

# EMMAUS LEXINGTON COMMUNITY



Lexington, KY

"to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

December 2011

First I want to thank the Lexington Emmaus Community for the opportunity to serve you this past year. I wish that I had done more to grow the Community in Faith and Spirit. Looking back at this year it has been a blessing to me to work for You and to help the Community continue on in the Path of Christ. The friendships that have formed will continue on through the upcoming years. As we look back on 2011 we see the new faces of the Community and the familiar faces that we have all come to Love.

Now as we look to the future there are many new Pilgrims that will be joining our family, as well as new Butterflies. Coming in the next few months are a Flight in February and Men's and Women's Walks in March. With this we will once again be working towards building disciples for Christ and Our Churches. Building the Faith is where we need to be looking. The strength we help build in those that are believers, develops a stronger Faith in order to bring the lost to Christ. There are many times that Christ took the Apostles aside to build them up in His teachings so that they will be equipped to bring others to Christ.

***"How can we picture God's kingdom? What kind of story can we use? It's like a pine nut. When it lands on the ground it is quite small as seeds go, yet once it is planted it grows into a huge pine tree with thick branches. Eagles nest in it."***

**Matthew 4:30-34 (The Message)**

With many stories like these, he presented his message to them, fitting the stories to their experience and maturity. He was never without a story when he spoke. When he was alone with his disciples, he went over everything, sorting out the tangles, untying the knots.

In this way the Walk to Emmaus builds us up to give us strength in leading others to Christ. Working a Flight or Walk is the building that we all need in order for us to become stronger with our talents and gifts that God has given us. It also helps us realize the Gifts of others. The meetings that we attend for the Walk weekend helps us see others in a loving light that Christ shines on all of us. The weekend gives us the time to reflect that light on others and show the Love of Christ that he has shown us. Even if we are not called to be a part of those teams, we need to show the Light of Christ at send-off, candle light and closing so that those Pilgrims see the Light as Never before.

***"Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."***

**Matthew 5:14-16 (The Message)**

In closing I wish you all a Merry CHRISTmas and a Happy New Year. May Your Light Shine for the World to see.

DECOLORES and Blessings to All

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Earl Taylor – Lay Director

# Czech it Out!

## November Missions Update

Dear Friends and Family,

My favorite time of year is once again here, and my heart is filled with many emotions. First and foremost, my heart is filled with a deep sense of thankfulness for God's grace and strength which sustains me as I serve Him at CISP. I am also filled with a sense of joy and wonder that no matter how far I may be from you, when we are in Christ, we are always together. As Thanksgiving approaches, I have many things for which to be thankful.

Since the last update, CISP has had a History Fair. A History Fair is a time when students discover and explore certain topics and time periods in history. Our first through twelfth grades participated in this event on November 16<sup>th</sup> and did a tremendous job! You can see the fun they had and all the interesting projects they presented. (More photos will be posted on Facebook) One of the students stopped me on Friday (18 November) and thanked me for my efforts in planning the History Fair. He said that it meant a lot to him, and he felt it had a great benefit in his educational experience. It is moments like these when the Holy Spirit really is at work both in my life and in the lives of the students. I thank God every day for the students of CISP and would ask that you pray that what God is doing through the school would bring the students closer to Him.

I am also very thankful for the work God is doing in my life through physical healing. One year ago today (19 November), the pain which I had experienced in my left eye from June to November 2010 was relieved by the Lord! Prior to coming to Prague in 2010, I had to see several doctors, undergo many tests, and take medication to see if it would alleviate the pain. I arrived in Prague with pain, and had prayer warriors on both sides of the Atlantic lifting me up as I experienced this awful pain. I remember my students in homeroom praying many times for the relief of this pain and prayers on my behalf being lifted up in our school chapel services. Many wrote and called from the states to let me know that I was being prayed for. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, I was scheduled to speak in chapel at CISP. That morning I awoke with no pain after 6 months of numbing pain in my left eye. The Great Physician healed me! Praise the Lord! Thank you for your prayers as I went through this time in my life...your prayers were definitely answered!



I am also thankful for the opportunities I have to share this and many other moments of God's faithfulness in my life with my Czech friends Tomas and Pavel (Thomas and Paul). Recently, I have had the opportunity to share why I am able to carry on amidst the struggles which my eyesight presents everyday. Pavel was amazed that I had never given up and expressed this in a conversation a couple of weeks ago. I was able to share about my faith in God and His strength. Most importantly,, I was able to begin a conversation, which still continues, about trusting the Lord and having faith amidst insurmountable odds. I would ask that you continue to pray for these two men and the friendship that we are developing. Pray that God would give me the words to speak and the wisdom to listen as we talk about this loving God of ours. Also, pray for the Czech people to come to know the love and strength of God.

