

Lexington Emmaus Community



From the Lay Director.....

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away

No, you are not seeing déjà vu all over again. The Book of Job is an appropriate place for us to be in this time of ours.

Did God send Covid-19 to punish? Job's friends thought that all of the calamities that befell Job had been sent by God to punish him for something he had done. God did not send the calamities upon Job, but He did allow them to happen from Satan's hand. Job moaned, groaned and complained. He challenged God. The thing he did not do was turn his back on God.

... He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous (Matthew 5:45 NIV).

It should be no surprise to us that calamity befalls the just and the unjust as well. The question is, as it was with Job, how do we respond? Moaning and groaning, complaining and raging, defiance and abandonment? Have we stayed with our mission as the church? A charge of the early church was to care for widows and orphans, marginalized members of the population of the day. As we moaned and groaned and kept our jobs, have we increased our support of those who are hungry, at risk of losing their homes, who are trying to cope with a whole new set of stresses like they had never imagined? Have we remained kind to our neighbors? Have we remained a shining light on the hill? Have we remained a channel for God's grace, peace and love to flow to those around us? Did God send Covid-19 to punish? I do not believe so. I do believe He allows this and other calamities to happen to give His followers the opportunity to reveal Him and His glory to those around them.

He gives and takes away. And sometimes He gives back something wonderful. In the end, Job's flocks and herds were restored twice over. He had 10 more children including three daughters more beautiful than any other women in the land. He lived long enough after enduring the calamities set upon him to see his children and their children to the fourth generation.

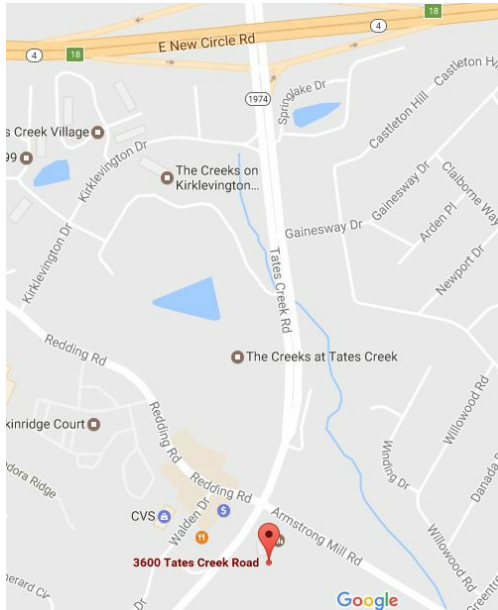
As you will read later in this newsletter, your Board of Directors has decided to postpone the Walks planned for October 2021. The major factors in that decision are discussed in that section of this newsletter.

One Men's Walk and one Women's Walk have taken place during my tenure as Lay

Director of the Lexington Emmaus Community for four of the past five years. In the normal course of events, there should have been eight of each. That has taken a toll on me and has been a challenge to remaining faithful. There have been times that I have considered folding up the tent and walking away. But I do believe good things are in the future for the Lexington Emmaus Community. I believe if we are faithful as an Emmaus Community, something wonderful will come and God will be glorified.

Looking forward to seeing you at Trinity Hill UMC on August 6.

De Colores!
Michael Watts
Lay Director



What: August Gathering

Date: Friday, August 6th

Time: 7:00 PM

Place:

Trinity Hill UMC

3600 Tates Creek Rd

Lexington, KY 40517

We will be meeting at Trinity Hill UMC in August.

We are not yet having pot-luck meals. As of this newsletter, Trinity Hill is not requiring masks. However, the CDC has recommended wearing masks indoors by all individuals in areas of high transmission, such as Fayette County, due to cases of vaccinated individuals contracting and spreading the virus. We are unsure of what the requirements will be at time of the gathering. Out of caution and care for our brothers and sisters, we suggest wearing a mask, and there is always the possibility it may be required. It's a fluid situation.

Childcare will not be available at this Gathering.

Subscribe to Reminders...

We all need a little help getting ideas to load, or just remembering what day it is when our schedules are all out of whack! If you want a reminder the day before Gatherings or other important community events, click the button below to subscribe to reminders.

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IDEA
LOADING ...



Fall Walk Postponed

The Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to postpone the Fall Walks. The main issues that led us to this decision are:

- Our concerns for the safety of the pilgrims, team and Emmaus community, and the community at large, especially considering the close and intimate setting that an Emmaus Walk is.
- The numerous unknowns about the progression of the Delta variant as incident rates and hospitalizations climb nationally and locally
- The low attendance by members of the community at our Zoom Gatherings and the 2 live Gatherings we have had.

Due to the time that so many of us have been isolated, we feel that it is vitally important to re-establish our relationships with each other, and with potential Pilgrims, in order to have a well attended and successful walk in the spring or summer of 2022.

If you haven't been to a gathering lately, please consider coming out to Trinity Hill next Friday and asking a friend, or perhaps someone you sponsored, to come with you! We also hope to have a HUGE turnout in October as we visit Asbury University and experience a possible new venue for our walks.



Praises and Concerns

If you have praises and concerns you would like to lift up at the Gathering but can not attend, please contact Gail Wright we will lift your concerns to the community.

Contact Gail

Future Gatherings!!!!

Currently our Gatherings are In-Person, and we are committed to following the requirements of our host churches. We have not yet returned to sharing a meal and we'll keep you advised as to when we can return to our Pot Luck tradition.

September 10th - Richmond First UMC (a week late due to Labor Day)

October 1st - Asbury UNIVERSITY (to introduce the site as a possible site for future walks)

November 5th - Trinity Hill UMC



Reunion Groups

Reunion Groups are essential to keep the fire of your walk burning. Click below for a list of existing reunion groups. If you want to access this list from the website, it is password protected. The password is **Luke24:13** (no spaces).

Reunion Groups

Board of Directors

The Website has a page where you can communicate with Board Members. Click the link below to take you to the website's contact page. From there you can communicate with any board member.

Board of Directors



Lexington Emmanuel Community | [website](#)

STAY CONNECTED

