

Alabama Emmaus Community News

The Grapevine

Vol. 10 No. 1

January 2012

Community Humble Servants

Philip Reich
Lay Director

Ralph Barrow
Spiritual Director

Carolyn Phillips
Community Coordinator

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Community Agape

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Name Tags

God is counting on us to be effective sponsors

By PHILIP REICH
Lay Director

I am indeed honored to serve as Community Lay Director for 2012 and work alongside other board members in serving our Emmaus community. I love the expanded board which allows each cluster grouping to have two representatives, ensuring that all voices are heard and considered as we work and move ahead as the body of Christ in this wonderful vehicle that we call Emmaus.

Just as the Christian faith is always a generation away from extinction, our Emmaus community needs commitment and nurturing. We each know what a blessing we received on our individual walks and how Emmaus is used by God to help grow spiritual leadership in our local churches and communities. We face a growing problem of a lack of effective sponsorship which, in turn, weakens our Emmaus community. Effective sponsorship is critical to our calling as we serve God in our Fourth days. Our crosses are appropriately inscribed "God is counting on you." Perhaps we each need to pause and reflect as to what our re-

sponsibility is in sponsorship.

For the past several years, our average walk attendance is down which results in anxious moments experienced by Carolyn Phillips, our community coordinator, and too often, few applications received until perhaps the last moment. In 2010, we averaged 46 pilgrims per Walk, and in 2011, we averaged 42 pilgrims per Walk. We also are experiencing a growing number of pilgrims who are scheduled for Walks who perhaps should not attend at that time, by reason of recently experienced heartache or tragedy through the loss of a spouse, family member, a job, or recent or pending divorce, or are generally poorly prepared for what to expect on the walk.

Maybe we all just need to take a deep breath, get still for a moment, and think about the point of this Walk to Emmaus. All of this caused me to revisit what our Emmaus literature says about sponsorship. The purpose of Emmaus is to renew the Church as the body of the risen Christ in the world through the renewal of Christians as faith-

(Please See Reich Page 2)

What will your final evaluation be?

By RALPH BARROW
Spiritual Director

Some of you may have read *The Last Lecture*, by Randy Pausch. Pausch was a Computer Science, Human-Computer Interaction, and Design professor at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. When he was dying from pancreatic cancer at age 46, Pausch was invited to give a "last lecture" to students and others. In addition to the 300 persons who came for the lecture, there were thousands

who saw the lecture or a portion of it on You-Tube. With journalist Jeffrey Zaslow the book was published.

The lecture Pausch gave included much that Pausch wanted to say to his three young sons that might aid them growing up. It has helped many others as well. The title given to the lecture was "Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams."

While the lecture and book are uplifting, there are some hard-nosed challenges with regard to how self-esteem and

praise relate to one another. As a child Randy was enrolled in a football league. He was assigned to a team coached by Jim Graham, a six-foot-four "wall of a guy" who had been a linebacker at Penn State. Coach Graham was old-school; he stressed fundamentals. He rode Randy hard, telling him, "You're doing it all wrong, Pausch. Go back! Do it again!" Far from coddling the players or giving them praise they did not deserve,

(Please See Barrow Page 2)

Change does happen

By CAROLYN PHILLIPS
Community Coordinator

As we begin 2012, I hope that everyone had a blessed 2011. Many have had life-changing events in their lives this past year - getting married, having a new baby, illness, loss of a loved one, or the loss of a job. Their lives have been changed dramatically. I think the best part of looking forward to a new year is the expectation of happier times and the renewal that comes with new beginnings. We can take those memories, either good or bad, and begin again. Every day we wake up, God is giving us yet another new beginning. And He is right there beside us.

Looking back over some old newsletter articles, I realize how much our Community has changed during the past few years. In February 2004, men were being scheduled seven months out, and women were being scheduled one year out. That is not the case today. We have openings on walks one and two months away. If you have someone who you have considered and prayed about inviting to a walk – surprise! There is no long wait. Beginning with Walk 397, look over the schedule below and pray about the people you have thought about sponsoring.

De Colores!

Carolyn Phillips

Talladega 1st UMC, Walk 63, Table of Ruth

ALABAMA EMMAUS WALKS 2012 (THROUGH JUNE)

396	Feb. 2-5	M
397	Feb. 16-19	W
398	Mar. 1-4	M
399	Apr. 12-15	W
400	Apr. 26-29	M
401	May 3-6	W
402	May 17-20	M
403	Jun. 7-10	W

The Grapevine

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Reich

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ful and committed disciples of Jesus Christ. The strength of our Emmaus community is a direct result of our recruiting practices. Emmaus is not a place where the local church sends its problem members to get them straightened out, nor is it an evangelistic tool to make new Christians. The sole purpose in recruiting pilgrims should be to strengthen our local churches as we first pray, reflect, and allow God to lead us in our choices. Effective sponsorship is the most important job in Emmaus. The person we sponsor is the seed we are sowing for the future of Emmaus and our local church leadership.

