

From the Community Lay Director.....



“Pass it On”

The Walk to Emmaus is based on the Gospel of Luke 24:13-35. As you may recall there are two disciples on a road leading to Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. It is the evening of the first Easter. Jesus has risen, but these two disciples don't know this yet, or at least fully. They are as sad as sad can be. All they know is their leader, their master, the one they put all their hopes on, is dead and gone.

Suddenly Jesus is with them, in the form of a stranger. We know it is Jesus, but they do not, adding to the dramatic tension in the story. It says 'their eyes were kept from recognizing him.' For whatever reason, they cannot perceive him, even though he is right beside them.

It is a mystery to me why they couldn't see Jesus. But, what I do get is that in the disciple's lowest moment, Christ was with them. To me, this image gives me hope that in our low times, Christ will be with us too.

In addition, this story also shows me a few ways we get a glimpse of Christ.

First, Christ is present in scripture. Jesus is walking along with these two disciples, and they have an impromptu Bible study. He shows them where he is hidden in the scriptures, which for them were the Old Testament.

He helped them to see himself in the scriptures in a way that they had not experienced before. Today, we also get the chance to see Christ in scripture, and we have the advantage over the two disciples on the road to Emmaus because we now have the four Gospels.

Second, Christ is present in the sacrament of communion. In the story, Christ became known to them 'in the breaking of the bread.' This is why TW Emmaus has communion on every day of the walk weekend and every Emmaus event. The bread and the cup make Christ present.

The simple message of Luke 24:13-25 is, in whatever situation in life, Christ walks beside us unseen, and sometimes we get a glimpse of him.

Do you have someone at your church who you have been praying about inviting on an Emmaus Walk weekend? Would you like to share having them possibly see the face of Jesus?

Go ahead...Pass it on.

De Colores

Larry Taylor, TW53



From the Director of Agape.....

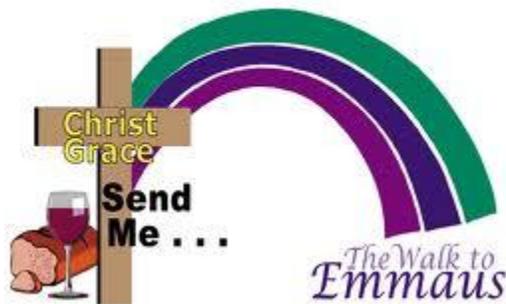


"Never Too Early"

Wanted once again to say thank you to all of the community who made our spring walks a great success. It is never too early to start getting Agape ready for the fall walks. Just bring what you have to the gatherings and pass it on to me. I have plenty of space to store until the walks. I will have placements to color at the July gathering, look me up and I will give you some. If cannot be at the Gathering give me a call and I will get to you.

Again thanks for all your prayers and agape for the spring walks and I cannot wait to see what you have for the fall walks.
De Colores!!

Joyce Thompson, TW-54



From the Director of Gatherings....



"The Joy Of Gatherings"

July's Gathering at Sandbridge Community Chapel was delightful as always. Thanks Sandbridge Emmaus team for your hospitality. It is always wonderful to be greeted so warmly by you all. This was a Chrysalis Gathering so I got to sit back and enjoy. Thanks to the Chrysalis music team for great praise and worship. To hear a Fourth Day talk from a teenager is always a delight. Thanks, young Miss Forehand. Don Gaines, thanks for running the show.

After Robert Smith talked about Progressive Servanthood at the July Gathering, I wanted a chance to share my journey on that path. After my walk on TW 35, it was a few years before I got up the courage to team. During those years I only attended Gatherings sporadically. It was a long ride from Western Tidewater by myself at night. I would recognize a handful of the faithful few, but most people at Gatherings were unknown to me. I felt I was drifting away from what I had experienced on my walk. It was time to team or risk failing the promises I had made to myself and to Jesus.

I started with a Community Support Team. Bursts of work interspersed with great fellowship with the "outside" team. My first "inside" teaming was on TW67. I was an Assistant Table Leader. As I ran from table to kitchen to keep everyone's drinks filled, my heart said, "This is what it feels like to be a servant. Now I'm beginning to understand what I'm supposed to learn here." The most fun was being a Juice Fairy.

