

Three Rivers Walk To Emmaus

Three Rivers Walk To Emmaus

Twenty Two Years of Walking with Jesus



FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

THE GRACE TO KEEP GOING

I can't take it, I give up, I quit. These are powerful words, which when we act on them, deeply impact others' lives as well as our own. Satan and his fallen angel's influence can be a factor in our choice to walk away from God's plan. Their involvement in our goings-on can tempt us to stop waiting on the Lord for solutions and instead seek a more immediate way out. But running ahead of GOD is the same as declaring his promises don't hold true. This is what the devil wants-----he tries to redirect our focus away from hope in Jesus Christ and onto our negative emotions. His tactic is to make us feel discouraged and helpless so we will not be effective for the Kingdom.

Another reason we stop following God's plan is the influence of our culture. Ungodly people are always ready to give believers advice. The world's methods and wisdom seem attractive, but divine direction is needed if we are to set ourselves apart from non-believers thinking and stay close enough to be able to share God's viewpoint and message of hope with them.

The inclinations of our natural self, known as the flesh, conflict with our new nature, tempting us to abandon GOD's way. Sacrifice isn't comfortable; our innate tendency is to do what feels good and benefits us or those we love.

GOD declares that HIS grace is "SUFFICIENT" to keep us going in every situation. That means we never "GIVE UP". Honest answer, how does this apply to your life today?

Blessings,
Bryan Pass, 2014 Community Lay Director

IMPORTANT DATES

GATHERINGS:

Sept 12th 7:00 pm - All Community

- Ingomar UMC

Oct. 10th 7:00 pm - All Community

- Ingomar UMC

FALL WALKS:

Men's Walk #91 Oct. 30-Nov 2
Gathering and Candlelight -
Nov 1 @ 7:00

Women's Walk #92 Nov 6-9
Candlelight - Nov 8 @ 8:00

INSIDE THE NEWSLETTER:

Community Lay Director	1
Spiritual Director	2
Reunion Groups	3
Candlelight Dates	3
Leadership & Development	4
Sponsorship	5
Dietary Concerns	5
Being a Willing Servant	6
BOD Nominations	6
Note from the Registrar	7
Walk Application	8-9
Mark Your Calendar	10
Thank You	10
Prayer Chain	11
Newsletter Information	11

**FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR**

Dear Three Rivers Emmaus Family,

When is the garbage pick-up day in your community? I'm asking because we've been talking about forgiveness this summer at Christ Church as we work our way through the stories of Genesis.

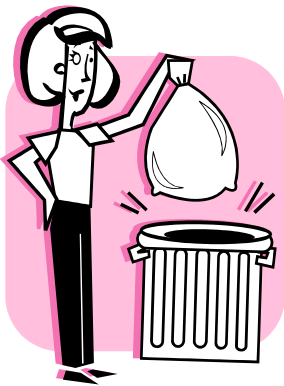
You are probably wondering what garbage day has to do with forgiveness. Well, how many of you have ever forgotten to put out your garbage on garbage day? I know I have! What do you do with garbage? Do you store it in your house until the next week? None of us would intentionally think of letting our trash get crammed full and backed up when we knew we could get rid of it. Can you imagine having smelly garbage piled up behind your house or in your garage and when the sanitation truck pulled up out front deciding, "I think I'll just keep it all for another week?"

Ridiculous, right? Yet how many of us nurse and hold onto hurts, anger, grudges, and other things that stink up our lives and foul up our relationships? We do with our memories, emotions and relationships what we wouldn't do with dirty diapers and orange peels. We hang on to the garbage. Some of it is very painful and has piled up over many years.

The stories found in the beginning of our Old Testament are all about offering forgiveness and my favorite one is about a brother named Joseph:

Joseph, the beloved son of Jacob, is not well-liked by his older brothers. In fact, after Joseph shares his dreams with his brothers, we read that "they hated him even more." (Genesis 37:5) After throwing Joseph into a pit and then selling him into slavery, the brothers think Joseph is gone from their lives for good. After many years of separation, some of which Joseph spends in prison, a famine engulfs the land and the brothers journey to Egypt to ask for food. By this time, Joseph has risen to become the right hand of the Pharaoh. When the brothers appeal to Joseph for help, they do not recognize him, but Joseph recognizes them and can barely contain himself. He reveals himself to them and falls upon them, weeping in forgiveness.

