THE BEACON

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December 2020 Lake Cumberland Emmaus and Chrysalis Community Newsletter

Dear Emmaus & Chrysalis Community,

I hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving and this letter finds you well.

Let's talk little bit about ENDURANCE.

This week my family & I had privilege to be part of our church live nativity. My wife shared with me some encouraging words. She said as she walked through the village of the live nativity, she found herself thinking how difficult it must have been in those days.

Endurance was a must in those days. She said, "Could you imagine what Mary had to endure? From the moment the Angel appeared to her she had a big responsibility on her shoulders and then Joseph wanted to cancel their engagement. She had to travel about 90 miles journey on a donkey's back at 9 months pregnant and if that was not enough, they needed a place to have the baby. They were turned away and the only place available was a stable. I could not imagine, this soon to be mother had to be exhausted, embarrassed, & scared."

What about us? We are likely to suffer pain in life and become scared or embarrassed at times as well. Furthermore, the Bible shows that time and unforeseen occurrence can befall any of us, throwing all manner of hardships and challenges in our path. (Ecclesiastes 9:11) If that happens, do we turn bitter, blaming God? Would it not be better to imitate Mary's attitude and draw closer to God by learning from His Word, the Bible, and then meditating on what we have learned? Doing so will surely help us to endure trials.

Standing there on our first night of this Nativity cold, rainy, & wet, we had to endure just a little…but it was so worth it. While cars drove through, I watched all the men, women & children waving and smiling, shivering wet & cold but with grateful hearts in hopes to share the greatest news every!!!

Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

So, see Endurance is must in every one of our lives. Let's remember while we are in this season to be kind, giving & most of all forgiving. This Christmas season I encourage You be of good cheer. Let's not think about yesterday but think about the new day ahead and what we can do to be that Shining Light that Jesus calls us to be.

May God bless you and your family this Christmas season.

Declores,

James Gregory

Gathering is December 12 @ 6pm CST located at Melson Ridge Separate Baptist Church in Columbia, KY. Meal will be provided!

Please read the message from our spiritual director, Bro. Craig

Dear Emmaus/ Chrysalis Community,

I hope this letter finds each of you well and walking close with The Lord. I know this has been an exceedingly difficult year. I sure have missed having walks and flights and seeing everyone. It seems that we have just been at a stand still this year as far as Emmaus activities.

As most of you know, we have only been able to have a few meetings and gatherings because of COVID. In light of this year, for the most part, being put on hold, those in attendance for the board meeting thought it would be difficult for new people to take on positions that they haven't been able to shadow for and that those in leadership positions really didn't get to serve this year. After much prayer and consulting with Upper Room, we feel the best option is to keep this current board in place for another year. This was approved at the November board meeting. I love and appreciate our Emmaus/ Chrysalis community very much and want the best for everyone. Hopefully, we can move forward in 2021.

Please help us pray for guidance and direction as we plan for walks and flights in the near future. Let us continue to pray for each other in general as the body of Christ, that each be comforted and encouraged in this trying season.

May God richly bless each of you! Merry Christmas and happy new year to everyone!

Bro. Craig

Upcoming Events:

Remember all gathering are on that areas time zone

Board meets at 4:30, Meal provided, 6:00CST

December Gathering: December 12th at 6pm CST at Melson Ridge Separate Baptist Church in Columbia, KY.

We pray everyone has a blessed Christmas holiday, remembering the TRUE reason for the season!