

Monthly Newsletter of
THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY
May-June, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

MAY, 2008

- Board Meeting – Thurs, May 8, 7pm, Keezletown UMC
- Day of Understanding – Sat, May 10, 9am, Asbury UMC
- Gathering – Fri, May 30, 7pm, Asbury UMC

JUNE, 2008

- Training Event – Sat, June 7, 9am, Camp Overlook
- Board Meeting – Thurs, June 12, 7pm, Keezletown UMC
- Gathering – Fri, June 27, 7pm, Asbury UMC

Monthly Gatherings are held at **Asbury United Methodist Church in Harrisonburg** on the last Friday of each month. **Follow these directions to the parking lot.** Park in the lot behind the church. Enter from Liberty Street:

- North on Main St: left on Bruce St at church; go left on Liberty St. Enter lot at 2nd or 3rd entrance.
- West on US 33: left on Mason St, right on Water St, left on Liberty St, pass Bruce St, enter as above.
- South on US 11: you will be on Liberty Street, enter as above.
- South on US 42: left on second street (Bruce St) past US 33, and right on Liberty.

Walk through the gate and enter the building through the door on the lower level. Once inside, go up to the 3rd floor and follow the "joyful noise" to the group in Slaven Hall. See you there! ☺

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP OVERLOOK:

From Washington/Baltimore:

I-95 Beltway & Rt.55 to I-81 South to Exit 257 South on Rt.11, Left on Rt.806, Right on Rt.620, Left on Rt.722

From Richmond/Tidewater:

I-64 West to I-81, then North to Exit 251, follow Harrisonburg instructions below

From Harrisonburg: I-81 North to Exit 251, Rt.11 North, right on Rt.721, left on Rt.717, right on Rt.811, right on Rt.722

Visit our local community online at: sveconline.org



Community Lay Director

Welcome to all the new members of the Shenandoah Valley Emmaus Community from Walks #61 and #62!

What powerful weekends they were. You are now entering your Fourth Days and I pray the strength, love, and grace of God that you discovered over the weekends are remaining with you. Staying active in your Emmaus Community helps keep the fire burning. I look forward to seeing all of you on May 10th, at Day of Deeper Understanding.

Thank you to all of our Emmaus Community for your love, prayers, and support. These walks could not have been accomplished without you. However, our work is not done as we now prepare for the upcoming Fall walks. Scott Dillard and Melissa Fretwell have accepted your Board of Directors invitation to serve as Lay Directors for walks #63 and #64 respectively. Your community thanks you for accepting this opportunity to be God's hands and feet for the upcoming walks. I ask that the community now keep Melissa and Scott in your prayers and provide encouragement as they undertake the planning and training for the walks scheduled for October 9th-12th and October 16th-19th, 2008.

I hope to see all of you at Day of Deeper Understanding. Sponsors- remember you are responsible for getting those you sponsored to the **Day of Deeper Understanding held May 10th**, at Asbury UMC, Harrisonburg. See you there! 😊

*DeColores, Melanie Stanley
Community Lay Director
Shenandoah Valley Emmaus
Community*

NOTE: On June 7th, we have a special community event. A representative from the International Emmaus Community will visit to help us learn how our community and the 394 Emmaus communities worldwide function in serving our one God. It'll be great! We hope you will plan to join us!

Welcome to the Community!

Introducing the Men of Shenandoah Emmaus Walk #61

David Anderson	Bob Bauserman
Eddie Beahm	Harold Blose
Paul Buckley	Mac Coffman
Hunt Dekle	Chris Emert
Bill Garvey	Larry Hensley
Kenny Herring	Jeff Horchner
Bill Howard	Tommy Hunsberger
Ray Hussey	Steve Jenkins
Terry Keating	Jamie Lambert
Carter McCaffrey	Sam McNeely
John Phillips	Brian Plum
Dan Purdom	Jeff Reed
Barry Robinson	Ray Steele
Jeff Stoneberger	Jim Strother
Carter McCaffrey	John Witman

The Women of Spring Emmaus Walk #62

Crystal Anderson	Judy Bernard
Martie Blair	Mary Lou Blose
Brenda Courtney	Teresa Crews
Eleanor Duncan	Peggy Garvey
Krista Gisler	Shelby Haley
Kay Hand	Snuffy Hartman
Kristen Herring	Betsy Johnson
Sam Jones	Mary Ann Keating
Tina Maddox	Becky McClelland
Diane Morris	Lisa Muller
Kathryn Payne	Cindy Roadcap
Nancy Robinson	Jean Shoemaker
Deb Smith	Kathy Strickler
Jenn Strother	Phyllis Umberger
Gayle Wylie	

