

# The Grapevine

Alabama Emmaus Community News

Vol. 15 No. 3

July 2017

## Community Humble Servants

**Ricky Hall**  
Lay Director

**Tony Jones**  
Spiritual Director

**Bill Beatty**  
Asst. Lay Director

**Chuck Worley**  
Asst. Spiritual Director

**Carolyn Phillips**  
Community Coordinator

**Ted Hagler**  
Treasurer

**Billy Beatty**  
**Chad Botcher**  
**Butch Burgess**  
**Jacque Clay**  
**Ruth Ann Clay**  
**Denise Cone**  
**Freda Crumpton**  
**Butch Fennell**  
**Ann Seay Frazier**  
**Pattie Gann**  
**Linda Holt**  
**Brenda Kent**  
**John Schuessler**  
**Mike Shotts**  
**Rita Speegle**  
**Jane Sims**  
**Katie Woodward**  
Board Representatives

**Kathy Hall**  
Literature

**Bob Manney**  
Supplies

**Kay Seale**  
Community Agape

**Dan Bell**  
Name Tags

## It's halftime in the year

By **RICKY HALL**  
Lay Director

Well, just like that we are half way through the walks for this year. We are now in for a short break for the summer. The next thing up for us on our Emmaus calendar is the Annual Training Event, which will be held at Camp Sumatanga on Friday August 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday August 5<sup>th</sup>.

If you have never attended this event, it is a great way to catch up with some of the changes that have been made over the last couple of years. It is also a good time to meet your board representatives from all the cluster groupings.

Also, it is a good time to run in to some of those Emmaus friends that you haven't seen in a while and enjoy that fellowship.

This is also that bitter sweet time of the year that we usher out our Community Spiritual Director and usher in our new one.

Tony Jones will be finishing up his tenure at Walk #467 on August 3<sup>rd</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup>. Tony has been a complete blessing to serve

alongside of. Even though you may not know what he is going to say next, there has never been any doubt where his heart is, a servant of God.

Our next Community Spiritual Director will be Chuck Worley who is currently serving at St. Andrews Methodist Church in Cullman. I know that we all look forward to serving alongside Chuck too.

As we all know, the Emmaus story comes from Luke 24:13-35, when the two pilgrims were learning as they were traveling down the road. God has taught us all so much as we have traveled down our own Emmaus roads and it would be hard for me to imagine my Emmaus road without having known Tony and his wife Shannon in it.

Our numbers for the year so far have been up slightly. As all of you know by now, after reading Carolyn Phillips' article (page 2), she has announced her retirement. So, let's all get busy and sponsor as many pilgrims as we can between now and the end of the year so we can help her finish

(Please see Hall Page 2.)

## An unexpected reminder of the unexpected gift

By **TONY JONES**  
Spiritual Director

Well, it's that time of year. The time of year that if you are a United Methodist pastor you are embroiled in a season of change.

It's embarrassing how irritated I get when one of my 59 passwords prompts me it's time to change. How creative does the technological world think that I am—seven characters; one upper and one lower case; a number and a symbol?

The hint offered is *Don't use your address; Don't use a*

*child's name; Don't use your wife's date of birth...* don't use anything that you can remember and about the time you do it's time to change!

As I sit in Starbucks on a rainy vacation day at the beach working on time sensitive stuff associated with my move, I receive an email.

Everyone's favorite, Lynda B., sends me an email reminding me about this article, and just like that I added one more thing to an already heavy list of To Do's. I laugh and think to myself...life is never dull!

In the back of my mind, the words from Acts 2 shared at Pentecost last week still echo...? *Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.* This mysterious wind *came, consumed,* and could not be *controlled!*

Why do we constantly try to harness life? We try to control every situation.

One of the greatest gifts of our Emmaus experience is the lack of control. We *come* (Please see Jones Page 2.)

May 1, 2017

To the Alabama Emmaus Community:

It does not seem like it has been over 20 years since Jerry Gordon called and offered me the job as your Emmaus Coordinator. It was the beginning of a very special journey.

It has been a privilege and an honor to have worked with the board of directors and teams over the past two decades. But the true blessing has been the opportunity to serve thousands of pilgrims.

Knowing that so many of them were able to enhance their relationship with Christ through the Walk to Emmaus has sustained and enhanced my own walk with Him.

This has been both a cherished and humbling experience. I cannot put into words how much my time with the community and association with so many wonderful people who have shared a common goal has meant to me.

You have been good to me, and I will never forget that. I would like to thank all the people who have worked with me on the Board since 1996. And a special thanks to Ted Hagler, who has been a treasured friend, confidant and advisor the entire time.

Now, after a great deal of thought and prayer, the time has come to begin the next chapter of my life and pass the torch to someone new, who can serve our pilgrims for the next decade.

David and I have plans for travel, service in our church and community, and whatever adventure God may have in store for us.

