

June 2012

Upper Room EMMAUS of the Greater Fredericksburg Area

Gatherings *(2nd Saturday of each month)*

June 9th

Peace UMC

Board Elections

July 14th

Bethel UMC (Caroline)

August 11th

Lake of the Woods Church

September 8th

Melrose UMC

Board meeting at 1:30 pm

Fellowship at 3:30 pm

Gathering at 4:00 pm

Please bring snacks to share during fellowship time.

We are looking for churches to host Gatherings for 2012.

If you are your church's Point of Contact for hosting, please email our CLD Dawn Kendall at queendawn@juno.com so arrangements can be made.



Directions to Peace UMC
801 Maple Grove Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Directions from I-95: Take Exit 130 B heading Rt 3 West . Turn Left at light onto Taskforce Dr. Take to end and turn right onto Maple Grove Dr. Church is approximately 1/2 mile down on your left.

UPCOMING EMMAUS WEEKENDS

Walk

FE-88 (M)

FE-89 (W)

Dates

October 25 - 28, 2012

November 15 - 18, 2012

Weekend Lay Director

Mike McDonald

Terry Cook

From the Community Lay Director

HELLO. Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

FAMILY NEWS. We extend our sympathies to the families of Phyllis Howze and Kevin Mullins. We mourn the loss of their love and friendship, but we rejoice as they sit in the arms of our Lord.

ELECTIONS. Elections will be held during the June Gathering. If you are unable to attend, please send your absentee ballot in by June 6; these have already been sent by email. Candidate bios are included in this newsletter. The Board seeks to fill seats for 2 lay women, 2 lay men, and 2 SDs. The Board of Directors will be voting on the next Community Lay Director, Assistant Community Lay Director, and Community Spiritual Director. Results will be announced during the Gathering.

FALL WALKS. Team selection for FE-88 and FE-89 is in process. Please help the WLDs by responding in a reasonable timeframe if you are called. Please prayerfully consider how you might serve these walks in October and November.

LOOKING AHEAD. All volunteer community positions run from September 1 to August 31. The Board will be contacting people about these positions. Keep your hearts open as opportunities arise!

We will be visiting out-of-town churches this summer. Those churches support us all year; let's plan to enjoy the drive and worship with our friends outside the immediate Fredericksburg area.

DECOLORES! Happy summer ya'll!

Dawn Kendall

FE-54, Table of Peace

THANK YOU for allowing me the opportunity to serve you. Wow, what a year it has been!

This role has taken me waay out of my comfort zone. I do not like to be in front of the crowd. I am sure you saw the times when my notes shook in my hand! God asked a lot of me this year, both requiring me to stretch out of my comfort zone, to stand up for us as a community, and to be humbled in this leadership. It has not been an easy year for me but I have learned and grown. Again, I thank you for your patience and support.

We have been working diligently to align with the Upper Room Emmaus model. I know some people are uncomfortable with this, but it was necessary to maintain our covenant and contract with the Upper Room. The Walk to Emmaus is a copyrighted program; so there are spiritual and legal implications for that. The Upper Room is pleased with the work that the Fredericksburg Community has done to restore the program to its original state. We are being good stewards of the program and we are being disciplined, obedient partners. And of course, GOD IS HERE. The weekends that have followed the model have been wonderful experiences—the pilgrim testimonies show that God is present and working during the weekends.

Our community is blessed to have so many churches and denominations participate. As an ecumenical group, we must continue to be accepting of others' theology and ideas, even if they are not the same as our own. Emmaus brings us together as the children of God united in HIS purpose; let us not forget that.

I love the Emmaus program and I love our Fredericksburg community. I cannot express how much Emmaus means to me personally. I am so blessed by so many people here. It was my honor to serve you.

DeColores,
Dawn

From the Community Spiritual Director

Grace is a topic that never ceases to amaze me. Many of you have probably heard before the definition of grace and the difference between grace and mercy. Grace is defined as God's unmerited favor. Mercy is not getting something that we deserve, (in this case God's just punishment), and grace is getting something that we don't deserve, (Eternal Life). I stand in constant awe in the presence of God's grace for me. That God would forgive me, and forgive me, and forgive me. That despite my inability to walk in perfection and to keep perfectly God's will, God knows my weaknesses and forgives me.

But what I have been really meditating on lately is our need to give grace to one another. The Bible tells us that we are to imitate the life of Christ in our own lives and therefore, there is a requirement for us to deal with one another with mercy and grace. One of the greatest examples of this demonstrated for this in Scripture is the encounter between Christ and the woman at the well.

