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# Upper Room Emmaus of the Greater Fredericksburg Area

# Gatherings (2nd Sat of the month):

- February 9th
- March 9th Antioch UMC
- April 13th
- May 11th
- Fairview at River Club

Hillcrest UMC



# Upcoming Emmaus Walks:

Stafford Crossing Community Church

Walk #

FE-90 (W)

FE-91 (M)

FE-92 (W)

Dates

April 18 - 21, 2013 Oct 24 - 27, 2013\* Nov 7 - 10, 2013\*

### Weekend Lay Director

Dawn Kendall Steve LiCalzi TBA

\*Still awaiting final confirmation from Camp on Fall Walk dates

#### **Gathering Info**

Board meeting at 1:30 pm

Fellowship at 3:30 pm

Gathering at 4:00 pm

Please bring snacks to share during fellowship time.

If your church can host a gathering, please email the CLD Chris Campbell at chris@ewg.org

#### **Gathering Directions**

To: Stafford Crossing Community Church 1420 Forbes Street Fredericksburg, VA 22405

Take exit 133A off I-95. At Route 1, take a left to go North. Make a right onto Layhill Road (at the Valero). Layhill Road turns into Forbes Street - continue straight. The church is on the left, under .3 miles from Route 1.

# From the Community Lay Director

Are you in a reunion group? Don't know what that is? You heard about them on Sunday of your walk. Possibly you were on overload and it missed your attention. I was fried the Sunday of my Walk to Emmaus. But I finally got into one a few months after my Walk and my Saturday mornings have never been the same. For that matter my Walk with God has not been the same.

A reunion group is simply a gathering of people that come together to share their faith. My reunion group typically has about 10-12 people that show up but it only takes 2 people to be a reunion group. The people in your group don't have to have gone on the Walk to Emmaus and, in fact, our reunion group has sponsored several people to go on the walk by first inviting them to our Saturday morning meetings.

You received a card on Sunday that has a suggestion for the order of the meeting – I have to say we don't normally follow the card but we do occasionally pull it out. It does have some good questions to get you going like: When were you closest to Christ this week?" Were you called to discipleship this week or were you denied in any way? How are you doing in piety, study and action?

You can run your reunion group any way you want, but there are a few rules. Reunion groups should be like Vegas – what is said in reunion group needs to stay in reunion group. It has to be a safe place to say what is on your mind, what challenges you are going thru, and, in some cases, the ways you are really letting God down. It has to be an open environment for people to feel like they can share without it coming back to stab them in the back. You also need to meet regularly and make it a priority.

In total, there are 15 men that are in my group and I have been blessed by the collective wisdom and the collective experience. Many of these men have qualities that I strive to emulate. Whether it is from a study perspective or an action perspective or just the way they live their lives – I see men that love the Lord and act on it.

We fellowship quite a bit, we pray for each other and we help one another. And we get together to do a few things each year. We do a Valentines Day breakfast where we cook for the church and get a speaker. We do a Men's retreat in the Fall with varied formats. And occasionally some of us go on a mission trip.

So I ask again: Are you in a reunion group? If you want to get in one, there are several listed in the newsletter. You can also start your own – you only need two people and a regular time to meet.

De Colores,

Chris Campbell Fairview at River Club FE-70 Table of Peter

# 4th Day Testimony

The Emmaus experience has been wonderful for me. I loved the walk and, even more, I loved the teaming - to see the pilgrim's faces as they are on the walk and to be Jesus' hands and feet as we serve the pilgrims. While teaming, I learned to give talks in front of others, (which is really against my nature). I've grown closer to God through Emmaus and it has helped me through this time after my recent kidney transplant.

Dianne Philipp, First Christian Church, FE-22

"...He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart..."

- Isaiah 40:11

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# From the Community Spiritual Director

Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee. Nehemiah 9:6

Probably one of the most thrilling, yet at the same time most troubling of God's attributes is His sovereignty. Thrilling and a comfort to the Christian because the Sovereignty of God means there isn't anything that happens in your life that God does not directly cause or deliberately allow. Troubling because His sovereignty means there isn't anything that happens in your life that God does not directly cause or deliberately allow.

