

BOARD ELECTIONS — OCTOBER 2002

You know a 24-member Board of Directors meet every month to consider how we implement the Upper Room Walk to Emmaus Manual. (Three Community Spiritual Directors are appointed by the Board to fill three (3) of those 24 positions.) Since a term for a Board position is three years, each year eight (8) positions become vacant and an election is held in October to fill seven (7) from a slate of candidates provided by the Community and one (1) Community Spiritual Director position would require appointment.

However, this year there will be seven (7) Board positions to fill for terms ending 2002; One (1) two-year position to fill due to a Board vacancy; and a third position to fill where the term has not been determined. That makes nine (9) Board positions to fill. ----A list of all of the Board roles appears in the last issue (Number 3 – June / July 2002) of *Footprints*.

In that issue, you could get the sense that the role of Book Table, for example, becomes vacant at the end of the year but actually, Don Beck's term ends, he has been on the Board

for a term of 3 years. He presently holds the Board role of Book Table but his Board term ends.

When the Board meets in January 2003, the Board will fill ALL Board roles (except Community Spiritual Directors) for 2003, after the 2002 Election provides them with a slate: nine (9) newly elected Board Members and twelve (12) term carryovers plus Community Spiritual Directors. With the exception of Community Spiritual Directors, EVERY Board role becomes vacant at the end of the calendar year and every role is filled in January of every year. (*Editor's Note: The board goes through a discernment process to determine which board member fills which position for the year. Just because a person continues on the board does not guarantee that person will remain in the same position.*)

As an example, the Gatherings role becomes vacant at the end of 2002 but Carrie Bloom's term on the Board ends in 2004. She could continue in that role for 2003 and again in 2004 until her Board term ends at the end of that year. (I use Don and Carrie as examples only because their names appear at the top of the list alphabetically in the *Footprints* issue I refer to above.)

A Board position allows you to see the Walk to Emmaus with much different eyes; different than the eyes as a Pilgrim; different than the eyes as a member of a weekend team.

In spite of what you may think, God has prepared you for a role on the Board. You see: God is in the business of using His people to accomplish seemingly impossible tasks. He prepares them by using their personality characteristics, their life experiences and the training they receive, like on a three-day short course in Christianity, to equip His people for the work He has for them in His plan.

If you have an interest in serving in a Board role, I encourage you to call any one of the Board members to discuss it **sometime THIS month**. Their phone numbers appear in the last issue of *Footprints*. The 2002 BALLOT will be included in the OCTOBER *Footprints*.

GLYASDI,

NED WELLER

Assistant Community Lay Director

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS Pastors, we need your help. The Lansing Area Emmaus Board has for some time been seeking two more members for the Community Spiritual Director Team. We realize that you are busy, but we ask you to prayerfully consider serving in this way. This is too large a job for one person, but many hands make light work. We would like to have a team of three Community Spiritual Directors in staggered terms so that there will always be at least one experienced person on the team, preferably two people. If you feel called to help us in this way, please call or e-mail **Garnet Chappell** or **Ned Weller**. For telephone numbers or e-mail addresses, please see the board Table, p. 2.



SET-UP / TEAR-DOWN COORDINATOR We have been too long without a Set-Up / Tear-Down Coordinator. The work has been getting done, but we would like to fill this position. If you have a flair for logistics, a flexible schedule, and a love of working with people, this may be your opportunity to serve. Please note that you **ARE NOT** expected to do all the work of Set-up and Tear-Down yourself. As team leader, you will assemble, with the help of other board members like the Data Manager, a team to accomplish these important services. You will get to help guide the transformation of a church into a home for an Emmaus Walk, and back to its original state.



CHILD CARE FOR GATHERINGS With Fall soon to be in high gear, the need to have two adults to help supervise children at gatherings is more urgent, starting with the October gathering. If we have enough volunteers, people might be able to rotate and not have to miss the entire program, and our children will be well and lovingly supervised. The September gathering will not need child care because of its special time and place (see p. 8.) but our October gathering will include the follow-up meetings for both the Men's and the Women's Walks, and will feature the Ithaca Men's Chorus. We will need child care then.



BOARD MEMBERS As noted above, we ask you to consider whether The Lord is asking you to serve as a Board Member for the Lansing Area Walk to Emmaus. All jobs are potentially open each year, and the board together discerns who best fits into each job for the year. It may be a large responsibility, but remember – The Lord doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called. Besides, it's a great group of people, and a LOT of fun.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS If you are not quite ready to jump in as a board member, you might consider getting your feet wet as a committee member. The intention is for each board member to have a committee to help accomplish The Lord's work. Take a look at the board positions and find one that interests you, or that you feel called to. Any board member will be delighted to speak with you about any opportunities on the committee they head.

CREATION'S CORNER

I am reading a very interesting book by Matthew Fox titled *Sins of the Spirit, Blessings of the Flesh*. One particular passage got me thinking about the bounty coming from our gardens right now. In it, he is reflecting on the implications of God being "wrapped in a robe of light," from Psalm 104. It certainly got me thinking: Am I grateful enough for the blessings God brings forth from the earth each and ev-



ery day? Perhaps it gives refreshed meaning to the grace we say before meals. Harry Wallin

"... Is photosynthesis a special creation that carries on the light-making properties of the universe and of its maker? When we eat and drink the sun, which is seized in fruit and vegetables, coffee and orange juice, are we imbibing Divinity? Is all food a holy Eucharist – an eating of the flesh of the Divine One? The food of the Beloved?"