



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM®

**Minnesota Emmaus Community Organized 1991**  
**August 2009 Newsletter**  
Website [www.mnemmaus.org](http://www.mnemmaus.org)

## FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We all take different routes in our spiritual journey. Some of us have sudden and profound “awakenings”, others have a “lifelong spiritual growth”, and some never do find their way in spiritual growth. I would put myself in the “lifelong spiritual growth” category because I had a spiritual base in my youth. As my life has changed through circumstances, aging, and exposure to spiritual leaders (which includes Walks to Emmaus) I continue to be amazed at God’s grace toward me. I continue to express my feelings that, “You can’t be a spectator in your own spiritual growth”. Spiritual growth is a lifelong effort, much as education should be a lifelong effort.

Sponsor a Pilgrim As pastors, family, friends and disciples for Christ I believe we owe it to others to assist them in their spiritual journeys. Much of my real satisfaction in my spiritual growth has been in sponsoring friends for Walks to Emmaus. Just listening to their excitement after the 72-hour weekend is exciting. Then to see these friends become lay leaders in the home congregations and become active in Walk teams brings great pleasure. I wonder if God doesn’t have the same feelings when he sees his people growing in their faith?

Emmaus Fall Walks The Men’s Walk will be September 24-26 and the Women’s Walk will be October 8-11. Both of these Walks will be at Camp Koronis, near Paynesville. Anyone who wants to sponsor a pilgrim can get forms off our website at [mnemmaus.org](http://mnemmaus.org). Please get the registration forms in early.

Emmaus Spring 2010 Walks Next spring the Minnesota Emmaus Walks will be held at Koinonia Retreat Center near Annandale. This facility will be new to our community and we believe it will be an excellent place to hold some of our future Walks. The dates are: Men’s Walk—May 13-16, 2010 and Woman’s Walk—May 20-23, 2010.

Emmaus Board Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month I continue to thank God for our board members and the time they commit to plan and deal with various issues that come up in any organization. One constant in all we do is to follow the guidelines set forth by the Upper Room International Emmaus Office. By doing so our community doesn’t go off in the direction various leaders might want to take us. While it is vastly different than the Bible, we all need to be guided by scripture. If there are issues within the community that members feel should be addressed please contact me.

De Colores,  
Lowery J. Smith—Minnesota Walk to Emmaus  
Community Lay Director

### **Photos are needed for archives!**

Archives of the Minnesota Walk to Emmaus community are being put together. We are missing photos from the following Walks: 1, 8-14, 16, 19, 21-23, 25-26, 44, 47, 55, 56, 59, 60, 62, 64-70, 72-74, 76, 78, and 82, 85 and 86. If you have photos (preferably with the captions/rosters), please scan them and forward the files to Don Putzier at [drdcp@hickorytech.net](mailto:drdcp@hickorytech.net)



# A Few Words from Our Community Spiritual Director

## Welcome New Community Members!

The following men and women were pilgrims during the spring Walks. Let's all welcome them to the Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Community.

### Walk #85

Brad Christensen  
Dave Gorham  
David Grams  
Jay Grave  
Jon Groth  
Alex Kauls  
Greg Kunze  
Michael Livingston  
Kevin Real  
Patrick Taylor

### Walk #86

Sherry Bruckner  
Faith Buss  
Tami Cooper  
Raola Giles  
Patti Holm  
April Kunze  
Barbie Meyer  
Dee Oberle  
Jolene Peterson-Taylor  
Christina Sanders  
Laura Schones  
Sherri Sholund

One of the challenges in attending a Walk to Emmaus weekend is the opportunity for change! Deep down, hidden within most of us, is a desire not to change, even if we know it is for the best. Change may mean doing things differently.

After considerable thought, discussion and consideration, at the National level of its board, Walk to Emmaus has made a change in the format of weekend Walks. We will be incorporating this change into our fall Walks.

Dying Moments has touched the lives of many Walk participants. In the breaking of the bread we are reminded of our brokenness. There have been concerns and questions regarding this symbolic action on the part of some. These concerns have been heard and after more than a quick decision, a plan has been made for a change. (You knew that was coming, right?!)

In the future those as pilgrims and those serving on teams will experience Dying Moments differently. In the future there will be two loaves of bread. One used for remembering our brokenness and the other in the celebration of Holy Communion. I hope this makes sense to you; it does to me.

I want you to be aware of this change so you won't be surprised when you serve on a team, or talk with the next pilgrim you sponsor after their Walk. This reminds me--you may be ready to serve on a team, or have a pilgrim ready for their Walk. Don't forget these responsibilities!

The Writer of Ecclesiastes is right – “There is a time for everything” – even if it means change on our part!  
DeColores,  
Audrey Benjamin, Community Spiritual Director

## From the Registrar

There are two Walks coming up this fall, as well as two in the spring. If you have candidates for these Walks, please consult the Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Website for registration forms and sponsor information.

