

The Grapevine

Vol. 8 No. 2

March 2010

Community Humble Servants

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Lay Director

Bob Gunn
Spiritual Director

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Community Coordinator

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Faithfulness feeds us unexpectedly

By **SANDREA BRASHER**
Lay Director

Camp Sumatanga is a special place. I know when I get to Camp, God is always there waiting. He is there when an Emmaus Team arrives at Camp to prepare to serve the pilgrims on their Walk. He is always faithful and never disappoints.

The first Walk of the year I arrived at Camp, a little anxious about the things I had to do for the weekend. I immediately saw His hand and His faithfulness as the weekend began. Sunday morning, in the downpour, I went to help serve breakfast to the pilgrims. The weather outside was dismal. There was water everywhere, no place to step without getting your feet wet. One young man helped me try to get into the building without stepping in puddles of water. He was soaking wet from unloading food from the food truck.

As the rain continued to

pour through the morning, I went back to help serve lunch and there he was again. Trying to stay dry, he had a black bag over his coat. I saw God's face in this young man. This was God's sermon to me that day. This humble young man, working in unpleasant conditions, but doing his job, had no idea how he ministered to me that cold, dreary, rainy Sunday.

In John 6:48 NIV Jesus says "I am the bread of life." That rainy Sunday morning in January when I was still anxious about the rest of the weekend, this young man fed me. There are many ways we can be fed, but when God feeds us we are satisfied. He says He is the "bread of life." He is not the Oreo of life or the chopped steak of life or even the cream cheese of life, but the *bread* of life – this is the basic, daily, constant ingredient that strengthens and sustains us.

It is the thing we start with, the thing we crave, the thing that satisfies us in a way nothing else can. That is a comforting and amazing thought.

We can feed others with a smile, a listening ear, a kind word, our actions, our service and always showing His love in whatever we do. My daughter-in-law's Mother was one that loved to give. She called her gifts "little happies." She is not here on earth now, but the life she led and the memories she left us of her "little happies" still linger. She continues to feed those whose lives she touched.

As this drenched young man was literally feeding others, God used him to feed me. I have to stop and ask God, "Have you been able to use my life to feed others today?" We never know in our busy lives, just trying to get through another day, who is watching and what our lives are

(Please See Brasher Page 2)

Drink freely of the 'water of life'

By **BOB GUNN**
Spiritual Director

"If you drink of the water that I give you, you will never thirst again.

Now that's the kind of water I want; whether it be well water or living water. When I spent time with with my grandparents, they allowed my brother Bill and me the opportunity to work right along with them in "his" fields and "her" graden. It was always hot, especially on those days when he would plow up the

potatoes, and Bill and I would follow the plow "rooting" out those potatoes, putting them in a basket and toting them to the barn.

On the way to the field we would draw water from the well and pour it into a wooden keg and carry it with us to the field. Then the dust and dirt, heat and sweat and sheer dryness caused us to begin thinking about that glorious water over there in the shade. And man, did that stuff taste good!

Jesus found himself sit-

ting at the edge of Jacob's well between Bethlehem and Jerusalem. What do most people talk about when they are sitting beside a well in an extremely hot and dry land? It must surely be water. It started as a conversation about getting water from this well and who should ask water of whom. But then this discussion became a teaching moment for Jesus, a parable if you please.

The water for the
(Please See Gunn Page 2)

Inactive but not forgotten

BY CAROLYN PHILLIPS
Community Coordinator

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

~ Ecclesiastes 3:1-9

One might add to that, "...a time to do the Emmaus Walk and a time when other priorities come first." This may be difficult to believe, but not everyone who is invited to the Walk accepts their invitation. Some don't even bother to reply at all. We have approximately 200 inactive applications. This is where I need your help. I have started sending letters to the sponsors of these pilgrims. If you are one of these sponsors, please notify the office if your pilgrim is interested in rescheduling their Walk. Sometimes reasons arise and folks change their mind about attending the Walk. If this is the case, please let me know this as well, and I will remove them from the database.

It has been said many times you attend the walk God intends for you. I think this is so true. Sometimes maybe it is just not the right time in someone's life. The Emmaus Walk is a wonderful life-changing time, but we go on God's schedule, not ours.

Go For It!

Carolyn Phillips
Talladega 1st UMC
Walk 63, Table of Ruth

The Grapevine

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

Brasher

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saying to them. Is your life feeding others?

