



*Merry Christmas*

[www.TidewaterEmmaus.org](http://www.TidewaterEmmaus.org) 



# Tidewater

EMMAUS / CHRYSALIS

Tidewater Emmaus • P. O. Box 61485 • Virginia Beach, VA 23466-1485

## WELCOME

### *A note from the Community Lay Director, Tommy Moore*

Thank you! Those words we are not allowed to say at closing. But as we leave Thanksgiving and enter the Christmas season, I want share some thanks to a bunch of people. The teams that put together the fall walks completed a nearly unprecedented feat. Since about TW-6, we have not held two weekend walks away from Wakefield. I am thankful for the many wonderful years we enjoyed there, but am truly grateful for the hard work that was done to pull off the transition to Hope Haven. I am reminded that whenever we let God have control, he takes care of us.

I had the opportunity to sit down with the director of Hope Haven this last week. I was ready to tell him how much of a blessing that he and the staff were to our community, but he started the conversation with how much our community had blessed them. God brought Tidewater Emmaus and Hope Haven together to answer many prayers and because He wanted someone to get His love. I believe that happened many times over during the weekends. (At the most recent board meeting, the spring 2017 walks at Hope Haven were approved and scheduled.)

In January, I wrote, "The board is going to focus much of its energy, this year, on the community. The Holy Spirit has selected Weekend Lay and Spiritual Directors and Board Representatives to prepare for those weekends. It is my strongest belief that those selected to serve will produce a

half-dozen successful walk/flights this year. The weekends are in good hands." I praise God for allowing us to work toward that goal. I saw our community strengthened in a number of ways. We worked several mission projects throughout the year. Our gatherings were very well attended. The ladies Candlelight was the biggest I have ever seen. Communication throughout the community improved. We were able to gather at four churches that hosted their first (or first in a long time) Gathering. It was awesome to share fellowship each month, whether in our long-standing churches or someplace new. I pray that if your church wants to host a gathering next year, that you will contact someone on the board and let them know.

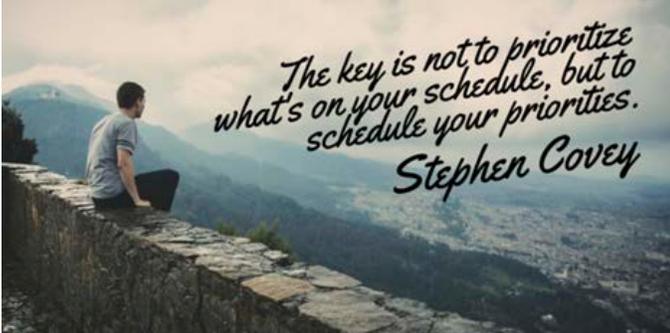
Of course, there are always opportunities to continue to build community. Teaming applications for the Spring Men's and Women's walks are available. Caterpillars can be sponsored for the Chrysalis Flights at Triple R later in January. And, it is never too soon to start working on sponsorship for the spring walks. There is no bigger gift of love than sponsorship

It is bittersweet to transition off of the board at the end of the year. It has been a true honor to serve with everyone on the board over the last two years. I know that everyone experiences highs and lows in their fourth day walk. I pray that we were there for you during your lows and celebrated with you during the highs. I know, that for me, that is exactly what you have done. And I am grateful. During this season, when God gave us the biggest gift of agape ever, Himself in flesh, I pray that each of you feel his presence and his love. Have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

God Bless,  
Tommy

## A WORD FROM OUR COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

### What really matters?



This time of year, many of us have more things to do than time to do them in. We struggle to prioritize our regular responsibilities with the extra activities of the holiday season and year-end activities. We know that in these situations we are to group common tasks and prioritize, or at least that is what the time management experts tell us. What if we changed the way we look at our schedules? What if we review our lists with God?

This season instead of cramming in all of the things we feel must be done, what if we review our lists with God, asking God to show us what really matters to God? I imagine God's priorities are very different from our own. If your priorities do not help you achieve goals, then should they be priorities? What do you give importance to in your life? Most, if not all, of us have set our priorities at some point in our lives, but do we let other things distract us from our own priorities? Do we let our human desire of "keeping up with the Jones" affect our spending habits rather than making sure that our budget includes God first? Every day is an opportunity to evaluate our priorities with God.

