Meet the Weekend Lay Director for Walk 57:
Introducing Rich Ulrey

I had the opportunity to “talk” with the Men’s Weekend Lay Director (WLD) for Walk #57, and wanted to introduce you to Rich Ulrey. Rich worships at St. Paul UMC in Lusby, MD. He walked on Southern Maryland Emmaus #21, and sat at the table of Thomas (CLAP!).

I asked Rich three questions. First, “How has God prepared you to take on this role of WLD?” Rich replied: “My first two teaming experiences were on the Agape Team and my last teaming experience was on Agape. Being behind the scenes and working with the ebb and flow of the weekend was very enlightening. Working with Team and Community members with such a heart for servanthood was both humbling and gratifying. I help to lead a High School Sunday School class which is God’s way of keeping me grounded. I may not be completely prepared for the role of WLD, but I’m putting my trust in God.”

Second question was “what experiences in Emmaus have brought you to this place?” Rich replied, “My experience on the Board of Directors has made me more eager to serve on the weekend.”

And lastly, “what can we as a community do to help you prepare for the weekend?” Rich told me that the best thing the Community can do for the Team is to Sponsor. He said, “Sponsor a lot and sponsor early. The earlier we know we have enough Pilgrims to hold a Walk the better. Then the Team can focus on preparing for the weekend and not on worrying about whether we are going to have a Walk. OK - more importantly - please pray for Team. Thanks.”

see WLD page 4
2018 Walks - West River

Men's Walk #57 April 5 - 8             Women's Walk #58 April 12 - 15

Make plans to attend the community events for each walk:
Thursday - Sponsor’s Hour - 7:00 p.m.            Saturday - Candlelight - 8:00 p.m.
                                                   Sunday - Closing - 4:00 p.m.

Sign up to pray for our walks (and others) online at:
www.3dayol.org

Pilgrim and Team Applications and this newsletter may be downloaded from the web at http://www.southernmarylandemmaus.com/
CLICK on “Documents, Lists and Newsletters”

Mailing Address for Southern Maryland Emmaus
P.O. Box 343
White Plains, MD 20695

Upcoming Events of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community

October 21 3:30 pm - Special Fall Fourth Day Seminar & Clergy Appreciation Gathering 5 - 7 pm. Good Shepherd UMC Smallwood Drive, Waldorf, MD.

November 18, 5 - 7 pm Gathering at Hollywood United Methodist Church
24422 Mervell Dean Rd. Hollywood, MD

4th Day Seminars

Seminars are held in the spring following the men’s and women’s walks. The next seminar date will be announced shortly. Attendance at a Fourth Day Seminar is required in order to sponsor pilgrims, and is highly recommended for those who wish to team.
Emmaus Shorts

Do You Know?

Late last week, I was listening to a very knowledgeable person who was being interviewed on a popular cable news program. He was offering his thoughts on some very weighty topics of the day. He may even have had the answers to some of the world’s most pressing problems, but I’ll never know. I’ll never know, because every few words were interrupted by the distracting phrase “you know.” His speech sounded a bit like this: “The answer, you know, to our problems with Russia, you know, can be found in the, you know, words of that great, you know, philosopher...” There was more, but I couldn’t hear anything other than that repetitive refrain, “you know.” Linguists call interjections like “you know” and “I mean” and a multitude of others “filler” or “discourse particles.” I just call them annoying.

We generally think of society as progressing as the years move forward, but communicating in the 21st century seems to be taking a step or two backwards. Instead of becoming clearer, our writing and speaking skills are being allowed to atrophy. Part of the problem may be that schools are not placing as much emphasis on good writing as they did back in my day (you know, the day with manual typewriters and land line telephones.) And technology hasn’t helped. The advent of email and especially cell phone text messages has given rise to a language that is virtually unintelligible to, well, you know, us older folks. Consider this text message I recently received from my daughter: “?4U. PCM. TAFM.”

