



Wilmington Emmaus

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Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus

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Read this!

- Get in the GATHERING habit!
- Will we have a September Men's Walk? Will we have an October Women's Walk? It's up to YOU!

BARB'S LITTLE BITS

Recently, I heard a minister speak on "Solitude". What does that mean to you? Well I went to the computer and Googled solitude. You can only imagine how massive that list was and how many web sites popped up. Here are only a few of the definitions. I found, "solitude, silence, peace and quiet, alone, a state of separation between persons and groups, etc., etc." How about "Solitaire – the card game we play A-L-O-N-E" or "Solitary Confinement – a place I do not want to go, a punishment for disobedience while incarcerated."

How often am I alone with God? No T.V., no K-Love music while driving and on and on. Be still and be alone – and as God would have it, my pastor spoke just last Lord's Day

TABOR TALK

Well, the kids are back in school, aren't they? One of our friends posted on one of the social media sites a picture of his wife, an elementary school teacher, standing outside their home. She was burdened down by all sorts of books and bags and different packages, which she obviously was planning to use in her classroom. Her husband had posted a simple caption, reminiscent of the little kids heading out the door. The

about one spiritual discipline. One of his points was meditation - alone with God. Asking who He is and what He does. Psalm 46:10 is very familiar to us, "Be still (solitude) and know I am God". There are many places in God's Word where Jesus went away to a quiet place to talk to God. I know I have a closer relationship with Jesus when I spend time with Him.

In this fast paced life with our plates full to overflowing, I pray I will take more time to "be still" so that I can draw closer to my Lord and hear what He wants me to do and to be. I want to hear the still, small voice of my Lord speaking to me more often. Don't we all?

DeColores,
Barb

humorous caption read, succinctly, "First day of school!"

Accustomed to going home at noon in kindergarten, Ryan the now-first-grader was getting his things ready to leave for home when he was actually supposed to be heading to lunch with the rest of the class. His teacher, Linda, asked him what he was doing. "I'm going home," he replied. Linda tried to explain that, now that he is in (continued on page 2)

WILMINGTON EMMAUS HISTORY

10 YEARS AGO

Peggy Hart was our Community Chair. The topic of her newsletter article was "Don't Anticipate!"

We were getting ready for the September Gathering which was to be a picnic held behind the Wilmington Church of Christ.

Men's Walk #38 was about to take place. At the time the newsletter was printed, there were 16 men on the list. There ended up being 18 men attend Walk #38. The Lay Director was Randy Riley.

20 YEARS AGO

The Community Chair was L. Swindler and Kathy Reiff provided the Spiritual Director's article for the month.

The Wilmington United Methodist Church had just purchased the old Sears building (where the church office is now located).

Men's Walk #16 was about to take place and at the time of the printing, there were 37 men scheduled to attend the walk. Dean Hall (the LD for Walk #57) was on the pilgrim list! The Lay Director for Men's #16 was Larry Cline.

It was also reported that at the Men's Walk #15 reunion which was held at the August Gathering, over 50% of the men returned. (Your editor was in the group from Men's #15.)

Remember, there is a wonderful Newsletter Archive maintained on our website: www.wilmingtonemmaus.org. Unfortunately, our collection only goes back to August of 1993. There are a few issues (continued on page 3)

TABOR TALK *(continued)*

the first grade, he would have a longer school day. "You'll go eat lunch now," she said, "and then you'll come back to the room and do some more work before you go home." Ryan looked up at her in disbelief, hoping she was kidding. Convinced of her seriousness, Ryan then put his hands on his hips and demanded, "Who on earth signed me up for this program?"

As believers, it's easy to feel a little like Ryan when we consider the Christian life. The requirements are daunting—"Surely the Lord doesn't expect me to forgive seventy times seven;" "Surely he doesn't want me to turn the other cheek when someone hurts me;" "What does he mean, 'take up my cross!'" It isn't long before you want to say, "Who on earth signed me up for this program?"

