



Springfield Area Emmaus

December 2015

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A Message from your Community Lay Director

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I invite all those brothers and sisters who took their walk in the 1990's to the Christmas Concert in December. We have missed many of you and would like to see you (and hug you) December 13.

I invite all those who took their walk in this century to come to the Christmas Praise gathering. You may get to see some those from the last century. Ant that includes some of the great voices we love to hear and maybe heard on your week-end.

Next, I invite all your family and your neighbors and your Sunday school class and those you work with to the December 13 Christmas Praise Concert at 7 pm. My problem is that I don't know many of those people, so, please do me a favor. You invite them! Ben Webster has put together a great program for us. You and all your guest will not be disappointed. And please bring your candles or a small light with you that will be part of the program. (We should always let our little light shine!) Bring your candle.

Please use this Christmas Concert as a tool to invite others, to a great evening. To all in the Springfield community, we need applications. You enjoyed your weekend and now it the time to share it. The Christmas Concert is an opportunity to share and not scare anyone.

The Bill Gaither Christmas Praise Gathering will cost you between 35-60 dollars a seat. The Ben Webster Christmas Praise Concert is well worth that, but, admission is FREE! And it's better! Share that thought and we will fill the balcony.

- + Our goal is to fill the church 7 pm December 13.**
- + Our goal is to have a Women's Walk April 14-17.**
- + Our goal is to have a Men's Walk June 16-19.**
- + Our goal is to have women's walk Sept 22-25.**
- + Our goal is to have a Men's Walk November 17-20.**

Our goal is to walk with the Lord on all our 4<sup>th</sup> days.

Let's celebrate! Let's be joyfull! The cross is empty! The grave is empty! Jesus is alive!

Let's celebrate together! I have missed you! See you December 13 at 7 pm! Love you all!  
Pinky Pendleton



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**About my 4<sup>th</sup> Days**

Hi, my name is Verna Reed. I attended the Springfield Area Emmaus Women’s Walk #46. It was the greatest experience of my life. At least that’s what I thought, until I sponsored my mother on her walk.

Her name is Betty Reed and she attended Walk #70. God blessed me with the opportunity to be selected to serve on the live in Team for her Walk. My mother didn’t know I was on the Team. For years I tried to get her to attend without success. But I had her to sign her application by putting it in with some papers I needed her to sign for another organization we both belong to. GOT CHA!! Is all I could think of.

When the call came to her about the Walk, she confronted me. I told her when she had signed the application and told her, “I think God is trying to tell you something.” Her response was, “He hasn’t said a word to me.” I said, “Maybe if you go on the Walk you will hear what He is saying.” She finally consented to go.

I had a couple of good friends of mine to pick her up and get her to the church. I had told her I had to work and would see her after her Walk. Told her to have an open mind and spirit and to let God have His Way.

When the Team went down to the dining hall where the Sponsors and their Pilgrims were, I found her sitting with my friends. I walked up behind her and said “Hi Mom.” She turned around and saw I had on a badge like hers and said “Hey what you doing with a badge on like mine? Are you going on this Walk too?” I told her I am on this Team. Only response she had was “Good I can sit with you. I don’t know any of these people.” We worked that part out and the Spirit started to work.



Watching my mother go through her Walk was the Greatest Reward I could ever have. Watching the Holy Spirit chance her facial expressions, her opening up with strangers, her tears of release from worries, her expressions of joy in her relationship with God and her developing new lifetime relationships with new Sisters in Christ was absolutely overwhelming.

I am so, so thankful to my Heavenly Father for giving me the chance to watch her go through that transition of Faith and Joy. There is nothing that can ever take that from me. Even though my mother and I have always been close, the Walk brought us even closer together. Not only in our family relationship, but also our Spiritual life as well. Thank You Lord.

DeColores!



Matthew 25: 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

We often become so focused on those things in front of us that we fail to see the least, the last, and the lost in our periphery. They blend into the scenery and they are easily overlooked. It is like only seeing the decorations while ignoring the burned out, darkened lights. I am guilty.

Fortunately, our Risen Lord and Savior can see what no one else can see. He sees the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, and the imprisoned. Yet He wants our help to participate in His ministry here on earth. He needs us to be His willing hands and feet. Will you do your part for the Kingdom?

Matthew 25:40 “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” Declores, Dwight Dobbins



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It was an honor to be a part of Kairos 43 @ Ohio Reformatory for Woman, The residents come in the Chapel Thursday, not smiling with arms crossed. Friday little more excited, Saturday is Forgiveness Ceremony. Sunday at closing they are smiling, hugging and sharing their gratitude. Some of the women have no contact with their families, feeling hopeless, full of shame and guilt. Cookies and food are the agape used. If you would attend one closing, you can feel the love of Jesus in that room. Kairos has a monthly gathering also. Surely the presents of God is in that place. The next walk for ladies is in April.