This woman was a Samaritan – by the mere fact of her heritage this was someone who Jesus should have spurned and avoided at all costs. Samaritans were considered the dregs of society by the Jews. Further, this was a woman who

had engaged in multiple sexual encounters with men who were not her husband and who knows what other countless sins. Conversely, Jesus was the very virtue of holiness. The Bible says that he was tempted in all ways the same as you and I, yet was without sin. If there was anyone who had the right to condemn this woman, to hold her accountable by bluntly pointing out her sins, it was Christ. Yet His interaction with her was one of compassion. He spoke with her gently, and while He did not allow her to continue in her sinfulness this was not the primary subject of His encounter with her. Christ was not as concerned with what she had done, but rather with what she would do in the future.

Similarly, with the woman caught in adultery Christ's comment to the woman was "neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more." Isn't it refreshing to know that Christ does not keep a list of our failures and beat us over the head with THEM?

In the same way, let us deal with one another, dealing with one another in love and compassion, seeking to restore the brother or sister who has failed with grace and mercy. After all, we are all sinners who have been saved by God's grace.

My Fourth Day...So Far

It has been just over three years since my Walk (FE 75). God gave me my "marching orders" at dying moments that weekend – a very clear directive to do a specific thing. Along with my husband, Richard, I was to develop a three-day experience similar to Emmaus, (but not for people who are already in the church), similar to Epiphany, (but not for people who are behind bars), and similar to the Alpha Course, (a short course in Christianity). Thus was born HOPE3. HOPE stands for He Opens People's Eyes and our ministries have blossomed in ways we couldn't have conceived of even a year ago. We have built an addition on our home that houses a weekly fellowship called Risen Hope and we continue to work on creating the HOPE3 Weekend. The project is overwhelming, but God keeps reminding me that with Him, all things are possible!

De Colores!

Deb Leeper

Community Notes

EMMAUS BOARD CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

LAY WOMEN:

Debbie Bliss: Worship at Hillcrest UMC; walked on FE-63. Has teamed 6 times and given 3 talks. Have sponsored seven people. Have served as Youth Director, Board of Trustees, Coordinator of Communications Chair, Prayer Ministry Coordinator, delegate to the UMC Virginia Conference, Bible School teacher, and been part of the United Methodist Women, a weekly Bible study, and a Reunion group. Have sat on the Board of Directors for Fredericksburg Goodwill and Hope House.

Mary Lee Hensel: Worship at Lake of the Woods Church; walked on FE-44; sat at the table of Faithfulness. Served on 5 teams and served as a community servant many times. Have sponsored pilgrims and gave my first 4th Day Witness in 2005. I have served in my church in the youth department, working and serving with the missions teams, leading bible studies, serving on different committees as needed, as the leader for the Divorce Recovery Group held at my church for area churches. I attend a weekly women's bible study and a monthly accountability group. Become the Director of the Homeless Shelter in my county.

Lynda Swanlund: Worships at Fredericksburg United Methodist Church; walked on FE-71, and sat at the Table of Ruth. Teamed on 5 walks and given 2 talks. I am in an accountability group and have started going to a support group at the church.

LAY MEN:

Doc Holliday: Worships at Hillcrest UMC, walked on FE-76, and sat at the Table of Peter. Served on 3 teams and served numerous times as a community servant. Served on 2 Epiphany teams. Kathleen and I have also served as the Food Agape servants for the monthly Emmaus gatherings - transporting the snacks, setting up, tearing down, and cleaning up. I also served on the Hillcrest In Service To Others "HISTO" a weeklong mission team. I am a retired (22 years active duty) Marine MSgt who has worked the last 22 years as a civilian Marine and will be retiring on 1 July 2012.

Ron Jennings: Worships at Fairview Baptist Church, walked on FE-66. Have teamed on 5 walks and been a servant for 2 others. I have served my church as a Deacon, chairman of numerous committees, Sunday School teacher, Nursery worker, youth leader, work with our food pantry, and participate in the men's ministry. None of this could have been accomplished without the support of my wife, Judy (FE-61), who for 46 years has ensured that church was a key part of our marriage.

Marc McDonald: Worships at Stafford Crossing Community Church, flew on Fredericksburg Chrysalis #6 and sat at God's Table. Served on 7 Emmaus teams and given 2 talks. Have served extensively in Epiphany and participate in the Emmaus music ministry.

Jake Riley: Worships at Stafford Crossing Community Church, walked on Fredericksburg Emmaus 78 and sat at the Table of Luke. Served on two Emmaus teams and two Epiphany teams and given one talk at each. I have been blessed to serve on the Board since August as the Weekend Support Coordinator.

Chris Wells: Worships at Mt. Horeb UMC, walked on FE-78, and sat at the Table of John. I was on the Servant Team for FE-82 and was an Assistant Table Leader on FE-86. I am the Lay Leader at Mt. Horeb UMC.

