

May 31, 2020

Lexington Emmaus Community



From the Lay Director.....

Hello Lexington Emmaus Community,

I hope this message finds you healthy, hopeful and feeling God's grace in your life. I know that being hopeful and feeling God's grace will be easier for some than for others.

The New Normal. What is the New Normal going to be? Question of the Day.

The reality is that we deal with New Normal nearly every day. Some of those New Normals are pretty minor. Some have more of an impact. They don't have your favorite chips in the vending machine at the car repair shop anymore. You have a new boss. That bald spot on the back of your head seems to keep on moving forward. Your favorite restaurant went out of business. They want you to work three 12-hr. shifts one week and four the next instead of the straight 40 hours a week you have been working the past 20 years. The road you always use to get to work and church is going to be closed for three months for sewer work. They changed the color of the carpet at church while you were on vacation! New Normal is the way of the world we live in. Some changes are just more drastic than others.

When it comes to the Walk to Emmaus, the Lexington Emmaus Community has been dealing with a series of New Normals for a long while. It was before my time, but I understand there used to be waiting lists of people wanting to go on the Walk to Emmaus after the available 36 slots were filled. Then there weren't waiting lists anymore. We have gotten to the point now where we hope and pray and scramble that we will be able to recruit at least 12 pilgrims for a Walk and that we will be able to put together a team to serve them. I am hoping New Normal is a reversal of that trend.

We don't know what an Emmaus Walk will look like in the COVID-19 era yet. As of right now, your Board of Directors is expecting to hold Walks in October 2020 as planned. Some of us are more optimistic than others that we will actually be able to hold the Walks, let alone recruit enough pilgrims and team members. We are planning to start recruiting team members in early June. So please be willing to pray about serving. Also pray for guidance in finding the pilgrims God has in mind for the upcoming Walks and for the persistence to invite them.

We are planning to have an Emmaus picnic at Shelter No. 2 in Shillito Park off Reynolds Road in Lexington on July 11. We don't know what that will look like yet either. Could be anything from bring a dish to pass like a Gathering to bring your own picnic basket to feed your own family. There are some games that could still be played while practicing social distancing if needed: cornhole, Frisbee, whatever Lawn Darts is called these days without the pointy darts. Might be a little weird playing in gloves. Details will come later.

My picture in last month's newsletter was supposed to have a caption with it. "My wife says these work-at-home wardrobe choices have to stop!"

Be safe out there. I look forward to the day that we can gather together and hug each other again!

De Colores,

Michael Watts
Lay Director
Lexington Emmaus Community



Emmaus Walk Applications

Fall Walks

(No, not dog walks, **EMMAUS WALKS!**)

Got some spare time on your hands? It's a great time to write letters, telephone, text, Facetime, Zoom, Instant Message, or even smoke signal someone to get them thinking about attending our Fall Emmaus Walks.

Dates:

Men - October 15-18

Women - October 22-25

Your Lexington Emmaus Board doesn't know at this time what will or won't be possible in October. We believe the most prudent thing to do would be to plan to have the walk, knowing that we need to be flexible, with things ranging from abnormal to new-normal. However, we still need 12 pilgrims for the Men's Walk by August 15th and 12 for the Women's Walk by August 22nd to move forward with team formation and training.

COMMUNITY PICNIC!! July 11, 2020



Just like the Walks, we are planning for our Community Picnic in July. We have Shelter #2 (near the playground) reserved for July 11th. Beyond that, we're not sure what it's going to look like in the COVID era, but it's likely to be a little bit different. When you consider that many in the community are in high risk groups, we will plan this event with caution, and ask that our community observe limitations we may put in place. It could be a time of bringing our own lunch and "virtual hugs", but it will be good to see each other, even if from a safe distance.

Your Board of Directors has talked multiple times about trying to put together a virtual Gathering. The logistics of trying to do that and provide you with a meaningful experience have been somewhat daunting. If bringing together large groups in person continues to be an issue, maybe it will need to be a daunting task we face. In the meantime, spend the time and effort it takes to stay connected to your Emmaus Community.

Stay tuned to the July Newsletter for more

Future Gatherings

July 11 - Noon - 4:00
Shillito Park - Community Picnic

August 7 - 6:30-8:30
Trinity Hill UMC

September 11th - 6:30-8:30
Richmond First UMC



Reunion Groups

Reunion Groups are essential to keep the fire of your walk burning. **We encourage reunion groups to keep in contact during the COVID-19 Pandemic! Call, text, or Facetime your brothers and sisters. At least one reunion group is using ZOOM to video-conference. It's free for sessions 30 minutes or less. Find ways to "virtually" meet.** 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 now 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 Emmaus Community | [website](#)

STAY CONNECTED

