

EMMAUS

LEXINGTON COMMUNITY



Lexington, KY

"Did not our hearts burn within us, while he talked with us by the way...?"

August 2015

The Rooster...

Emmaus brothers and sisters,

The Emmaus walk has represented many things to me over the years and, occasionally, I have asked myself, "Why is that used by Emmaus"? One of those "icons" is the rooster that sits on the conference room tables. Why a rooster and not a lion, or a majestic eagle or some other magnificent animal?

According to history, the first Cursillo took place in Spain in 1947 and at the conclusion of their three days they were returning from their weekend on a bus.

The bus broke down and the participants had to wait in a farm yard. Of course, being in a rural area, there were plenty of chickens and where there are chickens, there are roosters. Now, these men had been with God for three days and it seems that the colors of the rooster were glorious in the sunlight and the rooster was recognized as one of God's beautiful creatures. (being with God can and does make even the simplest of things more beautiful) These men were so taken by the colors that they decided to make it the mascot of the Cursillos movement, known today as Emmaus. There also was a song written called "DeColores" meaning, "All in color". You know the song you sing/sang to get in the door for meals that describes the rooster and his quiri, quiri, quiri and the cluck hen with her cara, cara, cara and the babe chicks with their pio, pio, pio??

The rooster, described as the most colorful domestic creature on earth, had tail feathers that had significance in their color. The display of these colors is a reminder of the promise of God who said He would never destroy the earth again with water and he gave us the rainbow as evidence. Some of the meanings of these colors might be:

Green – denoting new life, growth, and the beauty of God's creation.

Blue – denoting loyalty to God, truth and justice.

Purple – denoting our dying and rising again with the suffering of Christ.

Red – denoting joy and confirmation.

Yellow/Orange- denotes warmth, light and promise as well as the changing of seasons.

The Rooster, called the "Rainbow Bird" sets ablaze these colors when in the sunlight. It should be noted that without the light, the Rooster becomes just another farm animal. We, as Christians, are much the same way; we have been equipped with amazing, gleaming colors, but, without light (Christ) we become a black and white version that blends into the world. We are told in Luke 8:16 "No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, they put it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light".

The purpose of the rooster is what I find most amazing. It is the rooster that arises first every morning, somewhere around 4:30 a.m., and in the blackness recognizes that night is coming to a close.

He turns to the east, as it knows the source of the coming light, steadies himself, straightens its neck and belts out, "Urr, ur ur urrrrrr!". The sound pierces the night as the blast of the trumpet, proclaiming, "The light has overcome the darkness, ARISE, ARISE from your slumber". He lets go with another blast and every creature, within a half mile cannot escape the sound. Immediately, a chain reaction ensues with other roosters, the barking dog, the mooing cow, the chicken's cluck, even the animals in the deep woods begin to respond to the call.

The rooster, required to be bold in his calling, is a watchman over the flock. He is not always



appreciated and is sometimes cursed by those that do not want to awaken from their slumber, yet, he sounds off, "The day is upon you, ARISE and be blessed." He does not crow to awaken the flock out of spite or nuisance, but out of love for the members within his domain that the day not be wasted.

The rooster then proceeds with his day, not as a judge, but as one who has fulfilled his calling for that day; tomorrow will bring "new" opportunity.

There are similarities with the rooster in the farmyard and the Christian in the world. We are to be watchmen (persons) and it is our responsibility to seek the Light constantly and "sound off" that the light has overcome the darkness. The message can sometimes be as the blast of the rooster, maybe a whisper, even

without sound in the form of a smile or a hug. We are called to proclaim celebration of the New Day that is in us, as well as the one to come. We are to be diligent and consistent in HIS call on our lives, without anxiety or fear of the worldview. We are to love as He has loved us.

The rooster, quite the amazing animal, is yet another example of the creations of God that, on the surface, may seem insignificant ,yet, has tremendous depth and purpose that transcends the eye. He is magnificent in color, courageous in his message and consistent with his purpose.



Lord, may we be like the rooster!!!
DeColores, *Joe Martin*



Summer Party...

Fun time of fellowship

I am happy to report the Summer Picnic/Belize fundraiser this month was a success! Through the generosity of the community, we were able to raise over \$880 for Belize!! Praise God!!

Even though the entire week was full of rain, God provided a beautiful sunny day for the picnic. We were able to sit and fellowship with a nice breeze, while the kiddos were off playing in the park! We had lots of good food and plenty of desserts. There were even a few songs strummed on the guitars.

After the picnic, we all headed over to Paris First United Methodist Church for worship. There, we sang songs praising Our Savior, heard how God was working in the life of our 4th day speaker, Delanna Turley, and shared Communion. God provided a wonderful day of fellowship and praise for all!

