



Rainbow Connection



Vol. 16 No. 8

Western New York Walk to Emmaus & Chrysalis

August, 2006

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord.” 2 Timothy 1: 7-8a

URGENT NOTICE

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

We are facing a crisis of major proportions in our Emmaus Community. As of the Board Meeting on August 18, there was only one (1) Pilgrim registered for the Fall Walks. That is one woman from the entire Western New York area. Certainly there are explanations for why we are in this crisis, but the most important issue right now is, “What are we going to do about it?”

The deadline for registrations for the Men’s Walk is September 15, and for the Women’s Walk is October 13. We must have at least 12 Pilgrims each, registered by those dates, or we will be forced to cancel the Walks. Please, don’t let that happen! Don’t wait for someone else to do it. Contact those persons whom you know that are leaders and/or servants, or potential leaders, in their churches. Take a registration form with you, and encourage them to sign up for the upcoming Walks in Springville.

Registration forms are available online, or may be obtained from the Registrars, Bill & Pam Wallum. Yes, Sponsors must sign the form. The form must also be signed by a Sponsor Mentor. Sponsors will be supported and encouraged in their efforts. It is not intended to prevent anyone from sponsoring. If you need assistance or clarification, contact any of the Sponsor Mentors listed in the Rainbow Connection. Don’t delay! Please, start today. Sponsorship is a gift of Agape, and it helps strengthen our Community and our local churches. And, ultimately, it builds up the Body of Christ!

Also, if finances are a problem, there are limited funds available to assist anyone who truly needs help. Lack of money should not be an “Obstacle to Grace”, so if there is a need don’t hesitate to ask.

Pray, pray, and pray some more. Take a close look at your Emmaus Cross. Remember, “Christ is counting on you.” And so is your Emmaus Community. To God be the glory!

DeColores,
Hal & Carol Goodwin
Community Lay Directors

Contact the Board Chairs

Questions, concerns and comments are always welcome:

Hal & Carol Goodwin
310 Park Avenue
Medina, NY 14103
(585) 798-4593
email: carolhal@lakeplains.net

WALK # 33 TO BE HELD IN SPRINGVILLE, NY

Men's Walk, October 5 - 8, 2006
 Deadline for Men, Sept. 15, 2006

Women's Walk, November 2 - 5, 2006
 Deadline for Women, Oct. 13, 2006

Reunion, November 18, 2006

Men's Team - Walk # 33

Spiritual Director	Wilson Jones
Clergy	Bud Vrendenburg
Clergy	Fred Savage
Clergy	Karen Grinnell
Clergy	TBD
Lay Director	John Trowbridge
ALD - Chapel	Tom Klingenger
ALD - Agape	Don Meyer
ALD - Bell Ringer	Dennis Weil
Table Leader	Tim Klembczyk
Table Leader	Bob Laurie
Table Leader	Lee Packer
Table Leader	Ed Pask
Table Leader	Jerry Thomas
Table Leader	Randy Walker
Asst. Table Leader	Mike Burley
Asst. Table Leader	Brian Henry
Asst. Table Leader	Bob Neamon
Asst. Table Leader	Bill Perkins
Asst. Table Leader	Bradley Phillips
Asst. Table Leader	Frank White
Musician	Dave Rood
Asst. Musician	Ron Curtis
Logistics	Jerry Clark
Logistics	Dave McKinney
Board Representative	Jim Coleman

Women's Team - Walk # 33

Spiritual Director	Beth Kotteman
Clergy	Sandy Stoica
Clergy	Peggy Knopf
Clergy	Jake Denny
Clergy	TBD
Lay Director	Lorrie Gammack
ALD - Chapel	Jean Grinnell
ALD - Agape	Cindy Curtis
ALD - Bell Ringer	Kathy Wessel
Table Leader	Jessica Franks
Table Leader	Becky Fox
Table Leader	Mary Kay Birch
Table Leader	Joan Hardy
Table Leader	Paulette Albone
Table Leader	Laurie Curtis
Asst. Table Leader	Kristian Merle
Asst. Table Leader	Nancy Grieson
Asst. Table Leader	Martha Button
Asst. Table Leader	Cheryl Keesler
Asst. Table Leader	Sue Gagne
Asst. Table Leader	Lisa Waterhouse
Musician	Marlene Worthington
Asst. Musician	Marilyn Fuest
Logistics	Jackie Van Dusen
Logistics	Sharon Goodenow
Board Representative	Alethia Keiper

Greetings from the Team Selection Committee

I became chair of the committee after the first of the year, taking the baton from Hal and Carol Goodwin, who are still on the committee as Chairs of the Emmaus Board. We also have added two new members with Keith and Karen Grinnell filling one position and Jim and Ann DeRooy completing another position. We thank former committee members Gary and Sue Clarcq and Tom Heiss for their dedication and input to the team selection process.

