

JANUARY
2009

Ideally Speaking *My thoughts, My words, My heart*

LEADERSHIP. It's been on my mind a lot lately. Our church is looking for a new Senior Pastor to lead. Our country is in the beginning stages of a new and dramatic leadership change. Your Emmaus community has new leadership. The Upper Room is settling in to the change in leadership.

It's all around me. I spent 20 years in leadership in the world of school administration. I've seen some really great and some really bad leadership. And here is what I have learned:

LEADERSHIP is based on

TRUST which is built on

RELATIONSHIP and it all begins with

COMMUNICATION

It has been my privilege to be your Western Regional Leader for almost one year. My desire remains the same: to establish the communication that will grow into to a relationship and trust. With some of you I have had great success. Some of you still aren't so sure, and others have had nothing to do with me (much to my personal disappointment).

I am not going to give up or go away. God has placed us in this ministry at this time on purpose and for a purpose. The Body of Christ, the Church, is renewed by lives and worlds that are changed on Emmaus weekends, and even better the results of fully realized 4th Days!

Walk to Emmaus is bigger than any one person or community. In fact, Walk to Emmaus isn't about one person or community. It is a wonderful, living, world wide movement involving over 1 million people! What a mighty God we serve! Putting aside our desires, our experiences, our "way" and following the Holy Spirit's guidance opens the path for us to follow the true Leader - Jesus Christ.

Working together to establish and maintain strong, healthy, active *Walk to Emmaus* communities is the goal. Helping with difficulties, guiding in the right direction, supporting, encouraging, praying, loving, all move in the direction of that goal. That's what I am here for!

Please let me know what you are thinking, what's going on in your community, how I can help. Let's celebrate the praises and lift the prayers together. I can't wait to hear from you!

In Him I Live and Move and Have My Being. Acts 17:28

The WALK in the West

LINK IT TO YOUR WEB PAGE

SEND IT AS AN EMAIL BLAST TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS

ADD IT TO YOUR NEWSLETTER

If you have something you would like to see in this newsletter, please contact me at idealcurtis@yahoo.com or 530-258-2168.

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The Walk in the West is brought to you monthly by Ideal Curtis, the Walk To Emmaus Western Region Leader for the Upper Room.

WESTERN REGIONAL LEADER SCHEDULE:

- **January 30** - Inner City Los Angeles Leadership Development
- **January 31** - Southern California Prayer Gathering
- **February 20-22** - Arizona Emmaus Community visit
- **March 12-15** - Sponsoring pilgrim Central CA Women's Walk
- **April 16-19** - Annual International Advisory Meetings—Nashville
- **April 24-26** - Northern California WTE Board Retreat

I appreciate your prayers as I am privileged to serve

WALK TO EMMAUS WESTERN REGION

The WALK in the West



OPERATION: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

As the leader of your Emmaus community have you ever wished there was somewhere you could go and take your entire board to gain valuable Leadership Development?

Need help with sponsorship guidelines (running short on pilgrims)? How do you create a 4th Day community? How do you run an effective board meeting - and not have it last for 4 hours? How do you stay in contact with your community members efficiently? The list goes on and on.

I am pleased to announce that help is on the way!

Being developed even as we speak is a brand new tool for community boards :



You will begin to hear more about **OPERATION: LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** over the next few months. The test run is happening in March with communities on the East Coast. All of the Regional Leaders, Clergy Regional Leaders, Chrysalis Regional Leaders, and the Upper Room staff are committed to making this something of great value for communities.

We have heard your requests, your concerns, your questions, your suggestions and have kept you our primary focus as we have put this program together.

Walk to Emmaus is only as strong as it's servant/leaders. Our goal is to partner with you in building and sustaining healthy, strong, active, 4th Day, *Walk to Emmaus* communities all over the world.

WANT MORE INFORMATION? INTERESTED IN BEING A TEST SITE?

I'd love to talk with you about it!

The Upper Room Corner:



UPPER ROOM/WALK TO EMMAUS STAFF:

International Spiritual Director - **Victor Perez**
Assistant to International Spiritual Director - **Laura Feliciano**
International Lay Director - **Greg Engroff**
Assistant to International Lay Director - **Deana Fredrick**

CONTACT THEM AT:
877-899-2780

HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE UPPER ROOM WEB SITE? There are so many resources there for your community. One of which is The Emmaus Library. This series of 10 books covers everything from The Early History, to The Board of Directors, to Fourth Day. They are inexpensive and are wonderful for your book table at Walks and other events. Check them out!

www.upperroom.org/emmaus

LETTER OF AGREEMENT

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR PACKET FROM THE UPPER ROOM
PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Remember, you need to submit the most current information to the Upper Room (new board members, new Lay Director address, phone, and email address).

Your password to utilizing the boardroom portion of the Upper Room website is always located on the copy of your signed Letter of Agreement you will receive back from the Upper Room.

