# UPPER ROOM EMMAUS OF THE GREATER FREDERICKSBURG AREA

## Upcoming Walks:

FE-95 (M) Oct. 2-5, 2014 Gary Adkins

FE-96 (W) Nov. 13-16, 2014 Lisa Green

## **Gathering Directions**

To: Antioch UMC

138 Kellogg Mill Rd Fredericksburg, VA 22406

From Fredericksburg: Take I-95 North to exit 133, Rt 17 towards Warrenton. Follow Rt 17 approx 5 miles then make a right turn onto Co Rd 616/Poplar Rd. Follow approx 1.5 miles then turn right onto Co Rd 651/Kellogg Mill Rd. Church will be on your left.

## GATHERINGS

May 10th

Antioch UMC

June 14th

Lake of the Woods Church

July 12th

Bethel UMC

August 9th

First Christian

September 13th

St Matthias UMC

# **Gathering Info**

2:30 pm Board meeting 3:30 pm Fellowship & 4:00 pmGathering Please bring snacks to share during fellowship time. If your church can host a gathering, please email the CLD Mary Lee Hensel at <u>mlhensel59@gmail.com</u>

## Thoughts from the Community Lay Director

#### Community,

During our Board Meeting last month, we went over the financial wellness of the Fredericksburg Emmaus Community. We have been losing money on the last few walks and know that we as a community cannot continue on as we are going.

Here is what we discussed. If we stay as we are, we will be able to hopefully continue for 2 more years and then we will have to dissolve due to lack of funds.

God asks us to be good stewards, and we cannot go on as we are, and fulfill that obligation justly.

With only having 12 - 16 pilgrims per walk, we are not making enough to cover the walks, and the community is paying the difference.

Things that we have done is increase the number of members on the servant team, pushing for up to 8 on the servant team, makes less work for each servant, plus adds money to the income of each walk, while not taking anything away, since we pay for the use of all of Building A, and there are plenty of beds for the team and servants, as well as the clergy.

We must have enough pilgrims and community signed up three weeks before a walk to cover the cost of the walk. If we do not, we may have to postpone or cancel a walk assuming we can get out of our contract with Camp Happyland. We will take pilgrim applications up to 10 days before a walk.

On the men's walk FE – 93, the clergy elected to also sleep in Building A, which saved us having to rent the rooms in the Guest Lodge, a saving of over \$600. Bless these men for being willing to be true servants and use the wonderful accommodations in Building A.

While a good thing about only having 16 or less Pilgrims is we only need to rent the Inn and not the Guest Lodge too, it is still not enough to break even or to be able to put money back for supplies, materials and other things needed by the community to hold 4 walks per year. So here are the things the board came up with and voted unanimously on after much discussion and prayer:

Continue with more servants on each team.

Enforce the cutoff date for applications, if we do not have enough Pilgrims we cancel or postpone.

All clergy of the same sex as the team will use Building A, if there are clergy of the opposite sex on a team, we will rent one room only, that has twin beds to be shared by the two clergy.

We are raising the teaming and Pilgrim fees to \$220. Please do not let that stop you from teaming or from sponsoring.

There are many ways we can make up the difference, have a group or your church help with sponsoring, or ask for a partial scholarship. If God has called you to be on a team or to sponsor a Pilgrim, He will also show you the way to afford it.

Our fees have not been raised in over 5 years, while the amount we pay to Camp Happyland has gone up. We looked to see if there are other places available, and could not find anything in the area that would work and that was priced lower then what we are paying now.

We as a board prayed about these decisions for a month before coming together and deciding how to go forward. We all agree that being good Stewards of your money is our greatest obligation and do not want to see an end come to this community.

We will continue to pray and are looking forward to the day when we are financially stable again. We ask that you join us in that prayer.

