



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM

# L.O.V. Emmaus Community

Limestone-Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

Easter Issue

L.O.V.E. COMMUNITY NEWS

March

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

Luke 24:15

### Upcoming Events:

- Gathering March 23
- Gathering April 27
- March 23 at 6:30 pm, Men's/Women's Team Meeting—Come Meet your Prayer Partner!

Next Community Gatherings at 7:00 p.m.  
The Maysville Church of the Nazarene  
156 Maple Leaf Rd.

*If possible, bring a snack to share!*

Board of Directors:  
March 30 at 7:00 pm  
April 27 at 5:45 pm

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## Request for Transfer

**To:** Commander-in-Chief  
Spiritual Armed Forces  
Jesus Christ

Dear Lord:

I am writing this to You to request a transfer to a desk job. I herewith present my reasons:

I began my career as a private, because of the intensity of the battle You have quickly moved me up in the ranks. You have made me an officer and given me a tremendous amount of responsibility. there are many soldiers and recruits under my charge.

I am constantly being called upon to dispense wisdom, make judgments, and find solutions to complex problems. You have placed me in a position to function as an officer, when in my heart I know I have only the skills of a private. I realize that You have promised to supply all I would need for the battle. But Sir, I must present You a realistic picture of my equipment.

My uniform, once so crisp and starched, is now stained with tears and blood of those I have tried to assist. The soles of my boots are cracked and worn from the miles I have walked trying to enlist and encourage the instructed troops. My weapons are marred, tarnished and chipped from constant battle against the enemy.

Even the Book of Regulations I was issued has been torn and tattered from endless use. The words are now smeared. You have promised You would be with me throughout, but when the noise the battle is so loud and the confusion is so great, I can neither see nor hear You. I feel so alone. I'm tired. I'm discouraged. I have Battle Fatigue. I would never ask You for a discharge. I love being in Your service. But I humbly request a demotion and

transfer. I'll file papers or clean latrines. Just get me out of the battle--please, Sir.

Your Faithful, but tired, Warrior.

**To:** Faithful, but tired, Soldier  
Spiritual Armed Forces

**Location:** The Battlefield

**SUBJECT:** Transfer

Dear Soldier:

Your request for transfer has been denied. I herewith present My reasons:

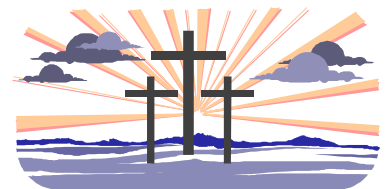
You are needed in this battle. I have selected you, and I will keep My Word to supply your need. You do not need a demotion and transfer. (You'd never cut it on latrine duty.) You need a period of "R&R"--Renewal and Rekindling. I am setting aside a place on the battlefield that is insulated from all sound and fully protected from the enemy. I will meet you there and I will give you rest.

I will remove your old equipment and "make all things new." You have been wounded in the battle, My soldier. Your wounds are not visible, but you have received grave internal injuries. You need to be healed. I will heal you. You have been weakened in the battle. You need to be strengthened. I will strengthen you and be your strength. I will instill in you confidence and ability. My Words will rekindle within you a renewed love, zeal and enthusiasm. Report to Me tattered and empty. I will refill you.

Compassionately,  
Your Commander-in-Chief, *Jesus Christ*

*Thank you to Cathy Miller-Miller for submitting this article that so accurately describes what the Walk to Emmaus is all about!*

Celebrate the Miracle Of Easter  
*Renew Your Faith this Holiday Season*



## Women's Walk #8 Team Selected

<b>Spiritual Director</b>	Rev. Ray Snider
<b>- Assistant</b>	David Laycock
<b>Lay Director</b>	Walene Bennett
<b>-Assistants</b>	Georgjean Shelton
	Judy Day
	Kay Grooms
<b>Board Rep.</b>	Stella Hull
<b>Table Leaders</b>	Lori Perry
	Colette McGinnis
	Dena Pully
	Debbie Pfeffer
	Elizabeth Smith
	Cyndi Frodge
<b>-Assistants</b>	Sally Teegarden
	Donna Tavis
	Kathy Lofton
	Dona Hamilton
	Brenda Howard
	Helen Henry
<b>Music Director</b>	Sharon Snider
<b>-Assistants</b>	Mary Banks
	Amanda Snodgrass
<b>Prayer Servants</b>	Shirley Josche
	Janet Stohlman
<b>Logistics</b>	Bren Frodge
	Rebecca Smith
	Karen Hughes
<b>Clown Ministry</b>	Bob Hedlesten
	Sue Hedlesten
<b>Kitchen</b>	Cynthia Snider

