Upper Room Emmaus

Of the Greater Fredericksburg Area

www.fredwalk.org

Vol. 5 May 2007

UPCOMING EMMAUS WEEKENDS					
Walk #	<u>Dates</u>	Lay Director			
Emmaus 68 (M)	Oct 18 - 21, 2007	Mike Cook			
Emmaus 69 (W)	Nov 15 -18, 2007	Debbie Devine			
Emmaus 70 (M)	April 3 - 6, 2008	TBD			
Emmaus 71 (F)	May 1 - 4, 2008	TBD			

New Walk fees to take affect with the 2007 Fall Walks:

Teaming & Pilgrim Sponsorship \$175.00

Pilgrim Application \$25.00

The new fees are due to price increases from Camp Happyland and the 10% deposit required to hold facilities for all scheduled Walk dates.

The next Gatherings

(Second Saturday of each month)

*May 12th Hillcrest UMC

***DDU with Potluck dinner at 5:30pm Please bring food for dinner**

June 9th.....Fairview Baptist

Gathering at 6:15 pm Fellowship Time at 5:30 pm Chrysalis Steering Committee at 4:45 pm Board will meet at 3:30 pm

Please bring snack food to share during fellowship time

UPCOMING RICHMOND CHRYSALIS WEEKENDS

Young Men's Journey flight (19 to 24) – June (TBD) Young Ladies Journey flight (19 to 24) – June (TBD)

For more info contact Keith Lauer at klauer@hughes.net or 804-633-0546. Weekends in the Richmond Community are for rising 10th graders through 18 years of age.

The Chrysalis Steering Committee is still looking for volunteers. They will be meeting at 4:45pm before the gathering.

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Thoughts from the Lay Director...

IN GOD'S HANDS

The Lord says, "Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands."

- Isaiah 49:15-16 (NRSV)

Dear Community,

As I sought the Lord concerning this month's newsletter, the subject did not make sense to me. Today, the word "paradox" came to me. When I looked it up, indeed that is exactly what I have. Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia, defines it like this: A paradox is an apparently true statement or group of statements that leads to a contradiction or a situation, which defies intuition. Typically, either the statements in question do not really imply the contradiction, the puzzling result is not really a contradiction, or the premises themselves are not all really true or cannot all be true together. The word paradox is often used interchangeably and wrongly with contradiction; but whereas a contradiction asserts its own opposite, many paradoxes do allow for resolution of some kind.

As a result of last month's letter from the Community Lay Director, many of you did indeed step up and volunteer to fill positions. Several more people agreed to enter the election for the Board of Directors, and I understand about 12 individuals attended the Chrysalis steering committee meeting. These are just two examples of your response. Thank you, and God bless you for that.

It is encouraging to me that so many of you take ownership of this community. You see a need and you fill it. You donate time and resources for the good of all in the community, and so God's work can move forward. That is where the paradox comes in. That word ownership. We need to treat this community in a way as if we own it. We need to take responsibility for it, and our actions in it. We need to love it and nurture it like it is a part of us. For me it is a part of me. Just ask anyone close to me. Emmaus and the people in the community are on my mind all of the time.

BUT... This is not my community and it is not yours, it is God's. It is His tool for strengthening His church and His chosen leadership in those churches. I thank God for that. Because when problems arise they are not my problems they are His. It is not my battle it is His, and He is God all by Himself! I find they are not really problems at all but, opportunities to see God work.

They are opportunities to see another miracle. For those that say He doesn't perform miracles anymore, I have to say, they just aren't paying attention! The battle is His, and who or what can stand against Him?

We are His hands and feet. We are the shoulder that gives comfort. We are the voice that edifies and builds one another up and give encouragement in adversity. The answer to the paradox seems to be, that we are His. And yes we need to "own" the community, and it's work. But He owns us all. Paid for by His suffering and shedding His blood on the cross.

