

# KVEC COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2018

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## *A CHRISTMAS PARTY - DECEMBER 8, 2018*

The December Christmas Gathering will be a Christmas Party! The gathering will begin at 6:00 p.m. instead of 6:30 p.m. We will meet in the common room as you come in the door at Emmanuel Baptist Church at 1401 W. Washington St. in Charleston. Our format will be very different from a typical gathering. We will begin with dinner together featuring Mark Miller's fantastic lasagna with salad. The rest of us will bring the rest of the meal! Bring one of your favorite Christmas foods or treats to share!

The evening will be filled with Christmas games, activities for children, Christmas traditions, fun, fellowship, carols, special Christmas music, and at least a couple of wonderful surprises! If you have a bell you can bring to ring, please do so! The evening will conclude with a special Christmas celebration of Holy Communion!!



Do your very best to come and celebrate and remember Christmas with your Emmaus Community! God's rich grace that Jesus was born to share with the whole world will be flowing through God's agape love as we gather together on December 8!!

***NOTE:** The Board meeting will be from 5-6pm, prior to the party!*

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## FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR...

I am excited seeing change in the future. I know we have had some setbacks recently, but it is not just us. I have reached out to the Upper Room and spoke with our regional contact. He and I discussed our problems and concerns, and I was encouraged to learn we are not the only ones struggling. I learned of communities who were putting on nine sets of walks and now are down to two a year. The main thing we need to remember is why we are here. Our goal is to train church leaders – that is it.

What exactly does that look like? Think back to your training at your job. Did they throw a bunch of information at you and walk away and say do it yourself? I know it feels like that most of the time, but I also know if I have a question about something I can go to my supervisor, and if she doesn't know, we can seek guidance together until we solve the issue. The Walk to Emmaus is no different. We train the pilgrims over 3 days, then we support them for as long as they are with us. The Emmaus movement is not a 3-day journey and then over. It's training you for your Fourth Day, and we all know the Fourth Day is the rest of our lives.

As a Fourth Day community, we should show the love and support that the pilgrims need to succeed with their Fourth Day. That means:

- holding Gatherings to invite them back, to encourage them and to inquire with them as to how their 4<sup>th</sup> Day is going so far.
- offering quality Gatherings that people want to attend to hear speakers talk about their 4<sup>th</sup> Day and inspire and encourage others.
- have a place to worship and fellowship with others in the community.
- providing them with accountability thru reunion groups where we sit across from each other and look each other in the eye and tell them, this is where I got it right, and this is where I got it wrong this week.

A reunion group is a small intimate group of friends and fellow Christians that are there to support you, not judge you, to help you, and not shame you. It is an opportunity to grow closer with each other, and to improve not only your 4<sup>th</sup> Day, but also the 4<sup>th</sup> Day of everyone in the group.

We have a community that is teetering on the edge of existence and extinction, but I am encouraged by the strides we had taken in the last few months to breathe new life into our community. We as Christians know that we are the hands and feet of Christ and just as we all act as one to form the Body of Christ, so does the different parts of Emmaus. The Walk may be the head. The Gathering is the feet. The reunion groups could be the hands. Sponsorship the arms. Team service the legs, so on and so on. We can rebuild. We can survive; the key is that all the parts must work as one.

Please come to the Gatherings. Find a reunion group. If you are in, one share it with use so we can send new people your way. Serve the community any way you can. We can do this together and maybe fall in love with Emmaus all over again.

De Colores,  
Mike Nunley

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

Please plan to join your brothers and sisters in Christ here in the Kanawha Valley at the following events:

### Gatherings @ 6:30pm

- January 12, 2019 – Location TBD
- February 9, 2019 – Location TBD
- March 9, 2019 – Location TBD



## **Father John and His Young Parishioner**

It was the Sunday after Christmas at St Peter and Saint Paul's Church in Borden, Kent, England. Father John was looking at the nativity scene prior to packing away the figures when he noticed the baby Jesus was missing from the scene.

Immediately, Father John turned towards the vicarage in order to call the police. But as he was about to do so, he saw little Harry with a red wagon, and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant, Jesus.

Father John walked up to Harry and said, 'Well, Harry, where did you get the little infant?'

Harry replied honestly, 'I took him from the church, Father John.'

'And why did you take him?'

With a sheepish smile, Harry said, 'Well, about a week before Christmas I prayed to little Lord Jesus. I told him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas, I would give him a ride around the block in it.'

## FALL MEMORIES FROM THE EMMAUS KITCHEN:

For me fall is a great time for making memories. Growing up it was the apple harvest, canning, and making apple butter. Later in life my fall memories are often the wonderful, busy, hectic days in the Emmaus kitchen. Those memories include this recipe which was taught to me “on the run” by Jennifer Beckett when she was kitchen chair. It is so quick and easy that it has become a standard for the fruit trays on the agape table. This dip is so easy to make that I never wrote it down before, but here it is for you to enjoy for tailgating, family get togethers, or as part of a fruit tray for a church social.

### EASY FRUIT DIP

#### Ingredients:

- 8 oz. cream cheese softened
- 8 oz. marshmallow crème
- 1-2 Tbsp. lemon juice (orange juice works well also)

#### Directions:

1. Whip cream cheese with mixer until creamy. (if no mixer you can use a spoon)
2. Add marshmallow crème and juice.
3. Whip until well combined.
4. For thinner dip add additional juice. For thicker dip use less juice.



Serve with fresh fruit such as:

- Sliced apples
- Strawberries
- Fresh peach slices
- Kiwi slices
- Pineapple chunks
- Any other fruit you can think of!

**Remember to sign up for the Prayer Vigils:**

<http://www.3dayof.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml>

**Just because we do not have a scheduled walk in the Kanawha Valley, you can still pray for walks throughout the country and the world.**

### **KVEC Board of Directors Fall 2018 Election**

2019 is upon us. As such, we must vote for 5 new members to the KVEC Board of Directors. We would like to thank the outgoing class of 2018. We appreciate your service over the last three years.

The nominees for the incoming class of 2020 are listed below. We were only able to get the minimum of 5 individuals. As such, write-in spots are available on the ballot.

Prayerfully vote for no more than 5. Ballots received with more than 5 votes will be thrown out. The deadline for voting is December 8, 2018 (December Gathering).

- \_\_\_\_\_ Lyssa Miller
- \_\_\_\_\_ Warren Rumbaugh
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jeanne Snow
- \_\_\_\_\_ Matt Thompson
- \_\_\_\_\_ Karen Hutchens White
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There are three ways to vote.

1. You can attend the December gathering on December 8 and cast your ballot in person.
2. You can print this page and mail it to:  
PO Box PO Box 1295. Charleston, WV 25325-1295.
3. You can vote using Survey Monkey at the following web address:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/653GDJY>

Kanawha Valley Emmaus Community Board 2018		
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