

Monthly Newsletter of  
THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY  
January, 2010

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

***PLEASE JOIN US!***

**JANUARY, 2010**

- Board Meeting – Thurs, Jan 14, 7pm, Asbury UMC
- Gathering – Fri, Jan 29, 7pm, Asbury UMC

**FEBRUARY, 2010**

- Board Meeting – Thurs, Feb 11, 7pm, Asbury UMC
- Gathering – Fri, Feb 26, 7pm, Asbury UMC

**MARCH, 2010**

- Board Meeting – Thurs, Mar 11, 7pm, Asbury UMC
- Gathering – Fri, Mar 26, 7pm, Asbury UMC

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Monthly Gatherings are held on the last Friday of each month at **Asbury United Methodist Church**, located at 205 S. Main Street (Route 11 North), at the corner of Main and Bruce Streets in downtown Harrisonburg. Travel north on Main Street past the church to Water Street. Turn left on Water Street then another left onto Liberty Street. Turn left into the lot behind the church.

Walk through the gate and enter the building through the door on the lower level. Once inside, go up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and follow the "joyful noise" to the group in Slaven Hall. See you there! ☺

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP OVERLOOK:

From Washington/Baltimore: I-95 Beltway & Rt.55 to I-81 South to Exit 257 South on Rt.11, Left on Rt.806, Right on Rt.620, Left on Rt.722

From Richmond/Tidewater: I-64 West to I-81, then North to Exit 251, follow Harrisonburg instructions below

From Harrisonburg: I-81 North to Exit 251, Rt.11 North, right on Rt.721, left on Rt.717, right on Rt.811, right on Rt.722

***Visit our local community online at: [sveconline.org](http://sveconline.org)***

## Community Lay Director:



*I pray you had a wonderful, joyous celebration of our Lord and Savior's birth over the Christmas holiday. 2010 is another year to go forward in service to our Lord. The Emmaus community is a strong, faithful instrument whom God inspires and enables to help individuals develop closer personal relationships with Him; strengthen our churches and provide a loving supportive group of people who foster the development of servant leaders for His Kingdom.*

*In October of 1997 I took my "Walk to Emmaus," never envisioning I would serve as Community Lay Director. This is my last newsletter article in that capacity. It has been an awesome privilege to serve the community I love. Our community is alive and well and I have confidence it will remain that way into the future. Much has been accomplished including further development of our web site; Chrysalis & Kairos reps are now on the board; updating of manuals; established operation guidelines for committee coordinators to foster walk continuity by outlining the walk specific activities/events unique to SVEC; Fourth Day Retreat now under the oversight of the board. All this plus our community put on four Emmaus Walks, assisted with a Chrysalis Flight and Kairos walks, and the planning of the Fourth Day Retreat in February. While the leadership may come from our Community Board of Directors it could not be accomplished without servants (YOU) who comprise our community. I personally thank all those members of the board for their support throughout the past three years. I encourage all of you, community members, to remain active in your churches and the Emmaus Community. The love, support and growth opportunities are unlimited. I have been blessed beyond measure and thank you for allowing me to serve the community and for the blessings I receive through that service.*

*May God continue to bless our ministry as we go forward into the New Year. See you at **Gathering** on **January 29<sup>th</sup>** as we focus on praising our Lord through music and song, introduce the new Community Lay Director and board officers, celebrate Holy Communion and of course fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. PLEASE, EVERYONE FROM FAR AND NEAR, LET'S COME TOGETHER AS ONE BODY OF CHRIST, THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY EMMAUS COMMUNITY. LET'S START 2010 TOGETHER AND CELEBRATE THE GIFTS THE LORD PROVIDES.*

*Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."*

*DeColores, Melanie Stanley  
Community Lay Director*

## **Community ALD: assistant lay director...**

*“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart”* Jeremiah 29:13

What a promise we have from God – when we go wholeheartedly after Him, He will not disappoint us. He’ll not hide away, he’ll not challenge us to keep looking. God will be front and center – standing where we cannot miss Him. I love that image!

As we begin 2010, we offer our thanks to those who helped get us through 2009. Melanie Stanley and her dedicated leadership has guided the “SVEC *Bounty*” through some stormy and tossing seas these last 3 years. As she leaves the Board – her intense and fruitful management will be missed. Joyfully, there are others already on board who are Holy Spirit-filled and willing to step into leadership. God has and will continue to equip HIS amazing servant leaders.

The words “entitlement” and “disappointment” swarm in my head as I write this article. We are not entitled to anything in this life except God’s love, grace and mercy. Even though we’ve experienced the 72-hour quick course on Discipleship called Emmaus – we should neither overrate our righteousness as Christians nor should we underrate it. Let His grace be sufficient.

