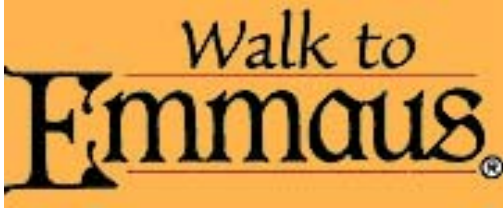
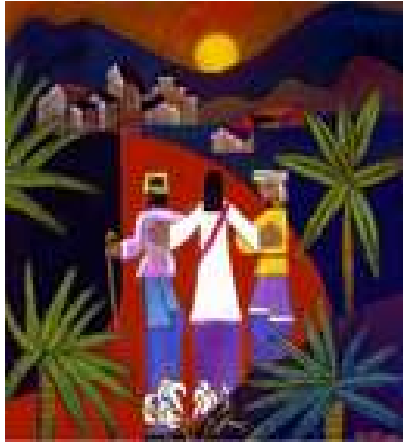




HEARTLAND FAITHFUL



Heartland Faithful Walk to Emmaus Community Newsletter / November 2008 (4th Qtr)



**While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them.
Luke 24:15**

Upcoming Walk Info.


Walk #2 (Men's)
Dates: April 16-19, 2009
Where: Carol Joy Holling
Cost: \$150
LD: Doug Jones

Walk #3 (Women's)
Dates: April 23-26, 2009
Where: Carol Joy Holling
Cost: \$150
LD: Tara Otis


Current Steering Committee

Chairman:	Marv Dorsey
Community Pastor(s):	Pastor Terry Otto Pastor Sandy Webster
Team Selection:	Bob Hennings
Agape:	Ron Gaddis & Scott Herring
Entertainment:	Jason Buss
Facilities:	Open Chair
Gathering & Group Reunion:	Linda Zimmerman
Kitchen/Snack:	Debby Huber
Prayer:	Marshall Peterson
Registrar:	Laura Haug
Secretary:	Diane Peterson
Sponsors Hour & Candlelight:	Bev Allen
Supply & Lit.:	Jean Meyers
Treasurer:	Les Reimer
Transportation & Housing:	Keith Hale, Andy Baumert & Allison Tiller

[Please see Community Roster for contact info.](#)



The teams for the 2009 walks have been selected and will be announced at the next Omaha Gathering. Please plan to attend and to pray over both the Men and Women's teams.



**The Polls have closed and the Ballets are counted!
 The newly elected "Board" members for the Heartland Faithful Community will be announced at the next Gathering(s). Please plan to attend to encourage and pray for those who will serve your community.**

Heartland Faithful Monthly Gathering Information

Lincoln: 2nd Friday of every month, 6:30pm @ First United Methodist Church, Contact Ron Gaddis with questions

Omaha: 3rd Friday of every month, 7:00pm @ Living Faith UMC 182nd & Q St., Contact Linda Zimmerman with questions

[Please see Community Roster for contact info.](#)





Pastor's Space

Submitted by Pastor Fred Pilecki

Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. Acts 2:33

I have not worked an Emmaus weekend without seeing what Luke talked about in Acts 2:33. During each weekend that I have worked I have seen the Holy Spirit poured out, seen and heard. Some of you may have heard me tell this story but it is worth repeating. It is a true story that I am sure I will never forget.

I was working as Assistant Spiritual Director at Camp Aldersgate, in southwest Iowa, as part of Terraced Hill Walk to Emmaus. As the weekend progressed, I had two table leaders approach me with concerns about a Pilgrim at their table. The first told me about a great big older gentlemen at his table who kept saying he was struggling with God because of his anger. During a break I met up with this fellow at the snack table and we had a good discussion. It seems that several years earlier his younger sister was killed by a drunken driver. He openly shared that his anger had been a problem ever since the accident. He even said that he was so mad at the driver that he would have killed him if he had the chance. His family knew how mad he was and refused to identify the driver. He told how his anger even extended to God for allowing his sister to be killed.

The second person was a young man who told me he felt like going home. He said he felt the talks were way over his head. He told me how he was a new Christian. He even volunteered to tell me about his childhood. It seems he grew up in a family that did not attend church. When he became an adult he did many things that he was not proud of. He even told me he had spent time in prison. He was now married and had children. He told me how he wanted a better life for his children and decided to start attending church as a family. Even though he had accepted Christ as his personal Lord and Savior, he was a babe in Christ. The weekend seemed too advanced for him. I told this young man to stick around. I assured him that God had something in store for him before the end of the weekend. I said I couldn't tell you what it is, but if he would stick it out that he would surely know by Sunday afternoon.

