



June 2011

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It's the people...

Last month our Tidewater Emmaus Community gathered for the first time since our Spring Walks. It was wonderful to see members returning to attend the Day of Deeper Understanding held Saturday, May 21st. Seeing one another and sharing 4th Day experiences made for a wonderful afternoon. Most members who attended were from recent walks which had occurred over the past year, but I was pleasantly surprised when several persons attending Day of Deeper for the first time, stood up and introduced themselves. They had Walked Tidewater Emmaus in the mid 20's. It was a wonderful reminder that the Walk to Emmaus is not just about a three day weekend, but it is about a journey that never ends. It is about our 4th Day!

Personally, one of the joys about going to a gathering or walk weekend events is seeing those that I have shared the road with along the way: Pilgrims, Teamers, former Spiritual and Lay Directors and Board Members. Once I have journeyed down the road and have been blessed to share a season with others, I fondly hold in them my heart. It's the people that I remember mostly, and it's the people of this community that I love!

All who attended Day of Deeper Understanding are a testimony that should remind each member of our community that it does not matter when you walked, or when you last came to a gathering or a walk weekend event. What matters is that each member of this community knows that when they arrive, there is community to share the journey, to share the 4th Day together with others who love the Lord! Have a Happy and Blessed 4th Day!

DeColores,

Carolyn Robertson TW 49
Community Lay Director TWE

Ecclesiastes 3:1-14, A Time for Everything.

Greetings from the Community Spiritual Director

I want to take a moment to convey a note of appreciation to our Tidewater Emmaus Community clergy who serve as Spiritual Directors on our walk weekends. Our community knows that the walk weekends coincide with busy local church seasons in the fall and spring. In spite of the busy demands of church and family, many of our clergy give their full support in teaming and preparing for the walks. I, for one, remain grateful for your willingness to serve our Tidewater Emmaus community. Since, I am one of you, let me use this note as an opportunity to give testimony to the wonderful way our laity live out their fourth day. I know that the Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. I know those words so well because they are part of the language we use in Emmaus, part of the narrative of the walk weekends, and its message is echoed on brochures and websites from the Upper Room, etc. But it works. I know it works because I have experienced you as you have struggled to live out those fourth day commitments.

Leadership seems to be the theme of the day in the local church and Annual Conference (if you are United Methodist). In my opinion, some of the most effective leaders in our churches are those who have been on an Emmaus walk, who continue to be connected to an accountability group (Reunion Group), and are engaged in study. So whether this is a note –pastor to pastor- thanking you for your continued interest in Emmaus and leadership on our walk weekends, or a witness statement about the walk weekend being an introduction to leadership development in the local church; I just want to thank God that we share together in an opportunity to renew Christian people as disciples of Jesus Christ and as active members of the body of Christ in mission to the world.

Jonathan Bennett, Community Spiritual Director

CST and Team for TW96 & TW97



Remember your experience when you went on your walk? Do you want to relive that experience? You only have one walk as a pilgrim, but you can spend a lifetime as a servant of Christ: You can be a part of opening the eyes and hearts of others by showing His love. Although there are many ways to support a walk, here are two ways to be a part of a weekend: The outside community support team (CST) and the inside conference room team.

Outside CST - A good start to become a part of the Emmaus experience is to serve on CST. As an outside team member, you will be present for the entire weekend. Although you are not involved with the activities inside the conference room, you are directly impacting the pilgrim's Walk to Emmaus experience. The pilgrim notices that everything just appears. The conference room is tidy, meals are served, and event rooms are prepared. However, they rarely ever get to see who does all of this preparation. As far as they know everyone involved in the weekend is inside the conference room with them.

Inside Team - Ask anyone that has ever served on a conference room team and they will say that it is almost like being on a walk again for the first time, only better. Why? While they know what is going on, they get to experience the same love of Christ at the same time as the pilgrims. They get to see the changes, the opened eyes, the fire beginning to burn in the pilgrim's hearts.

