

#### IMPORTANT DATES GATHERINGS

March 14<sup>th</sup> at Ingomar UMC April 12<sup>th</sup> at Camp Lutherlyn Men's Walk #6 May 9th at Ingomar UMC June 13<sup>th</sup> Ingomar UMC July 11<sup>th</sup> at Regional Locations August 9th TRWE Picnic September 12<sup>th</sup> at Regional Locations October 10<sup>th</sup> at Regional Locations

#### SPRING WALKS

LUTHERLYN Men's Walk #65 April 10 - 13, 2008 Women's Walk #66 April 17- 20, 2008 FALL WALKS LUTHERLYN Note Date Changes Men's Walk #63 Nov 6–9, 2007

Women's Walk #64 Nov 13–16	, 2007
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February 2008

#### FROOM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR IS IT FOR ME?

Those of us who are baby boomers will remember when our homes had only one phone. It was black and sat on a telephone stand which was often in the hallway. There were no telemarketers, call waiting or caller id. In fact some of us had a party line which we shared to save on the phone bill. There were strict rules of etiquette, like no calls during dinner, keeping the call brief, only family calls on Sunday. Living in a house full of girls the ringing of the phone was accompanied by a chorus of "Is it for me?" Today we have cell phones, blackberries, Iphones, email and IM so that we don't miss that important message or call. But are we so busy we are missing the most important call of all?

God has chosen to touch and use each of us in different ways following our three day weekend. And each of us has responded to His call in our own way. There is no doubt that only a very small number, if any, leave the weekend unchanged. I doubt that any of us left camp and became a new person over night. For most the changes in our lives are gradual and then we look back and say WOW how my life has changed during my 4<sup>th</sup> days.

If we are focused and heed God's call our lives follow the pattern of the weekend. We start out slowly and then build. First we become more active on our home church. Finding time we never thought we had to do little things. Reassessing our priorities and investing in what is really important to us. For many of us we are also called to become more active in the TRWE community

I remember my first time as fourth day help serving meals. I was blown away at all of the activity behind the scenes. Only then did I begin to appreciate the sacrifices others had made for me. When I signed up for the prayer vigil I didn't know how I was going to pray for the pilgrims by name since I didn't even know who they were or what their needs were. But of course the Holy Spirit knew exactly what their needs were and responded to my prayer for inspiration.

So why not turn off the computer and the cell phone and the TV and listen for that most important call of all... and yes it's for **you**!

DeColores Bonnie Readie



#### FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

It has been about twenty-five years ago since a friend told me to trust him and go on a spiritual retreat weekend. When I arrived at the church where I thought the weekend would be, there were a lot of people there and I knew no one there except for my friend. Nervously I mingled awaiting some instruction. Finally, an old school bus pulled up and my name was called to board the bus.

As I was boarding the bus, the people were cheering and clapping. I did not know it at the time, but it was about to be a bus ride to a weekend that would change my life in ways that I could never have anticipated. My name is Jerry Belloit. I made my weekend on the Sonshine Cursillo #32 in Miami, Florida and I sat at the table of Matthew. In January, my term as Spiritual Director of the Three River's Walk to Emmaus began.

That long ago weekend, I asked God to help me to listen to God's plan for my life and help me be a better disciple. God's plan has led me to Pennsylvania, seminary, and to ordination as a United Methodist elder. I currently serve three small country churches in Clarion County.

I believe that anyone who takes a new position in any organization has to have some ideas of what he or she, with God's help, might accomplish. As we are close to Martin Luther King Day, I would like to borrow from one of his most famous speeches. I have a dream. I have a dream that money will not be an obstacle for those wanting to go on, or serve on, a Three River's Walk to Emmaus weekend.

As you have previously read in our community newsletter, financial pressures have been increasing for funding a weekend. Currently we charge \$150 per person for a weekend. Our financial analyst tells us that we should increase that amount because it is insufficient to pay the bills. Last fall, the board voted to delay increasing the fee for the spring walk in a leap of faith that God will help us find a way to make up the deficit.

I am concerned that even the current fee is an obstacle for people to participate on a weekend. In some ways \$150 does not seem to be that big of a burden. If husband and wife participate, that becomes \$300. Add to that transportation costs, lost wages, and perhaps child care expenses and the financial burden increases significantly. (It is true that some sponsors pay for their pilgrims to attend the weekend. However, it may well be the case that some people have been reluctant to sponsor a couple because they did not feel like they could help with the expense.)

We do have a scholarship fund to assist those with financial difficulties. There are two problems with the scholarship plan, however. First, last year, the money paid out for scholarships exceeded the scholarship contributions. Second, and even more problematic, people are frequently too proud or too private to admit they are in financial need. It is less painful to simply decline participation on a weekend. To me, scholarships are not the answer.