From there I served as Table Leader, then Assistant Music person. Each job gave me a view of the Emmaus experience that was just a little different from the one before. I have since been Table Leader twice more and Assistant Music twice more. Each time I made special friendships with my teamers, my roommates and increased my joy at teaming with old friends from previous walks.

Each Gathering is a chance to hug those people who have become my Christian brothers and sisters along the way. Gathering reminds us of what we learned and felt on our Walks. It gives the Community a chance to get to know us. When a board member asked me to consider serving on the board, I said yes. Even though I didn't know what to expect, the trust I have in Jesus and in being the servant of His people has kept me moving forward. On the Emmaus Board I have been Assistant Music, Director of Weekends and now Director of Gatherings. Each has been a joy and a learning experience.

Do you know where you put the names and contact information for your tablemates on your Walk? Call them up and say "I'm going to the Gathering. Come on and go with me. We need to reconnect and spend an evening of fellowship and worship together." This month's Gathering is at Great Bridge United Methodist Church. Pot luck starts at 5:30 pm and the Gathering at 6:30 pm. We are usually out by 8:30 pm. I love this new schedule. Wear your nametag and your cross.

De Colores!

Barbara Edwards, TW-35

P.S....

And don't forget to wear your colors!



From the Community Spiritual Director....



“Please Consider Talking To Your Pastor....”

I currently am privileged to serve as the Head Spiritual Director of the Tidewater Emmaus Community. I walked on TW 90 and sat at the table of God’s Crew and I am currently the pastor at Nimmo United Methodist Church in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

One of my responsibilities as Head Spiritual Director for the Tidewater Emmaus Community is to provide five clergy for each of the four Walks and one Chrysalis Flight. My goal is to only ask a pastor to serve once during a year. In order to accomplish this we need to increase the number of pastors that have walked and might consider serving as a spiritual director for a walk.

Please consider talking to your pastor about the opportunity to participate in the Walk To Emmaus. Once they have walked then you or I may enter into a conversation with them considering teaming.

My goal is for all of the pastors who have had members of their church walk at least participate in the three-day Walk To Emmaus.

I would be happy to talk to your pastor with you or directly if you feel that would help them consider participating.

Please call me at 757-615-0732 mobile or email me at pastor@nimmochurch.org if I can be of assistance in any way.

De Colores!!

Pastor Clark Cundiffs, TW-90

From the Director of Finance.....



**“Don’t forget the latest in Tidewater Emmaus
Financial Information”**

- 1. Pilgrim Application Fees are now \$55.**
- 2. Sponsor Fees are now \$195 and must be submitted along with the Pilgrim Application, Pilgrim Application fee of \$55, and the Sponsorship Application.**
- 3. Talk Room Team Fees are now \$195 and must be submitted as soon as you are selected for the team and prior to the first team meeting.**
- 4. Community Support Team Fees are now \$145 and must be submitted as soon as you are selected for the team.**
- 5. All checks should be made payable to Tidewater Emmaus and can be mailed to the P.O. Box. Be sure to put a note in the memo line on what your check is for.**
- 6. If you need financial assistance for sponsoring or teaming, please don’t hesitate to contact me to discuss possible use of the Bill Baker Scholarship Fund or setting up a payment schedule. Also consider asking someone to partner with you 😊**

De Colores!!

Kim McConnaughey, TW-65

Kmcconnaughey2@cox.net

From the Director of Team Selection.....



“Thoughts about the Team and CST Selection Process”

I have been blessed to have been able to be part of this Tidewater Emmaus Community for almost 10 years now. During my time, I have experienced incredible highs like being called to serve as WLD for TW 94. I have also been here during the lows of postponing a walk due to not having the pilgrims needed.

I think back to Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To everything thing there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven". Right now, the Tidewater Emmaus Community is experiencing, in my opinion, God's growing season. We are seeing walks at or near capacity. We are seeing new faces as Spiritual Directors. On the weekends, we are seeing representation from new churches.

This growth has carried over into the team selection process as well. Most recently, we had 29 applications from men for 21 team positions. The women had a similar situation having 24 applications for 21 positions. With that said, I thought I would take a minute and share a little insight to some of the challenges the team selection committee recently faced.

The Team Selection Committee met on Saturday, July 14. The group included: Darlene Taylor, Jill Wynne, Bruce McConnaughey, Doug DeLong, Joyce Thompson, Marybeth Grambo, Jeff Albert, and Clark Cundiff. Each of these folks spent a great deal of time in prayer before we arrived for the meeting.