Offering forgiveness to others is difficult to do. Letting down our guard, showing we are vulnerable involves either apologizing or accepting the apology of another. As a practical step, perhaps you can try the following exercise. On days when you have your garbage picked up; offer the garbage of your sins to God. **Put out your spiritual and emotional trash for God to haul away so that you are able to let go.**



Joseph certainly had reason to be very upset with his brothers based on what they did to him many years before. Yet he matured and clearly not only forgave them, but has been able to see how God worked through what happened to him to save lives. Instead of getting even or judging or hurting them in return, he forgives.

This past week has been a tough one. I had two memorial services: one for a beloved friend at Redstone Highlands and the other for the father of a good friend. Usually when I have a memorial or funeral service, I ask the family members what three words they would use to describe their loved one. I can't envision many legacies more honorable than for those who knew us best to say, "He was a forgiving man. She was the most forgiving person I ever met."

How many of us would want people to remember us by thinking, if not saying, "She really knew how to nurse a hurt. He really knew how to hold grudge."

"What then is forgiveness? It is a miracle of grace whereby the offense no longer separates."

(Continued on next page)

We see that with Joseph and his brothers. Forgiveness is a miracle of grace whereby the offense no longer separates them from one another. When we are vulnerable and able to forgive others, it gives others permission to do the same. As you continue of your journey, who is it that you need to forgive?

Blessing in your ministry and on your journey,

Rev. Cindy Parker, Community Spiritual Director TRWE #64

REUNION GROUP UPDATE

The accountability and support of Reunion Groups is central to the Emmaus experience.

Being a Sponsor is not just getting your pilgrim to and from the Walk. It includes your continual support in their 4th Days. Reunion Group helps build on the Emmaus movement for the development of Christian leaders and the renewal of the church ministry.

If there are not any groups in your area, please consider starting your own with your sponsor or those you have sponsored. It only takes **two** for a group ☺ The trwe.org website has all the updated information, as well as a form to complete and send to me if you have started a new group. Please check it out and invite a friend to join you.

Jesus in Matt. 18:20 said, *“For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”*

DECOLORES,
Judy Grice, Reunion Groups Board Representative
TRWE #40



*“For where two or three
come together in my name,
there am I with them.”
Matthew 18:20*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW...

**...THE ONE THING WE ALL LOOK FORWARD
TO AND CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IS THE
GLOWING FACES OF OUR PILGRIMS...**

CANDLELIGHT

- **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
GATHERING AND CANDLELIGHT AT 7
PM**
- **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH AT 8 PM**



EMMAUS LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT EVENT

Friends in Christ,

It ALWAYS gets me pumped up again! And I do mean to use that superlative. It NEVER fails. When I am reminded of the vision and mission of the Walk to Emmaus and how it serves this special niche within the Body of Christ, there is a kind of elation that overtakes me and drives me: to be entrusted with a single-minded purpose to revitalize, rejuvenate, and re-inspire church leaders with the mind of Christ SO THAT they may serve their local churches under their pastor's guidance with a servant's heart, and the mind of Christ. Wow! What a grand job we've been given! Not only that, but to help identify the church leaders of tomorrow and offer a sound foundation of understanding and inspiration as they grow and develop into the persons God intended them to be to serve God's church and God's purposes within their local contexts. Wow again!

Vision: Fourth Day Leaders embodying Christ!

Mission: Empowering leaders through Emmaus and Chrysalis to be the hands and feet of Christ!

With that said:

Thank you for the sacrifice of your summer Saturday for the sake of the Emmaus movement. I trust and pray you found the investment of your time to be as valuable as I did. Thank you for the food donations and the service to set-up, present food, clean up, and put things away after. Thank you for being so welcoming, gracious, and hospitable to our out-of-State guests and presenters. We truly all are made one in the Body of Christ and through the shared experience of a Walk to Emmaus worldwide. I am just so proud and privileged to be counted among you.

