



A Walk in the Footsteps

August 2004 Newsletter of Jesus

THEIR EYES WERE OPENED AND THEY RECOGNIZED HIM, AND HE DISAPPEARED FROM THEIR SIGHT. THEY ASKED EACH OTHER, "WERE NOT OUR HEARTS BURNING WITHIN US WHILE HE TALKED WITH US ON THE ROAD AND OPENED THE SCRIPTURES TO US?"

LUKE 24: 31,32

Company of the Committed

When Dennis Smith called me of the need for a Community Spiritual Director to complete 2004, my first thought was well, yes; I guess I can do that. Then I got to thinking about what that "committed" (bound) me to do. Being committed to something whether family, Emmaus, church or Little league ball binds us emotionally, intellectually, and often physically to that realm of activity. Had I discerned God's will with my Emmaus commitment? I remember many Bible stories of God's servants receiving a call to do something. Some, like Jonah ran away from it; some (Jeremiah) thought surely that can't be me; others like Abraham simply got up early and headed toward Mt. Moriah to sacrifice "his only son" Isaac. We all seem to respond to God's Call out of our own circumstances more often than being attuned to the Father heart of God. How do I know God's heart in the day-to-day activities that tug at me?

A Scripture verse comes to mind:

"For me to live is Christ" Phil 1:21. The Apostle Paul had walked so closely with his Lord there was no other reason for living except for Him. . . . Christ had become for him the motive of his actions, the goal of his life and ministry, and the source of his strength. Commitment keeps us transparent in that to which we are committed. Commitment to God (*For me to live is Christ*) puts aside our own needs and wills, welcoming every opportunity to love and serve Him. So dear brothers and sisters know that our commitment is to Him. That commitment will enable us to discern His will in all matters.

One final Scripture: He has promised to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. (2 Chronicles 16:9).

BELOVED, WE ARE THE COMPANY OF THE COMMITTED

Beryl Rosenberger

Heartburn

How many of you have ever had heartburn? At some point in time, most of us have experienced that nagging burning sensation in our chest and cannot wait for it to end. Then we start to think about what caused the heartburn and how we could avoid it in the future. Maybe, it was the spicy Mexican or Italian food that we knew should be avoided. What's the next step when we have heartburn; you guessed it Roloids, Tums, or Maalox? Ah, the soothing feeling as the antacid begins to work and relief is just in sight. You might think this is a strange topic to write about, so let me further explain.

During our walks, we read the scripture from Luke 24: 31-32 which read, "Were our hearts not burning within us as he talked with us on the road and opened the scriptures to us?" We experienced a spiritual heartburn during those 3 days on the mountain. However, spiritual heartburn is not a feeling we want to end. So, what caused this feeling, the Holy Spirit, prayer, agape love, communion, and God's amazing grace? I believe it was an overwhelming combination of all of these.

Unlike a physical heartburn, we want the spiritual heartburn to remain with us daily. So, what's the remedy? We live in a time period when the knowledge of the bible is more evident than ever before. We have many study guides, bible studies, and group studies available at a moments notice. But when we allow our hearts to burn for God's presence in our daily walk, then his grace can begin to soothe the brokenness of our lives. Prayer, agape love, and reading the scriptures are all spiritual antacids to help keep Satan from stealing our joy.

I was also like the two disciples whose hearts burned for Jesus and his love. In a sweet and precious dying moment on the mountain, my eyes were opened and a spiritual heartburn began. My prayer is that the flame in our hearts will continue to burn for others and God's glory.

DeColores,
Dennis Smith

FROM THE BOARD

As much as it may surprise many of you, your Board members are very active and do the best they can to keep our community up to date. They are in step with the true meaning of what The Walk to Emmaus is all about.

We would like to bring to your attention areas of concern to all members of our Emmaus Community.

First, How does one qualify to work in the Conference Room? You need to be active in the Community. Each time you volunteer, you receive points that are kept on a database. The more points you accumulate, the closer you get to the top of the list. You receive a point for each time you participate in any of the following tasks: Registration, Camp set-up or tear-down, Agape, Candlelight, Kitchen, Prayer Vigil, Transportation, Snacks, or by assisting any of the Board members in helping them complete their tasks. Each time you attend a monthly Gathering, you receive another point. So, what are we trying to say to all of you? BE ACTIVE! Anytime you work in the community or attend a gathering, ASK, where is the sign-in sheet? AND make sure you sign it.

Second, Agape. A few reminders and changes in regards to Table Agape only. This DOES NOT apply to the Letters. Starting with the Fall Walks, Table Agape will not be accepted after Send-off, Thursday evening, prior to each walk. We need to give our Agape Board member sufficient time to balance the distribution of the table Agape. At the same time, when you drop off your Agape, we need a list of the names (First and Last please) of all those who worked on that Agape. Remember from above, we want to make sure everyone receives their points. Again, **This DOES NOT apply to the Letters, they will be accepted through Candlelight.**

Third, Nominations of prospective Board members. It is time for election of new Board members. Start thinking of any one you feel, would be a good candidate. They need to be active in the Community, willing to work on the Board and attend monthly meetings, and have the best interest of our Foothills Emmaus Community in mind. If you know of anyone, please notify the following Board members: Dennis Smith (292-5188), Tom Howard (836-3368), Larry Boyer (244 -0957), Kathy Mims (233-5438), or Joanna Neubert (836-6046). They must be notified prior to October 7th 2004, as the ballots will appear in the October newsletter.

We are fortunate to represent such a great group of individuals. We love our Community and always try to give it our best. We appreciate all your work and prayers. Please continue to be active. We are looking forward to the upcoming walks and serving with you for the glory of our Lord.