Community Notes continued

EMMAUS BOARD CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES continued

SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS:

Nancy McDaniel: Currently Senior Pastor at Rhoadsville Baptist Church. Walked in Southwest Virginia Emmaus in 1996 and has teamed every year except two since that time. Have given 4 of the Emmaus grace talks, some repeatedly.

Gayle Porias : Currently Pastor at Mount Horeb UMC, Catlett, VA. Holds a Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary. Walked on National Capital Walk to Emmaus E-109 May 2003. Served on 9 Kairos teams and 1 Emmaus team. Have given 6 lay talks and 2 clergy talks.

Two Teams, One Walk

There are two teams serving on every Emmaus walk: a talk room team and a servant team. Each team has specific duties during the Emmaus walk weekend and each team has separate training to help them prepare. According to the Upper Room Emmaus model, the ONLY time these two teams are together is during the Orientation, which serves as the first meeting for both groups.

Talk Room Team. The Talk Room team deals directly with the pilgrims during the Emmaus Walk weekend. The team composition is specifically presented by the Upper Room. There is 1 Weekend Lay Director, 3 Assistant Lay Directors, a table leader and an assistant table leader for each table, 2 musicians with an optional third to grow the ministry, and 5 Spiritual Directors. Our Board of Directors has added a floater to the team to fill in as needed during the weekend. The team meets for months prior to the walk to receive talk training and table training, and to learn how to present the information to the pilgrims in a safe environment. During the weekend, the Talk Room team is the face of Emmaus, directly interacting with the pilgrims. These team members are often the people the pilgrims will seek as they join the community and attend Gatherings.

Servant Team. According to the Upper Room's Emmaus Handbook, the Emmaus Walk weekend servant roles are filled by community volunteers. Because our community has the blessing of Camp Happyland, we do not need the

types of servants described in the handbook, (such as kitchen staff). However, the distance to Camp Happyland and the camp's isolation creates a unique situation for our community. In an effort to make serving during the weekend easier, the Board of Directors, with the approval of the Upper Room, created a specific Servant team that may stay at the camp during the weekend. The Servant team manages all the logistical work of the weekend so that the Talk Room team may focus on the pilgrims. The Servant Team works behind the scenes to set up for activities, prepare pilgrim agape, and ensure that prayer partners are coordinated. The team training includes reviewing the details of the weekend schedule, agape set up, and prayer chapel coordination. The team ensures that prayer partners are established and the prayer vigil is filled. The Servant team sees that the activities of the weekend go off without a hitch.

Because the functions of the two teams are so different, they do not meet together during the training time. The Servant Team serves humbly and without recognition, as the hands and feet of Jesus. The Talk Room team leads the program as the faces of Emmaus. By ensuring that everything is ready and at hand, the Servant team enables the Talk Room team to focus on the pilgrims. The weekend cannot succeed without the attention and work of BOTH of these teams.

Prayer Requests from May Gathering

For Mark's mother, receiving test results from her doctor about memory issues

Don, recovering from heart surgery

Betty Jo's knee replacement in July

Rev Marge Walker in Sarasota, FL, who has Miniere's disease; pray for relief

Renee—heart pain and back pain

Service men and women

Fire and rescue personnel

Patricia—recovering from back surgery

Fran—terminal cancer; peace, comfort, and knowing God's presence

Bev—recently had a stroke

Fran—leukemia

For sponsors to live up to their commitments

Memory improvement for Hazel

Gina, Mary, John, Wilfred, Sean, Monica, Jazz, Christopher, Esther

Epiphany facilities and stars

Finances

Nephew to return from Afghanistan

Parental problems

Insightful leadership in our government

The new Emmaus Board

Kenya and the mission team

The Peru mission team

Mary's health

My son's release from prison

House repairs

For our grandchildren

For other pilgrims to come from our church

Special blessings for mothers on Mother's Day

Mel's recuperation

Mattie—success with the band

Phillip—brain MRI

Ministry in the work environment

For those that are alone and adrift, lost in their suffering; pray that they come to know Jesus

Noel—healing and comfort after heart surgery

Pastor Adam—continued healing of vocal cords

Doc's retirement

Wellness ministry and classes

For Jack's health to improve

Salvation for family members

Our sister Lazalia to continue to recover

For hardened hearts to be humbled

Sondra—struggling with an illness that doctors have not been able to treat; that she will hunger and thirst for God's word

PRAISES

That Rosemary's sister is healing well after 2 surgeries

That Larry's back feels better

For good attendance at the 4th Day meeting

For mothers

For friends who become family

Elected Community Officers: (Thru June 30, 2012)

