

Upper Room Emmaus

Of the Greater Fredericksburg Area

www.fredwalk.org

Vol. 11

November 2009

UPCOMING EMMAUS WEEKENDS

<u>Walk #</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Weekend Lay Director</u>
E-77 (W)	Nov 19 – 22, 2009	Christine Tillman
E-78 (M)	Mar 18 – 21, 2010	Art Blankenship
E-79 (W)	Apr 22 – 25, 2010	To be officially announced at the closing for E-77

The next Gatherings

(Second Saturday of each month)

Nov 14th **Stafford Crossing Community Church**
Fourth Day Speaker will be Daphne Masten and Music Leader will be Lola McDonald

Dec 12th **Chancellor Christian Church**

Jan 9th **First Christian Church of Fredericksburg**
Fourth Day Follow Up will be held in January

Fellowship at 3:30 pm Gathering at 4:00 pm Board will meet at 1:30 pm
Please bring snack food to share during fellowship time

We are looking for churches to host Gatherings for 2009/10. If you are your church's Point of Contact for hosting, please email our ACLD Dick Barnett at k4guj@aol.com so arrangements can be made."

Help Wanted

The Fredericksburg Emmaus Community is looking for volunteers to fill several vacant coordinator positions. The Supplies Coordinator position will be open after the Fall Walks. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Becky Thode at beckythode@comcast.net.

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, and 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 email her at HRHDiana@juno.com

Thoughts from the Community Lay Director...

Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, I was a new, innocent, board member just beginning my term on the board for the Fredericksburg Emmaus community. When the Letter of Agreement came around the table, I confess that I briefly looked at it, signed it, and passed it to the next person. "No problem," I thought.

Right. No problem, in my dreams.

Before I discuss my personal experience, let me give you some background. Our community, as you probably already know, annually signs a covenantal agreement with the Upper Room International Emmaus Office. This document states the agreements that exist between the Emmaus Office and our community. Among a list of statements we agree to, is to, "...carry out the three-phase method of Emmaus in accordance with the most recent edition of *The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus* and the most recent editions of the Upper Room Emmaus manuals."

No big deal, right? I mean, really. What were we doing that could ever be an issue? Well, that was what I thought two years ago. Then, "things" began to happen that forced me to reconsider my thinking regarding our covenant agreement with the Upper Room.

First, I attended a training session facilitated by an Upper Room representative. This event was my first "awakening" that we might not be fully in agreement with what we said we would do when we put our cumulative John Hancocks on the dotted line. For example, I remember thinking things like, "What do you MEAN we should make our agape anonymous? Are you CRAZY?" Then, I listened, and I mean really listened, to the explanation for that, and many other things. You know what? I had to admit there was merit to what he said (I hate when that happens).

Second, I learned that previous board members knew we needed to make progress toward following the manual guidelines. In my mind, all I could think was, "Aren't we already doing that? What's wrong with the way we're doing things?" Oh, me of little knowledge and understanding.

Finally, after getting over myself, I decided to read the manuals that everyone was talking about. As I started reading, all I could think about was the amount of prayer, effort, and care that went into creating them. I could see God's Hands all over those manuals. They weren't the legalistic rulebooks some claimed them to be. Amazingly, it was people, just like you and me, who spent their time creating a program that would bless people far beyond anything they could predict.

(I know that factoid because I went to the recent training session in September).

Awesome.

Now what? What do we do, now that we know what our agreement is with the Upper Room? What do we do now that we know, deep down, that we have a covenant agreement? What do we do when some traditions we cherish contradict what we agreed to do, when we signed on the dotted line?

What would YOU do, if YOU were the Community Lay Director?

I cannot possibly ignore my agreement, because GOD is in the picture here. It doesn't matter whether I agree or disagree with everything the Upper Room states that we should do in the manuals. What matters, to me, is that I signed my name to the agreement, knowing that it is a covenant agreement, and then I got an education about what is in those manuals.

We, as a community, do have choices. We can make the choice to willingly, with an open heart, follow our agreement. Or, we can, as a community, make the choice to willingly ignore what we know, and ignore our agreement.

Ignore our covenant agreement. Is that really a choice? It's not a choice for me. I can't do it. Can't.

