

September 2017

www.qcemmaus.org

Upcoming Gatherings:

SAT, Oct 14, 2017 @ Christ Church Silvis

Reunion 3P
Sponsorship Training 4:30P
Potluck 5P
Gathering 6:15P

Sat, Nov 18, 2017 @

Preemption UMC
Chrysalis Boys & Gathering

ATTENTION!

Worship Services for Emmaus Candlelight's, Closings, Pilgrim Drop-Off, etc.) will now be at Alpha UMC. See the website for directions.

Spring 2018 Walks

Men's Walk 115:
April 19—22, 2018
Camp Summit

Women's Walk 116:

April 26—29, 2018
Camp Summit

Chrysalis Flights

Girl's Flight 127:
Nov 9—12, 2017
Camp Milan

Boy's Flight 128:
Nov 16—19, 2017
Camp Milan

**Emmaus Walks
Held at Camp Summit
3321 57th Ave
New Windsor, IL**

**Chrysalis Flights
Held at Camp Milan
Milan, IL**

Grapevine

QC Emmaus / QC Chrysalis



Greetings from the Community Lay Director

My wife Cindy and I are members of Christ Church, East Moline Illinois. We have several annual events at the church and the one that sticks out in my mind is our outside baptisms. We have been blessed the last couple of years to host the event in our swimming pool. We've had first time baptisms and several renewal baptisms. To hear the testimonies of why they're wanting to be baptized and to hear their testimonies a year after their baptism, are both incredible blessings from God. As I stand there and watch their faces when they come out of the water, I often search for words to describe it. Those of you that truly know me, know that I'm very rarely at a loss for words. But to see the expressions on their faces, to know how God is shining down on them at that moment and knowing that God has so much planned for them, I have great peace as well as some excitement.

There are other times I see faces shining with peace and excitement, the same time that you do. Saturday night at Candlelight we see their faces then hear testimonies at Closing on Sunday. On Saturday night, I have the opportunity to be outside and meet the bus. As the Pilgrims are getting off the bus and lining up to come inside; there are some interesting faces from thoughts racing through their minds. And then when we leave on Saturday night as we are walking out to see the faces of the pilgrims in the church. We all know what they feel like; they have been bathed in more agape love than imaginable. And then to see them on Sunday as they walked back into the church to tell their incredible testimonies. For we all know that God has had His hand on the weekend long before it began; in team meetings, team formation and selection of the weekend lay leader. It is in these moments the Emmaus Community can get a glimpse of what God is doing through our community. I say a glimpse because we do not have the opportunity many times, to hear their stories a year later.

During those Sunday testimonies, each of the pilgrims are told this is not a time for 'thank you'. But you all know that each one of them wants to say thank you again and again. If you have had the opportunity to be at a closing ceremony over the last year and a half, you have heard me tell the pilgrims that the greatest thank you that someone can give is to sponsor someone else. Share the blessing of an Emmaus Weekend with many 'someone else's'.

At the start of each year the Emmaus Board goes through an exercise where each board member talks about their goals or dreams for the Quad City Emmaus Community. Each year the number one goal or dream is to have full weekends with a waiting list for future weekends. Each one of us have been blessed by a sponsor that led us to our weekend. I know that several of you are faithful servants in sponsoring pilgrims and I thank you for that. So, I ask each one of you spend time with God in prayer asking him who He wants you to sponsor. Just as each weekend is bathed and wrapped in prayer, so I ask that each of you spend time praying about sponsorship. For the key to the future of the Quad City Emmaus community is sponsorship. If you have questions about sponsoring a pilgrim on a weekend, please contact Kathy Ramp at kdramp@mchsi.com or 309-738-8389. Weekend applications can be found on the QC Emmaus website at <http://qcemmaus.org/>.

~Richard Willard Community Lay Director Walk #13



Community Spiritual Director

BIBLE TRIVIA

When the prodigal son returned, his father gave him a robe, shoes and what other item?

(Look in Luke 15:22)

On what island was Paul shipwrecked as he made his way to Rome? (Look in Acts 28:1)

Fall 2018 Walks:

Men's Walk #117

Sept 20–23, 2018

Lay Director—TBD

Women's Walk #118

Sept 27–30, 2018

Lay Director—TBD

Who Should You Sponsor?

Sponsorship applications can be found at www.qcemmaus.org and sent to:

Quad City Conference of Walk to Emmaus
PO Box 971
Moline, IL 61266

Please contact Becky Layman, Emmaus Registrar @ 309-502-9508, or other Emmaus Board members with any questions.

May I invite you into my study?

