

January 2022

Fourth Day Journal



Message from Community Lay Director:

Hello to all my Brothers and Sisters in the NCA Emmaus Community. I am Tom Lambert.

I worship at Christ United Methodist Church. I walked on E-104 and sat at the Table of Sowers and Reapers <CLAP>.

I have been called to be your Community Lay Director (CLD) for 2022 and I am truly humbled to serve you. I would be remiss in not expressing my gratitude to all our previous CLDs for their incredible leadership, especially Chris Scholz, our outgoing CLD. Chris's leadership and wisdom were instrumental in keeping our Community together during the last 21 months.

Thank you Chris for being a powerful Man of God.

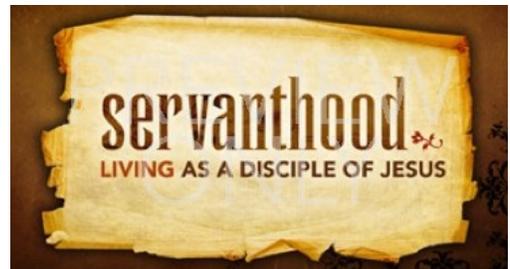
I also recognize that I will not be embarking on this

leadership journey alone. I am blessed to be serving the Community with an incredible group of God-filled servants. Your Board is a gifted group of men and women who will serve faithfully. Together we will seek God's wisdom and God's will as we move the Community forward. Equally as important are the many servants in our Community who selflessly work behind the scenes to manage the many tasks that make NCA Emmaus a powerful instrument of the Lord. Thanks to all of you who serve in these roles.

When we gathered together at Christ Church last November, my heart was filled with hope.

Just over 70 people gathered with me. Most wore masks and socially distanced. God is good.

Denise Parris delivered a wonderful testimony and the music was Spirit-filled. It was an awesome Ultreya.



Community Lay Director continued:

Even though we experienced a brief moment of reprieve in November, we are now facing a re-do on reality. As I write down what's on my heart, Omicron is doing a number of us. I am rethinking what I was going to present to the Board as we begin our work in 2022. Based on the criteria established by the previous Board, I made the decision that the Ultreya for January will be virtual. I've coordinated with the music team and the SDs by asking them to prepare their recordings, as well as connecting with the technology gurus who put all the pieces together. We will take our return one step at a time, one month at a time. Please be patient as the Board seeks the best, safest path back to in-person Ultreyas and weekends.

At the Annual Meeting before the November Ultreya, we announced that we are working toward restarting weekends in early November 2022. Since that time, I've tentatively scheduled the next men's weekend for November 3-6 with consideration of holding additional weekends in 2023. I spoke with Chris Scholz, our Rector for E-193, and he will restart the process for forming the team and planning the weekend. The Board will work diligently at finalizing the details with the facility and designing safety measures to ensure that we avoid spreading the COVID virus. Here's where we need your help. I urge you to begin forming relationships with those members of your church or community that may be potential pilgrims and invite them to a weekend. Getting applications is critical. Without pilgrims, there can be no weekends.



**Make a friend.
Be a friend.
Bring a friend
to Christ.**

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Community Lay Director continued:

Finally, whether you are on the Board, serve the Community in a supporting role, or faithfully support the Community through your time, talents, and gifts, I encourage you to pray for each other. I encourage you to remain committed to supporting your churches, your pastors, and your local community. Always remember that the purpose of NCA Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action. I also covet your prayers for the Board as we strive to walk with the Lord as he leads us forward. May God bless you and your families. May God shine his face upon you and keep you safe.

De Colores,

Tom

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

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Elected at November 2021 Ultreya

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Message from Spiritual Director - Pastor Gail Deitz

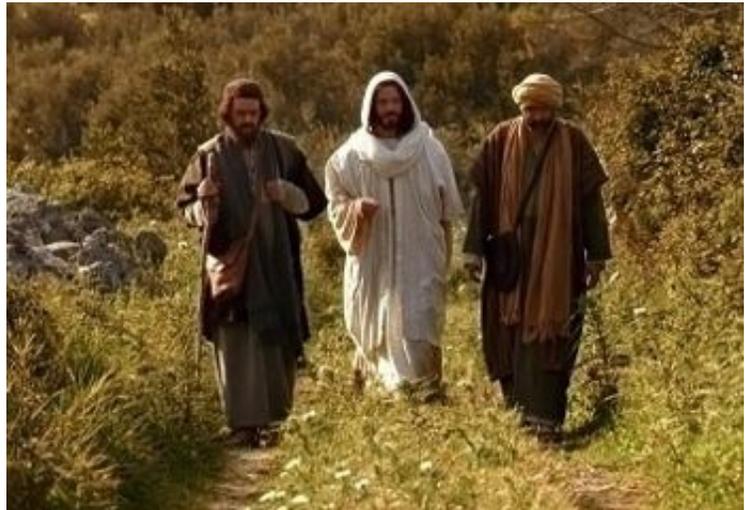
Happy New Year to all. The past two years have brought many challenges to everyone.

