

EMMAUS NEWS

Gatherings

JUNE 13TH ZOOM VIRTUAL

We are going to try something new this month! Since we are still unable to meet in person, we are planning a "Virtual Gathering" via Zoom. Details will come out next week, but please plan on "stopping by" at some point in the afternoon on Saturday, 13 June. We will have a message from our Community Spiritual Director and a 4th Day Speaker.

Zoom Gathering (con't)

If you do not have video capability, there will be phone numbers you can call in to the Gathering for audio only. We are somewhat limited in the number of people who can be in the gathering at once, but it will at least give us a chance to reconnect with our Emmaus family, even in a limited capacity.

Hope to see you all soon!

Upcoming Walks

FE-117 (M)

Fall 2020

Jake Riley

FE-118 (F)

Fall 2020

Sandra Coney

Please contact Ava Hanger at ahanger@va.metrocast.net if you are interested in helping the Emmaus community through any of the various volunteer positions listed.

If your church can host a gathering, please email the CLD Ava Hanger at ahanger@va.metrocast.net

Prayers:

To send a Prayer Request to our **daily internet prayer chain** or to become a Daily Prayer Warrior, email fredemmausprayers@yahoo.com or 1973.bliss.debbie@gmail.com

CLD NOTE

So, this isn't at all the way I thought this year would be. The worst I could foresee were the looming cost increases at Camp Happyland to stress out the Board. When we had early scheduling difficulties, Pastor Robert and I laughed and reminded each other to "Suit Up!" We meant the full armor of God, of course, not a HAZMAT suit. We meant shield, helmet, and sword, not gloves, mask, and hand sanitizer.

And now, there are demonstrations and curfews.

I have known that there is injustice in our world; if there weren't, we as Christians wouldn't be instructed to fight injustice. I have known that there is hate; if there weren't, we wouldn't be called upon to reject hate. I have known that there is evil; if there weren't, we wouldn't have to stand firm against evil. But I have never felt so compelled to look myself in the eye and realize that my life, my creature comforts, my successes, my beautiful family, even my abilities (how to read and write, how to grow a plant or make banana bread, how to clean a toilet or do integral calculus), none of these is really my own doing. So much of who I think myself to be is due to luck, a circumstance of my birth, something over which I had, and have, no control. That doesn't make these things bad, in and of themselves, but it does convey a burden, a responsibility, to make an effort to FIX THE DISPARITY. I am a beneficiary of the system; I need to help fix the system. This doesn't mean putting anyone down.

Christians should never, ever do that! It doesn't even mean giving someone a hand up, necessarily, though

that's a temporary fix until the larger problem can be addressed. It means trying to make my part of the universe a place where no one needs a hand up in order to have the chances I had from the beginning. Rights for others won't make my rights go away, it makes my rights and their rights the same. This is how it's supposed to be, but it is all too obvious that that's not how things are.

As a mother, I have known what it's like to have two children demanding my attention at the same time. I truly don't know how mothers of more than two ever get five minutes of sanity in a day. Early on, the decision of which child to care for first was often easy – potty before diaper, diaper before snack request, snack before story. As they have gotten older, I have had to make more judgement calls – he needs a permission slip signed but she needs homework help, or she has a scrape but he got into poison ivy. It all boils down to this: who needs me more?

Our world has many demands on our time and attention. The lesson of Luke 15 is that we are called, as followers of Jesus, to look after the one out of 99 who needs us most. Sure, those 99 sheep need the shepherd, too, but the lost one needs Him the most. Sure, God loves ALL people, but it's the people being forgotten, ignored, purposely overlooked, prejudged, and denied who need us to feel God's love for them! Don't "show them God's love", feel it! Then, it will show on its own. Peace. De colores!

Ava Hanger

PRAYER REQUESTS

Unlike our usual newsletter prayer list, we have no prior Gathering list to print. But several requests have come in via email, and we are always hoping to be able to pray for our community! Please send your prayer requests to dhbliss@cox.net

We have several members of our community that have been touched by the COVID-19 pandemic, some personally, some through family members, some through friends or coworkers. Our prayers are with ALL who are fighting this, whether as patients, loved ones, or as healthcare professionals.

We pray for those in our community that have other health issues in this time of uncertainty, even joyous ones like the birth of a child (or grandchild), who don't get to share their joy the way they would like. When families can't be together, whether in good times or bad, there is this feeling that nothing is as it should be.