This leads me to one more thought. One thing I see and hear in the community, which causes me great anguish, is when members of the community do not get along. Division in the community is the work of the enemy. Whether you define the enemy as Satan and his minions, or your definition is the self-centered nature in human beings, it is the stuff that causes great harm. It is the attack that comes from with in. It is a poor witness to the unbelievers that are looking on from outside the family of God. I see and hear almost on a monthly basis someone who says I won't participate because I don't like the person leading that walk. Or I have something against that board member. "He or she acts so unchristian" Let's get a grip on reality! The Bible tells me we have ALL fallen short of the glory of God. We are all sinners. We are imperfect people trying to do the will of a perfect God. Have I always made the right decision? Absolutely not! But I made the best decision I could, based on the information I had at hand and my relationship with God. I am sure that the same thing is true of others in the community. The beauty and strength of this Emmaus community is our different backgrounds, churches, denominations, and yes even the color of our skin. Don't let the thing that makes this a model, of the body of Christ, become our stumbling block. Ironically these are not the differences that cause the greatest division. It is the harsh word, the misunderstood motive or a momentary lapse in judgment between friends.

A wise elderly woman once said to me "Give much mercy and grace, for you have received much." Forgiveness is the cure for the illness that is mentioned above. God forgave our sin. All of it! Jesus paid the debt He did not owe, because we owed a debt we could not pay! Go and give someone grace and forgiveness today!

De Colores, Mark Lawrence/CLD 2006-2007 Page 3, Vol. 5 May 2007

Board News...

The Board met on April 14, 2007 at 3:30 just prior to the gathering at Hillcrest UMC. There was a quorum present.

The board approved the purchase of another overhead projector and some spare bulbs as one of our projectors developed a short, which we could not seem to fix.

We had a report from our nominating committee concerning the candidates that had agreed to be placed on the ballot for board membership. We also discussed the candidates and qualifications of board officers as we prepare for the election of those officers in May.

There was much discussion concerning the role of the new team selection committee and the way it will interact and cooperate with the Weekend Lay Director as well as other members of the cadre. Final action on the motion was tabled until the May meeting.

I gave a report concerning recent actions by the National Upper Room Emmaus organization. We will be required to have training from our regional representative before the end of the year in order to comply with our covenant. This training is required at least once every three years and will include both clergy and lay leadership. There are a number of concerns about the rules and expectations of the Upper Room. However we decided we would see what the trainers have to say when they actually get here. It is expected that this training will not take place until September or later.

The meeting was adjourned about 5:25 PM

Mark Lawrence

From the Board Treasurer:

IRS Changes for 2007

Starting in January, to claim a deduction on your itemized tax return, the IRS is making it complicated. Taxpayers will need to provide backup in order to claim a deduction on their tax return; no more "lists" will be accepted. The taxpayer must provide a canceled check(s), bank record or a receipt from the charity listing the organization's name, the date of the donation and the amount. Beginning January 2007, we began tracking and recording all checks received as donations to the General and Scholarship funds. Please consult with your accountant or tax preparer on the deductibility of your Team and Sponsorship fees for charitable contributions. Monthly letters or annual statements will be mailed regardless of the donation amount.

If you would like credit for your cash donations made at Gatherings, Candlelight, Sponsors Hour, and Closings, please place the cash in an envelope marked with your name, address and amount. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 540-786-3038. God bless, Monica Warne

Page 4, Vol. 5	May 200'

Sample Nomination Ballot

At the May 12th Gathering, there will be a community vote for the open board positions:

1 spiritual director f	or a three-year term
------------------------	----------------------

- 3 men for a three-year term
- 3 women for a three-year term
- 1 woman for a one-year term

\checkmark	Vote for	ONE S	<u>piritual</u>	Director

Bill Curtis

Rick Dillard

✓ Vote for ONLY THREE men

Tony Fortune ____

Tony Lutchman _____

Randy Ross _____

Wilfred Usher _____

Bill Walker

✓ Vote for FOUR women

Sandra Coney _____

Donna Devericks _____

Marcy Leipelt _____

Becky Thode _____

The following profiles describe those running on the ballot.

























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Nominee profiles

Randy Ross:

Attends Lake of the Woods (LOW) Church in Locust Grove; walked on Emmaus #40 and has teamed on numerous Men's walks.

At church Randy is a Sunday school teacher for the College age & beyond class and a small group leader for that same age group. Randy is a member of the Youth missions committee working on current youth trips and the planning for future trips. He is currently chairing a conference that LOW church is sponsoring called Stop the Crisis VA, a conference on Suicide, self molestation, drug, internet abuse for teens & adults on September 14th & 15th.