My first priority is to God. My agreement with the Upper Room is also an agreement with God. As much as I hate conflict, and really, REALLY, hate to have people dislike what I say and do, (who doesn't fear rejections?), I must follow what I believe is God's leading. And, I must tell you, that God really is leading our community to follow Upper Room guidelines, (I could tell you stories.....).

I pray that we can all be in unity, and at peace with each other. I hope we will be patient when changes take place that we may not understand, at first. After all, if we truly believe that God has inspired the Emmaus weekends, why should we worry over changes that bring us even closer to the guidelines that have been prayed over for decades?

Please pray for your Board of Directors. They serve with a willing heart, at a time when it's not easy to be a board member. If you want to speak with me, about anything concerning our community, please give me a call or send me an email.

DeColores,
Becky Thode
CLD (gulp!)

From the Community Spiritual Director

When God initiated a relationship with mankind, He did it by inviting Abraham into a covenant relationship (Genesis 12:1-3). A covenant is a serious commitment that may not be broken...a pledge of love, loyalty, faithfulness, and devotion. In Old Testament times, a covenant was sealed by the sacrifice of an animal, thus making it a "blood covenant" and forever binding. Life had to be given and blood had to be shed. What God demonstrated through the sacrificial system of the old covenant became the new covenant in Christ Jesus. There has been a final "blood sacrifice". Covenant is about relationship with long-term commitment, believing in one another and walking it out together. It carries with it a mutual responsibility on the part of God to us and us to God (Hebrews 8:10, "I will be their God, and they will be my people"). When we live in covenant relationship with God and each other, our lives will be blessed.

Tom Britt

Board Highlights

1. Scholarship policy – The Board is developing a scholarship policy, as required by The Upper Room.
2. Walk location – The Board has received a response from The Salvation Army that our community may continue to use Camp Happyland as long as the dates for walks are available. There will be a cost increase of approximately 10% above our current cost. The Board voted to cancel the reservation at Makemie Woods for the Spring 2010 walks and confirm Camp Happyland for March 18-21, 2010 (men) and April 29-May 2, 2010 (women).

ATTENTION: E-77 SNACK AGAPE NEEDED

Please remember the Pilgrims on the Women's walk and provide Snack Agape. Non-Perishables can be brought to the November Gathering and given to Rich Thode. Perishables can be brought to the Shoney's on Rte 3. I will be there on Wednesday Nov 18th from 6pm – 7pm. If you can not make those dates, please make other arrangements to get them to the Walk. Thank you!
Rich Thode - Walk Snack Agape Coordinator
540-548-2201

Women's Emmaus #77 Team List

Hallelujah! Grace Like Rain Falls Down On Me

Name	Church	Assignment
Christine Tillman	Stafford Crossing	WLD – Perseverance Talk on Sun
Becky Patrick	Fairview River Club	ALD Thursday – Fourth Day Talk on Sun
LaZalia Richardson	Shiloh Bap New Site.....	ALD Friday – Priorities Talk on Friday
Becky Thode	Chancellor Christian	ALD Saturday
Susan Dillard	Chancellor Christian	ALD Sun – “Please Hear What I Am...” Sat
Mark Dunn	Chancellor Christian	LSD – Means of Grace Talk on Sat
Tom Britt	Chancellor Christian	SD – Obstacles to Grace Talk on Sat
Chris Fair	Antioch UMC	SD – Prevenient Grace Talk on Fri
Carol Grimes	Promised Land Praise	SD – Justifying Grace Talk on Fri
Ralph Thomas	Tower of Deliverance	SD – Sanctifying Grace Talk on Sun
Rosemary Blankenship ..	Fairview Baptist Ch	Board Rep
Gerri Bartman	Holy Family Catholic Ch....	Head Cha Coordinator
Linda Bonshire	Fredericksburg UMC.....	Asst Cha Coordinator, Psalm 23 on Sun
Debbie Bliss.....	Hillcrest UMC	Agape Cha
Kris Hicks	Carmel UMC.....	Asst Agape Cha, Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 on Sat
Lola McDonald.....	Stafford Crossing.....	Music Director, Psalm 100 on Sun
Debbie Avis	Woodbridge Christian	Music Team
Alice Harding	Melrose UMC.....	Music Team
Monica Warne	Chancellor Christian	Music Team
Vonda LiCalzi	Antioch UMC	TL – Love
Adela Harlow.....	Woodbridge Christian	ATL – Love, Matthew 22:34-40 on Fri
Lynda Swanlund	Dahlgren UMC	TL – Kindness, Priesthood of All Believers Fri
Lisa Green	Regester Chapel UMC.....	ATL – Kindness, Colossians 3:1-14 on Thur
Ava Hanger.....	Dahlgren UMC	TL - Joy, Body of Christ Talk on Sun
Carol Curtis	Salvation Army Ch	ATL - Joy, “Prayer of St Francis” on Sun
Cam Noden.....	Fairview River Club	TL – Patience, Growth Through Study Talk Sat
Carol Burke.....	Stafford Crossing.....	ATL – Patience, “Lord I Have Time” on Sat
Karen Campbell.....	Fairview River Club	TL – Peace, Changing Our World Talk on Sun
Sandie Makely	First Christian Ch.....	ATL – Peace, “Who Me” on Sun
Dawn Kendall.....	Fredericksburg UMC.....	TL – Faithfulness, Discipleship Talk on Sat
Michelle Fowler.....	First Christian Ch.....	ATL – Faithfulness, Life in Piety Talk on Fri
Kate Cook.....	Hanover UMC.....	Chapel/Table Angel, Christian Action Talk Sat
Judy Britt	Chancellor Christian	Chapel/Table Angel, Luke 24:13-25 on Thur

