

JULY
2009

Ideally Speaking My thoughts, My words, My heart

The people are one of my favorite parts of Walk to Emmaus (yes, I realize that I have lots of favorites). Special people who love the Lord and love Emmaus. It doesn't matter where I go, which community I visit, quickly I realize that these great people are what make Emmaus.



One of the extra special people in the Emmaus community is Reverend John Whittemore. He heard the call a long time ago, In fact he was the first Community Lay Director in California. He helped start many communities including the one in South Africa. He went on to become the first Lay Regional Representative for the International Office in the West and is currently the Clergy Regional Leader. He has worked diligently and steadfastly all these years. Why? Because he loves Emmaus. He has seen first hand the power of the Holy Spirit work in many situations. He has faced the challenges, the opportunities, the good, and the bad and in the end Walk to Emmaus is stronger, and better because of his perseverance.

John has been a blessing to many people over these years. His personal attention and willingness to work together has earned him the love and respect of not only the community members, but his colleagues as well. He has worked with each of the International Lay and Spiritual Directors over the years and helped in guiding and guarding the policy and intent of the Walks.

Yes, John is a wonderful Christian man with lots of outstanding attributes. He has been a great friend and mentor to me. Many times he has helped me walk through a difficult question or situation. He has a depth of knowledge and wisdom that fits anything that comes up. His true love and concern for the communities and the people is never a question.

John is retiring at the end of this month from his position as Clergy Regional Leader. He will be truly missed by many. And while he won't officially be working for Walk to Emmaus anymore, I know his heart will always hold a special place for this ministry he has loved for so many years. God has richly blessed Walk to Emmaus through his service.

Reverend Ronald Greilich will be assuming the responsibilities of the Western Regional Clergy Leader. Ron and I have worked together and I know that he do an outstanding job.

Partnering with you, the communities, we have a great team in the West. Ron, and I, along with Susan Jackson, the Chrysalis Regional Leader, look forward to what God has in store for all of us. It is a privilege to be a part of this life changing ministry. It is a privilege to serve with each of you.



John and I share a laugh in Nashville

WALK TO EMMAUS WESTERN REGION

The WALK in the West

OPERATION: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

*EQUIP
ENPOWER
EDUCATE*

Presenters:

Ideal Curtis - Susan Jackson
John Whitemore - Ron Greulich

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!
Take a road trip, make it a
board retreat, come and join us!

A program designed for strengthening Emmaus
Boards and Communities

WHAT: BOARD / COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

WHEN: Community Gathering Friday, August 28 - 7:00 pm
Leadership Development Saturday, August 29 - 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

WHERE: Wesley United Methodist Church
5770 Arlington Avenue Riverside, CA
Hosted by El Shaddai community

COST: **NO CHARGE.** However, we are asking everyone to bring
water/soda and breakfast items (muffins, bagels, fruit, etc).

FACILITIES: Emmaus style camping at church - showers available
RV Parking available in church parking lot
\$72.00 Emmaus Group rate lodging at Quality Inn & Suites
(Reserve your room at 951-688-5000)

WHO: EMMAUS - CHRYSALIS - CLERGY
Regional Leaders will be there - Leadership Development for all three
Including: Sponsorship, Weekend Overview, 4th Day, Governing
Boards, Questions, Challenges, Praises. This is a great opportunity
for communities to come together with ideas, questions, suggestions,
to pray for each other, encourage each other, learn from each other!

There will also be wonderful worship, prayer, and communion,
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

RSVP: Ideal Curtis, 530-258-2168 or idealcurtis@yahoo.com.
YOUR BOARD AND COMMUNITY MEMEBERS WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!

