

The Grapevine

Alabama Emmaus Community News

Vol. 13 No. 5

October 2015

Community Humble Servants

Lori Mills
Lay Director

Mac Buttram
Spiritual Director

Mike Shotts
Asst. Lay Director

Tony Jones
Asst. Spiritual Director

Carolyn Phillips
Community Coordinator

Ted Hagler
Treasurer

Rod Alexander
Billy Bell
Lane Berry
Julie English
Betsy Haas
Ricky Hall
Jan Hargrove
Jim Harris
Ronnie Harris
Dianne Herfurth
Bill Jordan
Bruce Parris
Bill Prestridge
Sheila Sacucci
Mike Shotts
Roberta Wycoff
Judy Trull
Board Representatives

Kim Anderson
Literature

Jim Sims
Supplies

Kay Seale
Community Agape

Dan Bell
Name Tags

Emmaus means what to you?

By **LORIMILLS**
Lay Director

At Closing, we ask our pilgrims to answer two questions. I'd like to share my answers to these questions. What did the 3 days on Walk 249 in 2003 mean to me? If I had to sum it up in one word, I would say LIBERATING. The love that the Father lavished on me that weekend opened my eyes to a world around me that I had not seen before.

I felt like I could love freely, live freely, and most importantly for me, forgive freely. There were issues in my life that God had tried to deal with for a long time.

The overwhelming love shared with me on my walk allowed me to drop the barriers I had in place and let Him do a wonderful work. I experienced what I can only describe as healing of the heart.

In the years since my walk, I have listened to

hundreds of pilgrims share similar experiences – broken hearts made whole, lives made new. We have all heard pilgrims describe their weekend experience as an outpouring of love like they never felt before.

God is faithful. The Holy Spirit meets us on every single walk. It is amazing!

What am I going to do about it? Pass it on! What you and I experienced on our walks cannot be kept to ourselves. Hopefully we all returned home, renewed and strengthened, to be faithful disciples. The week after my walk one of my students said, "Mrs. Mills, you seem different." That was a good thing, but I want to keep being "different." We all want to keep the fire burning. It's so important to stay active in our cluster and be a part of a reunion group. Another way that I have found to do that is to sponsor a pilgrim on

(Please see Mills Page 6.)

Cluster gathering vital

By **MAC BUTTRAM**
Spiritual Director

I am not sure how many people have attended the Walk to Emmaus in our community. Perhaps someone knows a number, but I will do some estimating.

We have just completed Walk #447. If we average 45 pilgrims per Walk, then we have an alumni base of more than 20,000. (That number today is less, of course, because of deaths, relocations, etc. in the last 33 years.) However, there are Clusters in our community that struggle with having enough attendance to continue their monthly Gathering. While there are many reasons that this is a reality, there are no excuses. (A "reason" in why you cannot attend, an

"excuse" is why you choose not attend—my definitions.)

Now lest I come across with a "holier than thou" attitude, let me confess that I do not recall being active in a Cluster immediately after my Walk. After 28 of us completed Walk #1 (May, 1982), geographic convenience was not a reality. So, I did not become active in a Cluster until I moved to Tuscaloosa in 1984. Since then I have been active in monthly Gatherings in Huntsville, Cullman, and Hamilton Clusters.

The Emmaus Guidelines contain the objectives of the monthly Gathering (*Handbook on Emmaus*, page 125):

1. To make visible the Christian community—persons of various churches and denominations who are united in pursu-

ing transformation in the calling of "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5).

2. To encourage one another to continue our walk with the Lord and to persevere in grace through the practice of piety, study, and action; through membership in a group reunion; and through active participation in one's own church.

3. To inspire one another to make profound changes in our lives and in the environments in which we live.

4. To maintain relationships with other Emmaus pilgrims in order to build a vital community of persons to support future Walk to Emmaus weekends.

5. To educate the

(Please see Buttram Page 2.)

Don't procrastinate!

By CAROLYN PHILLIPS
Community Coordinator

David received a t-shirt for his birthday from our daughter's family. The front read:

I'm a perfectionist who procrastinates.
(Someday I'll be awesome!)

We can attempt to be perfectionists, we can procrastinate and we can be awesome. I would like to ask you to be awesome and not procrastinate.

