



On the Right Path



The Newsletter of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community


4th Quarter 2016 Walk In the Light Volume 16 Issue 4



Just when you thought elections were done and in the past, it's time to vote for new members to your Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors.

Each Fall we have the opportunity to elect new lay members for the Board. Each member of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community gets one ballot.

If you did not vote at the November gathering, there are 2 ways to vote:

1. Vote on line by visiting the Southern Maryland Emmaus website: (www.southernmarylandemmaus.com). It's fast and easy, and you'll be done in no time. Look for this image on the home page to access the ballot: 
2. Print out the ballot found on page 7, fill it in and mail it to:
Southern Maryland Emmaus Board Election
P.O. Box 343
White Plains, MD 20695

All ballots must be received/postmarked by December 10, 2016 and they must be signed.

It's important that every member of the community participate in helping to make our Board the best it can be. Without a Board we would not be able to schedule and conduct Walks, plan Gatherings, hold Fourth Day Seminars, or share the message of Emmaus with others. So don't wait. Go online now and cast your votes, or print a paper ballot and mail it today.

Editor's Note: This is an abbreviated edition of our newsletter. More in 2017. Enjoy your Christmas!



Southern Maryland Emmaus Gathering

"Homecoming"

January 21, 2017
Potluck at 5:00 p.m.
Gathering at 6:00 p.m.

at Good Shepherd UMC
305 Smallwood Drive
Waldorf, Maryland 20602

Bring Friends, Family,
Neighbors. Everyone Welcome!

**.Please Note: No December
Gathering**





2017 Walks - West River

Men's Walk #55 April 27 - 30

Women's Walk #56 May 4 - 7

Make plans to attend the community events for each walk:

Thursday - Sponsor's Hour - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday - Candlelight - 8:00 p.m.

Sunday - Closing - 4:00 p.m.



Sign up to pray for
our walks (and others)
online at:
www.3dayol.org

Pilgrim and Team Applications and this newsletter may be downloaded from the web at <http://www.southernmarylandemmaus.com/>
CLICK on "Documents, Lists and Newsletters"

Mailing Address for Southern Maryland Emmaus
P.O. Box 343
White Plains, MD 20695

Upcoming Events of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community



January 21: Gathering, Good Shepherd UMC - Homecoming
come early and pick up your yearbook.

REMEMBER - NO Gathering in December - Enjoy Christmas.

4th Day Seminars

Seminars are held in the spring following the men's and women's walks. The next seminar date will be announced in a future issue. Attendance at a Fourth Day Seminar is required in order to sponsor pilgrims, and is highly recommended for those who wish to team.



Emmaus Shorts

Black (and Blue) Friday

A few months ago, Pat and I attended a Demolition Derby. Just in case you're new to the Southern Maryland area, a demolition derby is an opportunity to repurpose old clunkers by turning them into mobile battering rams. The idea is to keep hitting the other cars until yours is the last one able to move. This, of course, had the not surprising effect of causing an adrenalin overload in me. My first thought was, "I've got to get myself one of those cars."

Now it would be great if there were a way of having the experience of a demolition derby without actually having to buy and equip a car (not to mention having it towed away at the end of the night). I had given up the idea, when low and behold, Thanksgiving arrived.

Well, it wasn't really Thanksgiving that ended my dream. It was the next day, Black Friday, or as I like to call it "Black & Blue Friday". You see, it turns out that shopping on Black Friday is almost as brutal as the derby. The main difference is that derby cars have roll bars and other protective features, but when shopping, it's just you and that flimsy cart with the wobbly, squealing wheels.

Back in the 1800's during England's war with the Zulu Nation, a heavily armed British battalion of nearly 1200 men was wiped out by a native force carrying only small stabbing spears. Historians suggest that one of the reasons for the victory was the Zulu's use of drugs that gave them a feeling of invulnerability and took away all fear of danger. I think the shoppers at Wal-Mart on Black Friday may have had access to the same drugs.

Between the store's determination to block every possible aisle with as many stacks of boxes as possible, and the erratic cart pushing of crazed shoppers, it was a scene that any demolition derby fan would recognize.

I was trying to get to the electronics department, but I woefully overestimated my skill level. Faced with a line of frenzied shoppers heading towards me, I retreated to the relative safety of the underarm deodorant aisle. And there I stayed, scarred and wounded, and shopping season had only just begun

I hope that for all of us this year, we won't spend the entire season frustrated and angry because we can't find the right gift at the right price. We won't, if we can remember that the real gift isn't under a tree, but waiting for us in a manger in Bethlehem.

And now, if you'll excuse me, I need to start wrapping my gifts, a lot of my friends are going to have very pleasant underarms this Christmas.

- Dan Brennan



On the Right Path



Deadline for next issue is February 1, 2016. The preferred method of submission is as an MSWord document file or a WordPerfect file (.rtf file also acceptable) sent via-e-mail to the following address: dbrennan6@verizon.net. Very short articles or notes may be sent in the body of the e-mail message. Please send your comments and recommendations as well to the editor, Dan Brennan, at the e-mail address above.

"On the Right Path" is published by the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community.
Dan Brennan Editor.