We missed those who couldn't attend.
DeColores, *Jen Marshall*

Agape...

Remember when?

Some of us who have been around for a while remember the days when Sponsors and the Community at large donated what we'll call "Wearable Agape." Because so much Wearable Agape was donated, the Pilgrims and the Community arrived at Candlelight and Closing draped in the Colors of God's love! I remember that I treasured all Agape that I received on my Walk, but loved wearing the pins, necklaces, earrings, bracelets, Hawaiian leighs, etc. etc.

It seems in recent years that we've moved away from the Wearable Agape, and that makes the Candlelight and Closing a little less celebratory. So, this is the beginning of a little campaign to get some Wearable Agape for the Falls Walks. Won't you consider joining in the effort?

De Colores, *Susan Holliday*



Fourth Day...

Patricia Walsh, Southern California High Desert Emmaus Walk #7, Table of Joy! (clap!)

I am an active Christian, or so I thought, involved in many things; I am in a small group that meets every week, choir, Sunday school, women's ministry and Emmaus. The list goes on. The activities at church and with Emmaus really just feed me. (I am not talking about the pot luck dinners.) I was restless. I prayed for a clear vision because I had no idea just what my new fourth days might look like to this retired woman in her mid-sixties. In March I visited Ben Bowman at his missionary school. At the end of the tour he said I should come sub for him. I actually laughed. But I recently had been hearing God's voice say, "Feed My sheep." I felt God asking me to step out in faith and do more for His people.

Our pastor, Wade Arp, gave a series of messages that said God has a purpose, place, and plan for each of us and growth does not happen until we step out of our comfort zone. I wondered what my plan was. I was born in Japan, attended Japanese kindergarten, then Yokohama International School. Our family moved several times living in foreign countries and several states. Then I married Fred who was active duty United States Air Force. Again, we moved and moved to several states and lived in foreign countries. Since retirement we have traveled a great deal. All that and the fact that I am a retired teacher with special education experience is all part of God's purpose for my life. God is taking my life experiences from birth to present and using them for His glory.

My fourth days beginning this fall will be spent in Prague, Czech Republic as a missionary teacher through TeachBeyond. I am going to be Ben's sub for the first three months of school. Once I made the decision, I had to lean in close to Christ to be obedient in my response. I had no funds for this venture, but God is providing. I am older than the average age by 30 years but God has given me strength and a young heart. I heard Him asking me to "Feed His sheep" and that's what I am going to do. Thus my fourth days are full of growing His Kingdom as a disciple. This was His plan, purpose, and place for *me* all along.

I encourage you to also lean into Christ to hear His voice speaking into your heart. You are a unique being, created in His image, and He has a plan, purpose, and place for you too. It won't look like mine. It will be *yours*. Take that step of faith and see what He has in store for you. May your fourth days be full.

De Colores!

Sponsorship...

A message from the Registrar

Teams for the Fall Walks are forming now and soon team meetings will begin. It's *NOT* too early to start praying about who God is calling you to sponsor. Forms can be downloaded from our website at www.lexingtonemmaus.org. As of this publication, we have 2 women and 1 man registered to attend. Dates for all Walks through 2017 are listed on the back page of this newsletter.

Gatherings and events...

August 7	Gathering and Potluck 6:30 potluck; 7:30 worship	Wesley UMC, Lexington 1825 Russell Cave Rd.
September 4	Gathering and Potluck 6:30 potluck; 7:30 worship	Centenary UMC, Lexington 2800 Tates Creek Rd.
October 3	Emmaus Training By Upper Room Staff	Northern Kentucky



Registration forms for attending this training event will be available at the August Gathering or you can contact Joe Martin, laydirector@lexingtonemmus.org for more information.

Walks and Flights...

Fall 2015

October 8 – 11

October 22 – 25

Men's Walk #129

Women's Walk #130

David Wolfe, Lay Director

Maria Richie, Lay Director

2016 and 2017

February 13-15, 2016

Chrysalis Flight #38

Ken Lucky, Boy's Lay Director

Jen Marshall, Girl's Lay Director

April 7-10, 2016

Men's Walk #131

April 21-24, 2016

Women's Walk #132

October 6-9, 2016

Men's Walk #133

October 13-16, 2016

Women's Walk #134

February 18-20, 2017

Chrysalis Flight #39

April 20-23, 2017

Men's Walk #135

April 27-30, 2017

Women's Walk #136

October 5-8, 2017

Men's Walk #137

October 12-15, 2017

Women's Walk #138

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Return Service Requested