

# Upper Room Emmaus

of the Greater Fredericksburg Area

Vol. 1

January 2005

## FREDERICKSBURG EMMAUS TO CHANGE WEEKEND CAMP SITE

Changes are in the air for our Fredericksburg Emmaus community for 2005. With the closing of Camp Easter Seals this month, our future weekend walks will be held at another site. Our community lay director, John Mann, has more information in his article on Page 2. Please continue to pray that God will lead us during this process.

Another change in our normal weekend format will be the addition of an extra women's walk this spring. Emmaus 57 will be held March 3-6 and Emmaus 59 will be May 12-15, 2005. Note the change of date for Emmaus 59.

**May you be blessed in the New Year!**

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### The Next Gathering

When: **January 8, 2005**

Where: **Fairview Baptist**

Time: **Gathering at 6:45 PM**

**Fellowship & Food at 6:00 PM**  
**Bring some food to share!**

**Board will meet at 4:00**

## My Parking Place

*What is faith? It is the confident assurance that what we hope for is going to happen.  
It is the evidence of things we cannot yet see. Hebrews 11:1*



I work in Northern Virginia. My office is in a large complex with eight high rise office buildings and literally thousands of workers. Parking can be a real challenge at times.

From my first day at this location, though, I've parked in the perfect parking place. It's sheltered from the weather and just a few feet from the door to the elevators that take me to my office. On the coldest and wettest of days, I don't need to wear a coat or carry an umbrella because of the location.

About eight months after I began working at this location I arrived and rounded the corner in the parking garage to pull into my parking place. I almost ran into another car in my parking place. I couldn't believe it . . . in my parking place! There must have been a hundred open spaces at that hour of the morning, and he had to take my parking place.

The next morning, I drove a little faster on the way in to work. It didn't help though; my parking place was taken. I got up a little earlier the next day and drove faster still. No luck, my parking place was taken again.

I worried about that spot for weeks. One evening I was walking to my car to come home. My hands were full with a brief case, a bag of something important, a cell phone and other things. I sat them all down to open the door and load up. It occurred to me that where I was parked, though a few steps further away from the elevators, had a lot of space to open the car door to load and unload. Not only that, it was protected from other car doors that are carelessly flung open when the occupant is in a hurry . . . no more odd looking paint spots on my door! My new parking place, I learned, was just as good as the old and perhaps better in some ways.

Many of us are bothered by change; particularly when the change is forced on us by others. Camp Easter Seals is the perfect place for an Emmaus Walk. But Camp Easter Seals is closing this month. Don't they know what this will do to our Community? How can they do this without consulting with us?

It's a big change, but as we worry about the way things were, good things are happening all around us. We've found another location; and though it is a lot different than Camp Easter Seals, there will be many aspects of the new site to appreciate. As we plan our Walks to fit in, we just might pay a little more attention to all of those things we took for granted over

the years at Camp Easter Seals. Perhaps we'll discover, or rediscover, the spirit of Christ, where before we missed Him because of our familiarity with all that happens on the Walk. Perhaps this new location will open doors for some in our Community in ways yet to be discovered. Perhaps it will cause us to rely more on God and less on our imperfect selves.

Change doesn't have to be bad; quite often, good things are the result. Camp Easter Seals was the perfect place; but our new site will become the perfect place in God's time. Look at this time as an opportunity to rediscover God's gifts to each of us that are received through the Walk to Emmaus. Use this time to understand what God intended for each of us to discover. It's time to move forward and not to look back.

Now if I can just keep people from sitting in my pew at the early worship service!

DeColores,

**John Mann,**

Community Lay Director

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## **Information Corner**

**DEADLINE** for submissions to the February newsletter is January 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send your articles to editor: Barbara Simpson, 9 Lockhart Circle, Fredericksburg, VA 22401  
Email: [bnbsimpson@aol.com](mailto:bnbsimpson@aol.com)

### **Next Gathering**

Feb 12<sup>th</sup>      Fairview Baptist

### **Interested in Joining a Reunion Group?**

Call Sandy Crossley, our Group Reunion  
Coordinator at 703-221-6977

***Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,***

"The auctioneer asked, "Are you ready, men?"

The warehouse owner shouted out the starting price, "Dollar-fifty."

The auctioneer began with the amount set by the warehouse manager and began with his tongue-twisting song, "Daaah-laah Fif-teeee Daaah-laah Fif-teeee Daaah-laah Fif-teeee Daaah-laah Fif-teeee GOL-den leaf."

