

Southern New England Emmaus Newsletter

January 2016

A Message from the Lay Directors

Greetings to the Southern New England Emmaus Community!

PRIORITY. This is a topic that had been working its way into our minds, hearts and prayers as we have once again started the process of forming a team for the next Walk to Emmaus, Walk #79. As Community Lay Directors, this can sometimes be one of the more challenging tasks that we must accomplish. We spend time in prayer with other members of the community asking God to send us the names of those He wants on the next team and then we send out the invitation letters. Responses to our letters trickle in; we follow up with emails and phone calls; all the time praying that those God has chosen will hear His voice and accept the call.

One response that we often hear is, "I'm just too busy". We realize that as human beings we have many obligations. We all have obligations to work, to our church and to our families. As you contemplate the many times God has called you to do something, whether it be serve on an Emmaus weekend or answer another call, we have found it helpful to remember the first talk of the weekend: the "PRIORITY" talk. We hear that God has given us as humans the ability to establish our own priorities. We also learn that sometimes we allow the outside world to set our priorities for us, but that we are most happy and peaceful when we set our own priorities on what we love, believe in and are willing to work toward.

We believe that if we truly want to serve God, our churches and our Emmaus community we must make these commitments a priority. Ways this can be accomplished, besides your prayer support, are serving on team, attending candlelight and closing, offering gifts of agape, attending gatherings, and sponsoring a pilgrim. Do you remember when you were presented with your Emmaus cross at the end of your weekend? Do you remember the words that were spoken as the cross was placed around your neck? "Christ is counting on you", and your reply was, "I am counting on Christ". And the Emmaus Community is counting on you too!

In closing we ask you to answer the same three questions that are asked at the end of the Priority talk. What do you think about? How do you spend your money? How do you spend your time? That is your priority!

Glenn and Donna Moody, Community Lay Directors

Application deadline for Walk #79 is March 21, 2016

Contact registrars Nina & Richard Dunne for forms or registration information: 401-789-3228 Or visit our website: <u>www.sneemmaus.org</u> (Members username: freely; password: freely)

SNE Emmaus Community Facebook Launch!

We are pleased to announce the launch of our new Fourth Day Community Facebook page! The idea is to supplement our current website and emails to help further strengthen connectivity within the SNE community, as well as encourage and support each other on our respective Fourth Day journeys. For those not familiar with Facebook, it has rapidly evolved into one of the primary methods of communication in our world, often exceeding email and even text messaging in terms of exposure and reach.

If you are a Facebook member, simply search for "Southern New England Emmaus" on your Facebook home page, and click "Join Group". Within a short time, you will be granted full access to the site content, be able to post or comment, and also begin receiving updates directly on your home page (a feature which you can control). We also encourage you to help us "spread the word" of our Facebook presence among the entire community by inviting fellow SNE Fourth Day pilgrims who use Facebook. It's easy to do using the invite feature on the main page, by adding them directly if they OK, or by directing them to the site and having them ask to join. (And any member can approve another member!) We've already posted recent newsletters, information about upcoming gatherings, and inspirational Christmas and New Year's messages, and plan to provide weekly encouraging content in the spirit of Emmaus as we

Please join us as we look to use this wonderful technology to help sustain the strength generated during our Walks and further advance His kingdom!

continue our respective journeys with the Lord.

Emmaus Mailing List: If you know Community members who are not getting the newsletters (either email or snail mail), please forward their addresses to: <u>rasperry@gmail.com</u> AND sneemmaus@gmail.com And please switch to email if possible to help us save on postage costs. Send your email address to: sneemmaus@gmail.com

WINTER EMMAUS GATHERING!

Saturday, January 23rd, 2016 - 12 – 3 p.m. North Kingstown United Methodist Church 450 Boston Neck Rd, North Kingstown, RI 02852

You are all invited to attend The Emmaus Gathering on Saturday January 23, 2016 from 12-3 at the North Kingstown United Methodist Church. The snow date will be the following Saturday, January 30th.

We'll have a "spirit-led" potluck lunch at noon. We'll ask everyone to pray about what to bring. There will be no signup sheets, and no one asking anyone to bring something specific. Just bring something to share! Drinks will be provided.

After lunch, we'll go to the Sanctuary to spend some time singing your favorite songs out of the song book. Then we'll have a worship service with Communion.

In addition to praying about what to bring for lunch, we'll ask everyone to pray about whom they might invite. It could be someone from the community that we haven't seen in a while, or someone praying about going on the weekend as a pilgrim. It'll be a great time for fellowship with the Emmaus community! Directions from the North:

Take Route 95 South to Route 4 South (left exit). Follow Route 4 to exit for Route 102 South toward Wickford. Follow Route 102 South approx. 4 miles through 3 traffic lights to the first stop sign. This is Wickford. Bear right onto Route 1A South and immediately go over a small bridge. Follow Route 1A South, 3/4 mile, through two traffic lights. Church is on the left after the second light.

Directions from the South:

Coming from Jamestown or Newport: Cross the Jamestown Bridge (Route 138 West) and take the exit for Route 1A. Turn left onto Route 1A heading north. Coming from Kingston: Take Rt. 138 East to exit for Route 1A - Wickford. Turn left onto Route 1A heading north. Coming from Narragansett: Take Route 1A North - Boston Neck Road.

The church is about 2 miles north of the intersection of Route 1A & 138. It is on the right side, just past Fagan's Funeral Home, Hamilton Plaza and Wickford Sunoco.

UPCOMING EMMAUS WALKS

Men's Walk #79 Women's Walk #79 April 21-24, 2016 April 28-May 1, 2016 Men's Walk #80 Women's Walk #80 Oct. 27-30, 2016 Nov. 3-6, 2016

All Walks will be held at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA



Southern New England Emmaus Community P.O. Box 461 Wakefield, RI 02880