



SONrise January-February 2002
EMMAUS
NEWSLETTER
... Strengthening the Local Church

An Introduction from Your Community Lay Director

A friend has told me, "Sandy, there are some in the SONrise Emmaus Community who do not know you." So a word or two of introduction: I am a child of God, a sinner - yes, but one rescued through my Baptism into Christ and filled with His Holy Spirit. Am I perfect, pure and holy, as God wants me to be? No, but I pray that as I die to sin daily and seek His will for my life through prayer and the study of His word, that I will grow to be more like Christ. I pray that I can follow in the footsteps of the Profit Isaiah (a favorite book of mine from the Old Testament). Isaiah 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" and I said, "Here am I. Send me!" I also pray not only am I willing but that I can also follow Christ's example to us. Mark 10:35 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve. What gifts and qualifications do I have for this role of Community Lay Director? I am not a Theologian, a musician, a singer, a speaker, - some may be thinking a writer - or an intellect. In the Body of Christ, I am probably an ear - a good listener, hands - a hard worker, or a heart - loving and compassionate. I am a mix of Mary and Martha with the emphasis probably on Martha although this is an area I continually try and work on!

Now, enough about me. The upcoming year's activities are in full swing with the Men's Walk coming February 28, March 1, 2, & 3, at First Baptist Church. Lyle Bennett is the Lay Leader and his team is busy preparing for the walk. The following weekend March 7, 8, 9, & 10, at Kingsport Community Church will be the Women's Walk. Pat Wininger is the Women's Lay Leader and her team is also meeting and bonding in preparation for the weekend. On February 9, at Mt. View United Methodist Church, we will have the next Gathering with the commissioning of both teams. Please plan on attending the Gathering and supporting both walks. It's our time to observe God at work through this community and to be His instruments to carry out that work! Remember to, as Paul told the Thessalonians in 5:17, "pray continually." Several people have inquired about dates for the Chrysalis and Journey Walks and they are as follows: **Boy's Chrysalis - June 21, 22, & 23; Girl's Chrysalis - July 12, 13, 14; and combined gals and guys Journey's - August 1, 2, 3, 4.** The Board, for the most part, is in place and continuing its work. You will find a listing of Board Members and committee members within this newsletter. Please note that we have two large areas with few people serving. The clean-up committee has no one and the kitchen has one individual. I would ask each of you to prayerfully consider serving in either area and let me know if you feel God leading you to one of those committees. Please note that we have two large areas with few people serving. The clean-up committee has no one and the kitchen has one individual. I would ask each of you to prayerfully consider serving in either area and let me know if you feel God leading you to one of those committees.

I'd like to close with something Isaiah reminded the Israelites: Isaiah 48:17 This is what the Lord says - your Redeemer, the Holy one of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go." Let's draw on the Holy Spirit's power in our lives to direct our footsteps this year, so that all that we do is done for God's glory alone. Isaiah 48:18 "If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your righteousness like the waves of the sea." Let's not miss God's peace and righteousness!

De Colores
Sandy Winsor

Emmaus Community Lay Director