I have received questions about getting involved and how can I serve on a team. There are many ways to serve the Western New York Walk to Emmaus. Coming to candlelight and closing are some simple ways to serve. They are the same gift of agape given to you. Also, working as a volunteer in the kitchen or being a servant during the weekend, doing anything from moving furniture to the cleaning duties that need to be performed. Or maybe you would enjoy decorating the dining room for the special surprise for the pilgrims.

There are so many servant duties that need to be filled during the weekend, including the preparation of the host church for a Walk and restoring the host church after the Walk is complete. The more people that help, the easier and faster the tasks are accomplished. The enjoyment of serving the Lord in many ways with brothers and sisters in Christ is truly a blessing. If you are a musician, become involved at your gatherings, or during send off, candlelight or closings. Become involved in agape making get-togethers, or maybe you can make something yourself. Contact our Agape chairs to find out what you can do! The committee, along with the team lay and spiritual directors have an important task to accomplish. It all starts with prayer. After all, this will be a team that will be serving our Lord for the pilgrims who say yes to His call. Remember; only 6-7 first time positions are available each time a team is formed. Become involved in any way possible to serve the new pilgrims and give them this gift of agape that was freely given to you.

DeColores! Norb Fuest

Registration

We hope you are all enjoying your summer and the great weather God has blessed us with recently. Our garden is doing very well. If you should call us and get no answer, chances are we are out in the garden, so please leave a message. Please remember we are the ones to contact if you are in need of a new nametag (button).

In line with the new Sponsorship Mentoring Program, we have updated the Registration application. The only changes that have been made are on the Sponsors side of the application. Please note that the new application form will be available on the Emmaus website very shortly (hopefully by the time you are reading this).

The address is www.wnyemmaus-chrysalis.org. Effectively immediately, this is the only application form that will be accepted as it is the one which contains all the information that is needed. If anyone needs some of the new forms please contact us at 585-493-2751 if you do not have internet service available to you. We will be glad to mail one out to you immediately. You may also request one from us at erie@frontiernet.net. The best place to get your copy is the Emmaus website, you can download either a PDF file or a Word doc. File from there.

Again, because of the new changes and in order to be fair to everyone, the new updated application is the only one that we will be able to accept effectively immediately. If you should send an incorrect (old) application form, we will contact you and send you the correct form.

Praise God for our Emmaus Community and all the blessings he bestows on us all. And don't forget that even though it is August, it is never too early to send in your applications for the Walk # 33.

DeColores!

Pam and Bill Wallum, Registrars

585-493-2751, erie@frontiernet.net

Newsletter Notes

The current version of the newsletter is available online at www.wnyemmaus-chrysalis.org by the last day of every month. Prior editions can be accessed on the website, as well. If you would like to begin retrieving the newsletter electronically and stop your hardcopy receipt, please let me know.

Blessings,

Jim Moody, Editor

585-735-5231 or jxmoody@gmail.com

AUGUST GATHERING TIDBITS

West Bank Gathering is moving to the Greece United Methodist Church beginning in September! Please see an article elsewhere in this edition.

The Northern Mountain View Area Gathering is now the Springville Gathering. We meet on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:30 am in the Springville United Methodist Church. Please contact Brian & Susan Scharf, 716.592.9811 for further information.

Agape Corner

This been a great summer, a time of relaxation and renewal of one's self. In just a few weeks, everyone will be getting ready for Fall Walk # 33 in Springville, NY.

Have you or your gathering thought about agape for the pilgrims? Remember how you felt as you received agape on your walk? We do! We are grateful that someone we don't know took the time to make these for me and to show God's love. We also want to remind you that now is the time to start making agape. Remember, the magic number is 60 items per walk. Please assure they are at the church on Thursday night of each Walk. Please, do not put personal names on the agape.

The online prayer vigil will be ready for you to sign shortly. Please consider filling a spot to pray for both the team and pilgrims. Prayer is a wonderful way to show the love of God. You might also consider filling a spot on another prayer vigil from around the world and praying for that team and those pilgrims. It's truly a wonderful way to spread love!

We are each unique with many talents given to us by God. We need to put these gifts to use as we serve. Let's make Walk # 33 as special to these pilgrims as our Walks were to us. For it is in giving that we receive.

Grace and Peace,

Cheryl and Jesse Babcock

Agape Coordinators

PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!