We were fed in many ways on our original Walk. We go home ready to serve with a new passion and love for Him. Do we still have that passion and love for Him? If not, why don't we? Are you in an accountability group, and involved in your Cluster? We must stay connected to stay fresh. This year, do whatever you need to do to be ALL God has for you. Let's all ask God to help us to feed His sheep.

Blessings! Sandra Brasher, Community Lay Director, 2010

Gunn

(Continued from Page 1)

parched mouth soon became water for the parched soul. Jesus called it living water. "I tell you that if you drink of this water I will give you, you will never thirst again." Now he had the Samaritan woman's undivided attention. Still thinking about wet water, her imagination went wild. No more daily trips to the well to draw water and carry that heavy thing back home. "Yessiree, that's what I want."

What about your spiritual reservoir? Max Lucado once wrote: "Your Maker wired you with thirst — a low-fluid indicator. When is the last time you checked your living water level? How do you replenish this living water offered so freely by Christ?"

One Saturday, several years ago, I experienced that Living Water in a very close moment with the Holy Spirit. The confirmation class was to take their church vows the next morning. We went to the mountain to spend the day. I asked the three groups of those young people to separate and plan a worship experience for all the rest of us. They worked so hard, thinking and writing, gathering twigs and moss and rocks. The first two groups did pretty much what I expected; it was rich. Then group three blew me away. They led us in receiving the Holy Communion. The only problem they had to solve was how to have communion without bread or juice.

One girl remembered the half ham and mustard sandwich she did not eat at lunch. There's the bread! Now let's find the chalice and juice. There was a crumpled, empty Coke can they had left on the picnic table. So they rinsed it out as well as they could and filled it with fresh water.

Then a strange thing happened to my heart, surely due to the Holy Spirit. Those strange elements became the body and blood of Jesus. The Holy Spirit flooded my entire body.

I didn't call it "The Living Water" at the time. It was not until later reading the "living water" passage that I realized what happened that day.

Remember the question, "How do you replenish that living water?" I suppose I have to confess at this time that I don't know. I didn't expect living water through those wonderful young people with their make-shift communion, their used aluminum can and their ham and mustard on bread. I am ready to say that this was the work of the Holy Spirit. Period.

Jesus offered the woman from Samaria, with all her personal baggage, that water; if she drank it, she would never thirst again." Come unto me all you that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." May I add a bit of imaginative thinking to that verse: Come unto me all who are thirsty and dehydrated, and I will give you to drink.

Let's meet at the well. **Bob Gunn**

Thanks collage....

Yes, Lord, you've done a bunch for us, our cups are overfull.
Your blessings stack up row on row, unusual and good
For sorghum syrup and traffic lights and sweet potato pie,
Clean clothes and bills to pay and cushions on the pews,
Zippers, pens and pencils and church and antifreeze,
Warm sweaters, warm beds, warm rugs, and warm friends,
Hot chocolate, hot peppers, hot deals for sale.
Firesides, ebb tides, double-wides and water slides.

Yes, Lord, you've done a bunch.

For radios and stereos and Cheerios and one red rose,
For sunsets seen, water clean, and bright fall colors on the scene,
Freedom clear and families near, memories dear and none to fear,
For Pilgrims' pride, for faith that's tried, for dearest loved ones far
and wide,
Fellowship and fall's cool nip and every day a special trip,

For Thanksgiving, a decent living, and a God of grace who's ever giving,

Yes, Lord, you've done a bunch.

For turkey dressing, constant blessing, One to turn to when confessing,
Post-it notes and winter coats and ever so tasty snapper throats,
Zip-lock bags, funny gags, life's zig-zags.
Piano grand and music stand and friendships extended through our hand
Special books, quiet nooks, wonderful cooks and fishing hooks
Thanks a lot for what we've got, amazing grace our constant lot.
Yes, Lord, you've done a bunch!
Thanks a bunch!

—**Bob Gunn**

Cherish new friends God sends our way

We come to Camp, for our Emmaus Walk, being told not to anticipate. We don't think we ever anticipate the possibility of meeting and making life-long friends, friends we make from all walks of life and from all over the Alabama Emmaus Community.

Some of these friends change our lives forever.

