

Upper Room Emmaus

Of the Greater Fredericksburg Area

www.fredwalk.org

Vol. 1

January 2010

UPCOMING EMMAUS WEEKENDS

| <u>Walk #</u> | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Weekend Lay Director</u> |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| E-78 (M) | Mar 18 – 21, 2010 | Art Blankenship |
| E-79 (W) | Apr 29 – May 2, 2010 | Becky Patrick |

Do you want to team in the Spring of 2010?

Submit an application now! You can download a form from fredwalk.com or contact the team registrar at k4guj@aol.com.
New community members will need to submit an application and be sure to attend the 4th Day Follow-Up on January 16, 2010.

Help Wanted

The Fredericksburg Emmaus Community is looking for volunteers to fill several vacant coordinator positions, (please see the Volunteer Page). The Supplies Coordinator position is now open. If you are interested in serving in any capacity, please contact Becky Thode at beckythode@comcast.net. Thank you!

The next Gatherings (Second Saturday of each month)

Jan 9th **First Christian Church of Fredericksburg**

Fourth Day Speaker will be Ava Hanger

Jan 16th Fourth Day Follow Up **Fairview Baptist at Charlotte Street**

Coffee at 8:30 am; Training from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Feb 13th **Fairview Baptist at Charlotte Street**

Fourth Day Speaker will be Chris Campbell

Mar 13th **TBD**

Fourth Day Speaker will be Sandie Makely

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 2010. 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."

Fredwalk.Org Web Page Metrics:

524 members listed as of 26 Dec 09 (increase of 194 since 4 Nov 09)

Web page domain name (Fredwalk.Org) and web host service (Hostmysite) have been renewed for another year.

Added three pages to the Web Site, (Board Page 2, Gathering Page 2, and Walk Pictures)

Please send me, Dennis Warne, (warnedm@comcast.net), any changes to your e-mails so I can keep the Web Page monthly newsletter distribution list current. Any other changes to your address or church please send to Bill Moore, (wjmoorewj@gmail.com), so he can update the Fredericksburg Emmaus Directory and keep it current.

*Thoughts from the Community Lay
Director...*

Attached to this month's newsletter is the new Letter of Agreement our local Emmaus Community receives each year. This year, board members will sign the covenant agreement during the January Gathering. I hope that you will continue to pray for the board as we strive to meet the requirements of our agreement with the Upper Room, and meet the needs of our Community. Accomplishing this goal is challenging, and I pray diligently that any decisions we make will be the ones that God would have us do.

Although the Board has stressed a general need to follow the Upper Room Guidelines, recent changes that have occurred on Weekends have not been decisions "ordered" by the board. In fact, some activities, such as not wearing lanyards before the Pilgrims receive their lanyards, or how to conduct Dying Moments, have come from decisions made by Weekend Lay Directors, Spiritual Directors, and/or team decisions. It continually amazes me how things I never thought would ever change have fallen into line with Upper Room guidelines.

For example, I distinctly remember a Spiritual Director, (not a local one), showing me how Dying Moments was described in the Handbook. My reply to him was that there was NO WAY I was EVER going to try to change anything that involved the traditions surrounding Dying Moments.

January 2010

Just a few Walks later what happened? Dying Moments became more like what the manuals describe. I should know better than to ever say NEVER.

Then, there was the recent decision about waiting to wear lanyards until Sunday, after the Pilgrims received theirs. To be honest, I'm not sure how this discussion ever began, or who started it. Once it got going, though, decisions were quickly made for both the Men's and Women's Walks to not wear lanyards. Go figure. No one was more surprised about that one than me.

What is the most important consideration when we make changes? For me, it is how the Pilgrims are impacted. Anyone who attended the Closings for the last two Walks knows that the Pilgrims were blessed by the Weekends and they drew closer to God through their experiences. Personally, I will never forget the Pilgrims' responses to Dying Moments on E77, which was one of the most meaningful experiences I have had teaming. I pray that we will all continue to pray, pray, pray for our Community, Emmaus in general, and for the Pilgrims who will experience the love of Christ in deeper ways in the future.