Your Faithful Servant, Mary Lee Hensel FE 44 Table of Faithfulness

## From the Community SD

#### **FACEBOOK FRIENDS**

I said I would not do it, even though one dear friend told me how much I would like it. I said I would not join FACEBOOK, and I stood my ground for months. Then one day my friend said, "I bet that your family is on FACEBOOK; and wouldn't it be fun to keep in touch with them over the Internet across the miles?" I doubted that any of them were on FACEBOOK, but she investigated and found that most of my family members were on FACEBOOK! I was surprised, but I was convinced. And I joined! Very soon, people started requesting me to be their FACEBOOK friend. And I got scared. You see, I cherish my friends, and I want to be a good friend to my friends. I didn't know how I was supposed to respond to them all individually, so I only accepted a few friends. For months, I had only about 12 or 13 friends on FACEBOOK. Then I learned (though it goes against everything I feel about friendship), that you don't have to respond to everyone; you can just post what you want to say whenever you want to say it and read what others say at your leisure. That was freeing; and so, slowly but surely, I began accepting more friends. One person withdrew her "friendship request" because I ignored her request for so long. Another person, when I finally confirmed her as a friend, wrote, "Well, it's about time you confirmed my friend request. I was taking it

personally!" I hope she was kidding, but maybe she wasn't.

I've been thinking about God's FACEBOOK. We're all God's FACEBOOK friends. He has us all written on His heart. He always confirms us, never ignores us, and never "unfriends" us. He is always ready to respond and always open to whatever we want to share. And He writes on the FACEBOOKS of our hearts in His "what's on your mind" space such wonderful words of love. Among those words of love are these offered through the life and ministry of His Son, Jesus: "My command is this: Love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you." (John 15:12-15)

Through I'm not very active on FACEBOOK, I'm happy I joined and that I have many FACEBOOK friends. I'm happier still that God is my best FACEBOOK friend. I'm going to be checking His "WALL" (HIS WORD) every day!

Blessings, Nancy McDaniel Community Spiritual Director

# Board Election - additional bios

Below you will find two additional bios for the people running for board elections. Please see the April newsletter for the information on the other candidates. The election will be held during the May Gathering. There are 2 male, 2 female and 1 clergy position open. Per the community by-laws, if you would like to be on the Board, you can nominate yourself or have someone nominate you from the floor at the May Gathering. You have to be present at the May Gathering to accept the nomination and be included on the ballot. Votes will be tallied and the new Board members will be announced at the May Gathering. New Board members will serve starting July 1, 2014.

#### Terry Cook:

I walked on FE 39 in November 2000. I worship at Fredericksburg United Methodist Church and sat at the table of Gentleness. I have served on many women's walks in every capacity, including as Board Rep and Weekend Lay Director. Most recently I have served on the servant team. I am active in my home church. For the past several years I have been on the team that runs the power point for our Saturday evening and Sunday morning 9:45 services. I have served as the wedding coordinator and I am on the nominations committee. I believe in this community and I am excited to see where God will grow Fredericksburg Emmaus and would feel blessed and humbled to serve on the Emmaus Board.

#### Joe Reed:

Currently I serve as Pastor, Evangelism and Ministry Expansion, Wheat and Tares Ministries, Lorton, Virginia. In addition I have served on the board in several capacities: past Community Spiritual Director and Board Member; past Weekend Lay Director (FE#55 – The Double Nickel); past Assistant Lay Director, Table Leader, Assistant Table Leader; Lead Spiritual Director/ Assistant Spiritual Director for numerous weekends. I have had the unique privilege of serving as laity and clergy; therefore I am immensely qualified to serve faithful if elected.

# My Fourth Day

I walked on FE-63 and sat at the Table of Victorious Violets and attend Hillcrest UMC. My Fourth is awesome – full of wonder, God's grace and unconditional love! My walk to Emmaus changed my life and has taken me on a journey that challenges and encourages me daily. My relationship with God and Jesus Christ has become so much stronger and my hunger for the Word is unquenchable. God has put me in situations and with people that I don't always understand what the purpose is, but he is slowly (or maybe I'm the one that is slow) bringing me to where I believe I can be of the most use to Him. God has laid on my heart that I must go out into the world and share Him with others. I was and still am active in my church, but God has laid on my heart that I need to be dealing with the people outside my church, sharing God's love and encouraging them to know Him. So I am trying hard to listen, study, step out of my comfort zone and be His tool. Four of us from Hillcrest have started a free after school program, once a week, for children in the Elementary Schools in the city of Fredericksburg and I know we are teaching and showing them God's love. I also belong to several small social groups that give me the opportunity to share my faith just through our everyday trials in life and I belong to a Covenant Group that keeps me grounded in God's love and guidance. My heart and schedule are full and I can't wait to see what the rest of this journey brings. DeColores, Debbie H. Bliss