Each buyer followed the auctioneer along the rows of 150 pound piles of tobacco as he called out for them to pay a penny or two more each pound.

"I got 80, can you go one, can you go one, can you go one, 80 EX-ee," the auctioneer called, indicating that Export had bought the bail for \$1.80 per pound. The row took him less than ten seconds. "Get around get around get around," the auctioneer cried as he neared the end of a row, numbers flowing from his lips faster than light speed. "Eight-eight-eighty dollars, and the five ... eighty-three, EX-port... One six oh, can you go 58 to go, 57 to the CO-op."

A buyer grunted and the sale was all over. Buyers bid with a slight hand motion, a grunt, a nod, or even a mere look. The warehouse manager ran behind them struggling to keep record of the final bids on a note pad.

There was something special about the harvest season when the farmers and buyers came to the town's warehouses to buy and sell the year's crop tobacco. The farmers had tilled the soil, planted, tended, pulled, and cured their crops, and at last it was time to reap the fruit of their labor. Farm trucks drove to town overloaded with tobacco wrapped in sheets of burlap. The harvest was tied down with ropes,

but sometimes men or entire families rode on top to steady the load. They would line up near the several warehouse doors waiting to unload before the sale.

My Dad and I shared the love of listening to the auctioneer auction the tobacco. Dad and I would walk the few blocks from his gas station and step inside the open warehouse doors. Quietly, we stood as close as we could to hear to the auctioneer's golden tongue.

There would be men gathered, dressed in denim overalls, flannel shirts, muddy work boots, and a strange assortment of hats. Some smoked pipes, cigarettes, or cigars while others chewed. They stood very still, only their eyes moved with the flow of the auction. Although they came to hear the auctioneer for different reasons, they all listened to him carefully as he spoke. His word was final.

**AUCTION  
SALE  
TODAY**



As I reflect on the auctioneer, I am reminded of the crowds that came to see and hear Jesus speak. They too came for many reasons. Matthew wrote in Chapter 4, Verse 23: " Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people."

Large crowds came to hear Jesus teach, preach, to see and receive his healing. He didn't speak too fast. He spoke in plain terms that everyone could understand. He was concerned about their understanding, so He taught them. He wanted people to be whole so he healed them. He wanted them to understand His commitment, so He preached to them.

**DAILY  
BIBLE  
READING**



I'm sure many have made lists of changes to make this new year. To tell the truth, I have pondered this very thought myself. Similar to the auctioneer sealing the bid and shouting, "Sold", the year 2004 is over. It's time to start afresh, a new beginning for the new year. After serious prayer, I would like to offer a common goal for all of us. It's one that will challenge us and provide us a guaranteed blessing. I am suggesting we read God's word daily and make an appointment with Him to listen to Him speak to us each day of the year. Yes, I'm speaking of reading our Bibles. He has provided us with a timeless message that will renew our lives. It does not matter why we come to listen. He has a message of hope, love, and salvation for each one of us. His word is final and everlasting.

Your Brother in Christ,  
**Dennis Perkins**



# Board News



November 21<sup>st</sup> was a memorable day. Many of us read in the paper that day that Camp Easter Seals was up for sale and all of our Walks scheduled for 2005 were canceled. What a shock! As you might guess, the Board had a lot to accomplish to get back on track. With God's help, it appears that we have been able to recover with only minimal disruption to our schedule. The details are still being worked, but it looks as if we will be able to use the Salvation Army's Camp Happyland which is located just 18 miles from Central Park. The Board has given approval to proceed with the signing of contracts and payment of deposits for our 2005 Walks. We hope to have all of the details worked out by the January Gathering and will present them to you at that time.

The schedule for our Calendar Year 2005 Walks is shown below. The change in Walk location to Camp Happyland will cause only one schedule change and that's to the dates for E59.

- E57 (Women's Walk): March 3-6, 2005 (WLD: Sandy Williams - E34)
- E58 (Men's Walk): April 14-17, 2005 (WLD: John Mann - E29)
- E59 (Women's Walk): **May 12-15, 2005** (WLD: Terry Cook - E39)
- E60 (Men's Walk): October 20-23, 2005 (WLD: Paul Prewitt - E29)
- E61 (Women's Walk): November 10-13, 2005 (WLD: Maria Fortune - E32)

The Treasurer, Monica Warne, reported a balance of \$5,632.32 in the bank as of Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. This is after paying the bills for both E55 and E56 with Camp Easter Seals and with the Upper Room. We thank you for your faithfulness in supporting God's work in the Emmaus Community.