Please remember to include  
these folks in your prayers!



## Sponsorship: Helpful Hints

We are fast approaching the "walk season" of the L.O.V.E. Community and many of you have already been busy stepping into a sponsorship role as evidenced by the pilgrims registered for the Spring '04 Walks. As chair of Sponsorship for the community I wish to provide practical advice and a caution or two as you shine your light before others in your role as sponsor.

As you prayerfully consider pilgrim candidates remember the purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is to build up leaders in the church. Each of us had such a unique and wonderful experience on the weekend it is only natural for us to want to share this joyous experience with others. In our zeal to share we forget the main purpose of the weekend...to build up leaders for the church. For many, the weekend does provide an unparalleled spiritual experience but it was not created for saving the lost or relieving suffering. It can be very unfair to the team and the pilgrim to place a pilgrim on a walk weekend who is not ready for that experience. Remember... *prayerful consideration*.

Once you have identified a pilgrim candidate, if the pilgrim is married, the Emmaus literature states it is best to approach the pilgrim and the spouse together. This serves to include both in the information and decision process and raises the possibility the spouse will wish to attend the Walk as well. You can attract two pilgrims and only sponsor one as the first spouse attending will be very excited about sponsoring their spouse on a walk weekend. Share your experience with the weekend... the talks, the food, worship, fellowship, etc. Remember there are no secrets on an Emmaus weekend only surprises. There is Emmaus literature available to help with the explanation if needed. First time sponsors are encouraged to read the Emmaus pamphlet entitled "Sponsorship".

Watch the newsletter for future articles on helpful hints for sponsorship. In the meantime, if you have any questions about sponsorship, please don't hesitate to contact me!

*De Colores!*

Roger Cheesbro—Sponsorship Chair  
937.544.9728 or rogericc@bright.net.



### Join our Team! From Bob Bennington—Lay Director, Men's Walk #8

The men's team for Walk #8 is finally set and the team will start training on March 25<sup>th</sup>. The men are really looking forward to the start and would like to ask the entire community to join in prayer for the success of the weekend.

Prayer is the most powerful single element in the training and the weekend. It is also a way for the community as a whole and for each individual to become involved in the Walk To Emmaus weekends. Even if there is no other way for you to serve you can take time out of each day to pray for the teams and the pilgrims.

Pray especially that the weekend will be servant oriented and that the pilgrims will only see Christ when they see the team. There is no "I" on a team. Only we. And you can be part of that team by praying for the weekend.

## A note from the Good Shepherd . . .

Any time an army goes to war or an expedition takes to the field, it breaks down into little platoons and squads. And every chronicle of war or quest will tell you that the men and women who fought bravely fought for each other. That's where the acts of heroism and sacrifice take place because that's where the devotion is. You simply cannot be devoted to a mass of people; devotion takes place in small units, just as in a family.

*"We have stopped short of being an organization; we are an organism instead, a living and spontaneous association of individuals who know one another intimately, care for each other deeply; and feel a kind of respect for one another that makes rules and by-laws unnecessary. A group is the right size, I would guess, when each member can pray for every other member, individually and by name."* This paragraph was writ-

ten by Brother Andrew, who smuggled Bibles into Communist countries.

You *must* have a small fellowship to walk with you and fight with you and bandage your wounds. Remember, the path is narrow, and *few* find it. *Few* means "small in number," as opposed to, say, massive. This is essential. This is what the scriptures urge us to do. First. Foremost. Not as an addition to Sunday. Before anything else.

