

Alabama Emmaus Community News

The Grapevine

Vol. 8 No. 3

April 2010

Community Humble Servants

Sandra Brasher
Lay Director

Bob Gunn
Spiritual Director

Carolyn Phillips
Community Coordinator

Ted Hagler
Treasurer

Buddy Berry
Bud Bottcher
Michele Cash
Roger Crowson
Amy Floyd
Judy Gilliland
John McQueen
Sally Moore
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Harry Wyckoff, Jr.
Board Representatives

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Literature

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Supplies

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Community Agape

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Name Tags

Quality time yields more peaceful life

By **SANDREA BRASHER**
Lay Director

All of our children live at least an hour away. So that means none of our 12 grandchildren lives near Mimi and Papa. We go weeks, months and sometimes a year or longer before we see some of our children and grandchildren. A lot can change during those times.

The middle of March, I flew out to Arizona to see my daughter and her family. Two of our beautiful grandchildren are there. Seeing how they had grown and changed in eight months was unbelievable. I arrived on a Tuesday afternoon, and my 5 year old granddaughter was riding her bike, with training wheels.

She had been riding her bike with training wheels, and practicing with a balance bike for more than a year. On Sunday, she started riding her bike without

training wheels. What a difference a few days made. She and her dad were so proud.

That Sunday afternoon my granddaughter knew her dad was beside her, that he had everything under control, and that she was safe, even though her training wheels were gone. Within a few minutes, she felt comfortable enough to ride without dad being by her side. As she continues to grow, she will feel more and more comfortable to do things without her parents there to protect her.

This made me start thinking about the time we spend with our heavenly father, and our lives and how quickly things can change. How often do we spend time with Him and how much do we change between those times? Are the changes for the better or for the worse?

I have to admit, when life gets hectic, sometimes I let my

time with Him suffer. How easy it is for me to say, "I will talk with you tomorrow," and then tomorrow turns into days.

Sometimes I go through a time where I just don't feel His presence, or that He hears my prayers and worship. I know those could be growing times, learning to trust Him totally even though I don't feel His presence, just believing He is there and has everything under control. As we continue to grow, do we feel we can handle things without His help?

We must spend quality time with Him and we will see changes, changes that could make it hard for someone who hasn't seen us in a while to be able to recognize us. If we don't spend time with our Father, there could be an opposite effect, changes that we wouldn't want to see in our lives.

(Please See Brasher Page 2)

You spent how much for that pearl?

By **BOB GUNN**
Spiritual Director

He had a picture in his mind about that "perfect" pearl, and his search for just that pearl never stopped. It was very important to him, and had been top priority for quite some time. Did he buy it aboard a "pearling" boat? Or was it at the shop of a vendor? Don't think he found it on E Bay.

But whatever or wherever, the first time he saw that amazing prize, he was captured by the quality and size and beauty of that single pearl. He had never seen anything like it!

It may have taken him a bit of time to determine if he could afford what the dealer was asking. But then he stepped forward, took a deep breath, and bid everything he could

muster and put the money on the table. Then he walked away with that ultimate life investment in his possession.

You know quite well that this incident involving the pearl was a parable that Jesus told to the disciples. At the same teaching, he told of the one who found the treasure out in the field, went home and sold everything he could, went back and bought that land, so that the treasure might belong to him.

The Master was talking to Peter and James and John, at least 12 of them. And it amazes me to the point of embarrassment some times that all but one of them died as a result of their faith. Pretty big investment, don't you think?

Jesus has a way of getting right to the
(Please See Gunn Page 2)

Alleluia, Indeed!

As I write this article we are preparing for "April in Talladega." Everything is in full bloom, and we are having wonderful showers today to wash away some of the pollen.

It is truly marvelous how the dry brown trees and shrubs burst forth with the colors of spring. Who but God could bring this about?

We are in the week of Easter and are remembering the days following the death of our Savior...how the women could not find him at the tomb; how he appeared first to Mary, and then to others, including Cleopas and to us.

Where the Emmaus story found in Luke 24 mentions Cleopas and his un-named "companion," we always insert our own name.