If you have any questions, are not sure who will receive the Upper Room packet, or need further information please contact Ideal Curtis at idealcurtis@yahoo.com.

The Letter of Agreement is the covenant between the Upper Room and the individual communities. Please prayerfully read, understand, and know the Letter of Agreement. The board as a whole should pray about it, discuss it, and sign it together. When you as a board member sign this document you are doing so with the trust and confidence of your community members.

PILGRIM FEES

Another important thing to be current on is your pilgrim fees to the Upper Room. When does your community submit them? How much per pilgrim does your community pay? For how many pilgrims per year do you send a pilgrim fee to the Upper Room? Do you know the answers to these questions? If not, ask! Find out what and why your community is doing. The pilgrim fees is one of the main sources of income for Walk to Emmaus. Be good stewards and make sure your community is current.

*Calling All Southern California Walk To Emmaus Communities
to a gathering of prayer*

Saturday, January 31, 2009 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Trinity United Methodist Church 676 N Gibbs Street

Pomona, California

Contact Ideal Curtis for more information

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Where are you in this process?

Do you communicate with your community?

What relationship do you have with community members?

Have you earned their trust?

Do they welcome your leadership?

Might be an interesting discussion topic for your board...

Walking Together... from one pilgrim to another

Seeing Leadership in action:

[Inner City Los Angeles](#) - Meeting in January to Leadership Development as they re-establish their community and begin plans for upcoming walks

[Idaho Walk to Emmaus](#) - Seeking God's will in establishing a Chrysalis community in Idaho.

[Northern Colorado Emmaus](#) - Praying about hosting a state wide gathering later this year.

[Alaska Emmaus](#) - Continuing Strong in making solid, tough, decisions towards Upper Room model.

[Orange County](#) - Taking a year hiatus as they seek God's will for their community.

[Central California](#) - Working with Upper Room in clergy qualification procedures.

[Central Coast](#) - Forming board, scheduling walks as they revive their community.

[Arizona](#) - Spending time in dialog regarding Leadership Development.

[Southern California](#) - Hosting Prayer Gathering January 31 - Pomona, California

[Northern California](#) - Preparing for Emmaus Board retreat in April

[Many Communities](#) - Planning, preparing, praying over upcoming walks (check out www.upperroom/emmaus for complete list)

These are just a few of the many decision Leadership is making all over the Western Region. If you would like to hear more about what they are doing, offer some suggestions or encouragement, or have any questions please contact me and I will connect you with the community Lay Director.

We are one body - walking together.....

Please keep these boards - and all boards - in your prayers.

If you have something happening in your community or a question for other communities please contact me at: idealcurtis@yahoo.com.



But thanks be to God, who always **leads** us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. - 2 CORINTHIANS 2:14 NIV

WALK TO EMMAUS SERVANTHOOD CHART



(12) The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

(18) But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

(19) If they were all one part, where would the body be?

(20) As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

(27) Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

I Corinthians 12

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP GUIDELINES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Excerpt from The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus).

Purpose : Direction of the Community shall be vested in a Board of Directors.

Composition : The Board will consist of fifteen (15) elected lay members and the Community Spiritual Director.

Terms of Office

- a) Laypersons on the board shall be elected by the Community members for three (3)-year terms in three (3) classes, each class having five (5) members.
- b) Board members cannot succeed themselves in consecutive terms, a term being three (3) years.
- c) Terms of office shall begin January 1 and shall terminate December 31, except for officers, who shall serve until election of new officers in January as provided.

Election of Board Members

- a) Board members are elected by the community.
- b) The nominating committee shall submit to the board a slate of seven (7) nominees to elect five (5) board members.
- c) The ballot shall be provided to the Community members as part of the newsletter and shall be available no later than October 15 of each year.
- d) Ballots are to be received by the board no later than November 15 of each year.
- e) Election is by majority vote of the ballots cast.
- f) The immediate past chair of the board shall serve on the board one (1) additional year or the normal period of the term, whichever is longer.
- g) The board may elect persons, upon nomination by the chair, to fill a vacant term until the next regular election for that term. Such persons are eligible for election to a full term by the Community at such regular election.

***Do you know if this is how your community works?
ASK!***

FIND OUT!

GET INVOLVED!



The Walk to Emmaus is a structured, disciplined ecumenical experience in spiritual renewal, operative both in the life of the individual and of the church. Because of its life-transforming potential, Emmaus calls for excellence. This excellence is manifest in the spirit of humility and servanthood that characterizes the ministry of Emmaus ~ the same spirit modeled in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

In order to sustain the spirit of Emmaus, one must, first of all be committed to personal spiritual growth. Secondly they are called to remain faithful to the spirit and structure of the Walk to Emmaus that has been entrusted to them by obedience to the authority and direction under which the Walk to Emmaus is conducted.

Sustaining The Spirit ~

A personal Guide to the Ministry of the Walk to Emmaus
(Available at upperroom.com)