

LEXINGTON Emmaus COMMUNITY



Lexington, KY

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

December 2004

Lexington Women's Walk #86

October 14 - 17, 2004



Row 1 (Floor): Wanda Miller, Phyllis Danforth, Allen Gibson, Alan Jackson, Sue Barrett, Donna Jones, Chalma Kennedy, Pam Werkmeister, Margie Groves

Row 2: Michelle Dean, Ashley Crowe, Jennifer Bennett, Kathy Tevis, Brenda Slone, Laura Abney, Jean Abney, Anne Wood, Judy Russell, Denise Martin, Sherrie Duff

Row 3: Susan Cole, Pat Taylor, Sondra Stakelin, Mary Lou Hardie, Mary Beth Lovett, Karen Combs, Maria Edwards, Laura Slaughter, Susie Lindon, Gwen Lawson, Cheryl Avery, Vernita Boyd, Diane Parsons, Margie Coleman, Paulette Bryan, Judy McVey, Donna New

Row 4: Dana Davis, Claire Hundley, Janet Butler, Judy Elliot, Malinda Stremmel, Ashley Nave, Shannon Boyd, Sandra Lawrence, Teresa Martin, Lyle Hildenbrant, Brenda Hilbert, Liz Maybriar, Charles Bertrand, Peggy Wells, Herb Southgate

From the Community Shepherd

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

(Hebrews 10:24-25)

As the Community Shepherd of the Lexington Emmaus Community, it is my responsibility to remind the Community of the importance of good sponsorship, nurturing reunion groups and assisting pilgrims in finding reunion groups. You have not heard much discussion in the recent past about reunion groups nor had any concrete leading from the Community Shepherd. That is about to change. As we read in Hebrews, God has made each one of us to be in fellowship with others. Christian fellowship is critical to growing deeper and maturing in the likeness of Christ. In a reunion group, each one of us have others who will hold us accountable, challenge us in times of confusion, pray for our needs, encourage us in the difficult times and celebrate our victories.

Reunion groups also serve to strengthen the larger body of Christ and for us that includes the Lexington Emmaus Community. In recent times, we have witnessed the decline of attendance in our Community and I believe the decline in reunion groups is one symptom of our loss in attendance. I am asking that Table Leaders and Assistant Table Leaders from the last year make a conscientious attempt to keep in some contact with their pilgrims and encourage them to attend monthly gatherings, and a reunion group. I am asking sponsors to do likewise with the pilgrims they sent. But just as it is critical to encourage our pilgrims, I am asking Lay and Spiritual directors to keep in contact with those who have served as team members on their Walk and to encourage them if they are not in a reunion group. I too will do my part to contact reunion groups, Lay and Spiritual Directors, Table and Assistant Table Leaders and pilgrims for the good of God’s Kingdom and the body of Christ in the Lexington Emmaus Community.

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing but let us also encourage one another for it is God’s desire that we be in fellow-

ship with one another, to strengthen our community, and to spread the Gospel. To God be the glory for great things He will do within Christian fellowship.

Shalom and De Colores,

Jerri Williams
Community Shepherd

January Gathering

Our January Gathering will feature the group **40 Day Rain** who will lead us in worship. This great band is part of our own community and will bring us an exciting opportunity to promote our upcoming Chrysalis weekends. The Board of Directors wants to encourage all of you to bring youth (and youth directors) who might be interested in Chrysalis (or the Walks) to this gathering. Many youth won’t commit to a weekend like Chrysalis because they don’t know anything about it. Now you can invite them to a great night of music and worship (in a style they’ll truly appreciate) and get them to sign up at the same time. The flights are in February, so here’s a great chance to get them all geared up for those weekends. We look forward to seeing Andover packed out with the young and young at heart!

Mark Your Calendars Now

Time to mark your calendars with the following upcoming important dates:

December

Dec. 3: December Gathering
Dec. 6: Board Meeting with both 2004
and 2005 Board members
Election of 2005 Officers

January 2005

Jan 3: Board Meeting
Jan 7: January Gathering
(A Chrysalis Focused Event!!)

