



# On the Path



The Newsletter of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community

January, 2010    Walk In the Light    Volume 10 Issue 1

## New Location for Gathering Upper Room Emmaus Rep to Speak

Happy New Year!

With the dawn of a new year now is the time to join your brothers and sisters in Christ at the January 16, 2010 Southern Maryland Emmaus Gathering. The Gathering will be at First United Methodist Church Laurel, in beautiful Laurel, Maryland. We will start at 5:00 PM with a pot luck supper. And then at 6:00 PM we will have an hour of training on Sponsorship and general information on the Walk to Emmaus given by Ilyse Johnson, East Regional Representative of the Upper Room Emmaus. Ilyse is the Lay Representative for our area and is a great speaker and very knowledgeable about Upper Room Emmaus.

The Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors attended training in September 2009 that was given by Ilyse and we learned quite a bit from her. After the training we will then have a "Mini Gathering".

Please come out and show your support for the Southern Maryland Emmaus community and get a refresher course on Sponsorship. If you are thinking of sponsoring a pilgrim for the upcoming Spring Walks this will be a good time to come to this Gathering. You will find directions to First UMC on page 7 of this newsletter.

Come Join us for Fellowship, training and worship.

YBIC,  
Dale Merkle,  
SME Walk #3  
Table of Peter (CLAP)  
Community Lay Director,  
Southern Maryland Emmaus

## Community Gathering

January 16 at First UMC of Laurel  
Potluck at 5:00 Gathering at 6:00

*See Page 7 for directions to Laurel UMC*

If you need child care for the January Gathering, please contact Jan Drass by e-mail ([jdrass@maranatha.net](mailto:jdrass@maranatha.net)) or phone 301-834-6571 no later than Thursday, January 14.

## Not Too Early

It is not too early to begin praying about people to sponsor for the Spring Weekends. Get those pilgrim applications submitted. To have the Spring Weekends we must have a minimum of 12 pilgrims for each weekend. These applications must be received by March 3, 2010 for the weekend to take place. If the minimums are met the final cutoff date for pilgrim applications for the men is March 17, 2010 and March 31, 2010 for the women. Applications must be post marked on or before these dates to be accepted.





## Spring Walks - 2010 - West River

**Men's Walk # 35 - April 29 - May 2**

**Women's Walk # 36 - May 13 - 16**

Make plans to attend the community events for each walk:

Thursday - Sponsor's Hour - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday - Candlelight - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday - Closing - 4:00 p.m.

**This Week: 1/3/2010**

### Emmaus Community Stats

60 Weekends in

19 States and

2 Countries

22 Women's Weekends and

38 Men's Weekends



Sign up to pray for  
our walks (and others)  
online at:  
[www.3dayol.org](http://www.3dayol.org)

Pilgrim and Team Applications and this newsletter may be downloaded from the  
web at [www.somdemmaus.org](http://www.somdemmaus.org)  
CLICK on "Document, Lists and Newsletters"



## Recurring Events of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community Community-wide Gathering For January 16, 2010

5:00 p.m. Fellowship & Potluck Dinner 6:00 p.m. Gathering  
First United Methodist Church Laurel, Maryland

### 4th Day Seminars

4th Day Seminars are held in the spring and in the fall following the men's and women's walks. The next seminar date will be June 19, 2010, 4:00 p.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church in Waldorf. Attendance at a 4th Day Seminar is required in order to sponsor pilgrims, and highly recommended for those who wish to team.



## Southern Maryland Emmaus Community Reunion & Accountability Groups

The Reunion Group Coordinator, Mary Ulrey, would like to hear about any active Groups in Southern Maryland. If you are having difficulty finding a Reunion Group, contact Mary. Experience the 4th Day feeling with your fellow Emmaus travelers.

Bethel UMC, Upper Marlboro  
Co-ed - monthly first Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.

Bowie UMC - Old Town Bowie  
Co-ed - weekly at 4:15 p.m.

Calvary UMC, Waldorf  
Men Tuesday - 7:15 p.m.  
Women Saturday - 5:00 p.m. at Panera's

First UMC, Laurel  
Men Saturday - 7:00 a.m.  
Women Saturday - 8:30 a.m.

Good Shepherd UMC, Waldorf  
Men Wednesday 6:30 p.m.  
Women Monday 7:30 p.m.  
Women Tuesday 7:30 p.m. (not at church  
call 301-645-5370 for directions)  
Women Wednesday 6:30 p.m.  
Women Tuesday 8:45 a.m. (not at church  
call 301-645-6414 for directions)

La Plata UMC, La Plata  
Women Tuesday 1:00 p.m.

