

Springfield Area Emmaus News

May 2006

Thank God
for Spring!

EXPERIENCING THE PASSION ANEW THIS EASTER

An evangelist was preaching in South Africa at a large revival when he invited people to come forward and accept Christ as their Savior. Hundreds were coming forward and kneeling at the cross. Suddenly the musicians stopped playing and the choir was too choked up to sing. A young man, blind from birth, had been brought up by his friends. He was kneeling in front of the cross, caressing it with his hands and embracing it with tears streaming down his face. This was his way of "seeing" the cross and realizing what Christ had done for him.

A while back I was watching actor now evangelist, Kirk Cameron, on Christian TV. He tries to put God's plan for us in plain words so that even the non-churched can understand what Jesus did for them and all. Working in the criminal justice system, I found his words to be very meaningful and put the plan of salvation in a new and different perspective for me. I expect that I can put his words to a lot of use in my profession.

He said to imagine that you were in court and you have been convicted of a very serious crime. The Judge has found you GUILTY, but you have no way of paying the tremendous fine. You have been shackled and are being led away to prison, condemned to a life of misery, when all at once a stranger steps up and says "Your Honor, I will pay this man's fine; I will suffer his punishment. If he will accept my offer, let him go FREE."

Time has no meaning to God. When Jesus hung on the cross so long ago, He knew that He was doing so for you today, so that your life could be SAVED, TWO THOUSAND AND SIX YEARS LATER but you have to repent and accept His offer. "...If he will accept my offer, let him go FREE."

When was the last time you really thought about what Jesus did for you? Jesus went willingly to the cross. When His disciple cut off Marcus' ear in the garden He told him to put away the sword. Don't you know that I could have thousands of Angels at my side if I wanted? I do this willingly so the scriptures will be fulfilled.

This Easter season I invite you to re-examine the cross, like that young blind man. Caress the cross, embrace it. Remember what Christ did for you and join me in accepting Him and Life Everlasting - PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW!

IN HIS LOVE
ROY

**Reunion – May 21st Women's Walk #33 (Nancy Ernst, LD)
Choir Room 6:00 p.m.**

**Important Dates to Remember...
Upcoming "WALK" Dates**

*Women's Walk # 47
June 22-25, 2006
Men's Walk # 32
August 17-20, 2006
Women's Walk # 48
November 2-5, 2006*

All walk dates are tentative.

Emmaus Walk Information

**June 22-25, 2006
Women's Walk # 47
JoAnn Horrocks, Lay Director
Spiritual Directors
Bob Scott and _____**

Jesus loves you!

KAIROS

Want to become a Kairos volunteer or learn more about it? Call Sam at 937-399-3724.

Upcoming Kairos weekends are as follows:
Ohio Reformatory for Women - #25 -
May 18-21, 2006.
Ohio State Penitentiary - #1 - TBA.
Toledo Correctional - #6 - May 4-7, 2006.
Ross Correctional #13 - August 17-20, 2006.

Don't forget to check out the Kairos website during your next surfing session at www.kairosohio.org.

In His Love, Sam Poston

**Attention
GFS & OfficeMax shoppers....**

Please continue to shop at Gordon Foods and Office Max and make sure your purchase benefits the Springfield Area Emmaus. Please tell the cashier you would like your purchase to benefit the Springfield Area Emmaus. The dollar amount will contribute towards the percentage of discount when we make purchases for the walks and gatherings. Thank you.

PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED

This is directed to all 2005 Emmaus pilgrims. Now that you have been in your fourth days, I pray that you have gotten into a share group. If you have an email address, please contact me and I will gladly add you to the 386 addresses that reach around the world. There are people receiving email messages in all fifty states and in seven foreign countries. Simply send me your email address at ramaster@iapdatacom.net. In the subject space write "Prayer Request" and I will take all praises, all concerns and send out information about church dinners and projects to benefit anyone in need. Each of you have received one of our prayer chain cards in your Sunday packets.

If you do not have email, you can call Pam Peterman at 325-3629 and you will be connected to the phone prayer chain. She will call me and I will get your request out as soon as possible. Stay on the Emmaus Road!

Love in Christ,
Becky Master, "The Email Lady"

SHARE GROUP INFORMATION

Remember that you need to be active in a share group. It is essential in maintaining the experience of your walk! Call Patty Aliff *408-5775 or email her at paliff@tacind.com for women's share groups
Call Jerry Peterman at 325-3629 for men's share groups.
(* new phone and email)

Thoughts from one of the Spiritual Directors...

Look at the world all around you. Nuclear weapons in Iran, civil war in Iraq. Waves of illegal immigrants in the U.S. Rising energy prices and falling wages. Social Insecurity. Red China is rising along with our trade deficit. Wouldn't it be great to be able to live out acts of daring faith but most of us will be happy to be brave enough to live a Christ-like life each day at home and at work.

That kind of fearful, limited living is precisely what God doesn't intend for us.

It was precisely in the most dangerous, disastrous, fearful and tragic moment that God had His finest hour. Greater than the moment of creation, no matter how big the bang. Just as God spoke "Let there be light" and brought light out of darkness, so the cry of Jesus "It is finished" rose into the darkened sky and brought eternal life.

