

EMMAUS COMMUNITY



Lexington, KY

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

August 2005

20th Anniversary Celebration

We're 20 years old and we are having a party. Join us on August 5, 2005, for lots of food & a celebration of our 20 years as the Lexington Emmaus Community. See Lexington Emmaus Gathering (page 3) for details.

REFLECTIONS ON THE LAST 20 YEARS

While I don't claim to have been a part of the Lexington Emmaus Community for the last 20 years, Marty and I have been an active part of this extended family for over 16 of them. Although I can't give a complete perspective, I can give you an idea of some of the changes we've had in our community. Historically, our community began with the assistance of the Elizabethtown, Kentucky, community. The first group of leaders, as is so often the case with start-up organizations, did all the work in every area for years until the walks were well under way. Many of those same people can be seen today, but some may well have burned out in the process. Others have moved on to different parts of the country or are even now with our Lord. The responsibility for beginning a community and starting the momentum is a heavy one, and Lexington's base is strong.

Our community grew until we, as many communities have found, began to have waiting lists for the women's walk, added walks when the overflow became too great, changed locations a number of times (ask anyone who's been around a while about our earlier facilities), and wrestled with a number of issues. Now, we, as many other communities are finding, are struggling with dwindling numbers, whether to cut the number of walks each year, and rising costs at our current facilities (which we love). Many are wondering what we're doing wrong. Perhaps we need to recognize who we are today and what we need to do.

Our community population has changed. First, more than ever, our overall society is more mobile. We keep moving (physically) with jobs, etc., and we keep moving in activities. People are more involved than ever in outside activities, many of them involving church and other ministries. Emmaus is no longer the only other choice for something new and exciting. Now people enjoy Alpha, Bible study groups, Habitat for Humanity, and other activities that might not have been previously available or even appealing to them prior to their Emmaus walks. Second, more Emmaus communities are now available in the state. Kentucky currently has 14 available communities with another forming nearby. These all draw upon our pool of volunteers and pilgrims. Third, we've had a change in the "UM Shuffle" for our clergy (they provide the majority of our spiritual directors for the walks). Where once our UM clergy were shuffled within only part of our state, the joining of the two Kentucky conferences now puts them on wider rotation. Don't forget, we still have the constant fluctuation of our dear brothers and sisters, both clergy and laypeople, from the seminary.

So, what do we do? Well, first and foremost, we pray. Your Board of Directors has been praying and has had the prayer support of some very special people within the community. We thank you. Perhaps we will find that as a community we will need to consider dropping back to one set of walks per year in order to be good stewards of our resources and in order to keep costs down for pilgrims and team. Whether we have one set of walks or two, we need to concentrate on doing them with excellence. The Walk to Emmaus should be the "once in a lifetime experience" it promises to be in that Thursday night talk given by the Lay Director on the walk. It won't be unless the community makes it that way. The prayer coverage, attendance at all the community functions, enthusiasm, service at meals, funny entertainment, flood of homemade agape gifts and food, and overwhelming sense of love are some of the special items that make Emmaus a "once in a lifetime" weekend. I ask you to join the Board of Directors for a wonderful set of fall walks. Please plan now to participate in making our 20th year as special and exciting as our first: "Christ is counting on you."

WALKS AROUND THE WORLD

Around the world, communities just like the Lexington Emmaus Community are holding Walks and Flights. Please pray for these communities in the month of August.

August

- 3-6 SE New Mexico Chrysalis Girl's #21
4-7 Cross Bayou, LA Emmaus Women's #46
Puget Sound Emmaus Women's #159
Iowa Emmaus Women's #69
Channel Island, CA, Emmaus Men's #33
Nebraska Emmaus Women's #88
Nebraska Emmaus Men's #89
Four Corners, NM, Emmaus Women's #6
Central Texas Conference Emmaus Women's #277
Heart's Afire, TX, Emmaus Women's #20
SWTC-Greater Austin North
Emmaus Women's #1241
SWTC-New Life Emmaus Women's #1242
Heart Of Carolina, NC, Emmaus Women's #81
North Central New York Emmaus Women's #78
5-7 Aldersgate, FL, Chrysalis Girl's #1
Mid Michigan Chrysalis Girl's #14
Northeast Ohio Chrysalis Girl's #4
North Indiana Chrysalis Boy's #51
11-14 Bluebonnet Emmaus 4th Day Group,
TX Men's #1243
Northern California/Nevada
Emmaus Women's #42
Central Illinois Emmaus Women's #185
Northern Illinois Emmaus Women's #100
Channel Island, CA, Emmaus Women's #33
Northern CA/Nevada Emmaus Women's #42
Noahs of Ark, AR, Emmaus Women's #114
Nebraska Emmaus Women's #89
Central Texas Conference Emmaus Women's #278
SWTC-Bluebonnet Emmaus Men's #1243
Alabama Emmaus Men's #289
Blue Lake, AL, Emmaus Women's #165
12-14 Aldersgate, FL, Chrysalis Boy's #2
Golden Spread, TX, Chrysalis Girl's #94
18-21 Greater Dayton Emmaus Men's #38
Northwest Ohio Emmaus Women's #55
Springfield, OH, Area Emmaus Men's #30
Hawaii Emmaus Men's #25
SWTC-Concho Country Emmaus Men's #1244
SWTC-Northwest San Antonio
Emmaus Men's #1245
Queensland-Brisbane West, Australia,
Emmaus Men's #33
Peninsula Rainbow, VA,
Emmaus Women's #42
25-28 Central Illinois Emmaus Men's #186Q
Big Country, TX, Emmaus Men's #125
Dallas, TX, Emmaus Women's #192
Queensland-Brisbane West, Australia,
Emmaus Women's #34
Blue Lake, AL, Emmaus Men's #166
Aldersgate, FL, Emmaus Men's #109