We are entrusted with the care of the pilgrims for 72 hours of loving pampering in God’s name – we don’t have to enhance their experience by anything else, other than prayer, that we think will make it more memorable for them or us. If we do NOT misuse the trust that God, the community and the sponsors put in us – HE will not be disappointed. This is God’s Emmaus movement. Hallelujah! It is not the domain of 600+ community members, 18 Board members or even 24 team members.

We look forward to a year filled with the same purpose of Emmaus but with staggering results in His Name for SVEC.

*“Yes, when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything else, I’ll make sure you won’t be disappointed.”*

*God’s decree.”* Jeremiah 29:13 (The Message)

*Marlene Chandler  
Community Assistant LD*

## **Gatherings**

Our next Gathering is Friday, Jan 29! We hope that many of you will join us in celebration at Asbury UMC in Harrisonburg. Our January Gathering is focused on singing praises to our Lord, introducing new officers and members of the board, brief talk & update, as always fellowship, communion & food, and gathering as one body of Christ. I believe the group Sing Blessings of God (aka SBG girls) will be joining us. Please spread the word.

We look forward to seeing your smiling faces and those famous Emmaus hugs. Have a wonderful day and may God shower you with His blessings.

## **Greetings from Walk #70**

God is so good! The team is almost complete for SVEC Walk #70. Everyone is excited and anxious to start teaming. The dates for the walk are April 22-25. We continue to be amazed at God's awesome working in these walks. You can already see God working on this team. Our first teaming is February 6, 2010 at Stanley United Methodist Church. If there is any reunion group that would be interested in providing a meal for this training, or any of the other training dates, please contact Mary Jane Tester at 540-778-3934.

As we prepare for our first teaming, we ask that you will continue to lift the team and prospective pilgrims up in prayer. Satan has already begun to attack, but we all know that through the power of prayer God will prevail. I want to thank each of you for your support and I look forward to seeing you at our next gathering.

We are truly blessed to have such willing servants in our community. If there are any reunion groups that would be willing to help with Walk #70 by providing a meal for our training, our training dates at Stanley United Methodist Church will be on: February 6, February 20, and March 27th

Anyone interested in helping, please contact me on 540-778-3934 or 540-742-2002(ce), or via email at [1lkygma@embarqmail.com](mailto:1lkygma@embarqmail.com). Thank you for your willingness to serve.

*Blessings, Mary Jane Tester, LD Walk #70*

## **Prayer Vigil**

*“Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no one else; I am God and there is none like Me; Declaring the end and the result from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure and purpose.” ISAIAH 46:9-10*

What a privilege and a blessing it is to be called and used by God. We learn to trust in Him, remembering all that He has done in the past. We see Him in our present circumstances walking with us with a gentle guiding hand and sometimes carrying us if need be. He knows and holds the future in His hands and His timing is always perfect. So, it is with a grateful heart to God that He has allowed me to serve the Shenandoah Valley Emmaus Community for these past three years in the Prayer Vigil capacity. I am so thankful for all who have given of their time to pray for the Walks—both Pilgrims and Teams. And, I praise the Lord for all who He will call to lift up His future Walks for His pleasure and purposes. It is truly a GREAT honor and privilege to come to God in prayer and it is all due to His precious Son who gave His life to build that bridge of communication to the Father. I thank each and every one of you for taking advantage of the gift of prayer and using it to serve Him and others. Please consider signing up to pray for the up and coming Walks #69 and #70. There will be prayer vigil sheets available at the Community Gatherings the last Friday of each month. Also, you may go to the website which is [www.sveconline.org](http://www.sveconline.org) and click on the “Prayer Vigil” prompt to sign up. May you continue in your faithful service to God and others and may you be truly blessed in the love, joy and peace of Christ.

*Michelle Bacon, Prayer Vigil Coordinator*

*Tracey Calderon, Agape Chairperson*

## **Refreshments**

Thank you to everyone for all of your valuable help this past year during the walks and gatherings. With the New Year brings many new opportunities to be God's hands and feet for our community and pilgrims... at the monthly gatherings, during walk weekends and at Day of Deeper Understanding. If you would like to get involved we would love to hear from you.

*DeColores, Kevin Poeckert*

## **Making Music with Friends**

Christ's love to all of my Brother's and Sister's of SVEC. Wow what a year! God has been so good that I can hardly wait for 2010. Special thanks to all who answered the music call in 09 and if you are interested in helping with music at a gathering or other times, please let me know. I would love to see some of the very talented new pilgrims get involved.