The Upper Room Corner:



UPPER ROOM/WALK TO EMMAUS STAFF:

International Spiritual Director - Victor Perez
Assistant to International Spiritual Director - Laura Feliciano
International Lay Director - Greg Engroff
Assistant to International Lay Director - Deana Fredrick

CONTACT THEM AT:
877-899-2780

HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE UPPER ROOM WEB SITE? There are so many resources there for your community. One of which is The Emmaus Library. This series of 10 books covers everything from The Early History, to The Board of Directors, to Fourth Day. They are inexpensive and are wonderful for your book table at Walks and other events. Check them out!

www.upperroom.org/emmaus

New Dying Moments Communion Liturgy

Victor Perez, the International Spiritual Director announced new Dying Moments Communion Liturgy and want to make sure that every community has access to them. The new liturgy should replace the existing in your manuals. Please contact Victor if you have any questions.

Please, follow the next few steps in order to download documents from the “Boardroom” to update your Manuals on Dying Moments, or any other downloads that might be needed:

<http://www.upperroom.org/fourthday/boardroom/>

1. log in with your Community’s username & password located in the third page of your Letter of Agreement
2. click on **Download Area** at your left column
3. click the icon for: Emmaus-[go to: Dying Moments Updated Pages](#) (or any other selection)
4. download your free documents
5. update your Manuals!

Remember, you gain access to the boardroom thru a password that is only obtained when you return your Letter of Agreement.
If you have not done so, PLEASE contact me!

PRAISE REPORT

- Greg Engroff, the International Lay Director is doing fine after his heart surgery and is back to work, and happy to be there!
- The first Walk to Emmaus weekends are in the final planning stages for the Bahamas.
- The National Leadership team for Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis will be meeting next week to continue their commitment to the L3 Incubator Leadership Development process.

Three-Day Schedule - What does the Emmaus Handbook say?

The following is found on pages 98 and 99 of the Emmaus Handbook. This would be a great discussion topic for your board. Perhaps make a copy and give it to team members at a work day. Use it for community training.

OVERVIEW OF THE THREE DAYS

Honoring the Community-Building Process

Over the course of the three-day Walk, the many individuals in the conference room—team and pilgrims alike—become a community of faith. Because the Holy Spirit needs the space and time to build the community and to weave the participants together in love, the participants are cloistered for the three days of the Walk. The pilgrims enjoy freedom of expression, openness, and intimacy as they grow in their trust, love, and understanding of one another by the grace of God. The community experience gives pilgrims a glimpse of the abundant life Christ came to give and a vision of what the church is meant to be.

In order to preserve the cloistered atmosphere of the experience, people other than the Conference Room Team are asked to have no contact with the pilgrims after the Send-Off on Thursday evening. The obvious exceptions to this rule are the planned events on the weekend that include members of the Emmaus community: Candlelight, revolving kitchen helpers, and Saturday dinner entertainers. Even in these instances, however, community members are present only in their servant role to do their part and do not enter into casual relationship with the pilgrims. Members of the community, including kitchen or agape helpers, are not to enter the conference room to hear a talk or to mix with the pilgrims. Team members and pilgrims also should be reminded ahead of time that no talks, table dialogues, or other parts of the weekend will be tape recorded. Boards will ensure that no part of the 72-hour experience will be videotaped, electronically recorded, photographed, digitally recorded, or tape recorded.

Talks will not be broadcast outside the conference room, electronically transmitted, videotaped, or photographed.

For more information on this
and other Emmaus frameworks
see the Emmaus Team Manual.

Thursday

7:00 Registration
Send-Off
(Sponsors' Hour)
Pilgrims to Conf. Rm.
Lay Dir. Talk
8:15 Chapel:
Film
In Remembrance
S.D. Comments
L.D. Evening Prayer
Meditative Song
Silence
10:00 (Team Meeting)

