



THERE WILL BE NO GATHERING IN JUNE

Dear Emmaus Family,

On March 13, 2020 each of your Springfield Emmaus Board Members received the following e-mail from Vic Neves:

To the Springfield Emmaus Board

It has become increasingly more difficult to fulfill my responsibilities as Community Lay Director in keeping with the Upper Room's Manuals and Covenant, and Springfield Emmaus' Bylaws. After much soul-searching, prayer, reflection, and coming to the conclusion that our style of leadership is no longer appreciated nor desired within Springfield Emmaus, we (Sue and I) will not be accepting any leadership positions in the future.

There is a saying - "Lead, follow or get out of the way". I know when it is time to "get out of the way". Therefore, effective 2 April 2020, I resign as Community Lay Director and I will not be taking on the Leadership Board position.

Vic Neves

The board has accepted Vic's resignation as Community Lay Director. Sue did offer to finish serving as chair of the Nominations Committee for this year. As a board, we thank her for doing so and thank them both for their many years of service to the Springfield Community.

Since Alison Nosker will be serving in the Leadership Position until June 30, 2020, she will be leading the board until a new CLD takes office on July 1, 2020. In addition to Pastor Kym and to me, if Alison can be of any assistance to you, or if you would like to pray with her --through phone call or text message-- please do not hesitate to contact her, or any one of us. You can reach me at 937-271-4202 or Alison at 937-673-4587.

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**COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS**

As we have been separated during these confusing days of the pandemic, I pray each one is well and witnessing the presence and activity of God in each day, precisely where you are. It is tempting to count the days we have been apart, or to count the *days* until our Emmaus Community can gather again. I encourage you, when you find yourself looking at a calendar and *counting days*, to be intentional in shifting your thoughts, that you might, instead, *count the blessings of God* you have seen and are seeing, in the midst of these days.

I know I was surprised at what 2020 has brought, but I am encouraged when I remember that God was not surprised by the events that have changed our lives. I saw God at work in the life of Becky Master in the early months of 2020. After having been so sick for so much of 2019, that year ended on a positive note for her, and she was able to join us for several Board Meetings, in addition to many Gatherings. She was joyfully and prayerfully considering which of **two** Board Positions she might accept in 2020, and she EXTREMELY excited to see us all again. While I do miss her already, God blessed her (and us) in so many ways as we got to spend time together before she left us for the kingdom of God. When you feel down, think of her smile, and her joy at being with us, her "*Emmaus brothers and sisters*." Thank you, God, for the blessing of Becky Master. Remembering her joy has helped me during the separation of this pandemic!"

May you stay healthy and happy, and may you see God at every turn!

**Sherri**

Pastor Sherri

## Regarding no Gatherings:

Subject: Emmaus Ministries COVID-19 Statement - North Central Region #1  
Greetings Emmaus Ministries Leaders,

Please feel free to share this with all of your community. If you are no longer in leadership of your community, PLEASE forward this email to the new leadership.

The CDC has recommended that for the next 8 weeks, organizers cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the U.S. [More Information on Mass Gatherings](#)

With an abundance of caution, we *suggest* that all Emmaus Ministries events be cancelled for the recommended time period.

Although this is very disappointing, it is one way of showing our love and concern for one another. We encourage all community leadership to use this time to strengthen their communications with:

- Reunion groups
- New pilgrims
- Church partners

We are with you in the midst of our disappointment and we hold each of you in our hearts and prayers. We believe that God is still present with us in both the hosting and cancelling of our events and will continue to be with us in the future.

With prayers from the Emmaus Ministries staff,  
Stéphane Brooks  
“Doc” Hall  
Geoffrey Parker

### International Emmaus Ministries Office

<http://emmaus.upperroom.org>

The Upper Room

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[www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org)

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The Upper Room is a part of Discipleship Ministries.

## Social Distancing Share Group:

I had a virtual share group with four others using our Messenger group and the telephone call. We could see each other or not, our choice. The sound was clear. We could follow the reunion card and raise up prayer concerns. Very nice!!!