Through Emmaus we have made many friends all over the state and beyond. We may drop in on some of them. And of course, we will never lose touch with you.

I plan to retire at the end of 2017. I will do all that is needed to make the transition go smoothly. May God bless you all as you continue to lead the Emmaus Community!

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

### *The Grapevine*

Alabama Emmaus Office, P.O. Box 1216  
Talladega, AL 35161  
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Address changes should be sent to: David Hall, 1016 Sedgefield Dr., Sylacauga, AL 35150, or emailed to [DHall92727@aol.com](mailto:DHall92727@aol.com).

## Hall

(Continued From Page 1.)

out her year with a bang!

I look forward to seeing you at the training event!

DeColores,  
Rick  
Community Lay Director

## Jones

(Continued From Page 1.)

to camp and give our watches and phones because we are tired of the technical control regardless if we want to admit it or not. We allow the weekend to *consume* the darkest places of our life, past and present, as we seek a life-altering antidote.

And, in the end, by Sunday we give up *control*, because we know that our acting like we are in control is futile and comes between God and our potential!

So, thanks to Lynda, and you, because of your reminder I am empowered to deal with the movers, the boxes, the mess, the 59 address and password changes, the dread of what it is I am forgetting, the comfort of the home we've created, the anticipation of missing old friends, the joy of new friends, the children in our church that I have been the only pastor they've known, my old routine, a new routine, this article, and the church in Athens that have been praying for a scattered-brain pastor and his supportive family to love them through life!

Because this is what life looks like –dealing with everything unexpected and expected, large and small! And, maybe the greatest unexpected part of it is that God loved me enough to send me help – *a violent wind* or an unexpected email! Which are you and to whom?

So, pardon the self-reflection and therapeutic reminder that whatever we experience in life we are never alone, even in June and especially for the United Methodist Church. Thanks be to God! <sup>17</sup>  
“*In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.*”

### *Passage to ponder*

## Inspiration from the *Bible*

“28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. 29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. 30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; 31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

Isaiah 40: 28-31

# Alabama Emmaus Community

## Annual Overnight Training Event

August 4-5, 2017

@ Sumatanga

Please visit the website to download registration forms & more information.

**Registration deadline is July 31!**

[www.AlaEmmaus.org](http://www.AlaEmmaus.org)

## UPCOMING WALKS

WALK	DATE	LAYDIRECTOR	SPRITUALDIRECTOR	CLUSTER	BOARDREP
467	Aug 3-6	Ken Albrecht	Terry Bentley	Huntsville	Bill Beatty Linda Holt
468	Sep 7-10	Debbie Alexander	Bill Brunson	BE/BS/SS	Ruth Ann Clay Denise Cone
469	Sep. 21-24	Dave Roush	Michael Russell	Cheaha/EAL	Butch Fennell Brenda Kent
470	Oct. 12-15	Lynda Hall	Jeff Armbruster	F/Ham/Haleyville	Freda Crumpton Mike Shotts
471	Nov. 16-19	Emilie Sims	TBA	Cullman/Oneonta	Jane Sims Rita Speegle

\*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 468  
September 7-10, 2017**

Lay Director	Debbie Alexander (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Director	Melissa Jarrell (Priority) Rhonda Rush (Fourth Day) Julia Rudd Donna Ambrosius Suzanne Scott-Trammell Andrea VonHerrmann
Spiritual Director	Bill Brunson (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Ryan Karr (Prevenient Grace) Sherrill Clontz (Justifying Grace) Bob Murray (Sanctifying Grace) Sherry Harris (Obstacles)
Music	Charlie Beavers
Asst. Table Leaders	Tammy Carpenter (Priesthood) Julie English (Study) Jether Biscete (Discipleship) Teann Yeager (Changing Our World) Lacie Oden (Christian Action) Kay Davis (Body of Christ) Amy Floyd(Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Dolores Bunn Kelley Largin Susan Blackmon Suzanne Frazier Vikki Herring Dianne Fisher Wendy Wright
Board Rep.	Ruth Ann Clay, Denise Cone

**Committees**

Agape:	Sandra Oden	205-541-2457
Meal Service:	Ronnie Harris	205-919-0261
Refreshments:	Kristy Akin	205-229-2786
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Lisa Elliott	205-527-8755
Housing:	Bill Rush	205-290-0092
Candlelight:	John McQueen	205-966-1176
Clean-up:	Hal Yeager	205-532-4238
Closing:	Ted Hagler	205-985-7608
Entertainment:	TBA	
Follow-up:	Susan Day	205-903-8653
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Linda Smith	205-901-9323
Sponsors' Hour:	Luch Thrailkill	205-744-8370
Worship:	Jane Hagler	205-985-7608
Photographer:	Hal Yeager	
Humble Servant:	Ted Hagler	