Friday

7:00 Chapel:
Morning Prayer
Holy Communion
"Prodigal Son"
Meditation
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 L.D. Talk
Table Assignments
9:15 Talk #1 - PRIORITY
Table disc. & poster
10:30 Group Photo
11:00 Learn Key Songs
11:15 Talk #2 PREVENIENT
GRACE
Table disc. & poster
12:30 Lunch
1:45 Talk #3 PRIESTHOOD OF
ALL BELIEVERS
Table disc. & poster
3:00 Talk #4 JUSTIFYING
GRACE
Agape acts explained
Table disc. & poster
5:30 Dinner
6:30 Talk #5 LIFE OF PIETY
Lay Director Talk
Chapel: "Emmaus Road
Prayer Experience"
Table disc. & poster on
Piety
8:30 Poster & Summary
Presentations
10:00 Chapel: Evening
Prayer
10:30 (Team Meeting)

Saturday

7:30 Chapel:
Morning Prayer
"4 Responses to Christ"
Meditation
8:30 Breakfast
8:45 Talk #6 GROW THROUGH
STUDY
L.D. Talk
Introduce Book Table
Table disc. & poster
10:15 Talk #7 MEANS OF
GRACE
11:45 Chapel - Dying
Moments Communion
12:30 Lunch
(Break 1:15–2:00)
2:00 Questions on MEANS OF
GRACE
2:15 Chapel visits explained
by S.D.
Table disc. & poster on
Means of Grace
3:00 Talk #8 CHRISTIAN ACTION
Table disc. & poster
4:30 Talk #9 OBSTACLES
TO GRACE
Table disc. & poster
5:45 Dinner with
entertainment
7:00 Talk #10 DISCIPLESHIP
Table disc. & poster
8:15 Poster & Summary
Presentations
8:00 Community begins
to gather
8:30 Community celebrates
Holy Communion and
prays for each pilgrim
9:30 Prepare for Candlelight
9:45 "Jesus, Jesus"; S.D.
comments
Leave silently to "Jesus,
Jesus"
10:00 Chapel: Candlelight
Explanation by S.D.
Time of Prayer, recommitment

Sunday

7:30 Chapel:
Morning Prayer
"Humanity of Jesus"
Meditation
8:00 Breakfast
8:50 Talk #11 CHANGING OUR
WORLD
Table discussion
10:00 Talk #12 SANCTIFYING
GRACE
Table discussion
11:00 Talk #13 BODY OF
CHRIST
Table discussion
12:00 Lunch
1:30 Talk #14 PERSEVERANCE
Table disc. of Group
Reunion with Service
Card
2:30 Talk #15 FOURTH DAY
Distribute take-home
packets
Review material - S.D.
3:30 Pass out Personal
Agape Letters
4:20 Chapel:
Commissioning with
crosses among team and
pilgrims; Christian
embrace
4:45 Closing: Community
greet pilgrims with song
Pilgrims' responses
Holy Communion

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR...

Dear friends:

Greetings in the name of our risen savior Jesus Christ!

We would like to announce that as of August 1st , 2009, Rev. Ronald (Ron) A. Greilich will assume his new responsibilities as our Emmaus/Chrysalis Clergy Regional Leader for the West region. In doing this he will be replacing Rev. John Whittemore who will complete his service on July 31, 2009. Rev. Ron Greilich is a retired ordained elder in the California/Nevada Conference of the United Methodist Church. Throughout his journey Ron has served many years as a local pastor as well as in several annual conference boards and committees. He also brings many years of experience as summer camp leader for both youth and adults. Ron has served in many clergy teams with the Central California Emmaus community. Ron lives in Clovis, CA.

Among his responsibilities, Ron will be available to serve in the following ways:

- Provide ongoing training and support to Community Spiritual Directors and other clergy of existing communities in the West region.
- Provide efficient and direct assistance in the development of new Communities, in coordination with our office, and other regional lay leaders in the West Region.
- Serve as a local source for answers to local problems and situations.
- Meet with clergy who have not experienced Emmaus or Chrysalis to explain the principles and practices of these movements.