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

August

- 1 Board Meeting
5 Gathering / 20th Anniversary Celebration

September

- 2 Gathering
12 Board Meeting

REUNION GROUPS

Sunday

- Two by Twos (couples), Bowles home, Lexington, 7:00 pm,
Ginny Bowles
Sunday Men (men), Jim Hutcherson, Versailles, 3:00 pm,
Rick Bailey, (859) 253-1402

Monday

- Louisville Connection, various, 2nd & 4th Monday, 7:00 pm,
Nancy Shannon, (502) 429-8657
Men's Group, various, 7:00 pm, Bill Henry, (606) 724-5734

Tuesday

- Reunion, various, Danville, 7:00 pm,
Jim Goodrich, (859) 236-5562
Tuesday Nite Tootsies (women), Trudy Mills, Lex, 7:00 pm,
Trudy Milles, (859) 269-7801
Tuesday Morning Men (men), First UMC, Frankfort, 7:00 am,
David Hilton, (502) 695-8592
Reunion Group, Asbury Seminary, Library Third Floor, 1:00 pm,
David Laycock
The Marked Men (men), Lexmark International, 11:30 am,
Steve Adams, (859) 224-4869
Monday Night Madness (mixed), various, Danville, 7:00 pm,
John Evans, (859) 238-7743
Tuesday Women, First UMC, Lexington, 7:00 pm,
Maria Henneson

Wednesday

- Lunch Bunch (women), Asbury College, Wilmore, 12:00 Noon,
Judy Seitz, (859) 858-9201
Rising Son (men), Centenary UMC, Lexington, 12:00 Noon,
Johnny Schiffer, (859) 269-6233
Open Hands & Open Hearts (women),
various, Danville, 6:30 am,
Sandy Buttry, (859) 498-1852

Thursday

- Men's Group, 730 East Main Street, Frankfort, 5:45 pm,
David Banks, H(502) 863-9454, W(502) 875-5800
Rainbow Connection (women),
Wanda Goerz home, Lexington, 7:00 am,
Wanda Goerrz, (859) 277-6863
Berea Bunch (women), Susan Henthorn home, 7:00 pm,
Susan Henthorn, (859) 986-9558
Urban Renewal (men), Harold Mills home, 7:00 pm,
Harold Mills, (859) 269-7801
Wilmore (co-ed), Miller, 206 South Maple, Apt. A, 7:00 pm,
David and Krista Miller
Thursday Irregulars (men), Trinity Hill UMC,
Lexington, 6:45 pm, Doug Sell, (859) 296-1038
Thursday Irregulars (men), Trinity Hill UMC, Lexington, 7:45 am,
Jim Eastburn, (859) 269-8705
Urban Renewal (men), Bob Loy, 4145 Weber Way, 7:00 pm,
Bob Loy, (859) 219-0461
Thursday Men (men), Mark Love home, 9:00 pm,
Mark Love, (859) 223-4159
Thursday Men (men), AFG, 6:30 am, Bill Alley, (859) 219-9219
Epiphanyites, Epiphany UMC, Louisville, 7:30 pm,
June Lemaster, (502) 366-0968

Friday

- Friday Morning Quilters (women), Judy Phalen, 9:30 am,
Marty Wright, (859) 224-3736

Saturday

- Saturday Moring Women, Sandra Parker, Frankfort, 8:30 am,
Katheryn Peters, (8502) 695-1650
Sonrise Sistres (women), Trinity Hill UMC, Lexington, 8:00 am,
Missy Trivisonno, (859) 272-7294
Saturday Morning Men (men), Versailles UMC, 7:30 am,
Ted Gyorffy, (859) 873-6186

Monday - Friday

- Men's Prayer Group (men), First UMC, Mt. Sterling,
Monday - Friday at 8:00 am,
Fred Wiles H(859) 498-1870, W(859) 498-2470

COMMUNITY FINANCES

After last month's financial update in the newsletter, I was asked why we are constantly asking for more money from the community when it looked like we had a healthy checkbook balance. This is an excellent question, and the answer is that the community's expenses and income run in cycles according to the Walks. We build up large balances prior to the Walk, and then this balance goes away as the bills are paid.