You should give that a try. Meditate on the story and imagine it is Cleopas and YOU who encounter Christ on the road.

It is Cleopas and YOU to whom He opens the scriptures. It is Cleopas and YOU who recognize him in the breaking of the bread.

It is Cleopas and YOU who run all the way back to the upper room to share the good news!

And now that you have been there with Cleopas, use your newly opened Easter Eyes to see Christ every day!

He Is Risen!

Alleluia, He Is Risen, Indeed!

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

The Grapevine

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Brasher

(Continued from Page 1)

II Corinthians 5:17 says, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." Has God changed the things that really matter to you? Sometimes I am amazed at how I have changed and how, with His help; I am able to handle a difficult situation.

My granddaughter had been preparing for the day she could ride her bike, without training wheels and suddenly one Sunday afternoon, she was doing what she had been working toward for over a year.

Is God seeing changes in you as you spend time with Him?

Gunn

(Continued from Page 1)

heart of the matter. In his own inimitable way he could get in the face of those who would decide to come after, follow him, be one of his disciples.

"If you are going to follow me, please remember the one that decided to build a house. Be sure you sit down and figure how much it is going to cost before you start — before you start. If you are going to come after me, you are going to have to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow me."

Excuse me, did I hear Jesus right? Deny cross, follow; now that is quite an investment.

Jesus seems to be saying that he is not in the cafeteria business. If this were the case, then we could go through the line and pick those things that taste good and that feel comfortable to us. That way we can "feel" like we are being faithful.

We can pray or read the Bible and attend church; those, as necessary as they are, are pleasant and not too difficult to do. But let us remember just what Jesus said: "Deny yourself." "Take up your cross." We are not just talking about a trinket from the dime store. We are talking about the Pearl of Great Price. It cost everything that the man had.

This demanding parable is speaking to every one of us. I have noticed something about the things I write or preach: for every time I am pointing to the readers/listeners, there always seem to be three fingers pointing right back at myself. This is an "us" issue.

There is an old hymn that might be uncomfortable for us to sing.

"Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise. Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

"Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee. Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

"Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne. Take my love, my Lord I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee."

Well, maybe that's a good place to start. It's costly, but worth it!

Perhaps we should ask the Judas questions

After sunset he came with the Twelve. As they were at the supper table eating, Jesus said, "I have something hard but important to say to you: One of you is going to hand me over to the conspirators, one who at this moment is eating with me."

Stunned, they started asking, one after another, "It isn't me, is it?" He said, "It's one of the Twelve, one who eats with me out of the same bowl."

In one sense, it turns out that the Son of Man is entering into a way of treachery well-marked by the Scriptures - no surprises here. In another sense, the man who turns him in, turns traitor to the Son of Man - better never to have been born than do this!

"This Is My Body"

In the course of their meal, having taken and blessed the bread, he broke it and gave it to them. Then he said, "Take, this is my body." Taking the chalice, he gave it to them, thanking God, and they all drank from it. He said, "This is my

blood, God's new covenant, poured out for many people. "I'll not be drinking wine again until the new day when I drink it in the kingdom of God." Mark 14: 17-25

"Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night." The familiar words of the hymn echo our thoughts and prayers as we wonder if we are being called into service.

What noble aspirations! What a great and humbling thing it would be to be specifically called out by God to be His servant, to lead His people.

Judas asked the same question at the last supper, "Is it I, Lord?" but for entirely different and inglorious reasons.

Perhaps we should ask the Judas question ourselves. "Is it I, Lord? Will I betray you, Lord?"

We have all shared the same meal - the body and blood of Christ - at Holy Communion.

Then most of us have gone on to break commandments and ignore the will

of God. Although we have good intentions, we are weak. We are human.

Prayer: Lord, increase my faith, strengthen my resolve and intensify my relationship with You. Amen

David Phillips

Community Members:

Please remember to keep your Board representatives, upcoming Walk Lay Directors, Walk Spiritual Directors and each other in your prayers!

