

Alabama Emmaus Community News

# The Grapevine

Vol. 6 No. 6

December 2008

## Community Humble Servants

**John Schuessler**  
Lay Director

**Carl Long**  
Spiritual Director

**Carolyn Phillips**  
Community Coordinator

**Ted Hagler**  
Treasurer

**Richard Blocker**  
**Bud Bottcher**  
**Sandra Brasher**  
**Mary Cashion**  
**Joey Croft**

**Tim Culpepper**  
**Judy Gilliland**  
**Ponda Gordon**  
**Bill Prestridge**  
**Dick Titus**

**Sheilah Wiginton**  
**Harry Wycoff, Jr.**  
Board Representatives

**Kim Anderson**  
Literature

**Neil Odom**  
Supplies

**Kelly & Sally Moore**  
Community Agape

**Dan Bell**  
Name Tags

## This has been an interesting year

By **JOHN SCHUESSLER**  
Lay Director

As 2008 is coming to a close, I want to say that serving as your Community Lay director this year has been, well, interesting. Getting to be on the Board with such wonderful, dedicated, and caring people has been such a blessing. These true servants who make up your Board are a joy to be with. They all have the best interest of Alabama Emmaus in their hearts.

I have been involved with Alabama Emmaus for nearly 22 years now, and I love Emmaus in general, and really love Alabama Emmaus in particular. The only negative that I have experienced in Emmaus has been from outside forces that want to change the way we do things.

My human nature is to resist change in the things I like – “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” and, “that’s not the way we’ve always done it!” I can’t count the times I have heard these phrases from many of you this year.

Alabama Emmaus is one of the oldest and

largest Communities under the guidance of the Upper Room. Over the years we have adapted some ways of doing things that are not in compliance with the Model. We have changed several things over the years to come into compliance and some things we have not.

We have been visited twice this year by representatives from the Upper Room who have suggested changes we should make. In the months and years ahead you, will be learning more about these changes so that we can be more in compliance with the Model and to honor our Covenant Agreement with the Upper Room.

Please know that any changes made will be gradual and the Community will be well informed in advance.

Let us all approach them with a spirit of cooperation and charity.

May God richly bless all of you and the Alabama Emmaus Community.

**DeColores! John Schuessler**  
**Walk # 42 Table of Luke**  
**Tuscumbia 1<sup>st</sup> Methodist**

## God’s faithfulness: Exodus 17:1-7

By **CARL LONG**  
Spiritual Director

Reading our way through the Exodus story, we see the message that God is faithful to His promise.

We learn that God hears the cries of those in bondage and He sends a leader to bring them to freedom.

The children of Israel have spent years of oppression and fearful living in Egypt. This experience has caused them to distrust the

leadership that is in authority. When we stop and think about it, these people have spent many years in an environment of distrust.

When Moses comes in and begins God’s call to freedom, they were not sure.

They were not sure that they wanted to follow.

After all they knew what they had, even as bad as it was, but the future was unknown.

Bondage has a great cost, but so does freedom. We only have to look at

other stories to know that people do not always react with joy when they are being delivered from bondage.

The fears of the unknown and the future caused the children of Israel to complain again and again. In Exodus 17:6 God says, “I will meet you by the rock at Mount Sinai. Strike the rock and water will come pouring out.

Then the people will be able to drink.” (New **(Please See Long Page 2)**)

## Hope For The Future!

As 2008 draws to an end with the shadow of uncertainty affecting so many things in our lives, I would like to offer you this prayer of hope.

*"O Lord, deliver us from fear of the unknown future, from fear of failure, from fear of poverty, from fear of bereavement, from fear of loneliness, from fear of sickness and pain, from fear of age, and from fear of death.*

*Help us, O Father, by your grace to love and fear only you.*

*Fill our hearts with cheerful courage and loving trust in you; through our Lord and Master Jesus Christ."*

*-Akanu Ibiam, Nigeria*

May God continue to richly bless you and your families.  
May God continue to bless our Community in 2009!

**De Colores! Carolyn Phillips, AL Emmaus Walk 63, Table of Ruth Talladega 1<sup>st</sup> UMC**

## Welcome to the new and thanks to the retiring

By **JOHN SCHUESSLER**  
Lay Director

The Alabama Emmaus Community has elected four new Board members (class of 2011) to serve for a three year period. The newly elected Board members are: **Buddy Berry, Michele Cash, Roger Crowson, and Amy Floyd**. We offer our congratulations to these willing servants to the Community.

We also want to express our thanks to Joey Croft, John McQueen, and Arthur Young for their willingness to serve. Thanks to the retiring members: Richard Blocker, the 2007 Community Lay Director, Tim Culpepper, Ponda Gordon, Dick Titus, and Jenny Gallman, Community Spiritual Director for 2007/2008.