**There are still positions that need filled on the Springfield Area Emmaus Board. These include Leadership, Agape, Logistics, Newsletter and Treasurer. Their term will begin June 2020. Please be in prayer in how The Lord could use you.**

**Leadership:** The Leadership chairperson is the Community Lay Director from the previous year. The Leadership chairperson assists the Community Lay Director as needed. The Leadership chairperson is also responsible for and chairs the Team Selection Committee.

**Agape:** The Agape chairperson coordinates all the agape that is received and assures that it gets distributed during the walk. This includes the table agape, bed agape, the personal agape and the community agape.

**Logistics Coordinator:** The Logistics Coordinator leads the team that sets up (and later restores) the conference room and the rooms in the building that are used as sleeping areas for the team and pilgrims. The Logistics Coordinator ensures that there are sufficient helpers to clean bathrooms during the walk. The Logistics Coordinator ensures that someone is available to open and lock up High Street UMC for the gatherings.

**Newsletter:** The Newsletter Chairperson compiles the inputs from the Community Spiritual Directors, the Community Lay Director and any others and builds and distributes the monthly Emmaus newsletter via email.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer is the keeper of the funds and accounts, and is responsible for paying the community's bills. The treasurer also assures that our books get audited by an independent (non-Emmaus-affiliated) person each year.

**Questions or to volunteer.....contact Alison Nosker at (937)673-4587, or email her at [aen1979@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aen1979@sbcglobal.net) or Libby Hammond at (937)238-9883 and they will get you the information.**

**Thank you to the board members who are leaving for your service, and prayers for those remaining, and the new members!**



**The new members of the board so far are: CLD- Libby Hammond; Music- Tracy Wilson; Registrar- Jamie Burke. Welcome!**

**June board meeting will be held at the Mills Park Hotel in Yellow Springs, 6/14 at 5:30 p.m. as High Street Methodist is currently closed. If you are leaving the board, please bring your binder to turn in.**

### **Social Distancing Share Group:**

There is a group of Ladies meeting weekly by “Zoom” with video. Not as good as “in person hugs and tissue passing”, but they do the reunion card and share prayer requests and praises! How are you still meeting?

### **Kairos Korner**

For those of you who may not be familiar with the Kairos Prison Ministry it is based on Mathew 25, Jesus said, “when I was in prison you visited me...” It is not uncommon for someone to feel skeptical or unsettled by the thought of entering a prison for any reason even ministry. I know I was when I volunteered back in 2014 for my first Kairos weekend. It became clear by the end of that weekend I was where God needed me to be. I have served on 6 weekends up to this point and have been humbled and blessed by what Jesus had done on these weekends. I have seen hearts that were full of rage and hate changed all by the hands of Jesus in three days. Jesus never gave up on us and He has not given up on them either. Kairos needs willing servants to be his hands and feet whether it’s on an inside team, kitchen team, cookie bakers and green agape. Unfortunately, due to Corona Virus Pandemic, prisons are closed to outsiders at this time, so all Kairos activities are on hold. We must remember Kairos translated is work. Remember your Walk to Emmaus? We are counting on Jesus and He is counting on us. Go to [kairosofohio.org](http://kairosofohio.org) to see how you can help. God bless you and DeColores.

In His Service  
Dana Johnson



### **Nurturing**

Hello children of God! May we find you happy and healthy.

Is the stay at home orders driving you crazy too? It definitely is me. We have construction going on in our home so nothing is clean and nothing can be cleaned...aagghh!! I am hopeful that in God’s time it will all be finished and I will be able to invite my friends over and they will be able to sit in a clean and comfortable space (of course after the social distancing is over!)

I want to talk to you for a minute about believing. Matthew 21:18-22 tells us about the fig tree with no fruit. If we are baring no fruit we will wither away. We must come together as a community and build our strength by believing in God and each other. We are small numbers now, but by baring fruit of our own and when our city opens back up again, we can increase in numbers. Bare in fruit – bring a friend or family member to a gathering. Sponsor them for a walk. Come to special events and fellowship with your Emmaus brothers and sisters.

Believe our future is bright, believe our future if bountiful, believe because God said it would be so.