We often talk about the "do-nots" of sponsorship. Of course all the rules need to be followed, but here a few "can-do's" you may not have considered:

You CAN sponsor friends from other churches and denominations.

You CAN sponsor coworkers and other work associations.

You CAN sponsor people you meet from community organizations.

You CAN sponsor neighbors and relatives even if they attend a different church.

You CAN sponsor more than one pilgrim at a time.

You CAN get help by cosponsoring a pilgrim and sharing the responsibilities.

You CAN re-invite candidates who may have said "no" in the past.

You CAN arrange scholarships through your church or cluster.

You CAN do all things through Christ, who strengthens you.

You CAN overcome procrastination. Courage is grace in action.

Fall is here and it is a wonderful time to be to be at Camp. The weather is pleasant. The colors of God's kingdom are painted all around. The geese are landing on the lake.

And the smells of a fire in the fireplace bring back wonderful memories. We are so fortunate to have Camp Sumatanga and the Emmaus Movement to create memories and bring us closer to our God in a very special way.

May we continue to be blessed in such a grace filled way!

AMEN

Carolyn Phillips

Talladega 1st UMC

Walk 63, Table of Ruth

The Grapevine

Alabama Emmaus Office, P.O. Box 1216

Talladega, AL 35161

256.315.2346 or 256.315.2347 Fax

Web: www.AlaEmmaus.org

email: Office@AlaEmmaus.org

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

Sponsorship 101

Something that you may not be familiar with as a sponsor is the requirement to provide the food needed for your Pilgrim if he/she is gluten-intolerant. This is a fairly new requirement, but has been added to the guidelines for Lay Directors and Meal Service.

Obviously, you should know your Pilgrim well enough to know if this is something he/she requires. It should be reflected on the application the two of you send to the Emmaus Office.

This is how the Walk Lay Director is alerted and preparation is made for your Pilgrim. The policy applies only to those who have a doctor's diagnosis – not those who just have a preference.

You need to be aware that the kitchen at camp is 'contaminated' as far as gluten is concerned. If you are sponsoring a Pilgrim who is gluten-intolerant, the policy requires you to bring to camp with you the meals, snacks and even the communion elements needed by your Pilgrim.

These items are to each be clearly marked for their use and in a cooler. An ALD on the Walk your Pilgrim is attending is to be assigned the care of these food items during the Walk. And you should know from your Pilgrim what to provide for meals and snacks – what is needed and what is preferred.

There are often fruits and cheeses served on the refreshment table that may also be permissible for your Pilgrim. Please be sure you have this conversation with the Pilgrim. And remember - don't take your Pilgrim to camp without the needed items!!!

Buttram

(Continued From Page 1.)

Emmaus community in the Walk to Emmaus movement, weekends, and method for living in the Fourth Day.

For too many who have attended the Walk to Emmaus their Walk has culminated in that weekend event. They have not allowed the reality of their Walk to carry over to insure that Emmaus remains relevant and strong in their communities. Others were active for a period of time and have simply let their Walk become something that happened but no longer is relevant or needs their support.

Now if you are reading this it is likely that you are not a Cluster dropout. But by chance if you are, please remember how vital the Walk to Emmaus is to your church, your community, and yourself. And, if you are not a "dropout," print this newsletter and share it with some Emmaus friends who have not been active in your Cluster.

My ultimate concern is not for Cluster survival but the need for all of us to allow the Walk to Emmaus to strengthen us in our Fourth Day.

May love be of every bright color for you,
Mac

Bud Bottcher Memorial Golf Tourney

The news about this golf tournament has appeared in the last two issues of *The Grapevine*, but if you have postponed making your plans to be there on October 31, here is your last chance for this year!

The tournament is held at the beautiful golf course at Joe Wheeler State Park near Rogersville, Alabama. You may register that morning at 7:30 at the course, or go to the Shoals Emmaus Cluster website and print your own form now. That site is www.shoalscluster.com. The event is a 4-person scramble and it begins with a shotgun start at 8:30. The cost is \$75.00 per person and this includes green fees, golf cart, prizes and lunch. There is a \$10,000 hole-in-one

Register soon for upcoming golf tournament!

prize!!!

If you'd rather take part by sponsoring a hole, there are these levels: Platinum - \$250.00; Gold - \$200; Silver - \$150.00; Bronze - \$100.00.