### *The Grapevine*

Alabama Emmaus Office, P.O. Box 1216  
Talladega, AL 35161  
256.315.2346 or 256.315.2347 Fax  
Web: [www.AlaEmmaus.org](http://www.AlaEmmaus.org)  
email: [Office@AlaEmmaus.org](mailto:Office@AlaEmmaus.org)

Address changes should be sent to: David Hall, 1016 Sedgefield Dr., Sylacauga, AL 35150, or emailed to [DHall92727@aol.com](mailto:DHall92727@aol.com).

## Long

(Continued From Page 1)

Living Translation) Moses did just as he was told and as the leaders looked on water gushed out.

Moses realized that the people that he was attempting to lead into freedom had more problems than just the physical demands that they were placing on him.

Their main problem was their distrust of leadership. Moses had an obligation to help the people understand that they must trust God, not man to meet their needs.

God wants us to trust and not complain. Instead of complaining, like God's people did long ago in the desert, He wants us to come to Him through prayer and the reading of His word.

We who call ourselves Christians need to go back and reread this story and realize that instead of complaining about leadership we should look to God to give us direction.

Instead of complaining we too need to talk to Him in prayer.

I firmly believe if we as His people would stop complaining and seek God's will we would see improvement at every level in our homes, churches, and in our nation.

Our relationship to God is rooted in faith's firm conviction that God is God, and the only One truly trustworthy.

The message of Exodus is: God hears, sees, knows, and acts. God is still moving and acting through us, helping us to calm our fears and be strong in faith.

**Carl Long, Alabama Emmaus 108, Table of Peter, Hewett UMC**

## *Praying for You*

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to members of the Emmaus Community and their families in the loss of loved ones.

**Joan Jones (249)**, for the loss of her husband, Bill.

**Joann Campbell (207)**, for the loss of her father, Joe Carpenter.

**Johnny Jordan (144:FL)**, for the death of his mother, Ernestine Jordan.

The family of **Virginia Adams (21)**.

The family of **Margaret Vann (36)**.

**Dale Groom (180)**, for the death of his daughter.

The family of **Mike Williams (205)**.

**Fred Pate (65)**, for the loss of his brother, Jack Pate.

**Dave Roush (337)**, for the death of his mother, Ginny Roush.

The family of **Edd Wadley (229)**.

**Mark Peterson (159)**, for the loss of his wife, Susan Peterson (160).

**Bobby Bowden (229)**, for the loss of his mother

*The Grapevine*

P.O. Box 1216  
Talladega, AL 35161

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Newsletter of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Walk to Emmaus

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<b>Upcoming Walks</b>					
<b>Walk</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Lay Director</b>	<b>Spiritual Director</b>	<b>Cluster</b>	<b>Board Rep</b>
343	Oct. 23-26	Wayne Bates	Bill Brunson	South Shelby/E. Ala/ B'ham East	Bud Vann
344	Nov. 13-16	Mitchell Stevens	Bob Gunn	Athens/Shoals/ Moulton/Decatur	Judy Gilliland
345	Nov. 20-23	Denise Nails	Walter Cash	Madison/Cullman/ Huntsville	Dick Titus
346	Dec 4-7	Buddy Berry	Terry Bentley	Gadsden/Oneonta/ Cheaha	Bill Prestridge
347	Jan 22-25	Ken Hanby	Mark Adams	Tuscaloosa/West Alabama	Sandra Brasher
348	Feb 19-22	Delle Cain	Vickie Cater	B'ham South/South Shelby	Ted Hagler
349	Mar 5-8	Kay Jordan	John Jordan	Birmingham East	Bud Vann
<p><b>Men's Walk</b>                      Reminder: Candlelight service begins at 7:45; Closing begins at 4:45.                      * <i>Mid Week Walk</i>              Please remember that children are <i>not</i> to be present in Hutto or at meals during a walk!</p>					

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 347  
January 22-25, 2009**

Lay Director	Ken Hanby (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Freddie Hammond (Priority) Ronnie Brasher (Fourth Day) Ben Cashion Jerry Thomas John McQueen Donald Jones
Spiritual Director	Mark Adams (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	David Thompson (Prevenient Grace) Sammy Hughes (Justifying Grace) Tim Barnes (Sanctifying Grace) Preston Headrick (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Debbie Wood
Asst. Table Leaders	Bert McCollum (Priesthood) Jeremy Burns (Study) Danny Sims (Discipleship) Bill Cater (Changing Our World) Ricky Mayers (Life In Piety) Mike Nix (Christian Action) Lynn Gibson (Body of Christ)
Table Leaders	Jerry Lake Joe Petrey Barry Standifer Ken Farr Doyle Kernea Woody Jones Walter Bryant
Board Rep.	Sandra Brasher