This month, I would like to ask you to mentally 'tag along' with me as I share just a bit of the joy and some of the challenges of being a Pastor. I need to begin with my hold-harmless, that I am speaking only for myself. I am absolutely certain that the practices of we clergy differ, possibly quite greatly. I simply offer one person's perspective.

The raw concept for this article comes from an organization that calls themselves "Ministry Matters." It is one of many 'feeds' I receive on a weekly / monthly basis. Some of their articles and writers, I would love to have a conversation with, just to flesh out their ideas, and interact with them on their topics.

The one I wish to share with you comes from a writer named Talbot Davis. Talbot is the Pastor of Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, in Charlotte, North Carolina. I share it as simply food for thought as we, in the Walk to Emmaus movement encourage every person who goes on a walk to make a concerted effort to study Scripture, in an on-going basis, in some manner.

His posit question was: Is preaching intensely a solitary activity, or is it a thoroughly social exercise? It was suggested, at the seminary I attended, that we should preach with the "Bible in one hand, and the newspaper in the other." Meaning, it should be our conscious attempt, each week, to make the Scripture passage we are preaching about, relative to the times we are living in.

For me, I attempt to work as far ahead as my schedule will allow me. It is a kind of a personal goal to stay 4 to 6 weeks 'out' ahead of the Sunday I am actually preaching, to lay out the initial stages of my upcoming messages. Ministry has times when you have to invest hours, or even days in special circumstances, so I like to be 'ahead' of the curve, when those times come.

And, for me, I prepare two messages each week; one for the Sunday morning services, and one for the Sunday evening Contemporary service.

I confess, I LOVE, love, love the privilege of digging deep into the Word each week! I have my Commentaries, my books of the original languages, my Study Bibles and all needed materials at hand, which can sometimes be a pretty large amount of table space needed to keep them all handy. But, at bottom, the process is intensely one of solitude. I write, then step away for a while, then come back, and repeat the pattern until the original draft is completed.

But then, the object of doing all the preparatory work, is to make the presentation to a "gathered community." And, obviously, like every Preacher of the Word, I hope to make SOME kind of impact; leave some thought that each parishioner would hopefully take home with them to contemplate on regarding the Scripture.

I also confess, that having done a little bit of reading in this area, of preaching, I am aware that the average attention spans of many of us {yes, me too} is not quite as long as it used to be, so I intentionally attempt to insert some appropriate and relevant humor, an illustration, or example every 3-5 minutes.

Obviously, due to space, time, (& attention span) constraints, let me leave you with a thought many of we who preach regularly were pretty sure of, but now, finally have the hard data to back it up. In a Bloomberg report, out in early August 2017, using data from

Community Spiritual Director, continued

the National Center for Biotechnology Information, [yes they really exist], a 2013 study showed that humans have declined from their year 2000, in length of attention span. In 2000, the average human had an attention span of 12 seconds. In 2013, it had decreased to 8 seconds, which now puts us second, behind the average goldfish, which has a 9 second attention span. {Which hasn't changed in the last 13 years!}.

Moral of my story, if you're going to preach, work at it, and do the best you can to keep it short! Oh look... A squirrel!

Looking forward to celebrating the fall walks with you. Signed up for the 72-hour prayer vigil yet?

Blessings, and DeColores! [The COLORS ... of fall]

Pastor Steve Hartman

Andover, IL serving: Illinois City & Pine Bluff U.M.C.'s

Upcoming Chrysalis Flights:

Girl's Flight 127:

Nov 9–12, 2017

Camp Milan

Boy's Flight 128:

Nov 16–19, 2017

Camp Milan



Blessings to the Emmaus and Chrysalis Community,

First, on behalf of the Chrysalis Board I want to say thank you to the Community, for coming through on our request for donations to purchase technology items. We had an overwhelming response of love and donations from our community. We are praising God for answered prayers. The Chrysalis Board purchased a computer and a printer to be used for weekends and team meetings.

Please be praying for the upcoming flights in November 9th – 12th - Girls Flight #127, November 16th – 19th Boys Flight #128. If you would like to sponsor a youth for the Chrysalis weekend, please see the link on the Emmaus Website under Chrysalis.

Thank you for your support of the Chrysalis Community.

Kelly Miller Chrysalis Community Lay Director

Mark your calendars for October Gathering!

Saturday, October 14, 2017 @ Christ Church Silvis, IL

- Reunion 3:00 PM
- Sponsorship Training 4:30 PM
- Potluck 5:00 PM
- Gathering 6:15 PM

Interested in Serving on an Emmaus Team?

If you are interested in serving on a future team please contact **Carl Loweth** at carl.loweth@gmail.com.



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.qcemmaus.org