Southern Maryland Emmaus - Leadership & Service

Resources on Our Web Site

Visit <http://www.southernmarylandemmaus.com> for these and other community resources:

- Southern Maryland Emmaus Leadership Roster & Board of Directors
- Southern Maryland Emmaus Prayer Points of Contact (PPOC)

Prayer Coordinator

Jan Drass
jdrass@maranatha.net

On The Right Path

This is the newsletter of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community. It is published quarterly, available on line at our website:

www.southernmarylandemmaus.com

The link to the newsletter is emailed to community members through PPOCs. If you do not have a PPOC, contact Jan Drass at jdrass@maranatha.net

Southern Maryland Emmaus is affiliated with the International Emmaus Movement of The Upper Room, Nashville, Tn. Emmaus is a program offering of the Upper Room International Walk to Emmaus Office. Our purpose is to inspire, challenge, and equip church members for Christian Action.

Important Dates Coming Up!

We are preparing for Walks # 55 (April 27-30) and # 56 (May 4-7) in Spring 2017. Weekend Lay Directors Peggy Ireland and John Hastings have received a list of potential team members' names to contact. Dates are already on the calendar for their team meetings. In order for these walks to happen as planned, we have a very important date coming up in February! On February 18 (for the men's walk) and February 28 (for the women's walk), we must have received enough pilgrim applications to assure that at least 20 pilgrims are confirmed 2 weeks later.

February 18 is 11 weeks away from today. We have a busy Christmas season coming soon, so February will be here before we know it. Since September, we have received no new pilgrim applications. That leaves the current count for men's pilgrim applications at 8 and women's pilgrim applications at 18. In order for the

walks to happen, more applications are needed. Are you praying about whom you may sponsor? Have you made time to meet with potential pilgrims to discuss the walk, and answer questions? Have you provided a pilgrim application to the person you are planning to sponsor? Christ is counting on you!

If you have questions, or need help with sponsorship, please contact the Registrar Ellen Bertelsen (edbertelsn@gmail.com) or Gordon Piscacek (gp18@verizon.net)



Southern Maryland Emmaus Community Reunion & Accountability Groups

The Reunion Group Coordinator, Priscilla Rollins (parollins@verizon.net), would like to hear about any active Groups in Southern Maryland. If you are having difficulty finding a Reunion Group, contact Priscilla Rollins. Experience the Fourth Day feeling.

Bethel UMC, Upper Marlboro

Co-ed - monthly fourth Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.

Bowie UMC - Old Town Bowie

Co-ed - 1st, 3rd, 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Calvary UMC, Waldorf

Women Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.
at Panera Bread in summer;
at Calvary during the school year

First UMC, Laurel

Men Saturday - 7:00 a.m.
Women Saturday - 8:30 a.m.

First Saints UMC, Leonardtown

Women Thursday 5:00 p.m. (home setting)
contact Sheila Hanson or Connie Wells

Good Shepherd UMC, Waldorf

Co-Ed Monday 6:00 p.m. at
restaurants call Linda Ford 301-645-6408
Men Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Women Monday 7:30 p.m.
Women Tuesday 7:30 p.m. (not at church
call 301-645-5370 for directions)
Women Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
Women Tuesday 8:45 a.m. (not at church
call 301-645-5370 for directions)
Women Thursday 6:00 p.m.

Grace Notes

Thursdays, 3:00 p.m. Contact Pam Grace
301-475-3446

La Plata UMC, La Plata

Women Thursday 6:00 p.m. at Panera Bread
Men Tuesday 6:00 p.m. at the church

Lexington Park UMC, Lexington Park

Co-ed Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Bob Evans Restaurant
Co-ed Thursday 11:30 a.m. (home setting)

Linthicum Heights UMC, Linthicum Heights

Co-Ed Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Living Springs Christian Fellowship, Bowie

Co-ed Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Naval Air Station, Patuxent River

Men Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.

Nichols-Bethel UMC, Odenton

Co-Ed Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Olivet UMC, Lusby

Co-Ed 2nd Sunday of the month
12:15 p.m. at Olivet UMC Good News Center

Pisgah UMC, La Plata

Women Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
for information contact Patti Flesher 301-743-2271

St. Paul UMC, Lusby

Women Monday 7:00 p.m. Old Fellowship Hall
Men Monday 7:00 p.m. Old Fellowship Hall
Mixed Monday 7 or 8 p.m. contact Rich & Mary
Ulrey 410-326-6446 or
Everett Baker 410-326-6234

Shiloh UMC, Bryans Road

Co-ed Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.

Waters Memorial UMC, St. Leonard

Pastors House Tuesday 1:00 p.m.



[Quick Links](#)



My name is Connie Wells; I attend First Saints Community Church, California Campus. I walked on SME #28 and sat at the table of Naomi (clap). Every Sunday volunteers set-up and take down the ‘sanctuary’ at Esperanza Middle School where the First Saints Community California Campus worships. This particular Sunday in October I wasn’t assigned any special task so I volunteered to take down the Small Group table. While packing books and pamphlets away, one in particular caught my eye – ***Christianity’s Family Tree by Adam Hamilton***. I love the way God works! I decided to ‘borrow’ a copy and was pleasantly surprised at how much I enjoyed it. This book is excellent for individual reading or could be used for small group study.

