

Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community



The LOVEmmaus Community Board has decided to go forward with our Community picnic. This year's picnic will be held on **Tuesday, August 25th at 6:30 pm.**

We will meet at the '**Browning Shelter**' within the **Maysville-Mason County Rec Park** which is located at **2340 Old Main St., Washington, Ky** (about a mile south of the Washington UMC).

The Community will provide the meal along with the plates, napkins, utensils and bottled water. If you desire a different drink, please bring your own.

It is **very important** that we each make every effort to make this a success because our future Community Gatherings will depend on how we, the Community, are able to interact and still be respectful of the health of our fellow Community members.

Due to the COVID 19 restrictions **everyone** will be **required to wear a mask** unless they are eating and we will observe social distancing as much as possible.



Sponsorship

We are living in challenging times. So, what else is new. We must remember that there is a massive spiritual battle going on all around us that we cannot even imagine. The great news is that we know which side wins in the end. The Emmaus movement is one of the most effective ways to serve Christ. While we may be on a temporary hold through this pandemic, it is not too early to be on the lookout for Christians that will need encouragement when the pandemic restrictions lift. Pandemics have come and pandemics have gone, and this one will too. We must strive to carry on God's work. Remember we are God's hands and feet, and it is up to us to make our community God's vessel of service.

Look around, before the restrictions lift, for candidates you will sponsor on the spring walks. This will enable us to hit the ground running in the spring with full walks. In the business world there is a well-known saying that "You don't have any business until something is sold." We only have walks when we have sponsors for pilgrims. It all begins with sponsorship. Next month we will look at what it takes to sponsor a pilgrim.

DeColores! [Steve Richards](#),
Community Sponsorship

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Spring 2021

Mark your Calendars!

Spring Men's Walk #33

April 29 - May 2

Spring Women's Walk #40

June 3 - 6

From The Community Spiritual Director

I was recently reading a devotion based on the story found in the 6th chapter of Mark when one word jumped off the page at me. The 45th verse says, "Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd." Which word caught my attention? Made. Jesus *made* the disciples get into the boat. My experience is that Jesus doesn't make us do anything. Certainly, he gives us direction and lets us know the path to take, but *make* us? I've always believed that we have free will to do as we please, be obedient or not. I get the visual here of Jesus holding a gun on the disciples, not that I believe he did anything of that nature, but you can see where I'm coming from.

Anyway, here's where that thought led me. If Jesus is making, or even suggesting that I do so and so it's probably a good idea to do as he says. If I follow his leading, I can rest assured that it will be smooth sailing from here on out. After all, he's not going to make me do anything that will cause me anxiety, pain, failure, discomfort, or have any negative repercussion, right?

Well, look at what happens when the disciples do what Jesus *makes* them do. "He saw them straining at the oars, because the wind was against them" (verse 48). Sometimes we as Christians believe that if we are obedient, if we do what we're supposed to do, if we do what God tells us, we will be immune from troubles. Ask Paul, Peter, John, or any of the other saints (as well as modern day saints) how that worked out for them. Even Jesus, as he obeyed the Father lived a life filled with rejection, pain, sacrifice, death, even a cruel death on the cross. However, did he accomplish his mission? Absolutely! So, as you carry out the work prepared in advance for you (Ephesians 2:10), know that the words of Jesus in John 16:33 are as true today as when he spoke them. "In this world you will have trouble." Is anybody having any trouble in this world? If you're not, God bless you. Hang on. It's coming.

The second half of that verse is also true today. "Take heart, I have overcome the world." He has also made us overcomers through the power of his Holy Spirit. We have a mission, just as Jesus had a mission. May we carry ours out in the face of "the wind being against us" as well as He carried out his.

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

DeColores!

[Bill Henry](#), Community Spiritual Director



From The Community Lay Director

"The Lord is my Shephard, I shall not want"..... We all know the 23rd Psalm. During this time of uncertainty we are reminded to trust in God and find hope in trying times. God tells us we will have troubles in this world and face some unknown and challenging times, but he promises victory because he is our care-taker and Jesus Christ has overcome the world.

(v3) - "He restores my soul"..... We are also reminded to encourage one another when the troubles of life start to overwhelm us. We are to ask God for strength to get up each day and overcome our adversities. Our share groups should also be a source of strength.

(v6) "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever".....Regardless of the situation we know that God will never leave us or forsake us. He only wants what's best for us. We should take comfort in the fact that we will one day go and live with God forever.

So as we continue to persevere through this virus let's remember the positives.....that we are one day closer to the end of it than we were yesterday..... That it is summer and not winter and we can get outside That there are no significant food shortages in the stores..... There will soon be a vaccine..... Kids will return to school. There's no end of things to look forward to.

Keep the faith.

[Peggy Richards](#), Community Lay Director

From The Community Good Shepherd

CALLING ALL SHARE GROUPS!!!

During the trying circumstances we are experiencing in our world, we need the Lord and each other now more than ever! To help keep our Emmaus Community connected and to support each other in these 4th Days, it is absolutely vital to be a part of a Share Group. An Emmaus Share Group is made up of 2-6 individuals that meet weekly to encourage each other to live wholly in the grace of God. It is an opportunity for spiritual growth as each person shares briefly how they have seen God working in their lives, how they have served God, and where they are falling short. Effective groups commit to God and one another, focus on discipleship, uphold one another, pray for one another, retreat with one another once or twice a year, attend regularly and are spiritual friends.