Randy enjoys Golf in his free time and watching Nascar. He is self employed with his son in a construction business doing additions, renovations and a few new homes.

Wilfred Usher:

A native of Washington, DC, Wilfred Adair Usher was baptized at the age of 12 into the Dupont Park SDA Church family along side his parents who decided that a Christian education would best prepare him for life. He received his High School Diploma from Tacoma Academy, Tacoma Park, Maryland in 1968 and a BA in History in 1973 from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan. For the last 25 years he has worked as an Investigator with the District of Columbia Department of Consumer Regulatory & Affairs, investigating professional and criminal complaints for the DC Boards of Real Estate, Appraisers, Accountants, Professional Engineers, Architects, and Industrial Trades matters. A member of AFSCME, he has served as Chief Stewart and is currently serving a second term as Vice President of the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Local 2743 representing employees in four DC agencies. Greatly respected by his coworkers and Supervisors as a man of Compassion, Honesty and Truth, Mr. Usher is constantly called on to intercede for employee/employer disputes. From his teen years, Mr. Usher has served the Lord wherever he is called to serve including teaching teens and young adults, Usher, Deacon, Assistant Youth Leader, Assistant Family Life Leader. Ordained Elder and Head Elder (two congregations under two pastors in the DC area) In 1994 Wilfred and his wife, Mary relocated to Fredericksburg, Virginia and united with The Maranatha SDA Church. At Maranatha he has served in numerous offices including Local Elder, Assistant Treasurer, Sabbath School Superintendent, Chair of the Worship Committee, and Evangelism Leader over seeing seven church ministries. Mr. Usher, obedient to God's calling, recently accepted the position of Head Deacon for 2007/2008.

Meeting God face to face on FE-62 has brought greater joy to his life and a firm commitment to follow Christ to the end. Mr. User has teamed on E66 and helped out on the Walk Weekends as a cha. His wife, Mary Usher (FE-63) is his rock; they have two sons and two grandsons. Since joining the Emmaus Community, Wilfred & Mary have found a deeper joy as servants, inviting others to meet the Lover of their soul and encouraging them to share Him in their church and life.

Becky Thode:

Attends Chancellor Christian Church; walked on Emmaus 36; teamed on FE61, FE63, and FE65; and is an active member in a Monday evening reunion group.

At church Becky participates in various activities including VBS, Sunday school, media presentations, and the kitchen ministry. Currently Becky is serving as a co-coordinator for their Helping Hands Ministry; leads a women's study group semi-monthly; assists with the youth, and helps her husband teach a teen Sunday school class.

Becky works at Chancellor Middle School and teaches reading to children that have difficulty reading. She loves to read and collect children's books.

Sandra Coney:

Sandra is the mother of two and the grandmother of five. She attends the Tower of Deliverance church; walked on Fredericksburg Emmaus (FE) #56; teamed on FE #63 as an Assistant Table Leader and on FE #65 as a Table Leader. Sandra was also a Fourth Day speaker at a 2006 spring gathering.

At church Sandra is an adult Sunday school teacher and an aspiring missionary. The former Newport News, Virginia resident is an inventor turned author, and the founder and director of the non profit Christian corporation, Prodigal Daughter International, Inc., located in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Not only does she currently have her first book, *Surviving the Long Road Home*, under publication, she has also completed and self published her first of many new believer follow-up study guides, *Growing in God's Grace*, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies from Regent University with aspirations of completing her education at prestigious Oxford University in England.

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Nominee profiles

Rickey W. Dillard:

Brother Rick is the Associate Pastor at Chancellor Christian Church. Currently Rick, along with his wife Susan, has a focus in building and developing Chancellor's Youth Group. Rick's other responsibilities focus on missions and the development of the Education department of the church. Rick holds a Bachelor of Biblical Studies from Freedom Bible College and Seminary. Rick has worked in various ministries over the past twenty-one years being a trustee; treasurer; teen Sunday school teacher; & youth director. He currently leads in the praise and worship team and is VBS Director at Chancellor. Rick has served on FE55, 60, 62 and 64, has served one year on the Emmaus Board in a Lay position and currently along with Susan produce the 4th Day Packs for the walks. He and his wife Susan have one son and one grandson.