DeColores, Ellen Morgan c/c kairos@orw.com

**I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW FAST TIME "FLIES". AS I HAVE SAT BACK AND THOUGHT ABOUT 2015, I STAND AMAZED AT ALL OF THE BLESSINGS THAT GOD HAS POURED OUT ON ME AND MY FAMILY. IT JUST SEEMS LIKE A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO (BACK IN JULY), WHEN OUR FAMILY WENT ON A WEEK'S VACATION TO VIRGINIA BEACH. NOW HERE WE ARE THINKING ABOUT THANKSGIVING PLANS AND THE FACT THAT CHRISTMAS IS ALMOST UPON US. WOW!! IT JUST DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE YET. BUT HERE WE ARE.**

**WHEN I ACCEPTED THE NOMINATION AND THE VOTE TO BE THE COMMUNITY'S "MUSIC DIRECTOR" IN THE SUMMER OF 2014 I REALLY HAD NO IDEA WHAT TO EXPECT. I HAD NO IDEA WHAT TO DO! SO GOD AND I HAD A TALK. I SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN PRAYER AND TALKING WITH GOD ABOUT WHAT TO DO AND HOW TO DO IT. AND NOW, HERE WE ARE. MUSIC HAS ALWAYS BEEN A VERY STRONG PART OF THE EMMAUS WEEKEND. AS I THINK BACK ON MY WALK, I REMEMBER SONGS THAT TOUCHED ME AT DIFFERENT TIMES. I REMEMBER SINGING SONGS THAT WE JUST LAUGHED AND ACTED "GOOFY" WHILE SINGING THEM, AND I REMEMBER SONGS THAT WE SANG THAT BROUGHT ME TO TEARS AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME, THOSE TIMES WHEN GOD WANTED TO GET A HOLD OF ME THE MOST. WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT THE SONGS YOU SANG ON YOUR WALK?**

**I BELIEVE THAT MUSIC IS THE KEY TO THE SOUL. I BELIEVE THAT MUSIC SOFTENS THE SOUL TO ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO TOUCH US AND TO LET US FEEL GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE. I ALSO BELIEVE THAT MUSIC STRENGTHENS US AND ALLOWS US TO BE VICTORIOUS AS WE CONTINUE ON OUR FOURTH DAY. REMEMBER THE STORY OF JOSHUA AND THE BATTLE OF JERICO? MUSIC WAS USED TO HELP TO "TEAR DOWN THE WALLS" OF JERICO. WE CAN ALSO USE MUSIC IN OUR DAILY LIVES TO HELP "TEAR DOWN WALLS". ONCE WE TEAR DOWN THOSE WALLS, IS WHEN WE CAN USE MUSIC TO WORSHIP OUR KING AND SAVIOR.**

**I AM EXTREMELY EXCITED ABOUT THE DECEMBER GATHERING. IT IS GOING TO BE A WONDERFUL EVENING OF PRAISE AND WORSHIP. WE HAVE SEVERAL TALENTED SINGERS LINED UP TO SHARE THEIR GIFTS AND ABILITIES WITH THE COMMUNITY. IF YOU HAVEN'T ATTENDED A GATHERING IN A WHILE, THIS MAY BE THE MONTH YOU WANT TO START. AS PINKY SAID DURING THE LAST GATHERING, "THIS IS A NON-THREATENING GATHERING". WHAT DID HE MEAN WHEN HE SAID THAT? I BELIEVE HE MEANT THAT IF THERE WAS EVER A GATHERING TO INVITE SOMEONE TO IT IS THIS ONE. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE FUN! WE ARE GOING TO PRAISE, AND WE ARE GOING TO GIVE THANKS FOR ALL THAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US. THINK ABOUT HOW MANY PEOPLE YOU ATTENDED A WALK WITH THAT DON'T ATTEND THE GATHERINGS ANYMORE. DO YOU STILL HAVE YOUR LIST OF NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS? GIVE SOMEONE A CALL AND INVITE THEM TO THE DECEMBER GATHERING. DO YOU HAVE A PROSPECTIVE PILGRIM THAT YOU'VE BEEN WANTING TO INVITE TO ATTEND A WALK? GIVE THEM A CALL AND INVITE THEM TO THE DECEMBER GATHERING.**

**WE ALL ARE CALLED TO BE CHRIST'S HANDS AND FEET, AND THE DECEMBER PRAISE GATHERING IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A CHANCE TO BE JUST THAT....CHRIST'S HANDS AND FEET.  
SEE YOU IN DECEMBER AND DE COLORES! BEN WEBSTER**



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**December 13, 2015 will be a Praise Gathering at 7 pm**

2016 Gathering Dates start at 7pm

January 10	February 14
March 13	April 10
May 15	June 12
July 10	August 14
September 11	October 9
November 13	December 11



Springfield Area Emmaus  
230 E. High Street  
Springfield, OH 45505