Very soon, Ron will be contacting every Emmaus/Chrysalis Community Spiritual in the West region to offer his services. Please join us in welcoming the Rev. Ron Greilich as your Clergy Regional Leader of the Emmaus/Chrysalis International office. He can be contacted through the following e-mail address:

E-mail address: greilich21@sbcglobal.net

Telephone #: (559) 346-1633

Ron will join Ideal Curtis and Susan Jackson, Emmaus and Chrysalis Lay leaders for the West region. As a team they will continue to coordinate Emmaus/Chrysalis Leadership Development efforts for your area.

De colores!

Rev. Víctor Pérez, International Spiritual Director

Walk to Emmaus & Chrysalis

Walking Together... one pilgrim to another

"Edelweiss"--A Song We Love But Can't Abuse

During the seventies, someone started a very popular trend of singing the tune to "Edelweiss" with other words as a benediction song or for other uses. It was all very nice and very illegal. The word spread and many churches stopped doing it. Now we are hearing that it is being used again in ways that against the wishes of the composers, and in ways that are potentially very costly to those legally responsible for the abuse.

In an effort to state clearly the background and reason for the restrictions we are posting this on the website.

There is NO authorized use of the tune unless it remains intact and unless the intact tune remains intact with the original text. Only if one wishes to use the ORIGINAL TUNE with the ORIGINAL TEXT should you seek permission from the administrator of Rodgers and Hammerstein material. These requests were a part of the two composers' wills and the estate is VERY strict about honoring the requests.

Below is an excerpt from a letter which Williamson Music (the Rodgers and Hammerstein copyright administrators) sends to those who request use of "Edelweiss" with other texts.

"Dear ---

Thank you for your recent request regarding the above mentioned composition. As you are aware, "Edelweiss" was written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. Ever since its inception, people have requested the use of its melody with other lyrics for liturgical purposes in houses of worship of many different faiths.

As with any song created in modern times, this song enjoys protection under the Copyright laws which state that original works may not be used in any manner inconsistent with the creators' intentions. Both Messrs., Rodgers and Hammerstein II, felt strongly that they did not wish their contributions to any song be separated and used with other words or music. Such is the case with "Edelweiss." Therefore, your request must be denied....."

We do not have official information on penalties. We do know that Williamson Music is in a position to file major lawsuits. Based on other copyright infringement cases, infringing parties should understand that the fees can reach into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The point here for Christian communities and leaders is this: "Thou shalt not steal." However inspired our intention, to use the "Edelweiss" tune with other words is illegal and a callous disregard of the wishes of the two composers.

The words to this song were eliminated from the Emmaus Purple Worship Booklet when it was reformatted for distribution in 2009.

You can download the suggested grace songs for before and after meals from the Upper Room web site: www.upperroom.org.

I'm sure there is someone in your community who would love to make new banners for the dining room.....

Working With Each Other.....

Many communities have asked the International Office about possible programs, movements or ministries that could involve the middle school youth. The challenge presented to us was how we can get youth who are younger than fifteen years old involved. The International Emmaus and Chrysalis Office is pleased to announce a partnership with a new weekend for spiritual formation called **Discovery**. **Discovery** is a mid-high weekend held in your local church with senior highs and adults of the local church as the leaders. The Upper Room attended the first **Discovery** weekend in 1998 and from the start knew it was a ministry to support. As **Discovery** has grown through the years it is very clear, God is blessing the youth of the churches through this weekend for spiritual formation. We are excited about **Discovery** for many reasons. We now have a way to reach the younger students and their families for Christ. **Discovery** also trains senior highs of the church to share their faith, give talks, lead disciple groups and become disciple makers. **Discovery** also gives the entire church family a three day weekend for spiritual formation.

Through **Discovery**, over 300 youth have been baptized, thousands have reaffirmed their faith, and dozens have answered the call to the ministry. The weekend has been held in 120 churches in 17 states and two countries. We hope you will pray about bringing this ministry to your local church.