To this end, we again emphasize the need to add to each cluster a designated person directing sponsorship. It may also be a good idea that in our local clusters, we have effective sponsorship workshops, sharing names of prospects and helping our sponsorship choices. A workshop could include a talk on sponsorship followed by group responses to the talk and time allowed for the group to reflect, pray, and share with one another names of persons who God is prompting a particular pilgrim to sponsor.

Certainly, we do not believe that Emmaus is past its prime or usefulness. Certainly, we do not believe that there are fewer “good” prospects to sponsor. That thought reminds me of the expression which was often heard among southwestern summer door-to-door book salesmen that there is “just no good territory left.” Truly, we all know that the fields are white for harvest, and God expects you and me to fulfill our calling. You and I also both know that our Emmaus experience was a vital part of God’s plan for our life and that what we heard and experienced on our own individual walk was not so much for us as it was for those who will cross our path and be touched by our life. If we really do “get it,” then we will remain ever-active on our fourth days, serving God in our Emmaus community, in our local churches, and bring others to this wonderful, spirit-filled experience through effective sponsorship. For all that we know, God has allowed us our days and our experiences for this very time, for this very moment, for this very opportunity. Think and pray about what you can do to bolster your reunion group, your local cluster, and who you can sponsor now. I believe that the best days for Emmaus are ahead of us and that we will each be faithful to our calling as we experience God working in our midst.

Barrow

(Continued from Page 1)

Coach Graham loved them but pushed them to do better.

In the college classes he taught later, Pausch passed on some of the lessons he had learned from Coach Graham. In one class Pausch asked students to work together on projects. They then received feedback from one another as to what they had contributed and whether they were team players. One student remained cocky and confident despite being ranked in the bottom quarter of the students. Finally Pausch confronted him with the fact that he had been ranked the lowest of all the students. He was uncooperative and less than helpful. Any praise offered him would have been empty praise. Pausch did offer him a kind of support by sharing that he himself was a “recovering jerk.”

In our preaching, teaching, serving, and working with others many of us are content with doing what is passable rather than what

(Please See Barrow Page 8)

WHAT? No Waiting?

Well, almost.

Several upcoming Walks to Emmaus
have not filled up, and **YOU** may still be
able to sponsor someone!!

Contact Carolyn Phillips **ASAP** to find out
more about when to sponsor a Pilgrim!!!!

Upcoming Walks

Walk	Date	Lay Director	Spiritual Director	Cluster	Board Rep
396	Feb. 2-5	Chad Bottcher	Bob Gunn	Shoals/Moulton/Athens/ Decatur	Dianne Herfurth
397	Feb. 16-19	Cyndy Norris	Tim Alexander	Franklin/Haleyville/ Hamilton	Dolores Sparks
398	Mar. 1-4	John Chastain	Robin Scott	Gadsden/Marshall/ Cherokee-Dekalb	Mark McCurdy
399	Apr. 12-15	Dottie Nelson	Charles Gaddis	Huntsville/Madison	Bill Smith
400	Apr. 26-29	Steve Crowe	Mike Densmore	Cheaha/E. Alabama	David Phillips
401	May 3-6	Cathy Dutton	Eric Brown	Shoals/Moulton/Athens/ Decatur	Beth Burden
402	May 17-20	Jeremy Burns	Mark Parris	Tuscaloosa/W. Alabama	Ken Hanby

*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 398
March 1-4, 2012**

Lay Director	John Chastain (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Shane Vandergriff (Priority) Terrell England (Fourth Day) Lane Berry Lamar Hiatt Ben Hulgan Dwain Elder
Spiritual Director	Robin Scott (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Vicki Mann (Prevenient Grace) Tony Jones (Justifying Grace) Mark Bissonnette (Sanctifying Grace) Chris Herbert (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Gail Hiatt
Asst. Table Leaders	Shane Johnson (Priesthood) George Hartline (Study) Phil Isom (Discipleship) Rocky Harnen (Changing Our World) Joey Croft (Christian Action) Scott Langford (Body of Christ) Kelly Saylor (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Charlie Baker Philip Edwards Jason Maybe Tim Jolley Trent Compton Jimmy Beason Jay Myrick
Board Rep.	Mark McCurdy