Your forms may be emailed to Bill or Linda Watson at bwatson0331@gmail.com, and checks should be made to Rogersville United Methodist Church. All proceeds benefit Camp Sumatanga.

If you have questions you may call (256) 627-3060 or (256) 483-1398.

UPCOMING WALKS

WALK	DATE	LAYDIRECTOR	SPIRITUALDIRECTOR	CLUSTER	BOARDREP
450	Nov 12-15	Paul Hass	John Verciglio	Tuscaloosa/West Alabama	Judy Trull/Betsy Hass
451	Jan 28-31	Debra Baker	Mark Adams	Gadsden/Marshall/Cherokee-Dekalb	Jim Harris
452	Feb 18-21	Betty Reynolds	Dallas Culver	Franklin/Haleyville/Hamilton	Ricky Hall
453	Mar 3-6	Jerry Nelson	Rick Owen	Huntsville/Madison	Billy Bell
454	Mar 31-Apr 3	Kay Seale	Sandra Locke-Godbey	Shoals/Moulton/Decatur/Athens	Rod Alexander

*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 450
November 12-15, 2015**

Lay Director	Paul Hass (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Director	Mark Scogin (Priority) Bobby Jones (Fourth Day) Butch Burgess Ryan Rickert Ken Worley Ronnie Brasher
Spiritual Director	John Verciglio (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Woody Jones (Prevenient Grace) Jeff Fleming (Justifying Grace) Heath Allred (Sanctifying Grace) Earl Freeman (Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Mike Brewer
Asst. Table Leaders	Ken Baines (Priesthood) Allen Bearden (Study) Edgar Pruitt (Discipleship) Elbert Patterson (Changing Our World) Tony Heaps (Christian Action) Danny Lemley (Body of Christ) Buddy Irving (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Jay McCollum Matt Hammond Paul Wilson Mike Whitten Todd Gibson Dan Robertson TBD
Board Reps.	Betty Hass, Judy Trull

Committees

Agape:	Janice Stewart	205-792-6294
Meal Service:	Carol Weaver	205-561-9775
Refreshments:	Mary Ham	205-242-6120
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Carol Dubose	205-695-2111
Housing:	Angela Baines	205-364-8531
Candlelight:	Jeremy Burns	662-574-9477
Clean-up:	Larry White	205-394-4806
Closing:	Erin Burns	662-574-9476
Entertainment:	Don Jones	205-412-3396
Follow-up:	TBD	
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Danielle Eppes	205-499-0717
Sponsors' Hour:	Chester Norris	205-799-5698
Worship:	Holly McCollum	205-242-5966
Photographer:	Kristy Hammond	205-799-6325
Humble Servant:	Larry White	205-394-4806

Name	City	Sponsor
Rodney Reece	Arab	Tim White & Stacey White
Phillip Christopher	Athens	Mark Jackson
George Carr	Birmingham	Walter Bryant & Charles Trucks
Shane Wells	Columbus	Sarah Rickert & Michelle Huff
Kory Miller	Columbus	Sarah Rickert & Michelle Huff
DeMcGuire	Danville	Glen McGuire
Scott Montgomery	Fayette	Mary Ham
Darrin Lett	Florence	Bill Jordan
Clay Gibbs	Gordo	Beth Gibbs
Scott Bodine	Guntersville	Chris Bodine & Mark Bissonnette
Matthew Kilpatrick	Helena	Roger Short
Mack Savage	Huntsville	Chris Martin
Jeff Tanner	Huntsville	Greg Tanner & Regina Gregory
Vic Kellum	Leeds	Jeff & Lisa Bramer
Courtney Guasti	Madison	Dorothy Havens
Stuart Kim	Madison	Yohan Hong
Jason Homon	Maylene	James White
Michael Burger	Ohatchee	Tom Carleson & Floyd Chaplin
Bud Smith	Oxford	Bill Prestridge
Keenan Keil	Phil Campbell	Eddie & Kathy Britton
Faron White	Rogersville	Bill Watson
Billy McCoy	Talladega	Charles Belitz
Shawn Morrison	Trussville	Bill Nielsen & William Noland
Tim Lewis	Tuscaloosa	Neal Segars