This letter from Lessie Bailey is an example of such a friendship. Cherish those friends that God puts in your life, from your original Walk or friends you have made working on other Walks.

January 30, 2010
When I first met Charlotte Rich, I was on Emmaus Walk 145

in June 1996. Although we were not roommates nor seated at the same table, we still became close friends throughout the retreat. She was a loyal Christian who loved the Lord deeply. We continued to maintain our friendship over the years.

Several years later, on a Christmas Day, she called me to

tell me about her first diagnosis of cancer. I continued to keep in touch with her after that. I would always pray for her each day. She never let her sickness get her down. She continued teaching and volunteering at Emmaus. I will always remember Charlotte because of her friendship and the
(Please See Bailey Page 6)

Upcoming Walks					
Walk	Date	Lay Director	Spiritual Director	Cluster	Board Rep
366	Apr. 8-11	Pam Myrick	Carl Long	Gadsden/Cherokee-Dekalb/Marshall	Buddy Berry
367	Apr. 22-25	Ralph Jones	John Tanner	Huntsville/Madison	Roger Crowson
368	May 6-9	Cecilia Hammond	Mark Adams	Tuscaloosa/W. Ala.	Judy Gilliland
369	May 20-23	Judy Bonds	Mac Buttram	Cullman/Oneonta	Michele Cash
370	Jun. 10-13	Glenda Prestridge	David Holmes	Cheaha/East Alabama	Harry Wycoff
371	Aug. 12-15	Ronnie Harris	TBA	B'ham South, B'ham East, S. Shelby	Ted Hagler
372	Sep. 9-12	Deborah Passeur	Bob Murray	Shoals, Moulton, Decatur, Athens	Bud Bottcher
<p>*Men's Walk Reminder: Candlelight service begins at 7:45; Closing begins at 4:45. Please remember that children are <i>not</i> to be present in Hutto or at meals during a walk!</p>					

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 367
April 22-25, 2010**

Lay Director	Ralph Jones (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Stan Riley (Priority) Keith Wilson (Fourth Day) Ken Albrecht Gary Crawford Charles Jones Jerry Nelson
Spiritual Director	John Turner (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Alton Parris (Prevenient Grace) Tommy Gray (Justifying Grace) Dale Cohen (Sanctifying Grace) Jimmy Aycock (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Spike McRoy
Asst. Table Leaders	Ken Bauer (Priesthood) Cowan Wilson (Study) Churck Newton (Discipleship) Billy Bell (Changing Our World) Keith Rogers (Life In Piety) Carl Grote (Christian Action) Vann Bragg (Body of Christ)
Table Leaders	Jeremy Banks Bill Beatty Jimmy Fish Robert Fugate Mark Hedden Rob Owens Sidney White
Board Rep.	Roger Crowson

Committees

Agape:	Lee Riddle	256-430-3266
Meal Service:	Dee Ann Creel	256-881-7563
Refreshments:	Stacy Hedden	256-536-7469
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Joan Manning	256-536-7881
Housing:	Norma/Don Colbrath	256-881-1639
Candlelight:	Tom Turner	256-859-1254
Clean-up:	Humble Servants	
Closing:	Helen/Jim Underwood	256-534-6016
Entertainment:	Ken Walker	256-882-3439
Follow-up:	Tara Dombrowsky	256-880-2906
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Andrea Jones	256-564-7408
Sponsors' Hour:	Roseanne/Ted Anderson	256-852-2515
Worship:	Ann Cohen	205-823-1765
Photographer:	Rica McRoy	256-880-2986
Humble Servant:	Sandra Jones	256-534-0582

