



**Northern Colorado Emmaus Community  
May 2010 Newsletter**

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**A Farewell from Pastor Tom Webster**

As a last word to my Walk to Emmaus friends I would like to share my reflections on the Women's Walk I just served. I posted the following on my website [www.tomsgoodnews.com](http://www.tomsgoodnews.com)

Beginning of New Life

I saw God in the group of ladies gathered to begin a Walk to Emmaus weekend. Their faces glowed with excitement as they laughed and shared new friendships. They beamed with hope as they listened to our lay director talk about the possibilities of their deepened relationship with God. The first night was a good beginning to three days with God and this group of ladies. What are we doing to deepen our connection with God? What hinders our walk and work for Christ? What do we need to let go of or change to find a new beginning? Look for opportunities today and each day to be closer to God.

The First Day

I saw God in table leaders as they encouraged and supported the ladies at their tables. They helped the pilgrims explore their relationship with Christ and each other. I saw God in their selfless service of love. I saw God in the speakers as they shared inspiring, heart filled talks. They talked about priorities, how to understand and accept God's grace, what deepens our relationship with Christ, and how to bridge the gap so others can connect with Christ. I saw God in their opening their lives to us to bring us closer to Christ. I saw God in the pilgrims as midst laughter and tears they took the first steps to claiming new life. They shared with their tables

their struggles and confessed their need for a better life. I saw God in the love that they expressed to one another. God showed up on this Walk to Emmaus, but then God loves us and is always with us. We need to stop and take time to look and listen. Take time today to explore a new beginning.

### Released to a New Beginning

I saw God working in the lives of the ladies and team on the Walk to Emmaus weekend. I saw God in their passion and love and they all cared for one another and made new beginnings in their relationship with God and each other. A pilgrim passed the following note to the clergy: Dearest Clergy! I am not sure where to begin, except to thank you. As I have watched you throughout this weekend, all I have seen from each of you is love, kindness, and compassion. I came to this wounded and untrusting. I have canceled coming to Emmaus twice and not thrilled with this one, but I felt God hemming me in with no way out. Everything was fine until talk #5 and that rocked my world. The hurt and pain of a devastating loss of our church home, a place of joy, safety, and fellowship, died a slow and painful death for two years until our Father released us 1½ years ago. I shared my heart with one of the clergy and she simply listened and said “it’s okay.” The hurt I was carrying as well as the shame left and peace entered in. When the Spiritual Director led us in breaking of bread and confessing our hearts, it took on a whole new meaning. Taking communion gave my wholeness back to me. Thank you all for your sacrifice in being with us. In love and respect, a pilgrim. What baggage is getting in the way of our new beginnings? Pray right now and let it go to God.

### Sent Forth to Serve

I saw God shining through the faces of the ladies as they shared what the Emmaus weekend meant to them. They encountered God, released a lot of baggage, and embraced a new beginning in their walk with Christ. They went home with a mission to change their lives and change our world. I saw God in their passion and enthusiasm for loving and caring for their family and friends. Their world at home may not have changed, but they sure did. They were ready to share God’s love with the world. I saw God in the selfless powerful witness of the team. They set aside their own journey like the Good Samaritan to help these pilgrims stranded on the side of the road of life. They are true servants of Christ. I also saw God in the growth and enthusiasm of the Northern Colorado Emmaus Community. God is working through them to revitalize the churches in northern Colorado and Wyoming. They gave me a beautiful cross as a tribute to my ministry and I humbled and honored.

Christy and I have moved, but we have taken with us many great memories of people who have touched our lives. We hope to connect with the Emmaus community in Iowa, and will encourage our new church to discover this great tool for reviving our spirit and mission for Christ. Remember that God loves us and wants to walk and work with us in life. Take a moment now and talk with God about how that can happen. I love you too and will always remember you.

