

**COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS**

***DON'T ANTICIPATE!***

We have fun with these two words. Even pilgrims learn quickly to joke with them. Of course, they are meant to help them (and us) to focus on what is happening at the moment and to concentrate on its meaning.

This is difficult for most of us. Early in life we begin to anticipate the next stage of life, usually anxiously, sometimes with some anxiety. In adolescence we want to be 15 so we can get our learner's permit. Then we want to be 16 and then 18 so we can experience the new "freedoms". We anticipate marriage, children, freedom from college tuition, and grandchildren.

But our greatest anticipation is probably for Heaven. We want to know more about what our "life" will be like there and jump on every little clue that comes our way. Some of us worry about whether we have enough good things on the scale to outweigh the bad. Of course, this anticipation can be very unhealthy if it takes our focus away from what is happening right now. It is so much more important to learn about the nature of Jesus and to assimilate that nature the best we can. This in turn leads to joy NOW by being the hands and feet of Jesus as we pray for and take action to help those in need. This is how we establish a relationship with Jesus and share Him at every opportunity. Yes, we just celebrated Easter with the Resurrection that assures us of continued life but that is not the goal. The goal is to be Jesus to ALL we contact now, even those who bug, irritate, seem irrational, or even cause harm.

So ***DON'T ANTICIPATE!*** Simply pray:

*"Our Father, hallowed be thy name. May Your will be done on earth  
- within my circle of influence - as it is in Heaven"*

And then see what you can do about it.  
Enjoy - here and now.

Gene Porter  
Community Lay Director

**Men's Walk # 35 Prayer Vigil:**

***Remaining open slots:***

***Friday, April 25th***

12am.- 1am.      1am - 2am.      2am. - 3am.

***Saturday, April 26th***

12am.- 1am.      2am. - 3am.      3am.- 4am.      4am.- 5am.      5am.- 6am.      3pm.- 4pm.  
4pm.- 5pm.      8pm.- 9pm.      9pm.- 10pm.

***Sunday, April 27th***

12am.-1am.      1am.- 2am.      2am.- 3am.      3am.- 4am.      9am.- 10am.      10am.- 11am.      11am.- Noon  
1pm.- 2pm.      2pm.- 3pm.      3pm.- 4pm.      5pm.- 6pm.

Call 969-8193 or email [masalaco@sbcglobal.net](mailto:masalaco@sbcglobal.net) and we will put you in the slot of your choice.  
Thank You & God Bless,  
Larry & Mary Cogan

## MEN'S WALK #35

### Pilgrim List April 24-27, 2008

Pilgrim	Church	Sponsor
Kenneth Ackley	Freedom Road Com. Ch.	Joe Chapman
Jacob Berner	Lake Avenue Christian Ch.	Silke Berner
Donnie Carpenter	Nation Chapel UMC	Gary Hollander
Dwight Chrisopher	Grace Lutheran	Jerry Newport
Phillip Corns	Unity of Dayton	John Chambers/Ed Jones
Mark Craig	None listed	Jack Smith
John DeRosa	High St. Nazarene	Johnnie Williams/Tom Myers
Michael Anthony Haire	None listed	Terry&Debbie Johnson
William J. Hester	Grace Lutheran	Dan Shroyer
Albert Higgins	First Pentecostal Ch of God	Sim Bowen
Mike Hirtzinger	None listed	P.A. Rummel
Darin Lee Holly	Freedom Road Com. Ch.	Joe Chapman
Brad Honchell	North Hampton Com. Ch.	Dene Voorhees
Bobby Hunter	None listed	Art Zubiate
Michael Ray Isaac	Freedom Road Com. Ch.	Joe Chapman
Shawn M. Kellis	Fellowship Christian Ch.	Jerry& Pam Peterman
David Kemp	Urbana Ch. of the Nazarene	Summer Kemp
Richard King	Church of Christ-Vale Rd.	Chip Comer
Ryan Leach	First Pentecostal Ch. of God	Sim Bowen
Donald A. Masem Sr.	Nation Chapel UMC	Rev. Cindee Johnson
Houston Miller	Grace Nazarene	Scott Miller
Jeff Moats	Lake Avenue Christian Ch.	Kim Stehle
John Mowell	High St. Nazarene	Charlie Mowell
Roy Pressnell	None listed	P.A. Rummel
Steven M. Reed	Living Word Ch.-Vandalia	Diana & Frank Campbell
Barney Riffle	First Pentecostal Ch. of God	Sim Bowen
John Schneider	None listed	Diana Schneider
Mitch Smith	High St UMC	Glenn Whitley
Lashaun Spencer	Salem Missionary Baptist Ch.	Dianne Jordan
Mike Spradlin	Word of Faith Family Ch.	Sim Bowen
Shawn Sprinkle	High St Nazarene	Charlie Mowell
Daniel Stevens	First Pentecostal Ch. of God	Sim Bowen
Robert D. Summers	None listed	Jerry Peterman
Jeremiah Taylor	New Hope Church	Yvonne & Dwight Dobbins
Eldon Timmermen	New Hope Church	Tom Barringer
Theodore Walker	Resurrection Power Ch. of God	Anthony Blackburn

