



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM®

**Minnesota Emmaus Community Organized 1991**  
**February 2008 Newsletter**  
**Website [www.mnemmaus.org](http://www.mnemmaus.org)**

I'm sitting here at my desk looking out over our backyard. It's about -5 outside and the birds are at the feeders all puffed up. Deer are back there too with thick coats of fur. Even though it's cold outside, all of God's creation lives on in all its splendor.

As I look at all of this, I got into a reflective mood over what we have accomplished over the past year. We had two successful walks at our new walk location at Camp Ihduhapi near Loretto, Minnesota. We've made the time and talent sheets a part of the 4<sup>th</sup> day talk so we can discover how new pilgrims can help future pilgrims in their walks. We are getting our database back up to date. We're finding lost members of our Emmaus community. We're bringing back a new excitement and enthusiasm for Emmaus.

All of these new efforts have benefits we had not anticipated. Old relationships are being brought back to life and renewed. We've found that, true to the Emmaus spirit, many of our past pilgrims are now in servant leadership positions in their churches. Some have gone into ministry positions. Some are now pastors.

The Walk to Emmaus has, in one way or another, affected each of us: in our desire to strengthen our spiritual lives, may have answered unanswered questions about our faith, brought us into closer relationships with other people in our life walks. We have an increased understanding that being a Christian carries with it responsibility. The walk has also taught us that we have the privilege of dedicating our everyday lives to the One who created us.

Remember the story of Cleopas and his friend walking to the village of Emmaus when Jesus himself came up and walked along with them. They were kept from recognizing him until the living Christ was revealed to them in the breaking of the bread, and they said, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

As you reflect on your Walk, I hope you had one of those "Were not our hearts burning..." moments. It made your Walk one of the moments in your life when you knew that God intended you for something greater than just going through life; you knew that you were created for a purpose.

Isaiah, who wasn't with Cleopas on the road to Emmaus, heard the Lord say to him in a vision "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And he replied, "Here am I. Send me!"

Each of us left our Walks with a renewed purpose to serve God. Some of those callings have taken us far away and sometimes those callings are to serve nearby, saying, "Send me!" We are reminded on our Walks that "there is no church of Emmaus" and that we are to go into the world in Christian Action. I ask that in the coming year you remember both Cleopas and Isaiah. Remember Cleopas and your heart burning. Think about the opportunity to help someone else experience that love of Christ in the same way. Remember Isaiah and answer, "Send me!" when you consider how you can serve your Minnesota Walk to Emmaus community in the coming year.

- Think about Sponsorship and when God asks "Whom shall I send?" reply "Send me!" Sponsorship is a gift of Agape love.
- When the Walks come around and folks are needed to serve a meal, or clean bathrooms, reply "Send me!"
- When you will receive a Newsflash about Candlelight and Closing, it will be God's invitation to attend. It will be God asking "Whom shall I send?" reply "Send me!" An invitation to give a 4th Day Talk or a signup sheet to serve at a Regional Gathering is God asking you "Whom shall I send?" answer "Send me!"

I hope and pray that in the coming year, serving on team, in a 4th Day capacity, attending Gathering or Candlelight, you will hear God like Isaiah did and answer in the same way, so that someone else can say "Were not our hearts burning...", and you can pass on the blessing that is the Walk to Emmaus to another brother or sister in Christ.

Thank you, God Bless & DeColores!  
Rick Phillips, '08 Community Lay Director MWTE #53

*"Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the Gospel of Christ; and for your generosity in sharing with them and everyone else."*  
(2 Corinthians 9:13)

## Board Service—Emmaus Leadership

As you already know there is an Emmaus Board of Directors for the Minnesota Emmaus community. In December we added 2 new members to the Board of Directors - Julie Ufkes, and Michelle Schober. There are 15 total board positions and we still have open positions. If you have a desire to serve our Community in an administrative capacity, we would love to consider you for a position on the board. The open positions are to be filled by individuals who are willing to attend monthly board meetings, head up a committee, and determine policy and procedures; it is definitely a "working" board. We value everyone's input, and as a board member you will be asked to be the eyes and the ears for our Community. Being a member of the Minnesota Emmaus Board of Directors allows you to play a significant role in helping shape the future of our Community.

