as to show the love of Christ in service to others. Through our Christian Action we are showing His agape love to those He has called to be new members of the LOVE Community. He has called us to be His hands and feet to show His agape love, the unselfish love of action, to His body, the Church. The challenge we face as anonymous servants of Christ is completing this task without the sinful nature creeping into the process. This is not a new struggle for Christians. This struggle is not unique to members of the LOVE Community or the Church at large. A vivid example of this struggle of learning the value of becoming an anonymous, "agape sharing," Christian servant is evidenced in the behavior of the disciples of Christ.

In Mark 10: 35 – 45 we find James and John approaching Christ asking for places of honor in His coming kingdom. They made this request no doubt because they felt that Christ loved them and, more importantly, they in some way deserved this honor above the other disciples. There are many nuances to this passage of scripture but I believe the crux of the lesson is found in verses 44 & 45, "... and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

When you are called to serve the risen Christ as a member of a walk team or in a supporting role behind the scenes what is the response in your heart? Do you accept the role of servant to which God has called you?...OR...Like James and John, does your sinful nature take hold and do you go to Christ and ask for the position for which you believe you are best suited? Brothers and sisters, we are not perfect we are sinners saved by grace...Praise God! It is this saving grace of Jesus Christ that strengthens us in our daily struggle with the sinful nature as we struggle with the opposing desires of being a servant of the risen Christ and how we think things ought to be. In John 15:13 Christ calls us as His disciples to "lay down our lives" for our brothers and sisters as our ultimate gift of agape love. If we wish to be servants and to truly love we are called to lay aside what the sinful nature speaks into our hearts as "the way things should be" and take up our cross to follow Christ where He is leading. This is the servant role to which Christ calls each of us every dav.

I believe the scriptures show us that Peter struggled quite a bit with being a servant and wanting things to be "the way they should be" as he saw them. He offers words of warning and support to Christians in 1 Peter 5: 8 - 9, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings." Brothers and sisters do not allow yourselves to be devoured by the roaring lion. We need to be vigilant and in constant prayer as we strive to be servants to Christ within the LOVE Community and in our everyday lives. We must let our light shine so that others can see Christ in us!

De Colores! Roger Cheesbro (Prov. 3:5 – 6) Community Lay Director

I Am a Christian!

When I say...''I am a Christian'' I'm not shouting ''I am saved'' I'm whispering ''I was lost'' That is why I chose this way.

When I say..."I am a Christian" I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble And need someone to be my guide.

When I say...''I am a Christian'' I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak And pray for strength to carry on.

When I say...''I am a Christian'' I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed And cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say...''I am a Christian'' I'm not claiming to be perfect, My flaws are all too visible, But God believes I'm worth it.

When I say...''I am a Christian'' I still feel the sting of pain I have my share of heartaches Which is why I speak His name.

When I say...''I am a Christian'' I do not wish to judge. I have no authority. I only know I'm loved.

> Written by: Carol S. Wimmer Contributed by: Joe Howard

News From The DeColores Cafe

What a blessing for the pilgrims to see the hands and feet of Christ at work. A thank you to the people who worked in the kitchen, prepared meals and helped clean before and after the Women's Walk. It was a blessing to see the young adults coming to serve and help clean up after the walk. Sign up sheets to prepare a meal for the up coming Men's and Women's Walk will be at the July's gathering. This will be a time for your share group or friends to prepare a meal. DeColores, Pat Welti

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The SEEDS 🜮

An emperor in the Far East was growing old and knew it was time to choose his successor. Instead of choosing one of his assistants or his children, he decided to do something different. He called young people in the kingdom together one day. He said, "It is time for me to step down and choose the next emperor. I have decided to choose one of you."

The children were shocked, but the emperor continued. "I am going to give each one of you a seed today - one very special seed. I want you to plant the seed, water it, and come back here one year from today with what you have grown from this one seed. I will then judge the plants that you bring, and the one I choose will be the next emperor."

One boy, named Ling, was there that day and he, like the others, received a seed. He went home and excitedly, told his mother the story. She helped him get a pot and planting soil, and he planted the seed and watered it, carefully. Everyday, he would water it and watch to see if it had grown.