What, then, can we do? The Board has talked about several ways to raise additional money to defray the costs of a weekend. We have talked about having people sponsor particular cost centers, such as purchasing the crosses or prayer books for a weekend. We have talked about having nothing other than a registration fee for the weekend and then asking the pilgrims for a donation at the end and trusting that enough money would be raised to fund the weekend.

I have another dream. We have about 700 active participants in our community. If we could get everyone to fast one \$5 meal a month and donate that to the community, we would have enough money to completely eliminate any weekend fees beyond the \$25 registration fee. That should not be a difficult challenge for God and this community. All we would need to do is work out the logistics to collect the gifts (direct deposit, mail appeal, etc.).

I know what my weekend did for my life. I suspect that many of you have also had moving experiences on your weekend. I pray that finances would not keep someone from participating. I have a dream. Could this become your dream as well? DeColores, Jerry Belloit

## Can we get there from here?

#### From your Board of Directors

Because of our experience on the Walk to Emmaus we want to share that opportunity with others. Have you ever found yourself telling a casual acquaintance about your experience because that is where the Holy Spirit led you? Then there's that moment of panic when you realize that if you invite them you may not be in a position to help with the fee. Have you wanted to share your Walk to Emmaus experience with someone but didn't approach them because you knew they couldn't afford the fee and you weren't able to help them financially? Maybe you have told a friend about the walk and they are interested but always have a reason why they can't go this time. Maybe that reason is related to finances but they are ashamed to say so. We would all like to be in a position to offer the walk to anyone who wanted to attend but the worldly reality of finances often becomes a major stumbling block.

By now we hope you have had the opportunity to read Jerry's message as the community spiritual director. He speaks of a dream that is shared by all of the board members to make the walk available for all who are called to attend. We know that most of you share this dream with us. So the question becomes how do we get there from here? We would like to tell you about ways you can help make this dream a reality.

First of all we must pray. Pray for inspiration, for wisdom and for the resources to spread the word of this experience. Just as God spoke to each of us on our walk we want to bring others to a place where they can hear the message.

We project that walk expenses for spring 2008 will exceed the \$150.00 per person fee. We are trusting God to keep us from running a deficit. Right now you can make a contribution to the scholarship fund directly and because we are a nonprofit organization those contributions may be tax deductible. But as Jerry says our dream is bigger than a scholarship fund. We have two ideas to get us started building that dream:

1: Walk fund – This would be a fund that we could start immediately. The objective would be to start by holding the cost per person to the current fee of \$150.00.

2. Agape gifts – this would be a gift from an individual or a reunion group to underwrite the cost of a particular expense. Some examples of this would be pilgrim crosses, upper room pilgrim fees, photo costs, purple worship books, or conference room materials.

The spring walks are just beginning to get off the ground but soon the board will need to make a decision about the fall walk fee. In order to make that decision we need to hear from you about your ability to help achieve our dream. In the next few weeks we will be asking you to make a commitment to give in whatever way you feel called. As we enter the Lenten season of preparation let us all prepare our hearts for the miracles God can perform through our acts of giving.

## Three Rivers Emmaus and Chrysalis Safe Sanctuary Policy

The Chrysalis and Emmaus Community holds as Christian value "hospitality." First and foremost, the Chrysalis and Emmaus Community must be known as sanctuary; as a place of safety. We embrace the Gospel's mandate to protect "the least of these," particularly children and vulnerable adults. Because the Chrysalis and Emmaus Community, the Board, Steering Committee, and its representatives are the shepherds of the Chrysalis and Emmaus Communities, they are given the responsibility and authority under God Himself to be the ones to guard and guide their flock.

We are a covenant community. We covenant with God, the Upper Room, the Three Rivers Community, and all individuals. We tell people – "trust me…" We invite them to take off their watches and turn off their cell phones. It is in the light of that trust, that this Emmaus and Chrysalis community faithfully has in place a safe sanctuary policy for its members and visitors.

As community leaders, the Three Rivers Emmaus or Chrysalis Lay Directors, Spiritual Directors, and Board members have been given spiritual charge for protection of our youth and vulnerable adults at Chrysalis and Emmaus events and activities. If you have any concerns about the safety of our youth or vulnerable adults, or you require any additional information regarding the safe sanctuary policy, please contact the Three Rivers Emmaus or Chrysalis Spiritual Directors.

# We are all Connected

IN YOUR FOURTH DAYS I AM SURE YOU HAVE SOME GREAT STORIES OF HOW THE WALK TO EMMAUS HAS OPEN DOORS AND YOUR EYES. IF YOU WOULD KINDLY WRITE THE STORY UP AND SEND IT TO ME I CAN USE THEM IN FUTURE NEWSLETTERS. THESE STORIES OF CHANCE MEETING AND CROSS COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS WILL SO US HOW WE ARE ALL CONNECTED AND BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST



The Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus Community wants to extend a very warm THANK YOU to Coleen Clark, Linda Tunnell, Randy Stevens, Sandy Codding, Linda Claypool, Nick Denardo, and Kay Rahuba for their many years of dedicated service on the Board of Directors. They spent many hours working for the glory of God with tireless effort and a servant's heart for our community. Many thanks for a job well done.

