A NOTE FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

All the gifts of the Spirit are a rich blessing. All the fruit He produces in us makes us more like our Savior. There is one fruit, however, that rises to the top of the heap. There is one, that without it, all the others are meaningless. LOVE.

“If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

~1 Corinthians 13:1-7 NIV~

Let us "press in" to LOVE. Follow the Spirit's lead. He always leads us in the way of love. When we follow Him there we will find all His other gifts along the way.

~De Colores, Jackie Qualls~
Hello Community,

I would again like to start by thanking Roger Lindsey and his team for allowing Father God to move in such a mighty way on the last Men’s Walk. The pilgrims and team were blessed in so many ways over the weekend. There was a special part of the weekend that the men found their true, identity in Christ Jesus. Warriors! Men that will NOT lose ground to the enemy any longer. Men that want to be who God calls them to be.

Kathy Hutchinson will be leading our next Ladies Walk # 71, October 11-14, with Jackie Qualls as the spiritual director. Please get your ladies signed up now because this, like all Walks, will be full and have a waiting list. I know that God is going to use Kathy in such a mighty way and has big plans for her and the ladies that attend this walk.

Don Stone along with Bruce Slaughter will be heading up our next Men’s Walk # 50 February 7-10. These two men are mighty men of God and we are blessed that they will be leading men to a new way of life.

We are so blessed as a community of believers! I received the blessing of being a part of the last Men’s Walk. As a community we have some of the best Clergy and Lay people out there. The commitment of our Community is outstanding. During this weekend we found out what “our” true identity is, We are His. We are children of the Most High. We are Son’s & Daughters of the One & Only True God. The God that sacrificed everything for you and me, because He loves us!!!!

Let’s not forget the price at which we were bought.

Thank you for all you do, who you are and what we are doing…. In Christ name!

~De Colores, Brian Gerstenberger~
SPONSORSHIP

You, the sponsor, are the utmost importance to GOD, your pilgrim, the team, and the Emmaus community.

Committing to be a sponsor is so much more than “signing people up.” It is the first act of GOD’s unconditional love (AGAPE) to the pilgrim and it starts even before their Walk begins.

Good sponsorship is the mortar GOD uses as He sets His building blocks of love, relationships, service, discipleship, perseverance, and grace in a pilgrim’s life. Jesus is the Foundation, GOD is the builder, and it is through you, the sponsor, and the Team that GOD’s love builds a pilgrim’s life to servanthood of Him.

A Pilgrim is Royalty

A pilgrim is treated like Royalty and this treatment should start, by you, the sponsor even before the Walk begins.

1. Pray with your pilgrim long before the Walk so he/she will feel comforted that this is the Walk GOD is calling them to be part of, stay in contact with them and continue to let them know you are praying.
2. Pick them up as Royalty; carry their luggage. A pilgrim never carries his/her luggage to or from the Walk weekend. Take you pilgrim to and from the Walk site. A pilgrim should never drive himself/herself to or from the weekend.
3. Take them out to eat before arriving at the Walk site. It is even a nice gesture if you allow them to choose the restaurant. It should be a special place that allows them to feel important (remember Royalty).
4. Stay for the whole “send-off” time. Your job as a sponsor is just beginning for the Walk weekend.
5. Participate in ALL Walk weekend events. This includes Sponsor’s hour (held right after send-off), Candlelight (Saturday night at 8pm), Closing (Sunday @4:30pm) You can also help the Angels of the Walk team and sign up to be a volunteer Walk Angel for a few hours during the Walk weekend.
6. Agape letters (to be given to the pilgrim during their Walk on Sunday). The sponsor is responsible for sending out request (a secret to the pilgrim) to the pilgrim’s family and friends; and gathering those of love. They need to be dropped off at the ARC Agape entrance before Saturday, of the Church where Candlelight is on Saturday evening. (a box for letters will be at the Church).
7. Agape gifts: Make or buy pillow, or food Agape which is a very special part of the pilgrim’s weekend. Help your pilgrim and all pilgrims feel the abundant love of Jesus. Make plenty for everyone on the Walk, or just enough for all pilgrims; mark the no. on Agape bag.
8. Sign up for the Prayer Vigil. Being part of the 72-hr. Prayer Vigil is a great blessing; not only for the pilgrim, but for you, as GOD is carrying out His will through you for the weekend.
9. Help take care of everything that is left at home by the pilgrim so that he/she may not be concerned about anything but what GOD has for them during their weekend. This will entail any, and all things important to the pilgrim (big or small) such as: finding babysitters’ helping with meals, taking those left a home to already schedule events; ex: watering plants, tending animals… the list goes on and on and is very important part for your commitment to be a Sponsor.
10. A Sponsor’s responsibility does not stop after the Walk weekend is over. Help your pilgrim by getting them involved in a reunion group, go to their 1st Community meeting, showing them how to get started serving in the Emmaus Community.

