

# Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community

## September 22 Gathering!

The LOVEmmaus Community Board has decided to have another Community picnic, which will be held on **Tuesday, September 22th at 6:30 pm**. We are going to 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.



## From The Community Lay Director

**Perseverance.** That is what's required right now.

**Hope.** That is what will keep us going.

Perseverance reminds us in Luke 8 that a desperate woman who had endured 12 years of ongoing suffering, disappointment and isolation heard Jesus was coming. She pressed through the crowd and touched the hem of his robe and was immediately cured of her infirmity. This was a true act of faith - persistently hoping and believing that Jesus was able to do what no one else had been able to do. She believed in a better day and we should too. As long as we have hope we have a future.

This pandemic may seem endless and hopeless and feel like the odds are stacked against us. We may not see the end of it as quickly as we'd like but even then Jesus invites us to continue reaching for Him. We are to trust Him, believe He is able and trustworthy and always within reach. We are to never give up hope.

The good news is that we can hopefully look forward to the spring walks. Be thinking of who you can sponsor and how you can participate. There are better days ahead.

DeColores!

[Peggy Richards](#), Community Lay Director

## Spring 2021

### Mark your Calendars!

Spring Men's

Walk #33

**April 29 - May 2**



Spring Women's

Walk #40

**June 3 - 6**



## Newsletter Content

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## From The Community Good Shepherd

### CALLING ALL SHARE GROUPS!!!

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](mailto:mhendrix@ovec.com), give me the information in person at our September Community Picnic.

#### 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

De Colores!

[Melissa Hendrix](#), Community Good Shepherd



## Community Registrar

This is a time of great uncertainty, but there is one thing we can always count on. John 16:33. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. Jesus told us this. As we face this time let us think ahead. The spring walks will be here before you know it. It is never too early to think of who our God would like for you to sponsor. I'm sure there are people you know who could be blessed from the walks.

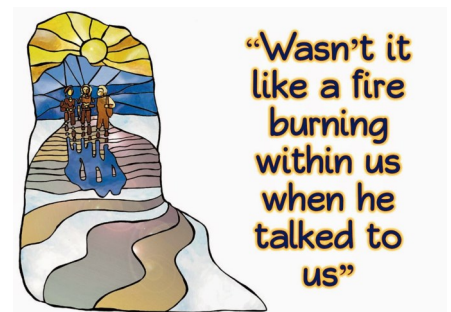
Print off a few copies of our [applications](#) and give them to people. People go on their walks because of their sponsors. Just because you think they will not go, don't sell God short. God can and will do great things. Habakkuk 1:5 tells us this, "Look at the nations and watch-and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told."

God is Good. All the time. All the time. God is Good. God bless and keep you safe during this time.

Decolores!

[Tim Ratcliff](#), Community Registrar

Text message: (937) 779-2251



## From The Community Spiritual Director

Well, things don't seem to be getting better in a hurry, do they? How long? God's people have been asking how long for a long time (see Habakkuk, for example). I have heard from several Emmaus communities this summer and I have yet to find one that is conducting walks. How can we? Can you imagine conducting a walk with social distancing and limited numbers and face masks? It would not be fair to the pilgrims to expect them to experience their walks at the level we did ours under such circumstances. Table communities would suffer. Candlelight would have nowhere near the effect. Meals would be a place where it would be nearly impossible to build relationships. Every aspect of the experience would be reduced to a very low standard of what we have come to expect from our walks. So, what do we do while we anxiously ask, "How long?" and hope that it won't be very long at all.

I was reading Psalm 137 recently. It is a Psalm dealing with the exile of the Israelites to Babylon. The first 4 verses read this way: "By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion. There on the poplars we hung our harps, for there our captors asked us for songs, our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion." How can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land?"

I don't know about you, but I can sort of relate to where the people were as these thoughts crossed their mind. With all the violence, anger, hatred, conflict, illness, death, and natural disasters our nation has experienced over the past several months sometimes it can be hard to sing songs of joy. But we must. If we only sing praise and worship when we have the right feelings, we still have a lot to learn about being children of the living God.

As Psalm 137 turns into Psalm 138 we see that even though the circumstances haven't changed, the response has. The first 2 verses of 138 say, "I will praise you Lord, with all my heart; before the "gods" I will sing your praise. I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your unfailing love and your faithfulness." Sometimes it seems the "gods" of this world are winning. But know that our one true God is faithful and showers us with an unfailing love.

As the world becomes more and more faithless, we, more than ever, must sing songs of joy. We must bow down and praise his name with all our heart. He has not forgotten us and while we don't know 'how long', he does.

One day, before long, we will join together at Ruggles camp, we will welcome nervous and questioning pilgrims, and we will watch as God does his mighty work to bless them and let them know the depths of his love for them. O yeah, he's going to bless us, too.

Grace and peace to you as you continue to praise his name and sing his songs of joy.

DeColores!

[Bill Henry](#), Community Spiritual Director

## Looking for a way to serve . . . Volunteer!!



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

## Sponsorship

What does it take to sponsor a pilgrim?

Sponsorship involves a commitment to help the pilgrim get the most out of the Walk to Emmaus.

1. It begins with the invitation. You are inviting them to experience a spiritually uplifting event. You need to get the form to them and have them send it to the registrar three months before the walk. Our walks are in May and June and you should be targeting February for the spring walks and June for the fall walks. It is helpful and encouraging to the teams to know they have the minimum number (15) of pilgrims when they begin training. Too often, we have come down to the last week with less than 15 and have scrambled to quickly add almost anyone just to get the numbers up. The process really needs to be thought out. You should be in prayer about the people you sponsor before you ask them without deadlines driving the process. Make sure they note any food restrictions, medical allergies, or special requirements. (Such as a receptacle for a CPAP machine, or help remembering to take their medicine, etc.)
2. You will need to check before they come if you can do anything to make their time away from home stress-free. This could involve checking on the house, feeding pets, help with children, whatever may be preventing them from attending the walk.
3. Emmaus is not a secret organization. You can tell them that it is a three-day retreat with a series of talks and activities designed to raise their awareness of God's love. Each person's experience and spiritual gain is different.
4. You will need to bring them to the walk, stay for dinner, and pray for them in the tabernacle Thursday night. You should help them get checked in and see to it that their bags get to their room. Stay with them until they leave for the walk and answer any questions they may have and then pray for them at the tabernacle.
5. You need to attend the Candlelight ceremony on Saturday evening.
6. You will need to be at the Closing ceremony on Sunday. You should help them move their stuff out of the dorms and take them home. Please remain open to stopping off for dinner on the way home to allow them to share some of their experience with you.
7. One of the most important things you need to do for your new pilgrim is pray for them, not only at the times you may have signed up for, but throughout the walk weekend.

Sponsorship is a big job. The walk depends on getting born-again believers that are ready to learn more about God's grace so they can be more effective servants for His will. Emmaus walks provide opportunities for everyone in the community to serve God. Sponsors are a critical part of each walk.

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

## 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



## 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 September Gathering Picnic which will be held at the Maysville-Mason County Recreation Park at 6:30 pm on September 22. 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:

**Sept 22**, 6:30pm Gathering Picnic, Recreation Park  
**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.lovemenaus.org](http://www.lovemenaus.org)

[The Upper Room: Emmaus Website](#)

[101 AGAPE Ideas](#)

[Click here for an application!](#)