Committees

Agape:	Roslyn England 256-891-0034
Meal Service:	Ed Delorme 256-582-1711
Refreshments:	Missy Bissonnette 256-486-8030
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Connie Kennamer 256-878-8672
Housing:	Debra Baker 256-878-7166
Candlelight:	Jim Bissonnette 256-878-7809
Clean-up:	Kay Bissonnette 256-878-7809
Closing:	Rick Cederholm 256-891-4124
Entertainment:	Jim Mobley 256-878-0712
Follow-up:	Tom Billingsley 256-505-0924
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Judy Bailey 205-472-0134
Sponsors' Hour:	Paul Meigs 256-582-6471
Worship:	Luann Scott 256-467-9072
Photographer:	Monica West 256-677-2848
Humble Servant:	Jeanette Chastain 256-878-3557

Name	City	Sponsor
Scott Winne	Albertville	Mark "Birdog" Baird & Friends
Chris Montgomery	Florence	James Ray
Rolo Weaver	Huntsville	Bill Johnson & Billy Bell
Jay Ange	Huntsville	Doug Rezabek & Melissa Rogers
Matthew Herndon	Madison	Scott Thackerson
Chester Jolly	Warrior	Brian Ledlow & Jim Frazier

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 399
April 12-15, 2012**

Lay Director	Dottie Nelson (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Andrea Jones (Priority) Kathy Neyman (Fourth Day) Judy Panucci Jackie Albrecht Karen Cotton Joan Manning
Spiritual Director	Charles Gattis (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Sherill Clontz (Prevenient Grace) Lynn Dimon (Justifying Grace) David Thompson (Sanctifying Grace) Traci Loveman (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Spike McRoy
Asst. Table Leaders	Mona Vines (Priesthood) Marty Bryan (Study) Kim Winfrey (Discipleship) Christina Paparella (Changing Our World) Amy Boyle (Christian Action) Lisa Banks (Body of Christ) Linda Holt (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Jane Bauer Escoe Beatty Chris Bragg Leslie Comer Sherry Johnson Maureen LaComb Layne Salvador
Board Rep.	Bill Smith

Committees

Agape:	Liz Spratt	256-859-0729
Meal Service:	Dee Ann Creel	256-682-5345
Refreshments:	Judy B. White	256-837-1666
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Monica Bell	256-533-9926
Housing:	Fred Anderson	256-852-2515
Candlelight:	Ann Turner	256-426-3132
Clean-up:	Jerry Nelson	256-656-1723
Closing:	Anne Whitfield	256-534-2193
Entertainment:	Dan Spratt	256-859-0729
Follow-up:	Joyce Smith	256-534-5713
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Denise Nails	256-566-0987
Sponsors' Hour:	Sue Glover	256-536-3087
Worship:	Ann Cohen	256-508-9097
Photographer:	Steve Neyman	256-859-1284
Humble Servant:	Jerry Nelson	

Name	City	Sponsor
Beverly Maxwell	Arab	Diane Brown
Cyndi Slater	Birmingham	Debra Teague
Karla Hamby	Boaz	Shalynn Kilpatrick
Susan Todd	Cullman	Shirley Hays
Meredith McClanahan	Florence	Brandi Oliver
Felicia Veal	Hoover	Tina Nelson & Vicki Morgan
Lenise Crow	Pinson	Laura DeGuenther
Kelli Varnon	Pleasant Grove	Allison Tapscott
Tracy Barton	Tuscaloosa	Connie Spiller
Gina Williams	Vina	Carly Hellums

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 400
April 26-29, 2012**

Lay Director	Steve Crowe (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Don Ingram (Priority) Vic Hamilton (Fourth Day) James Dodwell Neal Goza Butch Fennell Chris Carden
Spiritual Director	Mike Densmore (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Tammy Jackson (Prevenient Grace) Dr. Mickey Morgan (Justifying Grace) Steve Bachus (Sanctifying Grace) Paul Vick (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Tom Carden
Asst. Table Leaders	Guy Hannum (Priesthood) Dave Roush (Study) Mike Parker (Discipleship) Rick Pearson (Changing Our World) Larry Scott (Christian Action) Joe Branch (Body of Christ) Chuck Belitz (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Tygr DeHaven John Philips Duane Skarecky Paul Webb Doug Akin Lee Hamilton Chuck Terrell
Board Rep.	David Phillips

Committees

Agape:	Carolyn Goza	256-510-6786
Meal Service:	Lenora Hannum	256-825-4503
Refreshments:	Patrice Booth	256-234-9251
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Ruth Johnson	256-245-6566
Housing:	Dian Long	256-839-6827
Candlelight:	Mr. G. Scroggin	256-452-8189
Clean-up:	Wallis Wesson	205-283-1694
Closing:	Diane Winfield	256-839-5589
Entertainment:	Steve Culberson	256-749-1282
Follow-up:	Ellen Philips	256-825-7721
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Judi Vick	256-249-9992
Sponsors' Hour:	Fred Muenzmay	256-377-2444
Worship:	Roberta Wyckoff	256-329-3823
Photographer:	Lisa Fornwalt	256-207-0729
Humble Servant:	Emmett Crowe	256-234-3152