### TEAM ROSTER

Dave Speas	Lay Director		
Ray Harper	Spiritual Director	<b>Table Leaders</b>	<b>Assistant Table Leaders</b>
Dennis Moritz	Spiritual Director		
Dan Morter	Board Representative	Chris Ehrhard	Wayne Roth
Bob Baker	ALD	Norman Moore	Dan Shroyer
Larry McMahan	ALD	Deron Blakely	Dennis Carter
Randy McHenry	ALD	Mark Carpenter	Dana Johnson
John Chambers	LOG	Tyler Mayhugh	Douglas Gardner, Jr.
Greg Bachman	LOG	Ky Crain	Rick Clark
Corey Pearson	Music Director	Doug Parish	Harry Weaver (Buck)
Tom Myers	Music Director		

*PLEASE PRAY FOR THE PILGRIMS AND THE TEAM!*

## COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

Dear Emmaus friends,

There is a little known and short Scripture that has always spoken to my heart. It is from a book located after all the oft-quoted works of the New Testament for it is found in a short letter to a young man, Timothy from the pen of the Apostle Paul.

The verse is 2 Timothy 2:1 –

*“Accept the strength, my dear son, that comes from the grace of Christ Jesus.”*  
(The Jerusalem Bible)

During my first appointment as pastor, I was an associate pastor at Collingwood UMC in Toledo. At one time it was one of the premier churches in the city but in 1980 it was on the edge of a declining neighborhood in a city that had seen better days.

The senior pastor, Dick Reynolds, was a deeply spiritual man who was influential in setting the course of my ministry in the few months I was privileged to serve with him. I say a few months because within six months, Rev. Reynolds had been diagnosed with a human version of mad-cow disease called Creutzfeldt-Jakob syndrome.

As he quickly declined into dementia, I had to become sole pastor of the church.

Throughout the rest of the year, I reached out to God in prayer and study and doing my best to meet the needs I saw around me. God upheld me through so many people and in so many ways I could never recount them all.

The next year as another senior pastor was appointed to serve with me, I had time to look back on the experience. That is when this verse jumped out at me from the pages of the Bible.

Think about this. How much grace is there in Jesus Christ that flows down from the heights of Calvary? Jesus has grace without end. His desire is not to keep any of this measureless grace for himself. Jesus' desire is to give it to you.

*“From his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace.”*

I am reminded of the old hymn

*“There is a fountain filled with blood  
drawn from Emmanuel's veins  
and sinners plunged beneath that flood  
lose all their guilty stains.”*

Jesus flows with grace to supply the empty hearts and parched lips that are drawn to its quenching, cleansing flow.

Like a tree, Jesus bears sweet fruit not to hoard it in his branches, but to be gathered by those in need.

I am reminded of my days as a college student in Arizona camping out in Oak Creek Canyon on long weekends. Back in the 60's this part of Arizona was still thinly settled. In the canyon along Oak Creek was an apple and pear orchard. We were free to sleep under the trees and in season simply reach up to grasp the ripe fruit from the branches, eating the luscious fruit until we were completely full.

Still greater, more satisfying and strengthening is the grace of God. It is all around us, free for the taking, strengthening and satisfying of our every need; spiritual, material, emotional, relational, and psychological.

All we have to do is reach out and grasp it.

God provided for me in ways known and unknown beyond more than I could have asked.

I had it because I believed it and received it.

How about you?

Have you accepted the strength that comes from the grace of Christ Jesus?

Let us daily turn to Jesus and always look to him as our help and our hope, our Lord and Savior, taking from Jesus what we need with all the boldness and confidence with which we take money out of our own wallets.

Your co-Community SD

Bill Kelley

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Springfield, OH 45505

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[info@berners.com](mailto:info@berners.com)

## UPCOMING GATHERINGS!

Sunday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.  
(*Spring Celebration*)

Sunday, May 18, 7:00 p.m.  
(*Specials provided by Kairos*)

The August gathering will have  
specials provided by  
**Chrysalis**

## 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.**  
We were short on food at the last gathering.

## Walk Dates

### Men's Walks

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

### Women's Walks

#53 June 19—22, 2008  
#54 November 6—9, 2008

*\*All Walk Dates Are Tentative*

### Lay Directors on upcoming walks:

Women's Walk #53	Kim Bachman
Men's Walk # 36	David Southward