

# The Rainbow Connection

Volume 7 ~ Issue 1

January 2011

## From the Community Lay Director

### *Sponsors Needed*

Greetings and Happy New Year to all my Emmaus brothers and sisters. With every New Year we always see change. Some is brought about because we try to make a change; other times change happens and we are caught totally off guard. Well, I have to admit I expected the change that has taken place in my life and have prayed and feel the Lord has placed on my heart to try and fulfill the duties and expectations of Chair person for the Board of Directors of the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community. My name is Larry Money Penny, Southern Ohio Emmaus Men's walk #44, table of Andrew.

Yes, the new members of the board of directors, which you as a community elected, have graciously and I hope prayerfully accepted their positions. Many of the returning board members have switched positions while some have remained in their prior position. You can check out the page in this newsletter or on the web site to see who now holds what positions. My personal thanks and gratitude go out to all those who have just completed their time with the board of directors. They truly served this community and our Lord and Savior admirably. I know they will always be special to me for all they have taught me through sharing their knowledge and by example of the way they performed their service and conducted business. Thanks again and I look forward to serving with each of you at future events.

Now down to the business at hand for 2011. We have our spring walks scheduled and they are actually a little earlier than they have been in the recent past. The Women's Walk will be March 10<sup>th</sup> through March 13<sup>th</sup> and the Men's Walk will be March 24<sup>th</sup> through March 27<sup>th</sup>. This will be the 50<sup>th</sup> walk for Southern Ohio Emmaus marking 25 years of Emmaus for Southern Ohio. In honor of this anniversary, the board of directors voted to drop \$25 from the cost of the spring walk for all pilgrims. Sounds like a bargain to me (as past treasurer I can tell you it is), so we need to become sponsors and spread the word. Remember the beauty, the love and the emotions you experienced on your walk why not share that with someone else? If you haven't been to a sponsorship class, call your sponsor and ask them to co-sponsor.

### Upcoming Events

#### **January**

30<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m.  
January Gathering  
First UMC, New Lexington

#### **February**

19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>  
Chrysalis Boy's Flight  
First UMC, New Lexington

20<sup>th</sup> 8:00 p.m.,  
Candlelight  
First UMC, New Lexington

27<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m.  
February Gathering  
First UMC, New Lexington

#### **March**

10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>  
Women's Spring Walk #50  
Camp Akita

12<sup>th</sup> 8:00 p.m.  
Candlelight

13<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m.  
Closing

24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>  
Men's Spring Walk #50  
Camp Akita

26<sup>th</sup> 8:00 p.m.  
Candlelight

27<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m.  
Closing &  
March Gathering  
Camp Akita





We all need to pray that the Lord will lay someone's name or face on us that He would like sponsored but we need to tell this person about the walk. You may need to announce to your church about the walks and then that person may come forward that you've been praying about but just didn't know who it was. The Lord sent his disciples out into the world but he told them to preach and teach of his word not just live it. We need to do as well with our Emmaus experience, spread the word, go fishing and see what we can catch. If we can't get people to sponsor we definitely can't get pilgrims to the walks.

### 2011 Fee Schedule

#### Weekend Fees

Pilgrim Fee	\$125 <del>\$100</del>
Team Member	\$125
Logistics & Agape	\$75
Mailed Newsletter	\$7.50/year
Emailed Newsletter	Free

Please speak with your pastors and ask if you can give a testimony or 4<sup>th</sup> Day talk about your Emmaus experience. Put a notice in your bulletins and newsletters with your information for people to contact with questions or more information about Emmaus. I will have some flyers at the January Gathering that can be great ice breakers for anyone who would like a couple. I guess I'm just trying to say, sponsorship is the first sign of agape love for a pilgrim but we need to stress to that the pilgrim when they complete their walk they need to share that love through sponsorship of others while we to need to continue our sharing as co-sponsors and sponsoring others.

Remember the cost for the spring walk for pilgrims is only \$100 and there may be some scholarships available as well; contact a board member for further information on the availability of scholarships or other assistance. I thank you for your service in the past and pray we can continue to serve our Lord for years to come.

Larry Money Penny

## Online Prayer Vigils

As you may remember from your Emmaus Walk, Prayer is a vital spiritual discipline in our relationship with God.

With prayer being the foundation of our Emmaus Community, we invite you to become involved in the Southern Ohio Emmaus Community through participation in our 72-hour prayer vigil for each Emmaus & Chrysalis Weekend. Please choose the specific Walk Weekend you wish to pray for, then select the time you are available. *You can pray from anywhere you like.*

There are several ways to join the prayer vigil:

- 1) Sign-up online via the following website links: [www.3dayol.org/Vigil](http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil)
- 2) Sign the prayer vigil chart during an Emmaus gatherings and functions.
- 3) Contact the Prayer Vigil coordinator:

Joyce Drake - PO Box 177 - Malta, Ohio 43756 - 740-962-4169 - [jdrake@wmcap.org](mailto:jdrake@wmcap.org)

Note: Online prayer vigils are hosted by 3 Day Weekends Online which hosts prayer vigils for many Emmaus Communities.