At first I assumed that her fingers had been over one key to the right of where they should have been on the tiny keyboard, but my wife Pat, insisted that I simply did not know the language of the young. But I was ready, I knew an enterprising young man in the neighborhood who had started a home business called “Rent-a-Teen”. I gave him a call, and he sent a 14-something boy over to interpret for me. “Now sir,” he said, “it’s really quite simple, you know. You see, she is saying, you know: Question for you. Please call me. That’s all for now.” I told him, “Thank you for KPC.” He looked puzzled. That’s “Keeping Parents Clueless”, I explained.

Sometimes understanding what others are trying to tell us can be difficult. Sometimes even God’s message to us may be confusing. We often wish that the Lord would be a bit more direct with us. Perhaps we just need to listen a bit more closely as God speaks to us. The Bible can be our interpreter. The more we study God’s word, the easier it will be to hear his message clearly.

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Gatherings Schedule for Remainder of 2017

November 18, Hollywood UMC, 24422 Mervell Dean Rd., Holywood MD 5 - 7 PM

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On the Right Path

Deadline for next issue is November 1, 2017. The preferred method of submission is as an MSWord document file or a WordPerfect file (.rtf file also acceptable) sent via-e-mail to the following address: dbrennan6@verizon.net. Very short articles or notes may be sent in the body of the e-mail message. Please send your comments and recommendations as well to the editor, Dan Brennan, at the e-mail address above.

"On the Right Path" is published by the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community. 
Dan Brennan Editor.
Resources on Our Web Site

Visit http://www.southernmarylandemmaus.com for these and other community resources:

- Southern Maryland Emmaus Leadership Roster & Board of Directors

- Southern Maryland Emmaus Prayer Points of Contact (PPOC)

Prayer Coordinator

Jan Drass
jdrass@maranatha.net

On The Right Path

This is the newsletter of the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community. It is published quarterly, available online at our website: www.southernmarylandemmaus.com

The link to the newsletter is emailed to community members through PPOCs. If you do not have a PPOC, contact Jan Drass at jdrass@maranatha.net

Southern Maryland Emmaus is affiliated with the International Emmaus Movement of The Upper Room, Nashville, Tn. Emmaus is a program offering of the Upper Room International Walk to Emmaus Office. Our purpose is to inspire, challenge, and equip church members for Christian Action.

WLD from page 1

I hope you have gotten a peak inside the heart of this servant-leader who is already preparing for Walk #57. Please keep Rich and his team, as well as our future pilgrims in prayer as well. It is never too early to begin praying and embracing the opportunity each of us has to support the walks in other ways as well, sponsoring a pilgrim, volunteering to help on the walk, serving as a team member, or being present at weekend activities like candlelight.

The next newsletter will introduce you to the Weekend Lay Director for Walk # 58… stay tuned!
Huntingtown UMC

Craft Show  October 28th, 8:30 am - 3 pm

The ladies in our church run this and give the proceeds to a ministry such as our Youth Mission Trip in the summer. Come on out and get a jump on your Christmas shopping.

Children's Workshop December 23rd, 10 am to 1 pm

The children make some things for themselves but also make items for the Project Echo Homeless Shelter and the Heart Felt program (back packs given to children who don't have a lot to eat when they go home on Friday from school). All children are welcome.

La Plata UMC

Holiday Shoppe and Bake Sale  
Saturday, November 11, 9 am - 2 pm

The La Plata United Methodist Women invite you to their Holiday Shoppe and Bake Sale featuring craft vendors, home businesses, Creative Craft Circle Quilt Auction, used books, recycled Christmas Shoppe, Children's Make it Shoppe, and our homemade bake sale.