## **The Importance of Reunion Groups**

To all sponsors and community members – we need to be faithful to our calling to live the Christian life. From Proverbs 27:17: *Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another…* We need each other. We need to take steps to keep this community spiritually healthy at all levels.

The Three River Emmaus and Chrysalis Community continue to ignite the hearts of all ages. The lives are transformed by the power of God. We have experienced well-planned teams and wonderful three-day events. But the continued success of the Walk to Emmaus and the Chrysalis Flights relies continual meeting together to *sharpen one another*.

Let us be serious about keeping the covenant to meet with one another and use our 4<sup>th</sup> Day wisely. Sponsors, it is your responsibility to introduce your pilgrim or butterfly to a reunion group. If there is not one in your area – start one! Just use your service card as the order of meeting together on a regular basis.

We remember the illustration during the three-day weekends where the burning coal is removed from the fireplace and grows cold. When the coal is returned to the fire, it burned bright once again. Since there is no spiritual end to your walk or flight, you need to consider how to take positive steps to continue our spiritual growth.

Let us consider making it a good habit by meeting together. Plan on attend community Gatherings/Hoots, and if you are not currently in a Reunion Group/Next Steps, start your own with other community members and believers. Let us not neglect meeting together, and as a community, let us continue to *sharpen one another*.





We would like to welcome to the board of directors the class of 2010. They are Jerry Belloit, Flo Willaman, Larry Simmons, Gary Wakefield and Diane Hamilton Finishing an unexpired term ending in 2008. Please welcome and support these dedicated members of the Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus





Come and share this experience with the pilgrims of walks #65 and #66 Men's walk #65 April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at Camp Lutherlyn Women's Walk #66 April 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM at Camp Lutherlyn

Perseverance	Nick Denardo	LD	Valks #6	Perseverance
Fourth Day	Bill Wiegand	LDT	Bonnie Wiegand	Fourth Day
Priority	Gary Pennington	ALD	Sophie Park	Priority
Changing Our World	Garth Johnston	ALD	Patty Johnson	Priesthood of All Believers
Body of Christ	John Ellis	ALD	Sherri Miller	Christian Action
Means of Grace	Jerry Belloit	HD Spiritual	Millie Martin	Means of Grace
Prevenient Grace		Spiritual		Prevenient Grace
Justifying Grace		Spiritual	Clara Belloit	Justifying Grace
Obstacles / Grace		Spiritual	Maggie Foreman	Obstacles / Grace
Sanctifying Grace		Spiritual		Sanctifying Grace
Life in Piety	Marty Johnson	Table Leader	Kathy Johnson	Life in Piety
Growth through Study	Mark Pasek	Table Leader	Lynn Ramsey	Growth through Study
Discipleship	Sam Bavely	Table Leader	Karen Edwards	Discipleship
Priesthood of all Believers	Don Boardman Sr	Table Leader	Ruth Sabo	Changing O World
Christian Action	Frank Snodgrass	Table Leader	Martha Johnson	Body of Christ
	Chuck Bowie	Assistant TL	Sandy Wakefield	
	Chuck Foust	Assistant TL	Kathy Wescoat	
	David White	Assistant TL	Mary Whiteman	
	Drew Patrick	Assistant TL	•	
	Tom Malota	Assistant TL		_
		Board Rep	Flo Willaman	
	Fred Whitney	Music	Robin McRoberts	
		Music	Yo Lang	
	Gary Wakefield	Tech/AV	Kim Fickley	
	Rob Dangel	Prayer Chapel		
	Jeff Rahuba	Prayer Chapel		
	John McMullan	Prayer Chapel	Lisa Wahl	
	Frank Jones	Head Dining	Sally Zupsic	
	Scott Mains	Dining Room	Amy Dove	
	Christian Stoecklien	Head 4 <sup>th</sup> Day	Carla Rizzi	
	<b>Richard Thomas</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Day	Diane Hamilton	
	Phil Brooks	Head Agape	Nancy Denardo	
	Bernie Lopretto Jr.	Agape	Vicci Contois	
	Anthony Braun	Agape	Barb Mantsch	
	-	Agape	Nancy Paul	
		Agape	-	
	Dan Pulliam	Snack Agape	Sue Tomsic	
	Jerry Morgan	Snack Agape		
	Anthony Braun		Eleanor Miller	



## Next Regional Gatherings

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Four Great Locations – One Night \*