Upcoming Walks

Walk	Date	Lay Director	Spiritual Director	Cluster	Board Rep
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 Paseur	Bob Murray	Shoals, Moulton, Decatur, Athens	Bud Bottcher
373	Sep. 16-19	Freda Crumpton	John Simmons	Franklin, Haleyville, Hamilton	Sheilah Wiginton

*Men's Walk

Reminder: Candlelight service begins at 7:45; Closing begins at 4:45. Please remember that children are *not* to be present in Hutto or at meals during a walk!

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 369
May 20-23, 2010**

Lay Director	Judy Bonds (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Brenda Kent (Priority) Rita Treutel (Fourth Day) Lisa Holmes Teresa Presto Minnie Heaton
Spiritual Director	Mac Buttram (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Vicki Tonini (Prevenient Grace) Preston Headrick (Justifying Grace) Carl Long (Sanctifying Grace) Dudley Brock (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Bobby Bowden
Asst. Table Leaders	Wanda Hodge(Priesthood) Shirley Hays (Study) Emilie Sims (Discipleship) Lori Tafazoli (Changing Our World) Stephanie Wright (Christian Action) Rita Speegle (Body of Christ) Cyndi Witherington
Table Leaders	Glori Short (Life In Piety) Martha Overton Marlene Little Brenda Horn Linda Guthrie Salle Cofield Sonya McKelvy
Board Rep.	Michele Cash

Committees

Agape:	David Speegle	256-734-4873
Meal Service:	Diane Herfurth	256-734-0300
Refreshments:	Jill Strickland	256-352-2784
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Anita Kilpatrick	256-736-1828
Housing:	Jim Sims	205-274-2133
Candlelight:	Mary Nix	256-737-9835
Clean-up:	Lee Witherington	256-391-7463
Closing:	Wendel Copeland	256-734-1135
Entertainment:	Courtney Brooks	256-737-9053
Follow-up:	Tom Caudle	256-734-7731
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Connie Butler	256-796-7383
Sponsors' Hour:	George Lyrene	256-739-0815
Worship:	Dianne Lyrene	256-739-0815
Photographer:	Mike Creest	256-739-2782
Humble Servant:	George Lyrene	

Name	City	Sponsor
Bonnie Thompson	Albertville	Josh Carr
Angie Harris	Arab	Krissy Roberson & Richie Harris
Melissa Key	Arab	Patti Bearden
Paula Butler	Arab	Tracey Noojin
Lisa Bowman	Arab	Anne-Marie Graves
Claire Vanschoiack	Athens	Amanda & Scott Hargrove
Jill Varney	Birmingham	Ruth Brooks
Kathy Thrasher	Boaz	Amy Kelley
Martha Reed	Boaz	Cathy Sanders
Kathie Davis	Centre	Bridget Ciolek
Suzanne Link	Charlotte	Sue Mills & Steve Hoggle
Kenelia Burns	Cherokee	Mitchell & Martha Stevens
Val Shepherd	Columbus	Sarah Rickert
Jenny Brock	Cullman	Jennifer Conway
Betty Peppers	Danville	Brad Peppers
Kathryn Roberts	Decatur	Jim McClary
Debra Teague	Dora	Sara Manney
Deborah Burnside	Florence	Beth Toner
Dihanne Westfield	Florence	Jeanette Custer, Rena Roy & Beth Toner
Audrey Noblitt	Gadsden	Linda Smith & Trudy Luken
Eunice Williams	Gadsden	Covenant Christian RG (Andrea Marbut)
Nikki Mitchell	Guntersville	Wendy & Allen Walker and Todd Mitchell
Shirley Sims	Guntersville	Penny Maddox
Leigh Martin	Hampton Cove	Ralph & Sandra Jones
Mary Walden	Hokes Bluff	Covenant Christian RG (Andrea Marbut)
Cass Klimcak	Homewood	Lisa Elliott
Kim Cox	Huntsville	Rica McRoy
Deana Broadfoot	Huntsville	Sharon Broadfoot & Gail Tatum
Jean Sanderson	Leighton	Carolyn Chandler
Susan Walters	Loretto	Susan Springer
Betty Mordecai	Millport	Anita Boozer
Roberta Marlin	Mt. Olive	Iris Bates
Sheri Boyington	Northport	Brooke Freeman, Suzanne Gibson & Candi Pate
Susan Marlow	Odenville	Sandra Morton
Sue Brewer	Oneonta C	hris Elsen
Ashley Fiore	Owens Cross Rds.	Ken & Jackie Albrecht
Suzanne Buckley	Pell City	Dorothy Miller
Gayle McCool	Pickensville	Sarah Rickert
Leslie Spencer	Pinson	Carol Kenyon
Barbara LeMay	Sheffield	Grace Anderson
Allison Gray	Talladega	Linda Barrow
Summer Gilbert	Tuscaloosa	Dot & Mike Brewer
Suzie Tant	Tuscaloosa	Ronnie & Sandra Brasher and Ken & Barbara Hanby
Beverly Davis	Tuscaloosa	Kathy Mason
Jayne Shirley	Tuscaloosa	Sue Mills & Steve Hoggle
Lauren Stroud	Tuscumbia	Alan & Denise Wilson
Melanie Click	Tuscumbia	Laura & Barry Smallwood
Patti Adams	Union Grove	Lynn James & Ashley Joyner
Paige Biddle	Vestavia Hills	Suzanne Scott-Trammell
Robyn Hoglan	Warrior	Becky Riggs
Linda Wilson	Warrior	Deborah Howard
Linda Sartain	Warrior	Tim Sartain
Christie Nix	Winfield	Cyndy & Larry Norris

