



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

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



From the Spiritual Director



Our reading is from Matthew 20:1-16 which says, "The kingdom of Heaven is like a landowner who goes out early in the morning and hires some laborers for his vineyard and says that he will pay them the usual wage for a day's work.

He then went out about 9:00, saw some standing in the marketplace and hired them to work in his vineyard and told them that he would pay them what is right. He went out again at Noon and three o'clock and did the same. At 5:00 o'clock he went out and found others standing idle and asked them "Why are you standing idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us," they replied. He told them to go into the vineyard and work also.

At the end of the day, the owner told his manager to call the laborers in and pay them, beginning with the last and going to the first. When those who came to work at 5:00 were paid, they received the going wage for a day's work.

Now when the first came to be paid, they thought that they were going to receive more than the going rate for a day's work, but each of them received the usual daily wage. And when they receive it, they grumbled and said that it was not fair. "Those who worked only one hour received as much as those who worked in the hot sun all day." But the owner replied to them, "Friend, I am doing no wrong. Did you not agree to work for the whole day at the usual daily rate? Take what belongs to you and go. I chose to give to the last the same as I gave to the first. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Are you envious because I am generous? So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

It just does not seem to be fair. But you see, life is not always fair. We see good things happen to bad people and bad things happen to good people.

We see some labor for hours for just a little and we see others make hundreds of thousands of dollars simply because of who they are. We see some who are physically fit and die young and others who abuse their bodies and live to a ripe old age.

Then we get this story of people who worked for only one hour getting the same as those who worked for an entire day. One is tempted to say that this story sets a bad example like so many other things that Jesus does, like: 1) Eating with tax collectors; 2) Hanging out with prostitutes and known criminals; 3) Healing people on the Sabbath; and, 4) Telling sinners that they are forgiven just because they have faith in him

Isn't God not being fair when He sends the rain on the just and the unjust and makes the sun shine on the righteous and the unrighteous? A minister in Canada said recently, "Stop looking for a Fair God, and be thankful for the One that you got."

Are you with the laborers who worked all day and received what they agreed on? Or are you with the ones who were hired late in the day and received more than they possibly could earn? Are you with the oldest son who worked hard and did not squander his inheritance or are you with the younger son who was delivered from the pig sty?



"Church sign" from the internet

The same could be said for Emmaus -- been to a Gathering lately? We've missed you!

COMING UP!

- * Gathering - 5/25/10
- * Gathering - 6/22/10

NOTE: Gatherings are at Washington United Methodist Church at 7:00 pm (Board of Directors meet at 5:45 pm)

Bring a snack & stay to eat after we meet!

- * Women's Walk - 6/10 - 13

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A tribute to our dear friend of the Emmaus Community, Al Rhonemus

The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.

Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Stop looking for a Fair God, and be thankful for the One that you have. The trouble is, that deep down, we often fall into the trap of believing that we deserve God's grace when we should be thinking that we need God's forgiveness. Sometimes we think that we really are not that bad. We come to church. We give; we do not steal or cheat. We are o.k. after all. We certainly are better than that old so-and-so down the road.

Are we not the ones that God sought? We are all his children and God love us all. Sometimes we think that there is a merit system and we want to see some extra rewards for our efforts.

My friends, this parable is not about economics; it is about Grace. It is true that some will at the very end, cry, "Jesus is Lord" and will be saved and enter into eternal bliss. But look what they have missed! Look what they could have had! They could have had Jesus walking with them for their entire lifetime and could have known the joy of His presence. Instead they only knew of His love, forgiveness, and His Grace for just a few minutes.

My friends, the parable of the generous landlord is offensive if you believe that God's love is something that you earn. It is offensive if you believe that seniority is the most important thing or generosity only counts if it is tax deductible.

For those who have eyes to see and ears to hear, the parable is glorious news about God's love for us all.

Decolores,
Les Grooms

THANK YOU!

The LOVE Community responded to their servanthood role as we saw Men's Walk #19 take place. From the cleaning of the facilities to the preparation of the grounds, the call for volunteers was answered with tremendous support.

A special thanks to Sally and Tim for their persistence in reminding us of our opportunities. Please continue your support during Women's Walk #20.

We give special thanks in memory of the life of Al Rhonemus. He and Patty's role in the formation of the LOVE Community will be long remembered.

DeColores!

Phil Brown, Community Lay Director

"Ketch-up" with the Kitchen!



YOU DID IT! Your response to the serving in the kitchen for Men's Walk #19 was fantastic! Fred and Tim Kragler were the men assigned to the kitchen for this Walk and there aren't enough words to describe the hard work of both of these fellows. We had over 55 Community Members who helped set-up, cook, and clean-up for the weekend.