From the Assistant Lay-Director:

*"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God,
in the mountain of his holiness." PSALM 48*

We do give God all the praise for the successes and miracles of the Spring walks. To the newest members of the community from Walks 61 and 62 and to the "Emmaus Junkies" (myself included) I ask that you join the community on May 10, 2008 as we conduct our Day of Deeper Understanding as a follow-up to the Spring 2008 walks. This follow-up is so important if we "walk the walk" and not just talk about it. This really is the first time - without the restraints of a weekend schedule - that new community members can fellowship, ask questions and start to form reunion groups beyond the modeling of the weekend. This day is not just a day for the "Newbies" and their sponsors. It is also a time for the community to gather in support of these new members.

I know that we are all very busy. However, when we give God his time, it does seem as if He gives us back double! If you have never attended a DODU, please come and spend the morning with us. Even if you have attended many DODU's, just come out for the first hour or so and "share the love".

*Praising God!
Paige Purdham
ALD - SVEC*

Emmaus is a Gift

It is easy for us to forget the costs involved in presenting this most awesome gift of God's grace to His people here in the Shenandoah Valley! Please support YOUR Emmaus Community by making a contribution to help us keep the excitement ALIVE! We do not want anyone to pass up this opportunity due to personal financial concerns.

You may wish to consider a gift in honor or memory of a loved one for a special occasion (birthday/anniversary, Pastor appreciation, etc) or you may wish to anonymously sponsor a pilgrim or team members fees. And don't forget Chrysalis too! Many of our young people in high school and college may feel the pinch of rising expenses even more than we do! We can help!

Remember... Christ is counting on YOU to spread His love! Thank YOU for giving to the Lord!

*DeColores! Tim Armentrout,
Community Treasurer*

“On Holy Ground” - from Our Spiritual Directors

Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, says *“people are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.”* When I ponder on the light that shines through me, I realize that in Christ there is no darkness . . . only light! When things in my life are difficult and I’m hurting, or tired, or stressed . . . I have a choice to allow His light to shine and illumine all my darkness, cheering me up with the reminder of, as one of our favorite Emmaus songs says, “It’s Amazing, How He Loves Me!” He loves me when I make right choices and when I make wrong choices. Hallelujah! What a mighty God we serve, amen?! With that in mind, today I choose to be like stained-glass. I choose to allow God’s sanctifying grace to continue to shape me into His likeness more and more, day by day.

*Rev. Gayle Thornberry
Spiritual Director*

Ladies from SVEC Walk #62 . . . Wow! on Sunday, the light was shining through your stained glass lives in such an awesome way! It was a delight to meet you all and get to know you. I look forward to the opportunity to developing relationship with you through our Emmaus connection! See you at DODU on Saturday May 10! KEEP Shining, and KEEP reflecting HIS light!

From Registrar

God is Good Indeed! What an experience this has been for me and what a personal blessing and joy to be able to serve as Registrar. It is truly humbling to serve in this manner. I had such a GOOD TIME - writing letters, emailing and talking via telephone (the old fashioned way). We were blessed with the response of 29 pilgrims for the Men's Spring Walk and 30 pilgrims for the Women's. **HOWEVER**, as a Community, we are far from "finished until Fall. Please, Please, PLEASE - go ahead and get applications completed and mailed promptly. DO NOT wait until right before the Walks to get them to me.....My plan is to keep open communication with the applicants on file throughout the summer.

Applications will be available at DODU - See you there!

*Blessings,
Lora Buracker, Registrar*

From the Team LD's:

All the weekend events were very moving and very spiritual. The mountaintop experience is never because of what we've done but because God is in control! Not because of who we are but because of who he is! God is so good – all the time.

*God Bless! Dale Crosby,
Lay Director #61*

Dear SVEC, I do not have words to describe the joy I felt at the closing of Walk # 62. I am confident that God's purpose for the weekend was fulfilled. The 4th day pilgrims were so very articulate in what the weekend meant to them and many of them had already received specific guidance from the Holy Spirit regarding the path they are to follow. I want to thank the team for their dedication and perseverance in the face of many obstacles which were put in our path during team formation. We also had our challenges on the weekend; but we trusted in God and He was faithful. There is no way to described the blessing I received as Lay Director of Walk # 62 and I thank the community for the opportunity to serve.

"Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who has promised is faithful." Hebrews 10:23

*Decolores, Darlene Wilkins
Lay Director #62*

From Walk Events Coordinator

I have been getting together a list of people willing to volunteer to serve or participate in any way during the several different walk events. Thank you all for the great responses. I now have a contact list of over 30 people. We can soon begin to pencil you in for the Fall walks. Please drop me a line if you are interested, or call if you have any questions. Thank you.