DeColores!
Becky Thode

P.S. My husband says I forgot to wish everyone a Blessed New Year! So, here ya go...Have a Blessed New Year!!

Please give praises for:

For all that God has blessed me with
My husband, family & good friends
My job – having one!
Family
Support of my fellow seminary students
New baby (Cam Nolan) Lily Ann (niece)
New baby (Carol Curtis) Matthew Curtis (grandson)
To all those who made it here tonight because they thought it is more important to be here then elsewhere.

God for sending Holy Spirit to help me on E-77
Team members of FE76 & 78
George and his ministries
"It's Christmas!"
The home in the Emmaus Community
Good health
God is using me to spread the love that he has for me.
Christine Tillman for being a wonderful WLD for FE-77

Please pray for:

Diana & Mark Davidson lost their 26 year old daughter Dec 10th. Please pray for their families - hearts to continue to be open to the Lord's blessing during their difficult time.

My family to be lead by the Holy Spirit

Lesti to see the face of Jesus

My church and also our youth department

Christmas play

Christine Schalze

Mary Hoover - health

Brother-in-law & family

Our country

Tan-man

My dad

Niece Diana - epilepsy

Cam Nolan

Rodney – priorities out of order

Jamie Curtis - knees

Cam – Nutrition

Curtis family

The Grimes family children & grandchildren

Carol Ely Grimes

Mary Maher

James Curtis - surman

Mary & Wilfred Usher

Continue to improve Phillip's health and if it is Your will please look after Phillip and increase his strength. Also, look after his brother Tommy and caregivers!

Jobs for the unemployed

Tom Mangum - health

My church - communication

Kathleen Holladay – her Dr. & all those involved in her upcoming surgery, Jan 06.

Firefighting job for son

Son in college

Shannon Alexander

Military personnel

My brother's healing both physically & spiritually

Judy Britt for continued health

Spence O'Conner

Kelli Leipelt

My grandparents (they are both in bad health)

E 78 Team & Pilgrims

Marc McDonald

Keith & Jane Lauer

Heather McDonald

E 79 Team & Pilgrims

George to keep up with his ministries

Employment opportunities

Healing for Spence

Comfort for people who have lost loved ones

Peggy's healing, breathe of life

Peggy's mother – uplifting for healing

For my daughter to find a decent job & a better attitude

Chris's moms triple by-pass surgery, that she is lovingly healed.

Continual help in His name

Peace in the world

Becky – Wedding and teaching struggles

Foe all those loved ones who will be traveling over the holiday season. Deliver them safety.

For my family as my father passed away Dec. 21, 2008 and this Christmas will be bittersweet.

Emmaus Community

My son Charles & family

Ennis Parrish

Bray Young

My wife, Daphne

The Church & the un-churched

Tanya for healing

Nathan for an upcoming deployment

That we would treat each other like it was Christmas all year long

Bob – who has gone to be with his Saviour

Larry in the loss of his father

Frank Smith

That God's name be renewed again in the United States

For E-78 & E-79 Team

THE WALK TO EMMAUS
2010 LETTER OF AGREEMENT
Between
The Upper Room International Emmaus Office
And

Name of Community _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____
Email _____ Website Address _____

The Walk to Emmaus is an international movement that included a three-day short course in Christian discipleship. The Upper Room International Emmaus Officer (hereinafter, the Emmaus Office) grants permission to use the copyrighted Walk to Emmaus name and program when groups demonstrate their readiness to lead Emmaus according to this Letter of Agreement. Each local governing body will annually review and renew its Letter of Agreement with the Emmaus Office.