After about three weeks, some of the other youths began to talk about their seeds and the plants that were beginning to grow. Ling kept checking his seed, but nothing ever grew. Three weeks, four weeks, five weeks went by -- still nothing. By now, others were talking about their plants, but Ling didn't have a plant and he felt like a failure. Six months went by--still nothing in Ling's pot. He just knew he had killed his seed. Everyone else had trees and tall plants, but he had nothing. Ling didn't say anything to his friends, however. He just kept waiting for his seed to grow.

A year finally went by and all the youths of the kingdom brought their plants to the emperor for inspection. Ling told his mother that he wasn't going to take an empty pot. But his mother asked him to be honest about what happened. Ling felt sick at his stomach, but he knew his mother was right. He took his empty pot to the palace. When Ling arrived, he was amazed at the variety of plants grown by the other youths. They were beautiful--in all shapes and sizes. Ling put his empty pot on the floor and many of the other children laughed at him. A few felt sorry for him and just said, "Hey, nice try."

When the emperor arrived, he surveyed the room and greeted the young people. Ling just tried to hide in the back. "My, what great plants, trees, and flowers you have grown," said the emperor. "Today one of you will be appointed the next emperor!" All of a sudden, the emperor spotted Ling at the back of the room with his empty pot. He ordered his guards to bring him to the front. Ling was terrified. He thought, "The emperor knows I'm a failure! Maybe he will have me killed!"

When Ling got to the front, the Emperor asked his name. "My name is Ling," he replied. All the kids were laughing and making fun of him. The emperor asked everyone to quiet down. He looked at Ling, and then announced to the crowd, "Behold your new emperor! His name is Ling!" Ling couldn't believe it. Ling couldn't even grow his seed. How could he be the new emperor?

Then the emperor said, "One year ago today, I gave everyone here a seed. I told you to take the seed, plant it, water it, and bring it back to me today. But I gave you all boiled seeds that would not grow. All of you, except Ling, have brought me trees and plants and flowers. When you found that the seed would not grow, you substituted another seed for the one I gave you. Ling was the only one with the courage and honesty to bring me a pot with my seed in it. Therefore, he is the one who will be the new emperor!"

JULY 2006

*If you plant honesty, you will reap trust.
*If you plant goodness, you will reap friends.
*If you plant humility, you will reap greatness.
*If you plant perseverance, you will reap victory.
*If you plant consideration, you will reap harmony.
*If you plant hard work, you will reap success.
*If you plant forgiveness, you will reap reconciliation.
*If you plant openness, you will reap intimacy.

*If you plant patience, you will reap improvements. *If you plant faith, you will reap miracles.

So be careful what you plant, now; it will determine what you will reap tomorrow. The seeds you now scatter will make life worse or better for you or for the ones who will come after you. Someday you will enjoy the fruits or you will pay for the choices you make, God willing!!!!.

Thank you to Bren Frodge for sharing this article!

FROM THE Good Shepherd

Greetings to all the new members from the Women's Walk #12! I pray that your fourth days have been filled with a daily reminder that God loves you. Just in case you might have had a little brain overload during your Walk weekend and may have missed a few bits of information, I would like to refresh your memory about the importance of being a part of a Share Group.

A share group helps you continue your Emmaus experience of living a life wholly in the grace of God. It provides support and accountability for those who are taking the responsibility for being a disciple for Christ. It can develop friendships based on trust and a common bond of serving our Lord. Sounds great!

So how do you sign up? Well there are two routes available for joining a group. Either you can seek out an existing group or find friends to form a new group. No matter which you choose, begin with prayer. If you have any questions about how to start a share group, what do you do at the meetings, how often do you meet, etc. please contact me at the email address listed below. I will be happy to help you in any way that I can.

> De Colores, Donna Tavis The Good Shepherd Goodshepherd@LOVEmmaus.org





L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY P.O. Box 454 Maysville, KY 41056

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

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Assistant Community Lay Director	Tim Naylor
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