Women's Emmaus #77 Pilgrim List

Hallelujah! Grace Like Rain Falls Down On Me

- Kelly Akers Lake Anna Comm Fellowship
- Katie Basye Melrose UMC
- Cindy Brown Lake of the Woods Church
- Alice Coates..... Bethel UMC
- Miki CurtisFairview at River Club
- Susan Doubet Lake of the Woods Church
- Ruby Ferguson..... Gordon Road Church of God
- Anna GriffinShiloh New Site Baptist Church
- Fran Griggs Ebenezer UMC
- Karen Haggerty..... Woodbridge SDA Church
- Kathleen HolladayHillcrest UMC
- Linda Hudson..... Fredericksburg UMC
- June JacksonMaranatha SDA - Fredericksburg
- Christine Jones Providence UMC - Montross
- Gloria Ledgister-Rose..... Chancellor Christian Church
- Ina Muire Epworth UMC
- Julie Plant.....Liberty UMC - Bealton
- Michele Potter..... Ebenezer UMC
- Joan Quigley Fredericksburg UMC
- Nikki Showers..... Lake Anna Comm Fellowship
- Shelia Smith Ebenezer UMC
- Minnie SuttonForest Park - N. Carolina
- Jeri SwannShiloh New Site Baptist Church
- Pamela Thorpe..... Shiloh Baptist Church/Port Royal



Team Selection Committee Report

Becky has asked that I report to the Community regarding the changes that are being implemented by the Team Selection Committee, (TSC), as we move to be in compliance with the Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus. As the Committee has been working with the Weekend Lay Directors for our Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 Walks, the following process has been implemented that seems to be well received and working well:

1. The TSC identifies candidates to the Local Board for the Leadership Teams for upcoming Weekends - candidates for Weekend Lay Director (WLD), Assistant Lay Director (ALD), Music Director (WMD), and Head CHA.

2. The TSC works with the Board selected WLD to identify the WLD's Leadership Team from the Board approved pool of leadership candidates.

3. The TSC provides the WLD with a pool of Team candidates from whom the WLD can select and recruit their Team. In some cases the TSC recommends specific persons to Team in order to ensure that person will have the opportunity to progress in servanthood. All potential Team members are selected from candidates with current applications.

4. The TSC, working with the WLD, identifies assignments for Team members that is spiritually discerned and focused upon each Team member's progression in servanthood.

Progression in servanthood is the Upper Room guideline that Community members who desire to Team be given the opportunity to progress from anonymous service like cha, prayer warrior, and such through Table Leader, Assistant Lay Director and Lay Director. A similar progression is being looked at for Music Director.