The Logs are still drying out after carrying all the kitchen totes to the Log Room on Sunday! We cannot thank them enough for a great job under Noah-like conditions. Flat-bottomed boats were being considered. The rain may have won but the strong Spirit prevailed.

Women's Walk #20 is next in June and again, the kitchen is one of the first steps in serving on the Walks. Friday evening, Saturday morning and Saturday evening are already booked.

Please email if you are being called by the LORD to be a part of the kitchen service. I have suggestions for meals and/or jobs. There are 4 women who are going to work full time with me but we would like to see Share groups at each meal.

Colette McGinnis, Kitchen Coordinator

bcmcginnis@windstream.net



!Showers! of Blessings!

What an exhilarating weekend we had on Men's Walk #19! Though the Pilgrim numbers were few, the blessings were many. We were able to witness God at work in all the Pilgrims and in the Team Members also.

We serve a wonderful God and One who has a sense of humor! Being human, many little errors occurred, but our God used them to His advantage. I was blessed to have a supportive Team and Community to ensure a successful Walk. We had outstanding talks, great music, enthusiastic participation and food - lots and lots of wonderful meals. Colette and the kitchen volunteers were fantastic!

And how about the Community of angels who braved the elements to support the Pilgrims at Candlelight and Closing? Our human side had us concerned - would anyone show up? Yes, indeed they did!

Thank you to all who had a hand in welcoming our new members to our Community.

De Colores!

Tom Tavis, Lay Director, Men's Walk #19

BLESSINGS & OPPORTUNITIES!

Dear Community, Well, our next Walk is soon approaching, the Women's Walk #20 on June 10 - 13. As always, we are in need of volunteers in many areas. Please prayerfully consider helping in areas that are needed. These include:

- Clean Up Crews (*sign up at Gathering on May 25th*)
- Prayer Vigil Chart (*also at Gathering*)
- Agape
- Kitchen Help for weekend of Walk
- Attendance at cookout on June 10th
- Attendance at Candlelight on June 12th
- Attendance at Closing on June 13th
- Some very brave souls to help in clean-up after Closing on June 13th
- Constant prayer over the next few weeks for the preview meetings, Team, Pilgrims already registered, and for the ones who have not yet done so.

It is impossible for any one person to do all of these tasks, but as a Community, much can be accomplished for God's purpose. We hope to see you at the next Gathering!

De Colores!

Tim and Sally Teegarden, Volunteer Chaircouple

Agape Unconditional Love

Hello L.O.V.E. Emmaus Brothers and Sisters!

Thank you so much for your help in creating Agape for the Men's Walk #19! The men were able to feel our love through the Agape gifts at dinner, the poems and stories left on their beds at night, along with their personal Agape letters, our prayers, and prayers and letters from other Emmaus Communities. Wow! Not only did they feel *our* love, they were showered with God's unconditional love during those 72 hours!

Here are a few reminders to keep in mind when creating Agape. Agape is an expression of unconditional love - no personal names can be attached, although share group and church names are acceptable.

For each Walk, we need 30 pieces for bedtime Agape (if you want it to be for Pilgrims only) and 60 pieces for meal Agape. Please place Agape in a bag or box with a label or note attached with your name and the number of pieces enclosed. If you need Agape ideas, you might look at "101 Agape Ideas" at <http://www.niemmaus.com/Agape>.

Let's shower the Pilgrims on Women's Walk #20 with the same love we received our Walks!

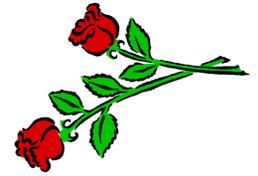
DeColores!

Elizabeth Reed, Agape Chair

"Christ followers contract malaria,
bury children,
and battle addictions,
and, as a result,
face fears.
It's not the absence of storms
that sets us apart.
It's whom we discover in the storm:
an unstirred Christ."

*Quote taken from Max Lucado's book,
"Fearless"*

Thanks for the Memories ... a Tribute to Al Rhonemus



Dear Community, We lost an icon of the LOVE Community in Al Rhonemus. I would ask for a moment of silence and reflection on Al's life.

From Mike Burke, the Good Shepherd

Dear Community, on May 7, 2010, Al Rhonemus passed from this earth into Heaven. Though we mourn the loss of a dear and treasured friend here on earth, there is no doubt in my mind that Al is dancing through Heaven today on steady legs as he praises our Lord.