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 370
June 10-13, 2010**

Lay Director	Glenda Prestridge (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Patsy Young (Priority) Brenda Kent (Fourth Day) Sharon Canada Dian Long Judi Vick Teely Samson
Spiritual Director	David Holmes (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Ralph Barros (Prevenient Grace) Bridget Dowdy (Justifying Grace) David Gray (Sanctifying Grace) Paula Calhoun (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Tom Carden
Asst. Table Leaders	Rosie Ping (Study) Linda Stanfield (Priesthood) Lisa Waldhour (Discipleship) Judy Thompson (Changing Our World) Chrystal Smith (Life In Piety) Valrie Bain (Christian Action) Dell Stone (Body of Christ)
Table Leaders	Judy Beltz Denise Burford Lorraine Busby Brenda Causey Jane Oswalt Dianne Wingfield Roberta Wycoff
Board Rep.	Harry Wycoff
Committees	
Agape	Larry Busby 256-831-5861
Meal Service	Larry Scott 256-329-1000
Refreshments	SuBette Crisp 256-835-7129
72-hour Prayer Vigil	Randy Magill 256-847-1472
Housing	Becky Willis 256-820-0471
Candlelight	Cathy L. Magill 256-847-1472
Clean-Up	Paul Locke 256-831-8008
Closing	David Burford 256-831-5259
Entertainment	Vick Hamilton 256-234-2904
Follow-Up	Debbie Mosakowski 256-820-5003
Speakers' Prayer Chapel	Janice Reaves 256-835-3204
Sponsors' Hour	Dresden Tuggle 256-225-7717
Worship	Donna Grey 256-315-0065
Photographer	Bob Crisp 256-835-7129
Humble Servant	Bill Prestridge 256-831-6820