The following statements represent fundamental agreements that exist between the Emmaus Office and groups that use Emmaus. By signing the Letter of Agreement, a group is agreeing to conduct the Emmaus program in a manner that is faithful to these statements and to become an Upper Room "Walk to Emmaus Community". The Emmaus Office agrees to recognize the group as an "Emmaus Community" and to support its ministry in the ways outlined below:

1. Each Emmaus Community will have a local governing body that is elected by the persons in that community. The local governing body will be organized and will conduct its business in accordance with the Emmaus Office guidelines in a manner that honors Christ and His church. The local governing body will stay in communication with the Emmaus Office regarding scheduled Emmaus weekends, election of new officers and other developments affecting the quality of the Emmaus ministry. Each local governing body will update and maintain their community's information on the Emmaus Boardroom website. Emmaus Boardroom website information can be found on page three (3) of this document.

2. The local governing body will 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 edition of The Upper Room manuals. To avoid misunderstandings, opportunity for conflict, or violation of the Emmaus copyright, conducting the Walks using locally written and/or paraphrased materials or written materials from other organizations is prohibited. Interpretation of the Emmaus materials is vested in the Emmaus Office staff. The three-phase method includes:

a. Pre-event phase – a plan for sound recruitment, communication about, and proper preparation of participants and team for their three-day introductory Emmaus experience, which includes the responsibility to screen and supervise all volunteer team members and workers and to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all participants;

b. Event phase – separate three-day event for men and women, using The Upper Room *Walk to Emmaus Director's Manual, Team Manual* and the Emmaus Office outlines for the 15 talks (10 lay and 5 clergy); and

c. Post-event phase – a follow-up plan that includes group reunions, monthly gatherings, leadership development for increasing the Emmaus community's knowledge of the method and its effectiveness of providing spiritual renewal for the local church, and encouragement of church involvement.

3. Emmaus, as a program offering of The Upper Room Ministries of The United Methodist Church, invites interdenominational, interracial and international participation, and fosters the spirit of Christian acceptance and unity. The local governing body will foster in Emmaus activities, the openness to diversity and the mainstream theological balance that is reflective of Upper Room Ministries.

4. Translation of and/or printing of any and all Emmaus documents in any language must have prior written approval from the Emmaus Office.
5. The local governing body will keep denominational leaders, other church officials, and the Emmaus Office informed about the activities and fruit of the local and international Emmaus Movement. The local governing body will seek to cooperate with the leaders of other denominations and to function entirely as a servant of the church.
6. Annually, someone other than the treasurer will make an inspection of the books and records of the local community. The person who inspects the records will submit a written report to the local governing body as to the findings and this report will be entered into the minutes of the local governing body. The report will be made available to any interested party.
7. The local governing body will maintain Emmaus' focus on sponsoring pilgrims who are actively participating in a local church.
8. The local governing body will maintain Emmaus's policy that, in support of the sanctity of marriage, the husband and wife are encouraged to make an equal commitment to participate in The Walk to Emmaus, as described in *The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus*. Men and woman attend separate walks.
9. Each Emmaus Community in the United States will support the work that goes on through the Emmaus Office to resource, guide and network the expanding Emmaus Movement throughout the world with a payment of **\$10.00** per new participant following Emmaus weekends. Financial submissions are to be made payable to The Upper Room Emmaus and will be sent to the Emmaus Office, at the address listed on the next page. These funds will be used exclusively for the work of the International Emmaus Office.
10. Annually, each local governing body of each Emmaus Community in the United States will send all of their newly elected member class to one of the Leadership Development meetings in their region. These meetings will be conducted by regional leaders representing the International Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis Office.
11. The Emmaus Office will make available to Emmaus Communities: guidance and consultation; interpretative materials on Emmaus; direction and leadership for starting new Emmaus communities; printed materials for leading all aspects of Emmaus; resource persons for leadership training; and coordination and networking of the expanding Emmaus movement throughout the world. The local Emmaus Community will work through the Emmaus Regional Leaders to gain understanding of the movement for continual improvement.
12. The Emmaus Office will support participation in their Fourth Day by making available, upon request, information about other Upper Room print, video and experiential resources for strengthening the spiritual life.
13. The Upper Room will provide Emmaus Communities a 25% discount of Upper Room books purchased for book tables at Emmaus events.
14. The Emmaus Office will maintain regular communication with Emmaus Communities and will seek to continually improve the Emmaus program through a variety of means including an International Advisory Committee made up of Emmaus and Chrysalis leaders from across the movement.