**Committees**

Agape	Cecilia Hammond	205-752-7349
Meal Service	Helen Lake	205-349-3181
Refreshments	Dot Brewer	205-759-5500
72-hour Prayer Vigil	Lib Powell	205-553-7674
Housing	Barney Cargile	205-339-8636
Candlelight	Barbara Hanby	205-339-7057
Clean-Up	Larry Odom	205-345-5146
Closing	Patricia Clark	205-556-2120
Entertainment	Don/Shelia Jones	205-921-1606
Follow-Up	Kathy Mason	205-3399-6560
Speakers' Prayer Chapel	Carol Weaver	205-663-0580
Sponsors' Hour	Danielle Eppes	205-554-0767
Worship	Candice Reed	205-349-6327
Photographer	Ken Hanby, Jr.	205-333-1530
Humble Servant	Bob Wood	205-554-0252

Name	City	Sponsor
Bart Tolbert	Alabaster	Bill Brown
Chris Young	Albertville	Rebecca Young & Kay Bissonnette
Billy Hargrove	Athens	Jan Hargrove
Dexter McFarlin	Birmingham	God's Humble Servants RG (Mike Hodges)
Corley Ellis	Columbiana	Rux Bentley
Scott Armstrong	Columbiana	Rux Bentley
Garry Baker	Cullman	Dale & Rita Presto
Mike Holland	Decatur	Mike Butler
Keith Harrington	Eldridge	Cyndy & Larry Norris
Scott Bayles	Florence	Veronica Bayles
Scott Hubbard	Florence	Julie Hubbard
Josh Dotson	Gardendale	Kathleen Drake
Michael Strong	Goodwater	James & Dian Long
Kenny Culbert	Grove Oak	Jim Elliott
David Chupp	Guntersville	Shirley Chupp & Keith Monk
Ronnie Miller	Hamilton	Sheilah Wiginton & Pam Mixon
Eric Jones	Hanceville	Dale & Rita Presto
Chris Cone	Homewood	Denise Cone
Greg Edmonds	Huntsville	Eddie Kennamer
Rob Law	Huntsville	Jim Elliott
Florencio Guzman	Laredo	Ken Hanby, Jr.
Darrell Shelton	Lexington	Cindy & Neal Harvey
Tom Anderson	Lexington	Neal & Cindy Harvey
Scott Millhouse	Madison	Russell Durling
Steve Windom	Montgomery	William Trick
Bill Countiss	Muscle Shoals	Jimmy Gardiner & Jamey Cosby
Dan Robertson	Northport	Ken Hanby, Jr.
Mark Mayo	Northport	Bruce Higginbotham
Bill Rice	Northport	Ken Hanby, Jr., Dot Rice & Gary Phillips
Steve Griffith	Northport	Chris Greene
Mike BeShears	Oneonta	Joe Hastings
Jeff Womble	Owens Cross Roads	Craig Herr
London Pearce	Rainbow City	Angie Pearce & Leigh Johnson
Shawn Bracey	Rogersville	David Harvey
Ran Reding	Rogersville	Cindy Harvey
Tommy Barnes	Sheffield	Fred Mason
Jonathan Palacios	Southside	Buddy Berry
Monte Montgomery	Springville	Bryan & Rhonda Stack
Marc Noviello	Sterrett	Mike Hodges & Bill Taylor
Paul Webb	Talladega	Shaun Webb
Dick Johnson	Tuscaloosa	Wendell Prentice
Brandon Romans	Tuscumbia	Mitchell & Martha Stevens
Bobby Terrell	Tuscumbia	Paula Terrell

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 348  
February 19-22, 2009**

Lay Director	Delle Caine (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Lisa Edmonson (Priority) Cheryl Finch (Fourth Day) Dianna McQueen Denise Williams Shawn Lipscomb Marilyn Brown
Spiritual Director	Vicki Cater (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	John Simmons (Prevenient Grace) Patsy Carlburg (Justifying Grace) Dianne Housler (Sanctifying Grace) Paula Calhoun (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Vicki Parsons
Asst. Table Leaders	Ruth Ann Clay (Changing Our World) Lana Tew (Christian Action) Jane Hagler (Discipleship) Tammy Morton (Priesthood) Lynn Ferguson (Life In Piety) Janet Jackson (Body of Christ) Cheryl Wray (Study)
Table Leaders	Caryl Hadder Connie Woodward Cindy Burell Angela Jones Betty Jeffrey Jann Andrews Anne Thompson
Board Rep.	Ted Hagler

