



On the Path



The Newsletter of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community

November, 2004 Walk In the Light Volume 4 Issue 8

What If They Gave A Party . . . and Everybody Came!

That's just what happened on Saturday, October 16. The invitations had been sent, the room decorated, the participants were prepared. All that was needed were the guests. And did we have guests! The community, both new pilgrims and old, came out in force, and were treated to two memorable events.

The 4th Day Seminar packed the fellowship hall at Calvary with pilgrims and sponsors from Walks 13 and 14, as well as interested community members. The 4th Day Team did its job with precision and enthusiasm. One community member who had attended 4th Day events in other communities remarked that it was the best of all they had seen.

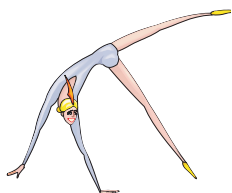
Team and Pilgrim applications were flying off the table, and talk of accountability groups was being exchanged.

Fun, food, fellowship, and worship were the order of the day as the remainder of the community arrived to swell the already bulging fellowship hall, but there was plenty of room for all. Wasn't it great to be in the company of so many of God's children all with the same purpose - to glorify Him?

This spirited group of pilgrims sang with a gusto that was matched by the music team's superb playing. New and old songs were presented with accompanying scripture to put them in context.

Our new Lay Leader, Randy Headrick, provided the continuity as he led us through the evening's activities, but credit for the success of the evening must also be shared with Jane Beswick, our Gatherings Coordinator.

If you're wondering where the Spirit of Emmaus is, it's right here at our monthly gatherings. Be a part of the next one, November 20, at Calvary. See you there!



Did You See Marilynne Tumble? _____

No? Well, neither did I. We're talking, of course, about our Vice-Chair, Marilynne Landweer. It just so happens she is also a member of the 4th Day Seminar Team. During her presentation on 4th Day Followup, she "lamented" over the fact that she had not been asked to tumble, do back flips, or anything which would show off her athletic abilities.

Marilynne, we're sorry. Perhaps if enough of the community encourages her, and commits to attending the next seminar in the spring, we may be able to convince her to give it a try. Let us know.



Men's Walk # 15 - April 28 - May 1, 2005

Women's Walk # 16 May 12 - 15, 2005

Deadline for Pilgrim Applications for Both Spring Walks is March 17, 2005

Deadline for Team Applications for both Spring Walks is February 4, 2005

This Week: 11/1/2004

Emmaus Community Stats

157 Weekends in

31 States and

2 Countries

42 Women's Weekends and

115 Men's Weekends



Who is this guy?
See page 6



Recurring Events of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community

Events are held at Calvary United Methodist Church unless otherwise indicated
3235 Leonardtown Road, Waldorf, Maryland

Gatherings: 6:00 p.m. Fellowship 7:00 p.m. Next Gathering is November 20

Gatherings are held monthly on the 3rd Saturday. The next Gathering will be November 20, at Calvary United Methodist Church in Waldorf. Reminder: No Gathering in December.

Board of Directors Meeting: 3:30 p.m.

Board meetings are held prior to the Gathering on the 3rd Saturday of each month. The next board meeting will be November 20. Reminder: No Board Meeting in December.

4th Day Seminars

The 4th Day Seminars are held in the spring and in the fall following the men's and women's walks. Watch this newsletter and the web site for more information on upcoming seminars. The next seminar will be scheduled for Spring of 2005 following the men's and women's walks.



Southern Maryland Emmaus Community Reunion & Accountability Groups

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

Bethel UMC, Upper Marlboro
Men Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.
Women Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.

Calvary UMC, Waldorf
Men Tuesday - 7:15 p.m.
Women Thursday - 5:00 p.m. (Panera's)

First UMC, Laurel
Men Saturday - 7:00 a.m.
Women Saturday - 8:30 a.m.
Men Sunday - 12:30 p.m.
Women Sunday - 6:30 p.m.

Lexington Park UMC
Men Thursday - 12:00 p.m.
Women Thursday - 12:00 p.m.

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

Common Grounds Coffee Shop, Pr. Frederick
Men Friday - 7:30 a.m.
Women Friday - 6:15 a.m.

Lexington Park UMC, Lexington Park
Men Sunday - 6:00 p.m.
Women Sunday - 6:00 p.m.

Good Shepherd UMC, Waldorf
Women Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Call 301-653-7570 for directions (not at church)

www.somdemmaus.org

Take a look at your new web site as its being developed. It's not ready for use yet, but progress is being made. It will be a central repository of information and resources for members of the Southern Maryland Emmaus community. The site is being developed by our very own Dean Gass. Let us know what you think, and let the Board know what you'd like to see on the site.

