

Ashland Area Emmaus Community Newsletter

April 2020

An Encouraging Note from Your Community Lay Director

Luke 24: 36 says while they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “peace be with you”. It was true! Jesus had arisen from the dead. He is alive. He was encouraging His followers to not be afraid. I love the hope and encouragement of Easter!

When I feel like my hope is running low and I am need of encouragement, I know down deep in my soul where my help or encouragement comes from, it comes from the Lord. His word speaks so loud and clear to me, at just the right times. When fear tries to creep in, like it did with other followers of Jesus, He is present to calm me, saying “Peace be with you”. My goodness what an awesome God we have.

A couple weeks ago I was in great need of direction to encourage a coworker and Psalm 46:1 came to mind. The last couple of days I have been seeking God, asking Him to give me a message of encouragement for our Emmaus Community. This morning I watched a video from Brad Smart our UMC Kentucky East District Superintendent, who is also a member of our Emmaus community. What scripture did he use? Psalm 46:1 “God is our refuge and strength, an ever- present help in trouble”. God wants us to know He is not only present, like just around, but very or ever- present “always” there for us to call upon. As we prepare for Easter and unable to see each other in person, I want us to continue to check on each other and pray for each other. We will persevere, through the peace that passes all understanding.

Since our spring walks had to be cancelled, I have ask each Lay Leader to share something with you. I am so proud of James Higgins and Lori Halstead. I thought who better to ask to share, than the two people who were preparing a perseverance talk.

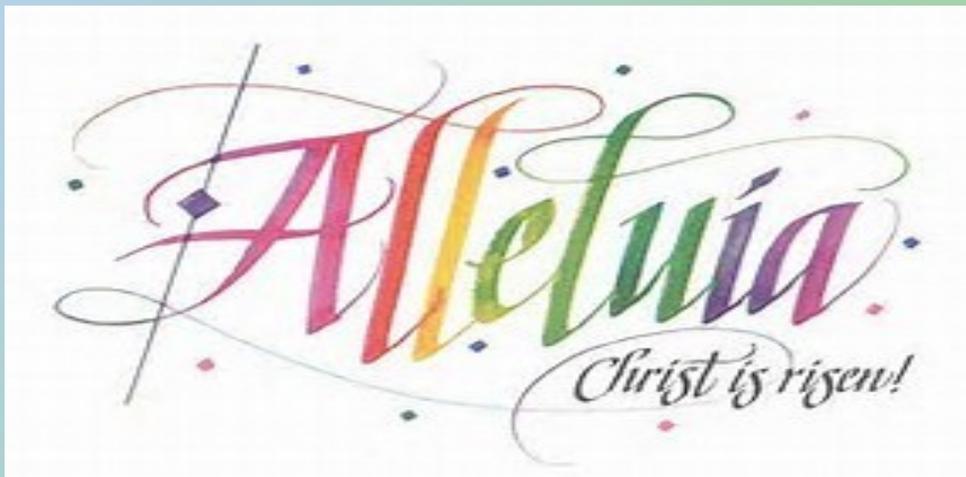
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Cindy Poling

A word from James Higgins....

A few things I have read have been great with what's going on, but right now I can only think of Philippians 4:6-7 – Don't worry about anything, but in everything through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and mind in Christ Jesus.

I am still working and I can only have faith in the Lord. Faith in He keeps me safe and Faith for the next walk to change other lives forever.



Of course I was disappointed and down when the walk was postponed. In addition, the virus was starting to ramp up. Anxiety abounded. However, Romans 12:12, though quite the short verse, sums up and provides directions perfectly for the situation.

Rejoice in hope. Be patient. Keep on praying. But this isn't just any kind of hope, it's CONFIDENT hope. The kind of hope that says, we are going to get through this, God is present, Emmaus will be again, Pilgrims will be blessed, and God will be gloried through it all.

~Lori Halstead



**Southern Ohio Chrysalis Important Notice Regarding the
Spring 2020 Hoots & Summer 2020 Flights**

In the wake of the Corona virus pandemic, the Southern Ohio Chrysalis Board has cancelled the April 28th Hoot and the two Summer 2020 Chrysalis Flights originally scheduled for July. Information regarding when Hoots will be resumed will be communicated via email.

In the meantime, may we all engage in following the recommendations of the health professionals. In addition, let us all pray for the first responders, medical professionals and other "essential" workers on the front line of this pandemic.

Thank you,

Tom & Joanne Charles