Your former Community Spiritual Director and Friend, Tom Webster

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**A New Beging, A Message From Pastor Karl Winegardner**

As unlikely as it seems, I greet you as the new Community Spiritual Director succeeding my friend and pastor, Tom Webster, who has accepted the senior pastorate at a large church in Des Moines, Iowa. Tom and Christy have served our church, First Chirsitan of Loveland, for nearly seven years and we will miss their leadership in Emmaus given Tom's many experiences in Emmaus and like organizatons. But as others move on to their great rewards, those left behind need to pitch in to fill the gap. I can fill Tom's shoes, since we both wear size 15s, but in no way can I fill, but can only follow, his example of spiritual leadership, but with God's help, I will give it my best shot. I am a native Buckeye, educated at Ohio Northern University, Ohio State University, Bowling Green State University and the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. We shed our Buckeye origins in 1999 when we moved here to be closer to our daughter, Beth Jackson, who is a school psychologist, and her family who reside in the Windsor area. We also have a son, Doug, who is an attorney in the Richmond, Viriginia area where his family lives. I am an ex-United Methodist Pastor, from the West Ohio Coference, but after suffering from an addiction, I am now in a 12 Step recovery program, have rebuilt my faith, dealt with the consequences of the problem, namely a divorce, after a 45 year marriage. But the Lord has been unbelievably gracious to me, allowed me good health, a full retirement from Aims Community College, where I taught English and Philosophy until 2007. Emmaus and Bible Study Fellowship have been instrumental in my spiritual rebuilding program and now I have come full circle as I attempt to provide compassionate and committed spiritual guidance to our community. My BOBS (Band of Brothers) Emmaus Reunion group, has held me accountable for the past seven years and I love those guys (Dennis Miller, Bob Sprague, Don Shaeffer, Matt Webster, and John Allison, but there too, we miss Tom Webster who was an origianl BOB). I am so committed to Emmaus because I know with a certainty that if we use the program, the program will work for us and spiritual growth and renewal can occur ; I am counting on Christ in new and special ways. Please call upon me anytime by contacting me at [jkwine40@netzero.net](mailto:jkwine40@netzero.net) or by phone at 970-667-2332. Together with the Lord's help, we can be more than conquerors through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Karl L. Winegardner,  
new Community Spiritual Director  
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## **NCEC Gets a New Database**

Our new NCEC web-based database is now ready to be opened up to the whole community. This database is being used by many Emmaus communities across the United States. We've imported the data from the old database so all of your information should still be in there. The database is used to maintain contact information for all community members and retain pilgrim and team work history. Lay Directors will use this database to build their teams. The registrar will use it to add pilgrim applications. Team Selection will use it to run the experience engine and determine qualifications for selecting future teams.

For community members, you will be able to:

- Update your own personal information
- Submit online applications for pilgrims that you wish to sponsor

- Submit online team applications

To get into the database, open up an Internet Explorer browser (this will not run from any other browser at this time) and paste the following link in the web address:

<http://ncec.inetmember.com/>

Your login will be the email address that you have provided to NCEC.

Your temporary password will be 'ncecncec'.

- When you log in for the first time, your first action should be to change your password. Go to 'You' in the menu bar and select 'Change your password'.
- Select 'You' to display your information in the database and update the fields as necessary. The old database didn't maintain any information about birthdate, so you will need to update that. Be sure to select the 'Update Your Information' button when you have finished your changes.
- From the submenu you can view 'Your Options' to determine how you wish to receive correspondence and your Chrysalis preference.
- From the 'Your Weekend' submenu, you can view all the people who were in attendance on your walk. Note: that some of those people may no longer be in the database if they've moved away or moved to a different community.
- From the 'Your Experience' submenu, you will see your entire team work history. Unfortunately there was a glitch in the database export which resulted in duplicate experience – I will need to work with you to clean that up, so email me with the duplicates.
- From the 'Your Reunion Group', you can edit and change your reunion group information.
- From the 'Your Church Community' you can see all members of your church who have attended Emmaus.
- From the 'Volunteer Information', you can see volunteer opportunities and a sign up form to sign up and help in future walk.

You can select the 'Online Application' to view a blank application, which you can use to complete and submit an application for a pilgrim for future walks. We really would like to transition to this method over time because it will save trees and be easier to manage the registration process.

Database Administrators are:

Drew Watson ([emmaus@watsonmcp.com](mailto:emmaus@watsonmcp.com))

Pat Olsen ([patc303@comcast.net](mailto:patc303@comcast.net))

Please email us if you have questions. We will be doing demos and hands-on training at the next few gatherings.