Spring Walks Coming

Plan Now to Sponsor or Team

Men's Walk # 15 - April 28 - May 1, 2005

Women's Walk # 16 - May 12 - May 15, 2005



On The Path

Deadline for next issue is December 4, 2004. The preferred method of submission is as an MSWord document file or a WordPerfect file sent via e-mail to the following address: Newsletter@somdemmaus.org. 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.

Randy Headrick <i>Board Chair</i>	301-475-3278	RDHeadrick@usa.net
Marilynne Landweer <i>Vice Chair</i>	301-374-9333	mlandweer@verizon.net
Jane Beswick <i>Secretary/Gtherings</i>	301-934-5344	jbeswick@aaahawk.com
John Bohner <i>Treasurer</i>	301-934-5344	jbohner@aaahawk.com
Valerie Arends <i>Childcare/Reunions</i>	410-286-3335	varends@comcast.net
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Carol Lanzi <i>Registrar</i>	301-862-9521	cblanzi@tqci.net
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Sara Martin <i>Agape/Support Director</i>	301-863-7537	saramartin@gmpexpress.net
Daniel Montague <i>Community SD</i>	410-586-0432	Daniel.mont@juno.com
Beverly Raynor <i>Director at Large</i>	301-604-0909	morningglory992000@yahoo.com
Henry Rowe <i>Music Director</i>	301-769-4637	nhrowe@hotmail.com
Laura Yax <i>Team Selection Chair</i>	410-535-4665	lkyax@comcast.net
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On The Path

Is the newsletter of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community. Published 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.

Contact the Editor if you need a copy sent via snail mail.



- I'll never forget when on my walk when . . .
- The most meaningful (or unusual) piece or Agape I ever received was . . .
- In my church Emmaus means . . .
- I came back from my walk and . . .
- The reason I decided to team was . . .
- I enjoyed the last gathering because . . .
- I have sponsored pilgrims because . . .
- Because of my Emmaus walk, I have . . .
- The most memorable talk I heard on my walk was . . .

Yes, it's me again, that pesky little Editor, admonishing and encouraging each of you to be a part of your community by sharing your thoughts and experiences on all matters Emmaus. But before you retreat into that comfortable corner where you feel protected by the embrace of phrases like, "I don't have anything to write about", let me suggest that those thoughts are just a myth. Here are just a few ways to get started on your next article for this column:

There, now that's just for starters. Get to work and share what Emmaus means to you with the rest of the community. Send your work to:

newsletter@somdemmaus.org



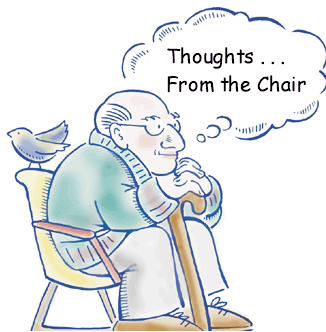
Our Members are Reading

While some may say it is a remake of It's A Wonderful Life, for me, it was like reading Emmaus letters. Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* weaves together the stories of an 83-year-old man named Eddie who meets five dif-

ferent people in heaven. Don't read the story for theology, read it for pleasure and think about how Agape Love has been shown to you.

As the novel opens, Eddie is only minutes away from death as he goes about his typical business at the park. Albom traces Eddie's world from his death and funeral to flashbacks of Eddie's birthdays, telling his life story. Eddie then enters heaven where he encounters five pivotal figures from his life. Each person has been waiting for him in heaven to tell Eddie why they were involved in his life. It is a short book with a good message.....check it out! It will make you think about every LITTLE thing you do.

- Mark Deskins (So. Md. #13)



had a bountiful pot luck dinner followed by the Gathering. Everyone seemed to enjoy the 4th day, we all learned a lot, and the food that followed was wonderful!! We fed about 75 folks and I think we had food enough for 75 more.

Greetings to all in the Southern Maryland Emmaus community! If you were not at the Oct 16th Gathering at Calvary UMC you missed a wonderful evening. Most of the men and women from SoMD 13 and 14 attended the 4th Day Seminar, and then we

The gathering was truly a blessing. Henry and the band did a couple of really wonderful music sets, truly leading us in praise and worship to the Lord. We must have picked up some good voices on 13 and 14, because we sure sounded great on all of the songs we did. Cathy our 4th day speaker told us about events in her 4th day that were truly memorable. Thanks to all of you who participated in the 4th Day Seminar and in the Gathering.

The November gathering is Saturday November 20th. Mark your calendars!! We start with fellowship and snacks at 6pm and the gathering starts promptly at 7pm. Please come join us as we celebrate the joy of the Lord in friendship and music.

