

Dear New Covenant Emmaus Friends,

For those of you who missed this month's Gathering, we want to fill you in on a "God event" in progress! It's an Emmaus journey to Russia that started 13 years ago in Pulaski, Tennessee. It's not quite completed yet, but there's an important stop in Estonia next month, and God has offered New Covenant an opportunity to participate.

When the New Covenant Emmaus Community was getting organized in 1993 and planning for our first walks, the Nashville Emmaus Community helped us by holding two "pilot" walks at Martin Methodist College in Pulaski. Many of the pilgrims on these walks went on to be charter members of New Covenant; but the women's walk had eight special ladies who arrived from Russia a few days before the walk, and returned immediately following the walk, with the purpose of getting Emmaus started in their own country. They could only communicate through an interpreter, but if you think that might dampen the spirit of a walk, talk to anyone who was there that weekend – what a blessing it was! Well, we have pretty much lost track of our Russian friends until this month.

We recently found out that there are going to be two walks next month in the thriving Estonia Emmaus Community that are to be pilot walks for a new community in Russia. Our NCEC Board of Directors sent a check to help sponsor these pilgrims (it's a long trip from their homes in the Ural area of Russia). Along with the check that we sent, Kerry slipped in a note that she was blessed to have known several Russian women when she served as a team member on their walk in Pulaski. A return letter told us which pilgrims our community will be sponsoring, but included a comment that two of the ladies from Walk 84 are serving on the teams!

At the Gathering last Friday we passed around and signed agape letters and signed up on prayer vigils for each walk, and then took a picture of all of us flashing the "I love you" sign to send along as agape. We saw pictures of our sponsored Russian pilgrims (Vladimir and Lyudmila Korobkov from Satka, Russia) and the Walk 84 team/pilgrim photo. We are committed to support these walks next month in prayer, and plan to continue to support them as they establish their new community and have their own walks in Russia soon.

If you would like to participate in the prayer vigil, pick a time and e-mail us to put your name on the list. Tell us what local time you want to pray, but be aware that the time in Russia is eight hours later (e.g., if you pray at 6:00 PM, they will be blessed at 2:00 AM!). The walk times in CDT are:

Estonia Walk #22 (women), July 11-14, 11:00 AM Wednesday thru 11:00 AM Saturday,
and Estonia Walk #23 (men), July 18-21, 11:00 AM Wednesday thru 11:00 AM Saturday.

E-mail us at jkpmlawrence@bellsouth.net with your prayer times, or call us at (256) 830-6830, before next Sunday, June 24th.

If you would like to write letters, we can provide you with names, or you can go to the web site and find a list of pilgrims (as well as pictures!). There will also be a copy of the Walk 84 photo posted on the web site. Go take a look a good look at eight ladies who God sent half way around the world 13 years ago to do His work by launching an Emmaus community in post-Communist Russia. Take a good look at the pilgrims God is sending to Estonia next month to participate in that same mission. Take a good look at some of the familiar faces in that Walk 84 picture that God has used by serving New Covenant so well over so many years, not to mention in their own churches and even in world missions. Then take a good look in the mirror at another familiar face that God has great plans for!

De Colores!
Jack & Kerry