



SonShine Emmaus



November 2009

Lay Director's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

SonShine 47 is now history. The pilgrims attending the walk were obviously moved by the experience. We are looking forward to fellowshiping with them as part of the SonShine Community.

November 21st is our last gathering of the year, and it will be a Day of Deeper Understanding, a celebration dinner provided jointly by Mechanicsville UMC and Atlee Community Church. Dinner will be followed by our November gathering. DDU is at 4:00, Dinner at 5:30, and the Gathering starts at 6:30. Many thanks go out to Susan Hammond and the team for a job well done. Also thanks to the many people who put in many hours behind the scenes, some more than they planned due to sickness of some that had planned to help. And finally thanks to the members of the community that attended Sponsor's Hour, Candlelight, Closing and those that made the time to create Agape for the walk.

The community treasury is still in need of donations for the many scholarships that were requested this time. Times have been tough for many, and it has affected donations for SonShine. To keep from spending any more than the Community has to, a list will appear elsewhere in the newsletter of standard supply items that we are running low on in our supply trunks at the Abbey. Since most of the items are low cost items we are asking members of the Community to donate some of the items. If these can be purchased prior to the Gathering and then brought to the Gathering, it would make collecting the items much easier.

Finally, I wish all a blessed Thanksgiving, and hope that many will be able to spend this time with their families. What an awesome God we serve, and we are thankful for all the blessings he has bestowed on us.

Your Brother in Christ,

Tom Verbeke

tverbeke@verizon.net or 804-272-4618

Walk Supplies That Are Needed

Tea Lights (needed for luminary bags for candlelight. They are cheapest when purchased in bags of 100)

Brown or White Lunch Bags (needed as luminary bags, white is preferable, if brown the bags need to be thin so the light can get through)

Clear Plastic Candle Shields (for the community holding candles)

Candles for the above item

Play Dough (Multi-colored packages, Play Dough brand is preferable)

3 Extension Cords – (Tom Verbeke is purchasing)

DeColores Cards – (Gene Mims is printing)

Masking Tape

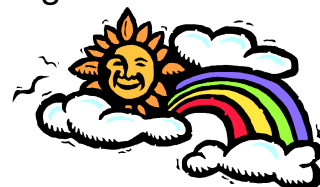
Scotch Tape

Please bring any items to the Gatherings.

De Colores Store is Coming to You!

The De Colores Store is being brought to to the November 21st Gathering. This will be a great time and place to buy gifts for Christmas.

The store will be open in the Fellowship Hall at 4:00 and will be open until the Gathering begins at 6:30. Come early!



Thoughts from a Community Member

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Emmaus,

It has been brought to my attention that there are several of us who wish that our spouses and children would experience a Walk to Emmaus. In fact, from time to time, I am sure we all can think of a loved one or two we pray would walk.

We'll have faith my friends. It may be that they will never walk, but do not be discouraged. Perhaps it is through your walk that the Lord will speak to them. Why just yesterday, my own husband expressed his anxiety about his Mother's passing on someday and no longer being there to turn to for advice on life.

Thanks to my Emmaus experiences and the testimony of brothers and sisters I have met in our community,

I knew to say, "Honey, when the time comes, I know you will miss your Mom and no one is like her. But God will introduce someone into your life to mentor to you when that day comes. Do not be afraid -- he will never leave you alone!"

Without Emmaus, I would have sat and said, "Honey, I am scared too." I am sure that would only make him feel worse. I am glad I was able to reach my Husband because of my walk and teaming experiences. I am glad God used me as an instrument. I know now that if my husband never walks, God will use my walk to touch my loved ones if I will just keep the faith.

With love,

Jenn Navolis
SonShine #44

2009 Calendar

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| Nov 21 | 4:00 - DDU, Walk Critique 5:30 – Dinner Planned by Mechanicsville UMC & Atlee Community Church 6:30 - Gathering/Celebration |
| Dec. | No December Gathering |

**All meetings and Gatherings are held at:
Mechanicsville United Methodist Church
7356 Atlee Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111**

SonShine Emmaus Community
P. O. Box 55
Mechanicsville, VA 23111