Finally, I want to stop and give God thanks for YOU! You are the reason I am able to be in this wonderful school! I cannot begin to thank you enough for your financial and prayer support and for your willingness to partner in ministry here in the Czech Republic. As God calls me to a longer commitment to serve here at CISP, I would ask that you prayerfully consider continuing your support through prayers and monthly or annual giving. Beginning in June, I would like to have the ability to increase my monthly budget from \$1900 a month to \$2400 a month to include such ministry expenses as traveling to Budapest to meet with our TeachBeyond team there as their Member Care Coordinator, taking courses for professional development, and attending a conference of International History teachers this summer as well as covering new expenses with visas and other unforeseen expenses. Your support is a blessing!

With a taste of snow this last Wednesday (16 November), and thankfulness for all of God's blessings, I am already looking forward to the blessed Christmas season. And like every year, I have made my Christmas wish list. If you would like to share the joy of Christmas by giving in this way, please visit the wish list at

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). You then click on 'find a wish list' and use my email... [bbowm81@yahoo.com](mailto:bbowm81@yahoo.com)... to find my list. If you do purchase something, please select the option to "mark the item as purchased" so duplicates are not purchased. To ship the order to Prague, first have the post office find the best box, then fill out the declaration form in the following way...in the "description of items" write PERSONAL ITEMS and for the "value" write \$10.00 so that it will get through Customs.

To get the package by Christmas, it needs to be mailed by December 2<sup>nd</sup> and sent to the following address...

Ben Bowman  
c/o Christian International School of Prague  
Perunova 6 130 00  
Prague 3  
Czech Republic

THANK YOU! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me via email or phone.



If you would like to give a special financial gift, please contact TeachBeyond or send the gift to TeachBeyond at the following address...

TeachBeyond  
P.O. Box 6248  
Bloomington, IL 60108

(and mark the check or include a note which states that it is a special Christmas gift for Ben Bowman.) THANK YOU!

On 17 November 2011, the Czech people remembered a day 22 years ago when they rose up against the Communist government, removed them from power, and became a free people with a democratic government. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us remember, with grateful hearts, the freedom that we all share when we are in Christ. We all have many things for which to give God thanks. On Sunday 20 November, Pastor John spoke of a Czech woman who told him that, "the Czech people are thankful, they just do not know who give thanks to." Indeed, it is Christ to whom we lift up thanks and praise! In this season, and always, let us all seek to share the Good News of a God who sets captives free, seeks and saves the lost, and who is the reason we give thanks!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Love,  
Ben

ADDRESS FOR PACKAGES

Ben Bowman  
c/o Christian International School of Prague  
Perunova 6 130 00  
Prague 3  
Czech Republic

ADDRESS FOR LETTERS

Ben Bowman  
Korunni 115  
Prague 3 Vinohrady  
Czech Republic

EMAIL

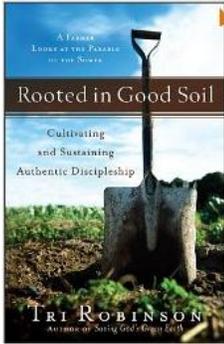
[beninprague@gmail.com](mailto:beninprague@gmail.com)

PHONE NUMBER (you can call as if I lived in Lexington)

859-309-6448



## December Book Review



### Rooted in Good Soil, Cultivating & Sustaining Authentic Discipleship By Tri Robinson

This book is written for the laity and uses a gardening analogy throughout. The terms are clearly defined from the condition of the soil to the harvest. Reflecting upon the parable of the sower, the only soil where seeds actually took root permanently was the broken fertile soil. Somehow God is able to do His best work deep within the compost of our lives.

As humans we avoid anything leading to pain. Yet it is through pain we accelerate our spiritual growth. And the result is a deeper faith. James 1 says, “when troubles come your way consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.” Tri tells of a time when he purchased an old tractor. He worked so hard to get it to steer. One day his neighbor told him it had power steering and all he needed was to fill it up with fluid. He was suddenly filled with joy and felt as though he had a new tractor. He likened that with his knowledge of the Holy Spirit. We can steer our way through life on our own power if we want to, or we can be filled up with God’s Spirit and let Him shoulder the burden.