If you are interested in serving in this capacity, or know someone that you would like to recommend, please contact Rick Phillips (507-254-2072/ [rphill4525@bismark.com](mailto:rphill4525@bismark.com)) OR Michelle Schober (763-425-0794/ [mschober4597@yahoo.com](mailto:mschober4597@yahoo.com) )

## Agape—An Act of Love

Agape is an act of love! People who serve on the Agape team are again part of the entire Walk team. This unites the whole team (binding everyone together) into one unit. This resulted in two wonderful weekends last fall at Camp Ihduhapi.

Would you like to serve on a team in the Agape position? Would you be interested in serving on a committee that would get together 2 to 3 times a year to work on Agape issues? If you are interested, please contact me at [jul-s@mchsi.com](mailto:jul-s@mchsi.com)

Do you provide Agape for the walks? We need items for the upcoming walks. **Please send your agape to Julie Ufkes at P.O. Box 311 Buffalo Lake, MN 55314.**

## From the registrar

Greetings all! As most of you are aware, we have two sets of walks coming up in April. If you know of people who are interested in being on a Walk, or people who wanted to be on a Walk in the past, but a Walk was cancelled, please contact me at [bethtom\\_54@yahoo.com](mailto:bethtom_54@yahoo.com) or call me at 763-755-8366. We need to fill these walks!

Wishing all of you many blessings in your fourth days!

De Colores,  
Beth Tomlinson  
Registrar for MN Walk to Emmaus



## Treasurer's Comments

As I sit here preparing to write a note for this newsletter, I am looking out on a beautiful snow covered lawn thinking of the spring and our first Walks of the year. It is exciting to be planning our MN Walks to Emmaus for 2008. We will again be at Camp Ihduhapi. It is a lovely facility and hope you can all come a visit for candlelight and/or closing.

The cost for each pilgrim and team member for the weekend is \$125 per person plus \$10 per pilgrim to the Upper Room. This is the cost before we buy any supplies. We are still keeping the charge for the weekend at \$135. As you can see, we are not making any money from the people on the Walk. This is why we are looking to our members of the MN Walk to Emmaus community to help us with your generous donations at candlelight or closing or by mail.

All team members and clergy on the Walks generously donate their time. Some pilgrims, team members and clergy, however, do not have the finances to pay for their participation on the Walk. Many scholarships are requested. We try to fill the requests, at least partially.

We are thankful for the blessings and challenges God provided to us in 2008. Your support is an integral part of His plan for us. We pray that you, in turn, will be blessed abundantly for what you will sow into His Kingdom.

Donations can be sent to: MN Walk to Emmaus  
% Joan Phillips  
5325 Meadow Drive SE  
Rochester, MN 55904



## Welcome to our new Community Spiritual Director

Let me introduce our new Community Spiritual Director: the Rev. Paul Kobi, pastor of Faith United Methodist Church in Farmington MN.

Paul is an Emmaus alum who has also participated as a spiritual director. He is a good-humored, bright and disciplined man of God who appreciates the way in which Emmaus offers Christians a chance to grow in their faith.

I will continue to serve on the Board with Pastor Paul. If you're into titles, mine might be "Immediate Past Community Spiritual Director". As it says in Ecclesiastes, there is "nothing new under the sun," and neither is this configuration. It just makes sense.

Changing spiritual directors each year without maintaining continuity leaves each S.D. handicapped with a large learning curve. Not insurmountable, but overly challenging. Therefore, as Paul comes aboard, I shall fill in when he cannot make a Board meeting.

Additionally, the Board has welcomed the suggestion that we recruit someone who will be the community Assistant Spiritual Director. This clergy person will then rotate into the primary S.D. position after serving a year as assistant. This further step will lessen that learning curve for a new S.D. to which we alluded above.

All in all, it isn't really about structure: it is about helping the Minnesota Walk to Emmaus ministry to flourish with full weekends, and complete teams, including clergy.

The bottom line is to provide such fluid, competent leadership that time spent in Board meetings can be focused on ensuring an excellent and consistent quality of Emmaus weekends for our Pilgrims.

De Colores!

Duane Sarazin, Immediate Past Spiritual Director



## Communications Director Notes

It is a pleasure to compile this newsletter to help keep the community informed. Don't forget to access our website for more information at <http://www.mnemmaus.org>. Feel free to contact me at [drdcp@hickorytech.net](mailto:drdcp@hickorytech.net) if you have questions or concerns. Also, please contact me or Molly Reko, our current database manager, at [mollyreko@comcast.net](mailto:mollyreko@comcast.net) for changes or corrections in contact information.