#### Elected Community Officers: (Thru June 30, 2014)

Community Lay Director	Mary Lee Hensel	<u>kb8qcj@yahoo.com</u>
Assistant Community Lay Director	Doc Holladay	<u>doc.holladay@wildblue.net</u>
Community Spiritual Director	Nancy McDaniel	<u>nancysmcdaniel@aol.com</u>
Chris Campbell <u>chris@ewg.org</u>	Karen Campbell	<u>campbells_6@yahoo.com</u>
Diana Farrar <u>hrhdiana@yahoo.com</u>	Lisa Green	<u>lisagreencfa@yahoo.com</u>
Ed Hayner <u>ed.hayner@aol.com</u>	Ron Jennings	jrjennings@verizon.net
Chris Wells <u>cdwells50@gmail.com</u>		
Agape Coordinator	Tom Dempsey	<u>tom.dempsey@urs.com</u>
Secretary	Ava Hanger	<u>ahanger@va.metrocast.net</u>
Treasurer	Debbie Bliss	<u>dhbliss@cox.net</u>
Manuals Coordinator/Historian	Doc Holladay	
Spiritual Director	Gayle Porias	gd.porias@verizon.net
Spiritual Director	Chris Fair	<u>ckfair@wildblue.net</u>

#### Community Volunteers: (Sept 1, 2013 - Aug 31, 2014)

Communications Support Coordinator	Mary Lee Hensel
Website & Database Administrator	Chris Campbell
Newsletter	Brooke Ferguson
Daily Prayer Chain Coordinator	Debbie Bliss

Fourth Day Support Coordinator	Chris Wells
Fourth Day Advisory Committee	Mary Lee Hensel
	Cam Noden
Fourth Day Follow-Up/Reunion Group Coordinator.	Chris Wells

Team Selection Committee	Chris Campbell
Team Registrar	Chris Campbell
Pilgrim Registrars	Chris & Karen Campbell

Gathering Support Coordinator ......Mary Lee Hensel Hospitality Coordinator ......Kathleen Holladay

Music/Equipment Coordinator......Mitch Mitchell

Weekend Support Coordinator	Debbie Bliss
Community Servant Coordinator	Doc Holladay
Community Baker	Sandie Makely
Supplies/Transportation Coordinators	Chris & Karen Campbell
Prayer Vigil Coordinator	Lisa Green
Placemat Coordinator	VACANT
Snack Agape Coordinator	Lisa Green
Agape Bag Coordinator	Karen Campbell
Name Badge Coordinators	Gary Adkins
	Dianna Wells
Fourth Day Packets	Diana Farrar

# 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 Debbie Bliss, Hillcrest UMC, FE-63, table of Victorious Violets. Simply email Debbie at fredemmausprayers@yahoo.com or dhbliss@cox.net 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.

### Sunday

Bethel UMC Men's Group 7:30 Am Bethel UMC Woodbridge, Va POC: Brian Lewis 703-590-9343 Bb3253@aol.com

St. Matthias Reunion Group Ist Sunday Of Each Month I2:15 - I:30 Pm St. Matthias Social Hall POC: Tammi Ellis

### Monday

Ladies In Waiting Meets Every Other Monday In Falmouth POC: Vonda LiCalzi 540-446-2682

Rainbow Group (Women) First Monday Of Month 10:00 Am Lake Of The Woods Location Varies POC: Barbara Miller 540-972-7418

Are you interested in joining or starting a new **Reunion Group**?

Email Chris Wells at cdwells50@gmail.com

### Tuesday

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

Reunion Bible Study 10:00 Am North Stafford Baptist POC: Karen Campbell 540–658-0468 campbells\_6@yahoo.com

Lord's Lions & Lambs Group 6:00 Pm First Christian Church POC: Mike Remington 540-373-7716 first.christian.church@verizon.net

### Thursday

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

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

Uptown Bristersburg Believers 2nd And 4th Thursdays 7:00 Pm Mt. Horeb UMC POC: Chris Wells 540-788-3068 cdwells50@gmail.com

## 4th Day Testimony Request

The Emmaus community wants to hear about your 4th Day! 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 post one person's 4th Day experience in the Newsletter each month. 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. Can't wait to hear what God has been doing!