

Lexington Emmaus Community



From the Lay Director.....

Hello Lexington Emmaus Community,

I am approaching the phase of life where retirement from a full-time working life will be coming soon. Over the years in reading different articles about having a successful retirement, one thing that has stood out has been keeping your identity separate from what you do. You want to make sure that what you do is not who you are. Do you work to live or live to work? I have been mindful of that over the years. I have had basically the same job for over 41 years. I still like my job despite the aggravations that come with it, but a day at the beach can have aggravations that come with it too. I think I will be able to close the book on my full-time working life and not look back. I would be foolish to think I won't miss my job. But I'll be ready for whatever comes next.

There will be lot of change to manage in the days after my retirement date. Some of that change will certainly involve taking naps on a weekday. Most of that change will involve seeking God's guidance in what he would have me to do to be a servant to Him and His people. It does not take much looking around to see that there is plenty to do for someone who never has to be anywhere at a particular time.

Over these past COVID months I have often felt disconnected from God and His people. I know why. I am a food guy. That's my calling. How that came to be is a story for another day. I have not been able to do any of the food-related things I would normally have done since March and my heart aches. Not being able to do, has given time to reflect on why I do. I hope you have had that opportunity to reflect on why too.

There are some who refer to themselves as Emmaus junkies. I would include myself in that group. It is very rewarding to hear the pilgrims speak at Closing after all the effort you have put in to help the pilgrims to have a close encounter of the God kind. That rewarding feeling can never by the why though. If it is, your effort is for your own benefit, not the benefit of the pilgrims.

There is no telling for sure what normal will be once COVID is in our rearview mirror. Maybe like retirement, the future of the Lexington Emmaus Community is not being identified by what we did in the past, but having our identity tied up in what we will be doing for the Kingdom in the future. Will the Emmaus experience of future pilgrims be the same as the one we had? Should it be? Does it have to be? Part of me thought that Candlelight would be ruined when we stopped using Estes Chapel. They say the three most important things in real estate are location, location, location. Obviously not the case for an Emmaus Walk. Three most important things are God's grace and love, God's grace and love, God's grace and love. Is what we do of the highest importance, or is it why we do it? I look forward to what the Spirit has to show us and teach us and how the Spirit will lead the Lexington Emmaus Community in the coming days of a post-COVID world.

I look forward to seeing you at the Zoom Gathering on October 2.

Be safe out there. Pray for each other. Pray for the people on the other side of the world that you will never meet.

De Colores!

Michael Watts
Lay Director
Lexington Emmaus Community
Renewing Christian Disciples,
Strengthening Local Churches

Subscribe to Reminders...



The day before the last Gathering, you got a reminder email about the Gathering the next day. Did you like receiving that? ***If you want to keep receiving them you must subscribe to them.*** Click the button below to subscribe to future reminders. We will send them out the day before gatherings and community activities.

[Get Reminders](#)



What: October Gathering

Date: Friday, Oct. 2

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Wherever you are!

Our Zoom Gatherings are growing! In September, we had between 35 and 40 people attending. And what a blessing to share in the Service of Remembrance and break bread together! We will be doing that again this Month. Each household in attendance will need to prepare in the following ways; Choose a bread – gluten free, white or wheat, a long loaf or round one, or simply a piece for each



person. (Rumor has it the Lexington Community prefers Jesus to be Hawaiian). Then choose a juice, and again it can be whatever you have.

Come and Join us! Just click the Button below.

[Join ZOOM Meeting](#)

If you have trouble with the button, copy and paste the link below into your browser:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84103812182?pwd=R0tmVFRQc0JaZEs5Yyt3T2FsYnlWQT09>

If you have a zoom account and want to use the meeting code:

Meeting ID: 841 0381 2182

Passcode: Jesus

For Zoom Newbies

Perhaps you've never been in a video-conference, and don't like technology. Well, as Michael stated, it's an imperfect solution, but it's a way we can keep connected and encouraged. We are using a platform called ZOOM, and attending the Gathering is easy. There are no programs required to be downloaded or apps to use. All you need is either a smartphone or tablet, or a computer with speakers. And, of course, an internet connection. If you want to be seen and heard, your computer will need a camera and microphone, but that is not necessary to watch and listen. All you need to do is click on the button below to join the conference.

If you had trouble getting on the Gathering, or if you would like to just try a test or have any questions before the Gathering, please contact Howard Rosewell.

[Contact Howard](#)

Phone/Tablet Instructions

- Click on the Link Below
- Join with Video
- To hear others "Call Over Internet"
- To Speak, touch the screen and the menu will appear
- Click Unmute
- Click Mute when done speaking
- To Leave, click leave at the top of the screen

Computer Instructions

- Click on the link below
- Click "Join with Computer Audio"
- If you move your mouse over your picture, there is a mute/unmute button to use if you speak.
- There are choices at the top of the screen where you change views, such as Gallery View (more people) or speaker View (larger view of person speaking)
- To leave, Press the Leave button

Praises and Concerns

If you have praises and concerns you would like to lift up at the Zoom Gathering, you will have an opportunity to lift that up. However, if you can't attend, or don't have a computer with a microphone, please contact Gail Wright and she will read them

to those attending.



Contact Gail



Spring Walks

MEN- APRIL 15 - 18

WOMEN - APRIL 22-25

Emmaus Walk Applications

New Things

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5 NIV

This 2020 pandemic has forced many new things upon us. And while it is said that we are lifelong learners, by the time you approach retirement you are not actively going out looking for new things to learn! I have my degrees and certificates on the wall from universities and professional organizations. I've paid my dues – so leave me be! Retirement is on the horizon.

As a teacher, having taught the same subject for years, I eventually got to the point that I have stored almost all of the required knowledge in my head to share with students, and have created a detailed lesson plan sequence of activities for every day of the school year. I know what's supposed to happen today and tomorrow – no surprises! Each year is pretty much a copy of the previous, with updated information thrown in. Of course, I am flexible with the plan, but I am prepared.

Then the shutdown, quarantine, and pandemic. Normally my summer thinking goes, "Okay, what professional development would be fun to take this summer?" Not this summer. Just short of panic hits when I realize I've got to learn a whole bunch of new things to be capable of teaching virtually. O Lord, I this what you meant by "I am making everything new?"

Although the task was daunting, and the first few days of on-line class was tedious, I have now fallen into a smoother routine, applying some of the knowledge that I spent over 30 hours learning during the summer months. And I am still learning. One of the benefits of this new way of teaching is that it has refreshed my cognitive skills and made me an eager learner of new things again! I find myself actually enjoying much of the new style of teaching with my cool headset and fancy camera. And the days are proving less stressful without the responsibility of monitoring student behavior!

The same analogy can be made for the way we are forced to continue our Emmaus Community. Yes, it is a bit unsettling to have to wear a mask, keep our distance, and learn new technology, especially after years of "doing the way we've always done it." And many of our faithful are well past retirement age. But we may find that amidst the change and chaos, God is making a new thing in our community. A new way to share the gospel and

the love of Jesus to more people in more areas. And from this valley, a newer, bolder and fresher Emmaus Walk will emerge – one that will attract and appeal to a wider stratum of generations.

We can only hope. As John Wesley said, “Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.” And with God’s help, we will.

Glenn Walker
Alabama Emmaus Walk #97
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Future Gatherings

Due to COVID19, All future Gathering locations are tentative and subject to going virtual by the LEC Board, host church, and government restrictions.

November 6th - 6:30 - 8:30
Centenary UMC

December 4th - 6:30-8:30
Winchester First 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 Emmaus Community | [website](#)

STAY CONNECTED