God is calling together little communities of the heart, to fight for one another and for the hearts of those who have not yet been set free. That camaraderie, that intimacy, that incredible impact by a few stouthearted souls—that is available. It is the Christian life as Jesus gave it to us. It is completely normal.

*From the Book -Waking the Dead by John Eldredge*

Colette McGinnis  
The Good Shepherd

## A note from the Spiritual Director . . .

Hello God's Wonderful People!

I'm looking forward to serving this great Emmaus Community as Spiritual Director for the year 2004-05.

Here in Mason County everyone is excited about our Royal basketball team's return to the "Sweet Sixteen" at Rupp Arena. As a former basketball player I know the long, tiring, hours spent in practice. I also know the endless drills, repetition, and endless pointers on how to "trap" an opponent, and "escape" full court pressure come full circle in important games against other well-coached aggressive opponents. If a team is to rise to the occasion it takes a combination of experience, discipline, practice, study, drill, and character. Without these things "sincerely wanting to win" just will not happen.

I'm amazed at what the Lord has done to create a winning team in our L.O.V.E. Emmaus Community. We are doing what a healthy community should do—continuing to grow by learning and practicing God's principles for growth.

The disciple Peter, writing from his own experience in I Peter 2.2, said, "Like newborn babes long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation."

As followers of Christ, the growth of his kingdom in our Emmaus community and churches, will depend on

our willingness to place ourselves under the authority of God's word and obey it as precisely as possible. We face a well-coached aggressive opponent of God's way in the principalities and powers of darkness. The margin of victory will be determined through our discipline, practice, study, drill, and character which springs from this.

What about growth in our Emmaus community? A committee has been in the process of reviewing our Emmaus Walk's according to the guidelines set by The Upper Room. It's so very important that we "stay healthy" following the tried and true principles of our predecessors. As we look ahead to our upcoming men's and women's retreats on April 29th-May 2nd (men's); and June 3rd-6th (women's); we review once again our "Sponsor's Guide" —how to do it right. Pilgrims learn how "to do the right stuff" by our example. We pray for God to open the door for the pilgrims He wants and that we would recognize them. We sign up on the 24 hour prayer vigil to pray for each Walk. We commit to serve in some way in our community so that the Kingdom of God can expand on earth and in us.

De Colores,  
Michael Canada  
LOVE Community Spiritual Director



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**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM

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

**UPCOMING WALK DATES  
ANNOUNCED!**

**MEN'S WALK #8:**  
APRIL 29 - May 2, 2004

**WOMEN'S WALK #8:**  
JUNE 3 - 6, 2004

**MEN'S WALK #9**  
SEPTEMBER 9 - 12, 2004

**WOMEN'S WALK #9**  
OCTOBER 7 - 10, 2004

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

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

**Chairman:**

Bob Bennington  
Home: 937-544-5900  
Chairman@LOVEmmaus.org

**Vice-Chairman:**

Stacy Downing  
Home: 606-759-7655  
ViceChairman@LOVEmmaus.org

**Secretary:**

Judy Day

**Treasurer:**

Kay Moran

**Immediate Past Chair:**

Jim Downing

**Spiritual Director:**

Rev. Mike Canada

**Sponsorship/Music:**

Roger Cheesbro

**Registrar/Membership:**

Cyndi Frodge

**Communications:**

Rebecca Smith  
Newsletter@LOVEmmaus.org

**Agape Correspondence:**

Julia Warner

**Gathering Committee:**

Rev. Bill Henry

**Good Shepherd:**

Colette McGinnis

**Chrysalis Coordinator:**

Debbie Shoemaker

**Worship:**

Delace Canada

**Volunteer Coordinators:**

Steve and Kathy Weber

**Logistics:**

Jeff & Jutta King

**Social:**

Bill and Georjean Shelton

**Kitchen:**

Pat Welti

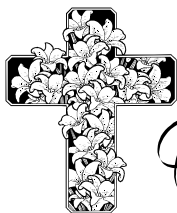


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P.O. Box 454

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*Easter Greetings*  
TO ONE AND ALL