Your Team Selection Committee is striving mightily to be a tool of the Lord in these matters and in full compliance with the guidelines provided by the Upper Room. We urge each and every one of you in the Community who wish to Team to submit an application to Team. Your application is good for two (2) years. Further, we urge each of you who choose to Team to give serious thought to your progression in servanthood.

Do you wish to progress to Table Leader then continue as an Assistant Weekend Lay Director and future Weekend Lay Director? Or would you like to progress from Table Leader along the music chain to Weekend Music Director? Or would you like to continue to serve as needed without progressing?

All of us on the Board and the Team Selection Committee look forward to working with each of you to ensure that you have every opportunity to serve our Lord as He wishes and you discern.

De Colores,
Dick Barnett
Assistant Community Lay Director

Schedule for Women's Emmaus #77

Date	Time	Activity at Camp Happyland
Thur. 11/19/09	6:30 – 7:00 pm	Pilgrim check-in followed by Sponsor's Hour
Sat. 11/21/09	7:30 pm	Candlelight – Community will gather for praise, Communion & fellowship. Please bring flowers for the team to use Sunday morning!
Sun. 11/22/09	4:00 pm	Closing Service

Please pray for:

Patrick & Billy McKinnon	Sarah separated from husband	Monica – father with ALS,
Clarity & understanding God	Wilford’s health	mother who is caretaker. This
Peter F. McKihnon	John	disease has allowed them to
Christian still healing	Team/Pilgrim E76, Wifred,	spend precious time with him.
Employment for my brother	Lynda, Gladys, Jazz	Christine as she leads FE-77
Healing for my Mom	Our Servicemen, our Country	Team & Pilgrims of E76 & E77
Brother Ralph’s health	Sick in Nursing homes	Cija – health
Daniel’s surgery on Oct 29 th	Leaders, on Teams 76 or 77	Ashley – peace
Barbara Weedon	Brothers & sisters of Church in	For me to let go and let God
Kim Biehe	Christ	work through me
Pator Bob Lehandowski	Pilgrims of 76 & 77	All those experiencing financial
Gail Yeamans as she is not	John Bradham	problems
feeling well	Maria, still at hospital since	The economy to pickup to help
Kimmy Yeamans (daughter of	2/14/09 – God is doing a	the unemployed get back to
Greg & Gail) as she works	miracle on her	work
through life & college choices	Griffin’s family for guidance to	Smooth property transfer of
Anna – recovers from Cancer	focus more in God who loves us	father’s estate
Surgery	Our young children	Judy Britt’s complete healing
Epiphany	Judy & Tom Britt’s family	Jobs of the unemployed
Sheri – not yet a Christian,	God’s guidance to Cam’s	Lynn – Anxiety. Calm her and
marital issues	business	give her peace
Steve – Job stress (may loose	Emmaus Community	Family members to be delivered
it)	Castillo’s family (strength)	from substance abuse
E76 Walk Team & Pilgrims	Children of divorce	Children to turn from worldly
Open door for job for Kitty	Spencer O’Conner	lifestyles
Chris, Nancy & Family	Rev. Kathleen Zimmerman in	Anointing for E76 team
Those with jobs	her final days	

Please give praises for:

New job going well	Paul & Shirley Storie for prayers that saved my life
Emmaus #76 TEAM	All members of GUMCH for praying for me
Jennifer is finishing school in 6 months	Work God is doing in my life and heart
For work	God for healing

Community Volunteers & Board of Directors

Community Lay Director **Becky Thode***
Lead Gatherings & Candlelight, Host Weekend Sponsors' Hour/Closing, Chair Emmaus Board & Assign Nominating Committee Coordinator

Assistant Community Lay Director **Dick Barnett***
Gathering Location Coordinator & Chair Pilgrim/Team Selection Committee

Community Spiritual Director **Tom Britt***
Board Spiritual Director..... **Joe Reed***
Board Spiritual Director..... **Rick Dillard***

Treasurer **Mike McDonald***

Secretary **Rosemary Blankenship***
Manuals Coordinator **Rich Thode**
Records/By-Laws Historian..... **Rich Thode**

Communications Coordinator **Vacant**
Website Administrator..... **Dennis Warne**
Newsletter **Brooke Ferguson**
Database Coordinators..... **Bill Moore, Dennis Warne & Dick Barnett**
Team Registrar **Dick Barnett**
Pilgrim Registrars..... **Ralph Thomas**