Community Lay Director.....	Dawn Kendall	
Assistant Community Lay Director	Richard Leeper	
Community Spiritual Director.....	Jim Muhlenkamp	
Dick Barnett	Lisa Green	Cam Noden
Judy Britt	Ava Hanger	Jake Riley
Chris Campbell		
Agape Coordinator.....	Tom Dempsey	
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer.....	Carol Burke	
Manuals Coordinator/Historian	Mike Remington	
Spiritual Director.....	James Arkord	
Spiritual Director.....	Joe Reed	

Community Volunteers: (Sept 1, 2011 - Aug 31, 2012)

Communications Support Coordinator.....	Dick Barnett
Website & Database Administrator.....	Chris Campbell
Newsletter.....	Brooke Ferguson
Daily Prayer Chain Coordinator	Teresa Smith
Fourth Day Support Coordinator	Cam Noden
Fourth Day Advisory Committee	Art Blankenship
Fourth Day Follow-Up/Reunion Group Coordinator.....	Richard Leeper
Upper Room Guidelines Implementation.....	Dawn Kendall
Pilgrim/Team Support Coordinator.....	Carol Burke
Team Selection Committee.....	Dawn Kendall
Team Registrar	Dick Barnett
Pilgrim Registrars.....	Ralph and Sandy Williams
Gathering Support Coordinator.....	Ava Hanger
Childcare Coordinator.....	Jacob Riley
Hospitality Coordinator.....	Kathleen Holladay
Transportation Coordinator.....	Chris Campbell
Music/Equipment Coordinator.....	Mitch Mitchell
Weekend Support Coordinator.....	Jake Riley
Community Servant Coordinator.....	Richard Leeper
Community Baker.....	Sandie Makely
Supplies Coordinator.....	Chris & Karen Campbell
Prayer Vigil Coordinators.....	Lisa Green
Placemat Coordinator.....	Tom Wells
Snack Agape Coordinator.....	Lisa Green
Agape Bag Coordinator.....	Karen Campbell
Name Badge Coordinator	Gary Adkins
Fourth Day Packets.....	Wilfred and Mary Usher

Daily Internet Prayer Chain

We have Prayer Warriors praying daily for the needs and praises of the Emmaus Community. Our Daily Prayer Chain Coordinator is Teresa Smith, Fairview at River Club, FE-37, Table of Patience. Simply email Teresa at fredemmausprayers@yahoo.com with your prayer request and our Prayer Warriors will be in prayer for you! Urgent prayer requests will be handled as quickly as we receive them. If you would like to be a Daily Prayer Warrior, email our website administrator Chris Campbell at chris@ewg.org and ask to be included as a Prayer Warrior.

4th Day Testimony Request

The 4th day committee wants your 4th day testimonies. They don't have to be long, just tell us what God's doing in your 4th day, or how teaming, sponsoring, being involved in a reunion group, or attending monthly gatherings has changed your life. We will review it and if accepted, include it in the newsletter on a monthly basis. So if you'd like to share with us how God has used your Emmaus experience in any of these areas, please email your testimony to Cam Noden at: twonodens@juno.com for review. I'll be looking forward to hearing from you!

REUNION GROUPS

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Lord's Lions & Lambs Group
6:30 pm
First Christian Church
POC: Joe Reed
540-373-7716
first.christian.church@verizon.net

Thurs (cont'd)

Uptown Bristersburg Believers
2nd and 4th Thursdays
7:00 pm
Mt. Horeb UMC
POC: Chris Wells
540-788-3068

Monday

Ladies in Waiting
Meets every other Monday
in Falmouth
POC: Vonda LiCalzi
540-446-2682

Thursday

His Joyful Croakers
9:00 am
Hillcrest UMC
POC: June Riel
540-710-5949

Friday

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

Tuesday

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
7:30 pm
Prince of Peace UMC
Manassas, Va
POC: Lloyd Biller
703-590-1512

His Seekers (Women)
7:30 pm
Home of Jane Carwell
POC: Sandy Crossley
703-221-6977
POC: Jane Carwell
703-969-4019
tjcarwell@yahoo.com

Varies

His Footprints
Various schedule: call for
time and meeting place
POC: Phyllis Howze
540-582-6739

Lakeside Group (Men)
8:00 pm
Lake of the Woods
Call for location
POC: Vic Larson
540-972-1928

Amazing Grace Group
8:30 pm
Hillcrest UMC
POC: Ed McAdam
540-898-3625
emcadam@cox.net

Rainbow Group (Women)
Alternate Thursdays
10:00 am
Lake of the Woods
Call for location
POC: Barbara Miller
540-972-7418

Are you interested in
joining or starting a
new reunion group?

Email Richard Leeper
at richardleeper@netscape.net