**Committees**

Agape	Margaret Alexander 205-823-2060
Meal Service	Mary Clyde Moore 205-424-8905
Refreshments	Lisa Elliott 205-985-4051
72-hour Prayer Vigil	Cindy Burrage 205-424-5562
Housing	Carol Ruth DeVore 205-491-2968
Candlelight	Sara Bryant 205-823-3622
Clean-Up	Harold Caine 205-491-4042
Closing	Lisa Howerton 205-497-1008
Entertainment	Stony Jackson 205-995-0006
Follow-Up	Debbie Morris 205-560-0553
Speakers' Prayer Chapel	Norma Aldridge 205-871-1200
Sponsors' Hour	John McQueen 205-988-3051
Worship	Sally Price 205-991-0552
Photographer	Stony Jackson
Humble Servant	Harold Caine

<b>Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
Nona Proctor	Albertville	Kayla McClure & The Summit RG
Anne Kimbrough	Anniston	Judy Anderson
Lyn Brown	Anniston	Rosemary Ping
Carol Webb	Anniston	Rosemary Ping
Amanda James	Arab	Pam James
Amanda Hamlin	Athens	Jan Hargrove
Sonya Stewart	Auburn	Jeff & Leigh Johnson
Leigh Foster	Bessemer	Vicki Herring
Sandra Holladay	Birmingham	Phyllis Nuffer & Barbara Brodie
Cathy Moss	Birmingham	Janet Gregg & Fay Dinken
Evelyn Johnson	Birmingham	Frances Moore
Cheryl Cobb	Birmingham	Janet Gregg & Fay Dinken
Janet Gaines	Birmingham	Sandy Morton
Debbie Jones	Birmingham	Frances Kernea
Melanie Pollard	Birmingham	Peggy Harrison
Claire Johnson	Blountsville	Betty Alexander
Belinda Parker	Boaz	Rose Sims
Felicia Henderson	Boaz	Kary Roberts & Trudy Luken
Lora Mackey	Centre	Sandra Lowe
Gayle Taylor	Coker	Kathy Kearns & Ken Hanby, Jr.
Nancy Davis	Columbiana	Samuel Harton
Cricket Shadix	Cullman	Martha Overton
Marie Copeland	Cullman	Wendell Copeland
Jenny Cook	Decatur	Ada Cook
Lisa Wolfe	Dora	Kathleen Drake
Cindy White	Florence	Steven White
Becky Mauldin	Florence	GRITS RG (Jane Almond)
Gio Jenkie	Florence	Shelia Jackson
Mary Payne	Glencoe	Sojourners RG (Tommie Putnam)
Janet Scott	Guntersville	Chuck Scott
Carolyn Cleland	Guntersville	Pam James
Lori Bailey	Guntersville	Deborah Moon
Pat Federico	Guntersville	Karen Hopper
Jean Ann Scott	Guntersville	Chuck Scott
Cindy Harbin	Haleyville	Tracy Barton & Carol Lakeman
Angel Chambers	Harvest	Rob Owens
Terri Byrd	Hoover	Roxann Edsall
Christy Holmes	Huntsville	Mona Vines
Sherry McKinney	Huntsville	Mona Vines
Charlene Laxton	Huntsville	Jewell Spelce
Andi Flippen	Killen	Martha Danley
Judy Frost	Leesburg	Sandra Lowe
Melanie Waye	Madison	Ben Waye
Glennis Wittmuss	Madison	Mimi Ezell
Rachel Nelson	Moody	Letta Akers
Marie Stribling	Muscle Shoals	Susan Borden
Kristy Summerlin	Northport	Kacie Davis
Tonya Baggett	Northport	Scott Baggett
Janet Latham	Northport	Lisa Myers
Barbara Northcutt	Oneonta	Rhonda Teal
Pam Congo	Owens Cross Roads	Ken & Jackie Albrecht
Connie Goodwin	Oxford	Lynn Moore
Dot Walker	Pelham	Frances Moore
Carrie Kramer Vasa	Pell City	Teresa Harris
Traci Chesser	Pinson	Sandi Tracy
Cathy Turner	Pinson	Rosemary Brown
Jane Wade	Pinson	Cloud of Witness RG (Phyllis Nuffer)
Anna Billingham	Russellville	Lisa Miller
Judy Armstrong	Sheffield	Susan Borden
Wendi Alexander	Tallassee	James & Dian Long
Katherine Payne	Toney	Liz Gibson
Ruthie Jones	Town Creek	Lola Spearman
Doris Garner	Town Creek	Lola Spearman
Joy Willett	Tuscaloosa	Harry Goodall
Paige Mitchell	Tuscaloosa	Tyler Mitchell
Tesney Davis	Tuscaloosa	Ann West & Brenda Jackson
Stacy Fulton	Tuscumbia	Bud & Lynda Bottcher
Martha Betbeze	Vestavia Hills	Debbie Cox
Gwen Snow	Wilsonville	Sue Farr