Calvary UMC

Talent Show & Auction September 23, 3:00 pm

The Calvary United Methodist Women is sponsoring a talent show and auction to raise funds to feed the hungry. If you are interested in signing up for the show, please contact Stacy Feldman at 301-807-1861 or jfeld0928@md.metrocast.net. If you are interested in donating items to the auction, please contact Betty Lyon at 240-823-7131 or betty.ackerson@gmail.com. And, of course, come out to see the show.
Hi all! Here is our first attempt to hear from you all! Happy to see that I received three high quality responses to the following question:

“What was the one thing that most impacted you from your walk or Emmaus training/experience, and how are you using it today?”

From Barry Oren (Bethel-Nichols UMC) SME #41

“While many aspects of the walk impacted me, the one thing that stands out is the near instant camaraderie. It developed over the course of the walk and became a tight bond which introduced the concept of the fourth day. As my fourth day continues, the concept is kept alive with reunion groups, gatherings, teaming and especially at candlelight and closing ceremonies. It is so refreshing to walk into any of our events and feel that gush of camaraderie flowing so freely.

From Katie Grover (Pastor, Patapsco-Lodge Forest Cooperative Parish) SME #36

Some background: I moved to KY shortly after my walk in May of 2010. My sponsor had connected me with someone from the Lexington Emmaus community (this person also had a So. MD connection through St. Mary’s College.) I attended the candlelight service for their fall walk because I couldn’t be at candlelight in Arkansas for a very good friend. I knew NO ONE on the walk. I also didn’t know the service was sooooo long.

My perspective: Emmaus creates a global community of believers through the demonstration of Christ’s love that extends to those we may not even know by name. Standing behind a candle and looking in the eyes of men and women I don’t even know and yet feeling a kinship through the love of Christ is a powerful experience.

From Rich Weaver (Good Shepherd UMC) SME #15

“This was a visual thing that turned Spiritual. The lighted ceramic face of Jesus (Rev. Ken Walker’s?), whose eyes seemed to follow you around the Chapel, left such an impression that I bought one for my “Mad Scientist” alter-ego to bring to watch over the Discovery (Science) Station during Vacation Bible School.

Thank you to each of you for sharing your perspective with us!

Child Care Volunteers Needed!

Janet Goodwin (SME #2) serves as our Southern Maryland Emmaus Child Care Coordinator. The Board decided in the Spring to restart child care at monthly gatherings due to an identified need among new community members who wanted to attend community events. In addition to child care at gatherings, we also provide child care at Walks for candlelight and closing.

There is a detailed policy to assure safe care of children. We follow safe sanctuary guidelines that require background checks and that two unrelated persons over age 18 be present at all times during child care. Church approved safe sanctuary certificates are applicable. There is no additional cost to either the church, SME or an individual. Volunteers who provide child care are paid. If you are interested in serving as a child care volunteer, or have questions, please contact Janet Goodwin at 301-481-5159 or janet.goodwin1@gmail.com.

We are hoping to create a pool of child care volunteers to call upon for child care at Southern Maryland Emmaus community events in the future.
Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The Board meets monthly, and here are the highlights from meetings in June through August:

A Nominating Committee was formed with Margaret Kolbe chairing the group. A list of potential Board members was created, and committee members are in the process on contacting names. In addition, community members have been asked to submit names for the Board by September 20.

Weekend Lay Director training was held on July 29.

The Board is working to create a yearly budget with the input of all Committee Chairpersons, with a goal of having a completed budget projection for 2018 by October.

The Board discussed and decided that only community events that are sponsored/hosted by a church active in Emmaus and not fund-raising would be included in the community events section of the newsletter. If events miss the newsletter deadline, they may be included in emails no more often that twice a month.

Team Selection Committee met in August to create a candidates list, which was presented and approved by the Board of Directors in August. Weekend Lay Directors will begin calling potential team members.

After seeking input from the community, a decision was made to add a Fall Fourth Day Seminar. This Fourth Day Seminar will be held October 21 at 3:30 pm, at Good Shepherd UMC in Waldorf. Location was changed to accommodate the largest number of potential attendees. The October gathering will still be focused on Clergy Appreciation.

