

# EMMAUS

## LEXINGTON COMMUNITY



Lexington, KY

"Did not our hearts burn within us, while he talked with us by the way...?"

April 2016

### ***Gatherings...***

*a critical element of our Community*

As the title denotes, I wanted to share some comments with you regarding one of the components of Emmaus called the Gathering. In order that I do not misinterpret, I have used the Emmaus Handbook to provide both the definition and objectives of the Gathering.

The Gathering is the monthly reunion of ALL members of the Emmaus community and their guests. The objectives are as follows:

1. To make visible the Christian community – persons of various churches and denominations who are united in pursuing transformation in the calling of “one Lord, one faith, one baptism” (Eph.4:5);
2. To encourage one another to continue our walk with the Lord and to persevere in grace through the practice of piety, study and action; through membership in a group reunion; and through active participation in one’s own church;
3. To inspire one another to make profound changes in our own lives and in the environments in which we live;
4. To maintain relationships with other Emmaus pilgrims in order to build a vital community of persons to support future Walk to Emmaus weekends;
5. To educate the Emmaus community in the Walk to Emmaus movement, weekends and method for living in the Fourth Day.

On the reading surface, these objectives all seem to be in both our individual and community interests, but, they are so much more.....these objectives are critical to the survival of our community. While some might say the Walks are the most critical, I would suggest that Walks are only the introduction to Emmaus. The Walks give understanding and instruction regarding the question, “What are you going to do with your 3 days”; but the Walks end and the Fourth Days begin. New community members return to their respective churches and if the members do not attend future Gatherings, it is not likely that they will become a part of the Emmaus community.

Those that attend the Gatherings have the opportunities to “catch up” with recent and long time acquaintances, eat (image that) together, sing, pray, hear the Fourth Day witness, take Communion and receive announcements about upcoming events of the community. The Gathering is, as has been mentioned, a place to “practice” with one another, share our lives and keep the Spirit fire burning as you grow your Kingdom family.

There has been a sweet spirit sensed as we have enjoyed these last several Gatherings. We pray that by HIS spirit our community will know revival and rejuvenation. Please come join us in the celebration.

Gatherings normally takes place on the first Friday of each month, however, occasionally we get to hold the Gathering in conjunction with a walk. We are blessed next month as we gather in Estes Chapel at 8:00 p.m. on April 9 to usher in the Pilgrims of Mens Walk #129. So, MARK IT DOWN on your calendars and make it a priority.

See you there. DeColores, Joe Martin

## ***A Word From Our... Community Shepherd***

It's me, again! Talking about reunion groups, again!! There is probably no one thing that will aid in spiritual growth more than being in a small group that will grow with you, support you and hold you accountable for doing your part in that growth. That is why we are being so pushy about being part of a reunion group. The Emmaus model is designed to help participants become more like Jesus, by reminding and encouraging the practices that God often uses to accomplish that good work in us.

At our last gathering on March 4, Jim Eastburn stood up and invited men (this one is a men's group) in our community to come join the later Thursday Morning Irregulars group (see the Reunion Group list on the Lexington Emmaus Community website, ([www.lexingtonemmaus.org](http://www.lexingtonemmaus.org))). Well, as it turns out, each of the groups listed there is there because it is open to new members. So PLEASE, find a group close to you and get involved. Or start a new one, perhaps with the people who were at your table when you took your walk! If you can't find the contact info for your walk, contact me and I will do everything I can to help. Reunion groups are DA BOMB. Don't miss this great blessing.

Bruce Hiner, Community Shepherd

## ***Belize/Honduras... T-shirt Pick Up/Pay***

The pre-ordered Belize/Honduras t-shirts will be available to pay for and pick up at the following events. Please have the correct amount of cash or a check made out to "Lexington Emmaus Community" to expedite your purchase. T-shirts are \$15 each (or \$16.50 each for 2XL or larger). There are some t-shirts available that have not been pre-ordered, so if you are still interested in purchasing one check with Mary Miller: [musicmil@windstream.net](mailto:musicmil@windstream.net).

April 9<sup>th</sup>, Men's Candlelight/April Gathering 8:00pm at Estes Chapel in Wilmore

April 10<sup>th</sup>, Men's Closing 4:00pm at McKenna Chapel in Wilmore

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Women's Candlelight 8:00pm in Estes Chapel in Wilmore

April 24<sup>th</sup> Women's Closing 4:00pm at McKenna Chapel in Wilmore

May 6<sup>th</sup> Monthly Gathering at Centenary United Methodist Church in Lexington, 6:30 Potluck, 7:30 Worship.

Thank you for your support for the Belize/Honduras Team.

## ***Life in Piety... Praying for each other***



Community,

Even as you are praying for the Men's and Women's walks coming up in April, please be in prayer for the first ever walks for the new Belize/Honduras Community. We will be going to Belize to hold the first set of walks there in June, 2016.