**DECOLORES!!!**

Sandi Benton Plasters  
Community Spiritual Director



## GATHERINGS

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, Glory to the New Born King!!** It's the most wonderful time of the year!! We celebrate the birth of our Savior, the King of Kings!!

We are rapidly approaching the time of the year when presents have to be bought! Gifts wrapped! Run here, run there, this party, that party!!

Let's take a breather, take some time to remember why we do what we do, let's take some time to worship who we serve. Let's take some time to spend some time with those that shared our Mountain Top Experience, our friends, our Brothers and Sisters in Christ!!

We are blessed to have our monthly Gathering at Tabernacle United Methodist Church, 1265 Sandbridge Road, Virginia Beach, VA, 23456, [www.tabernaclevb.org](http://www.tabernaclevb.org). Yes, the website does say Mt. Pleasant UMC but Hurricane Matthew is rearing it's ugly head again with this event.

The Pot Luck Dinner will start at 5:30 and the Gathering will start at 6:30! Sponsors make sure to bring all your new Pilgrims!! Bring your teaming applications too!! **Wear your best Christmas Sweater/T Shirt!! (I will get smacked if I call it an "Ugly Sweater" event)**

Wait until you see how beautiful Tabernacle will be decorated to receive our Savior! We have awesome, fabulous music! You will be singing your lungs out praising our Lord!! Wait until you hear our 4<sup>th</sup> Day Speaker...their story will blow you away!! The power of the Lord works differently in all of us!!

**Come, now is the time to worship!! Come, now is the time to give your heart!!**

December 17, Tabernacle UMC, 1265 Sandbridge Road, Virginia Beach, VA starting at 5:30 for Pot Luck Dinner and Gathering at 6:30!!

See y'all soon!! Be safe, have a joyous **CHRISTMAS** Season!!

**DECOLORES!!!**

Greg Reinhart, TW94  
Director of Gatherings

## DEADLINES

All Teaming applications are due by December 17th and may be brought to the December gathering with payments in full. Financial support is available, please contact Charlotte to make arrangements. Teaming applications can also be emailed to [tweteamselect@yahoo.com](mailto:tweteamselect@yahoo.com) if you pay thru Just Give. No application will be considered until payments or arrangements have been made.

Early Rooster Discounts of \$25 are available for Emmaus Sponsors who submit their completed pilgrim and sponsor applications along with payments in full by February 15th. Contact [twesponsorship@yahoo.com](mailto:twesponsorship@yahoo.com) for more information.

Please mail all applications, for teaming and sponsors, along with payments to Tidewater Emmaus, P. O. Box 61485, Virginia Beach, VA 23466-1485

# TEAM SELECTION

Please prayerfully consider submitting a teaming application. Typically, but not always, teaming takes place for 8 weekends on Saturday morning. The time and place for teaming is decided by the Weekend Lay Directors. Community service team (CST) applications are also being accepted. Cot for CST is \$175. Teaming fees are due with the application (teaming fee is \$200) and your application can no longer be considered without payment. We need to have all applications by the December Gathering (December 17), the team selection committee will be meeting in January to form the teams.

## Committee Members Needed

The Team selection committee is forming and needs people from the community (non board members) to help form the teams for TW 113 & 114, If you have teamed several times and are familiar with the needs of the team and would like to be on this committee please contact me at [tweteamselect@yahoo.com](mailto:tweteamselect@yahoo.com)



# FINANCE

It has been a pleasure serving the Community as your Treasurer. I made a promise at the beginning of the year that I would make deposits and pay bills in a timely manner and that's what I did. Thank you for trusting me. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Give a Pilgrim the BEST Christmas present ever invite him/her to go on the BEST walk ever. Jesus is the reason for the Season and the BEST walk ever.

I would like to thank everyone who either made a donation, paid their teaming and/or sponsorship fees through the "Just Give Button" on our website. I would love to see more people this year doing the same thing. So go to our website and click on the "Just Give Button" and donate \$10 or more a month. If you would like to donate money to buy supplies, such as Bibles, Rooster Pins, Candles or everything else that is needed for the BEST Walk ever, please do so. Did you know your donation is tax deductible?

You can also pay your teaming and sponsorship fees through the Just Give Button.

Any questions feel free to email me at [twefinance@yahoo.com](mailto:twefinance@yahoo.com)

**DECOLORES!!!**

Charlotte Carroll, Director of Finance



I once was a pilgrim traveling a long and dusty road.  
Just following the crowd, not knowing where to go.