Name	City	Sponsor
Tracy Honea	Albertville	Andra Isom
Chris Jenkins	Albertville	Rebecca Killebrew & Leslie McClendon
Gabe Johnson	Albertville	Jim & Barbara Harris
Michael Marsh	Albertville	Jodi Yarbrough & The Mt. Vernon E's
Gary Wallace	Birmingham	Alison Wheeler
Richard Tinsman	Birmingham	Becky & Harry Wilson
Chad Seay	Boaz	Ann Seay & Casey Griep
Zack Thomas	Boaz	Andra Isom
Ron Hays	Boaz	Chris Hammond & Shane Johnson
Tommy Harper	Boaz	Rocky Frazier, Sr.
Mike Mahan	Brierfield	Bill & LaShawn Scholl
J.B. Burns	Cherokee	Mitchell & Martha Stevens
Shane Cruse	Columbus	Jaime Rickert
Kyle Wisener	Cullman	Lisa Holmes
Ed McGraw	Cullman	Haley Smith and Pam & Rusty Congo
Darren Myers	Dutton	Jeff Adkins
Mark Lovejoy	Florence	Darrell Higgins
David Hester	Fultondale	Wendell James
Matthew Mills	Gadsden	Evelyn Muskett
Brian Ledlow	Gardendale	Michael Hogue
Erik Lindholm	Gardendale	Jim Frazier
Jerry Kell	Guin	Jerry Gann
Lynn Thompson	Guntersville	Melinda Murphree
Charlie Williams	Guntersville	Terrell England
Zach Seitz	Gurley	William Brunson
Darrell Martin	Hampton Cove	Ralph Jones
Eric Johnson	Henagar	Wallace & Paulette Smith
Steve Mizerany	Homewood	Bill Arnold
Larry Forester	Huntsville	Pat Forester
Chad Brannan	Huntsville	Dan Caldwell
David Smythe	Huntsville	Jane Smith
Roger Rinn	Huntsville	Billy Bell, Kevin Rogers & Dick Richardson
Jake Slzrider	Madison	Charles Newton
Keith Rosamond	Northport	Paul Bourgeois, Larry White & Paul Hass
Joey Fiore	Owens Cross Rds	Ken & Jackie Albrecht
Shon Frachiseur	Rainbow City	Evelyn Muskett
Tommy Barnes	Sheffield	Fred Mason
Kenneth Bohannon	Southside	Charlotte Bohannon
Rob Nelson	Tuscumbia	Randy & Lisa Waldrep

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 368
May 6-9, 2010**

Lay Director	Cecilia Hammond (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Barbara Hanby (Priority) Barbara Sims (Fourth Day) Melissa Barnes Linda Godwin Sandra Reed Carol Weaver
Spiritual Director	Mark Adams (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Jack Causey (Prevenient Grace) David Thompson (Justifying Grace) Scott Thackerson (Sanctifying Grace) Sandy Felkins (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Ronnie Brasher
Asst. Table Leaders	Laura Wood (Study) Erin Burns (Priesthood) Cheryl Petrey (Discipleship) Carol Dubose (Changing Our World) Diana McQueen (Life In Piety) Jaime Rickert (Christian Action) Juanita Boyd (Body of Christ)
Table Leaders	Dot Brewer Danielle Eppes Betsy Hass Terri McCollum Candice Robbins Judy Trull Katie Woodward
Board Rep.	Judy Gilliland

Committees

Agape	Ken Hanby	205-339-7057
Meal Service	Wendell Prentice	205-333-8068
Refreshments	John McQueen	205-988-3051
72-hour Prayer Vigil	Candi Hagler	205-339-3238
Housing	Barney Cargile	205-339-8636
Candlelight	Doyle Kernea	205-988-3412
Clean-Up	Larry Odom	205-345-5147
Closing	R.L. Guffin	205-556-2105
Entertainment	Freddie Hammond	205-752-7349
Follow-Up	Laura Bracey	205-799-5546
Speakers' Prayer Chapel	Roger Reed	205-553-7361
Sponsors' Hour	Mary Emil Rushing	205-339-6181
Worship	Bert McCollum	205-292-6056
Photographer	Ken Hanby	205-339-7057
Humble Servant	Freddie Hammond	205-752-7349