The book takes us through Tri’s faith journey from a seeker to a reaper. He ends by reminding each one that if we are to be effective as harvesters, we must embrace the messenger of the harvest, God’s Grace. For as Paul said, “It is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (Eph. 2:8-10)

As I walk through my 4<sup>th</sup> Days, I realize that being His disciple is the key to my inner joy. I seek to enrich my mind through study, enrich my wisdom through reading the Word, and enrich others’ lives by being a witness. Tilling the soil of my heart, cleaning out the weeds, and allowing the Holy Spirit deep inside to feed the roots, enables me to share the Good News. May your advent season be filled with sharing the Good News as well.



Please be in prayer for the  
Chrysalis Flight #33 Team  
Lay Directors: Earl Taylor and Dana Ellis



### **Jesus is the Gift**

Jesus is the gift that perfectly fits every heart  
And it is with His love that all celebration starts.  
We rejoice in Him as we remember His birth  
And thank God for sending His only Son to earth.  
His life led from a manger to a cross on a hill  
Where He faithfully followed His Father's perfect will  
He freely laid down everything so that we could live  
And there is no greater treasure anyone could give.  
Like a scarlet ribbon His love wrapped around the cross  
And He offered it to us all at the greatest cost.  
So each time that we give we remember what He's done  
And honor the perfect Gift - God's one and only Son.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only son ... John 3:16

Prayerfully consider making the \$50.00 deposit for the Spring Walk or Chrysalis Flight a Christmas gift for someone in your life. This gift will never be broken, lost, or sold at a yard sale, and one size always fits everyone. It is a life-changing gift that keeps on giving. Because your 4<sup>th</sup> days are every day for the rest of your life!

Have a Blessed Christmas. De Colores, Patricia Walsh

From the Upper Room:

## **The Gift**

We are very excited to introduce a way for every Chrysalis Butterfly and Emmaus Pilgrim to participate in the future of these two great movements. We are calling this new program "THE GIFT." During our weekend we were given a gift ... and it is up to us to support these movements as they move into the future. One way to do this is through making a contribution to "The Gift." 100% of every dollar raised will go towards start-up and growth of those communities around the world who don't have the resources that we have.

There are the documents that will help you to implement this program in your communities and are available on the Emmaus website:

- **THE PLAN:** This document explains the entire program for your Board of Directors and will help them start implementing "The Gift" in your community.
- **THE GIFT:** This document is intended to be placed in every Butterfly and Pilgrim packet throughout the world to help each participant understand the width and breadth of these movements.
- **THE PRESENTATION:** This document is intended to be a script for the person making the presentation at the Fourth Day/Next Steps meeting; should they need

THE GIFT program and its progress will be part of Emmaus and Chrysalis for years to come. As you return to the website (<http://www.upperroom.org/emmaus>), you will see what gifts of love have been received and what gifts have been given. Thank you for supporting this first fruits program.

Blessings,  
Greg Engroff and Victor Perez

(Taken from the Upper Room Emmaus Website at [www.upperroom.org/emmaus](http://www.upperroom.org/emmaus))

**Would you like to host a Lexington Emmaus Gathering at your Church in  
September or December 2012?**

The Emmaus Gathering is looking for venues for our monthly meal and worship service in 2012. The requirements are just space for a potluck meal and a worship setting for at least 75-150 people. If you are interested, get more information by contacting John Greene at <mailto:johncgreene@insightbb.com>

Lexington Emmaus Community  
Future Walks and Flights

**2012**

February 18 – 20, 2012 Chrysalis Flight 33  
March 15 – 18, 2012 Men's Walk 115  
March 22 – 25, 2012 Women's Walk 116  
July 28 – 30, 2012 Chrysalis Flight 34  
October 11 – 14, 2012 Men's Walk 117  
October 25 – 28, 2012 Women's Walk 118

**2013**

February 15 – 18, 2013 –Chrysalis Flight 35  
April 11 – 14, 2013 – Men's Walk 119  
April 18 – 21, 2013 – Women's Walk 120  
October 10 – 13, 2013 - Men's Walk 121  
October 17 – 20, 2013 – Women's Walk 122

**2014**

February 15 – 17, 2014 –Chrysalis Flight 36  
April 24 – 27, 2014 – Men's Walk 121  
May 1 – 4, 2014 – Women's Walk 122  
October 2 – 5, 2014 - Men's Walk 123  
October 9 – 12, 2014 – Women's Walk 124



**Snow Policy**

If Fayette County schools are closed **due to the weather** the Gathering will be cancelled. If the weather turns bad during a school day check the TV, Website and radio.

