



# VISIONS

## Board nominations now being taken

Once again, it is time to begin the process of electing new members to our Northern Lights Emmaus Board of Directors. The first step of the process is to solicit nominations from Emmaus Community members which can be made on the form enclosed in this newsletter. Please consider prayerfully any call that you may have to serve the Northern Lights Community in this manner. You may nominate yourself or others that you feel may be good servants in this capacity. Before you rush to fill out the form, please read the information below to gain a better understanding of the responsibilities associated with this role.



**Send in your nominations!**

participate in each monthly Board meeting, a Board Member is also making a commitment to fulfill their duties as a "working Board member" (which may include quite a bit of time outside of the actual Board meeting) and to be visibly active within the Emmaus Community as evidenced by your presence at various functions. Please seriously and prayerfully consider serving God in this manner.

Tuesday of each month and consists of 12 lay members and three clergy members. Each year a new class of four lay members and 1 clergy is elected to serve a three year term. The Emmaus Board is a working Board in which each member chairs a particular area of responsibility. These include: Lay Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Good Shepherd, Agape, Logistics, Gatherings, Sponsorship, Education and Publicity, Music, Registrar and Information Management. Responsibility for these areas is assigned at the October Board meeting. The Spiritual Director is selected separately in June before the Board elections.

If you are interested but have questions, please feel free to contact any of the current board members. Current Board members are: Barry Burns (Spiritual Director), T.J. Bugg (Lay Director), Janine Youngstrom (Assistant Spiritual Director), Wally Marshall (Assistant Spiritual Director), Linda Lindholm, Lynne McCollum, Rick Oliver, Jan Rickard, Bill Chambers, Kyle Jones, Larry Maher, Ray Bauer, Tavie Gunneson, Bev Hammer, and Mike Housh.

Also, please fill out the nominations form enclosed in this newsletter and return it to the Emmaus Post Office box by July 1, 2003.

Serving on the Emmaus Board for Northern Lights is an awesome way to give back to our community. In addition to the requirement and commitment to attend and to be prepared to

The Northern Lights Board of Directors is the body that governs the local Emmaus community and oversees the quality of the program. This Board is the link between the local Emmaus community and the Upper Room Ministries and is responsible for fulfilling our covenant with the Upper Room. This covenant binds our community to hold our walks in accordance with the Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus, to hold follow-up events that encourage church involvement, share groups, gatherings, and leadership training and to foster a spirit of Christian unity by maintaining an interdenominational program.

Our Board meets on the first

### Mark your Calendars

Summer Gathering	June 6th Keehner Park
Summer Gathering	July 18th Keehner Park
Summer Gathering	August 8th Cornerstone
Men's Walk #17	9/11-9/14
Women's Walk #20	10/2-10/5

### Donate an Awesome Experience

Donations for Emmaus Walk scholarships or *partial* scholarships can be made at any time.

Make checks payable to:

Northern Lights  
Emmaus Community  
Attention: Treasurer  
P. O. Box 38  
West Chester OH 45071

#### Reminder

All applications **must** include the name of the church your pilgrim is currently attending. Remember, Emmaus is for "church-going Biblical Christians. The aim of the sponsor is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who, in turn, will bring new life and vision to the work of the church in the congregation..." \*

\*Northern Lights Emmaus Commu-

## Ever wonder about the Team Selection Process?

As most of you are aware, the teams are selected by a committee of Northern Lights Members who spend several hours praying and nominating members from our Community database who have filled out a Willing Servant Form. Our Board then reviews these nominations before the Lay Director for that specific Walk and calls the individuals. What you might not be aware of is that there are at least twice as many members nominated than those that actually serve on the team.

The reason for this is simple. Two individuals, one primary and one alternate, are nominated for each position of the Walk. The primary candidate is asked first if he/she is able and desires to serve. If the primary nominee cannot serve on a particular Walk the alternate is then called. If all of the alternates are called and there remain positions to be filled, the Lay Director and Team Selection Com-

mittee Chair then refer back to the database to find other possible candidates.

Some of our members feel that perhaps they have "fallen through the cracks" because they have not been called to serve on a recent Walk. This does not necessarily mean that their name was not entered into nomination, but if you are wondering about your status, it is always advisable to complete another Willing Servant Form and give it to a Board member. You may download a Form on the Northern Lights web sight.

Every effort is made to include each of our Community members on a Walk team if they have indicated their willingness to serve, as we need your dedication and experience. It must be understood, however, that one important criterion for becoming a member of a team is involvement in the Community. Attendance at Gath-

erings, sponsoring Pilgrims, participation in prayer vigils for Walks, providing agape for Pilgrims, etc. are the best ways to stay in touch (with a strong emphasis on being at the Gatherings)!

If you have questions please feel free to phone or e-mail me, Bill Chambers (513) 931-9770 wchambers@cinci.rr.com, or speak with any member of your Board.

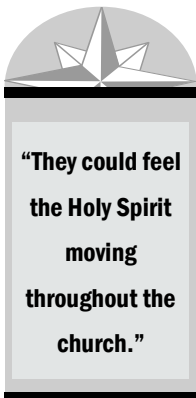
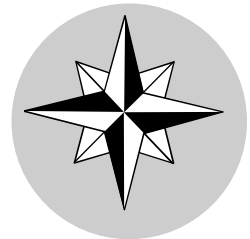
De Colores!

Your fellow servant,

Bill



"Many members of our Community have recently asked about serving on a team for a Walk."



**"They could feel the Holy Spirit moving throughout the church."**

## Women's Walk #19

We just give God all the glory for the BEST walk ever!