During the Board meeting, we listened to the Walk Critiques for both E55 and E56. There were many important points made by Joe Reed and Alice Harding. The Board will begin to address these points in the coming months and in ways to make this information more readily available for future Walks.

Dennis Warne reported progress of the 4<sup>th</sup> Day Ministry Committee on the Pilgrim selection and sponsorship guidance. They have some more work to do, but hopefully will be able to provide final recommendations to the Board at either the January or February Board meetings.

## **Board New Continued . . .**

The Emmaus Directory is in the final stages of review. We have made a concerted effort over the past few months to update addresses including announcements in the Newsletter and a Return Service Request from the Post Office. This month, the Board authorized the reproduction of the updated Directory. Hopefully, we will be able to have it ready to distribute at the January Gathering.

For the January and February Gatherings, we will meet at Fairview Baptist Church.

On behalf of the Board, may your New Year be filled with the presence of the Holy Spirit!

John Mann  
Community Lay Director

## **AGAPE BAGS . . . Sew Beautiful!**



Remember when you saw your agape bag for the first time? God filled that eye-catching bag with love letters just for you. Will you help make a pilgrim's walk special? You can buy brightly colored rainbow striped fabric (check the craft section at your local fabric store or WalMart), cording, bright shoelaces to donate. Or you can make agape bags; they are sew simple to make (12" wide and 15" tall, please). Say "I'll help!" -just call Diana Farrar at 540-372-7535 or e-mail her at HRHDiana@juno.com.

## **Calling All the Young at Heart**

Can you decorate 5 or 10 or 20 or 100 place mats for an upcoming weekend? Maybe you'd like to help, but have no idea how to start or where to get great ideas! Please call Ellen Schertz, Place Mat Coordinator at (540) 891-9593 or e-mail her at [ellouisesch@hotmail.com](mailto:ellouisesch@hotmail.com) to get set up. You may also buy and donate blank white or solid color place mats. There's room for your gifts at whatever level you choose to serve in the Emmaus place mat ministry. Call Ellen today!





Safety for Mike  
Emma's health  
June's health  
Strength for Trish during the changes that are happening in her life  
Hedge of protection around Mike  
Susan's shoulder  
Unsaved family and friends  
My husband to develop a stronger relationship with God and to attend church  
Outpouring of God's love in my church to serve others  
My children to experience God more deeply  
Ann for healing after surgery  
Emmaus walks 57, 58, and 59  
Health  
Financial blessing  
Safe journey for our children traveling from Illinois for Christmas  
My parents to be OK with my decisions  
Guidance for children and family  
Peace  
Our troops  
Sophia  
Guidance for my daughter  
Chrysalis  
Epiphany  
E-57 team preparation and that God will use these women to do His will  
Guidance  
Trevor, unsaved son  
Help for son diagnosed with ADHD to find right treatment  
Me to feel better after surgery  
John for salvation and safety

Ray's family  
My brother Larry  
My loving church  
My family Tamey and Ciara  
Don and Barb for health, finances, joy in their marriage  
My daughter Kristen's marriage  
Me to trust Him more  
Paul's family dealing with cancer, chemo treatments, and healing  
My children who lost their father this week  
Health issues  
My friend who broke her knee and will need surgery  
Marie, 24 years old and with stage 4 melanoma, for hope, peace, encouragement and consolation  
Danny to submit his entire life to Jesus  
The Lord to send teamers to E-57  
The Lord to bless Camp Happyland  
Financial blessing  
God to bless the 4<sup>th</sup> day of E-56 women  
Carl  
Spiritual guidance for pastor  
Strengthened spiritual gifts and guidance for Venus  
Spiritual healing and revelation of purpose for Luis  
The youth  
Gabriel, a non-believer, going through several struggles  
God to touch the hearts of the community to step out and team  
Daniel in his struggle  
Little Union Baptist Church  
My marriage  
My wife  
The Fredericksburg Emmaus community  
Melanie whose father passed away this week  
Perry and Kathryn

### Our Prayers Continued ...

The woman next door that turns her head  
because I'm not like her  
The Cook family  
My sister as she faces more surgery on her  
back  
My mother's physical pain to be lessened



### Our Praises ...

Sean being baptized on Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>  
Answered prayer  
Our daughter's college graduation this  
December  
God's awesome love  
God's strengthening and upholding me  
through illness and difficult times  
Successful surgery for Hope  
The children in our home - Jeremy,  
Hope, Donovan, Monique  
Many blessings of joy and peace  
God for providing  
God who is a forgiving God  
God opening new doors and opportunities  
My wife's new job that she loves and  
that is close to home  
Answered prayer and unanswered prayer