**Join Us at the Next Gathering!**

**LEXINGTON:** December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Trinity Hill United Methodist, 3600 Tate's Creek Road  
Lexington, Potluck 6:30 PM, Worship Service at 7:30 PM.

**Childcare is available.**

**PAINTSVILLE:** December 9<sup>th</sup> at Mayo UMC, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 6:30 PM Potluck,  
7:30 Worship.

***Everyone bring a dish to share: veggie/side dish, main dish, or dessert. Drinks, plates, cups, and utensils will be provided. Everyone will help clean up, so the work will be light***

**CHILD CARE**-Child care is available at all Gatherings for children ages 2 – 10. Sponsors assist finding childcare for Walks.

**More Information on Gatherings**

Everyone bring a dish to share: veggie/side dish, main dish, or dessert. Drinks, plates, cups, and utensils will be provided. Everyone will help clean up, so the work will be light

**CHILD CARE**-Child care is available at most Gatherings. Sponsors assist finding childcare for Walks.

**COMMUNITY PRAYER MINISTRY**-E-mail request to Judy Seitz at [prayers@lexingtonemmaus.org](mailto:prayers@lexingtonemmaus.org)

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**2011**

## **DECEMBER**

- 2 **Gathering at Trinity Hill United Methodist**, 3600 Tate's Creek Road Lexington, KY.  
Potluck 6:30 PM, Worship Service at 7:30 PM
- 9 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship
- 25 Christmas! The Savior is Born!

**2012**

## **JANUARY**

- 6 **Gathering Park UMC**, 645 E High St, Lexington, KY. 6:30 PM Potluck,  
7:30 PM Worship Service. (No childcare provided)
- 13 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **FEBRUARY**

- 3 **Gathering at St. Luke UMC**, 2351 Alumni Drive, Lexington, KY.  
6:30 Potluck, 7:30 Worship Service
- 10 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship
- 15-18 **Chrysalis Flight #33** Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY

## **MARCH**

- 2 **Gathering at Second Presbyterian Church**, 460 E. Main St Lexington, KY  
Potluck 6:30 PM, 7:30 Worship Service
- 9 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship
- 15-8 **Men's Emmaus Walk #111**, Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY
- 22-25 **Women's Emmaus Walk #112** Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY

## **APRIL**

- 13 **Gathering at Centenary UMC**, 2800 Tate's Creek Rd, Lexington, Potluck 6:30 PM,  
Worship Service at 7:30 PM
- 13 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **MAY**

- 4 **Gathering at West Side Community UMC**, 2875 US Highway 127, Hustonville, KY  
6:30 PM Potluck, 7:30 Worship
- 11 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **JUNE**

- 1 **Gathering at Winchester First UMC**, 204 S. Main St., Winchester, KY. 6:30 PM Potluck,  
7:30 Worship
- 8 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **JULY**

- 2 **No Gathering**
- 28-30 **Chrysalis Flight #34**, Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY

## **AUGUST**

- 3 **Gathering at Wesley UMC at 1825 Russell Cave Road, Lexington**, at 6:30 PM Potluck,  
7:30 Worship
- 10 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **SEPTEMBER**

- 7 **Gathering at TBA**
- 14 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **OCTOBER**

- 5 **Gathering at Trinity Hill United Methodist**, 3600 Tate's Creek Road Lexington,  
Potluck 6:30 PM, Worship Service at 7:30 PM.
- 12 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship
- 11-14 **Men's Emmaus Walk #117**, Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY
- 25-28 **Women's Emmaus Walk #112** Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY

## **NOVEMBER**

- 2 **Gathering at Centenary UMC**, 2800 Tate's Creek Rd, Lexington, Potluck 6:30 PM,  
Worship Service at 7:30 PM
- 9 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **DECEMBER**

- 7 **Gathering at Lancaster UMC**, 200 Stanford Street, Lancaster, Potluck 6:30 PM,  
Worship Service at 7:30 PM
- 14 **Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

## **Come to the Next Gathering!**

**LEXINGTON Gathering**, at Trinity Hill United Methodist, 3600 Tate's Creek Road Lexington 6:30 PM Potluck, 7:30 PM Worship Service.

***Everyone bring a dish to share: veggie/side dish, main dish, or dessert. Drinks, plates, cups, and utensils will be provided. Everyone will help clean up, so the work will be light***

**CHILD CARE**-Child care is available at most Gatherings. Sponsors assist finding childcare for Walks.



**Lexington Emmaus Community**  
P.O. Box 23554,  
Lexington, KY 40523-2554.