We will have prayer charts for YOUR signatures in April at the candlelight services and in May and June gatherings. Please help us fill those charts. Watch the community Facebook page for information about signing up online.

De Colores,

Doug Butler, Prayer Co-ordinator, Belize Men's Walk #1; Loretta Barnes, Prayer Co-ordinator, Belize Women's Walk #2

## Treasurer's Report For 2015,

The financial year 2015 was a pretty good one. In recent years, primarily due to the costs of lodging at Asbury Inn, our Spring and Fall Walks were going in the financial hole by over a thousand dollars per Walk (when expenses were compared to total income from Walk Fees). While Gathering and Candlelight donations offset the losses somewhat, we needed to take some steps to reduce costs in the hope of at least breaking even. While the Walks and Flights aren't "all about money," the Board believes we are called to be good stewards and manage our finances responsibly.

The Board of Directors took a step to reduce those lodging costs. Team Members were asked to stay "three to a room" at Asbury Inn for the regular \$150 Team Fee; or they could choose to stay "two to a room" for a Team Fee of \$200. Pilgrims, of course, continued to stay two to a room; thereby only asking the Team to sacrifice.

Below are the results of that policy for the Spring 2015 Walks; unfortunately the Fall Walks were cancelled due to lack of Sponsorship/Pilgrims.

Men's Walk #127	Loss of \$524.59
Women's Walk #128	Loss of \$413.16
<b>TOTAL LOSS ON 2 WALKS:</b>	<b>LOSS OF \$937.75</b>

So, the community went from losing over \$1,000 per Walk to losing only about half that amount.

Chrysalis Flight #37 was held in February, 2015 amidst the Blizzard! The Flight was cut short by more than a day (which was made up later); but as a result Flight expenses were reduced since several meals did not have to be served/paid for. Flight #37 therefore cleared \$929.47. But this "profit" is viewed as an anomaly because the Flight was interrupted.

In 2015 we began depositing money to support the Belize Honduras Walks that will occur in June of this year. Deposits included \$899 profit from the July Picnic Auction, as well as another \$330 given by members of the Community last year.

Another item to note is that Total Donations at Gatherings and Candlelights have declined over recent years:

<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
\$4,278.88	\$5,913.99	\$5,400.42	\$4,704.02	\$3,837.37

**DID YOU KNOW: IF YOU DONATE ANY AMOUNT BY CHECK TO THE COMMUNITY AT GATHERINGS OR CANDLELIGHTS, YOU WILL RECEIVE A TAX DEDUCTION LETTER IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY FROM THE TREASURER?**

So I ask that we all prayerfully consider even the smallest donations at Gatherings and Candlelights to support our Community. These donations are an important part of keeping our financial house in order.

A big thank you for all the financial ways and *other* ways that you have supported the Lexington Emmaus Community in 2015!

DeColores,  
Susan Holliday - Treasurer

## Reminder...

Sponsors please remember that part of your sponsorship responsibilities is to assist your pilgrim and their family while they are on the Walk. This includes helping them secure child care, if needed, for Candlelights and Closings. Due to the facilities at Asbury and for liability reasons, the community is unable to provide childcare for these events and the Board requests that no children attend these events. Not only are the live flames at Candlelight a concern but the impact of a pilgrim seeing their children can greatly affect the cloistered weekend for them.

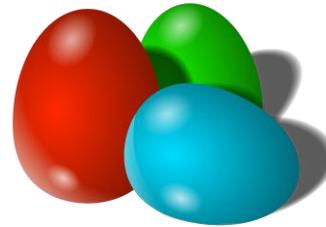
# ***Future Walk and Flight dates...***

## **2016 and 2017**

April 7-10, 2016	Men's Walk #129
April 21-24, 2016	Women's Walk #130
September 3-5, 2016	Chrysalis Flight #39
October 6-9, 2016	Men's Walk #131
October 13-16, 2016	Women's Walk #132
November 25-29, 2016	Journey #2
April 20-23, 2017	Men's Walk #133
April 27-30, 2017	Women's Walk #134
October 5-8, 2017	Men's Walk #135
October 12-15, 2017	Women's Walk #136

David Wolfe, Lay Director  
Maria Richie, Lay Director  
Stephanie Carpenter, Girl's Lay Director

Delanna Turley, Lay Director



**Get Egg-cited  
about  
Sponsorship**

## ***Next Gathering...***

<b><i>APRIL 9</i></b>	<b><i>Men's Candlelight</i></b>	<b><i>8:00 Estes Chapel, Wilmore</i></b>
May 6	Centenary UMC, Lexington	
June 3	Centenary UMC, Lexington	

**LEXINGTON EMMAUS COMMUNITY**  
P.O. BOX 23554  
Lexington, KY 40523-3554

Return Service Requested