Treasurer's Report

In the report last month I mentioned that Camp Happyland was going to raise our costs effective on our next walks. The rate increase is 10% across the board on all lodging and services with the exception of meals. The cost of the meals alone constitutes approximately 50% of the overall cost of a weekend so it was a blessing that the increase was not included there.

I would like to share with you the actual costs of the previous walks to establish a perspective to the new costs. FE-76 had a total cost of \$8,930.00. The total revenue collected in Team Fees, Pilgrim Fees and Pilgrim Application Fees was \$8,305.00. FE-77 had a total cost of \$10,107.00. The total revenue collected in Team Fees, Pilgrim Fees and Pilgrim Application Fees was \$9,970.00.

As you can see, the Community has had to subsidize the walks out of the general fund with several hundred dollars for each walk. This has been a continuing trend. Add to this the new costs and the deficit will increase. FE-76 would have cost \$9,445.00 and FE-77 \$10,682.00 under the new pricing.

With these factors in mind, the Board has reached the very hard decision of increasing the Team and Pilgrims Fees for future walks to \$190.00. These new Fees will be effective for the Spring 2010 walks. If you have already pre-paid a Fee then it will be considered paid in full with no further payment expected.

I would also like to clarify our agreement with Camp Happyland in an effort to convey the importance of paying Fees on time. Our agreement with Camp Happyland requires us to pay the balance in full upon arrival at the Camp on Thursday morning to start the weekend. In order for the Community to have the funds required to make these payments it is important to receive the Team and Pilgrim Fees as soon as possible.

Another aspect of our agreement with the Camp is the cancellation policy. We are required to give the Camp a final headcount and meal selection sheet 2 weeks prior to the walk. Any cancellation during the final 2 weeks results in the Community paying for meals and lodging that are not used.

As stated in last month's report, the overall financial health of the community is strong. With diligent stewardship and prayerful decisions from the Board the future will be bright for the community.

Thank You & De Colores,
Mike McDonald

From the Community Spiritual Director

I would like to encourage all clergy to attend our monthly Emmaus Gatherings. If you have walked, the gatherings offer you opportunities to continue your involvement in the Emmaus Community. Even if you haven't walked, you can see the spirit of Emmaus in action. In many ways, gatherings are like family reunions. Their purpose is to praise God and to encourage commitment to and reliance on Christ. The gatherings can be a time to tell and hear about the power and persistence of God, who keeps working in the lives of those who have walked. You will hear the testimony of how the walks have helped people support their local church. You will engage in intercessory prayer for the needs of those in the Community. You will hear people share what the weekend meant to them and what they plan to do as a result of the Emmaus experience. You will enjoy wonderful music and the fellowship of Christian brothers and sisters. Come and join with us!

To the Emmaus Lay Community: invite your pastors and assistant pastors to our gatherings.

Tom Britt

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..... **Vacant**

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 **Vacant**
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* | Randy Ross* |

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA
PERMIT NO. 347

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Directions to Fairview Baptist Church:

900 Charlotte Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

From I-95: Take Exit 130A (Rt. 3 East). Go to the stop light that intersects Route 3 and William St and turn Left onto William Street. Go to the second stop light and turn Right onto Littlepage Street. Fairview Baptist Church is on the right at the corner of Littlepage St & Charlotte St.

Directions to First Christian Church:

1501 Washington Avenue
Fredericksburg, VA 22407
Phone: 540-373-7716

From I-95: Take Exit 130-A heading East on Route 3 and follow under the Route 1 Overpass. Turn left at the next light onto William St. Continue on William thru three lights before turning left onto Washington Ave at the Old City & Confederate Cemetery. First Christian Church will be three blocks down on your right.