*God bless you all.
Stacy Lam, Walk Events*

72-Hour Prayer Vigil

Thank You! We thank the SVE community for your faithfulness in prayer for walks #61 and 62. We will soon have more information about how to get involved in prayer for the upcoming Fall walks.

*Michelle Bacon,
Prayer Coordinator*

Worship

Have you wondered about all those altar settings that you saw in the Chapel during your walk? There are many different settings during the weekend. Maybe one of those settings made an impression on you. If so, I have an opportunity for you: Please contact me if you would like to volunteer to prepare one of these special settings.

*In Christ, Bruce Ballengee,
Worship Chairperson*

Set-Up/Clean-Up

We appreciate all the help to clean up the cabins after both the men's and women's spring walks on Sunday after closing. If you would like to volunteer in this area, please speak with me.

*Thanks.
Gary Lee, Set-up/Clean-up*

Agape

God is good all the time! All the time God is good! The Women's and Men's walks were great. A great time to renew, re-strengthen and to serve. That is exactly what was done! I want to thank all of the Agape "Angels" that tip-toed around and served during the two weekends. The agape would have never made it to the places it belonged without you all working so hard. Just having the time to fellowship with each of you was a blessing to me. So, just thank you, thank you, and thank you all so much! See you soon and take care!

*Blessings, Tracey Calderon,
Agape Fairy*

Refreshments

The refreshment committee would like to thank everyone who helped with refreshments during the spring Emmaus walks. Those who transported items to Camp Overlook, helped make sandwiches and set up, helped with clean up, and for all the delicious treats you brought. Many thanks!

There are opportunities to help with refreshments at the monthly gatherings or at DODU. I'd like to speak with you-call 269-2591.

*DeColores, Noland Suter,
Refreshments*

Childcare

What a blessing it is to welcome so many new pilgrims into our community. Lord what else can we possibly say but THANK YOU!

June 7th! Have you heard??? We will have a great opportunity to better equip ourselves to share God's message through Emmaus. It will be a day full of fellowship, fun...and food of course! To help make all of this happen we need volunteers for childcare. Why not volunteer to provide childcare either in the morning or afternoon so you still have half of a day to soak up some Emmaus knowledge? Please contact Alison Crosby at 828-3538 or at aca003@bridgewater.edu if you feel led to volunteer.

Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. For His mercy endures forever.

~Psalms 106:1

*With Joy, Alison Crosby,
Chrysalis Journey #6*

Join the eunion

During the Walk to Emmaus, the importance and relevance of prayer is revealed to us, maybe in ways we have never experienced before. The Shenandoah Valley Emmaus Community is a praying group of Christians from a large area. The eunion is an internet based way to share prayer concerns and praises of joy to one another. it is an effective and immediate way to get the word out to members of the community and get people praying. There are two simple ways to join: send an e-mail to roygnelson@hotmail.com and I will send you an invite, or go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eunion/?v=1&t=search&ch=web&pub=groups&sec=group&slk=1> and click on the "Join the group" button.

*Roy Nelson
SCEC #29
Table of Matthew*

Music

Colossians 3:15.....*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom , and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

THANK YOU, THANK YOU: On behalf of the community I would like to thank Sheila Lloyd for leading our praise and worship at March gathering and for singing and playing special music for the anointing of our teams. God ministered to each of us that evening through her beautiful, music ministry.

THE SPRING WALKS: Heart felt thanks to all of the outstanding musicians who came to each of the events. I pray that God touched your hearts in some way as you volunteered your time and musical gifts to support the ministry of the Walk to Emmaus in the Shenandoah Valley. And a special thanks to those who stepped out of their comfort zone to assume a leading role. There were some musicians that I did not have an opportunity to meet. I would like to encourage you to provide me with your name and contact information so that I might keep in touch with you about opportunities for you to help us with music.

UPCOMING EVENTS: All Emmaus events need our ministers of music. Below is a listing of upcoming events. I would love to hear from those who would like to make a commitment to serve at any of these.

SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT: Saturday, June 7th at Camp Overlook, 8:30 to 3:00pm. I encourage our musicians to attend the Emmaus International Event both for personal enrichment and to support our praise and worship and communion time with your gift of music. ***Don't forget to make reservations for lunch*** (at no charge to you).

GATHERINGS: May 30 & June 25: We will be reaching toward that revival proportion of lifting our voices and instruments in songs of praise to God as there is the potential of 60 new pilgrims joining us. Praise God in advance for answering that prayer.

*Nancy Sims, Community
Music Director,*

Where Can I Get One of Those??