It is in the attribute of God's sovereignty that He rules the earth and all that is in it. A.W.Tozer in his book Knowledge of the Holy notes: "Even to discuss the authority of Almighty God seems a bit meaningless, and to question it would be absurd. Can we imagine the Lord of Hosts having to request permission of anyone or to apply for anything to a higher body? To whom would God go for permission? Who is higher than the Highest? Who is mightier than the Almighty? Whose position antedates that of the Eternal? At whose throne would God kneel? Where is the greater one to whom He must appeal? 'Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and His redeemer the Lord of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.'"

The omniscience of God means that there is nothing that He does not know. Not because He has learned it, but because that knowledge is an intrinsic part of His very nature. He knows because He knows. That omniscience means that there is nothing in your life, now or in the future that God does not already know about and has known about from the foundations of the earth. Moreover, He told Jeremiah that He knows the plans that He has for [us], plans to prosper and not for evil to give [us] a hope and a future.

God has a perfect plan worked out for you based on His infinite knowledge of you. And the Sovereignty of God means that He has the authority to carry out that plan. There is nothing that can stand in His way or prevent Him from carrying out what He wants to do in your life to His glory and praise.

I don't know about you, but I find such comfort in knowing that God knows my future, knows the things I will do right, and the things I will do wrong and has already given me grace for the latter. My life is in His hands and He has the authority to accomplish what He will for my greatest blessing and the glory of His name. Halleluiah to the Lamb of God.

# Agape Bags

Remember when you saw your agape bag for the first time? God filled that eye-catching bag with love letters just for you. Will you help make a pilgrim's walk special? You can buy brightly colored rainbow striped fabric, (check the craft section at your local fabric store or WalMart), cording, and bright shoelaces to donate. Or you can make agape bags; they are sew simple to make, (12" wide and 15" tall, please). Say "I'll help" by calling Karen Campbell - 540–658-0468 or email her at campbells\_6@yahoo.com

# Prayer Requests from January Gathering

#### FE-90

Carol's family - strengthened ministry Dominic - cancer Danny Our country Son's new college roommate Wellness ministry That I glorify God in my new job and that the position becomes permanent Kay Mary & Wilfred Don's knees - relief from pain People to rise above gossip Chandler's adjustment to college Kelly, Justin and Eli National leadership for God's wisdom and guidance Need of a job Cara Travel mercies Michael to ease his lonliness Karen Martha as caregiver Finances Jordan, Brad, Manny, John and Christopher Our soldiers Rita - healing

George – family split, housing issues, job need Nancy Drew's job hunt Answered prayers Grandsons For those that are far from God Grandmother Scarlett – good health Henry's job decision New job Daughters safe travel Beltran family Great grandmother – healing John – handicapped and skin problems Gabriel's nephew – heart defect **Risen Hope** lim and Delores Health Mike's new home Carol's family - safe travel and success in mission Spirit transformation for Maranatha All who suffer from Alzheimer's disease and their families Fredericksburg Emmaus Community Willie – healing

Cynthia – to find God and let Him into her family's life David and Jandrica (to get married) Izzy, Jenna, David and Dakota New clients Faith Annette – health, kidney transplant Madison and family Benefit Oyster Roast in March Health improvement Guidance for daughter and sonin-law looking to buy first home Andrew Chapel UMC Children's Acting program Safety in schools Healing Evans family - loss of loved ones Karen and Bill as they try to start a family Blanca Bill to have surgery Heather, Mark and Isabella - flu Sarah and baby Archie – health Ryan - God knows and gives and takes away Julie - healing

#### Elected Community Officers: (Thru June 30, 2013)

Community Lay Director	Chris Campbell
Assistant Community Lay Director	Mary Lee Hensel

Community Spiritual Director .....Jim Muhlenkamp

Debbie Bliss Doc Holladay Lisa Green Chris Wells

Agape Coordinator	Tom Dempsey
Secretary	Ava Hanger
Treasurer	Carol Burke
Manuals Coordinator/Historian	Mike Remington
Spiritual Director	Gayle Porias
Spiritual Director	Nancy McDaniel