To meet God on the mountaintop we must listen to what God has to say to us. It may not be what we want to hear, but, it may change our ideas, opinions and prejudices.

There is only God and each time we pray, meditate or read scripture, we must listen for God's voice impressing upon us **WHOSE** we are and who God is.

The 39 pilgrims came seeking Christ and the team members showed Christ to the pilgrims and each other. The luxurious accom-

modations were enjoyed as was the delicious meals served to all.

Christ Church members stated afterwards, "They could feel the Holy Spirit moving throughout the church".

*Wilma Thompson*

## Fall Walks...

Bob Nothnagel and Shirley Heismann have been named Lay Directors for the upcoming Fall Walks, which will be held at Camp Swoneky.

The Men's Walk will be held September 11-14, 2003 and the Spiritual Director

will be Rev. Ron Davis.

The Women's Walk will be held October 2-5, 2003. Rev. John Eshelmann will serve as Spiritual Director.

Please pray for them as they assemble and prepare teams to minister to the pilgrims that God sends to us this Fall.



## Taking out the “M” and putting back the “TH”

I was raised in a little country church in Virginia and the Bible of choice at that time was the King James Version. Most things were taught to us from a young age by repetition and I learned from Matthew 6:10 “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven”.

Too many times in life I have been guilty of replacing the “TH” in Thy with “M” and making it “My”. I still catch myself doing this from time to time, but I endeavor to seek humbleness and direction from scripture and from others to put the “TH” back in Thy. Praise the Lord for those around me who remind me from time to time to reflect on this very message!

In Mark 10:42 we are given this direction: “Yet it shall not be so among you, but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be servant of all.”

As leaders in our Church and in our Community we are to set aside our own personal agenda and to take on a greater agenda of service to others. Roman 13:1 instructs us - “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.”

We are to operate with integrity, to the highest good of all, being willing to risk rejection to say the hard things – but saying them in love, being sure to speak blessings. The word from Ephesians 4:29 – “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the healers.”

We are also told how we are to react and interact with others in Romans 12:9-13 – “Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil: cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”

The message I share above is a message to me and to our entire Emmaus Community least we become divided or our focus on what we are about becomes unclear. Paul instructed the Church in—1 Corinthians 1:10 – “I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.”, and later in: 1 Corinthians 1:18-19 – “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

As I reflect how God has called each of us to serve him according to what each of us has to offer it amazes me as to where we all came from to arrive at where we are. The last passage that I share from you could easily describe our Emmaus Community. 1 Corinthians 1 26-31: Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak

things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things -- and the things that are not -- to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God--that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: "Let him who boasts boast in the Lord."



“Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done...”

By the time this newsletter has been published Easter will have already passed, but the Glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ and the price he paid for all of us on that cross will never pass. The Glory of our Risen Savior is there for all of us for eternity!

Thank you for allowing me to serve you as your Lay Director! It is honor to do so. Let us all join together in a true “servanthood” role to serve each other, to each new Pilgrim, to our church and to all those that we come into contact with. Let us all serve in the manner of:

“Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven”

DeColores – In HIS Service and in Love

T. J. Bugg  
Community Lay Director

## Summer Gatherings

As we all begin enjoying the nice spring weather, make your plans to gather with your Northern Lights Emmaus friends for our summer gatherings at Keehner Park (directions on the web site).

Our dates are a little different from the normal schedule so mark your calendars now for June 6th and July 18th. Our time

of fellowship will begin at 6:00 with a potluck dinner and the music and worship time will begin at 7:00. Bring your family, your friends, your blankets or lawn chairs and your favorite potluck dish to share.

In case of inclement weather, we will meet these same dates and times at Cor-

nerstone UMC in West Chester. Beginning August 8th, we will avoid the heat and be back to our normal schedule of the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Cornerstone UMC.

See you there!





**... can you  
experience that  
love and  
forgiveness, and  
then reflect it to all  
that you meet."**

## A Very Important Truth

In Richard Hoefler's book *Will Daylight Come?* he tells a story that reminds us all of a very important truth.

A little boy visiting his grandparents was given his first slingshot. He practiced in the woods behind their house, but he could never hit the target. As he came back into Grandma's yard, he saw her pet duck. On an impulse he took aim and shot, hitting the duck and killing it.

The boy panicked. Desperately he hid the dead duck behind the wood pile, only to look up to see his sister watching everything he did. But she didn't say anything.

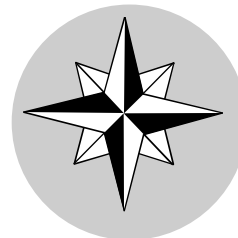
After lunch that day, Grandma said, "Sally, let's wash the dishes." But Sally replied, "Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen today. Didn't you, Johnny?" And she whispered to him, "Remember the duck!" So Johnny did the dishes. This went on repeatedly over the next several days, until finally after days of doing both his chores and Sally's, he couldn't stand it any longer. He went to his grandmother and confessed everything about killing her duck.

She replied to his confession, "I know Johnny. I was standing at the kitchen window and saw the whole thing. Because I love you, I forgave you. I wondered how long you would let Sally make a slave of you."

God is the same way, because he loves us, he forgives us. That in essence is the message of Easter. "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8) My prayer for you is that you can experience that love and forgiveness, and then reflect it to all that you meet.

De Colores!

Barry Burns  
Community Spiritual Director



**We're on the Web!**  
**www.gbgm-umc.org/nle**

Northern Lights Emmaus Community  
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West Chester, Ohio 45071

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