Lexington Park UMC, Lexington Park  
Co-ed Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Bob Evans  
Co-ed Thursday 11:30 a.m. (home setting)

Living Springs Christian Fellowship, Bowie  
Co-ed Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Naval Air Station, Patuxent River  
Men Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.

Olivet UMC, Lusby  
Monthly on first Monday  
6:30 p.m. at Tony De May's home

Shiloh UMC, Bryans Road  
Co-ed Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.

Waters Memorial UMC, St. Leonard  
Pastors Tuesday 1:00 p.m.

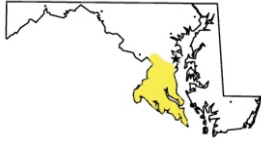
[www.somdemmaus.org](http://www.somdemmaus.org)

**Visit our website.** No need to register at our new website as no personal information is maintained.  
Our webmaster is Pat Knowland



### On the Path

**Deadline for next issue is March 1, 2009.** The preferred method of submission is as an MSWord document file or a WordPerfect file sent via-e-mail to the following address: [dbrennan6@verizon.net](mailto:dbrennan6@verizon.net). Very short articles or notes may be sent in the body of the e-mail message. Please send your comments and recommendations as well to the editor, Dan Brennan, at the e-mail address above.



## Southern Maryland Emmaus - Leadership & Service



**Board of Directors**

*Personal information contained in this newsletter is intended for Emmaus activities only, and will not be released to other organizations for any reason.*

Dale Merkle <i>Comm. Lay Director</i>	301-645-6091	Rdcmerk01!@aol.com
June Fauber <i>Assistant Comm. LD</i>	301-292-5483	jfauber610@hotmail.com
Jan Drass <i>Secretary/Historian</i>	301-834-6571	jdrass@maranatha.net
John Carns <i>Treasurer</i>	301-645-4534	carns@comcast.net
Elizabeth Harrell <i>Past Comm. LD</i>	410-535-9608	lunchladyesh@hotmail.com
Rick Pitonyak <i>Asst. Events Coord.</i>	301-579-6811	sirpitster@aol.com
Everett Baker <i>Communications Dir.</i>	410-326-6234	everett_baker@verizon.net
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Cathy Lavoie <i>Asst. Registrar</i>	301-6452717	lavoie20602@aol.com
Vacant <i>Sponsorship</i>		
Ken Horne <i>Chrysalis</i>	410-551-6115	thekidfrog@comcast.net
Sheila Hanson <i>Team Selection Chair</i>	301-737-2486	perseey@msn.com
Mary Ulrey <i>Asst. Team Selection</i>	410-326-6446	mulrey@sysplan.com
Vacant <i>Asst. Spiritual Director</i>		
Shelley Wilson <i>Music Director</i>	301-373-8996	shelley@logcabinstudios.tv
Chester Willett <i>Agape Coordinator</i>	301-934-3667	cwillett@khov.com
Rick Pitonyak <i>Asst. Agape Coord.</i>	301-579-6811	sirpitster@aol.com

## On The Path

Is the newsletter of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community. Published bi-monthly by e-mail, distributed by the Point of Contact for each participating church, and available on the Southern Maryland Emmaus website.

Southern Maryland Emmaus is affiliated with the International Emmaus Movement of The Upper Room, Nashville, Tn. Emmaus is a program offering of Upper Room Ministries of the United Methodist Church. Our purpose is to inspire, challenge, and equip church members for Christian Action.

Please contact the POC for your church as listed in this newsletter if you are not receiving the newsletter. If your church does not currently have a POC, please prayerfully consider volunteering for that role.

**Prayer Coordinator**  
  
**Everett Baker**  
**communications@**  
**somdemmaus.org**



## Southern Maryland Emmaus - Leadership & Service

*Most Southern Maryland Committees are chaired by members of the Board of Directors, but service on those committees is open to all community members.*

AGAPE Support	Chester Willett	Newsletter	Dan Brennan
Child Care	Janet Goodwin	Communications*	Everett Baker
Community Historian	Jan Drass	Prayer Vigil Coordinator	Sara Martin
Event Coordinator	Rick Pitonyak	Registrar	Ed Priest
Comm. Spiritual Director	Chris Owens	Reunion Group	Vacant
Entertainment	Dan Brennan	Team Selection Coord.	Sheila Hanson
Facility Representative	June Fauber	Fourth Day Seminar	Vacant
Sponsorship	Vacant	Pilgrim Selection	Ed Priest/Cathy Lavoie
Supply	Diane Walker	Music Director	Shelley Wilson
Comm. Lay Director	Dale Merkle	Prayer Requests	Everett Baker

*\*Communications includes e-mail, P/POC, Web, Directory and Newsletter sub committees*

### **Do you know your Community Lay Director? For Answers See page 8**

This quiz appeared in the last issue of the newsletter. Although many creative responses were received, none were able to answer all ten questions. The answers can be found on page 8.