Our job on the Team Selection Committee is to arrive at a balance of leadership and church representation while at the same time trying to facilitate progressive servant hood. We were challenged. The team should be made of 7 first timers, 7 teamers that have teamed 1 to 3 times, and 7 teamers that teamed 3 or more times. The men, for example, had 15 applications from experienced (3+) teamers. Of those 15 applications, 6 applicants required an ALD position as their next step in progressive servant hood. As you know there are only 3 ALD positions on a team.

We found the same challenges throughout the team selection process. In the end, some folks were not selected to team this time. Some folks that were selected may not been placed into the role that may have been the next logical step in progressive servanthood.

For those of you who were not selected, I would ask that you join me in rejoicing the fact that our community is growing. In a situation like this, the devil can work his way into the situation and bring with him feelings of doubt, bitterness, and low esteem. Our God is bigger than those feelings.

There are so many ways to support these teams and these walks. We can do so with prayer, by making agape, sponsoring, and attending the weekend events. We can also write letters, make donations to the Bill Baker Scholarship fund, or make preparations to invite the newest pilgrims into a reunion group. Every member of this community is part of the weekend that is the Walk to Emmaus.

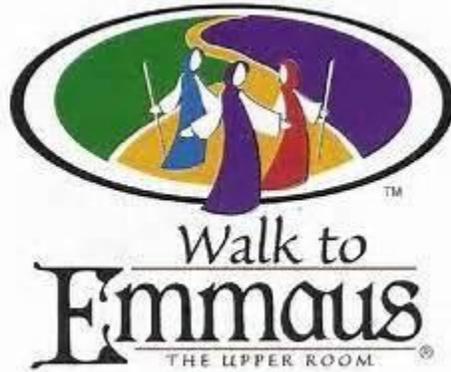
Finally, I will leave you with this thought. We have deadlines in place for team and CST applications. Those deadlines will always be the June and December gatherings. As we continue to reap the rewards of growth, I would encourage you get your application in as early as possible. If you have any questions about the team selection process, you can contact me (721-3616) or Clark Cundiff, Community Spiritual Director (615-0732).

DeColores,

Robert Smith, TW-64



Consider Serving on the TW Emmaus Community Board



It's that time of year to start thinking about the election of new TW Emmaus Board Members. As members of the TW Emmaus Community, it is our responsibility to elect a new class to represent us and grow Christ in our Community. This year we have three board members rolling off their three year term.

Serving on the Tidewater Emmaus Board is a wonderful act of agape to the Community and one of several ways Community members can serve God and strengthen His kingdom. Board participation should be prayerfully considered before making the commitment. A board term lasts 3 calendar years. Board members meet periodically throughout the year with a minimum of six meetings. In order for the Board to do the work that must be done it is essential that the Board members are present at meetings as much as possible. The incoming Community Lay Director assigns members to their roles on the Board. You must be prepared to serve as you are called. Your service may require you to store and distribute equipment, manuals, agape or other supplies; make several trips to the Walk weekend location during walks; lead the Community in song or prayer; interface with Community members, pilgrims, sponsors, and administrators at the walk weekend site.

Every year no later than September 1, the TW Emmaus Board solicits nominations for Board membership. The nomination form is available for download from the Tidewater Emmaus web site as well as from Board members.

To be considered to serve, candidates must:

- be active members of the Tidewater Emmaus community, including participation in Gatherings and in a Reunion Group
- have served on at least one Emmaus team and attended a Cursillo or Emmaus Training session, such as Day of Deeper Understanding.

Please prayerfully consider submitting your name to the board for consideration. Candidates will be voted on by the TW Community at the November gathering.



Gifting 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.



TW Emmaus Important Dates

- ***Gathering – Great Bridge UMC***

- ✓ ***Saturday, August 17***

Time: 5:30 - 6:30 pm - Fellowship Potluck
6:30 - 8:30 pm - Gathering

Address: 201 Stadium Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23322
Phone: (757) 482-1049

- ***Deadline for 20 pilgrims confirmed for TW 103***

- ✓ ***September 1***

- ***Begin Receiving 2013 TW Emmaus Board Applications***

- ✓ ***September 1***

- ***Fall Walks***

- ✓ ***TW102 Men's Walk: October 24-27***

- ✓ ***TW103 Women's Walk: November 14-17***