As the weekend continued, I checked with each of these guys and they seemed to be doing Ok. On Saturday afternoon, during a break, I was at the snack table and looked up to see these two men hugging and the tears were flowing uncontrollably. When I inquired what was going on, I found out that between the two of them, they discovered that the younger man was the drunk driver that had been in the accident that had killed the older man's little sister. In fact, that was why the younger man had gone to prison. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, the anger was gone, repentance and forgiveness was asked for and received. These two men spent the rest of the weekend together at every break and meal and left the weekend friends.

As I have pondered this situation, I have often thought how, had we known about the background of these two men we probably would have tried to avoid an incident. We probably would have asked one to come on a different walk. Try as we might, our ways are not God's way. Sign up to work on the next walk and witness the Holy Spirit being poured out. See and hear that the Lord is good.

God's Blessings,
Fred Pilecki, Pastor
Red Oak United Methodist Church
Red Oak, Iowa



Steering Committee News & Happenings

Steering Committee Meeting August 1, 2008, 6:30 p.m. Faith Westwood UMC

Present: Marv Dorsey Diane Peterson Jim Morgan Rev. Terry Otto
Les Reimer Linda Zimmerman Jean Meyers Jason Buss
Marshall Peterson Bob Hennings Scott Herring

Pastor Terry Otto opened the meeting with prayer. Marv Dorsey offered the devotion "Choose to Commend" from the Upper Room. Proverbs 12:25 was the scripture reference. We are quick to point out shortfalls instead of accomplishments. Say thanks and give praise.

Diane Peterson presented the Secretary's report via e-mail. The minutes from the last meeting were sent to the committee prior to the meeting. Corrections were made; therefore, the minutes were approved by e-mail. No motion necessary.

Les Reimer presented the Treasurer's report. The current balance is \$6687.75. Money was paid out to the Upper Room for the purchase of updated Emmaus manuals. Additionally, the child care provider was paid at the July Gathering. Money that was received was for the Emmaus manuals, offering collected at the July Gathering and a few other donations. The overall balance includes money in the scholarship fund, the general fund and deposits for Walks #2 & #3.

Marshall Peterson moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Scott Herring seconded the motion. The report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

- Supply/Literature – Jean Meyers:
An e-mail was sent out stating that Team Manuals need to be replaced
The costs are as follows: Directors Manual\$ 12.00, Handbooks \$10.00, and Team Manuals \$8.00 Jean is continuing to take orders for these
- Gatherings/Group Reunions – Linda Zimmerman:
Group Reunions are growing
Plans for the August Gathering need to be discussed (New Business)

New Business

- Team Selection Process – Bob Hennings:
Attendance at Group Reunions, Gatherings and other 4th Day events are criteria for selecting Team members
Sign-in sheets for Servant Team Members at Walks need to be more efficient
Sign-in sheets for Candlelight and Closing need to be more visible and accessible
The next Team Selection Team meeting is scheduled for September 6
- August Gathering – Linda Zimmerman:
Jason Buss volunteered to invite a pastor to preside over Communion
Diane Peterson volunteered to bring the bread for Communion
Items needed for the Ice Cream Social are food, music/entertainment, child care and a pastor
Linda will send an e-mail to all Steering Committee members asking them to provide a food item for the Gathering
Marv Dorsey volunteered to contact the Sarpy Serenaders to see if they can perform on August 17
Marv made the motion to donate \$100 to the Sarpy Serenaders, Marshall Peterson seconded the motion and it passed
Steering Committee members will provide the food, set up, serve, and clean up
The clown, Purple Pockets, will be invited to do face painting for the children
- Elections – Nominees:
The Steering Committee needs to recruit and nominate new Board members
It has been recommended that ten people from the current Steering Committee stay on as Board members to fill out 1 year and 2 year terms
Five people should be nominated from the Community to fill 3 year terms
Once the Board is elected, the Board will elect the Chairperson who also serves as the Community Lay Director
The Board elects the Community Spiritual Director
Committee Chairs will be assigned once the Board is in place
Pastor Terry recommended having an associate clergy serve with the Community Spiritual Director for the purpose of training new clergy and having a "back up" in case the Community Spiritual Director is unavailable
Jean Meyers moved that Pastor Terry's recommendation be approved. Marshall Peterson seconded the motion. The committee approved the motion.
Ballots for new Board members will be available at the September and October Gatherings. New Board members will be announced at the November Gathering
The By-Laws will have to be amended and the Community will be informed