#### Community Volunteers: (Sept I, 2012 - Aug 31, 2013)

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Communications Support Coordinator	Mary Lee Hensel
Website & Database Administrator	Chris Campbell
Newsletter	Brooke Ferguson
Daily Prayer Chain Coordinator	5
Fourth Day Support Coordinator	Richard Loopor
Fourth Day Advisory Committee	
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Fourth Day Follow-Up/Reunion Group Coordinator	Chris Wells
Upper Room Guidelines Implementation	Dawn Kendall
Pilgrim/Team Support Coordinator	Carol Burke
Team Selection Committee	Chris Campbell
Team Registrar	Dick Barnett
Pilgrim Registrars	
Gathering Support Coordinator	Dawn Kendall
Gathering Support Coordinator	
Childcare Coordinator	
Childcare Coordinator Hospitality Coordinator	 Kathleen Holladay
Childcare Coordinator	 Kathleen Holladay
Childcare Coordinator Hospitality Coordinator Music/Equipment Coordinator	 Kathleen Holladay Mitch Mitchell
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## Daily Internet Prayer Chain

We have Prayer Warriors praying daily for the needs and praises of the Emmaus Community. Our Daily Prayer Chain Coordinator is Teresa Smith, Fairview at River Club, FE-37, Table of Patience. Simply email Teresa at fredemmausprayers@yahoo.com with your prayer request and our Prayer Warriors will be in prayer for you! Urgent prayer requests will be handled as quickly as we receive them. If you would like to be a Daily Prayer Warrior, email our website administrator Chris Campbell at chris@ewg.org and ask to be included as a Prayer Warrior.

# 4th Day Testimony Request

The 4th day committee wants your 4th day testimonies. They don't have to be long, just tell us what God's doing in your 4th day, or how teaming, sponsoring, being involved in a reunion group, or attending monthly gatherings has changed your life. We will review it and if accepted, include it in the newsletter on a monthly basis. So if you'd like to share with us how God has used your Emmaus experience in any of these areas, please email your testimony to Cam Noden at: twonodens@juno.com for review. I'll be looking forward to hearing from you!

## Monday

Ladies In Waiting Meets Every Other Monday In Falmouth POC: Vonda LiCalzi 540-446-2682

Rainbow Group (Women) First Monday Of Month 10:00 Am Lake Of The Woods Location Varies POC: Barbara Miller 540-972-7418

## Tuesday

Great Is Thy Faithfulness 7:30 Pm Prince Of Peace UMC Manassas,Va POC: Lloyd Biller 703-590-1512

Lakeside Group (Men) 8:00 Pm Lake Of The Woods Call For Location POC: Vic Larson 540-972-1928

## Thursday

His Joyful Croakers 9:00 Am Hillcrest UMC POC: June Riel 540-710-5949

His Seekers (Women) 7:30 Pm Home Of Jane Carwell POC: Sandy Crossley 703-221-6977 POC: Jane Carwell 703-969-4019 Tjcarwell@yahoo.com

Amazing Grace Group 8:30 Pm Hillcrest UMC POC: Ed McAdam 540-898-3625 Emcadam@cox.net

Reunion Bible Study 10:00 Am North Stafford Baptist POC Karen Campbell 540–658-0468 Campbells\_6@yahoo.com

Uptown Bristersburg Believers 2nd And 4th Thursdays 7:00 Pm Mt. Horeb UMC POC: Chris Wells 540-788-3068

## Wednesday

Lord's Lions & Lambs Group 6:30 Pm First Christian Church POC: Joe Reed 540-373-7716 First.christian.church@verizon.net

### Friday

Koinonia Group (Women) 9:00 Am Lake OfThe Woods Call For Location POC: Barbara Larson 540-972-1928

## Sunday

Bethel UMC Men's Group 7:30 Am Bethel UMC Woodbridge,Va POC: Brian Lewis 703-590-9343 Bb3253@aol.com

Are you interested in joining or starting a new

Reunion Group? Email Chris Wells at wells50@wildblue.net