Marcy Liepelt:

Attends Fairview Baptist Church; walked on Emmaus 61; teamed on Emmaus 65; helped cha on Emmaus 66; attends gathering and candlelight services, and enjoys preparing agape for team members and pilgrims.

Marcy is an active discipleship student (the MasterLife series and Experiencing God course), and attends a home Bible fellowship group and weekly prayer meetings.

At church Marcy helps with the monthly "Around Forty" dinners and the preparation and set up of church-wide fellowship dinners. A greeter coordinator for the 9:30 Sunday worship service; assists in the Children in Action program class; helps at Vacation Bible School; and served in the toddler nursery for two years. Marcy helps with make-up and backstage support for worship choir cantatas and dramatic events and is always willing to help wherever there is a need.

Bill Walker:

Attends Grace United Methodist Church in Hartwood, walked on FE #51 (Table of Matthew); teamed on FE #53, #55, #58, #60, #62, and #64 and was the Music Director for three of the walks. Bill enjoys playing music and has occasionally led the music at many Gatherings, Candlelight, and Closings.

At church Bill is the choir director, praise band leader, and worship leader for the contemporary worship service. He also serves on the Pastor/Parrish Relations committee, the Church Council, and is a certified lay speaker. In Bill's spare time he is the Command Master Chief for the Program Executive Office for Ships in Washington DC

Bill Curtis:

Attends and is pastor of The Church at White Oak. Bill walked on FE#58 and teamed on FE#62, 64, and 66.

Tony Fortune:

Attends Shepherds UMC; walked on FE#33, & teamed on FE #60, 62, and 66.

Tony Lutchman:

Attends Strong Tower Ministries church; walked on FE#14; and teamed on FE#15, 17, 19, 40, and 66.

Donna Devericks:

Attends Fairview Baptist Church; walked on FE#53; and teamed on FE#59 and FE#63.



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Reflections from some recent Chrysalis Butterflies

My Weekend at Chrysalis By Ashley Bell

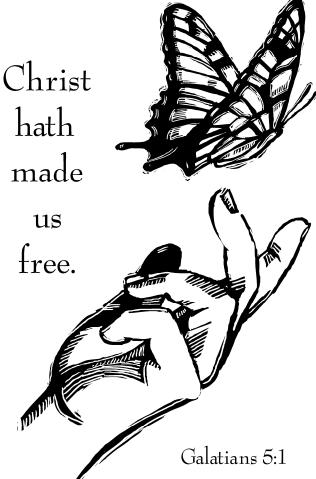
My weekend at Richmond Chrysalis was amazing. I have never met a more wonderful group of people. All the girls that I met were very special to me. Everyone got so close by the end of the weekend that nobody was ready to leave. I know that I wanted to stay forever. It was so neat how we were all on God's time and everything is much more relaxed that way. If only everyday was on His time there would be no more rushing. Another thing is, I have never felt so much love in my entire life. I could feel everyone's love that was there, but most of the love I felt was coming from God. His love is so awesome and the best part is it is unfailing.

Our theme song for the weekend was Unfailing Love. I had heard the term before but never understood it until now. God loves you every minute of the day. He will never stop loving you.

I wish the weekend had gone
slower because I wanted to stay longer. I felt so connected with God
that weekend. I pray every night, or try to, and I go to church but
I never felt His love and closeness like I did those three days. On
Friday night when we nailed our sins to the cross and burnt them,
God's love was so overwhelming. Everyone was crying but they were
happy tears because we were free from our burdens. After I had done
that I could feel God there, helping me through that. I thank Him so
much for that. I just hope that everyone can experience what I did
on that amazing weekend.

Flight 43 By Kate Klaus

I attended Flight 43 in March, in Richmond. I'll be the first to admit I wasn't particularly thrilled with the idea of being stuck



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with 20 other girls I didn't know, or away from a place and routine that I was familiar with.

All I could think about on the way down there was how this seemed like the first day of freshman year all over again. I wasn't sure if the other girls would like me or if I would make friends. Yet when I arrived, the girls welcomed our group with open arms. It's an amazing feeling you get when you've only known someone for 4 hours and they suddenly feel like one of your childhood friends.