De Colores, Don Putzier

## Outreach

Anyone who has been on an Emmaus walk knows how special it is for the pilgrims to see the banners when they are brought into the conference room; that sense of awe that someone they don't even know cared enough to put the time and effort into making a banner. However, many of the banners have been used since the early days of our existence and could stand to be replaced. What a wonderful gift of agape it would be for an individual, a re-union group, or members of a local church to make a banner for our community. There can be no end to the many ways that we can express our love to the pilgrims. If you can help in this way your gift of love would be greatly appreciated.

On those same lines, another very important aspect of an Emmaus weekend is the agape which mysteriously appears on the tables in the dining room, on the individual tables in the conference room, and even on the pilgrims' pillows at the end of the day. It is such a great feeling for the pilgrims to know that so many people who don't even know them care enough to make or buy a piece of agape for them. We can never have enough agape items to share with the pilgrims. So with that said, I want to encourage all Community members, to express their love by sending agape for the upcoming walks. If you are able to do this service for the next pilgrims, we would like to ask that when the agape is sent that you also include a contact person for the group that is sending it. Thank you for your loving service!

## Your 2008 Board of Directors

Rick Phillips	Community Lay Director	507.289.3466	<a href="mailto:rphill4525@bismark.com">rphill4525@bismark.com</a>
Rev. Paul Kobi	Community Spiritual Director	651.460.6110	<a href="mailto:pastorpaul@frontiernet.net">pastorpaul@frontiernet.net</a>
Rev. Duane Sarazin	Past Community Spiritual Director	952.890.2515	<a href="mailto:dsarazin@riverhillsumc.org">dsarazin@riverhillsumc.org</a>
Joan Phillips	Treasurer	507.289.3466	<a href="mailto:jmp@bismark.com">jmp@bismark.com</a>
Beth Tomlinson	Registrar	763.755.8366	<a href="mailto:bethtom_54@yahoo.com">bethtom_54@yahoo.com</a>
Mary Kay Lenarz	Education/Sponsorship	651.771.3677	<a href="mailto:crafterladykmz@comcast.net">crafterladykmz@comcast.net</a>
Julie Ufkes	Agape	320.833.9915	<a href="mailto:jul-s@mchsi.com">jul-s@mchsi.com</a>
Michelle Schober	Nominations/Outreach	763.425.0794	<a href="mailto:mschober4597@yahoo.com">mschober4597@yahoo.com</a>
Don Putzier	Communications	507.345.1553	<a href="mailto:drdcp@hickorytech.net">drdcp@hickorytech.net</a>
Dan Zei	At Large Director	715.212.2233	<a href="mailto:daniel.w.zei@gmail.com">daniel.w.zei@gmail.com</a>
Mary Ann Smith	At Large Director	612.722.3339	<a href="mailto:smith310@umn.edu">smith310@umn.edu</a>

# A Message from your Community Spiritual Director

De Colores Friends,

What a joy it is to greet all of you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as the new Community Spiritual Director. Thank you for this honor and privilege to serve you I this way. I look forward to getting to know each of you in more meaningful ways.

Today we find ourselves in the midst of Lent, quickly approaching the glorious day of our Lord's resurrection. Lent is to be a time of self reflection as we look into our heart and respond by taking a step closer to our Lord. It is a time to sweep out the dark corners of our heart and replace that darkness with the light of God's amazing love.

This past week I have been in Haiti, on a mission trip with twelve other people. We worked together as a medical team being that we had a dentist, a chiropractor, two Haitian doctors as well as a few nurses. What an incredible experience. Three of the days in Haiti were spent in a very small mountain village called Farisi (pronounced Pharisee). We were the guests of Congressman Fhenfhen, Speaker of the House in the Haitian government, a dear brother in the Lord. Farisi is where he grew up and to the best of his knowledge, there had never been a medical clinic in the community before. Never did I dream that I would be a first tier missionary in presenting the Gospel to people.

My job, since I am not a doctor? I had the honor of being able to pray with each person that came through the clinic. Yes, we gave out medicine, but then we "closed the deal" with the laying on of hands in prayer. Even though there was a language barrier, people knew that I was praying for them. Some were so hungry for that prayer, others did not seem to care. Yet almost 800 people came through that line for prayer. What an honor to be able to bless each person. and to be blessed back in the process.