- 1) Name the church Dale attends.
- 2) What Walk number was Dale on as a pilgrim?
- 3) What pet(s) does Dale have? (extra point if you know the name of his pet(s))
- 4) Name at least one ministry that Dale serves in at his local church (extra point for each additional ministries named that Dale serves in).
- 5) What is the biggest impact that Dale wants to make during his three year term on the Board?
- 6) Dale's Table name?
- 7) Dale's last vacation destination?
- 8) Dale has many unique talents... do you know one of them?
- 9) What is the full name of Dale's wife?
- 10) What year did Dale join the Board?



## Southern Maryland Emmaus - Prayer Points of Contact

If your church is not listed, please volunteer to be the Prayer POC. Send your name, e-mail address, and telephone number to [dbrennan6@verizon.net](mailto:dbrennan6@verizon.net)

Bowie UMC	Mary Browne	BrowneBUMC@aol.com	301-262-4023
Calvary UMC	Dawn Townsend	dawn5babe@gmail.com	301-843-3315
Cedar Grove UMC	Jacque Benjamin	Jacque.benjamin@gmail.com	410-257-2595
Emmanuel Baptist	Dick Fogg	upper12_4us@peoplepc.com	410-257-5015
Emmanuel UMC	Ed Plotts	ewpjr@comcast.net	410-535-2992
Dahlgren UMC	Robert Kertesz	cardinalpilot177@comast.net	301-259-2933
Clinton UMC	June Fauber	jfauber610@hotmail.com	301-292-5483
Corkran UMC			
Faith Bible Church	Wendy Headrick	wbheadrick@usa.net	301-475-3278
Faith UMC (Rockville)	Cindy Matter	cindymatter03@aol.com	301-926-7830
First UMC (Laurel)	Dave Meixner	themeixners@comcast.net	301-498-1728
Glenn Dale UMC	Kay Smith	Zincdr@aol.com	301-262-0694
Good Shepherd UMC	Linda Flanagan	waldorffangel@gmail.com	301-645-1375
Bethel UMC	Jan Holmes	Janmhol@verizon.net	410-798-8393
Indian Head UMC	Sarah Miller	sarahlundmiller@aol.com	301-743-2490
La Plata UMC	Bonnie Thompson	bonbri@comcast.net	301-934-4321
Leonardtwn Baptist Church	Wendy Headrick	wbheadrick@usa.net	301-475-3278
Living Springs	Don Richardson	dcdaddy@peoplepc.com	
Lexington Park UMC	Kathie Wright	kaatrobjas@verizon.net	301-862-4048
Marbury Baptist Church	Denise McConnell	dmconnell@earthserve.com	301-743-6995
Mt. Zion UMC	John Carns	john.carns@mantech.com	301-645-4534
New Life Wesleyan Church	Dona Batten	gsuslvs@comcast.net	301-752-3795
Olivet UMC	Bob Bohn	bkbohn@comcast.net	410-326-0645
Providence/Ft. Washington UMC	Rich Weaver	rhythmuitar1@hotmail.com	301-843-2194
St. Paul UMC (Lusby)	Everett Baker	everett_baker@verizon.net	410-326-6234
St. Paul's UMC (Leonardtwn)	Wendy Headrick	wbheadrick@usa.net	301-475-3278
Shiloh UMC	Peggy Ireland	peggy@nam.org	301-375-9678
Smithville UMC	Kathy Massaro	snjwalk93@comcast.net	410-257-1953
South Potomac Church	P.J. Pitonyak	LadyPJay@aol.com	301-579-6811
Trinty UMC	Laura Yax	lkyax@comcast.net	410-535-4665
Trinity Baptist	Vacant		
Waters Memorial UMC	Nancy Massie	watersumc@hotmail.com	

## Fourth Day Seminar Highlights

The Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors sponsored a Fourth Day Seminar on November 21. A number of new community members and their sponsors attended, along with other community members who wanted a refresher course! A number of topics were covered including:

- History of Emmaus; International, National and Local Governance
- Leadership; Fourth Day Reunion Groups; Sponsorship; Team Selection and Formation;
- Music; and Continuing your Journey.

Pilgrim and Team applications were available, as well as volunteer sign up sheets and various Emmaus resources that were made available, some for purchase.

The next Fourth Day Seminar is planned for June 19, 2010. In addition, Ilyse Johnson, our Northeast Emmaus Lay Representative, will be providing Sponsorship training at the January monthly gathering. All community members who would like to sponsor a pilgrim on a weekend must attend a Fourth Day Seminar (or Ilyse's presentation at the January Gathering). Attendance at a Fourth Day Seminar is encouraged and helpful to anyone who would be interested in being part of an Emmaus weekend team in the future.