Those challenges include: not seeing family, health, financial, teaching, education, job security, work place environment, remembering to wear a mask, washing hands often, and the list goes on and on. Although wearing a mask and washing our hands should be automatic, I find myself walking toward the store when I realize I forgot my mask.

How often do we forget to give thanks, honor, and glory to our King, Jesus Christ.

These COVID years have tested many people. Through all of this continuing, I find myself so much closer to Jesus.

I find myself giving thanks for the tiniest bit of goodness, health, a simple smile (yes, through the mask one can see a



smile), joy, the laughter of a child, a token of kindness.

We have much to be thankful in our Emmaus Community. We are reaching out to others through phone calls, social media, cards or letters, and text messages. I'm not a fan of social media, but occasionally I will comment in a positive direction. The direction of our Emmaus Community having face to face Ultreyas and weekends remains to be seen. I trust God and I know, if need be we have to scale back again because of Covid, we will survive another year. God has this. God has all of us. God is in control. Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Don't doubt God.

Spiritual Director continued:

Life is full of ups and downs. I have had my share of roller coaster emotional rides, but I knew God was with me and continues to be with me. It's hard, though, if our health, or the health of a loved one or friend is failing. As we get older, as we begin to struggle more, as we begin to think our minds are failing, give thanks to the Lord for the blessings you have received.

Psalm 107:1 says: "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Psalm 107:8 says: "Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind," which is repeated several times.

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

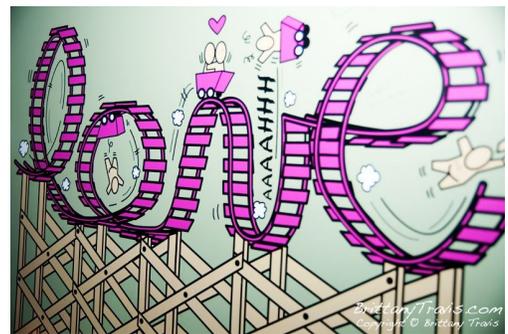
Let the poor say, "I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us"

We give thanks to You oh Lord

We give thanks

Pastor Gail



January Ultreya

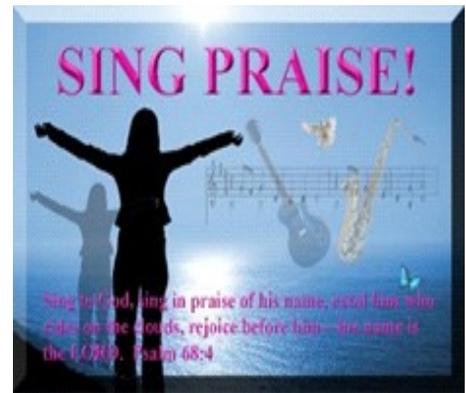
January 21, 2022 @ 7:30 pm

Virtual - See website for details
www/Emmausnca.org

From the NCAE MD

Happy New Year!

There's joy in the house of the Lord! Now, whether we are able to be in the house or online the joy is evident. Through these battles of sickness or weather or discord, the battle belongs to him and he fights for us. If we only open our eyes, he will make



a way. Our fear doesn't stand a chance when we stand in his love. For his name is victory, all praises will rise to Christ our King. By his spirit we will rise from the ashes of defeat, the resurrected King resurrecting us. We will fear no more. Song lyrics tell a story, lift us, inspire us, praise him and helps us overcome.

I have a great new devotional about hymns and their history, I would like to share this recent one from long ago. Charles Miles was a pharmacologist and photographer. While waiting in the dark room in 1912 for film to develop, he read John 20 and thought of Jesus's resurrection. He envisioned himself in the garden of the empty tomb and the wonder of seeing the risen Christ. Out of this experience, Miles penned the words to the song "In the Garden". The lyrics are so beautiful. Also, it is through that perhaps the garden was a repented place of prayer for Jesus, not just the night he was arrested.

During 2022, may we keep a song in our heart and write our own songs of love to him of the awe we experience as he conquers all. Our Lord is still on the throne!

DeColores,

Jim and Mae Krauss



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Charley Hays		Kayleigh Sullivan
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National Capital Area Emmaus