For instance, if you look at our current checkbook balance, you would see a balance of \$5700. Unfortunately, we have an invoice due to Asbury Seminary totaling \$6600 for housing for the last set of Walks. We also have an invoice of almost \$300 for newsletter printing. Payment of these invoices will probably be delayed until we begin collecting team fees for the next set of Walks. Normally we would have had enough to settle these accounts, but attendance and giving have been unusually poor at the last few Gatherings. For June and July we had less than \$200 combined from the two. This means that we even ran a deficit for our monthly operating expenses of approximately \$250.

Our last Walks have pretty much broken even with the fee increase to \$120, but Asbury is now raising their rates so the next set of Walks will most likely run at a deficit of \$300-500. Our last two Chrysalis weekends have run deficits of over \$2000. The board is trying hard to find ways to reduce these expenses, but if we cannot, then we either need subsidies from the community or we must again make substantial fee increases to balance the books. In short, your gifts are the very important to the Community..... now more than ever.

Any detailed questions may be directed to Keith Wright, Treasurer, 271-4596.

Kome to the Kitchen

Reunion Groups are needed to help with the walks.

Each walk needs reunion groups to prepare Breakfast on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and Lunch on Friday and Saturday. This fall, Saturday breakfast is being done by the Delories group and Saturday lunch will be done by the Sunday Lunch Bunch. If your group is interested in providing Friday breakfast, or lunch or Sunday breakfast, Contact the Kitchen Coordinator – Harold Mills at (859)-269-7801 or by e-mail at Haroldm265@aol.com.

Servers at the meals add so much to the walk experience for all the participants. It demonstrates the support of the community and adds to the atmosphere of Agape Love shown throughout the entire weekend.

Signups will be available at the gatherings and at www.lexingtonemmaus.org.

LEXINGTON EMMAUS WALK SCHEDULE

2005

Men's Walk #89 November 3-6
Women's Walk #90 November 10-13

2006

Men's Walk #91 March 16 - 19
Women's Walk #92 March 23 - 26

Registration forms should be sent to:
Lexington Emmaus Community,
ATTN: Registrar,
P.O. Box 23554,
Lexington KY 40523-3554

Registration forms may be obtained from the above address or from our web site at:

<http://www.lexingtonemmaus.org>.



LEXINGTON EMMAUS GATHERING

20th Anniversary Celebration

Friday, August 5, 2005

St. Luke UMC

2351 Alumni Drive, Lexington, KY

Join your brothers and sisters in Christ for a special time of worship, communion and fellowship. Ron Crandall will be our guest speaker. Please wear a name tag and take a "sneak peak" at the new music book.

5:30 PM Pre-gathering time and fellowship
6:00 PM Dinner - Potluck
7:30 PM Worship

Potluck Dinner. Please remember to bring a salad, vegetable, breads, or desert to share. The main dish/meat, and drinks along with cups, dishes and utensils.

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NEWSLETTER

ADDRESS CHANGES - Returned mail is an unnecessary expense for the community. Please send us your address, phone, and e-mail changes to:

By e-mail: newsletter@lexingtonemmaus.org
By calling: (859) 699-8386

E-MAIL DELIVERY - To receive the newsletter by e-mail please send a e-mail requesting e-mail delivery to newsletter@lexingtonemmaus.org. One of the benefits of e-mail delivery is you will receive the newsletter about a week earlier than by mail.

WE HAVE A GREAT WEB SITE! HOW IS IT HELPFUL TO YOU?

- 1 You can sign up for snack agape for the walks on the Web. You can volunteer to bring a specific type of snack for a specific walk or have the agape coordinator let you know what's needed. If you can't get to Gathering to sign up, check out the Web site!
- 2 You can sign up to help serve a meal for a walk. You can choose the day and meal for any walk, and the kitchen chairperson will contact you. Look on the Web site!
- 3 You can read past newsletters. Maybe you've misplaced your newsletter, or someone threw it out before you had the chance to read it. You can get it online at our Web site! Our past newsletters are posted going back through 2003.
- 4 You can sign up to get an e-mail reminding you when the new newsletter is posted online OR have the newsletter sent to you electronically.

**CHECK OUT ALL THESE OPPORTUNITIES AT
www.lexingtonemmaus.org.**

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