As many of you know, Al and Patty (along with several others) were instrumental in the organization of our LOVE Community. Al had a passion for having a local Emmaus Community so that more people in our area could not only experience the wonderful Walk to Emmaus, but more easily participate in the Community, as well. He spoke often of his joy in participating in the Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community.

A few people have written tributes to Al and we'll share them here. Below is an article from a member of the Community who was also one of the many pioneers involved in making the LOVE Emmaus Community a reality:

I had heard much talk about Al Rhonemus (mostly from John Denham) and he seemed larger than life to me in those stories. No man could possibly be as "Christian", caring and loving - and fun - as the stories of Al. I quickly found out that the stories were true and that Patty and Al, whether they knew it or not, would have a profound impact on my life and, as you know, many more in the Love Community.

I do remember that first meeting fondly but I am not sure when the talk turned into "Let's start our own Community". Shortly after, the Cincinnati Emmaus Community sponsored the Love Community and promised to leave a spot open on those teams for a member of the LOVE Community until such a time as we were ready for our own Walk.

From that experience, we were ready to start Walk #1! While it was clear that Al was still our leader (and was until the day he died!), Cincinnati assigned a Lay Director and an Assistant Lay Director to help us on that Walk. We then started the Men's Team training for our first Walk. After only what I think was two meetings, the Lay Director decided that we were not ready for a Walk. The Upper Room shut down that Walk, which the men now affectionately call "Walk Zero". We now know that was a God thing.

In a very short time, with Al and John's help, we started what turned out to be LOVE Community Men's Walk #1 with the former Assistant Lay Director as our new Lay Director - a guy by the name of Bob Hedlesten!

I still remember how awesome the first Walk was-in a very dimly lit "Men's Dorm" serving as both the Team Dorm and the Conference Room! I also still remember, on that team and many others, the gentle, caring presence and guidance of Al Rhonemus. He led by example, spoke up when he had to and served with an energy that none of the rest of us could match. Al was our unquestioned leader. From there, the Holy Spirit took over and has made the LOVE Community what it is today

After that first Men's Walk, there was no discussion as to who should be our first Men's Lay Director from the LOVE Community. That man was Al Rhonemus and, again, he served and set an example that all subsequent Lay Directors would try to emulate - no way to duplicate.

Never, in all of my times with Al, did I see him get grumpy - and you know that is easy to do on a Walk considering the fatigue. Never did I see him be anything but an example of what Christ

would have us all to be. He was our leader in every possible sense of the word.

Al would never take credit, and perhaps would be a bit uncomfortable with, any credit given him for the success of the LOVE Community. He knew - and we know - that it is the Holy Spirit moving in us and in the Community that makes the Walks work. Whether he would agree or not, that Spirit moved in Al Rhonemus to the point where it was contagious. We all loved him and wanted to be around him because of that Spirit.

I thank God for my friendship with Al Rhonemus and my involvement in the LOVE Community. For all of us who had the privilege of knowing him, he made an eternal difference.

We just let one of our special people go be with the Lord. It was hard and will be hard for awhile, for we will miss him so. But we know where he is and I am sure he is feeling much better and would not want to come back. He is just waiting for us to come to him.

Please keep Patty Rhonemus and the family in your prayers, that they will be comforted and lean on Jesus. We don't know when we will be called Home so we need to be ready to meet our Savior.

Love in our Lord, Jesus Christ,
Georgjean Shelton, L.E.A.D. Committee Chair

Alfred Rhonemus and I worked together in the Manchester High school for over 20 years. I had retired from the school system and had gone on the Emmaus Walk at Wilmington but had not been active in the Community. One day Alfred stopped by my office and asked me if I would be a Table Leader on the upcoming Walk #1 for the L.O.V.E. Community.

I agreed to be a Table Leader. Bob Hedlesten was the Lay Director. We met and wondered if we would fall flat on our face or if we would have a great Walk. As it turned out, we had a great Walk. Al became the Lay Director on Walk #3 (I think). From day one, Al was faithful in attending Gatherings, Closings, and Candlelight. Al was a faithful friend and supporter of Emmaus and we will all miss him.

Les Grooms

We traveled from Cincinnati to be on Men's Walk #1 because they didn't have enough experienced Team to put on the weekend. Bob Hedlesten was the Lay Director and Tom McOwen (from Cincinnati) and I were Logistics for Men's #1.

From the very first minute we arrived for Team meetings, Gatherings, etc., Al welcomed us so warmly and sincerely and made us feel so at home in the LOVE Community, that we felt we were born there. He and others were so determined to get a Community going, working tirelessly to make it happen. I think Al knew everybody in Kentucky and Ohio - He was Mr. Gregarius!

He must have been a fantastic teacher - We wish we had been in one of his classes. No one will be missed more or mourned longer than Al Rhonemus.