When Jesus proclaimed, "If anyone would

come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9:23), he was setting in place that overwhelming challenge to each and every one of us who are claiming to be Christ-followers in the real world: the Christian life is no piece of cake. It is also oh, so very... daily! Taking up crosses, denying self, and following Him... is that what I bought into when I trusted Christ for my salvation? It seemed so easy when I did it, didn't it? But the question almost seems rote: "Who on earth signed me up for this program?"

The fact is that we cannot do it on our own. We cannot take up our cross, deny our self daily, and follow Christ on a consistent basis without some help. But God has promised that help for each of us. He has sent His Spirit to indwell and empower us to live that sacrificial sort of life each and every day.

Back to school may be a time for asking who signed me up for this program, but it is also a time for rejoicing that we don't have to do it ourselves! Some years ago, my children provided me with a lawn ornament, one of those inspirational "word signs" that are supposed to encourage and inspire us as we walk through our gardens. This one happens to say, "relax"! In a sense, that is what living the Christian life is all about. You may not have realized it when it happened, but the message of the Christian life is: Be disciplined, and be diligent, but ultimately, relax and rely on His Spirit to help you live "this program". That is ultimately what it is all about!

God bless...

Chuck Tabor

EXPERIENCING WOMEN'S EMMAUS WALK #90 by Leone Bihl

Classy ladies, 23 in all
Gathered in the Methodist hall
To learn, to commune, to eat;
But NOT to sleep –
Sinking mattresses, too much heat.

Team leaders by our side
Bells and songs in their stride -
"O, Pilgrim, Pilgrim, walk with me;
I'll tell you about a man who died on Calvary
For you and me."

What time is it?
What's my family doing?
My thoughts moved
Faster and faster,
Soon faded, replaced by thoughts of the Master.

Posters, skits, songs
Moved us along;
"Wow" moments
Struck a chord,
All strengthening our love for the Lord.
What happens next? Where's our packet?
What's going on? Where's my jacket?
Time for bed? It's getting late;
Oops, I forgot!

Do not anticipate.

Quiet times, noisy times,
Funny moments, inspirational moments,
Encouraging moments, moments of love
–All a gift
From the Lord above.

Surprises galore thrill us, knock us to the floor.
A beautiful song – a clown with a nail
Let us know we all fail.
The cross's redeeming grace
Let's us our sin replace.

What about the stool?
It teaches God's rule.
Mind, hands, feet –
All of God's plan
To help our fellowman.

Saturday night –
Candles, God's love, prayer,
Friends and family there.
Saturday night – can't say more;
What else does God have in store?

Not knowing the hour
Gave us might and power.
Tears, fears, gratitude –

All of a great magnitude
From our Lord and Saviour.

Pack, pack, pack;
Pick up the slack;
Hurry, hurry;
What's the worry?
God will work out the flurry.

Want to go home? Yes;
Want to get some rest;
Want to serve those in need;
But we will miss
Our Emmaus friends indeed.

Classy ladies,
Meetin', greetin', eatin',
And singing God's praise;
Hope to carry God with us
The rest of our days.

The message:
LEARN – LOVE – DO
Sister, may it go with you
As you travel in grace
To your homeplace.

De Colores

Pilgrims for Men's Walk #57

PILGRIM	CITY	ST	SPONSOR
Andy Clark	Mt. Vernon	IL	Maureen Clark
Greg Walls	Wilmington	OH	Tiffany Walls

Twelve cards have been sent out to prospective pilgrims. To date, only these two have responded. **WE NEED PILGRIMS!**



Cleland Boyd McAfee (Sept. 25, 1866 – Feb. 4, 1944) was an American theologian, Presbyterian minister and hymn writer, best known for penning the gospel hymn, "Near to the Heart of God," and its tune called "McAfee". He wrote the song after the concurrent deaths caused by diphtheria of two of his young nieces within 24 hours of each other. McAfee told the story later to his children of how he thought long and late into the night of what could be said in word and song on the following Sunday. He wrote this song.

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December Gathering

The December Gathering is different than all others! We celebrate the birth of Jesus through music! If you would like to share your talent with the community, contact Jennie Harner at 937-987-2518 or harnersewing@yahoo.com. In addition, we sing Christmas Carols and finish the evening by celebrating Holy Communion and singing Silent Night.