Name	City	Sponsor
Rissa Parrish	Albertville	Ann Seay
Misty Brogdon	Albertville	Connie Kennamer
Deborah Fuell	Albertville	Bobbie Colvin
Stacey Johnson	Albertville	Jim & Barbara Harris
Andrea Witherow	Albertville	Cathy Sanders
Sheree Pearce	Albertville	Cathy Sanders
Carla Prince	Albertville	Shalynn Kilpatrick
Sandi Christeson	Alexandria	Sue Terrell
Teresa Lindsay	Altoona	David Socha
Karen Gordon	Arab	Krissy Roberson
Kristi Conner	Arab	Wendy Walker
Belinda Reed	Arab	Pam James
Jennifer Pierce	Birmingham	Doris Booker, Voncille Anger & Jill Smith
Chanda Towery	Birmingham	Tommi Peters, Paulette Clements & Lisa Lisa Pair
Allison Tapscott	Birmingham	Jill Smith, Doris Booker & Jenna Tapscott
Katie Tapscott	Birmingham	Jill Smith & Doris Booker
Jean Bargerhoff	Birmingham	Jim Starnes
Linda Johnson	Boaz	Shane Johnson
Amy Roberts	Boaz	Chris & Laina Williams and Trey & Teresa Ayers
Patty Morris	Boaz	Ronnie & Stacy Smith and Friends
Shirley Cryer	Boaz	Arlene Southerland & Mt. Vernon E's
Linda Garland	Boaz	Bill Garland & Mt. Vernon E's
Nicole Price	Brownsboro	Kathy Gladden
Debra Teague	Dora	Sara Manney
Susan Adams	Florence	Sheila Pierce
Alice Hill	Florence	Phillip & Sherry Springer
Susan McDonald	Florence	Bud & Lynda Bottcher, Cindy Harvey and Jackie Bevis
Denise Cooley	Fulton	Kristi Babb
Jennifer Lindholm	Gardendale	Connie Barber
Jeannie Kohn	Grant	Diane Walthall
Kimberly Franks	Guin	Corrine Franks
Nikki Barry	Guntersville	Jan Stricklin
Lei Ann Nichols	Guntersville	Stephney Gregg
Mychal Conaway	Guntersville	Wendy Walker
Brooke Morrow	Guntersville	Gena Campbell
Angela Thornton	Guntersville	Gena Campbell
Anna Zarna	Guntersville	Barbara & Paul Meigs and Deanna Langford
Fran Romano	Guntersville	Roxanne Green
Shirley Naese	Hackleburg	Jane Williams
Geri Griffin	Hampton Cove	Katherine Fugate
Karen French	Hampton Cove	Hunter French & Sara Sharp
Christina Louise Gibson	Horton	Cathy Sanders
Dee Staggs	Huntsville	Barbara Galgay
Wren Miller	Huntsville	Carolyn Bakke & Elizabeth Bowman
Lakshmi Nallamala	Huntsville	Chris Bragg
Candy Norvell	Iwka	Eddie Britton
Wendy Riley	Leeds	Paulette Clements, Lisa Pair & Tommi Peters

(Please See Pilgrims page 6)

The Grapevine

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

Pilgrims 368

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Name	City	Sponsor
Patti Wray	Logan	Paul & Jo Presto
Jennifer Hawkins	Madison	Richard & Marsha Blocker
Mandie Moore	Muscle Shoals	Bob & Stella McDuff
Nikki Crowell	Northport	Freddie Hammond
Charlotte Balentine	Northport	Suzanne Gibson
Cheryl Rosamond	Northport	Ashley Haskew
Eva Miller	Northport	David Thompson
Allison Click	Owens Cross Rds.	Katherine Fugate
Erin Cook	Pelham	Linda Rich
Kathy Golden	Rogersville	Tom & Judy Thompson
Melanie Huguley	Sheffield	Zeke Haselden
C J Schilling	Springville	Rick & Joyce Simonson
Stephanie Terrell	Sylacauga	Stephanie Wesson & Lisa Fornwalt
Kathy Kilpatrick	Toney	Richard & Marsha Blocker
Debbie Barton	Trussville	Sandra Morton & Linda Noland
Kylee Grimes	Trussville	Dianne Olszak
Holly McCollum	Tuscaloosa	Suzanne Gibson
Vicky Killen	Tuscaloosa	Becky & Bob Sandel
Carrie Hayes	Tuscaloosa	Josh Hayes
Joanna Ellis	Union Grove	Gena Campbell
Lindsay Taylor	Whitwell	Suzanne Kendra
Cynthia Tyra	Winfield	Lynn Crook

Praying for You

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

Lynda Kearse (266), for the loss of her mother, Helen Haye.

Sylvia Holman (278), for the loss of her husband, **Orell Holman (276)**.

The family of **Charlotte Rich (145)**.

Lynn Carmichael (292), for the loss of her father.

Rickey Nails (57), for the loss of his mother.

Bailey

(Continued from Page 3)

inspiration she was to me while we were on our walk.

Lessie Bailey

Walk 145

Table of Naomi

Alexander City, AL

***Charlotte Rich, Walk 145, passed away on January 28, 2010**