Takeaways from Saturday's Leadership Development Event: Your Board of Directors routinely asks the question: Is our community healthy? The question that follows: What is the metric? Our mission is NOT to conduct walk after walk; our mission is not even to promote the Walk to Emmaus. Our mission is to empower leaders to be the hands and feet of Christ. The Walk to Emmaus is the tool we've been entrusted with to steward and use to accomplish this mission. So the balancing act for us comes in stewardship of the gift that is the Emmaus model and movement, while serving the mission. We are reminded: Emmaus is not the only way the mission is accomplished. But I can tell you this: maybe I've lived a sheltered life, but in 30 years of growth in relationship to Christ and ministry, I have found no model better for giving a tired church leader a spiritual vitamin B12 shot in the arm than when the model is followed in a healthy way.

What are the metrics of a healthy Emmaus community?

1. **Sponsorship** - a waiting list for each walk; sponsors knowing and understanding the life-long commitment they are willing and able to make to support someone in their walk with Christ
2. **Group Reunions** - new ones springing up following nearly every walk; group reunion participation across a large percentage of the community; accountability to Christ, who is counting on us, as reflected in the group reunion card
3. **Gathering Attendance** - not as a replacement church for your home church, but rather as a worship celebration reminding us that God is at work through us as we hold one another accountable to the order of the group reunion card; a Gathering is a group reunion of all the group reunions!
4. **Board Reps as Committee heads, not solo artists** - Each Board Rep might have a committee of at least three persons supporting that functional area and being groomed by the method of progressive servant hood to step up and step into a Board leadership position

Personal Challenge and Invitation: Personally, I've been impacted. I am even now, reassessing my life in terms of these metrics and where I am missing the mark. But it's not about me, at least not me alone. I invite you to do the same. What did the Emmaus Leadership Development Event mean to you? What are you going to do about it?

In Christ alone I remain,

Ken Gryger, Assistant Community Lay Director, TRWE

A WORD ABOUT SPONSORSHIP

The fall walks are around the corner (only 9 weeks away!) and as always there will be pilgrims who will not be able to attend a walk without YOUR help! On each walk, there are approximately 5 pilgrims and 5 team members who are in need of monies in order to attend. Without your generous gifts that would not be possible! There is always a need-so if you find yourself with a little extra cash, why not give the gift that keeps on giving-the gift of Emmaus and God's extravagant love!



THANK YOU!

Men's walk #91 Oct 30 to Nov. 2.

Women's walk #92 Nov. 6 to 9.

Deadline for pilgrims' registration is OCT 10th.

Cindy Parker, TRWE #64

To send a scholarship gift, please
mail donations to our TRWE
Treasurer: Wes Kindelberger
921 Summit Drive
Wexford, PA 15090
wesmokin@aol.com

SPONSORSHIP – TEAMING - DIET

You may be asking yourself what these three items have in common. Well, they have a whole lot in common. As we prepare for the upcoming walks, whether we are sponsoring someone or if we are on team, we need to take seriously how we report dietary needs.

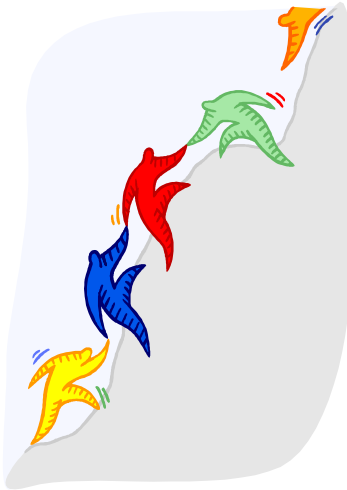
Sometimes the application question concerning dietary needs gets overlooked in our excitement over the walk. But, imagine if pilgrims arrive or if team members arrive only to find out that they are not able to enjoy the amazing food prepared at camp. It could have a negative effect on the overall experience of the Walk.

Please take the time to ask your pilgrims if they have any dietary needs. Dietary needs that are common are: diabetic, heart friendly, vegan, vegetarian, food allergies of all types, and diets that meet the needs of persons having gastric surgery. Basically, you're your pilgrim if there is anything he/she cannot, would not, or prefer not to eat. We will make every attempt to meet all those needs.