Of course, when Emmaus meets.....

HISTORY (continued from page 1)

missing, but for the most part, the collection is very complete. If you, or someone you know who has been in Emmaus for a long while, has newsletters older than August, 1993 and/or any of the missing issues, please contact the newsletter editor: John Glaze.

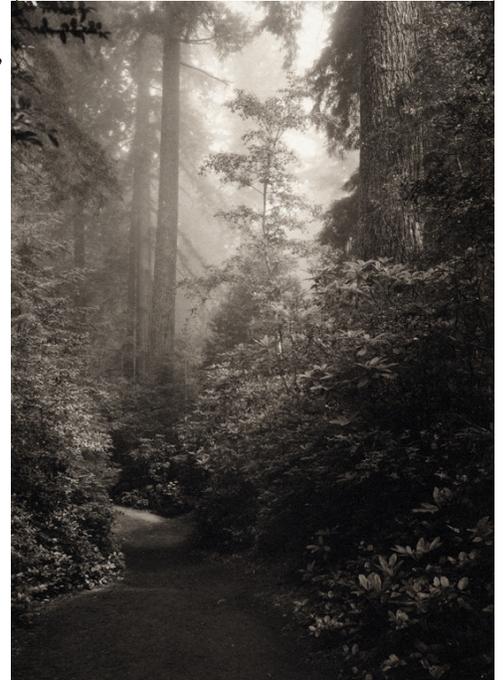
There is a place of quiet rest,
Near to the heart of God.
A place where sin cannot molest,
Near to the heart of God.
Refrain

There is a place of comfort sweet,
Near to the heart of God.
A place where we our Savior meet,
Near to the heart of God.
Refrain

There is a place of full release,
Near to the heart of God.
A place where all is joy and peace,
Near to the heart of God.

Refrain
O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
Sent from the heart of God,
Hold us who wait before Thee
Near to the heart of God.

Near to the Heart of God



DEVOTION

Read Acts 19:1-10

This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia, both Jews and Greeks, heard the word of the Lord.

Our parish recently completed a capital campaign that resulted in some changes and upgrades to our building. I'm not sure which was more difficult—raising the funds for the projects or agreeing on the changes and upgrades.

I was especially surprised at the objections to the replacement of the sound system. It was older than me, and I am no spring chicken. "That sound system has served this church faithfully for over sixty-five years..."

On the first day we used the new system, the difference and the improvement were obvious to all. One member remarked that it was the first time in a long time that she could hear. One who was still faithful to the old system asked her if she had heard anything worth listening to.

She responded, "I heard the word of the Lord."

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Contact Forward Movement at 800-543-1813 or visit www.forwardmovement.org

PRAYER LIST

The following names were raised in prayer at the August Gathering. Please continue to pray for the needs of these folks. (Please excuse any misspellings.)

- Tammy Bogart Family
- Dave & Dinah Bond
- Kathy Bright
- Dora Francis & Family
- Melanie Harper
- Highland County House of Prayer
- David Maines & Granddaughter
- Roger Maines
- Christy Mitchell
- Nicki Reading
- Tyler Reading
- Jim Smalley
- Iris Wilkinson & Family

Wilmington Area Walk to
Emmaus

Wilmington United Methodist Church
PO Box 191
Wilmington, OH 45177

We're on the web:
www.wilmingtonemmaus.org

See you at the Gathering!
Sept. 10
Singing starts at 6:45 pm
Wear your nametag!
Bring a snack to share!

Servants for Gatherings

MONTH	INSTRUMENTALIST	SONG LEADER	SPECIAL MUSIC	FOURTH DAY SPEAKER
September 10	Carl Guenther	Chuck Tabor	Kathy Holbrook	Ron Rutherford
October 8	John Glaze	Cliff Klutts	Carl Guenther	Tonya West
November 12	John Glaze	Kathy Holbrook	Cindy Bloom & Emily Jackson	Jim Wingo
December 10	John Glaze	Bronwyn Jones	Community-ALL MUSIC!	none

Child's Prayer
Dear Father, hear and bless
Thy beasts and singing birds;
And guard with tenderness
Small things that have no words.

-unknown

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