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. Diane Peterson closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Peterson
Secretary

Steering Committee News & Happenings Continued

Steering Committee Meeting September 5, 2008, 6:30 p.m. Faith Westwood UMC

Present: Marv Dorsey Diane Peterson Jim Morgan Andy Baumert
Les Reimer Linda Zimmerman Laura Haug Allison Tiller
Marshall Peterson Bob Hennings Scott Herring Ron Gaddis
Bev Allen Kristi Hicks - visitor Lou Gaddis - visitor

Ron Gaddis opened the meeting with prayer. Marv Dorsey offered the devotion using Matthew 23:12, as the scripture reference. Some key points were: "Whoever humbles himself will be exalted", engage in teamwork, serve others in need and try saying "I am blessed to have you." instead of "I am proud of you."

Marv introduced Kristi Hicks. She and her family recently moved here from Arkansas and she has the will and desire to serve the Heartland Faithful Emmaus Community.

Diane Peterson presented the Secretary's report via e-mail. There were no corrections to be made. Marshall Peterson made the motion to accept the Secretary's report. Scott Herring seconded the motion. The report was accepted.

Les Reimer presented the Treasurer's report. The current balance is \$7031.37. Money was paid to the child care provider at the August Gathering. Additionally, money was donated to the Sarpy Serenaders after their performance at the August Gathering. Income of nearly \$1,000 was received from the July and August Gatherings, payments for manuals and registrations for the upcoming Walks. The Committee still needs to work at earning more money to help subsidize the Walks in 2009. Marshall Peterson moved to accept the Treasurer's report and Scott Herring seconded the motion. The report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

- Music/Entertainment – Marv Dorsey for Jason Buss:
Permission from the author of "The Turkey Song" was received and can now be used in the Heartland Faithful Emmaus Community
- Gatherings/Group Reunions – Linda Zimmerman:
Linda is finalizing the Gathering Schedule for 2009
Because the 2009 Walks will be in April, there will not be an April Gathering
Linda recommended that the Emmaus Board host one of the Gatherings in 2009
- Team Selection – Bob Hennings:
The Team Selection Team will meet on September 6, to select Team Members for the Walks in 2009

New Business

- Nashville Board Composition Remarks – Marv Dorsey:
Marv received communication from Carleen Alderman stating that it is up to the Community to decide on the size of the Board and what the make-up of the members will be. The Handbook is merely a guideline to help with composition
If the Community would like two clergy on the Board, they may do that
If the Community would like a number of members other than 15, they may do that
- Election Candidates:
At the present time, there are three names of candidates to present to the Community
A few more (at least two) names are needed
- Steering Committee Members for 2009 Board:
There are ten members of the Steering Committee that have volunteered to serve on the new Emmaus Board

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.
Marv Dorsey closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Peterson
Secretary



Chairman's Corner

Submitted by Marv Dorsey

Where Do I Go From Here?

Does your Walk continue?

During my life, I have had many mentors. They may have been a school teacher, college professor or a former boss. They may have been a community or church leader. I know there are many I have always looked up to and still maintain a relationship as a student of life.

As has been the experience of other Emmaus Communities, many who have reached the "pinnacle" of service when being called to be a Lay Director of a Walk weekend have been left with the feeling of "where do I go from here?" Some no longer maintain their involvement with Emmaus. Others seek to enrich their own experience by helping others and continue to serve.

What is the level of our passion for the Walk to Emmaus? Past Lay Directors set an example in leadership which others strive to achieve and emulate. Those who have yet to reach the position of Lay Director may ask the question: "Am I capable of doing that?" "Who do I turn to for guidance and advice to better serve as a Christian leader in the Emmaus community, my church community, and my family?"

Pilgrims who participated in a Walk weekend look around at the Gatherings for their Lay Director and Assistant Lay Directors, Table Leaders and Assistant Table Leaders, and musicians. These are the people who spoke to them and made their experience what it was blessed by God and touched by the Holy Spirit. Are you there for them?