Gathering Support Coordinator **Jane Carwell**
Community Music Director **Lola McDonald**
Community Baker **Kitti Mann**
Childcare Coordinator **Vacant**
Music Coordinator for Gatherings **Lola McDonald**
Music Equipment Coordinator..... **Ralph Williams**

Weekend Support Coordinator..... **Vacant**
Comm. Cha Coordinator..... **Richard Warner**
General Agape Coordinator **Monica Warne**
Prayer Vigil Coordinators..... **Daphne & George Masten**
Placemat Coordinator **Margaret Filler**
Snack Agape Coordinator..... **Rich Thode**
Agape Bag Coordinator **Diana Farrar**
Transportation Coordinator..... **Vacant**
Supplies Coordinator **Mike & Terry Cook**
Name Badge Coordinator **Steve Makely**
Fourth Day Packets..... **Wilfred and Mary Usher**
Fourth Day Coordinator..... **Dick Barnett**
Reunion Group Coordinator..... **Sandy Crossley**

***Board Members**

(Serving on the Board July 1, 2009- June 30, 2010)

Judy Britt*	Maria Fortune*	Tony Fortune*	George Mastin*
Jennifer McDaniel*	Cam Noden*	Spence O'Connor*	Michael Selph*

Active Reunion Groups in the Fredericksburg Emmaus Community

S U N	Bethel UMC Men's Group	7:30 am	
	Bethel UMC	Woodbridge, Va	
	Brian Lewis:	703-590-9343	bb3253@aol.com

T U E S D A Y	Pastor's Weekly Meeting	7:30 am	
	Call for location		
	Mark Dunn	540-786-4025	
	Great Is Thy Faithfulness	7:30 pm	
	Prince of Peace UMC	Manassas, Va	
	Lloyd Biller	703-590-1512	
	Lakeside Group (Men)	8:00 pm	
	Lake of the Woods	Call for location	
	Vic Larson	540-972-1928	

Interested in joining or starting a new reunion group?

Call Sandy Crossley at 703-221-6977 or email her at slcrossley13@verizon.net

W E D	Lord's Lions & Lambs Group	6:00 pm	
	First Christian Church		
	Gary Staddan	540-373-7716	first.christian.church@verizon.net

T H U R S D A Y	His Joyful Croakers	9:00 am	
	Hillcrest UMC		
	June Riel	540-710-5949	
	His Seekers (Women)	7:30 pm	
	Home of Jane Carwell	Woodbridge, Va	
	Sandy Crossley	703-221-6977	
	Jane Carwell	703-969-4019	tjcarwell@yahoo.com
	Amazing Grace Group	8:30 pm	
	Hillcrest UMC		
	Ed McAdam	540-898-3625	emcadam@cox.net
	Rainbow Group (Women)	10:00 am	(Alternate Thursdays)
	Lake of the Woods	Call for location	
	Barbara Miller	540-972-7418	

F R I	Koinonia Group (Women)	9:00 am	
	Lake of the Woods	Call for location	
	Barbara Larson	540-972-1928	

Upper Room Emmaus of the
Greater Fredericksburg Area
PO Box 42094
Fredericksburg, VA 22404

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Directions to Camp Happyland:

21457 Happyland Drive
Richardsville, VA 22736

From Central Park in Fburg: Drive 7.5 miles west on Route 3. Turn right (North) on Route 610, Elys Ford Road. Drive 9 miles north on Route 610. Just prior to the green Richardsville sign, turn right (East) on Route 619, Richards Ferry Road. Drive 1.3 miles to Happyland Drive. You will see a large Camp Happyland sign on the right side of the road. Turn right into the Camp and proceed to the parking area. Total distance from Central Park is about 18 miles.

Directions to Stafford Crossing Comm Ch:

28 Potomac Creek Dr Ste 101
Fredericksburg, VA 22405

From 95: Take the Centreport Parkway Exit #136 to Route 1. Take Rt 1 North one mile to Potomac Creek Drive on the right. Take the second right on Potomac Creek Drive into the complex. (Note: This is our office location and mailing address only. Sunday service is held at Stafford Senior High School.) Parking is limited so we encourage you to car pool to the Gathering.