

# EMMAUS

## LEXINGTON COMMUNITY



Lexington, KY

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

January 2007

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I pray that every one of you had a very blessed Christmas filled with all the colors of God's love and grace. As the year 2007 begins I have been honored with the privilege of serving as the Lay Director of the Lexington Community.

There are exciting times ahead for this community of believers. As Habakkuk 1:5 says, "...watch and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told." I believe that God is ready and willing to do something "utterly amazing" through the Lexington Emmaus Community.

Because of God's generosity to us, we generously share the love of God with all the pilgrims on each walk. Because of our faithfulness to God, He uses us to touch and change lives. Because He changes lives, our faithfulness grows and we become even more generous with His gospel message of love and grace. Because He gives His grace to us freely, we freely give to others. This community has been blessed abundantly with members who give freely of themselves. You give your time, your talents, your service and your presence to the Emmaus movement all because God has given to you.

My prayer for the coming year is that we "kick it up a notch." Out of God's abundance given to us may we ALL give of ourselves and "pay our blessings forward." I challenge all of us to be more active in and more committed to the Emmaus movement. Please say "yes" when called to serve, attend community events like Gatherings, Candlelights and Closings, sponsor more pilgrims, and give generously to support the everyday operations of the Community as well as to the special "matching gift" fund. God can use us and our gifts to "do something you would not believe even if you were told." May we be found faithful.

DeColores,  
Marty Wright  
Lay Director

### 2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lay Director  
Vice LD & Newsletter  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Spiritual Director  
Chrysalis  
Kitchen  
Music  
Leadership Training

Marty Wright  
David Baugh  
Carol Pinkston  
Keith Wright  
Donna Jones  
Amy Winn  
Pam Werkmeister  
Kelly Hamilton  
Ted Gyorffy

Supplies  
Community Shepherd  
Literature  
Agape  
Facilities  
Sponsor's Hour/Candlelight  
Registrar  
Team Selection  
Gatherings

Dee Hunter  
Charlie Shoemaker  
Alan Jackson  
Donna New  
Tony Hale  
Stan Schilffarth  
Beckie Sigmon  
Judy Seitz  
currently open

## **FAREWELL BOB COPPINGS!**

Dear Emmaus Community,

As I attended my last board meeting, December 11<sup>th</sup>, I was reminded I needed to write a "farewell" article for this newsletter. And yes, it is true that I am not going to be the Community Spiritual Director anymore. All that means is that I will not sit on the board and will not be introduced as the "Rt. Rev." by Judy Seitz at closings anymore.

If you think it means farewell to participation in the community - NOT! I will still sponsor pilgrims, still come to closings, send offs, and candlelights. I will be available to serve as Spiritual Director or Assistant SD on walks.

In addition to all that, the Paintsville area would like my church, Mayo UMC, to host a second gathering each month. It is geographically difficult for people 2 1/2 hours away to get to the gatherings at St. Luke. However, Paintsville people want to stay connected to the Lexington Community. So the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 7 PM at Mayo UMC we will have a "satellite" gathering of the Lexington Emmaus Community. We will have worship, a 4th day speaker, Holy Communion, and the same announcements heard in Lexington the week before. There will be an offering and of course, food and fellowship afterwards. So visit us if you can, and we will visit at St. Luke as well.

So this isn't really a farewell letter. I will be around much like before. I consider it a privilege to have served as Spiritual Director and will continue to serve in other ways.

Love,  
Bob Coppings

PS If you have never served on a walk, think of your walk and then multiply the blessings you received by 2 or 3 (or more) and that gets close to what you will experience. It is a wonderful way to show the love of God --- consider it.

## **CHANGING OUR WORLD**

With the recent matching gift and the challenge it poses to the community, each one of us must determine why we believe in Emmaus and what level of participation we will have in meeting our goal. Is Emmaus just another religious organization for monthly fellowship, or does it serve a greater purpose in our local communities, in Kentucky, and throughout the world?

We have a unique opportunity to provide a special type of agape for others by meeting this matching grant without causing a hardship on anyone. The \$25,000 (and more) can be doubled during the course of 2007 (and 2008) if just 100 people would give \$21 per month above what we normally give at Gatherings and Candlelights.

We've already had one large donation of \$1,000 given! Others may be giving large amounts, too, which will help for those who may not have extra to give each month.

Together, let us renew our commitment in doing what we can in sharing the love of God with others and consider some action, big or small, toward matching this grant and changing our world.

## GATHERINGS

### GATHERINGS ESTABLISHED IN PAINTSVILLE

It is with great joy that the Lexington Emmaus Community announces the establishment of regularly scheduled Gatherings in the community of Paintsville, KY.

#### JANUARY

**LEXINGTON**, The January Gathering will be January 5, 2007, at St. Luke UMC, 2351 Alumni Drive, Lexington, 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.**

**PAINTSVILLE**, The January Gathering will be January 12, 2007, at Mayo UMC, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 PM Worship, Fellowship and Food Following

#### MARCH

Krymson is coming!



**MAYO UMC**, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, KY  
7:00 PM Worship, Fellowship and Food Following

All are invited. See map above for location.

Contact: Bob Coppings  
(606) 789-3296  
elibobcon@myexcel.com

## TAKING A REQUIRED MINIMUM IRA DEDUCTION? - DONATE PRE-TAX MONEY

Starting this year, the federal tax reform act allows a person required to make withdrawals from their individual retirement accounts to have the custodian of their IRA direct those proceeds to a qualified charitable organization and get a full tax deduction even if they do not itemize. There are special procedures your custodian must follow. However, this will be an excellent opportunity for those who wish to donate.

Prior to this year 2006, many of those required to make withdrawals from their individual retirement accounts due to the fact that they are over age 70 1/2 lost the deduction, if that money was given to a qualified charity, such as Emmaus. They lost that deduction unless they itemized their tax return.

This may apply to you if you currently are required to take a "required minimum distribution" (RMD) from you IRA. Please consult you tax advisor to determine if this works for you.

## CHILD CARE

Free child care is available during Gathering in a room just off the Fellowship Hall with two professional caregivers provided by the community. We are unable, because of a lack of facilities, to offer any child care for Walk events at the seminary—Send Off, Candlelight, and Closing. Because of the length of these worship services and the serious nature of them, we ask that sponsors assist their pilgrims in finding child care elsewhere during these events.

# PAINTSVILLE GATHERING ANNOUNCED!

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### January

- 5 Gathering at St. Luke UMC, 2351 Alumni Drive, Lexington, 630 PM Potluck, 7:30 Worship
- 8 Board Meeting, St. Luke UMC, 2351 Alumni Drive, Lexington, 7:00 PM
- 12 Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship

### February\*

- 2 Gathering at St. Luke UMC, 2351 Alumni Drive, Lexington, 630 PM Potluck, 7:30 Worship
- 9 Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship
- 9-11 Girl's Chrysalis Flight #28, Boone's Creek Camp
- 23-25 Boy's Chrysalis Flight #29, Boone's Creek Camp

### March\*

- 2 Gathering at St. Luke UMC, 2351 Alumni Drive, Lexington, 630 PM Potluck, 7:30 Worship
- 9 Gathering at Paintsville's Mayo UMC, 705 Court Street, Paintsville, 7:00 Worship
- 15-18 Men's Walk #95
- 22-25 Women's Walk #96

\* The new board will determine date and time for Board Meetings in January.

**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 address on the left or our Web site:  
**[www.lexingtonemmaus.org](http://www.lexingtonemmaus.org)**

**LEXINGTON EMMAUS COMMUNITY**

3401 Cornwall Drive  
Lexington, KY 40503

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