



Minnesota Emmaus Community Organized 1991
September 2007 Newsletter
Website www.mnemmaus.org

Big Thinking

In the dense fog of a dark night in October 1707, Great Britain lost nearly an entire fleet of ships. There was no battle at sea, the Admiral, Cloudisley Shovell, simply miscalculated his position in the Atlantic and his flagship smashed into the rocks of the Scilly Isles, a tail of islands off the southwest coast of England. The rest of the fleet, following blindly behind, went aground and piled onto the rocks, one after the other. Four warships and two thousand lives were lost.

What caused the disaster was not the Admirals ignorance, but his inability to measure something he knew to be critically important – longitude.

This is a year of great change for Minnesota Walk to Emmaus. This Board has been guided by prayer and the belief that God has directed our decisions as we move to a new facility, Camp Ihudhapi. In the back of my mind, though, is the thought that perhaps we may have miscalculated our position and gone in a direction that we wanted, not the direction that God wanted. Is our "Think Big" mantra selfish, or would God be pleased that we have a goal to bring more disciples to Christ? Is it enough to say that every Walk is special, or should we be mindful of the need to sustain this Community, grow the Community, and keep to the Emmaus process?

Our decisions this year have not been made out of our ignorance, but from our inability to measure something we knew to be critically important – your involvement through sponsorship, team, Community and post-Walk small groups. We haven't smashed into the rocks yet, but I hear from many of you that you have lost interest in Walk to Emmaus because of decisions made in our past. We have heard your cries and we are working to change things. Just a few of the things we have worked hard to change:

Communication – This newsletter is the third newsletter within the last year. This, along with our "constant contact" e-mails will continue to keep you up-to-date on Minnesota Walk to Emmaus activities. You can also find all the latest stuff on our website www.mnemmaus.org and I urge you to check it out.

Data Base – We have not done a good job in the past in maintaining our date base. As a result, many members of our Community are not getting this newsletter or any of our communications. If you know of people that have moved or, for whatever reason are not getting newsletters or e-mails, please let me know.

Agape – Agape is important. Whether food Agape or other forms of Agape that you have created, we want you to know that we accept all Agape. Get your Reunion Groups together and start making Agape. We want to surround our pilgrims with love.

Location – While this decision may be difficult for some, we have found a Twin Cities location that we believe will serve us for a long time. Our prayers are that you will visit Camp Ihudhapi and with us, create a new home for Minnesota Walk to Emmaus.

To insure that Emmaus doesn't go aground, we want to invite you back. We need the involvement of each and every person that has found the Walk to Emmaus to be a meaningful experience. This newsletter will provide you with times, locations and directions for the Candlelight services and the Closing ceremonies for the Walks upcoming. I think it was Woody Allen who said that, "90% of success was simply showing up."

We pray that you would consider sponsoring a pilgrim for the upcoming Walks, supporting the Walks with Agape, signing up to pray on the 72 hour Prayer Charts, showing up for Candlelight services, or the Closing ceremonies.

There are so many opportunities for you to get involved. Champion the Think Big effort in your church and fan that flame of success by doing more than simply showing up.

Blessings,
Scott Chase
Community Lay Director

"Be glad and rejoice forever in what the LORD will create" (para. of Isaiah 65.18)



Gathering and Reunion Groups

The balloons have all deflated, the decorations have come down, the supplies are all packed away, and De Colores has stopped echoing through the hallways. We are left with the memories from our walk.

But is that all? Certainly not! Hearts were touched by the Spirit, pilgrims were pointed back to following Jesus on their faith journeys, and lives were changed. The purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is to equip leaders for our local churches, but that doesn't stop when Communion is served at closing. Our walk is over, but the community remains.

All too often, however, the magic and wonder is gone after the first few weeks of our walk. The secular world we live in starts to take over hearts that were once filled with the Spirit. The sense of community and love for our fellow man is soon replaced by that sense of individualism we had before our walk.

But there is hope. Join a reunion group.

As part of your Fourth Day experience, we encourage you to become active in a Reunion Group to help you walk through all of your Fourth Days. Keep the Spirit alive!

Reunion groups provide a natural launching pad for mission in the community. Reunion groups are also a support base for acts of agape for Emmaus weekends. Shared engagement in service to others deepens friendships and opens up avenues for Christian action. Some groups, where members relate to the same church, find a shared ministry within their congregations. Other groups choose to serve together in the kitchen for an Emmaus weekend or make it their mission to set up facilities for Emmaus weekends. We have two Walks coming up in October and November. Spend time making table agape, creating banners, and writing general agape letters to support the new pilgrims as they go on their Walks to Emmaus.

Rick Phillips

Treasurer's Comments

Hello Emmaus folks!! The Board of Directors is getting excited about the upcoming Walks #79 and #80. Our new walk site at Camp Ihduhapi will be great. Being closer to the Twin Cities, we hope to see many of you again.