I didn't worry what I said, or who I passed along the way.  
I didn't know that Christ was there, to teach me how to pray.

I once was a pilgrim following the crooked path of life.  
My eyes were veiled by daily life, by worry and of strife.

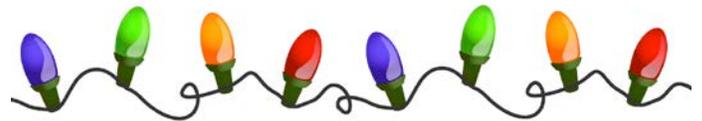
I once was a pilgrim traveling the Emmaus Walk.  
Jesus was walking there with me, we had a very personal talk.

Now I'm a pilgrim dressed in Grace, I know where I must go,  
And tell of the story of Jesus Love, by example I must show.

New pilgrim, I prayed for you along your Emmaus Walk  
That you would feel God's Loving Grace, just listen.  
You will hear him talk.

**DECOLORES!!!**

Velma Birkel, TW110



# SPONSORSHIP

TWE Community,

As my last correspondence while on the Tidewater Emmaus Board, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on almost three years of commitment to the ones I love.

I've been lucky enough to run a couple positions on the board. It has equaled an even greater scope and understanding of everything great that comes with being a servant to the movement of Emmaus. It has been challenging, but more so, completely fulfilling to have worked with the loving and committed members of our community; with a shared interest in keeping the health of the community and walk at its' best.

We've done a great many things in these last couple years and I truly look forward to being able to be able to focus on teaming again while the next class of the board pushes the current initiatives onwards and upwards. I feel completely confident that we're always in good hands.

You all have been just fantastic and so very supportive of everything Emmaus. From our beloved music and musicians to the sharing of the greatest gift in Emmaus, Sponsorship, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for being the best community ever. You made my jobs less complicated because our many hands always made less work and great times. I look forward to more of that for sure!

**DECOLORES!!!**

Peace, Love, and Grace,  
Andy Barron, TW-86



## COMMUNICATIONS

So many times we forget all the blessings that God has put before us especially in a time of grief. This Thanksgiving I lost my brother and I could not see any blessings during Thanksgiving day. I knew I felt comfort but it was not until I sat down later and picked up my phone that I truly realized what a blessing that day had turned into. You see, all my prayer warriors and Emmaus family on facebook started posting about having me and my family in their prayers. It was a true blessing having so many people praying for us.

I hear people in grief or anger say why did this happen and where was God in all this. Let me tell you from personal experience, he was right there. Last year he saved the lives of my son and daughter-in-law. Yes she is in a wheelchair (for now) but they both survived an accident that neither one should of survived. God is all around us with his protectors, his prayer warriors, his medical personnel that save lives every day. And the list goes on.

Yes some do not survive because their earthly bodies are badly damaged. So they now live in heaven with our heavenly father. But their spirit lives on in each one of us. The lives they touched here on earth, the memories we have and the stories others share with us that make us laugh and remember the good times we had with our loved ones.

*We will always have memories  
growing older thru time.  
The stories of others, clouding your mind  
And the visions of yesterday  
That no one can take away.*

Cherish the fact that we will join them again one day and that God is always with you. He never leaves you.

I have truly felt the prayers and the strength from everyones prayers. God is with me I know this. I am thankful for my memories I have and the stories of others. My brother was an awesome man. He touched everyone he knew. I may have the pain of loosing my brother for now but I will see him again one day in heaven. .

**DECOLORS!!!**

Bonnie Dailey, AE42

[twecommunication@yahoo.com](mailto:twecommunication@yahoo.com)

## AGAPE

Welcome TWE111 & TWE112, to our Community! I pray you are spreading your love of Jesus through your everyday life.

Now it is time to start thinking about making some agape to share on the upcoming spring walks! The more we get, the more we can shower our precious pilgrims with lots of love. It really feels good to give it and feels even better to receive it! I encourage you to pray over each piece of your agape gifts. We can always use, warm fuzzies, pass it ons (decorated clothes pins), bracelets, lanyards for the men and ladies hair clips, pins, or anything you feel like you could create! Have fun with it!

At December's gathering, we will be having door prizes! I have collected several items from good hearted people that I would like to share with our community! Some of the items have DeColores written on them! I have a Bible cover and a polo type shirt and some I Love You sign language pins! I have other items too. That is just a bit of a tease for you! So please come the December Gathering, you could be taking home some free agape giveaways!

