

Northern Lights Emmaus and Chrysalis Community News

As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; Luke 24:15

Reflections on Our Twentieth Anniversary

One Saturday night in 1995 at an Emmaus candlelight service in Southeast Indiana, names were called out and candles were raised to identify the hometowns of the attendees. First Groesbeck – then West Chester and with each name, the room lit up with the light of dozens of candles raised high. Clearly, very few of the people there were from Indiana. From that moment grew an idea that gave birth to the Northern Lights Emmaus Community. A Steering Committee was formed, many meetings followed. The SE Indiana Emmaus Community donated a trailer, several boxes of candles, and a generous amount of money to help start the Northern Lights Community.

With a step of faith, Walk #1 was held on 1 March 1996. Twenty years later it's 2016, and with yet another step of faith – Women's Walk #39 will be held on April 14th and Men's Walk #33 will be held on April 28.

According to the numbers of our mailing list, Northern Lights Emmaus has touched over 3,000 people in the past 20 years. Much more than just people on a list, those names represent 3,000 life stories; personal stories of individuals on the road of their own spiritual pilgrimage, whose paths happened to intersect at a place called Northern Lights Emmaus, where each of us encountered the Living Christ. Each person's response to that encounter differs. Many of us have scattered like the stars all over the world, pursuing careers and raising families. Some of us remain, lighting candles for tomorrow's pilgrims. There have been many blessings over the years, and a few disappointments. A precious few of our number have even entered into eternal glory. But one thing still remains.

Women's Walks 39 & 40 and Men's Walks 33 & 34 will pass the light on to new Pilgrims in 2016. Chrysalis Flights #14 & #18 have already passed the light this year. Kairos, Torch and Epiphany weekends will occur all over Ohio this year with Northern Lights graduates on teams. Many people are serving their local church.

20 years from now it'll be 2036. Somebody else will be writing an article about our 40 year anniversary and the 6,000 names on the mailing list. To that person – know this; In 1995 a stranger appeared and began walking with us along the road of our pilgrimage. Along the way He opened up the scriptures; and our hearts burned within us. When He broke the bread, we recognized who He was - and we spent the next 20 years telling our friends about Him.

by Dave Gully

A Word from Women's Walk #39 Lay Director

Thank you for your prayers for Women's Walk #39 this spring. We have had our first team meeting and preparations are well underway. During our first team meeting, I asked team members to share the most special moment from their original walk. While all the answers were powerful, two ladies shared in ways that will benefit the whole community.

One lady said it was most meaningful to her that someone thought enough of her to invite her to attend. Another team member shared that folks had asked to attend for for more than 10 years before all the excuses were gone and she said yes. It was powerful to her that it meant so much to them for her to take the Walk to Emmaus.

Both of these experiences were great reminders to me to ask and keep asking those I know are great candidates for the Emmaus Walk. I fall into the trap of assuming that everyone knows I would love for them to go. I need to be intentional in my invitations to friends, coworkers, family members, etc. Please prayerfully consider who you could invite and sponsor for these upcoming Spring Walks - whether this is the first time you have invited them or the 10th time.

Please continue to pray for the team and for the special pilgrims God is preparing to experience Him in new ways on Women's Walk # 39.

DeColores,

Lynne McCollum
Northern Lights WW #1
Table of Abigail
WW# 39, Lay Director

Bathing our teams and pilgrims in prayer is an integral part of an effective walk. You can sign up for the prayer vigils at <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml> While there, sign up to pray for a sister community, too. And pray for whom God wants you to sponsor. Visit <http://northernlightsemmaus.org/NLEapp2016v1.pdf> to download an application.

Women's walk--April 14-17

Men's walk--April 28-May 1

The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.--James 5:16 NIV

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING UPCOMING GATHERINGS

The next gatherings have been moved.
Please make appropriate changes to your calendar.

MARCH 11, 2016-----CHRIST CHURCH UMC
APRIL 8, 2016-----CORNERSTONE UMC
MAY 13, 2016-----CHRIST CHURCH UMC

700 S Marshall Rd, Middletown
7600 Princeton Glendale Rd, Hamilton
700 S Marshall Rd, Middletown



Serve with Love

Share Groups

*Though one may be over-
powered, two can defend
themselves. A cord of three
strands is not quickly
broken. ECCLESIASTES 4:12*

-Small Groups are a great way to connect with your brothers and sisters in Christ. If you are not already a part of a reunion group, please consider joining an existing group or starting your own. For more information or for a list of active groups, contact Donna Walker at donna.meers.walker@gmail.com or Bonnie Hobbs at bhobbs3@cinci.rr.com.