Adam Hamilton presents a welcoming, inspiring vision of eight Christian denominations and faith traditions. Comparing the Christian family to our own extended families, he contends that each denomination

has a unique, valuable perspective to offer on the Christian faith.

The traditions he examines are Orthodoxy, Catholicism, Lutheranism (where my earlier faith roots are), Presbyterianism, Anglicanism, Baptists, Pentecostalism and Methodism. For each group, Hamilton gives a brief history, outlines major beliefs, and describes some things we can learn from that tradition to strengthen our own Christian faith.

While stationed at Point Mugu Naval Air Station in California during the 1980’s, we attended the Protestant Chapel on base. What a learning experience – Chaplains rotated every 2 to 3 years. During the time we attended the Chapel we had a Methodist, Baptist, Assembly of God, and Episcopalian Chaplain assigned. It was the first time in my faith journey that I was accountable for my faith and had to support my belief directly from Scripture.

Strongly recommend this book to anyone who wants to learn more about the ‘family’ and how each tradition evolved. Mr. Hamilton focuses on the positive from each of the 8 traditions. There is something to cherish from each group.

Like Us on Facebook!



Did you know that Southern Maryland Emmaus has a Facebook page? Facebook is a popular free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and video, send messages and keep in touch with friends, family and colleagues, making it a great networking tool. The Wall, which is essentially a virtual bulletin board, provides a great way for us to be able to communicate and share information about events with our “friends”! Photos can be uploaded from the desktop or directly from a smartphone camera as well.

Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors Ballot

Each community member gets 1 ballot. Please print, fill, sign and mail this ballot to:

Southern Maryland Emmaus Board Election
P.O. Box 343
White Plains, MD 20695

Please Vote for lay members you would recommend for service on the Board

_____ Phil Day (Good Shepherd UMC)

_____ John Hastings (La Plata UMC) Note: term will begin in May after Men's walk as John is Lay Director

_____ Connie Shepherd (Lexington Park UMC)

_____ Dwaine Waltrip (Solomon's UMC)

_____ Lorenda Walton (Lexington Park UMC)

Ballots must be postmarked no later than December 10, 2016

Your Signature _____

Survey Results- What You Told Us!

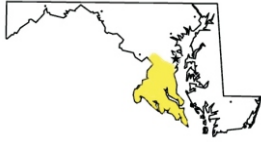
Back in September, a survey went out through the PPOCs to community members focused on monthly gatherings. Hopefully you got it, and you replied! We wanted to provide a summary of the information we received and let you know what we are planning to do as a result.

Thirty-six (36) people responded to the survey email. Of those, 28 had attended a gathering in the prior year. Most people (about 33%) were in the 1-15 mile range of the gathering. Three people who replied to survey were 30-60 miles away. Overwhelmingly, most people said they would not be more likely to attend a gathering if it were closer or on a different day, although 50% said they would attend a gathering that was closer to them. This question also seemed to generate a lot of comments, with several community members saying that they would love the gatherings to be rotated around the area to accommodate those who live further away. In fact, we had one church offer to host!

Another comment was a suggestion that we not meet during the summer months. There were also several people who said they like the current schedule of the gathering, while a few people felt that we needed to do a little work improving the quality of and communication about the Fourth Day witness talks. Several people suggested that we consider at least a few gatherings during daylight to help with travel.

The Board of Directors is in the process of discussing the survey results, and looking into how we could use your suggestions to improve the monthly gatherings in 2017. We are in the planning phase, and interested in finding churches to host a few gatherings in areas other than Waldorf. We have discussed the possibility of northern and southern area gatherings, and adding a few daytime gatherings on the schedule for next year.

If you are interested in hosting a gathering at your church in 2017, please contact Margaret Kolbe at mgkolbe@gmail.com



“Walk in the Light” - Southern Maryland Emmaus
 Visit us on the web at www.southernmarylandemmaus.com

"Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:32

Information on the Southern Maryland Walk to Emmaus, as well as pilgrim and team applications may be found on our website:
www.southernmarylandemmaus.com

Southern Maryland Emmaus
 P.O. Box 343
 White Plains, MD 20695



WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!

Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors 2015

Community Lay Director/Chair - Dale Merkle

Assistant Team Selection - Kathy Slagle

*Assistant Community Lay Director/
 Facilities/Sponsorship - Ellen Bertelsen*

*Community Events Coordinator/
 Fourth Day Coordinator - Margaret Kolbe*

Past Community Lay Director - Pat Brennan

Asst. Comm. Events/Reunion Groups - Priscilla Rollins

Treasurer - Susan Cunningham

Registrar/Pilgrim Selection - Ellen Bertelsen

Secretary/Historian - Lee Campbell

Assistant Registrar - Gordon Piscacek

Community Spiritual Director. - Ken Valentine

Communications/Directory - Jan Drass

Agape Coordinator - Jim Risley

Music Director - Bud Campbell

Team Selection - Connie Wells