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## **Hymnal History**

I prefer contemporary Christian music and spend time in various praise bands. I certainly don't know many hymns but I have become rather fond of a few, my favorite being "It IS Well with My Soul". I'm not real sure why, because it has some old language that makes it pretty hard to understand what your even singing about. None the less it has a simple yet catchy tune. More importantly the refrain (or chorus) of the song is very simple yet powerful. In moments where chaos prevails in my life, it seemed to instill calmness and a presence of Christ through the turmoil.

On Walk 32, I worked at the Table of Luke <insert "Luuuuke" sound>. I asked our music team to play It Is Well with My Soul. I'd always liked the tune and it was sort of comforting. Much to my dismay, we did not have the words printed in the music books. Being the IT geek that I am, I ran over to the computer and created a quick PowerPoint with the lyrics, copying them from a hymnal. As I typed them out, I was confused by the second verse. I figured we'd just skip it. Returning to the music team, I told them the "road map" of the song as set up in the PowerPoint. Mark Janssen proceeded to tell me a 60 second story of how the song came to be, and more importantly, that I was omitting the verse that makes the song work. (OOPS!)

Well, here is the story!

It Is Well with My Soul - Lyrics by Horatio Gates Spafford and music by Philip Paul Bliss

Horatio Gates Spafford was born October 20, 1828 in Lansingburgh, New York. His father, rose to some prominence in federal government and was a correspondent of Thomas Jefferson. Spafford became a lawyer, specializing in medical jurisprudence, and went west, settling in Chicago. He practiced law in Chicago as a partner of Spafford, McDaid and Wilson. He invested wisely in real estate in what is now the "Loop", the city center. In 1861, he married Norwegian-born Anna Tuben Larssen. By 1871, Horatio and Anna Spafford had four daughters: Annie, Maggie, Bessie, and Tanetta. The Spaffords were well-to-do; their real estate was valued at 38,000 US dollars in 1870, and they even had a French governess, Emma Lorriaux.

October 8-10, 1871, a fire in Chicago heavily devastated the city, killing 250 people and rendering 90,000 homeless. A third of the city was destroyed and Horatio had personally sustained significant financial loss. The Spaffords worked tirelessly for two years to help the victims of the conflagration put their lives back together.

1873, Horatio and Anna decided to take their family to Europe but Last-minute business obligations caused Horatio to stay behind, sending his family on ahead and planning to join them as soon as he could. Anna, the couple's four daughters, the children's governess and two others in their party boarded the French steamship Ville du Havre on November 22, 1873, along with 307 other passengers and crew and set sail for Europe. On November 22, 1873, in the eastern North Atlantic, the Ville du Havre collided with the British iron clipper Loch Earn. The Ville du Havre sank in a mere 12 minutes, and 226 people perished, including the four Spafford daughters. The following day, the US ship Tremontain reached the scene, and the rescued Ville du Havre passengers carrying them the remainder of the trip. On December 1, 1873 Anna her husband the following devastating message: "Saved alone. What shall I do. Mrs Goodwin

children Willie Culver lost. Go with Lorriaux until answer. Reply Porclain 64 Rue Abouckir Paris." Horatio took the next available ship to join his wife.

During Horatio's voyage, the captain of the ship had called him to the bridge. "A careful reckoning has been made", he said, "and I believe we are now passing the place where the Ville du Havre was wrecked. The water is three miles deep." That night in his cabin, Horatio wrote the great hymn declaring the comforting peace of the believer, "It Is Well With My Soul." His lyrics may well have been inspired by a Biblical verse found in II Kings 4:26: Of an unnamed Shunammite woman whose adult only son had died, the verse reads, "Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? Is it well with thy husband? Is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well."

Horatio and Anna Spafford continued on to lead commendable Christian lives. At some point (I couldn't really find a definitive answer) Philip Bliss, a singer, teacher and later evangelist in the mid-1850's to mid-1870's wrote the tune to Horatio Spafford's manuscript.