A Thank You note was received from Andy Thornton (of West River) thanking our community for the campership established in his name in honor of his retirement.

Discussion has started on possibly changing walks from Spring to Fall. More discussion planned at upcoming Board meetings.

Friend Us on Facebook! Blairlee Owens - New Administrator

My name is Blairlee Owens. I worship at Trinity United Methodist Church in Annapolis and I walked on Southern Maryland Emmaus Walk #30 and sat at the table of Ruth. (clap) I have recently taken over as the Administrator for our Southern Maryland Emmaus Community Facebook Page. (https://www.facebook.com/groups/154818234532686/) The page has been "up" for years, but there has been little activity on it. With this announcement, I am hoping that many of you will friend us! I plan on posting information from the Upper Room about Emmaus as well as information about the Southern Maryland Emmaus Community. By keeping the information current and up to date, as well as interesting, I hope to use this social media tool to help expand our communication reach to more members of the community. There are a few basic guidelines we will follow- like you do have to have attended a 3 day walk to be a friend of the page. All comments and info will be approved before being posted. Feel free to pass this info on to others in Southern Maryland Emmaus. Please like our Facebook page and send me any information you would like to me to put on our page. Please let me know if you have any questions!
Southern Maryland Emmaus Community
Reunion & Accountability Groups

The Reunion Group Coordinator, Ellen Bertelsen would like to hear about any active Groups in Southern Maryland. If you are having difficulty finding a Reunion Group, contact Priscilla Rollins. Experience the Fourth Day feeling.

Bethel UMC, Upper Marlboro
Co-ed - monthly fourth Tuesday - 6:00 p.m.

Bowie UMC - Old Town Bowie
Co-ed - 1st, 3rd, 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Calvary UMC, Waldorf
Women Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.
   at Panera Bread in summer;
   at Calvary during the school year

First UMC, Laurel
Men Saturday - 7:00 a.m.
Women Saturday - 8:30 a.m.

First Saints UMC, California Campus
Women Mondays 6:00 p.m. (home setting)
   contact Sheila Hanson perseey98@gmail.com

Good Shepherd UMC, Waldorf
Co-Ed Monday 5:30 p.m. at
   restaurants call Linda Ford 301-645-6408
   Men Thursday 6:00 p.m in Chapel.
   Women Monday 7:30 p.m.
   Women Tuesday 7:30 p.m. (not at church
call 301-645-5370 for directions)
   Women Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
   Women Tuesday 8:45 a.m. (not at church
call 301-645-5370 for directions)
   Women Thursday 6:00 p.m.

Grace Notes
   Thursdays, 3:00 p.m. Contact Pam Grace
   301-475-3446

La Plata UMC, La Plata
   Women Thursday 6:00 p.m. at the church
   Men Tuesday 6:00 p.m. at the church
   Contact John Hastings ccso355@yahoo.com

Lexington Park UMC, Lexington Park
   Co-Ed Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Bob Evans Restaurant
   Co-Ed Thursday 11:30 a.m. (home setting)

Linthicum Heights UMC, Linthicum Heights
   Co-Ed Saturday 8:30 a.m.

Living Springs Christian Fellowship, Bowie
   Co-Ed Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Naval Air Station, Patuxent River
   Men Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.

Nichols-Bethel UMC, Odenton
   Co-Ed Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Olivet UMC, Lusby
   Co-Ed 1st Sunday of the month
   12:15 p.m. at Olivet UMC Good News Center

Pisgah UMC, La Plata
   Women Wednesday 6:30 p.m.
   for information contact Patti Flesher 301-743-2271

St. Paul UMC, Lusby
   Women Monday 7:00 p.m. Old Fellowship Hall
   Men Monday 7:00 p.m. Old Fellowship Hall
   Mixed Monday 7 or 8 p.m. contact Rich & Mary
   Ulrey 410-326-6446 or
   Everett Baker 410-326-6234

Shiloh UMC, Bryans Road
   Co-Ed Tuesdays 6:30 p.m.
Preparing to Elect New Board Members

The Nominating Committee for the Southern Maryland Board of Directors has been working overtime to contact potential candidates for the upcoming election! What election, you ask? Every Fall, community members have an opportunity to vote to select new Board members whose three year term on the Board of Directors will start on January 1, 2018. You can expect to see the ballot in October. You will be able to vote electronically or using a paper ballot (at the monthly gathering).