As the LOVEmmaus Community Good Shepherd, it is my job to help connect our members to an available Share Group as well as keep track of existing groups and their members. I am in need of the following updated information from all of our existing groups as well as to hearing from anyone interested in joining (or starting a new) Share Group. Also please let me know if you are looking to join a Share Group.

Group Name:
Contact Phone and contact email:
Day/Time/Location of meetings:
Member names:
Open to new members?:



Please contact me at either: 937-217-0672 (text enabled), e-mail me at mhendrix@ovec.com, give me the information in person at our August Community Picnic.

In other news: When God calls us to have our next Walk to Emmaus, we will need Share Groups to volunteer to donate agape gifts as well as cook/serve a meal on the walk. These are wonderful acts of discipleship that help our Emmaus Community strengthen and grow as well as reflect the light of God's love to others. If your group is interested in helping, please let me know.

Tips for Share Group meetings as social distancing is becoming our new "norm":

1. Zoom, Google Meetings, Webex or other video chat to stay connected
2. Meet outside - bring your lawn chairs and enjoy God's creation together
3. Meet inside with plenty of room to stay socially distanced

May God Bless You and De Colores
[Melissa Hendrix](#), Community Good Shepherd

Kitchen Coordinator

The next walks will be here before you know it. Soon we will begin making the walk menus and start to think about getting the kitchen prepared. We are in search of share groups that are willing to help serve meals. If your **share group** has an interest in helping in some way, please reach out to me to see what help is needed.

Is there any specific food that you would like me to consider serving during a walk? Please let me know.

DeColores! [Susan Huff](#),
Community Kitchen Walk Coordinator



The community is always in need of **volunteers**. Every job, from being a team member to cleaning up before or after a walk, is vitally important. We need volunteers for all kinds of positions. Please consider using your gifts and talents to serve your Emmaus community.

If you would like to volunteer, please go to the [LOVE Community website](#) to get a copy of the volunteer form.

DeColores!
[Cheri McClanahan](#)
Community Volunteer Coordinator

Community Registrar

I wish to extend a heartfelt message to everyone letting you know that the community is really saddened by this trying time. As you know the world is a scary place. Efforts have started to get our upcoming walks together.

If you have an idea for a pilgrim, please get a copy of [the application off of the Emmaus web site](#). There are 6 different documents which make up the application packet. [the application itself, sponsor sheet, Emergency medical form, kick off form, candlelight form and closing form.] You can send the completed application to me at any time or reach out if you have any questions.

I pray everything is okay in your neck of the woods. There is no one greater than our God! So be safe and enjoy our Father.



Tim Ratcliff
874 Linda Vista Drive
Manchester Oh 45144

LOVEmmaus
PO Box 454
Maysville, Ky 41056

DeColores!
[Tim Ratcliff](#), Community Registrar
Text message: (937) 779-2251

2019 Community Board of Directors

Lay Director: [Peggy Richards](#)
 Assistant Lay Director: [Nikki Chandler](#)
 Spiritual Director: [Bill Henry](#)
 Secretary: [Kim Myers](#)
 Treasurer: [Amy Farrell](#)
 LEAD Chairman: [David Reveal](#)
 Hospitality: [Jim & Crickett Crase](#)
 Volunteer Coordinator: [Cheri McClanahan](#)
 Communications: [Mande Payton](#)
 Registrar: [Tim Ratcliff](#)
 Logistics Coordinator: [John Hendrix](#)

Worship: [Kim Jodrey](#)
 Music: [Elizabeth Jones](#)
 Kitchen: [Susan Huff](#)
 Agape Chairperson: [Brenda Reveal](#)
 Sponsorship: [Steve Richards](#)
 Ruggles Liaison: [Bill Henry](#)
 Good Shepherd: [Melissa Hendrix](#)
 Chrysalis Representative: [Sydney Gibson](#)
 Webmaster: [Lauren Doyle](#)
 Historian: Mike Burke



Music

We are always looking for community members who are blessed with the gift of music. If you have gifts playing an instrument, singing or both, please consider getting involved. We do enjoy our music in the LOVE community. If you are interested, contact our music coordinator, [Elizabeth Jones](#) or 606-782-0522.

**“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”
 Mat 18:20 ESV**

I am looking forward to our August Community Picnic which will be held at the Maysville-Mason County Recreation Park at 6:30 pm on Aug 25. We will be in an outdoor shelter and hope to see many of you there. I look forward to all of the Christian fellowship.

DeColores! [Kim Jodrey](#),
 Worship

Calendar

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

Aug 25, 6:30pm Community Picnic, Recreation Park
Sept 10-13, 2020 Fall Men's Walk #33, **postponed**
Sept 22, 7:00pm Gathering, Washington UMC
Oct 1-4, 2020 Fall Women's Walk #40, **postponed**
Oct 27, 7:00pm Gathering, Washington UMC
Nov 24, 7:00pm Gathering, Washington UMC
Dec 22, 7:00pm Gathering, Washington UMC

Spring 2021 Walks:

Apr 29-May 2, Spring Men's Walk #33
Jun 3-6, Spring Women's Walk #40

Fall 2021 Walks:

Sept 9-12, Fall Men's Walk #34
Oct 7-10, Fall Women's Walk #41



Links to help you find what you need:

www.lovememmaus.org

[The Upper Room: Emmaus Website](#)

[101 AGAPE Ideas](#)

[Click here for an application!](#)