- Dale Merkle, Community Lay Director

## A Little About Ilyse Johnson

Ilyse Johnson, NE Regional Leader, member of Clover Hill Assembly of God.

Walked on Richmond Emmaus #38 in February of 1997, sat at the Table of Heaven's Joys.

WLD on Richmond Emmaus #75 in August, 2004.

Board member 2004-2006, CLD in July '05-June '06.

Certified Trainer for Upper Room in October, 2005.

NE Regional Leader since August, 2007.

Ilyse is married to Mike Johnson, Director of Contemporary Worship at Mt. Pisgah UMC and Local Licensed Pastor candidate. Mom to two teens, Callie and Jacob. Ilyse works full time for Richmond Magazine, and part time for Lite 98 Radio. Her hobbies include pen-pals, Bible Study, computer games and Facebook.

Please come out and meet her at our January Gathering at First UMC in Laurel.

## Directions to First UMC of Laurel

Gathering Location for January: First UMC Laurel  
Address 424 Main St; Laurel MD, 20707

From Points South:

Take either Rt 4 or Rt 5 North to Capital Beltway (I-495/I95 North)  
Follow I-95 North  
Exit onto Rt. 198 East towards Laurel, Exit 33  
Turn right on Main St.  
First UMC Laurel will be on the right  
Turn right onto 5th Street to pull into the parking lot. (424 Main St).

From Points North:

Take I-95 South  
Exit 35A- MD 216 East toward Laurel  
Turn left on Main St.  
First UMC Laurel will be on the right  
Turn right onto 5th Street to pull into the parking lot. (424 Main St).

## WHO is Dale Merkle????

The October newsletter featured a quiz on the Community Lay Director- yes, that would be Dale Merkle! Thank you to those of you who submitted answers... very creative, but not quite enough correct answers to get you to 10 points. For those of you who took this seriously, and tried to answer the 10 questions, but couldn't come up with creative possibilities, here are the correct answers.

1) Dale attends Calvary UMC in Waldorf MD

2) Dale walked on SME #3 (and sat at the table of Peter, the Rock (clap!))

3) Dale has two pets- a Border Collie named Nellie and an American Eskimo dog named Fluffy

4) Dale is in a lot of ministries at his church- including serving in the choir, Praise Music Team, Communion Assistant and Worship Planning Bible Study.

5) The biggest impact that Dale wants to make while serving on the Board is to increase the participation of community members in Monthly Gatherings, Teaming, Sponsorship , and weekend events associated with walks.

6) Dale's table name, as noted in answer 2, is Peter, the Rock!

7) Dale last vacationed on an Eastern Caribbean cruise this past summer (sounds warm and sunny!)

8) Dale has many unique talents, including composing humorous lyrics to already written music. One example is his signature song "Eating in the Old Emmaus Way" which allows him a productive way to use his dry sense of humor and wit!

9) Dale's lovely wife is Cheryl Ellen Merkle.

10) Dale joined the board in 2008.

We are so blessed and thankful to have Dale on the Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors! Dale has already made a tremendous positive impact through his servant leadership, and will continue to do so through the rest of his term! If you haven't met Dale yet, please introduce yourself to him at the next community event!

- Jan Drass

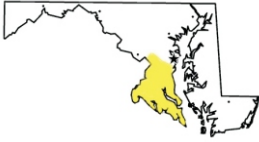
### Tell us about your walk

Sure we get to hear a little about someone's walk experience during the gatherings as part of a 4th Day Talk, but wouldn't it be interesting to hear about some of the often overlooked moments that made your weekend special? Maybe you have something to share in the following categories:

- The funniest thing that happened to me on my weekend
- The strangest food experience of my weekend (you know we've all had them)
- Snoring 101 (how you survived that noisy night - tricks for the novice sleeper)
- My favorite piece of agape (the one you're still wearing)

Our weekends are powerful experiences of connecting with the Lord, but there are also those lighter moments that we rarely talk about. How about sharing a story or two with your brothers and sisters. Send your thoughts to the editor at [dbrennan6@verizon.net](mailto:dbrennan6@verizon.net).





“Walk in the Light” - Southern Maryland Emmaus  
Visit us on the web at [www.somdemmaus.org](http://www.somdemmaus.org)

*"Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?"*

Luke 24:32

Information on the Southern Maryland Walk to Emmaus, as well as pilgrim and team applications may be found on our website:  
[www.somdemmaus.org](http://www.somdemmaus.org)

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## On the Path

1005 Norfolk Drive  
La Plata, Md. 20646

Time Sensitive Material