Hope to see you at the next Gathering!

Nothing Says Love Like Agape

Remember your walk? When you began to "get it", the realization of the awesome grace of God? Throughout the weekend we were bathed in and reminded of Christ's love for us and we are called to reciprocate and extend that love to every one.

Agape is the personification of that unselfish and unmerited love. It's our opportunity to return the blessings we received and express our support to the pilgrims. It sends the message that we welcome them to the Emmaus community, a community touched by God's love and grace.

Agape comes in many forms throughout the weekend. It may be a personal letter or imaginative and creative table agape. It is a simple yet powerful reminder that we seek to love each other as God has loved us.

I urge you as individuals and reunion groups not to underestimate the impact of Agape. Please begin now to prepare for the upcoming walks.

DeColores!

Dianne Perry, Agape Chairperson
864-963-4821
twoperrys@charter.net

HOUSING NEEDS YOUR HELP

Well it's that time of year again and you know what that means, it's time to set up the camp for the pilgrims. My name is Larry Boyer and I've been chosen by the board to head up housing and that means I need your help, with the walks so close I need volunteers to help with set up on Sept 30th, clean up on Oct. 4th, and tear down on Oct 11th. We start at 9 am and the more people to help the easier it goes. So if you can help I'll be at the next gathering (St James UMC) with sign-up sheets or you can e-mail me at larry-boyer@charter.net We'll have a lot of fun and fellowship as we prepare for another great weekend.

GRACE AND PEACE

LARRY BOYER

PRAYER VIGIL & PRAYER CHAIN

The power of PRAYER ... as the Fall Walks draw near, please consider signing up for the **72 Hour Prayer Vigil**. Giving one hour of your time to pray for the pilgrims and the team -- most of which you will not know -- is a tremendous gift of love. Prayer slots are available in one hour increments. Remember, couples or friends can share an hour. Sign up sheets will be available at the August and September gatherings.

Also, remember to share your prayer concerns with the community through the **Email Prayer Chain** at fecprayer@aol.com.

DeColores,
Jeff Young
(864) 848-1530

*Foothills Emmaus Community Board Rep
72 Hour Prayer Vigil & Email Prayer Chain*

Refreshment Committee

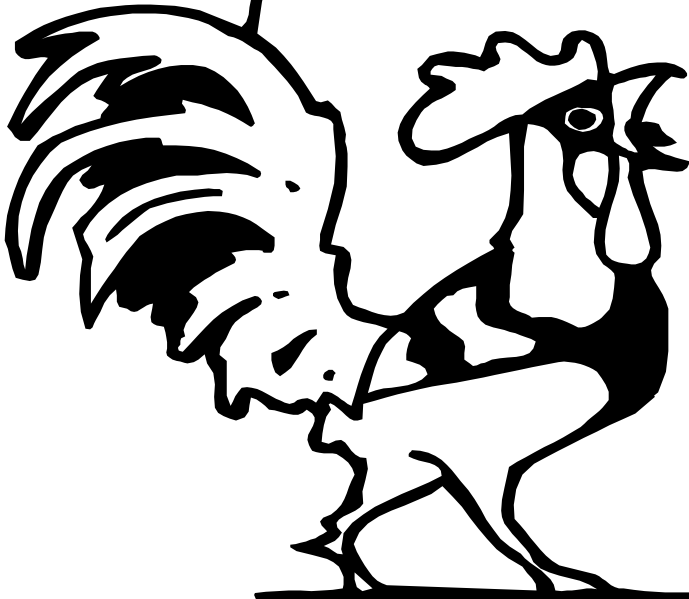
Please be considering what you would like to donate to the snack table for the upcoming walks. Also, would you please be in prayerful consideration if you or your Reunion group can host the ice cream socials or the Send Off snack table. Sign up sheets will be at the August gathering.

Thanks for your dedication and faithfulness.

DeColores Kathy Mims

Sponsorship

Remember, it's never too early to send in completed Walk Application forms! Please be sure the Sponsor and Pilgrim forms Are COMPLETELY filled out. This includes getting the Pilgrim's Minister's signature. Be sure to read the Sponsor's Responsibilities Information form on the website or ask for copy.



Completed applications should be mailed to:
Foothills Emmaus Community
P.O. Box 25024
Greenville, SC 29616

If you have any questions, please contact our Registrar, Robbie Kane @ JSKane8@cs.com
Or call her @ 864-967-7736

FOOTSTEPS
FOOTHILLS EMMANUEL COMMUNITY
P.O. BOX 25024
GREENVILLE, SC 29616

**CHECK OUT OUR COMMUNITY WEBSITE FOR NEWS,
DIRECTIONS, AND UPDATES:
WWW.FOOTHILLSEMMAUS.HOMESTEAD.COM
Password: The song you sang for your meals!**

******* GATHERING *******

**Friday August 20, 7:30pm
St. James UMC
213 Lanford Road
Spartanburg, SC 29301**

Follow I-85 to I-26 and exit on to I-26 East.
Follow I-26 to Exit # 22, Hwy 296 (Reidville Rd.). At the top of the ramp, turn left on to Reidville Rd (towards Spartanburg). Travel Approximately 1.4 miles (just beyond Fud-druckers) to Lanford Rd.. Turn left on to Lanford. The church is on the right.

Upcoming Gatherings:

September Zion UMC, Anderson
**October Buncombe St UMC
 (Follow Up Gathering)**
November McCormick, SC
December ?

**Are you interested in hosting a Gathering?
Contact Jimmy Davis @ jwdav-
issr@mindspring.com .**