The disciples didn't get it. They saw only ultimate failure in the agony of the cross. Jesus on the cross said so clearly to them that the world could not be trusted. That dreams were meant to die. That the very best that God could offer could be defeated by a cruel world. But God had another idea.

All through the Bible, the most frequent command by God is "Do not be afraid." 155 times God says to His people "Do not be afraid." "Do not fear." Dare to dream. Dare to believe. Dare to love. Dare to give.

Even when you extend your arms to include the world and people pound cruel nails into your palms – "Do not be afraid." The door is locked. Deadbolted. Chair under the doorknob. Ten men sat inside with their knees knocking, afraid that the Temple police would be there at any moment.

What kind of money would you put on this crew to make an impact on the world? Frightened, uneducated, confused, callused hands and rural accents. Some of them still smelled like fish.

But something happens to you when you see a man who has defeated death itself.

Jesus appeared among them and they were terrified as though they were seeing a ghost.

Jesus asked "Why are you frightened?" In other words – Don't be. Go and spread the Word of my death, resurrection, repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations, beginning here in Jerusalem.

And they went. To ports, courtyards, boats, synagogues, cities. Men who had never been more than 50 miles from home went to Rome, India, Spain, Egypt. They spread like a fever. Made a difference like a tidal wave. They refused to be stopped. They shook the history of the world like a housewife shakes a throw rug.

Have we thrown the deadbolt? Put the chair under the door? Restricted our dreams for fear of losing what little we have? Are we now afraid of our community, our city, our neighborhoods, our country, our world?

As a result the world goes untaught and untouched.

Sure, it's dangerous out there. Ask the pastors of the independent churches in China.

At 8 a.m., Pastor Chen Donming was running a leadership conference for about 100 pastors in his home in Henan province. More than 50 police stormed in and raided the home without a warrant. Private property including books, TV's, furniture, cash and rice were confiscated. All pastors were hauled off to jail and underwent severe interrogation. Nine are still in jail. One of those released said they were arrested for engaging in an illegal religious gathering.

Pastor Chen isn't fazed because he knows that when life gets hard God is still on the job. He knows that he is right in the middle of what Jesus experienced.

How about you? What would you do differently tomorrow if you felt no fear? If you were confident that nothing and no one could defeat God's purpose in YOUR life?

Such courage is only possible if you know in your heart that the tomb is open and empty, that Jesus has risen, that He has won the victory over the greatest enemy of all – sin and the grave.

Then you will have extreme courage.

You remember those dreams and visions you once had of doing something great?

Somewhere, sometime God spoke to you and you had a sense you could do something wonderful with your life. It may have been twenty years ago. It may have been yesterday. But since then it's been Good Friday. Jesus is spiked to a cross and you are hiding and denying and living like there really will be no tomorrow. As things have been so they will ever be. But beloved we live in an Easter world. Sunday has come and Jesus is risen.

So take heart. Do not be afraid.

BE an Easter people, not just with your heads and hearts but with your hands, with your lives. Give yourself to God and to what God wants to do with your life.

Do not be afraid.

Do it NOW Do it TODAY.

Bill Kelley, Co-Spiritual Director

Don't forget to sign up to work Women's Walk #47 on June 22nd – 25th

**High Street
United Methodist Church
230 East High Street
Springfield, Ohio 45505**

**Newsletter Email:
pmcbeth@sbcglobal.net**

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*John Ahlborn
4985 New Carlisle Pike
Springfield, OH 45504*

Women's Walk # 47 Live-In Team June 22-25, 2006

JoAnn Horrocks, LD
Robert Scott, SD
_____, Co-SD
Mikie McMahon, ALD
Mille Luttrell, ALD
Barb Baugh, ALD

Perserverance
Means of Grace
Obstacles of Grace
Priorities
Discipleship
Fourth Day

Janene Pearson, MD
Pat McBeth, AMD
Mary Casto, LOG
Cindy Moorman LOG

Chris Ehrhard, TL
John Baugh, TL
Jeff Cheeseman, TL
Dwight Dobbins, TL
Joe McBeth, TL
Lynn Montgomery, TL
Duane Tron, TL

Fourth Day Example
Life in Piety
Priesthood
Christian Action
Changing our World
Body of Christ
Growth through Study

Barry LaPrise, ATL
Pat Taylor, ATL
Dan Bostick, ATL
Tom Comer, ATL
Elmer Penwell, ATL
Johnnie Williams, ATL
Par Tolliver, ATL

EMMAUS MUSIC DIRECTORS

We are missing a number of Music Director team manuals and also binders containing the music for the songs in the Emmaus songbook which is used on the weekends. A women's team is entering team formation in the near future and we have **NO** team manuals for either the Music Director or the Assistant Music Director.

If you inadvertently had not returned either the team manual or the music binder from your last team experience, please turn them in to High Street or to a Board member so we can properly equip the musicians on Women's Walk # 47.



May GATHERING

Sunday May 21st 7:00 p.m.