So, in order to have a ballot, we need names!

Any community member may submit the name(s) of lay community members that you would like to be considered to serve on the Board of Directors for Southern Maryland Emmaus.

Community nominations should be made in writing to one of the members of the Nominating Committee no later than September 20.

Members of the Nominating Committee include:
Margaret Kolbe mjkolbe@gmail.com
Dale Merkle rdcemerk01@aol.com
Jan Drass jdrass2@comcast.net
Gordon Piscacek gp18@verizon.net

In the last newsletter, we outlined some important qualities that potential Board members should have. In case you missed it, we strive to have Board members who represent all of our area and diversity is really important.

Emmaus Board members are expected to act responsibly, and conduct their duties faithfully, sincerely and in a cooperative manner, be loyal, and honor confidentiality. In addition, they are expected to attend the Board meetings, which are held on the third Saturday of every month, prior to the monthly gathering. It is important that Board members are present at meetings to make sure that business can be conducted with a quorum present.

Other duties of Board members include: 1) to keep informed of Emmaus related issues and what is happening in their local community; 2) participating in discussions, voting and supporting Board decisions; and 3) make independent judgments about what is best for the Board and community.

Each Board member is assigned a “job” like Secretary or Treasurer, or a chairperson of a committee with a specific focus, like Events Coordination, Communications, Team Selection, or Music, to name a few. There are job descriptions for each, and you will be trained! Many of you have had the experience of serving on one of these committees, so you know that the Board member as the chairperson sets the direction and guides the committee, but many hands are needed to get things done well.

Do you know someone in your circle of influence who would be a great potential Board member in our community? Prayer is key to identifying the right person to serve a Board member. Would you consider praying for this process that we would have excellent candidates on the ballot and potential new Board members who will serve faithfully, with a spirit of cooperation and charity? If you have any questions, would like more information, or have someone in mind to nominate, please contact the members of the Nominating Committee.

Thank you for having the Heart of a Servant
“Walk in the Light” - Southern Maryland Emmaus
Visit us on the web at www.southernmarylandemmaus.com

“Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?”
Luke 24:32

Information on the Southern Maryland Walk to Emmaus, as well as pilgrim and team applications may be found on our website:
www.southernmarylandemmaus.com

Southern Maryland Emmaus
P.O. Box 343
White Plains, MD 20695

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<th>Southern Maryland Emmaus Board of Directors 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>Community Lay Director/Chair - Ellen Bertelsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Community Lay Director/Facilities/Sponsorship - Dwaine Waltrip</td>
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<td>Past Community Lay Director - Dale Merkle</td>
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<td>Treasurer - Priscilla Rollins</td>
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<td>Secretary/Historian - Lorenda Walton</td>
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<td>Community Spiritual Director - Ken Valentine</td>
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<td>Agape Coordinator - Phil Day</td>
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<td>Asst. Agape Coordinator - Open</td>
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<td>Team Selection - Kathy Slagle</td>
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<td>Assistant Team Selection - John Hastings</td>
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<td>Community Events Coordinator/Fourth Day Coordinator - Margaret Kolbe</td>
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<td>Asst. Comm. Events/Reunion Groups - Open</td>
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<td>Registrar/Pilgrim Selection - Gordon Piscacek</td>
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<td>Assistant Registrar - Connie Shepherd</td>
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<td>Communications/Directory - Jan Drass</td>
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<td>Music Director - Jim Risley</td>
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