



August is a month that often marks new beginnings in our churches. It is the time of year when children begin to eagerly await the moving up to the next grade in Sunday School and the adult classes begin final decisions for their fall course of studies. In our church it is also the time of year when the "new" third graders receive their Bible during the worship service. All in all it is a very exciting bustling time in the majority of churches. It is also the time of year when God calls us to step outside of the box, to move out of our comfort zone, and take on leadership positions in our church.

During our own walk there was a time on Thursday night, after you finally figured out who your new best friend really was and before you figured out how this bedtime stuff was going to work in silence, you heard the "official information" on the purpose of Emmaus. However, if you were like me you might have missed some things that evening! The Walk to Emmaus is considered a spiritual renewal program that has as **the primary focus to build leaders in the local church** through the development of Christian leaders and disciples. During our Fourth Day we have been tasked with being an active member of the body of Christ.

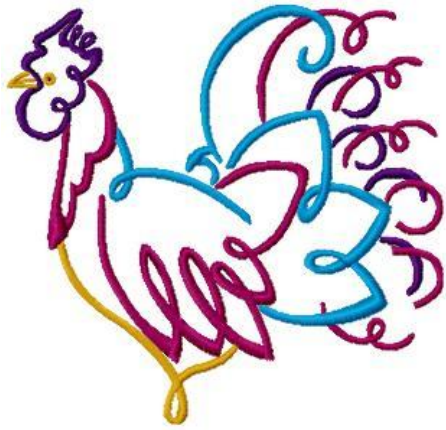
That can often be uncomfortable. As Christ's representative we are called by Him to do things that can take us out of our comfort zone. Christ doesn't ask us to do the Steven Spielberg type productions...He handles those very well Himself. But He does call us to be His hands and feet. This call to leadership can take many different forms. For some of us who are very shy that call might be serving as a greeter or usher one Sunday morning. Maybe just the thought of serving communion makes your knees shake but God knows our heart and He knows that people will see the love of Jesus in your face as they come to the Lord's Table! Possibly He is calling you to step out and take on the responsibility of teaching a Sunday School class or

facilitating a group study—youth or adult. You might hear the call to help fold those necessary bulletins for the worship service, to help with dinner at your church, to volunteer to answer the phones in the church office, or to even make calls from your home to members of the congregation for various committees or activities. Our churches have so many areas of need that stretch from the smallest amount of time to a commitment of huge amounts of time but they are all needs of the church and the one that requires the most time is not the most important. No one action in service to the Lord holds any more prestige than another. They are all equally important in the body of Christ because, as we know, one part cannot work without the other parts. As a member of that body take some time, during these last weeks of summer, to hear where God is calling you to serve in His church. **Ask Him to tell you where He wants your talents used.**

Think back to that Thursday night when sitting with your new best friends trying to figure out just exactly why you had wanted to come on this Walk to Emmaus and why it had seemed like such a good idea at that time. Then remember that you didn't decide to go on this Walk to Emmaus, God made that decision for you when He called you by name. You heard that call and began an incredible journey with other members of Christ's body. Hear that call again today, take that step out of your comfort zone and respond to that call. As we have heard before, God doesn't call the equipped He equips the called. When you heed that call remember that you are not walking alone and you will be equipped, for our Savior will be walking right beside you.

DeColores-Lynn





Fall Walk Dates

Men's Walk: October 15th - 18th

Pilgrim Application Deadline: October 1st

Women's Walk: October 22th - 25th

Pilgrim Application Deadline: October 8th

Dear TWE community,

I just wanted to offer a “Thanks Be to God” for the love and support shown for TW87. The team and ladies were overwhelmed by your many signs of agape love-the flowers for our chapel, our speaker’s cross, the agape bags, placemats, pens, pencils, bracelets, bookmarks, food, water, letters, hair agape, flowers for the cross, agape feast, lunch for the team, special dinner decorations, mugs to drink out of, showing up for candlelight, sunrise, singing for us, praying for us, serving us, making our logo and name tags, and many other things! I know that I am unable to recall all of the acts here and now, but we all felt the presence of God thanks to your sacrifice.

I have to say that it was the “best walk ever”. Though we weathered out a few storms of our lives, and storms that took down trees, we experienced God’s love and grace over and over.

Love,
Abby Dalton
TW62

*Do not let your hearts
be troubled,
trust in God.
Trust also in me.
John 14:1*



Train Talk Aug 09

As the summer draws to a close, I trust everyone in the Community, your loves ones and friends had a wonderful time and were able to enjoy the activities that abound in this area. I also hope you had a chance to visit the majestic places that God has so intricately sculpted for us to enjoy

This month's training 101 is the last of the series on the myriad of positions assigned to your Tidewater Emmaus Board of Directors. I can already hear a collective sigh.

Next month we will go in a different direction. I promise

God made all we survey; we need to thank Him often for allowing us to share His world.

DeColores,

Jack

Training 101

Tidewater Emmaus Board of Directors Positions and Duties (Part Final)

A Tidewater Emmaus Board (TWEB) of Directors member coordinates every evolution within the Emmaus community in accordance with The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus (the model). The following is the final listing of positions and duties.