Stay "tuned" for announcements about the 2nd Emmaus Jam session. The Jam sessions are a great way to fellowship and practice the Emmaus songs. They are open to all levels of musical expertise for instruments and voice.

Calling all musicians! I am continuing to update the community music list, so we will be prepared for next year's events. If you play an instrument, including your vocal chords, I would love to hear from you. Keep your fingers and vocal chords loose. There are many of opportunities to share the talent God has given you.

*Steve Garner, Community Music Representative  
540-241-0278 or [pastorstevegarner@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstevegarner@gmail.com)*

## **Supplies**

I look forward to seeing you at gatherings and at the walks. Thanks again for all of your support. May your fourth days be special and may God bless you in all you do. If you would like to know how you can help, you can reach me by email at: [gary.fishel@verizon.net](mailto:gary.fishel@verizon.net) or by phone at 540/269-2372 home, or 540/421-9299 cell.

## **Chrysalis Corner**

Without the Emmaus community, there would be no Chrysalis! I pray that God will bless you in all you do. For information on how you can help, please contact: Gary Fishel, mobile: 540-421-9299, home: 269-2372.

## **Chrysalis Refreshments**

I pray that your Christmas season was blessed and that the New Year will bring you many joys. The Chrysalis community is growing and a new group of caterpillars will be taking flight this year. Praise God!! With the new flight this summer comes send off, candle light, closing and HOOT's. All of these are opportunities to be a servant of God to our caterpillars and butterflies. Serving refreshments is a wonderful way to show Agape Love to the young people. If you would like to help in any way with the refreshments, either by providing or serving, please give me a call or e-mail. You can contact me at 540-908-1729 or e-mail me at [kcpspp@msn.com](mailto:kcpspp@msn.com)

*Fly With Christ, Sherri Poeckert*

## **Emmaus 4th Day Renewal Retreat**

*"Refreshed for Your Fourth Days"!*

For three "Emmaus" days, we basked in the messages of God's love and His desire for a relationship with us. Then we returned home to our Fourth Days! How have your Fourth Days been? Could you use a little reminder to renew you? Sometimes we all need a time to get away from life's demands and focus on God.

Men's Weekend is February 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> on Agape Hill. Women's Weekend is February 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> in Blessings Lodge. Check in begins at 5:30pm (Friday evening). Contact any board member or the camp office to obtain an application. Mail with check payable for \$65 to Camp Overlook, 3014 Camp Overlook Lane, Keezletown, VA 22832. Registration deadline: Men: Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, Women: Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> (*Men! Register before 2/1 deduct \$10!*).

## **Emmaus Pilgrim Applications**

available online at: [www.sveconline.org](http://www.sveconline.org) . click on forms, click pilgrim. Also available are requests for anyone who is interested in "teaming" or other volunteering (Christian Action). See any board member for more details.

## **LOST AND FOUND:**

On our Walk to Emmaus weekend, many of us felt lost and were "found" ; however, there are also always many physical items also "lost and found" at camp after any given Emmaus weekend! After our most recent Fall walks, the following items remain unclaimed:

If these items belong to someone you know, please contact a board member! They will be made available at January gathering!

- box of books
- black wrist brace
- blue sleeping bag
- white bed pillow
- blue sleeping mat
- black umbrella
- blue flip flops
- blue windbreaker jacket
- blue pullover sweatshirt
- black zippered fleece
- white towel and facecloth and soup saver

## **Emmaus Worship Book -- Notification of Changes!!!**

*"Please take out your "purple" worship books..."*

Substantial changes have been made to our worship books by Emmaus Headquarters. The updated books will now be used at community events. It is important that each community member have an updated book that they bring to community events.

So you may be wondering, how do I get an updated book? An initial supply will be available at all gatherings. We ask you only take one per family from this initial supply. Once the initial supply is gone, additional books are available for \$1.50 which is our cost.

We ask that you help us make this transition as smooth as possible. We thank you in advance for your assistance.

## **Keep in Touch...**

Please notify us of any change in e-mail address, snail mail address and telephone numbers! We want to keep our records as current as possible. Also, if you are currently receiving a hard copy by USPS bulkmail, and would like to receive it electronically, please inform us with current email and send your request to Tim Armentrout.