Name	City	Sponsor
Edgar Ballew	Union Grove	Steve Hallman

CANON OF THE EMMAUS TEAM

I am a member of an Emmaus Team; therefore, I am only one part of a complete being.
I will use "I" as little as possible during these three days,
and will remember that all others are the main reason for my presence and my prayers.
I am an imperfect earthen vessel, and I am here in a servant's role.
I will remember at all times that I am less important than any other person these three days.
I will serve in humility and gratitude for the opportunity to be here, and will remember that the Holy Spirit calls for my love, patience, kindness, gentleness and self control in all things.
Whatever passions and excitement seize me, I will express through joyful praise to the Father, my Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.
I will pray for submission to the Spirit and for strength and commitment to be God's person rather than my own person during these three days.
I will give God all the glory for anything
and everything that occurs these three days.
I will remember that I am here only as an instrument through which God can work to renew His church.
I will raise my voice only in praise to Him and will bow my Head in reverence and submission to Him.
I am here only by God's grace;
I am here only so that He might work His mighty acts through me - not because of me.
I am only a servant; but God can use me more powerfully in this role than in any other that I might choose.
I am an imperfect vessel, and
am blessed to be here as a servant.
I will lift up other members of the team and candidates
in prayer and ask our Lord to strengthen them and reveal Himself to them in new and wondrous ways.
I am a member of an Emmaus Team: In all things during these three days I will pray, "Not I, but Christ."
I will not over-state or over-emphasize my role during these three days by word or deed.
In all things, I will accept and be obedient to the authority and discipline under which I serve
I will not glorify myself; I will not glorify any other member of this team, nor allow another to glorify me.
I have no authority; I have no responsibility except to be obedient to the Church and totally responsive to the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Your local cluster needs your help

**By PHILIP REICH
Lay Director**

Are you involved in your local cluster? I certainly hope so. Yes, we have all heard that Emmaus is not for everyone, but it certainly was for you. I assume that you had a moving experience of God on your walk, all for a reason and purpose. For all we know, God uses Emmaus to awaken our spirit to His presence in a progression of fourth days.

For many, the Group Reunion is the key to maintaining the focus of our continued walk with God in our fourth days. Our families, our friends, our churches, and our communities are counting on this. Our table experience at Emmaus, where God touched us in a very special way through those persons He placed with us at that moment in time, is replicated in a reunion group. What a blessing to have this new Emmaus table with us in our own community each

week. If you are not in a reunion group, please join one or start one. Isn't the idea of our Fourth days that our progressive walk with God continues each day for the rest of our lives? We each need to pray about our reunion group and be open to God's lead. The really exciting aspect of all of this is that it is the Holy Spirit who will open our hearts to God and to each other and who will make our group special friends, united together in agape love.

It is also a known fact that clusters that have active reunion groups are vibrant and growing, and most importantly, impacting local churches for Christ. I really believe that active reunion groups are a special instrument used by God to keep Emmaus alive and growing. An excellent pamphlet on the Group Reunion is available through The Upper Room. You may find it at Upper Room Books, 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville, TN 37212, or at www.upperroom.org.

**Remember to support the Chrysalis Community
with your time, your gifts, your service and
your prayers!**

The Grapevine

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

Barrow

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is truly excellent. In a human-computer interaction class called "Building Virtual Worlds," Pausch was "blown away" by the high quality of projects presented rather early in the semester. He was ready to give everyone an "A" for the whole semester, but a mentor of his encouraged Pausch to say, "Guys, that was pretty good, but I know you can do better." As the semester went on, the increasingly brilliant work of many of the students caught the attention of those outside the class. Four hundred people would show up on presentation days to see what the 50-member class had come up with.

When we come before God for our "last evaluation," we hope to hear God saying, "Well done, good and faithful servant." This praise from God will not be empty praise. Nor will we be praised for what we have done on our own. We will be praised for being good and faithful servants, forgiven and given new life by God's grace.

**Several Upcoming Walks
have available spaces
for additional Pilgrims!**

**Contact Carolyn if you know of
someone who might be interested!**

Praying for You

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

Willa Alford (121), for the loss of her husband, Donald Alford

Howard Fornwalt (343), for the loss of his mother, Linda Fornwalt

Patsy Coe Densmore (Upper Room #18), for the loss of her mother, Sarah Coe

Judy Belitz (67), for the loss of her father, Marion Lewis Picklesimer

Judy Shivers (373), for the loss of her father, Odie Maddox

The family of **Tammy Kirkpatrick (392)**

The family of **Martha Nell Johnson (60)**