My verse pick of the month:

*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as see the Day approaching. - Hebrews 10:24-25*

In His Service,  
Penny Best TW97, Agape  
[tweagape1@yahoo.com](mailto:tweagape1@yahoo.com)

**DECOLORS!!!**

## OUTREACH

I wish to start out by giving all of you a BIG THANK YOU! This is my last year on the board. You, the community, have made my time on the board a joyous event. Thank you for all your prayers, all your thoughts, and for loving our Lord and Savior! Your acts of agape throughout my three years will always be treasured and never forgotten.

Please sign up for REMIND. It's a great way to stay in the know for all things Tidewater Emmaus. You must have a phone you can text with. Text to this number **81010** with the following in the text message **@tidewat**

It will ask do you wish to be a student, say "yes" to student

**That's all**

Now, you will receive timely texts with reminds of exciting events in our Community.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing to Others –  
Cheryl Best, TWE Outreach





[www.tidewaterchrysalis.org](http://www.tidewaterchrysalis.org)

...transformed into his likeness with everlasting glory... II Cor 3:18

**It is Chrysalis Season!** The Fall Emmaus Walks were a complete success and the next big thing for the TWE Community is the Chrysalis Weekend that takes place on January 14-16, 2017.

**CALLING ALL SPONSORS!!!**

We are now accepting Caterpillar applications. We will open up the weekend to include 9th graders. This will provide youth additional opportunities to team and grow with like-minded Christians. We are making the weekend less about "age" and more about where they are personally and spiritually. Sponsors, please prayerfully consider your teenagers spiritual maturity before sending them on this weekend. The applications are available on the website [www.tidewaterchrysalis.org/applications.html](http://www.tidewaterchrysalis.org/applications.html). If you have any questions please contact Johnny Nelson [nelsonjohn@cox.net](mailto:nelsonjohn@cox.net) or 757-572-3278



This year we are having a no tolerance of electronic devices on the flights. In the past we have had issues with live social media updates during TALKS. We are asking sponsors to please take the student's electronics or have them leave them at home. They NEED to disconnect during the flight.

We are also implementing a no tolerance for pictures or videos during the events on the weekend. Please help us promote this policy.

**T-SHIRTS!**

Yes we are getting a new design for Chrysalis T-Shirts. The anticipation is building and we will present them to the community very soon.

Fly With Christ!!  
Johnny Nelson



**NEXT CHRYSALIS FLIGHT JANUARY 14-16, 2017**

Transforming youth lives from growing Chrysalis to beautiful butterflies. Join us on our next faith flight on flights TWC 60(girls) and 61(boys).

**UPCOMING GATHERINGS**

**New Location for December**

December 17, 2016.  
5:30 Potluck / 6:30 Gathering  
Tabernacle United Methodist Church  
1265 Sandbridge Road, Virginia Beach, VA, 23456  
[www.tabernaclevb.org](http://www.tabernaclevb.org)

**January Gathering/Candlelight**

January 17, 2017  
Chrysalis Candlelight 7pm  
Triple R Ranch  
3531 Bunch Walnuts Rd, Chesapeake, VA 23322  
[www.triplerranch.org](http://www.triplerranch.org)

**EMMAUS BOARD**

Congratulations to the newest TWE Board Members: Bruce McConnaughey, Mark Shiffett, Lynn Hollandsworth and Charlotte Carroll.

Please keep the new board members as well as the rest of the TWE Board in your prayers.

**Emmaus Board meetings are open forums and we post our monthly minutes on the website.**

**The next meeting is Dec. 17th at Tabernacle UMC at 4pm with the current and new board members.**

**PRAYER REQUEST**

WE ARE HERE TO PRAY FOR YOU

[tweprayers@gmail.com](mailto:tweprayers@gmail.com)

We coordinate all your prayer needs in a timely manner.



**SPRING WALKS**

TW113 Men's Walk, April 20-23, 2017 at Hope Haven  
TW114 Women's Walk, May 4-7, 2017 at Hope Haven



**4th Day Speakers Needed**

If you are interested in giving your 4th day talk during one of our monthly gatherings, please contact [twegatherings@yahoo.com](mailto:twegatherings@yahoo.com). Your Emmaus Community would love to hear how your 4th day is going.