We all recall the story of Christ during the evening before His crucifixion. In the Upper Room, Jesus taught His Disciples what it meant to be a leader through servanthood (John 13:13-17). He set the example through humility and service.

Once you've been a Lay Director, does that mean your service to the Emmaus Community is over? Absolutely not! We constantly ask our Father where He would want us to serve. If you've been a Lay Director, someone had laid upon the Board's heart that you have reached a point in your Walk with Christ where the talents He has given have matured. Are you finished?

The Heartland Faithful Emmaus Community extends an invitation to all past Lay Directors as well as other Fourth-Day family members who have not been involved with Emmaus to get involved again. Come to a Gathering and join a Group Reunion. Renew the spirit and bless this Community with your knowledge, your experiences, your talents, and your presence!

The Walk continues.



Didn't we feel on fire as he conversed with us on the road,
as he opened up the Scriptures for us? Luke 24:32

Submitted by Dale Johnson

How I decided to go on the “Walk to Emmaus”

Currently, there is a popular game show on TV that I am sure a lot of you have seen that is called Deal or No Deal. Howie Mandel is the host. Very often, when the offer that is made reaches a certain level, Howie says to the contestants “This is a life changing sum of money!” And he is correct. Suddenly receiving a large amount of money could change your life. The contestant then has to make a decision to take the money, or turn it down to see if they can win even more money.

This made me think about several life changing decisions that I have made in my life through the years. Going to college, was a life changing event. Taking a new job was a life changing event. Getting married, having children, and moving across the country were all life changing events.

There have been dozens of other situations that have changed my life as well. As I look back on these events in my life, the odd thing is that often times, when I was making the decision to take the new job or to move across the country or go to college, I did not quite realize how significant these choices were.

Deciding to go to the “Walk to Emmaus” was one of those events. I went on my walk about a year ago. I had heard about The Walk from our minister, Fred Pilecki, and his wife Pam for quite some time. But I was not sure if it was something I should do. I was at a point in my life where my “Church Life” was stagnant. I liked going to church, but some days when I was there, I was asking myself, “Why?” I felt that there was much more to religion than I was getting out of it, but I was not sure what I was missing. Besides, I was comfortable with what I was doing.

The single significant event that piqued my interest about the “Walk to Emmaus” was on a cold and nasty day in January 2007. Pam Pilecki, who had been battling cancer for several years, lost her fight with that horrible disease, and died. Pam and Fred had been part of the Nebraska Walk to Emmaus community in Omaha for years.

Her funeral was during a snowstorm. Despite the foul weather, people from the Omaha area that she and Fred knew from the Emmaus community showed up in numbers. They basically took over everything, organized, and ran the funeral.

They comforted Fred and his family, provided assistance in every way necessary. Some even acted as substitute speakers for Fred’s Sunday services that he could not do while he was grieving.

Being the nosey person I am, I started asking questions like “Who the heck are all you people? And where did you come from? And don’t you know there is a storm going on?”

The answer from them was, “We are all friends of Pam and Fred. We met at the ‘Walk to Emmaus’. We came because Pam and Fred needed us. God protected us as we came 75 miles through the storm!”

I decided that day that this is truly what **God’s love** and **Christian fellowship** is all about. I said to myself, “If this is the kind of friends that you have from becoming a part of the ‘Walk to Emmaus’ then I am going.” **And I did.**

Ladies and gentlemen, the friends you will make during the “Walk to Emmaus” will be like no other friends you have ever had on this earth. They **all** have one thing in common—they receive and accept **God’s love** on a daily basis, and they openly share it with each other, and everyone around them.

For me, and for many others that I know who have gone through the Walk, it is the single most positive **and** life changing event they have done in their entire lives. You will have a whole new appreciation for **God** and **His Love**. Please don’t miss out on this life changing opportunity.



Working together through Community Training

Agape

Submitted by Ron Gaddis & Scott Herring

Time to Start Making Agape Gifts

Purpose of Agape Gifts: During the Walk, simple gifts are made and provided for the Pilgrims by anonymous donors to show them God's Love and also as a later reminder of that love exhibited during the Walk. Pilgrims are encouraged to keep all of the gifts (or eat them and keep the wrapper or label pasted onto the item) and to take them home in order to look at them a year from now, or 5 years from now, and remember the lessons, the friendships, the renewal and the promises of the Walk experience.