Sue and Bob Hedlesten
Greater Cincinnati Walk to Emmaus

Why Go To Church?

A Church go-er wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: they all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing.... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment! When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "Jesus, could you get that for me?"

The above article tells me, and hopefully you, that we need to be fed regularly and I don't mean just what we put into our mouths. I look upon the Emmaus activities as being fed and I, for one, crave this. I get fed when I attend the monthly Gathering. The presence of the Holy Spirit is sometimes so strong I get covered in "God Bumps". Of course the food and fellowship afterwards is always great also.

The other opportunities Emmaus offers are rewarding and God-filled. It just really baffles me that some people go on the Walk to Emmaus and then they let that be all they do. Hey, don't get me wrong - it is one of the most wonderful experiences of a lifetime, BUT there is MORE to it than that! Other ways to enjoy that "mountain experience" is SERVING the Lord and the Pilgrims and the whole Emmaus Community through so many ways. Just to name a few: Being in an active Share group, making Agape, serving at meals, clean-ups etc., attending the various functions such as the Saturday night service, the Closing, the Thursday night send-off picnic. I know I am not hitting all the bases, but I pray you get the picture I am trying to paint.

PLEASE, PLEASE, come - and extend your Walk forever.

De Colores!

Bren Frodge, Board Secretary



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!



"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world." Luke 2:1

Rome conducted censuses to determine taxes. Moreover, the word 'census' originates in ancient Rome from the Latin word 'censere' (meaning 'estimate'). The Roman census was the most developed of any recorded in the ancient world and it played a crucial role in the administration of the Roman Empire. The Roman census was carried out every five years. It provided a register of citizens and their property from which their duties and privileges could be listed. (Wikipedia)

As you already know, there is a census going on in America right now. *"U.S. census results are used to decide the number of representatives each state has in the U.S. Congress. The amount of money your neighborhood receives also depends on these answers. That money is used for services for children and the elderly, roads, and many other local needs."* (from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau)

One of the MANY things that impressed me about my Walk was the organization. Everything, down to the tiniest detail, was carried out flawlessly (well, at the time, it appeared to be!). Being one who loves to try to organize and work out details, I was very impressed. Now I am honored to be a part of that organizing.

As Registrar, I get to keep the 'census' of Pilgrims for the Walks. *"A census is the procedure of systematically acquiring and recording information about the members of a given population."* I get to be one of the first to see who God is putting on the Walks. I get to rejoice over each one, praying for them early on and providing the 'census lists' to the Team. It can be quite suspenseful. I missed my first Board Meeting because of bad weather and thought I would miss my first Walk as Registrar because of a lack of Pilgrims. But God supplied exactly what we asked for just in time!

The deadline for registering for the Women's Walk is coming very quickly (May 27th). So I'd like to issue a decree that you systematically acquire Pilgrims so I can record information, providing services for children (*of the Lord*) and the elderly (*those of us who could use a little less suspense in our lives*), roads (*to Emmaus*), and many other local (spiritual) needs.

DeColores!

Alice Bailey, Registrar



Team - Women's Walk #20

- Lay Dir. - Sally Teegarden - Perseverance
- Asst. LD - Judy Nolte - Priority
- Bren Frodge - Discipleship
- Denise Burke - Fourth Day
- Sp. Dir. - Charles Mallory - Means of Grace
- Asst. SD - Susan Davidson - Sanctifying Grace
- Table Ldr. - April Henderson - Christian Action
- Brenda Reed - Changing Our World
- Linda Ratcliff - Grow Through Study
- Shawna Brillhart - Priesthood of All Believers
- Carol Spriggs - Life in Piety
- Lisa Leonard - Body of Christ
- Asst. TL - Wanda Bowman
- Nikki Whalen
- Lori Sams
- Vickie Click
- Sheila Euth
- Gwynne Thompson
- Prayer Svt. - Kathy Lofton
- Shirley Link
- Music Ldr. - Tami Conrad
- Music Asst. - Debbie Knauff
- Log - Walene Bennett
- Beverly Deatley
- Lauren Doyle
- TLG - Cyndi Frodge
- Bd. Rep. - Stella Hull
- Kitchen - Colette McGinnis
- Clergy - Wayne Harper - Justifying Grace
- Clergy - Patty Harper - Prevenient Grace
- Clergy - Charlie Shoemaker - Obstacles to Grace

Praise the Lord! We have 25 Pilgrims signed up for Women's Walk #20!! There's still time to sponsor some dear friend or family member —you have til May 27th to get their applications in to Alice Bailey, the Registrar.