However, we have to understand and should explain to our pilgrims that we do meet dietary needs, which means someone may have a different meal. Their meal may look delicious, but no matter how good it looks it is extremely difficult (if not impossible) to meet special requests in the dining hall.

Please record all dietary needs on the application, and additionally email me (pastorscottg@yahoo.com) any dietary needs brought to your attention.

Scott Gallagher, Kitchen Coordinator, TRWE



THE WILLING SERVANT

“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve”

1 Peter 5:2

What kind of servant are you? Do you sit back and wait for that perfect time, or to be personally asked to serve, or do you see a need and seize the moment? Hopefully, since your walk, you have taken that TRWE spirit back to your local church community and given of yourself to serve the Lord and his flock. And that is exactly the response that is desired...

But consider this - your Brothers and Sisters at TRWE need you - to genuinely put 4th Day into practice. Let’s look at a few ways:

1. Go to www.trwe.org and click on the 4th Day Link (to the left of the screen)
2. Go to www.trwe.org and click on the Prayer Vigil Link (to the left of the screen)
3. Prayerfully consider making a commitment to serve on the TRWE Board of Directors (if you are interested, email me at 4thday@trwe.org)

And let this be a reminder – (we)...serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people. (Ephesians 6:7)

God Bless my Brothers and Sisters,
Glenn Brooks, 4th Day Board Representative

UPCOMING EVENTS

TRWE Board Nominations for the Class of 2015-2017

The election process – here’s how things are supposed to work. Elections are held at the **September Gathering - September 12 7:00 pm, Ingomar UMC**. Nominations are not yet closed and will be accepted from the floor if the nominee is present and willing to accept the nomination. Then, the community will vote from this ballot.

There will be five Board of Directors position vacated in January 2015 – four laity and one clergy. Further instructions will be offered during Gathering.



A NOTE FROM THE REGISTRAR COMMITTEE

It's that time of year again and October will be here before we know it. Don't wait to the last minute to call a future pilgrim about attending the Fall Walks. **To date we have 5 women and 0 (that's zero☹) men registered!!** As our dearly departed past registrar, Peggy Nichols used to say **"We need men!"** **and women** as well☺ Pray and ask God to guide you to whomever He is calling to attend. Sponsorship is as rewarding as being a pilgrim.

Applications may be downloaded from the trwe.org website OR, use the one included in this newsletter (pages 8 & 9).

Be sure you have the current application with Judy Grice's address: 1105 Vista Valley Rd, Washington, PA 15301.

The application deadline for both Walks is October 10, 2014.

We look forward to serving you☺

DeColores,

Judy Grice TRWE #40, Janet Ruckel TRWE #2 and Sharon Gallagher #72



19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:10-20

BEGIN PRAYING FOR PILGRIMS

The following are registered for the upcoming Fall Walk:

- *Sharon Swortwood*
- *Ann DeBold*
- *Nancy Jones*
- *Tracy Goldstrohm*
- *Patricia Goetz*



Visit www.trwe.org – for all your TRWE questions!



Three Rivers WALK to EMMAUS

To be filled in by the candidate: Check one

Men's Walk Women's Walk

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss Rev.

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Single Married Widowed Divorced Male Female Number of Children _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Spouse's name _____ Name you wished to be called _____

Primary Phone (_____) _____ Email address _____

Secondary Phone (_____) _____

Please give name and phone number of relative other than spouse to contact in case of emergency.

Name _____ Phone number _____ Relationship _____

Are you on a special diet? _____ Please specify _____ Do you smoke?

Are you on medication? _____ Please specify _____

Do you have any physical challenges? _____ Please Specify _____

Has your sponsor discussed the following: Walk site _____ Transportation _____

Clothing _____ Bedding _____ Gatherings _____ Reunion Groups _____

Please state briefly why you wish to attend.

In what religious and community organizations are you involved?

Your church _____ Denomination _____

The above information is necessary for proper placement in a Walk to Emmaus. Submission does not guarantee attendance as we have limited spaces available. Early application will help your acceptance. The cost of the weekend is \$200 which includes lodging, meals, and supplies. **Please enclose a preregistration, non-refundable deposit of \$25 made payable to Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus.** The balance due will be payable upon your arrival. Please do not let your inability to pay deter your attendance. Speak to your sponsor about financial aid which may be available.