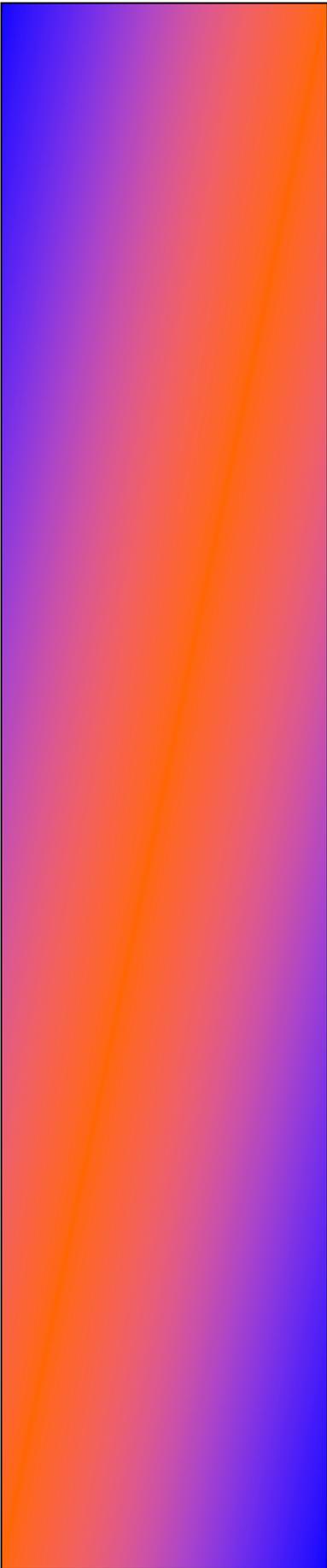
New friends, that is what Lent is really all about. It is to look into the heart of a pharisee, (who of us could not claim that name) and see the darkness and hurt caused by sin and to then pray for healing, forgiveness and wholeness. God, in His goodness, has allowed us to have this season of self reflection so that we could truly experience the joy of Easter. God allows us to walk through the dark night so that we can experience the Son Rise.

This Lent, I know that the people of Farisi received healing and wholeness in the name of Jesus Christ. It is my prayer now that the Pharisee in each of us will also receive healing, forgives and wholeness.. God bless each and ever one of you as you approach the day of Resurrection. May your hearts be transformed again by the power of God's amazing grace!

De Colores!

Pastor Paul  
Community Spiritual Director

***He said to them, "Go into all the world and  
peach the good news to all creation.  
—Mark 16:15***



# Running on Empty?

You give and give and give and sometimes it feels like there's nothing left to give.

Walk to Emmaus, a 72-hour renewal experience to help you get refilled with Jesus, the only truly renewable energy source.

Minnesota Walk to Emmaus

When: Men's Walk #81  
April 3-6, 2008  
Women's Walk #82  
April 10-13, 2008

Where: Camp Iduhapi, Loretto, MN  
(30 minutes west of Minneapolis)

Contact:

## Editor's Note:

The above is an example of several posters available on line at [www.mnemmaus.org](http://www.mnemmaus.org) to help spread the word at your local church about the upcoming Walks. Three posters may be downloaded and printed.

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Communications Director  
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Mankato, MN 56001

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## ***Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Upcoming Walks***

**Men's Walk #81**  
**April 3-6, 2008**  
**Camp Ihduhapi**  
**Loretto, MN**

**Men's Walk #83**  
**Oct. 16-19, 2008**  
**Camp Ihduhapi**  
**Loretto, MN**

**Women's Walk #82**  
**April 10-13, 2008**  
**Camp Ihduhapi**  
**Loretto, MN**

**Women's Walk #84**  
**Oct. 23-26, 2008**  
**Camp Ihduhapi**  
**Loretto, MN**

### **Help Wanted!**

The Minnesota Walk to Emmaus currently has openings on the board of directors. If you would like to help make a difference in our growing community, please contact Rick Phillips, Community Lay Director, at [rphill4525@bismark.com](mailto:rphill4525@bismark.com)

### **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 Candlelight for song, communion and to lift up the Pilgrims in prayer. Please join us at Camp Ihduhapi on Saturday evening, April 5 at 8:30 pm for Candlelight for Men's Walk #81. Candlelight for Women's Walk #82 will be Saturday, April 12 at Camp Ihduhapi. You are also welcome to join for closings, which will be Sunday afternoons, April 6 and April 13 at approximately 4:30 p.m.

### **Map to Camp Ihduhapi**

**3425 Ihduhapi Rd.**  
**Loretto, MN 55345**  
**(612)-822-CAMP (2267)**