Randy Headrick . Lay Director



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 mem-

AGAPE Support Dir.	Sara Martin	Newsletter	Dan Brennan
Child Care	Valerie Arends	Prayer Partner Coordinator	Jan Holmes
Community Historian	Jacque Benjamin	Prayer Vigil Coordinator	Kay Priest
Community Liaison	Valerie Arends	Registrar	Carol Lanzi
Directory	Len Lent	Reunion Group	Mike McCurdy
Communications*	Dan Brennan	Supply	TBD
Entertainment	Dan Brennan	Team Selection Coordinator	Laura Yax
Facility Representative	Greg Sweitzer	Volunteer Coordinator	Sandy Hauenstein
Gathering Coordinator	Jane Beswick	Event Coordinator	Len Lent
Music Director	Henry Rowe	Comm. Spiritual Director	Daniel Montague
Comm. Lay Director	Randy Headrick		

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

An Amphibian Response...

...Frogs Dispute Turtle Claims

A quartet of veteran Emmaus Team Members, who just happen to be frogs, are disputing the claim “Turtle’s Rule” which appeared in the October *On the Path*. Led by the redoubtable Hoppy Agape, the frogs assert that though they may be smaller, they, not the Turtle, are the more fitting mascots for the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community.

Hoppy and company maintain that one or more of them has been present on every Southern Maryland Emmaus Walk, since the first when Hoppy mysteriously appeared on the pillow of one Dan Brennan. Although this violated a cardinal rule of Agape, the perpetrator, Dan’s wife Pat, was unaware of the mandate when she had a co-conspirator place the reminder to **Fully Rely On God (F.R.O.G.)**. The amphibian was brought by Dan on his first teaming venture, and then by Pat as well. Hoppy acquired a lot of agape, and even some agape letters – even after the walk.

On SM#8, a new little frog appeared (we don’t know how this happened). This one was named “Baby Agape”. Hoppy began training and both frogs have been to all walks since then. Somewhere around walk

#11, the third one appeared. He is “Floppy Agape” - and looks a lot like “Baby Agape”. The Merkles, Dale and Cheryl, contributed a fourth itty bitty frog on Walk 13. The frogs seem to be multiplying out of control. They’ve been joined by an oversized frog with lipstick, and a small green one with orange legs. They need names!

The turtle was not available for comment on this challenge, but one thing seems clear – the battle for amphibian supremacy is just beginning.

*Article submitted by Pat Brennan
(the frogs threatened her)*



From left: Hoppy, Baby, Floppy, and their three new brothers.



Southern Maryland Emmaus - Prayer Points of Contact

This is the person to contact for newsletter distribution

***If your church is not listed, please volunteer to be the Prayer POC
send your name, e-mail address and telephone to newsletter@somdemmaus.org***

Calvary UMC	Phil Landweer	Phil.landweer@verizon.net	301-374-9333
Cedar Grove UMC	Jacque Benjamin	jfbnjzb@quixnet.net	410-257-2595
Emmanuel Baptist Church	Carol Lanzi	carolyn.lanzi.ctr@navy.mil	301-342-2918
Christ Episcopal Church	Mary Kercher	Mkercher@aol.com	301-934-5813
Corkran Memorial UMC	Stanley Harrell	sharrell@crosslink.net	301-559-6037
Faith Bible Church	Carol Lanzi	carolyn.lanzi.ctr@navy.mil	301-342-2918
Faith UMC (Rockville)	Cindy Matter	cindymatter03@aol.com	301-926-7830
First UMC (Laurel)	Dave Meixner	themeixners@comcast.net	301-498-1728
Good Shepherd UMC	Linda Flanagan	lflanagan@ccboe.com	301-645-1375
Bethel UMC	Jan Holmes	janhol@aol.com	410-798-8393
Indian Head UMC	Melvin Grover	becky.grover@c21nm.com	
Leonardtown Baptist Church	Carol Lanzi	carolyn.lanzi.ctr@navy.mil	301-342-2918
Lexington Park UMC	Sandi Hauenstein	Sandi@hauenstein.com	301-862-2026
Marbury Baptist Church	Denise McConnell	dmccConnell@earthserve.com	301-743-6995
Olivet UMC	Sue Shorb Sterling	sues@intergate.com	410-394-0773
St. Paul UMC (Lusby)	Ruth Dixon	mese22@olg.com	410-326-3821
St. Paul's UMC (Leonardtown)	Carol Lanzi	carolyn.lanzi.ctr@navy.mil	301-342-2918
Shiloh UMC	Lynn A. Brown	Lbrown3884@aol.com	301-372-1553
Smithville UMC	Kathy Massaro	emkm@chesapeake.net	410-257-1953
Trinity UMC	Valerie Arends	varends@comcast.net	410-286-3335
Trinity Baptist Waldorf)	Karen Smith	musicladykaren@yahoo.com	301-274-2504
Waters Memorial UMC	Dru McLaughlin	Lf1640@chesapeake.net	410-535-4313

News From Our Events Coordinator



As you all know weekend events are one of the highlights of the Walk to Emmaus weekend for the pilgrims. You may not know that each event requires some setup and take down. I am looking for volunteers to lead the effort and some who can simply help. The needs for each weekend are:

- Sponsor's hour setup
- Sponsor's hour take down
- candle light setup 7:00 Saturday night

- candle light take down
- closing setup 3:00 Sunday
- closing take down
- Conference center cleanup
-

If you are willing to sign up to help please call or send me an email. Many of the community help with these already and it is very difficult for team and sponsors to help in most cases.