Have you been thinking about serving on the weekend? Go for it. Send in your application for either CST or to team now. **Christ is counting on you!**

- Teaming Applications are due by June 18, 2011
- Always need first timers on both the Team and CAT
- Teaming will start in August. Always skip Labor Day weekend.
- TW 96 men's walk will be October 13-16, 2011
- TW 97 women's walk will be October 27-30, 2011
- Applications can be found on the TW Emmaus website.

http://www.tidewateremmaus.org/twe_apps.html

Any questions please contact the team selection chair Larry Taylor at 363-0534 or lctdkt3@msn.com



From the Director of Weekends

Men and Women of the Community, it was so gratifying to see such a large attendance at our Day of Deeper Understanding. The feedback I got from the Women of TW95 was wonderful. It was definitely the BEST WALK EVER! Each of you, whether you teamed or sponsored or prayed or Agape'd contributed to the success of the Walk. I love to go to Candlelight with the community and hear the Spiritual Director say that the Holy Spirit showed up in a big way. Our prayers and preparation are guided by this same Holy Spirit. When we are all in one accord, our prayers are powerful. Then we get to see the amazing work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of our Pilgrims. To see them at DODU, full of smiles, reaching out for hugs and greetings, answering the question "How is your 4th Day?" warms my heart. It really does keep getting better and better. What a joy to tell the new Pilgrims that they can be an active part of the Tidewater Emmaus Community and can spread the joy that they so richly enjoyed on their Weekend. Send in those teaming applications, people! Remember - we like to have one third of the team made up of first time teamers. De Colores!

De Colores,
Barbara Edwards

Giftng to Tidewater Emmaus:



Tidewater Emmaus currently has an easy way to support this community with financial gifts beyond the tithing we offer to our local churches. *Donate Now using Just Give* is located on our community home page at www.tidewateremmaus.org.

Donate Now using Just Give is designed to make it easy for community members to point, click and financially support the local mission of the Tidewater Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis movement. Also on the web page, just below the green button, you can easily access detailed information on the financial donation program, how to give to Tidewater Emmaus, and how your gifts support your local Tidewater Emmaus and Chrysalis Community.

Good to Know Registration/Sponsorship Information

The role of sponsor comes with many blessings and responsibilities. Below is a list of things that you, as a sponsor, do for your pilgrim.

PRAY! Be sure to pray before, during and after the weekend.

Be honest with your pilgrim. Refrain from making "jokes" about the weekend. Answer your pilgrim's Emmaus-related questions.

Collect at least 12 Agape Letters. These should be from close friends/family of the pilgrim. Bring your letters to Sponsor's Hour on Thursday night of the Walk. "The intent of the letters is that through the love behind the words, God will give them grace and peace."

Bring your pilgrim to the Conference Center at Wakefield by 6:30 PM on Thursday of the Walk. Arriving on time is extremely important since "nothing starts until everyone is present".

Plan to attend Sponsor's Hour on Thursday night. This is when the sponsor prays over the individual crosses and pays the weekend walk fee of \$180.00. This fee is in addition to the \$50.00 that your pilgrim paid to reserve their spot.

Plan to attend the Saturday Night Candlelight Service, the Sunday morning Sunrise Service, and the Sunday Closing.

Plan to attend Sunday Service at your home church, this is important to your church as well as your fourth day responsibility as a sponsor and a member of the Emmaus Community.

Plan to return your pilgrim back home once the weekend is over.

Keep in touch with your pilgrim's family during the weekend.

Leave the family a contact number for you so that you can be reached in case of an emergency.

Assist your pilgrim in finding a reunion group after their walk.

Make every effort to bring your pilgrim to the Day of Deeper Understanding and to some of the first gatherings after his walk.

An Emmaus weekend is an experience of grace, love and holy presence. You are living agape to your pilgrim - the hands, heart and face of Christ.

If you have any questions, please email either of us.

Blessings,

Stan Best, Sponsorship Director (stanbest@verizon.net)

Kim McConnaughey, Registration Director (kmcconnaughey2@cox.net)

Agape

Praise God for all of your contributions of love for TW 94 and 95!! What a beautiful expression of love you have shown!!!!

The next walks are right around the corner We are in prayer for TW 96 and 97.... The prayer vigils are already up on the website and it's never too soon to sign up for your 30 minute time with the Lord.

As the days get longer are you looking for a summer project?

Please check the website, I will have tissue holders, warm fuzzies and other agape patterns for you to choose from loaded there. If you're looking for something else to make, send me an email! I'm happy to help!!

Thank you for your hearts.... The body of Christ is so beautifully shown through your gifts of prayer and serviceHe is glorified through you! Praise Him!!

Your Sister In Christ

-Marybeth :)

Mark Your Calendars



Gathering

Saturday, June 18th
Commencing at 6:30pm

Hickory United Methodist Church
2708 S. Battlefield Blvd., Chesapeake

[Get Directions](#)