Table Agape - recommended number is 58 (35 Pilgrims + 23 for Conference Room Team) OR double for both Walks.

There are 6 meals where Table Agape is used. ***Here there is a slightly "new" twist.*** Each person (not just Pilgrims) is to be provided with the Agape Gift. This is equality before the Lord issue. All are equal in His sight. Additionally, if the Conference Room Team takes the Gift from the table, Pilgrims are less apt to leave them....more about this below. The "Table Agape Opportunities" are:

- 1) Friday evening.
- 2) Saturday breakfast
- 3) Saturday noon
- 4) Saturday Evening Banquet where 1 very appropriate gift may be used (or none)**
- 5) Sunday morning
- 6) Sunday noon

** The emphasis during the banquet is not upon thought provoking trinkets, but wholly upon Jesus Christ. The after-meal skit provides the entertainment AND fulfills the need for instigation of deeper thinking. An abundance of table gifts would likely detract.

Bed or Pillow Agape - Recommended number is 35 for Pilgrims...double that for both Walks.

Once on Friday (evening), 3 times on Saturday, Once on Sunday. That comes to a total of 11 opportunities to distribute Agape Gifts.

General Ideas – There are 15 talks. Some folks make agape gifts to reinforce one theme of a talk. If so, please mark or tag the bag, sack or box containing your gifts with the day and name of the talk.

Friday:

Priorities, Prevenient Grace, Priesthood of All Believers, Justifying Grace, Life of Piety
(Introduction of Agape and distribution of signs of Agape begins at the evening meal)

Saturday

Growth Through Study, Means of Grace, Christian Action, Obstacles to Grace, Discipleship

Sunday

Changing Our World, Sanctifying Grace, Body of Christ, Perseverance, Fourth/Forth Day

Agape gifts do not always address a particular theme of the Walk, but are often thought provokers or meant to stimulate conversation about the table or in the home after the Walk. They may be humorous and utilize common objects and/or sayings with some sort of "play on words".

There are some gifts that lend themselves to be used at the meal table. At the first meal where Table Agape is distributed one of the Assistant Lay Directors is reminded to point out the Table Agape that is there and to announce that there is one of each item for each person at the table. The items are meant to be taken and saved for later use. At each meal an ALD may call attention to the particular items added for that meal.

Community Training Continued:

In spite of that, there seems always to be some items left on the tables. So, in choosing Table Agape (as opposed to Pillow Agape left on the beds) the Weekend Agape Coordinator will consider:

- a) Gifts that can be put into a pocket and/or EASILY carried away from the table.
- b) Gifts that promote/stimulate conversation at the table, especially about one of the talks of the day.

While some gifts can fit either category, there are other gifts best left on the bed as "pillow agape".

- a) Lengthy prose, poems, even Bible verses on a sheet of paper...open messages and
- b) Cards (3 x 5) or (4 X 6) with messages.
- c) Small booklets.
- d) Gifts that are delicate or fragile.

Reason: These are items you want the Pilgrims to read carefully and ponder in the relative isolation of their room. There is no time at the table to quietly read anything lengthy nor for their maximum impact to take place. To be saved for later, they must be folded up to fit a pocket....and so may just be left on the table.

Gifts Left on the Table – The gifts NOT carried from the meal table can be picked up as new gifts are added for the next meal OR if it seems appropriate, at one of the meals they may be left on the table in addition to the new Agape gifts introduced.

Gifts Placed on the Bed – All gifts left on the bed are almost certain to be taken home (or eaten!). At some point, when the Pilgrims are no longer 'surprised' by the appearance of Agape Gifts on their beds, a bag or sack of some sort should be placed on the bed to be used for carrying the Agape Gifts and/or separating them in the suitcase. Plain grocery bags will usually suffice for the men, but consideration of bags a bit fancier may be more appropriate for the women?

Anonymous and Exactly the Same for Everyone – Agape Gifts MUST NOT be signed by a particular person. They may be signed by a Group Reunion or a Church, but not by an individual. Also the same Agape Gift must be given to everyone alike whether Bed/Pillow or Table type. That is, no special and personal gifts will be distributed as Agape Gifts. No Bible from the spouse, no special crosses from a friend, no signed notes from friend or family, no sealed notes....etc. Any sealed item will automatically become an Agape Letter to be given to the Pilgrim at the appropriate time on the last day.

