

I remember getting the call asking if I would serve God as a Rectora for the NCA Emmaus community. As His plan would have it, I was at a Bible study at my church. I'm actually surprised I didn't leave an imprint in the floor as I jumped for joy! I love to plan and be organized, so I anxiously began thinking through what I wanted God's weekend to reflect - his light shining through each of us as we serve as his hands and feet through love and grace.

The theme, Shine in His Love, was actually easy to decide on and the verse was a given. When I walked on E-168 I was called 'Sunshine' and that became my goal - to shine! So the verse, Matthew 5:16 -- "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven" -- resonated with me immediately the first time I teamed and needed a favorite verse. Identifying a song has been a bit more challenging. Eventually, I heard "Shine" by Joy Enriquez, and the first time I heard it, it spoke to my heart and soul and brought me to tears.

One of the greatest compliments I have ever received was not long after I walked. I went to visit an old friend who I hadn't seen for several years. The first thing she said was that I looked changed. She didn't mean physically, but my spiritual change was shining through. I pray that God will let each of us, both team and pilgrims, truly shine and share His love and grace throughout our lives and all will see that we Shine in His Love!