Are you considering sponsoring?

Pray! Ask GOD whom he wants you to sponsor. That person should become the number one person on your prayer list.
1. Ask GOD to start speaking the them now.
2. Ask GOD to place them on the Walk they should attend.
3. Ask GOD to insure they receive the roommate they should have.
4. Ask GOD to place them at the table they should be with.
5. Ask GOD to protect the pilgrim and their family.
6. Pray for the Team of the Walk.

Recommended: Sponsor only one person at a time- if you have more than one, have someone co-sponsor with you so that all the needs of these pilgrims are met, and you do not over-load yourself during the Walk weekend.

Who to sponsor- Emmaus Walk pilgrims are intended to be anyone in Church, i.e., Church members, leaders, members who have “fallen away” and do not attend anymore, intended to springboard this person to the Spirit within and cause participants to return and begin, or continue to work in their local Churches with a renewed purpose; GOD’s purpose. Even Pastors can attend a Walk for renewed visions for themselves and their Church. It can be anyone that is from a Christian denomination.

Who not to sponsor- It is suggested that:

1. Non-Christians, being those without a relationship with a local church. Again, pilgrims should be those attending Church, so the Walk weekend can equip them for developing Church leadership. (Exceptions can be made- please talk with an Emmaus Board member if you have someone wanting to attend a Walk that fits this category).
2. Person undergoing an emotional crisis, example: (family breakup, severe grief, etc.) or anyone psychologically unstable.
3. Persons who absolutely do not want to attend. (Do not be persistent with them; pray- GOD’s timing is perfect).
4. Person(s) who cannot attend the entire 72 hours. (A pilgrim is to experience all the LOVE of an entire weekend.)
5. Anyone who is not of a Christian denomination; example: New Age, Jehovah’s Witness, Muslim, Mormon, etc.: due to this fact, we may do more harm to GOD’s work in their lives.

Things to tell your Pilgrim:
1. The type of housing they will be provided.
2. Expect to be at the Walk site from 7pm the first day, (Thursday), until 7pm, on (Sunday).

3. Wear casual comfortable clothing.

4. No contact with anyone outside the Walk weekend except for emergencies. That you, the sponsor, will take care of their phone, watch, and why? - because you want them to experience this special journey without interruption.

5. Tell them what the weekend meant to you, your family, your Church, you job, your community.

6. That there will be fifteen talks – (optional). Tell them there will be praise, worship, communion, prayer, fellowship, love, and laughter. If asked about Agape letters, or Candlelight, do not lie, but do not mention them otherwise, as these are a very special part of the weekend.

Other important information:

1. All Pilgrim applications require a Pastor’s signature. Any applications received without all the signatures required will be returned to the sponsor for that signature. If your pilgrim does not have a Pastor, please contact a Board member and they will help you with instructions.

2. There is a Candidate- (Pilgrim) application, and a Sponsor application; both are to be sent to the appropriate registrar- Women’s registrar for Women, and Men’s registrar for Men. (See second page of this Newsletter for Registrar info.) You can also visit the New Horizon Emmaus Community website @ www.newhorizonemmaus.org for forms and other information. Money must be attached to the applications. For the New Horizon Emmaus Community, (NHEC), it is currently $160.00 per pilgrim attending a Walk. Please make checks our to NHEC, and please put Pilgrims name at the bottom of the check- (VERY IMPORTANT). All applications must be accompanied by the registration fee. If not, the application will be returned to the Sponsor. Those who need a scholarship, please speak to a Board member or a Registrar for information.

ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT:

3. Please, if your Pilgrim has decided not to attend the Walk after he/she has been registered; contact BOTH, the Lay Director of that Walk, and the Registrar. This will ensure that another person on the waiting list for a Walk can get in, and that your Pilgrim’s application and fee may not be processed, and if desired, they may be put on the waiting list for the next Walk.

If you have any further questions on Sponsoring, please do not hesitate to contact Board member.

CHRIST IS COUNTING ON YOU!

~De Colores! Your Newsletter Editor~