



Springfield Area Emmaus

MAY 2015

Co-Community Spiritual Director's Thoughts

BE STILL AND KNOW

In the devotional, *"Then Sings My Soul-Devotions Inspired by Ten Beloved Hymns,"* the devotion entitled, *"His Still Small Voice,"* begins something like this:

We love to hear God's voice. [God]'s kind, affirming words lend boldness and confidence. No enemy is too fierce and no circumstance too great. But when we cease to hear from [God], we become fretful and troubled. Even [God]'s chastisement is preferred over silence.

Oh how I wish this were true, but I think too often, we choose the silence over the chastisement.

We live in a world that has been fooled into thinking it doesn't need or want God. We live in a culture that says the notion of God is antiquated, and a crutch for the "fanatic" and the weak-minded. When we are disconnected from the worshipping community known as the church, it can become very easy to let these words slip through our faith filters and into our hearts, minds, and behaviors.

In Psalm 46:10, God says, *"Be still and know that I am God."* If we want to hear God's voice, we have to be quiet in order to hear God speak... *however* God chooses to speak. But the world tells us we don't need to listen to God; we can do whatever we want to do! The world tells us that God isn't real or relevant. And all too often, we are so disconnected from the faith community that we cannot hear God's voice above the loud refrain of the world's words.

But I still choose God's voice, even if you call me and my church "fanatical" or "weak-minded." Oh, I care, but not enough to choose the world's voice over God's voice. God loves me forever, and the world's love is fickle (if it ever loved me at all). God sent God's own son to die, for love of me (and all of us). God claims me when the world kicks me aside. God is the source of my strength and God is my reason for living. God does give me boldness and confidence, and God walks beside me each and every day. I CHOOSE God's voice, even if (and when) God is correcting me for looking and acting like the world!

I gather with my church once a week for my faith boost and faith connection. I gather with my share group once a week to review my spiritual successes and failures, and to review my plan for the week (so that I am more likely to speak boldly when God asks me to, and to be still when God tells me to). I draw upon the prayers, praise, worship, and strength of the faith community so I can embrace both the praise and the chastisement that are necessary for me to grow in my faith.

My prayer for all of us is that we *never* choose to listen to the World's voice. My prayer is that we *never* choose the silence over the chastisement (lest we convince ourselves that our sinful, worldly ways are acceptable). Even for someone as loquacious as I, one of the most critical verses in scripture is God's gentle reminder, *"Be still and know that I am God."*

How blessed we are when we do precisely that!

De Colores! Pastor Sherri

A Message from your Community Lay Director



I want to thank everyone involved with and supported Women’s Walk #71 with your time, talents, and prayer. There are so many of you that worked unseen behind the scenes, that would it be impossible to put one of these walks on without your efforts.

I am sure that the live in team was blessed as the walk progressed, and we all know that the pilgrims were blessed as we listened to their testimonies at the closing Sunday.

Let us put our hearts, mind, and prayers together and with GOD’s help we can have an equally successful walk for the men in June.

It is that time of year again to start replacing board members whose term has run its course. I would ask you to get in touch with me if you would have any interest in helping with any of the following positions:

High St. UMC Rep.

Kairos

Sponsorship

Secretary

Social

In GOD’s Love

Your servant

Ed Jurkat



2015 Gathering Dates start at 7pm

June 14	July 12
August 9	September 13

Notice Date Change for May the Gathering has been changed to 17 celebrate with women of your life on the 10th! Happy Mother’s Day!

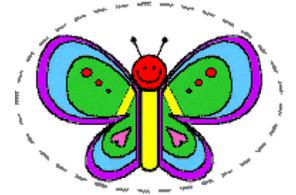
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Know a young person (15-21) who would be ready to go on a Chrysalis Flight. Girls Flight 60 is July 10-12 and Boys Flight 60 is July 31- August 2. What an opportunity to share the love of God. Applications on table at Gathering or West Ohio Chrysalis web site.



Tom

"It's not about winning and losing, but love and respect." Max Lucado



"I can hardly put these thoughts into words but I will try....If I didn't thank each of the Kitchen Crew individually, this is for each of you. From Wednesday at 4:00o'clock to Sunday evening at 9:30 p.m. I was so very blessed to have the most beautiful, faithful, loving, dearest angels, both men and women, surrounding me each and every day. Everyone stepped up to the day's challenges (especially dinner on Friday evening) with smiles and hugs and love. We laughed, cried a little, smiled a lot and somehow are willing to come back again in June ready to meet the needs of our Pilgrims. This is the LOVE that our Lord and Savior has instilled in each of us, to serve Him beyond any call to duty. Each of you, though I haven't learned all of your names are deposited in my grateful heart forever. DeColores! Jean Grumbling"



MEN'S WALK # 47 JUNE 25 TO 28

ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WILLING SERVANTS! FILL OUT YOUR SHEETS AND TURN THEM IN LOCATED AT THE GATHERING OR WEBSITE

[HTTP://WWW.SPFLDEMMAUS.COM/](http://www.spfldemmaus.com/)



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Springfield Area Emmaus Community
Newsletter Request

Name _____ Walk# _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email (optional) _____

If you would like to have the Newsletter mailed please send your \$10 fee along with this or copy of requested information to Springfield Area Emmaus, 230 E. High St., Springfield, OH 45505



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230 E. High Street
Springfield, OH 45505

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