Thank you in advance for your support in this very important agape gift.

Your brother in Christ
Len Lent
Events coordinator

God Led The Way

by Nancy Goodman

(reprinted from the Upper Room Emmaus Newsletter)

When our oldest son David, age 16, was murdered as he worked in a local grocery on a Saturday night, we were saddened beyond words. We quickly became surrounded by loving friends and family. All of this and our faith in a loving God was how we got through the next few days, weeks and years. Our two remaining children, Susan, age 14 and John, age 12 were a comfort to us as well.

At David's death I knew that he was with Jesus in heaven and that I did not need to worry about him. The young man who shot him was never apprehended or positively identified. I wondered if his mother could have the same assurance about her son. In all of this I claimed the scripture, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay". With that I turned it over to God.

Life moved on for all of us. My husband, Herb, and I attended the Walk to Emmaus. We felt great strength from that weekend, the small groups and the community. We have sponsored friends from our church and community. We have served on numerous teams and are members of the Southside Emmaus Community.

It was through our Emmaus experience that we learned of the Kairos prison ministry. This too is a three-day event for prison inmates. Folks from the Emmaus community are invited to attend the closing service. Several from our church were going to the "closing" one weekend in March of 1995, which happened to be the 20th anniversary of David's death. I filled out the background papers necessary to enter the prison, but really did not want to go. I had a fear, but did not know why. Little did I know what God had in store for me!



In the large room in the prison I spotted a young inmate playing guitar. I felt drawn to him. I learned that he was on the "team", having gone through the weekend before. I also learned that he was in prison for murder! I knew at that moment why I had come that afternoon. I was to forgive the man who had killed David and was to let this young man

know that. With tears and a trembling step, I approached him and said to him, "I don't know your name, just as you don't know the name of the man who killed my son. I know that I need to forgive you. I want you to know you are

forgiven." We both cried and he hugged me.

I left the prison that afternoon filled with joy and love. Through God's grace I had been set free!

You Can Fool Some of the People . . . But You Can't Fool God



I knew it before the reception in the dining hall, I knew it even before the "My New Friend" exercise, and I knew it long before I ever arrived at West River. My Sponsor had told me well in advance not to bring a watch. But hey, I'm smarter than the average Pilgrim, and was prepared.

Now you need to know that I have a bit of a watch fetish. I own more than 15 different watches. Before you think I'm completely crazy, none of them are named Rolex. They're inexpensive, but I enjoy the variety. And I am a time-driven person. Being without the current time for me would be akin to losing control, and that was something I would not be comfortable with.

My plan was simple. I'd wear the watch until the last possible moment, but when they finally insisted, I'd take it off, stuff it in my suitcase, and just check it whenever I felt the need for a security time check (non one ever thought of that before, I'll bet.)

But it seems God has a way of getting the last laugh. When I got up on Friday morning, I eagerly reached for my security blanket (watch) to check the time. Nothing! I could have chosen to bring any of the 15 watches I own, 14 of which are run by dependable American made batteries, but no, I had chosen the one watch that was "self-winding", and once off of my arm, it had fallen asleep as quickly as I had. At that moment, I got the message: "Trust God, and let the weekend happen."

Communications Committee Created

At its last meeting in October, the Board of Directors established a new committee to be called Communications, and to be headed by Dan Brennan. The purpose of the new committee is to consolidate several related activities under a single committee in order to increase efficiency and reduce redundancy. Included in this new work area will be:

- Newsletter
- E-mail
- PPOC
- Web Site
- Community Directory

Dan will be consolidating information from several different sources in the next few weeks, and attempting to finalize a community directory. He will be establish-

ing a Southern Maryland Emmaus data system to track membership, addresses, e-mail, etc.

New e-mail addresses have been established to help control correspondence related to the communications area. Please begin using them immediately.

For newsletter input:
newsletter@somdemmaus.org

For PCL, Directory, or E-mail Issues/requests
communications@somdemmaus.org

The board believes communications are key to the success and growth of our community. Please keep your address, e-mail, and other information current by supplying updates to Dan at the addresses above.



And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and began traveling with them.





"Walk in the Light" - Southern Maryland Emmaus
Visit us on the web at www.somdemmaus.org

Please note: new website is under construction - check back often

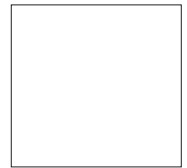
"Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?"

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

On the Path

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Time Sensitive Material