Name	City	Sponsor
Sherry Fleming	Albertville	Shane & Vanessa Vandergriff
Angie Cupp	Anniston	Steve Terrell
Mary Howle	Anniston	Paul Locke
Elisha Wilson	Anniston	Cannon Connell
Molly Preston	Arab	Elise Brasseale
Sammi Kirkland	Arab	Adrienne Pope
Sandra Walker	Arab	Luther Walker, Jamie & Trent Compton and Allen & Wendy Walker
Dana Owen	Arab	Patti Bearden
Tammy Walker	Arab	Erin Pittenger & Jamie Compton
Sandy Gosdin	Birmingham	Jeff & Lisa Bramer
Marcia Bright	Boaz	Stacey & Ronnie Smith and Friends
Helen Gibson	Columbiana	Jo Ellen Greene
Georgana Crisson	Crossville	Michael Crisson
Kris Graves	Cullman	Jill Strickland
Beth Collins	Cullman	Malinda Windham
Nancy Dunlap	Decatur	Beth Fennel
Alice Hill	Florence	Phillip & Sherry Springer
Anna Wood	Florence	Lisa Miller
Shelly Dabbs	Florence	Tonis Woods & Bill Jordan
Kay Lovelace	Florence	Kathy Parkinson
Jennifer Lindholm	Gardendale	Connie Barber
Hope Goodwin	Georgetown	Joan Manning
Amy Spencer	Gordo	Nancy Wells & Gayle Byrne
Rhonda Carr	Guntersville	Phillip Carr
Heather Jones	Guntersville	Ashley & Chris Herbert
Lei Ann Nichols	Guntersville	Stephney Gregg
Cindy Carr	Guntersville	Ken Carr
Lula Dobbs	Guntersville	James Dobbs & Margaret Billingsley
Nan Cain	Guntersville	Wendy Walker & Margaret Billingsley
Nancy Burton	Guntersville	Sue Russell
Brooke Morrow	Guntersville	Gena Campbell
Paula Porter	Guntersville	Bill Kirkpatrick
Christine Yarbrough	Guntersville	Sue Russell
Shirley Burt	Hamilton	Matt McCracken & Sherry Gilliland
Kacy Cobb	Hamilton	Sheilah Wiginton
Gena Holloway	Hamilton	Debbie Dearen
Lyndi Taff	Hanceville	Jill Strickland
Michelle Perkins	Heflin	Tim Perkins & Paige Turner
Kay Sanders	Heflin	Phillip Noble
Rhonda Neal	Holly Pond	Brenda Wisener
Mary Catherine Laney	Homewood	Patti Bearden
Susan Lewis	Huntsville	Terry Lewis & Stacy Hedden
Elizabeth Mudler	Huntsville	Becky Freundt
Melissa Fowler	Huntsville	Carrie Beard
Barbara Cleveland	Jasper	Jamie Rosser
Lisa Grigsby	Killen	Neal & Cindy Harvey and Deanna Anderson
Lynda Ramsey	Lincoln	Jonathan Ramsey

(Please See Pilgrims 370 Page 6.)

The Grapevine

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

Pilgrims 370

(Continued from Page 5)

Name	City	Sponsor
Doris Stevenson	Madison	Jack & Kerry Lawrence and Paul Hillard
Levece Martin	Madison	Jack & Kerry Lawrence and Paul Hillard
Joanne Bailey	Maylene	Bob & Heather Voshall
Janis Moats	Moulton	Vickie Terry
Julie Thomas	Moundville	Laura Bracey
Paula Atkinson	Northport	Don Deal
Lori McKoy	Oneonta	Betty Smith
Tammie Brassard	Phil Campbell	Jolene Stockton
Debbie Abercrombie	Pinson	Beth Bolton & Sonya Hendricks
Crystal Chappell	Pinson	Susan & Wade Bowman
Julie Jonio	Pinson	Nancy Stephens
Judy Burcham	Russellville	Chris Burcham
Scarlette Studdard	Russellville	Susan Godsey
Kim Perdue	Russellville	Buddy Perdue & Susan Godsey
Kylee Grimes	Trussville	Dianne Olszak
Robyn Bang	Trussville	Patty Bunch
Holly McCollum	Tuscaloosa	Suzanne Gibson
Melissa Tuten	Tuscaloosa	Danielle Eppes
Amy Allen	Vestavia Hills	Emily Freeman Penfield
Cassie Briggs	Vinemont	Judy Bonds
Nancy Messer	Wedowee	Paul Locke

Praying for You

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

The family of **Don Johnston (203)**.

The family of **Nancy Frame (69)** and **Jerry Frame (108)**.

Ellen Horn (295) for the loss of her father, Hoyt Mattox.

Jana (228) and **Randy (263) Willingham**, for the loss of their son, John Willingham.