I wouldn't trade this experience for anything, and in the end I'm glad I decided to go. The endless agape from the community and love from all the girls has helped to show me that it doesn't matter who you are or what you've done, but how you "let go, and let Christ."

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Praise God for:

My mom Grace as she finished her first year of college E-67 That Randy is healing and wasn't hurt worse For our sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren Amy My awesome children and the daily love and support E-66

New sisters in Christ they give me

Unexpected blessings Groundbreaking for Melrose UMC's new

Thank God for His many blessings fellowship/social hall

For the non-suffering death of my mom To God for the countless blessings He has bestowed upon me and my family. I thank Him for the victory

Please pray for:

Karea and Bones For this community Bob – comfort and peace Peace for Traecy Balance in my life For Louise's health issues Pilgrims of E-67 **VBS** My mother-in-law's surgery For Marie My In-Laws Bob, for peace and comfort George's job My wife's health Renewed faith for family Our church A friend with MS The Emmaus community Peggy and Bill To heal a broken marriage Baby Summer Beth's pregnancy People suffering from cancer Everyone else Our church S recovery from the Blah's FE-68 My daughter Josh – serving in the U.S. Army For Dereke Mark's health E-67 Team, Pilgrims Upcoming fall walk My family situation Peace Teenage children For Matt's financial difficulties Our pastor For Bob For everyone, always A close friend fighting cancer My tablemates on E-65 My son Jeff, who is joining the Navy Family My sister's salvation For Joyce – Hillcrest

World peace A sense of focus and direction in my life My father, over the loss of my mother Brian Louise and her health My sister's faith/husband's family Randy's mom Randy's healing Holley, for comfort Elaine and Mark for miracle healing Bill and Peggy Steve for revival Jackie for constant good health

Our president Healing for Jane Unity in the community

Louise for comfort in her health Our troops For the unspoken

E-48 Our youth – Chrysalis Our country and troops

Our country's leaders My daughter in her pregnancy My daughter E-67 Pilgrims My husband's health My brother and his family

E-67 Team Loretta – Randy's mom For fighting against strongholds Josh – cancer Sherry and Kevin Drew, who is learning to drive

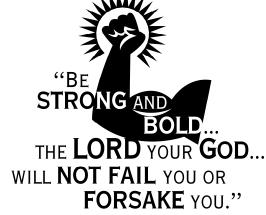
TLC with property issues Please give ma servant's heart Jerry – back pain

E-67 Pilgrims Nathan – lifestyle change Young people in financial difficulties Page 10, Vol. 5 May 2007

Please pray for:

That Matthew will look to the Lord
That Rae's treatment is successful
For a teenager's shoulder surgery
Jack – surgery for an aneurysm
For Daphne, who's mother died March 26th
For music groups that play at Gatherings
For upcoming community elections
Andrea and Warren who need to move
Pastors to know God's word better
For our soldiers and victory
To put prayer back into schools
My family, my ministry, my finances
Brian, who has a broken leg
Randy's leg healing and no further surgery
Steve's mother, who has liver cancer

A legal battle over a roof and justice be served For our Senate and House to make wise decisions Cameron and his family in their time of trouble For guidance in the care of my mother Grandmother to be healed and body restored My mother, who has lost her husband Our son, daughter-in-law, and grandchild-to-be Healing for my mother who has suffered a stroke Charles – Community Spiritual Director For resolution of sibling family disagreements Brooke, who is experiencing a difficult pregnancy



My dad to come to terms with my mother's death Pray for spiritual fire to blossom in Hillcrest UMC Those ministerial candidates waiting for appointments Methodist pastors and their families on the "move" list My mother, who is in the beginning stages of Alzheimer's Deuteronomy 31:6 Pilgrims of E-67 as they prepare for the upcoming weekend My granddaughter's healing after surgery on ears and throat The sale of our current house and purchase of our next one My son, Tim, anticipating surgery, dealing with low platelets For son and his girlfriend and their home and family situation That Jason's problems are taken before God and he is touched Warren's job and that he and his family will come to know God For my family during the next 8 months that God will protect us For my co-worker, Joyce, as she deals with a serious health issue For my brother Glenn, that God may become a greater part of his life My boss – who is in church every Sunday, but is full of hate Mon-Sat. That Americans will fall on their knees and seek God, not their own ways For all who have fallen away from God that they will give their lives back to Him My sister Lori's husband recovering from cancer, through last chemo and radiation For my daughter, Elisa, that she will get a job soon – out of work since October Frank, Peggy and James, that they are blessed with health, peace, awareness of God in their lives Page 11, Vol. 5 May 2007