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

(Refrain:) It is well (it is well),  
with my soul (with my soul),  
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.  
(Refrain)

My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
(Refrain)

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:  
If Jordan above me shall roll,  
No pain shall be mine, for in death as in life  
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.  
(Refrain)

And Lord haste the day, when my faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,

Even so, it is well with my soul.  
(Refrain)

References:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyrensse/bio220.htm>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/It\\_Is\\_Well\\_with\\_My\\_Soul](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/It_Is_Well_with_My_Soul)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horatio\\_Spafford](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horatio_Spafford)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip\\_Bliss](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Bliss)

<http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/i/t/i/itiswell.htm>

De Colores!

Drew Watson

Walk 12, Alenspark, CO

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### **Fall Walks - Team Selection Begins NOW!**

I know we all just finished with Walk 32 and 33, and they were tremendously successful. But as you all know, a huge amount of work goes into the planning of a Walk to Emmaus Weekend. I was personally blessed to have been on the Walk 32 team and I know all of both teams feel the same way.

If you'd like to work on the Fall Walks it's time to get your Team Application ([http://www.northcoloemmaus.org/pdf/nce\\_team.pdf](http://www.northcoloemmaus.org/pdf/nce_team.pdf)) in now. We'll be working on Team Selection by month end!

The Fall Walks will be held at Highlands Presbyterian Camp in Alenspark.

Walk #34 September 23-26, 2010

Walk #35 September 30 – October 3, 2010

Whether you can work or not, please begin to pray for the team God has yet to pick, for the Pilgrims God intends to invite, and most of all, for the people who will turn down His invitation.

Blessings to all

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### **Leadership Development**

EQUIP EMPOWER EDUCATE

A Program designed for strengthening

Communities and Boards presented by the Western Regional Leadership Team from the Upper Room

Hosted by the Northern Colorado Emmaus Community

Meet Victor Perez, International Spiritual Director

June 25 and 26, 2010

Clergy Certification, Fri., June 25 – 9:00 am

Community Gathering, Fri., June 25 - 7:00 pm

Leadership Development, Sat., June 26- 9:00 am

WHERE: Longs Peak UMC  
1421 Elmhurst Dr., Longmont, Colorado  
Emmaus style “camping” at the church  
SpringHill Suites-special rate \$99.00 nightly

LODGING: <http://cwp.marriott.com/denbl/ncemmaus>  
for reservations before May 25.  
RV parking at the church  
No registration fee

FEES: \$5.00 lunch  
You are welcome to bring snacks/drinks

PLEASE RETURN [REGISTRATION FORM](#)

BY JUNE 15 TO:

[idealcurtis@yahoo.com](mailto:idealcurtis@yahoo.com) or

[rkbakich@aol.com](mailto:rkbakich@aol.com) or

Kris Bakich, 744 Brookside Dr. Longmont, CO 80504

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## **Board Happenings**

At the April 11, meeting the Board:

- Discussed the Regional Emmaus Leadership Event

Dates: June 25,26

Location: Longs Peak UMC in Longmont

Time: 9:00-5:00 on Friday followed by a Community Gathering

9:00-5:00 on Saturday

Cost: \$5:00 donation for lunch

- Discussed the need for a demonstration of the new data base at a Gathering
- Elected Karl Winegardner to replace Tom Webster as the Community Spiritual Director. (Tom is moving to Iowa in May.)
- Signed a new community agape letter to send to other communities.
- Scheduled an Upper Room Training and New Pilgrim Orientation
- Heard plans for the NCEC Revival Weekend.
- Approved the purchase of drink “cozies” as agape on the Walk.
- Discussed filling the Board openings, one in the Class of 2010 and one in the Class of 2011, and the need to fill the Out Reach and Hospitality position.
- Planned for Team Selection for the Fall Walks in May. **If you are interested in serving, please submit your Team Applications ASAP.**

The Board currently has one open position: Outreach and Hospitality. Interested? Contact Todd Howard.

The Prayer Vigil and Community Support sign-up for Walks 32 and 33 are posted on the web site: [www.northcoloemmaus.org](http://www.northcoloemmaus.org). Be sure to sign up!

Pilgrim applications are being accepted. Applications can be printed from the web site. Please return applications to the Registrar as soon as possible.

De Colores!

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