Applications are available at our website at: www.lovemmaus.org - just print it out, fill it out and send it in!

In the meantime, please be praying for our Team, the Pilgrims, and all their families that God will do a wonderful work of grace on this Walk.

PILGRIMS – WALK #20

- Ramona Bailey
- Terry Barger
- Lisa Boling
- Yolanda Burns
- Emily Collett
- Diane Darnell
- Kelsie Fannin
- Kaci Foster
- Amanda Gillinger
- Charlotte Hart
- Cheryle Hart
- Geneva Insko
- Florence Kragler
- Christi Liess
- Cheryl Litzinger
- Kristyn Maxfield
- Danette Minzler
- Amanda Moore
- Tonya Newman
- Debbie Scott
- Breanne Stewart
- Joyce Thomas
- Kathryn Thompson
- Deborah Wells
- Jerrylyn Younts

This is the list of Pilgrims as of May 18th. Please be praying for them and their families as they prepare for the Walk. Pray that they will come to the Walk with open hearts, ready to receive what God has in store for them.

Time's Running Out - Subscribe Today!

Dear Community, Last month we published the following notice and subscription form in the Newsletter. We just want to remind you that time is running out - if you want to continue receiving the Newsletter by U.S. mail, we **must** receive your subscription form, plus \$5.00 for each one-year subscription no later than **June 10th**. Of course you can begin a subscription anytime throughout the year, but effective with the June issue, the Newsletter will only be mailed to those who have sent in their subscriptions, so don't miss out! Get your subscriptions mailed in to Tom Tavis at the address below today or turn it in at the Gathering on May 25th!

Our Board is charged with the task of being good stewards with the finances God provides so that we can take care of the needs of our Community and the Walks we sponsor each year. As costs rise in every area, our budget gets stretched more and more to make that happen.

Since the beginning, the LOVE Community Newsletter has always been published and mailed for free to everyone in the Community who wants it. Because the production and mailing costs do cut into our budget quite a bit, the Board recently voted to establish a subscription fee of \$5.00 per year to receive the Newsletter by mail (there are usually 7 issues per year: Winter, April, May, June, summer, September and October). This is not to discourage you from receiving the Newsletter by mail; on the contrary, we want you to continue to be up-to-date on what is going on in the Community. However, a small annual subscription fee is necessary in order to offset the costs of production and mailing.

If you want to continue to receive the Newsletter by standard U. S. mail, please complete the form below, cut it out and mail it to Tom Tavis, Treasurer, at the address on the form, along with \$5.00. Your subscription will be good for one year from June, 2010 through May, 2011. If you have any questions, you can contact me at mkhughes5@sbcglobal.net – make sure to write the word "Newsletter" in the subject line.

DeColores
Karen Hughes, Newsletter Editor



Yes, I want to receive the LOVE Community Newsletter by mail. Enclosed is \$5.00 for each one-year subscription (make checks payable to "Love Emmaus Community").

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ APT. _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Mark one: _____ 1-year @ \$5.00 (6/10 – 5/11) _____ 2-year @ \$10.00 (6/10 – 5/12)

Mail completed form with \$5.00 for each subscription to:
Tom Tavis, Treasurer, LOVEmmaus Community, 194 Creekside Lane, South Shore, Kentucky 41175

L.O.V.Emmaus Community

Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

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

Community Lay Director . . .	Phil Brown
Ass't Comm. LD	Michael Starkey
Secretary	Bren Frodge
Treasurer	Tom Tavis
Comm. Spiritual Director . .	Les Grooms
Music	Linda Naylor
Worship	Janice Edingfield
Good Shepherd	Mike Burke
Agape	Elizabeth Reed
Sponsorship	Jeremy Rutledge
Volunteer Coordinators . . .	Tim & Sally Teegarden
Communications	Karen Hughes
Logistics Coordinators . . .	Tim & Linda Ratcliff
Social Coordinators	R. C. & Shirley Miller
Chrysalis Representative . . .	Rebecca Bisotti
Registrar / Membership . . .	Alice Bailey
Facilities Set-up/Clean-up . .	David & Brenda Reveal
Kitchen	Colette McGinnis
L.E.A.D.	Georgjean Shelton
Ruggles Liaison	Stella Hull
Team Selection Chair	Alan Leonard
Team Selection Chair	Theresa Mallory
Past Board Chair	George Smith



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM®

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

WALK DATES FOR 2010:

Women #20: 6/10 - 13

Men #20: 9/2 - 5

Women #21: 10/7 - 10



www.lovenmaus.org

Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus
Maysville, Kentucky



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM®

L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY

P. O. Box 454
Maysville, KY 41056