The cost is a little more than we paid in the past, but we are trying to keep the weekend fee the same. As in the past, there are still many people who request scholarships. Our budget, at this time, allows for only a couple of partial scholarships.

We ask you to pray for the potential pilgrims, conference room team and those serving Agape. Ask for God's guidance in sponsoring pilgrims. Also, we ask you to help the pilgrims and/or team members with a donation for scholarships. God bless you always.

Joan Phillips, Treasurer

Agape—An Act of Love

Good News. For you who don't know, Agape used to be a selected team just like the conference room team. The agape team will be returning to team meetings. This will unite the whole team (bind them together) into one unit. We believe this will make for a much smoother weekend.

Do you provide Agape for the walks? We need items for the upcoming walks. **Please send your agape to Dave at 603 Main St. E. New Prague, MN. 56071.**

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 David Bunnell @952-758-3261 or e-mail debanddjb@yahoo.com

DeColores,

Dave Bunnell

From the registrar

Greetings all! As most of you are aware, we have two sets of walks coming up in October and November. I have quite a few applications from folks who cancelled in the past. If you are someone who has sponsored a potential pilgrim that cancelled out, please contact me at 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

Avoiding Crash Landings—A Message from your Spiritual Director

I crash-landed the other day In a nice twin-engine Beechcraft airplane, no less.

Walked away unscathed, though, if you don't count my bruised ego.

I thought my approach into the airport was pretty good really. Kept my airspeed up, and the flaps down.

I missed the runway and landed on the grass. Bounced like crazy, and on the third or fourth hit, the nose of that Beech just *dove* into dear Mother Earth with the ferocity of a hyper-active toddler running into Mommy for a hug. She's not always very forgiving of our ineptitudes, is she?

As I left the scene, I thought: "Good thing that this all happened on my computer screen, and not for real."

Landing a plane is something that looks easy when they're flying over our Burnsville parsonage in their final approach to Mpls/St.Paul International. But it's definitely something you don't want to "try at home." Unless you don't mind the ignominy of a cyber-piloting failure.

This is often how real life is. We in the Emmaus movement know that living isn't for sissies. We've heard lots of testimonies that include much failure, hurt and tough consequences of past behaviors.

We have good intentions, and should really. But the crash landings can come as easily in relationships, including our relationship with the Lord, as with computer flight simulators.

Just when it seems things are all lined up, and all systems are "go"; well, a glitch, often called "sin" can really mess things up.

Therefore, people need to understand grace, not just with their heads, but also with their hearts. *And that's where Walk to Emmaus comes in.*

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

Soon, the Fall weekends will be upon us. While the teams will get little rest, the pilgrims will come looking for rest, peace, and the lifting of burdens.

May the Lord lead us to ask people to serve on our teams who will give their all to the weekends. May high commitment to the team meetings be the norm.

May all be marinated in prayer.

May the arrangements be cared for with exquisite attention paid to details.

And may the glory go to God. For God is the One whose guidance, when heeded, prevents us from crashing in real life.

Blessings,

Duane

Duane Sarazin
Spiritual Director



Your 2007 Board of Directors

Scott Chase	Community Lay Director	612.869.8244	thechasegang@msn.com
Rev. Duane Sarazin	Community Spiritual Director		
Craig Wilson	Past Community Lay Director	952.435.7176	cwilsoncpa@frontiernet.net
Joan Phillips	Treasurer	507.289.3466	jmp@bismark.com
Beth Tomlinson	Registrar	763.755.8366	bethtom_54@yahoo.com
Mary Kay Lenarz	Education/Sponsorship	651.771.3677	craftyladymkz@comcast.net
Rick Phillips	Gatherings/Reunion Groups	507.289.3466	rphill4525@bismark.com
Dave Bunnell	Agape	952.758.3261	debanddjb@yahoo.com
Diane Zimmerman	Nominations	507.385.0250	diane.zimmerman@gmail.com
Don Putzier	Communications	507.345.1553	drdcp@hickorytech.net
Dan Zei	At Large Director	715.212.2233	daniel.w.zei@gmail.com
Karyl Chase	At Large Director		the chasegang@msn.com

Don Putzier
Communications Director
Minnesota Walk to Emmaus
160 Country Club Drive
Mankato, MN 56001

Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Upcoming Walks

**Men's Walk
October 25-28, 2007
Camp Ihduhapi
Loretto, MN**

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

**Women's Walk
November 8-11, 2007
Camp Ihduhapi
Loretto, MN**

**Women's Walk
April 10-13, 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 Scott Chase, Community Lay Director, at thechasegang@msn.com or 612-869-8244.

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, October 27 at 8:30 pm for Candlelight for Men's Walk #79. Candlelight for Women's Walk #80 will be Saturday, November 10 at Camp Ihduhapi. You are also welcome to join for closings, which will be Sunday afternoons, October 28 and November 11 at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Map to Camp Ihduhapi

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