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 451
January 28-31, 2016**

Lay Director	Debra Baker (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Directors	Lisa Smith (Priority) Leasha Laster (Fourth Day) Fran Elmore Ann Frazier Sherri Watson Tami Kelly
Spiritual Director	Mark Adams (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	David Norton (Prevenient Grace) Junior Plunkett (Justifying Grace) Carl Long (Sanctifying Grace) Mark Parris(Obstacles to Grace)
Music	Bob Bentley
Asst. Table Leaders	Alice Edwards (Priesthood) Terri Shaddox(Study) Paula Wright (Discipleship) Shirley Chupp (Changing Our World) Barbara Harris (Christian Action) Rebecca killebrew (Body of Christ) Linda Kirby (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Nancy Barker Jan Eddleman Marlene Little Anita Long Vivian McRae Vanessa Vandergriff
Board Reps.	Shelia Saccucci, Jim Harris

Committees

Agape:	Wendy Zahn	256-505-7889
Meal Service:	Paul Meigs	256-582-6471
Refreshments:	Tricia Harnen	256-728-8035
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Susan Tanner	256-202-7118
Housing:	Judy Allred	256-506-1158
Candlelight:	TBA	
Clean-up:	TBA	
Closing:	Wayne Rice	256-960-2140
Entertainment:	Carol Scroggins	256-766-4102
Follow-up:	Joan Rice	256-878-8357
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Glenda Kirkpatrick	256-561-3686
Sponsors' Hour:	Keith Monk	256-582-3116
Worship:	Penny Maddox	256-558-3557
Photographer:	Susan Tanner	256-202-7118
Humble Servant:	Charlie Baker	256-558-1444

Name	City	Sponsor
Lisa Reece	Arab	Stacey White
Sandra Meeks	Arab	Beverly Simpson
Delilah Vaughn	Arab	Sandra Hill
Stephanie Christian	Berry	Jeff & Gail Queen
Cindy O'Shields	Birmingham	Connie Hannah
Hope Hymer	Birmingham	Connie Hannah
Susan Sheffield	Birmingham	Barbara Miller
Belette Kellum	Guntersville	Kaye Dean
Barbara Albright	Huntsville	Cathy Hallman
Sheri Baker	Kimberly	Lorinda Kirby
Martha Taylor	Madison	Dee Staggs
Lee Anne Barrett	Odenville	Amanda Hunt
Sheila Gargus	Oneonta	Joyce Simonson
Emily Evans	Russellville	Heather Lanham
Kathy Barclift	Union Grove	Regina Gregory
Jane Ferguson	Warrior	Cam Price

The Grapevine

P.O. Box 1216
Talladega, AL 35161

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Gadsden, AL
Permit No. 180

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

Mills

(Continued From Page 1.)

an Emmaus Walk. What a privilege it is for us to share in our pilgrims' Emmaus weekend as a sponsor. How wonderful it is to see our pilgrims walk through Candlelight.

I love to see the community and sponsors gather on Saturday evening. We can feel the excitement building as we wait to see our pilgrims' faces.

Riding home from Camp Sumatanga with my pilgrims may be my favorite part. I love to listen to my pilgrim describe every detail of the experience.

The bond that is developed between a sponsor and a pilgrim is so strong. If you have not taken the opportunity to sponsor a pilgrim and experience the joy that comes with it, I encourage you to do it. If you have sponsored many times, I encourage to 'keep on keeping on.'

Ask for God's wisdom to know who in your life is ready for this great experience. In the movie, "War Room," Miss Clara prays, "Raise 'em up, Lord. Raise 'em up." That is my prayer for our community right now – that God will raise up sponsors, pilgrims, and leaders.

Please consider those questions again. What did these 3 days mean to you? What are you going to do about it? God bless you all.

DeColores!
Lori Mills
Walk 249
Table of Anna
Tuscumbia First United Methodist Church

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 **Molly Grisham (32)**

Sue White (245), for the loss of her mother, Bernice Gatlin Bates

Wayne Cowhick (304), for the loss of his father, Harry Wayne Cowhick, Sr.

Brenda (77) & Bill (159) Reed, for the loss of their son, **William Reed (346)**

The family of **Claire Roane (245)**

Rod Alexander (299), for the loss of his brother, Greg Alexander

The family of **Patricia Clark (226)**