## **FOR YOUR 2010 CALENDARS!**

4th Day Renewal: Men's Feb 19-20 / Women's Feb 26-27

Emmaus overnight team training, March 5-6

Spring Walks: April 15-18 Men's / April 22-25 Women's

Chrysalis Flight: August 12-15 boys & girls'

Family Picnic Sat, August 28 (Sun 29 raindate)

Fall Walks: October 7-10 Men's / October 14-17 Women's

DODU's Saturday, May 8th / Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>

## **New Officers**

Please join us in thanking members going off the board and pray for our new officers and board members:

## **2010 Board of Directors**

Community Lay Director: Doug Purdham

Assistant Community Lay Director: Marlene Chandler

Treasurer: Kevin Peockert

Secretary: Shelby Haley

Registrar: Lora Buracker

Walk Events: Stacy Lam

Supplies: Gary Fishel

Set-up/Clean-up: Paul Goulart

Prayer Vigil: Esther Malloy

Agape: Tracey Calderon

Worship: Lisa Garner

Music: Steve Garner

Refreshments: Jeannie Bosserman

Childcare: Sharon Benson

Communications: Nancy Goulart

Kairos Rep./Liaison: Tim Armentrout

## Emmaus Newsletter

The Emmaus newsletter belongs to you the community. The newsletter is not just for board members but for our whole community to use as well. We invite you to share a God moment, a 4th day moment, etc.

To submit articles, contact our editor, Nancy Goulart at : Singingsecretary2006@yahoo.com.

Many thanks and many blessings,

*In His Joyful Service,  
Nancy Goulart, Emmaus news editor*

## How Can I Help??

You are invited to participate in our Emmaus community in the following ways:

- Music: what instrument? \_\_\_\_\_
- Entertainment: sing, dance, comedy, other \_\_\_\_\_
- Serve on a Team (*please complete a team application*)
- Serve on a Committee:
  - childcare, worship, refreshments, music, other
- Support Walks Events by helping with:
  - set-up/clean-up, food preparation, serving meals,
  - agape, 72-hour prayer vigil, candlelight set-up,
  - assist weekend coordinator

If you are interested in more information about any of these volunteer positions, please contact any board member. We'd love to help you get connected! God bless!

Please complete and tear off this volunteer sheet and get it to one of our board members today! Thank you for giving to the Lord!

## ***Upper Room Walk to Emmaus of the Shenandoah Valley***

PO Box 282, Fishersville, VA 22939

Board of Directors: Second Thur each month

### Monthly Gatherings:

Augusta mini gathering	First Friday each month
Front Royal mini gathering	Third Friday each month
Harrisonburg main gathering	Last Friday each month

### Emmaus Walks:

Men's 4 <sup>th</sup> Day Reunion Retreat	Feb 19-20
Women's 4 <sup>th</sup> Day Reunion Retreat	Feb 26-27
Spring 2010	Apr 15-18 & 22-25
Fall 2010	Oct 7-10 & 14-17

Day of Deeper Understanding: May 8 & Oct 30

### Chrysalis:

2009 Chrysalis Flight #4	August 12-15
Journey	TBA

Visit [SVECONLINE.ORG](http://SVECONLINE.ORG) for directions, calendar, & information.

Emmaus is also featured on the Camp Overlook website at  
[WWW.GBGM-UMC.ORG/CAMPOVERLOOK/](http://WWW.GBGM-UMC.ORG/CAMPOVERLOOK/)

Learn more about the International Walk to Emmaus!

Go to [WWW.UPPERROOM.ORG/EMMAUS](http://WWW.UPPERROOM.ORG/EMMAUS)

### **INTERNATIONAL WALK TO EMMAUS NEWSLETTER**

remain informed about the ministry of Emmaus nationwide,  
subscribe to the E-mail version at

<http://www.upperroom.org/maillinglists/emmaus-news.html>.

Subscribe to printed newsletter by sending name and address to :

Upper Room Walk to Emmaus, 1908 Grand Avenue, PO Box  
340004, Nashville, TN 37203-0004.

*(Be sure to put Emmaus in the address or mail will be delayed.)*

For details, call toll free at: 1-877-899-2780, or

E-mail: [Emmaus@upperroom.org](mailto:Emmaus@upperroom.org)

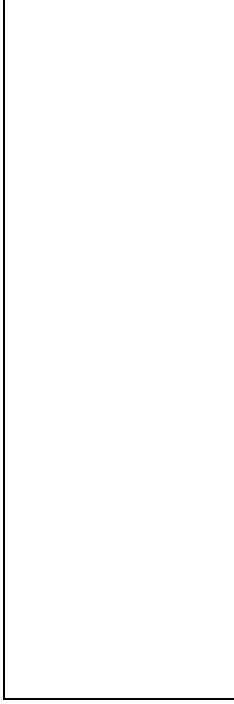
**Upper Room Emmaus of the Shenandoah Valley**

c/o SVEC Treasurer,

PO Box 282

Fishersville, VA 22939

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Forwarding Address Requested

January, 2010