

SonShine

www.emmaussonshine.org

August/September 2006

Message from the Lay Director

DeColores!!

Hi! I'm Kirby Miller. I walked on Richmond #5 in January 1990, and sat at the table of "Triumphant Joy." It is indeed a joy and a blessing to act as Lay Director for our Community this year. It is also a very humbling experience. I find myself faced with decisions that I cannot make on my own. I have relied heavily on our board for guidance. We have made an effort to make all decisions based on prayerful consideration.

This summer, we have been made aware of some changes our Community must make to be in compliance with the guidelines set up by our national Emmaus office in Nashville. Although SonShine has been an active Community for over 13 years, we have had no "formal" training by our national representatives. In June, a regional meeting was held in Virginia Beach for training and fellowship. Several members of our board were blessed with the opportunity to attend. We attended presentations by several outstanding speakers, including our International Lay Director, International Spiritual Director, and our Regional Representative, Greg Engroff. It was a very enlightening weekend. Considering our lack of training, we are doing a lot of things right. However, we must make some changes.

According to national guidelines, every community should have a personal visit by their representative at least once every 3 years. Our first visit will be the weekend of September 29th and 30th. Greg will meet with our Board on Friday evening (Sept 29th) from 7:00 PM to about 9:00 PM. On Saturday (Sept 30th), he will meet with the entire community from 9:00 AM until about 3:00 PM for fellowship and training. We will begin with singing, fellowship, training, lunch, training, communion, and benediction. As a Board, we ask each of you to mark your calendars now and attend this very important event.

On August 19th, our Board of Directors will meet at 2:30 PM, to review the guidelines, discuss alternatives, and put together a list of questions for our representative. We need all Board members present, if possible.

We often think of ourselves as an independent community, but we have to remember that we are just one of over 300 communities in the United States, chartered by the National Emmaus office in Nashville, and committed to serve according to their regulations. These guidelines are constantly reviewed and revised as needed by the National Board, for the continued well being of Emmaus as a whole. We believe that Emmaus is truly a ministry blessed by God, and we, as a Board, are committed to work with our representative to make SonShine an even greater Community. Your assistance and feedback is greatly appreciated. Please keep our Board of Directors, our whole Community, and our representative, Greg Engroff, in your prayers.

In Christ,
Kirby

SonShine Emmaus 2006 Calendar

August 19 Beach Theme	2:30 PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM	CALLED Board Meeting Pot Luck Dinner Gathering
September 16 Wear Fall Colors	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	Board Meeting (<i>This may change depending on our August meeting</i>) Gathering – Bring Snacks
September 29	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Board Meeting
September 30	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Training Day We will have Lunch
October 19 – 22 :		Men's Walk #42
October 21	6:30 PM	Gathering & Candlelight at the Abbey
November 9 – 12		Women's Walk #43

Watch for more updates in future Newsletters and on the website www.emmaussonshine.org.

Walks are held at the Abbey and other activities are held at Mechanicsville United Methodist Church.

ATTENTION – ATTENTION

It is not too late to submit applications for the men's and women's walks!!

**Applications are available on the web site
www.emmaussonshine.org,
or you can contact Debbie Gillis at 672-8130.**

***NOMINATING COMMITTEE
TO MEET SOON***

If you are interested in chairing a committee next year, please attend the Training scheduled on September 30th. Also, send a note as follows advising your interest.

Send to: SonShine Emmaus
ATTN: NOMINATING COMMITTEE
P O Box 55
Mechanicsville VA 23111-0055

---Committees are listed on page 3

Community Board Members

Board Members, please send your e-mail address to kdmiller54@verizon.net

Lay Director	Kirby Miller
Assistant Lay Director	Connie Beekman
Immediate Past Lay Director	Chris White
Secretary	Suzanne Bullock
Treasurer	Dina Giese
Communications (i.e. newsletter, e-mail)	David Ogburn, Lois Miller, Gene Mims, Dina Giese
Webmaster	John Wermuth
Registrar	Debbie Gillis
Team Selection Chair	Vicky White & Gene Mims
Clergy Liaison	Bobby Gibson
Weekend Community Support	David Ogburn
Fourth Day Packets	Donna Ring
Supplies	Gene Mims
Outside Community Agape	Duane Brankley
DDU Chair	Lois Miller & Sharon Perkins
Community Outreach	Cathy Davis
General Agape	Mechanicsville UMC Emmaus Members
Gathering Support	Suzie Verbeke
Historian	Mechanicsville UMC Emmaus Members
Childcare	Cindy & David Ogburn
Fourth Day Speaker	Dina Geise
Facility Coordinator for walks	Sharon Perkins
Placemats	Suzanne & Michaux Bullock
Prayer Wheel	Joan Stewart
Reunion Groups	
Prayer Concerns	

At Large Members

<u>Class of 2006</u>	<u>Class of 2007</u>	<u>Class of 2008</u>
Carol Bookwalter (clergy)	Dean Pittman (Clergy)	Jeanne Bluford (Music)
Susan Hammond (Music)	Glenda Creamer (Music)	Chip Beekman
Tony Western	Suzanne Bullock	Suzie Verbeke
Polly Rowan	Addie Lee Kelley	Page Allen
Mark Deal	Brenda Atkins	Tommy Davis
Kathy Terry	Henry Van Gils	

We are anticipating a board next year of 15 members who will chair the various committees. These chairpersons will appoint others to assist them with their tasks.

We will begin using our community banner for our walks, so we will not longer need a coordinator for banners.

SonShine Emmaus Community

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

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Read the Lay Director's message on page 1 and find out more about the training to take place September 29 and 30.