All information on this application will be remain confidential.

For Registrar

Date received _____ Deposit _____ Computer Entry _____



Page 2 of application – To be filled out by sponsor

Candidate's name _____

Remember when sponsoring a candidate, that the walk to Emmaus is not a means to correct one's character, morals, emotions, or an unstable marriage. The Walk is designed to bring participants into a renewed relationship with Christ, the Church, and fellow Christians. For married couples, husbands are encouraged to attend the Walk to Emmaus first. Each candidate must submit a separate application, and married couples should, if possible, turn in both applications at the same time so as to reserve space for the wife on the Women's Walk.

Sponsor's name _____ Primary Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ Cell Phone _____

Your Church _____ Denomination _____

Location of your weekend _____ Walk # _____ Year _____ Table _____

Are you in a reunion group? _____ Attend gatherings? _____

As sponsors have you:

- 1. Talked with candidate's spouse about the weekend? _____
 - 2. Explained transportation, meals, lodging, supplies, bedding, clothing?
 - 3. Explained Reunion Groups and Gathering to your candidate?
- Is the candidate willing to attend a Reunion Group & Gatherings?
Are you willing to help your candidate find and attend them?
- 4. Prayed for your candidate?
 - 5. Explained the mini-reunion & give them the date if known? _____
- Why do you think this person would be a good candidate

How long have you known the candidate? _____ Are you able to arrange transportation to and from the Walk ? _____ Are you able to attend the Sponsor's Activities? _____

Are you aware of the importance of minimal contact with your Pilgrim during the weekend, and will you comply? _____

You are responsible for getting:

Signature of Candidate's Pastor _____

Name of Candidate's Pastor _____ Phone Number _____

Address of Candidate's Pastor _____

Please mail this application and applicant's non-refundable \$25.00 deposit to:

Judy Grice, Registrar, 1105 Vista Valley Road, Washington, PA. 15301

Questions : Phone 724-225-7806 or e-mail registrar@TRWE.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!!

**Save the Date – Make a Note – Tell your Emmaus Friends
2014 Important EMMAUS Events**



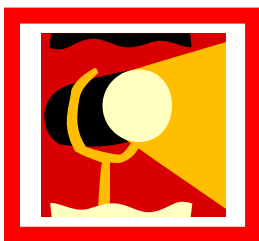
September 12 – All Community Gathering	November 1 – Gathering & Candlelight 7 PM
October 10 – All Community Gathering	November 6 - #92 Women’s Walk
October 13 – Application Deadline	November 8 – Candlelight 8 PM
October 30 - #91 Men’s Walk	December 12 – All Community Gathering

Note: All Gatherings begin at 7:00 PM
AND All Community Gatherings are held at Ingomar UMC

THANK YOU

Debbie & I want to say how much we appreciated the cards, calls, and prayers that were extended to us during Debbie’s illness. We feel so blessed to be a part of such an AWESOME Community. To the Board of Director’s, a HUGE thank you for pulling together and carrying on my duties while I was busy with learning to be a “nurse”. I couldn’t have had better support. May GOD bless each of you as you have blessed us.

With Love,
Bryan & Debbie Pass



DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?????

If you would like to share your 4th day experience, write a story to be published in one of the “**Spotlight on 4th Day**” columns and send it to communications@trwe.org . Remember to reflect on the questions asked at the end of your weekend “What has this weekend meant to me and what am I going to do about it?” when writing your story.



PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer concern that you would like lifted in prayer or have other information that you want to share with the Community, please send the information to Rpratt2707@gmail.com

Newsletter Information

If you choose to get your newsletter by US Mail...Please send a check (Payable to TRWE) for \$10 for a 1 year subscription to: Kathy Shusteric, 627 Sandy Hill Road, Irwin, PA 15642 Please send newsletter questions to communications@trwe.org.

If you know someone who does not have e-mail, please pass this information to him/her.

This newsletter may be viewed at www.trwe.org

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