We pray for our leaders. We ask that they each start their day listening to God give them guidance and end their day with an honest accounting of their discipleship. Come to think of it, we pray that we would all do this!

We pray for those who are residents in care facilities, so many of whom don't really understand why their families can't come see them. We pray for those who need to go into such care at this time, which means a two-week period of complete isolation, even from other residents, to keep everyone safe. Two weeks is a long time to be alone in a strange place. We pray for those who ought to go into such care, but cannot or will not because of the circumstances.

We pray for those whose lifelines are stretched thin, whether it's support meetings that must be held virtually, church families that haven't been able to meet in person, those who rely on child care and are scrambling for a solution that works for them, or those whose work has either increased or vanished.

But we also give thanks! We give thanks for neighbors who are pulling together to help each other in any way they can. We give thanks for the technology that enables us to see and hear each other, even in our isolation, and allows us to connect with our pastors and hear God's Word. We give thanks for HOPE! There IS hope.

VOLUNTEERS

Board of Directors:

Class of 2018:

Angia Grove

Class of 2019

Chris Campbell

Butch Farley

Joyce Keene (Secretary)

Vonda LiCalzi

Randy McCollum (SD)

Class of 2020

Larry Jenkins Jr (ACLD)

Al Grove

Pattie Lee

Mary Lee Hensel

Class of 2021:

Ava Hanger (CLD)

John Blosser

Mary Jenkins

Bob Pickett, (Treasurer)

Robert Bumbrey (CSD)

WLD Committee Chair – Ava Hanger

Community Members – Beth McBride/Butch Farley

Team Selection Committee Chair – Patrick Lonergan

Comm. Members – Chris Campbell/Joanne Wilson

- Team Registrar – Karen Campbell

Pilgrim Selection Committee Chair – Ava Hanger

- Pilgrim Registrar – Debbie Bliss

Nominating Committee Chair – Pattie Lee

Fourth Day Training Chair – John Blosser

Communications Chair – Mary Lee Hensel

- Website – Chris Campbell
- Database – Chris Campbell/Mary Lee Hensel
- Email – Chris Campbell
- Newsletter – Brooke Ferguson
- Daily Prayer Chain – Debbie Bliss
- Social Media – Chris Czubowicz

Weekend Supplies Chair – Chris Campbell

- Trailer – Chris and Karen Campbell
- Name Badge – Gary Adkins/Dan See
- Fourth Day Packets – Chris Campbell

Agape Chair – Al Grove

- Agape Bag Coordinator – Karen Campbell
- Prayer Vigil – Mary Lee Hensel/C. Campbell
- Snack Agape – Angia Grove
- Agape Book – Mary Lee Hensel
- Community Baker – Jenn Bumbrey
- Placemats – Mary Lee Hensel

Gatherings Chair – Bob Pickett

- Scheduling Coordinator – Bob Pickett
- Music Coordinator – Tom Wells

Group Reunions Chair – Jenn Bumbrey

Manuals Chair – Tom Wells

Face-To-Face Steering Committee Chair – Bob Pickett

REUNION GROUPS:

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

St. Matthias Reunion Group, St. Matthias Social Hall 12:15-1:30pm
1st Sunday of each month POC: Tammi Ellis

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

Rainbow Group (Women), Lake of the Woods, location varies 10:00 am
First Monday of month POC: Barbara Miller 540-972-7418

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

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

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

His Seekers (Women), Jane Carwell's home, 703-969-4019 7:30 pm
POC: Sandy Crossley 703-221-6977 or Jane Carwell tjcarwell@yahoo.com

Are you interested in joining or starting a new reunion group?
Email Jenn Bumbrey at livsnana3111@aol.com

Application Fee \$25 - Due when you submit the completed application. If this fee is not included with the application the application will not be counted as valid until fee is received.

Sponsorship Fee \$200 - Due, (not mailed, but in the Treasurer's hands), no later than one week before the Walk, but preferably earlier. It is not acceptable to bring the Sponsorship Fee on the night the Walk starts.

A check must be written to Camp Happyland the morning of the Walk and is deposited the next day. Therefore, for Emmaus to be good stewards and to be in line with strong business practices, you must send your fees in a minimum of one week before the walk.

Team Fee - \$200 - Due, (not mailed, but in Treasurer's hands), no later than one week before the Walk, but preferably earlier. It is preferable that this is given to the Board Rep, for your Walk, during teaming.

Mail to: - All payments, applications, fees, correspondence, etc... should be mailed to P.O. Box 42094, Fredericksburg, VA 22404

FEES