Emmaus Board of Directors

Term	Position	Name	Phone
2008	Chair	Hal & Carol Goodwin	(585) 798-4593
2007	Sprt. Dir.	Greg VanDussen	(716) 652-3791
2008	Agape	Cheryl & Jesse Babcock	(585) 589-7413
2008	Facilities	Bill & Sue Barber	(716) 689-2093
2008	Clergy	Nilla Owen	(585) 584-3329
2008	Registration	Bill & Pam Wallum	(585) 493-2751
2008	Evangelism	Paul & MaryLou Stark	(585) 229-2366
2006	4 th Day	Lynn & Pat Blakeman	(716) 373-6470
2006	Supplies	Jim & Donna Coleman	(585) 385-1296
2006	Library	Jack & Kathie Woika	(585) 343-3813
2006	Wknd Coord.	Allen & Alethia Keiper	(585) 591-0502
2006	Clergy	Carol Sierk	(585) 591-2410
2006	Team Select	Norb Fuest	(585) 591-1198
2007	Music	Bill Lang	(585) 591-0477
2007	Kitchen	Bob & Christa Fathergill	(585) 387-0928
2007	Secretary	Judy Hunley	(585) 377-0894
2007	Treasurer	Bill & JoAnn Arnett	(585) 798-1224
2006	Newsletter	Jim Moody	(585) 735-5231

“Training Sessions” Report

On Friday evening August 4 and Saturday August 5, Greg Engroff met with the Board of Directors and the Community of WNY Walk to Emmaus. Greg is the N.E. Regional Representative for Walk to Emmaus. We were all very pleased to meet Greg, and found him to be knowledgeable, caring, and filled with God’s grace.

Friday evening the Board members introduced themselves and shared celebrations and challenges facing our WNY Community. We are pleased to report that the celebrations outnumbered the challenges. We all then talked together and shared possible ways to address those things that keep us from being the best we can be for our Lord Jesus Christ on the Emmaus journey.

On Saturday, Greg met with the entire WNY Community. While attendance was disappointing, time spent together with those present was very worthwhile. Greg went through the entire process of putting on a Walk including Team Selection, Team Building/Meetings, Support Staff, Sponsorship, the Three Day Walk, Reunion and 4th Day (including small group reunions & Gatherings). We talked about Agape, Kitchen and meals, the cost to Pilgrims and Team, clergy / lay participation, and facilities. Greg asked us many questions. We asked him many more. Those who made the commitment to attend came away with a better understanding of the “model”; the why’s, what’s, and how’s of nearly everything we do or should be doing, before, during and after a Walk.

Greg was very pleased and impressed with how closely we follow the Nashville Model and with our efforts to move closer to the model in the few areas where we are not currently in line. He did not provide any ultimatums, but rather suggested that we move “towards” the model any time we contemplate change. He was so impressed with a couple of things that we do as “local flavor”, that he is going to suggest them to his own Community.

The Board of Directors will be considering the few suggestions Greg gave us. We may be making some minor adjustments to the way we do things in the future. Attend your local Gathering and keep watch in the Rainbow Connection for further details.

Finally, a big “Thank You” to the Board members and Community members who made the effort to attend the Training Sessions. We are a stronger Community because of you. To God be the glory!

Blessings,
Hal & Carol Goodwin
Community Lay Directors

List of Sponsorship Mentors			
<u>Gathering</u>	<u>Mentors</u>	<u>Gathering</u>	<u>Mentors</u>
Fairport	John and Mary Trowbridge Gary and Sue Clarcq	No. Mountain View	Rev. Greg and Jackie VanDussen Bud and Nancy Vrendenburg
Alexander	Jim and Lora Keiper Rev. Greg and Jackie VanDussen	Niagara Area	Bill and Sue Barber Keith Grinnell
Millville/Medina	Hal and Carol Goodwin Pat and Steve Morse	West Seneca/Buffalo	Pat Corsette Bob and Deanna Laurie
West Bank	Chris Collins, Sparky Hess Don Crawford, Carolyn Rickman	Hamburg/South Towns	Gary and Rose Caldwell Paul and Sue Gagne
Ionia	Jim and Ann DeRooy John and Ann Becker	Napoli	Bryan and Cheryl Kessler Bill and Alex Gage
Enchanted Mountain	Mike and Jan Mortimer Lynn and Pat Blakeman		

4th DAY

As the last days of summer approach, I think of people returning from vacations and getting back into a “normal” routine. We enjoy the summer months and the opportunities we have to get away on exciting trips; if not for relaxation, maybe to see family and friends.