East – First UMC Murrysville North – Harrisville UMC Central – Ingomar UMC South - 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian, Houston, PA

## Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>

Faithful Servants are needed! If you would like to assist as a Leader, Clergy, 4<sup>th</sup> Day Speaker, Musician, Snack/Fellowship Time Coordinator with Clean Up, please contact John McMullan–724-772-6623 jmcmullan@zoominternet.net

#### 

# **Reunion Groups**

If you have any changes to your information i.e.: place, time, contact person PLEASE send the information to Andy Wahl at pastorandy@comcast.net





Did you sign up to receive the prayer chain requests but are not receiving them? Did you change your email address and not let Bo Pratt know? If you want to be included in the prayer chain, please send your correct email address to <u>Rpratt2707@aol.com</u>. Prayer requests may also be sent here. Jerry Belloit, Community Spiritual Director 175 Westwood Dr. Clarion, PA 16214 814-2272673

Joan Burnette, Registrar 208 Chesapeake Drive Gibsonia, PA 15044 724-625-4933 Bonnie Readie, Community Lay Director 2543 Royal View Dr. Allison Park, PA 15101 724-772-6623

Garth Johnston, Newsletter Editor 5877 Pleasant St. South Park, PA 15129 412-833-0778

Visit our website at: www.trwe.org

Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus Garth Johnston 5877 Peasant St. South Park, PA 15129

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



#### 2008 Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus Community Calendar

MONTH	S	М		Г	W	Т	I		S		DATE	COMMUNITY ACTIVITY	MONTH	S	М	Т	· ۱	N 1	Г	F	S	DATE	COMMUNITY ACTIVITY
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#### **TRWE Board Of Directors 2008**

Board Role	Name	Address	Phone	E-Mail	Term Ends 12/31		
Community Lay Director	Bonnie Readie	2543 Royal View Drive Allison Park, PA 15101	412-487-5082 (H)	blreadie@verizon.net	2009		
Assistant Community Lay Director	Gary Wakefield	115 Ralston Road Slippery Rock, PA 16057	724-794-2557	gcwakefield@zoominternet.net	2010		
Community Lay Director Emeritus	John McMullan	150 Aberdeen Drive Cranberry Twp., PA 16066	724-772-6623 (H) 724-772-7903 (W) 412-370-1358 (C)	jmcmullan@zoominternet.net	EX-O		
Secretary	Pat Mould	805 Indiana Avenue Monaca, PA 15061	724-775-1327	patmould@gmail.com	2009		
Treasurer	Christian Stoecklein	704 Augusta Drive Bridgeville, PA 15017	412-221-7592	christian.stoecklein@crowncastle.com	2008		
Community Spiritual Director	Jerry Belloit	175 Westwood Drive Clarion, PA 16214	814-227-2673	belloit@clarion.edu	2010		
Agape	Flo Willaman	6 Louis Court Irwin, PA 15642	724-744-0125 (H) 724-787-2953 (C )	floziejean@windstream.net trweagape@yahoo.com	2010		
Chrysalis	John DeBonis	206 Criders Lane Pittsburgh PA 15237	412-366-4888	xjtdebonis@comcast.net	EX-O		
Communications	Garth Johnston	5877 Pleasant Street South Park, PA 15129	412-833-0778	gej706@comcast.net	2008		
Facilities	Larry Simmons	102 Maplewood Drive Irwin, PA 15642	724-744-1989 (H) 412-559-6215 (C)	larrysimmons@alltel.net	2010		
Fellowship	Bill Young	221 Henry Road Greenville, PA 16125	724-588-7472	ybillyjo@verizon.net	2010		
Fourth Day	June Corbett	303 South Park Street East Pittsburgh, PA 15112	412-823-6231	junecorb@comcast.net	2008		
Kitchen	OPEN (1 yr. term)				2008		
Music	Colin McRoberts	2357 Lin Point Court Sewickley, PA 15143	412-548-3518 (H) 412-552-2547 (W)	cubistdog_42@yahoo.com	2009		
Outreach	Richard Carson	225 Poplar Street Rochester, PA 15074	724-770-0538	rcarson13@yahoo.com	2009		
Outreach	Millie Martin	449 Davis Road Dawson, PA 15428	724-529-0402	mtmartin@verizon.net	2009		
Purchasing	Pam Walter	637 Portersville Road Elwood City, PA 16117	724-752-0742	ellwoodrose@yahoo.com	2009		
Registration	Joan Burnette	208 Chesapeake Drive Gibsonia, PA 15044	724-625-4933 (H) 412-716-8874 (C )	trwejoan@zoominternet.net	EX-O		
Reunion Groups	Andy Wahl	660 Lutheran Street Greenock, PA 15047	412-751-8073	pastorandy@comcast.net	2008		