Registration forms with deposit or full payments may be completed and mailed to:

Michelle Schober  
MN Walk to Emmaus  
7001 Ximines Ln N.  
Maple Grove, MN 55369-7642

If you have questions, contact Michelle at [mschober4597@yahoo.com](mailto:mschober4597@yahoo.com).

# It's Not Too Early . . .



It's summertime, and I'm sure that most everyone's thoughts are focused on spending quality time with family and friends up at the lake, at the cabin, or at their favorite vacation spot. Our minds are set on auto-pilot, leaving the cares of the world behind us and looking ahead to much fun in the sun. All of that is fine and good, because we all need to re-charge our internal batteries now and then. But are we also leaving God behind, telling Him "I'll see you when I get back"? God is constantly calling us to be His disciple, His hands and feet to others. And this is not just today or yesterday, but *every day*. There are countless opportunities out there, just waiting for us to act upon them (remember the talk on Christian Action?). One such opportunity is Emmaus sponsorship. Is there any better way to express our Christian love than to provide someone with the opportunity to deepen their connection with Jesus?

Please pray and ask God to lay the name of that special person on your heart who needs a closer, more intimate relationship with our Lord and Savior. Isn't it time for you to give back to the Emmaus community the love and grace that your sponsor gave to you when YOU were a pilgrim? Do you remember just how much that meant to you?

Sponsoring someone is a process that requires time, prayer and discernment. Please do not hesitate in contacting your potential pilgrim as he or she will need time to also pray before committing to the weekend (not to mention getting the approval for time off from work, if needed). The dates for the Minnesota Fall Walks are September 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> for the men, and October 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> for the women. Those weekends will be here before we know it! It is not too early to begin to pray about the Walks, and then make a personal invitation to the candidate and his/her spouse, if applicable.

Please don't assume that because our community is so large that somebody *else* will handle the job of sponsoring. It seems real easy to get into this mindset, and then we never even put this idea on our radar. The thinking then becomes that "God will provide the pilgrims who need to be there", and then all we have to do is show up for Candlelight. Emmaus is a one-to-one relational experience, where God works through us to invite each and every pilgrim. Christ is counting on us to provide this wonderful gift of love to someone who could benefit from an Emmaus weekend. Please allow Him to use you in a most powerful way as His instrument in bringing others to this life-changing experience!

De Colores!  
Jim Rottinger

## Your 2009 Board of Directors

Lowery J Smith	Community Lay Director	612-722-3339	lowery@ag-line.com
Audrey Benjamin	Community Spiritual Director	651-698-3034	grandma__b@msn.com
Barb McKewin	Clergy	320-289-1491	bjmckewin@prodigy.net
Rick Phillips	Past Community Lay Director/ Gatherings/Reunion Groups	507-289-3466	rphill4525@bismark.com
Wayne Tomlinson	Secretary	763-755-8366	waynetom1@yahoo.com
Ralph Carter	Treasurer	952-935-2693	cart0077@yahoo.com
Don Shannon	Bookkeeper/Marketing	763-783-5898	don@donsaccounting.com
Darlene Vandermyde	Education/Sponsorship	612-781-9839	d_vandermyde@yahoo.com
Julie Ufkes	Agape	320-833-9915	jul-s@mchsi.com
Michelle Schober	Registrar	763-425-0794	mschober4597@yahoo.com
Don Putzier	Communications	507-345-1553	drdcp@hickorytech.net
Jack Uebler	Facilities	651-731-0440	jamar4441@aol.com
Mary Ann Smith	Team Selection	612-722-3339	smith310@umn.edu
Molly Reko	Nominations/Followup	651-454-2208	mollyreko@comcast.net
Bruce Schroeder	Music/Worship	715-962-4687	bruce346@centurytel.net

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Don Putzier  
Communications Director  
160 Country Club Drive  
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## ***Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Upcoming Walks***

**Men's Walk #87**  
**Sept. 24-27, 2009**  
**Koronis Assembly  
Grounds**  
**Paynesville, MN**

**Men's Walk #89**  
**May 13-17, 2010**  
**Koinonia Retreat  
Center**  
**Annandale, MN**

**Women's Walk #88**  
**Oct. 8-11, 2009**  
**Koronis Assembly  
Grounds**  
**Paynesville, MN**

**Women's Walk #90**  
**May 20-23, 2010**  
**Koinonia Retreat  
Center**  
**Annandale, MN**

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or return a note to him by mail if you would like to  
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continue to be available on line via our website.***

### **Support Candlelight and Closing!**

We want to see you! Remember the feeling of walking into a chapel full of people singing, "Jesus, Jesus"? The Walk to Emmaus Community will gather before the Saturday evening Candlelight for song, communion, and to lift up the Pilgrims in prayer. You are also welcome to join for closings, which will be Sunday afternoons, at approximately 4:30 p.m.

### **Map to Koronis**