More information on Discovery can be found on their website, www.discoveryministries.org and the Discovery Kit can be purchased by visiting the website and clicking on the "Get Started" tab or by calling Rev. Melody Traylor, the director of Discovery Ministries at 205-657-0593. If you mention that you are involved in the Emmaus or Chrysalis movements to Melody or click on the Emmaus/Chrysalis selection online, you will receive a 10% discount on your Discovery Kit.

Rev. Melody Traylor is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. Rev. Melody Traylor and **Discovery** Ministries were recently named winners of the clergy Denman Award for Evangelism for the North Alabama Conference. In the announcement, it was stated that, "Discovery is leading youth and adults to Christ through a youth weekend for spiritual formation. Discovery has been held in over 120 churches over the last 11 years. Hundreds of youth have been Baptized through the ministry. Thousands of youth and adults have made a reaffirmation of faith, dozens have answered the call to ministry and over 30,000 people have attended the weekend." Take a moment to call or visit the website.

Greg Engroff, International Lay Director would be happy to discuss **Discovery** with you if you have any questions.

DISCOVERY

SPONSORSHIP

The purpose of Emmaus is the renewal of the church through the renewal of the Christian, developing leadership and changing our worlds for Christ. Sponsoring the right pilgrims is the key to fulfilling that purpose. Good sponsorship insures the health of your community. Those sponsored will come back to work and will become sponsors themselves. Sponsorship should be a life time commitment, not just for the weekend.

Those sponsored should be:

- Strong Christians
- Active in their local congregation
- Involved or willing to be involved in leadership
- Not someone needing “fixed”
- Not someone in a crisis – personal, emotional, medical, etc.

A board approved sponsorship talk should be required prior to sponsoring. Informing the community about the need for good sponsorship and how to be a good sponsor must be a priority. The board needs to oversee the implantation of sound sponsorship policies. Every time your community meets a sponsorship talk should be given so that the expectations and understanding is clear. Here are some suggestions:

- ✦ Candlelight (while waiting on the pilgrims)
- ✦ Closing (while waiting on the pilgrims)
- ✦ Team meetings
- ✦ Follow-up meetings
- ✦ Gatherings

You might consider adding a sponsorship talk as a requirement to your pilgrim application.

FOLLOW UP MEETING

Each walk should include a Follow Up Meeting. This should be held in a few days following the walk. All conference room team members. Sponsors, and board members should be there. This is the first step to insuring a strong 4th Day community.

A sponsorship talk should be given. There are guidelines in the Upper Room manual.

FOURTH DAY/GROUP REUNION

Walk to Emmaus is a 4th Day Movement. This means that your emphasis should not be on the 72 hour weekend but rather on what happens next. Group Reunions are vital to your community. Every board member as well as conference room team member should be in a Reunion Group. Every pilgrim should be encouraged to be in one as well.

**SPONSORSHIP IS THE KEY TO FULFILLING
THE PURPOSE OF EMMAUS**

In Closing.....

CANON OF THE EMMAUS TEAM

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

—Philippians 2:1-11

As a member of an Emmaus team, I am only one part of a complete being!

As an imperfect earthen vessel, my position is to be a servant.

The Holy Spirit calls for my love, patience, kindness, gentleness, and self-control in all things.

Therefore, I will serve in humility and gratitude.

My prayer is to submit to the Holy Spirit in every area of my life.

The Holy Spirit, as my Counselor, reminds me that God works through committed, obedient, and yielded people as instruments to renew God's church.

The WALK in the West

The Walk in the West is brought to you by Ideal Curtis, Western Regional Leader for the Walk to Emmaus International Office.

**LINK IT TO YOUR WEB PAGE
SEND IT AS AN EMAIL BLAST TO ALL
COMMUNITY MEMBERS
ADD IT TO YOUR NEWSLETTER**

If you have something you would like to see in this newsletter, please contact me at
idealcurtis@yahoo.com or 530-258-2168.