This morning, our Pastor spoke about some of us who attend what he calls “Church Lite”. Like “lite-cream” or “lite-butter” it just doesn’t have the same full flavor as the real thing. Simple Church attendance doesn’t afford us the full benefits of God’s Grace. It’s not like the real thing. On the other hand, participation in activities that surround our lives with a remembrance of Jesus’ love feeds our soul with the “real thing”. I hope you have had an opportunity to keep in touch with your family of Christian brothers and sisters this summer in your own community wherever your life took you.

I looked at the Pastor’s sermon this morning as an incentive to approach a few people who might be interested in the Walk to Emmaus. Our community is one way to surround us in the love of God. I didn’t give them a “hard sell” line but simply suggested that they think about the sermon this morning from this perspective and handed them an Emmaus pamphlet.

I sincerely hope that all of you are praying about sponsoring a pilgrim for the fall Walks. Please do not let any of the new policies hold you back. There is no reason to hold back from asking someone if they would like to go on a walk. If you haven’t been to a sponsorship seminar and you have a desire to sponsor a new pilgrim please contact us or any one on the Board and it will be worked out. We understand that it takes time to implement new policies. We want to be obedient to the Holy Spirit and his calling.

Pat and I couldn’t be at this years’ picnic. I hear that it was quite a success. Thanks to the Medina Gathering for hosting the event. On a similar note, we are actively looking for a Gathering to host this years’ Christmas party. Last year, it was in Olean. There was a great turn out. If you are interested, let us know and will send you guidelines.

DeColores,
Lynn and Pat Blakeman

WEST BANK GATHERING MOVES !

Beginning Saturday, September 9th

West Bank Gathering will meet at the Greece United Methodist Church
1924 Maiden Lane
Rochester, NY 14626

8:30 am = Continental Breakfast

9:00 am = Gathering

Please join your friends for fun and fellowship !

Newsletter “Donations”

Due to rising costs in many areas and recent Walks having fewer Pilgrims, WNY Walk to Emmaus finds itself in a “budget crunch.” We are currently spending more money than is taken in. It costs over \$300 to mail the “Rainbow Connection” each month. Therefore, we are appealing to the entire community. If you are able and willing, we ask that you consider making a donation to help with the printing and mailing of the Newsletter. The Treasurers, Bill & Joann Arnett, P.O. Box 744, Medina, NY 14103 gratefully receive donations of any amounts.

Please send donations, made out to “WNY Walk to Emmaus”. Note on the memo line that it is for the “Rainbow Connection.” Thank you in advance for your generous support, and may God bless you always and in all ways!

Gathering Schedule

Fairport:

Hosanna Junction UMC - 2nd Sunday of the month
357 Fairport Road (Rt. 31F)
6:00 P.M. - Meeting (child care upon request)
Bob and Christa Fathergill 585-387-0928

West Bank: (New Location!)

Greece UMC - 2nd Saturday of month
8:30 A.M. - Continental Breakfast
9:00 A.M. - Meeting (call ahead for child care)
Debra Wolfe - Child Care Contact 585-458-3166
Chris Collins 585-227-1519

Niagara:

Lockport Emmanuel UMC - 2nd Saturday of month
6:00 P.M. - Meeting
Dave & Janice McKinney 716-434-5471

Alexander:

Alexander UMC - 3rd Saturday of month
7:00 P.M. - Meeting (child care as needed)
Kathy Wessel & Bob Neamon 585-547-9221

Springville:

Springville UMC - 3rd Saturday of the month
9:30 A.M. Meeting
Please call ahead for child care
Brian and Susan Scharf 716-592-9811

Enchanted Mountain (Olean):

Christ UMC - 3rd Wednesday of month
7:00 P.M. - Meeting
Jan Mortimer 716-373-2237 <mortimer@localnet.com>

Ionia:

Ionia UMC - Last Saturday of the month
7:00 P.M. - Meeting
Lee and Ruth Packer 585-367-3827

Buffalo:

Seneca UMC, 2846 Seneca St.
3rd Saturday of month - 9:30 A.M.
Pat Corsette 716-826-6840

Hamburg/Buffalo Southtowns:

Hamburg UMC - Methodist Meeting House
3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M.
Gary Caldwell 716-649-3889

Medina/Millville:

Millville UMC
Last Friday of the Month - 7:00 P.M.
Jeff and Char Smith 585-798-3831

Napoli:

Napoli UMC
4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 P.M.
Rick Peters 716-938-6800

Newsletter Deadline September 20, 2006

Rainbow Connection
c/o Judy Hunley, Secretary
5 Melnotte Lane
Fairport, NY 14450