February 2005

Feb 4: February Gathering
Feb 7: Board Meeting



Walk 85 was Another God Led Walk

Walk 85 started with human concerns of date switching, community rules, seasonal activities, and a low number of pilgrims but ended up as a clearly God led walk. God placed whom He needed there in His time and lives were changed.

At Thursday's opening it was clear there was an open friendship, by Friday the group was becoming a meaningful caring group, and by Saturday no one wanted to let go of each other as we shared Communion. The group fully encircled the altar in the chapel with no one sitting until the last person received communion. All were touching as many people as they could reach and there were tears, too. This pattern then continued through the weekend and was evident at closing. In addition, all pilgrims seemed eager to share what the weekend had meant to them. These actions were nothing planned by team but truly spirit led. He was there. Hearts were touched, healings were begun, and growth in Him was enhanced especially for the pilgrims but also for the team members. What more can be said for an Emmaus Walk.

Walk 85 was a clear demonstration that we need to trust God in all things and not be too focused on what we think.

De Colores,
John Elder
ALD Walk #85

Please Be In Prayer For Walks in other Communities

At this time, we are not aware of any Walks or Flights in other Emmaus communities during the month of December; however, it is still possible some communities that may be having these activities. Please pray that the Holy Spirit is present and is working in the lives of pilgrims and teams wherever they may be.

Walk 86 -- What a Walk!

Dear Emmaus Family,

Thank you so much for entrusting the Lay Director responsibilities for Walk # 86 to me. God knew that at this particular time in my life I needed to be focused on Him and not on the circumstances in my small world. He takes care of us when we are taking care of others in His name. Praise be to God!!

It was so much fun to see the pilgrims arrive looking a little apprehensive on Thursday night but by Friday night they had the team rolling in the aisles at the poster party. Saturday's Dying Moments Communion was awesome and we were even on time for lunch. Then came the power outage in the afternoon and we heard the Christian Action talk in only natural light. Janet had to scramble to get the pork loin cooked elsewhere but the conference room didn't miss a beat. Power was back on by the next talk. Agapeland was awesome with its fabulous dinner, beautiful decorations and the professional Broadway entertainment which was worthy of a Tony Award. Then came the glimpse of heaven — candlelight!!! We were all tired on Sunday but the closing remarks of life changing plans from the pilgrims energized us all!!! Thanks be to the Emmaus Community and to one of the best teams ever for making it possible for the pilgrims to experience a bit of heaven in this world!!!

But most of all THANKS BE TO GOD FOR CREATING US AND FOR SENDING HIS SON JESUS CHRIST TO TAKE AWAY OUR SINS SO WE CAN SPEND ETERNITY WITH HIM AND EACH OTHER!!!!!!

De Colores,
Mary Lou Hardie
Lay Director, Walk #86





LEXINGTON EMMAUS WALK SCHEDULE

2005

Girl's Flight #26, February 11-13
Boy's Flight #27, February 19-21
Men's Walk #87, March 10-13
Women's Walk #88, March 31 - April 3

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>.

Information about Walks being held by other communities this month is located inside this newsletter.

Returned mail is an unnecessary expense for the community; please tell us of your address changes in advance. Address and phone number changes should be e-mailed to don@wrightsrealm.com or call 859-224-3736.



LEXINGTON EMMAUS GATHERING

Friday, December 3rd, at 7:00 PM

**Andover Campus, 1st UMC
4131 Todds Rd, Lexington, KY**

Join your brothers and sisters in Christ for a special time of worship, communion and fellowship. Remember, we will have a pre-gathering time for fellowship at 7 PM and begin worship promptly at 7:30 PM.

Please remember to bring a snack to share during the fellowship time. Child care is provided. We want to provide the children with appropriate snacks, so if you bring a child please also bring along an appropriate snack for them to share. A children's snack table will be set up just outside the child care room.

Cancellation Policy: When there is no public school in Fayette County on the day of the Gathering because of inclement weather, there will **not** be a Gathering.

Have you responded to God's gifts to you with a special gift to the Community?

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