Community Volunteers & Board of Directors

Community Lay Director......Mark Lawrence*

Lead Gatherings & Candlelight

Host Weekend Sponsors' Hour/Closing

Chair Emmaus Board

Chair Pilgrim/Team Selection Committee

Assign Nominating Committee Coordinator

Assistant Community Lay DirectorTerry Cook*

Gathering Location Coordinator

Community Spiritual Director.....Ralph Thomas*

SecretarySandie Makely*

Manuals CoordinatorGene Philipp

Records/By-Laws Historian......Gene Philipp

Communications CoordinatorVacant

Database CoordinatorJohn Mann

Team RegistrarBarbara Simpson

Pilgrim RegistrarsPat & Dick Barnett

Gathering Support CoordinatorJane Carwell*

Community Music Director.....Lola McDonald

Music Coordinator for Gatherings......Steve Makely*

Weekend Support Coordinator.....Brian Lewis

Agape Bag Coordinator......Diana Farrar

Name Badge Coordinator Dave Olds*

Sharon Smith*

Ralph Williams*

Additional Board Members

Mark Dunn* Jim Muhlenkamp*

*Board of Directors 2006-2007

Help Wanted

The Fredericksburg
Emmaus Community is
looking for a volunteer to fill
the Childcare Coordinator
position. If you are
interested, please contact
the Gathering Support
Coordinator, Jane Carwell,
at 703-969-4019 or email
her at tjcarwell@yahoo.com
We appreciate your
assistance!

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Active Reunion Groups in the Fredericksburg Emmaus Community

SUNDAY

Bethel UMC Men's Group 7:30 am

Bethel UMC Woodbridge

Brian Lewis 703-590-9343

bb3253@aol.com

TUESDAY

Great Is Thy Faithfulness 7:30 pm

Prince of Peace UMC 6299 Token Forest Drive Manassas, VA

Lloyd Biller 703-590-1512

Interested in joining or starting a new reunion group?

Call Sandy Crossley at 703-221-6977 or email her at slcrossley13@msn.com

Pastor's Weekly Meeting 7:30 am

Call for location

Mark Dunn 540-786-4025

Lakeside Reunion Group (Men) 8:00 pm

Lake of the Woods – Call for location

Vic Larson 540-972-1928

WEDNESDAY

Lord's Lions & Lambs Reunion Group 6:30 pm

First Christian Church

Gary Staddan 540-373-7716

firstchristianchurch@verizon.net

THURSDAY

Amazing Grace Reunion Group 8:30 pm

Hillcrest UMC

Ed McAdam 540-898-3625

emcadam@cox.net

His Joyful Croakers

9:00 am

Hillcrest UMC

June Riel 540-710-5949

(ALTERNATE THURSDAYS)

Rainbow Reunion Group (Women)

10:00 am

Lake of the Woods – Call for location Barbara Miller 540-972-7418

His Seekers (Women)

7:30 pm

Home of Jane Carwell – Woodbridge Sandy Crossley 703-221-6977 or

Jane Carwell 703-969-4019 or email: tjcarwell@yahoo.com

FRIDAY

Koinonia Women's Reunion Group

9:00 am

Lake of the Woods – Call for location Barbara Larson 540-972-1928 Upper Room Emmaus of the Greater Fredericksburg Area PO Box 42094 Fredericksburg, VA 22404

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Directions to Hillcrest UMC:

2208 Lafayette Boulevard Fredericksburg, VA 22401 (540) 898-2180

<u>From I-95:</u> Take Exit 126 heading North on Route 1 to Four-Mile Fork. Turn right onto Lafayette Blvd. Continue approx 1.5 miles on Lafayette Blvd. to Hillcrest UMC on the left.