

A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Just finished mowing the front yard. No time for the back right now. We sure spend a lot of time and effort and money to keep lawnmowers running—not to mention putting our fingers and feet in danger. Why do we work so hard at such things week after week? Is it pride? Why do we shine our shoes or wash our cars? Is there a label for this constant, expensive, time consuming activity?

A friend and I have discussed pride and we both agree it can be a very bad thing. We take pride in football and baseball teams, our town, our house, our family and our country. Many times we have done nothing or very little to make some of them what they are.

On Emmaus teams we recite the Emmaus Canon at each team meeting. Through it we promise to not be prideful but to recognize and be available to the workings of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes it is hard to live by that promise when we have had a successful encounter even though we know it is God's miracle that is thrilling us. Nancy Leigh DeMoss was having coffee several years ago and began writing on a napkin the differences between prideful and "broken" people. Here are just a few of them.

PRIDEFUL

Quick to blame
Concerned with being respectable, protecting their image and reputation
Difficult to share spiritual needs
Covers up mistakes or sins
Hard time saying, "I was wrong"
Deals in generalities if confessing
Compare themselves to others and feel worthy of honor
Nothing to repent of but pretty sure others do
Independent, self-sufficient spirit
Desire to be a success
Feel confident in how much they know
Keep others at arms' length

BROKEN

Accepts personal responsibility, gracious when others make a mistake
Concerned with being real and with what God knows
Open and transparent as God directs
Willing to be exposed
Admits failure and seeks forgiveness
Acknowledges specifics when confessing
Compare themselves to the holiness of God and desperate for His mercy
Continual heart attitude of repentance
Recognize their need for others
Motivated to be faithful and to make others a success
Humbled by how much they have to learn
Willing to risk getting close and loving

I don't know about anyone else, but some of these convict me. So where does mowing the lawn fit in with all of this? I'm not at all sure but maybe my buddy will explain it to me. Please keep the team and pilgrims of Women's Walk 51 in your prayers constantly.

De Colores,

-Gene Porter

A CAPPELLA SINGING GROUP FORMING: Ever thought that you would like a "Ministry in Song" to share God's Love. A new mixed vocal A Cappella singing group is being formed to spread the love of God throughout Clark County and the surrounding area. We are looking for 12 *experienced* vocalists that have the ability to read music and some solo performance. Prefer Emmaus Walk experience, but not required. The group will be led from within, so each member will be given the opportunity to direct and lead selections. Group will rehearse weekly until repertoire is established. **The cast will limit ministry outreach to outside Sunday morning worship hours.** If you are interested in this type of ministry, call Dennis Carter, (937)624-9000 before October 31, 2007.

SHARE GROUPS

If you have room in your Share Group, please contact a Good Shepherd to let them know:

Women's - Mary Ahlborn (937)322-1958
Men's - Sim Bowen (937)605-1066

"I was a stranger and you took me in" - who said that and how does it apply to your share group? There is a great need to help new (and a few not so new) pilgrims to find a few fine folks to meet with.

PRAYER VIGIL

If you are interested in being a part of the prayer vigil during WW #51 (November 1 – 4), please e-mail or call Larry Cogan (masalaco@sbcglobal.net or 937-969-8193). Please note that it is not required that you be at the church during your scheduled prayer time — you can pray wherever you are during your assigned time.

Here are the open slots for WW#51:

Thursday, November 1st

7 p.m. – 8 p.m.
8 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Friday, November 2nd

2 a.m. – 3 a.m.
4 a.m. – 5 a.m.
5 a.m. – 6 a.m.
6 a.m. – 7 a.m.
2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 3rd

2 a.m. – 3 a.m.
4 a.m. – 5 a.m.
5 a.m. – 6 a.m.
6 a.m. – 7 a.m.
9 a.m. – 10 a.m.
10 a.m. – 11 a.m.
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
9 p.m. – 10 p.m.
11 p.m. – Midnight

Sunday, November 4th

1 a.m. – 2 a.m.
2 a.m. – 3 a.m.
4 a.m. – 5 a.m.
5 a.m. – 6 a.m.
6 a.m. – 7 a.m.
7 a.m. – 8 a.m.
8 a.m. – 9 a.m.
9 a.m. – 10 a.m.
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

The story is told of a group of farmers who looked over their crop of potatoes and chose the biggest ones for their own tables. The rest, after all, were decent size and suitable for people who didn't know they were doing without the best. What they didn't know wouldn't hurt them. They sold some and planted the rest.

They kept up this practice year after year and really enjoyed those great big fluffy baked potatoes. And their wives (or spouses, if that suits you) appreciated not having to peel a lot of little potatoes when they wanted mashed.

