

September, 2010

Greetings from your Community Lay Director,

This time of the year is a good time for us to recall that in order for rebirth to occur, something must die. Do we need to die to anything? Let us prepare ourselves to serve him as he renews his children (the pilgrims) on these upcoming walks.

Our preparation should include, but not be limited to,

1. Praying for the pilgrims, the team servants, the walk Lay Directors Lannie Pierce, Tresa Ratliff and Betty Wayne and the entire Emmaus community.
2. Sign up to Serve Meals during the weekend
3. Making snack agape for the pilgrims as well as personal agape
4. Letters of encouragement to the pilgrims.
5. Attend Send-off, special service and closing.

You heard on your walk that “Christ is counting on you”. Friends... Christ really IS counting on you to be His hands, His feet, to show His love to the pilgrims of walk #62, #63, and #64. Our calling as the body of Christ is to reflect His image to these pilgrims. We must decide what kind of community we are becoming. Are we one that only talks about prayer or do we pray? One that only speaks about forgiveness or do we really forgive? Do we speak of love and do we really love? 1 John 3:16 *Dear children, let us not love with words or tongues but with actions and in truth.*

Our faith must go beyond what we believe; it must become a dynamic part of what we do. We must put our faith into action. Christ is counting on you to serve Him in the many avenues of service in this ministry. Most people only think of serving during the 3 days of an actual walk event. However, your Emmaus community is in great need at other times as well. There is a tremendous need for you to serve Christ actively on one of the many committees that do the pre-walk and post-walk duties that must be done to keep the community running smoothly. The committees are listed on the website (with **Board members**) and if you feel led to serve in that area, please contact that Board Member and let them know you are willing to help.

We urgently need your involvement and efforts in our Chrysalis and Young Adult Chrysalis programs. Each of you must become involved in this ministry by serving young people and by sponsoring these high school and 19-24 year old young adults on these walks. Otherwise, some very tough decisions lie ahead for your Board. On NOVEMBER 5-7th a YAC weekend has been scheduled, but without candidates we cannot hold walks. It's really up to you. There are numbers of suitable candidates in our communities, but we must go search them out and be willing to do the sponsorship and other necessary things to ensure our young people have the opportunity to experience a Young Adult Chrysalis weekend. Deadline to have your applications in for attendance is OCT 16th so everyone needs to get busy and fill up this YAC. Make it happen !

I recently read a quote from Max Lucado who said, *“The people who make a difference are not the ones with the credentials, but the ones with the concern”*. If you are concerned with the EMMAUS ministry-- we need your active involvement in ALL areas, including the youth.

The walk to Emmaus is a powerful instrument that Christ uses to renew his church. As these walks are going on, faith is being re-explained, grace is being re-experienced, Christian community is realized and the body of Christ is renewed. Would this not be a great time for each of us to do the same?

1 Peter 4:8 Above all love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

In His Service,
Thad Prince
Community Lay Director

Reborn Identity

2nd Corinthians 5:14-21

There was a movie out called “Bourne Identity” the main character, Jason Bourne, suffered from severe amnesia that left him haunted, frustrated, and confused. A lot of us live like Jason Bourne, our stories are not as dramatic but the issues are the same: who am I, and does anyone care?

We run from relationship to relationship, social event to social event, job to job, or even church to church, trying to “find ourselves.” And if we seek our sense of identity in our career, who will we be when we retire?

But there is good news for “identity seekers.” We can have a significant and secure identity in a relationship with Jesus. Although God made us in His image (Gen. 1:27), sin ravaged our souls and denied us the joy of a relationship with our Creator. Our identity as His prized and precious creation was damaged until Jesus Christ came on the scene to rescue us and reclaim His created ones for His own (Rom. 5:12-19).

When we trust Christ for salvation, we gain the privileged status of being “in Him.” He takes all that is old and makes it new. Once you realized that you are a new creation, your identity crisis will be over. That’s what took place during the (REC #21) or “Residents Encounter Christ.” Those men got a “Reborn Identity” no longer were they made to feel frustrated or confused but they found out that they have a new identity which is in Christ Jesus. Verse 17 says, “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold new things have come.” (NASB). God truly bless REC #21 and only He could do it from the start of putting such an awesome team together to the souls that were saved, to Him be the glory. Let’s remember to keep the upcoming walks in our prayers, the men’s walk #62, Lannie Pierce; women’s walk #63 Tera Ratliff; women’s walk #64 Betty Wayne; REC #22 Wes Durham.

Remember to resolve our identity crisis we must be identified with Christ.

Yours In Christ

Bro. Melvin Mills

Community Spiritual Director

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- Sept 9 7:00 pm Men's Walk #62 (Lannie Pierce) Send off at Acton Retreat Center
Sept 11 8:00pm Special Service at Campbellsville Baptist Church
Sept 12 4:30pm Closing at Acton Retreat Center
- Sept 16 7:00pm Women's Walk #63 (Tresa Ratliff) Send- Off at Acton Retreat Center
Sept 18 8:00pm Special Service at Campbellsville Baptist Church
Sept 18 7:00pm TRAINING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS/re: Sound and Light system
for special services. at Campbellsville Baptist Church
Sept 19 4:30pm Closing at Acton Retreat Center
- Sept 30 7:00pm Women's Walk #64 (Betty Wayne) Send Off at Acton Retreat Ctr
Oct 2 8:00pm Special Service at Campbellsville Baptist Church
Oct 3 4:30pm Closing at Acton Retreat Center
- Oct 16 7:00pm GATHERING – Living Grace Church in Campbellsville
Oct 15 6:00pm Sponsorship Class – great time for our newest members to learn
about sponsorship and a good review for all old timers, too.
- Oct 22 REC #22 (Wes Durham) at Marion Adjustment Center in Lebanon KY
** our first REC in medium security
Oct 23 7:00pm Special service at MAC * participants names must be turned in
to Tobe Yankey by October 8th
- Nov 5 YAC Send Off at Acton Retreat Center
Nov 6 YAC Special Service at Campbellsville Baptist Church
Nov 7 YAC Closing at Acton Retreat Center