### **Do you need Forms?**

The **Pilgrim Sponsor Form** and the **Emmaus Volunteer Form** is posted on the website. Please check for them at: [www.southernohioemmaus.com](http://www.southernohioemmaus.com)

You can also contact your board members for forms.



## New Year's Resolutions

Recently, I read an article by Leonard Sweet in which he asks how many of our New Year's resolutions are still in effect. He was writing about ten days into the month, so after this amount of time, the answer is probably that they are almost all broken. Sweet's point is that we are pretty good at making resolutions, but we come up short in the area of resolve. That is, we don't have much in the way of follow-through.

Part of the problem is that most of our resolutions really amount to self-improvement projects aimed at getting more exercise, eating a healthier diet, or otherwise showing some self-discipline and taking control of our lives. We want to make changes that will help us, improve us, and bring us good feelings about ourselves.

That would recognize the obvious point that it is God who is really in control of our lives. If we are going to do that, there are four areas that we need to focus on:

*What if we gave up trying to make ourselves feel good (we could do that for Lent, couldn't we?) and instead resolved that in 2011 we would all live lives that make God feel good?*

**First: Truth.** The Christian should not only know right from wrong but live in the truth because God is the author of all truth, and this requires the Christian to live a life that reflects God to the world through the imitation of Jesus Christ. The best guide to this life is found in the Bible and the plans God has for us that are revealed in the Scriptures.

**Second: Grace.** We need to understand the difference between cheap grace and costly grace. Cheap grace means that we take the attitude that once our sins are forgiven, grace has done all it needs to do in our lives. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer says, "cheap grace is grace without discipleship." Costly grace is grace that leads us on to discipleship, that is, a life of service to others and spreading the Word to them.

**Third: Love.** Christ's love is perfect, unconditional love. We are to strive toward that, even though we recognize that we will not achieve it in this life. This type of love is the exact opposite of self-centeredness. Instead, it is focused outward on God and neighbor.

**Fourth: Servanthood.** Jesus asks us to be "good and faithful servants," not just of him, but of each other. This is a challenge in our society, which encourages us to value ourselves above others. Jesus, however, expects that we will put others ahead of ourselves.

If you will examine these four areas closely, you will see that they are all interrelated. Taken together, they provide a way for us to live under God's control in the coming year. By the way, don't forget about losing weight or your exercise program, they are worthy goals. But set your sights higher, and resolve to live for God in addition to those other resolutions.

De Colores!

David Rohrer  
Assistant Spiritual Director

## Please Give us Your Newsletter Thoughts and Ideas

What would you like to see in your newsletter? Would you like to hear about someone's fourth day experiences? Maybe you would like to share something about your fourth days, but you've been reluctant to share by speaking at a Gathering. We would love to print your story in the newsletter and maybe that would inspire others to share their story.

Send your newsletter ideas to  
Andy Ellinger:  
[andyellinger@yahoo.com](mailto:andyellinger@yahoo.com)



## 2011 Southern Ohio Emmaus Board of Directors

This is the current contact list of our 2011 Board of Directors. Keep this list handy so you can contact the board with needs, concerns, ideas, and information. Please keep the board in your prayers that they may honor Our Lord as they serve Him and our community.

### Spiritual Director

Ricci Arthur  
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### Asst. Spiritual Director

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### Board Chairperson

Larry Money Penny (2011)  
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### Vice Chairperson

Heather Pullins (2012)  
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### Treasurer

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### Secretary

Georganne Thomas (2013)  
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### Good Shepherd

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### Newsletter

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### Supplies

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### Men's Registrar

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### Music

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Note: Each boardmember name is followed by the year their term ends

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**2011 NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION**

If you haven't already renewed for 2011, it is time to renew your PRINT newsletter subscription. If you would like to continue receiving, via mail, the Southern Ohio Emmaus newsletter, The Rainbow Connection for 2011, please complete and mail the form below, attach a check for **\$7.50** payable to **Southern Ohio Emmaus** and mail to: **Andy Ellinger, PO Box 223, New Straitsville, Ohio 43766**. The \$7.50 helps to cover the cost of mailing and production.

If you have Internet access, you may prefer to read the newsletter on our website: [www.southernohioemmaus.com](http://www.southernohioemmaus.com). This latest issue should be available on our website by the last week of each month. You can also request the newsletter be e-mailed to you. This is at no cost to you. You do not need to renew to continue receiving the emailed newsletter and please feel free to distribute this form to any pilgrims or butterflies who may want to receive the newsletter.

**PLEASE PRINT**

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**Southern Ohio Emmaus**

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