### Fredericksburg Emmaus Board of Directors

Mann, John	Community Lay Director
Blankenship, Rosemary	Assistant Community Lay Director
Shiflett, Diana	Secretary
Warne, Monica	Treasurer
Dunn, Mark	Community Spiritual Director
Carwell, Jane	Shiflett, Mike
Mann, Kitti	Shutlock, John
Petersen, Karen	Staddan, Gary
Reed, Joe	Warne, Dennis
Schertz, Ellen	Warner, Richard

## **Community Volunteers**

### **Community Lay Director - John Mann**

Lead Gatherings & Candlelight  
Host Weekend Sponsors' Hour/Closing  
Chair Emmaus Board  
Chair Pilgrim/Team Selection Committee  
Assign Nominating Committee Coordinator



### **Assistant Community Lay Director - Rosemary Blankenship**

Gathering Location Coordinator

### **Treasurer - Monica Warne**

### **Secretary - Diana Shiflett**

Manuals Coordinator - Gene Philipp  
Records/By-Laws Historian - Gene Philipp

### **Communications Coordinator - John Mann**

Newsletter - Barbara Simpson  
Database Coordinators-Dennis Warne & John Mann  
Team Registrar - Barbara Simpson  
Pilgrim Registrars - Pat & Dick Barnett

### **Gathering Support Coordinator - Vacant**

Community Music Director - Debrina McKeen  
Community Baker - Kitti Mann  
Childcare Coordinator - Vacant

### **Weekend Support Coordinator- Brian Lewis**

Comm. Cha Coordinator- Richard Warner  
General Agape Coordinator - Monica Warne  
Prayer Vigil Coordinators - Sandy Crossley/Jane Carwell  
Placemat Coordinator - Ellen Schertz  
Snack Agape Coordinator - Vacant  
Agape Bag Coordinator - Diana Farrar  
Transportation Coordinator - Mo Moses  
Supplies Coordinator - Wes Pryce  
Fourth Day Packets - Rick & Susan Dillard  
Fourth Day Coordinator - Dick Barnett  
Reunion Group Coordinator - Sandy Crossley



## Reunion Groups

Listed below are the reunion groups active in the Fredericksburg Emmaus Community. Please send new group information to Barbara Simpson, editor.

### Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Meets 7:30 PM Tuesdays  
Prince Of Peace UMC  
6299 Token Forest Drive  
Manassas, Virginia  
Contact: Lloyd Biller (703) 590-1512

### Pastor's Weekly Meeting

Meets 8:30 AM Thursdays  
Rotates - call for location  
Contact: Mark Dunn (540) 786-4025

### Lakeside Reunion Group (Men)

Meets 8:00 PM Tuesdays  
Lake Of the Woods - call for location  
Contact : Vic Larson (540) 972-1928

### Rainbow Reunion Group (Women)

Meets 10:00 AM Alternate Thursdays  
Lake Of the Woods - call for location  
Contact : Barbara Miller (540) 972-7418

### His Seekers (Women)

Meets 7:30 PM Fridays  
Woodbridge - Home of Jane Carwell  
Contact: Sandy Crossley (703) 221-6977

### Koinonia Women's Reunion Group

Meets 9:00 AM Fridays  
Lake of the Woods - call for location  
Contact: Barbara Larson (540) 972-1928

### Amazing Grace Reunion Group

Meets 8:30 PM Thursdays  
Hillcrest UMC  
Contact : Ed McAdam (540) 898-3625  
e-mail to emcadam@infi.net

### Bethel UMC Men's Group

Meets 7:30 AM Sundays  
Bethel UMC, Woodbridge  
Contact: Brian Lewis (703) 590-9343  
e-mail to bb3253@AOL.com

### Lord's Lions & Lambs Reunion Group

Meets 6:30 PM Wednesdays  
First Christian Church  
Contact: Gene Philipp (540) 898-4917  
e-mail GeneDiPhil@aol.com

### Remington Reunion Group

Meets 7:00 PM First Saturday  
Remington UMC  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> month:  
March, June, September, December

Contact: Dawn Borja (540) 825-1587 or  
email: dborja@marykay.com

### **Interested in joining or starting a new reunion group?**

Call Sandy Crossley at 703-221-6977 or email  
her at slcrossley13@msn.com