Sponsorship

Encourages sponsorship of pilgrims for attendance on weekends. Educates the community at large on the importance and the responsibility of sponsorship. Suggests ways sponsors can show different forms of agape before, during and after Weekends.

Bill Baker Scholarship

Administers the Bill Baker Scholarship fund. This fund was established to aid Sponsors and Team members financially on a weekend. Reviews requests for financial assistance, recommends approval or disapproval of requests to the Board, and assures the confidentiality of applicants. Publicizes the availability of this program, and solicits contributions to the fund.

Chrysalis Liaison

Represents the Tidewater Chrysalis Community and Chrysalis Board on the Tidewater Emmaus Board. Assures requests from the Chrysalis Community are properly communicated to the Emmaus Board, and reports back to the Chrysalis Board any items of mutual interest to the Emmaus and Chrysalis communities.

Reunion Groups

Assists new Pilgrims and others who are not in Reunion Groups to find or form reunion groups. Maintains a list of Reunion Groups and encourages those groups to accept new members. Publicizes the importance of membership in a group to the community at large, especially encourages Sponsors to assure their Pilgrims have been given the opportunity and encouraged to become active in a Reunion Group.

Training

Acts as liaison for all TW Emmaus training needs and requirements as set forth in the Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus (model). Provides ongoing Emmaus training through various mediums such as the TW Emmaus Newsletter. Coordinates the agenda, updates PP slides, prepares handouts and facilitates the Day of Deeper Understanding (DODU).

Although your TWEB performs many other behind the scenes functions, the areas depicted in the past three newsletters will give you a basic understanding of where the Lord directs much of our concentration with regards to the Community.

The path to the Lord is long and narrow. Isn't it great that He provides a lot of rest stops?



Sponsoring an Emmaus Pilgrim



"Praise God from whom all Blessings flow!" *Yes Lord, Yes, Yes Lord*, the upcoming Fall Walks in Wakefield, VA are approaching rapidly (**Men's TW-88 on 15-18 Oct and Women's TW-89 on 22-25 Oct**). Those who have sponsored know that the role of sponsor comes with many blessings and responsibilities. An Emmaus weekend is an experience of grace, love and holy presence. As a sponsor, you are living agape to your pilgrim - you are the hands, heart and face of Christ.

The aim of a sponsor should not be to get all of his/her friends to go; to fill up the weekend; to fix people's problems; or, to reproduce one's own religious experience in others. Rather, the aim of sponsorship is help bring about spiritual revitalization and to build up the body of Christ.

Sponsoring is a very prayer intensive responsibility. First, you should pray and ask God for guidance. Continue your prayers before, during and after contacting a person about taking the Walk to Emmaus. Encourage them to pray for guidance. This is not an instant pudding process; so, be patient (in prayer) and **let God do the work**.

Being a sponsor is a tremendous commitment with many roles. Listed below are a few of these roles.

1. Pray regularly for the pilgrim.
2. Get the pilgrim safely to Wakefield.
3. Provide dinner for the pilgrim Thursday evening (e.g. the Virginia Diner).
4. Help take care of any special "needs" the pilgrim's family may have during the Walk.
5. Attend Thursday's Sponsors Hour, Saturday's Candlelight Service, and Sunday's Closing Ceremony.
6. Coordinate the solicitation and collection of the pilgrim's 12 agape letters.
7. Pay the pilgrim's \$180.00 weekend fee.
8. Bring to the Day of Deeper Understanding (DODU) training.
9. Assist the pilgrim in joining a reunion group

How do you know if the pilgrim you sponsor will be part of the Walk? First, do not assume that your pilgrim is accepted. If there is an excess of pilgrim applicants, some may have to wait until the next Walk. You and your pilgrim will receive an acceptance phone call from the appropriate board member, usually in the same week. Moreover, you will receive a "sponsor's letter" from the board with all of your sponsorship responsibilities.

The financial responsibilities:

1. The Pilgrim's Application Fee = **\$50.00 (paid by Pilgrim)**. This fee is submitted by the pilgrim with his/her application. ,
2. The Sponsor's Fee which pays for the pilgrim's weekend stay = **\$180.00 (paid by Sponsor)**. The sponsor pays this fee on or before the Thursday night of the walk weekend. Typically, most sponsors pay when they arrive at Wakefield with their pilgrim on Thursday night.

Please do not allow \$\$\$\$ (or lack of it) to be the cause of not sponsoring! Consider dual sponsorship; or, consider the Bill Baker Scholarship fund, which is an available resource for those who need assistance. Please note that there is a required but discreet application process to use the Bill Baker Fund. Pre-approval is required before acceptance of the pilgrim.

Contact Ben Lane (benlane1@cox.net) if you have any sponsorship questions.



Gathering
Saturday, August 15th
6:30 pm
Baylake UMC
4300 Shore Dr
Virginia Beach, VA

Please bring food agape!

Please use www.MapQuest.com for directions from your home.

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07-06-2009

THANKS TO THE INFLUENCE OF THE ANGEL AND DEVILS FOOD CAKES, HE COULD NOT DECIDE HOW SINFULLY CHOCOLATE TO MAKE THE ECLAIRS

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Thanks to Wilma Melendez

07-13-2009

SORRY, PASTOR, BUT THOU SHALT NOT SPEED