After a number of years, the farmers noticed that the potatoes coming out of their fields grew smaller and smaller. They got their heads together and blamed beetles. They sprayed for beetles and again took the largest potatoes for themselves. The next year, there were no beetles but the potatoes were smaller yet. They discussed the matter and decided it was blight. They sprayed for blight and beetles and once more took the largest potatoes for themselves. The next year, there were no beetles and no blight but the potatoes were the smallest they had ever been. They decided it must have been the weather and decided to see what next year brought.

The next year they sprayed for blight and beetles, the rains came at the right time and the sun shone every other day but the potatoes turned out to be not much larger than shooter marbles.

Why do you think their potatoes decreased in size every year? Isn't it obvious?

Yet how many of us are keeping the very best things in life for ourselves and investing the leftovers? Whether we are talking about what we give to God, what we use to help others or what we invest in education or retirement or society, many people are keeping the best and only giving the small potatoes.

God has a better idea. He said "Bring the best of the first fruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your God." (Exodus 23:19) In this season of harvest and plenty, what are we giving to God? In our resources? In our service? In our efforts?

Whether we are referring to our homes, our churches, our Emmaus community or our society, let's not be found giving small potatoes but the best we have, the first fruits of our lives.

To God be the glory!

*Your Emmaus co-Spiritual Director
Bill Kelley*

A special thank you to all who bathed our daughter Shannon Wood and her family in prayer! She walked out of University Hospital in Columbus and is recovering quickly at home with few, if any, aftereffects of her stroke! PRAISE GOD!

**Springfield Area Emmaus, Women's Walk # 51
Pilgrim & Sponsor List**

Pilgrim	Church Name	Sponsor
Jill Anon	St. Theresa	Alix Payton
Rosalyn Bacon	St. John Missionary Baptist	Reva Hutchins
Silke Berner	Lake Ave. Church of Christ	Kim Stehle
Cate Brinnon	Fellowship Christian	Cindi Carpenter
Mona Brown	Good Shepherd Baptist	Richardine Stewart
Patricia Castle	Full Gospel Community	Pinky & Pam Pendleton
Andrea Cheeseman	St. Joseph	Jeff & Mary Beth Cheeseman
Tia Davis	Restored Life Ministries	Pam Chambers
Brenda Dean	Full Gospel Community	Pinky & Pam Pendleton
Melissa Fowler	Midway Presbyterian	Yvonne Dobbins
Julie Gallagher	Lawrenceville Church of God	Michael Gallagher
Jo Anne Glenn	Freedom Road	Janet Bostick
Chandra Hefner	Renewed Strength Church	Corrina Bowens
Adele Henderson	Fellowship Christian	Michelle Rockfield
Jill Hope	Tremont City UMC	Dana Hope
Marilyn Jackson	Good Shepherd Baptist	Ray & Linda Harper
Char Jacobson	Ginghamsburg UMC	Mary Lu Moss
Cheryl Jones	Freedom Road	Janet Bostick
Heather Lonergan	Dayton Vineyard	Moe Lonergan
Theresa Marsenburg	Bethel Missionary Baptist	Ken & Cora Marsenburg
Patty Miller	Greater Grace Temple	Alma Humphrey & Mikie McMahan
Jeanette Nance	Fellowship Christian	Jean Hamilton
Marge Reeb	St. Raphael	Mary Suggs
Linda Reeves	Catholic & United Methodist	Mary Casto & Shawn Clark
Wendy Rice	Messiah Lutheran	Beverly Hess
Susan Rooney	Urbana First Baptist	Marilyn Hiltibran
Elaine Sachetti	New Hope	Rene' Nichols
Becky Shellenbarger	New Hope	Mitzi Fenner
Shirley Settles	High St UMC	Dean Settles
Peggy Smith	Emory Chapel UMC	Diane Schneider
Wilma Stone	Mt. Zion Baptist	Verna Reed
Jenny Swan	New Hope	Pam Sine
J. Lynn White	Mechanicsburg Christian Fellowship	Dwight & Kay Coder
Monica Wilson	Freedom Hill Bible	Philip Morrow
Melissa Young	Tremont City UMC	Walter & Pilar Mock
Sheryl Zerkle	Renewed Strength Church	Lisa & Richard Cox

High Street
United Methodist Church
230 East High Street
Springfield, OH 45505

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<http://spfldemmaus.com>
You can also see our
Newsletter at
www.highstreetumc.com

Newsletter e-mail:
pascot@prodigy.net

UPCOMING GATHERINGS!

Sunday, October 21st, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 18th, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 16th, 7:00 p.m.

Food & Fellowship: After each gathering,
there will be a time of fellowship and food. *If*
you plan to stay, please bring a dish to share.

Walk Dates

Men's Walks

#35 April 24—27, 2008
#36 August 14—17, 2008

Women's Walks

#51 November 1-4
#52 February 21—24, 2008
#53 June 19—22, 2008
#54 November 6—9, 2008

**All Walk Dates Are Tentative*

REUNIONS SCHEDULED

WW #38 (Melody Boyd, LD)
October 21st, 6:00 p.m.