Gifts that are Special and Those Not Anonymous (signed by the donor) – Such gifts must be given to the Pilgrim by the Sponsor AFTER THE WALK to be opened on the way home. This will NOT diminish the effectiveness of such gifts, but during the Walk itself, every Pilgrim must be treated equally.

Policy on Agape Letters

Any sealed letter addressed to a particular Pilgrim, a sealed envelope whether addressed to a particular Pilgrim or not, any signed Agape gift will be separated and given to the Pilgrim the last day....either during the Agape Letter period or by the Sponsor on the way home.

A minimum of six and a maximum of a dozen of the "most important" Agape Letters will be given to the Pilgrim for reading during the Walk on the last day. If there are more than 12 letters for the Pilgrim, the extras go into the bag of items to be given to the Pilgrim on the way home.

Sponsors are vital to the process of selecting the most important letters AND seeing to it that the minimum of 6 letters is respected.

The logic is simple. No one can read more than a dozen letters and no one should have to observe another with a pile of "love" letters while he or she has only 2 or 3. This is contrary to the principle being demonstrated that God loves us each one equally.

The servant folks handling the letters cannot be expected to recognize the letter from an especially dear family member or friend...the sponsor must step in and identify the crucial letters to be included in the 6-12 letters given during the Walk.

Speaker Agape

Speakers receive mail in their rooms before and after their talks. Write a note encouraging them or thanking them for serving. On the outside, put the speakers names, the talk they are giving and whether it is for before or after their talk.



Known Active Reunion Groups as of 10-2008

Contact Name	Time	Day	Location
Bev Allen	12:00 noon	Monday	Faith Westwood Church
Linda Zimmerman	6:15 p.m.	Wednesday	Living Faith UMC Prayer Room
Marv Dorsey	6:00 p.m.	Monday	Plattsmouth
Kris Eschliman	9:00 a.m.	Saturday	Camille's Sidewalk Café 169 th and W Center Rd
Karla Estell	5:15 p.m.	2 nd and 4 th Tues	Louisville UMC
Pastor Mike McInnis	6:30 a.m.	Wednesday	Village Inn Oakview Mall
Shelly Reimer	9:30 a.m.	Saturday	Scooter's 180 & Q Streets
Celeste Ellis	12:30 p.m.	Thursday	Various midtown restaurants (call for location)
Liz Fleming and Kathy Friskopp	4:45 p.m.	Wednesday	Alternating homes (call for location)
Jason Buss and Doug Purintun	4:00 p.m.	Sunday	Gretna UMC (Co-Ed)
Julie Baumert and Tara Otis	8:15 a.m.	Saturday	Celebration Covenant Church
Linda Dasovic	7:30 a.m.	Saturday	Faith Westwood Chapel
Soul Sisters - Charlene Hale	6:00 p.m.	1 st and 3 rd Tues	Living Faith UMC Prayer Room
Judy Mulder	7:00 a.m.	Saturday	Fiesta Foods, Mapleton IA
Jim and Penny Bendorf	4:00 p.m.	Sunday	Call for weekly location
Runza Men - Marshall Peterson	4:45 p.m.	Sunday	Runza Restaurant 132 nd and W Center
Runza Women - Diane Peterson	4:45 p.m.	Sunday	Runza Restaurant 132 nd and W Center
Men of Integrity - Tom Collins	5:30 p.m.	Wednesday	Village Inn 180 th & W Center Rd
Rev. Sandy Webster	6:00 a.m.	Wednesday	Weeping Water UMC
Becky Rutherford	5:30 p.m.	Wednesday	Living Faith UMC
Marvin Riley	7:30 a.m.	Saturday	Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church
Allison Tiller	10:00 a.m.	Most Fridays	Various homes (call for location)
Rev Janice Japp and Gayle Preston	11:00 a.m.	Wednesday	Runza (Millard)
Dave Mendyk and Trent Meyer	6:30 a.m.	Wednesday	Camp Fontanelle Main Lodge
Breda Bunch – Ron or Lou Gaddis	11:30 a.m.	Tuesday	Breda, 84 th & Holdredge, Lincoln

Please contact the Group Reunion/Gathering Chair to have a group added, changed or deleted from the list

Please see Community Roster for contact info.

**If you have questions about or items for the newsletter please contact
Kris Eschliman (please see community roster for contact info.)**

All newsletter items must be submitted by the 10th of the first month in the quarter (Jan, Apr, July, Oct)