Tee-shirts, sweatshirts and caps are available to purchase with our Shenandoah Valley Emmaus logo! For prices, visit www.highlandapparel.com/svec_apparel.htm Order online or Call Debbie Washer at 540-468-3312 (M-F, 9am-5pm) or 540-468-3311 (evenings/weekends).

The following organizations also sell Emmaus and Chrysalis products and donate part of their proceeds to our International Emmaus Office in Nashville.

- www.doveinc.com, 1-888-848-DOVE (3683)
- www.swansoninc.com, 1-800-251-1402

Speaking of shirts and hats, the Jack Mountain Reunion Group, which is out of Monterey, Va and parts of West Virginia, is In Search Of an SVEC Reunion Group who would like to care for and promote the community shirts and caps. We feel that it would be more beneficial for a reunion group who is actually closer to Harrisonburg to care for and distribute them. If you are interested and have any questions, please contact Debbie Washer. See above article for her contact information.

How Can I Help??

You are invited to participate in our Emmaus community in the following ways:

- Music: what instrument? _____
- Entertainment: sing, dance, comedy, other _____
- Serve on a Team (*please complete a team application*)
- Serve on a Committee:
 - childcare, worship, refreshments, music
- Support Walks Events by helping with:
 - set-up/clean-up, food preparation, serving meals,
 - agape, 72-hour prayer vigil, candlelight set-up,
 - assist weekend coordinator

If you are interested in more information about any of these volunteer positions, please contact any board member. We'd love to help you get connected! God bless!

Did you know? At the same time we were having our last Walks there were also walks going on in 36 states and 5 countries. Since it began in 1978, nearly one million people have participated in this 3-day ecumenical leadership renewal movement through Upper Room's Walk to Emmaus. We are part of a BIG FAMILY!

The movement began in Spain in 1949. Cursillo de Cristianidad means "little course in Christianity" and was designed to empower people to transform their living and working environments into Christian environments.

Our community has a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the when and whys of the Walk to Emmaus. On June 7th an Emmaus International Training Event which is held every three years will be held at Camp Overlook beginning at 9 a.m. Our guest will be Ilyse Johnson the Northeast Regional Representative for The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus from Richmond, Virginia. Ilyse's bio is quite interesting and I believe she will be an exciting speaker that you will want to meet!

The event will begin promptly at 9 a.m. in the Worship Chapel, and we will break for lunch at noon. Childcare will be provided and we will be treated to lunch by our Community catered by Camp Overlook. Our Board of Directors has planned for this to be a very special day for our Community and they have gone the extra mile to ensure that it will be. All you have to do is make a reservation and be there.

Is there something about the Walk to Emmaus you always wanted to know but was afraid to ask? Now is your chance. Support your Community and call or email today. Encourage the members of your Reunion Groups to attend and Sponsors make sure your Pilgrims are informed of this Training Session. Below is the contact information.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY MAY 31

e-mail: maryinva48@comcast.net

or call at

home – 540-289-3420

office – 540-434-7306

cell – 540-578-0542

ALL NUMBERS HAVE VOICEMAIL

CALL TODAY, EMAIL TODAY, JUST DO IT TODAY

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Board of Directors: Second Thur each month

Monthly Gatherings:

Harrisonburg main gathering

Last Friday each month

Augusta mini gathering

First Friday each month

Front Royal mini gathering

Third Friday each month

Emmaus Walks:

Fall 2008 (men/women):

October 9-12, 16-19

Spring 2009 (men/women):

TBA

Chrysalis:

Flight

TBA

Journey

TBA

Day of Deeper Understanding:

May 10, 2008

Visit SVECONLINE.ORG for directions, calendar, & information.

Emmaus is also featured on the Camp Overlook website at
WWW.GBGM-UMC.ORG/CAMPOVERLOOK/

Learn more about the International Walk to Emmaus!

Go to WWW.UPPERROOM.ORG/EMMAUS

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO EMMAUS NEWSLETTER

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E-mail: Emmaus@upperroom.org

UPPER ROOM WALK TO EMMAUS OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY,
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Upper Room Emmaus of the Shenandoah Valley

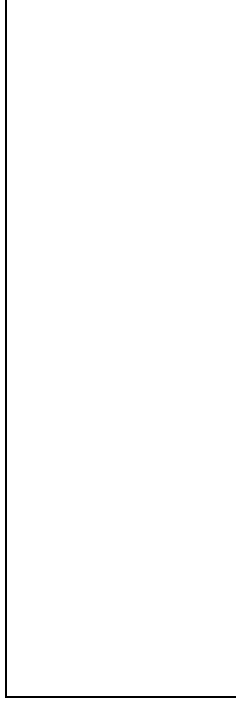
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