Name	City	Sponsor
'Sarah Mount	Albertville	Misty Brogdon
Kitty Gore	Albertville	Linda & Kent Bouldin
Julie George	Athens	Lucretia Woodroof
Nicole Spradlin	Birmingham	Holli Martin
Nancy Remke	Birmingham	Ruth Grissom
Jeannie Burton	Birmingham	Laura Ray & Jim Foster
Rachel Scroggins	Cullman	Jill Strickland
Melissa Stricklin	Cullman	Jill Strickland & Sherry Green
Elizabeth Irwin	Decatur	Jeri Short
Deborah Courtney	Equality	Louise Tapley
Mary Turner	Florence	Hearts Desire RG (Patsy Killen)
Shirley Tuttle	Florence	Deborah Whitten
Tamara McGahee	Gadsden	Tarrah Kilpatrick
Jan Owen	Grant	Lauren Benson
Connie Collins	Guntersville	Tammy Day, Melinda Murphree & Donna Black
Ellie Hilton	Harvest	Kathy Lawter
Sandra Rice	Hoover	Ray & Nancy Miller
Brittany McCullars	Horton	Mitch Floyd
JoAnne Patterson	Huntsville	Cathy Saik
Carol Roden	Huntsville	Laura & George Bracey
Edith Pickens	Huntsville	Jane Smith
Kara Hay	Jacksonville	Ted & Judy Anderson
Cynthia Patton	Jasper	Joyce Cook
Tiffany Trotter	Jasper	Charlotte Pugh
Deb McDaniel	Livingston	Leigh Helveston
Mary Jones	Locust Fork	Amy Armstrong
Nicki Thompson	Madison	Jana Killen
Barbara McReynolds	Madison	Jane Bauer
Mandy Dudley	Reamlap	Amy Armstrong
Lorrie Owen	Somerville	Tanya Andrews
Sue Bowen	Spruce Pine	Jolene Stockton
Rita Flory	Steens	Sarah Rickert
Marsha Ford	Sylacauga	Judie Wesson
Teresa Robertson	Tuscaloosa	Bunk Harpole and Chris & Melissa Barnes
Shannon Raley	Vestavia Hills	Faith Lenhart
Jamie Meeks	Vestavia Hills	Ruth Grissom
Rachael Hayes	Vestavia Hills	Ruth Grissom
Leigh Massey	Wetumpka	Rebekah Massey
		Jim Sims

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 469  
September 21-24, 2017**

Lay Director	Dave Roush (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Director	Chris Carden (Priority) Stirling Rait (Fourth Day) Vic Hamilton Chuck Belitz Paul Webb James Dodwell
Spiritual Director	Michael Russell (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	James Long (Prevenient Grace) Roger Short (Justifying Grace) Chris Whitehead (Sanctifying Grace) Amy Parsons Vaughn (Obstacles)
Music	Bob Bentley
Asst. Table Leaders	Wallis Wesson (Priesthood) Randy Nelson (Study) Jim Starnes (Discipleship) David Hall (Changing Our World) Terry Womack (Christian Action) Willie Johnson (Body of Christ) Barry Thompson (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Alan Brown Fred Muenzmay Mike Shipley Chuck Ferguson Dustin Baird John Fuller Jack Walton
Board Rep.	Butch Fennell, Brenda Kent

**Committees**

Agape:	Susan Vickers	256-329-9398
Meal Service:	Teely Samson	256-239-6263
Refreshments:	Patrice Booth	256-392-3181
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Rhonda Nelson	256-404-2502
Housing:	Dian Long	256-839-6827
Candlelight:	David Bailey	256-839-6702
Clean-up:	TBA	
Closing:	Dianne Wingfield	256-839-5539
Entertainment:	David Phillips	256-362-9452
Follow-up:	Linda Kociaba	256-820-1931
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Sylvia Cashen	256-435-8660
Sponsors' Hour:	Glenda Prestridge	256-831-6820
Worship	Valerie Bain	256-835-1825
Photographer:	TBA	
Humble Servant:	Susie Roush	256-404-5040

Name	City	Sponsor
Mark George	Athens	Sanders Woodroof
Josh Vanschoiack	Athens	Amanda Hargrove
Bill Reynolds	Birmingham	John McQueen
Jody Gurley	Columbus	Sarah Rickert
Thomas McDaniel	Livingston	Leigh Helveston
Jack Thomason	Oneonta	Pam Gilliland
Stephen Fanning	Owens Cross Rds.	Teek Patnaik

## *The Grapevine*

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Talladega, AL 35161

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

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## *Upper Room* series Resources available

“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.”

The Alabama Emmaus Community has access to a lot of great books to continue your journey after your Walk. Listed below are some of the books offered to the Community on Saturday night prior to Candlelight.

- Sponsorship
- Coming Down from the Mountain
- Fruit of the Spirit
- What is Chrysalis?
- One in the Spirit
- Spiritual Growth through Team Experience
- The Role of Agape
- Group Reunion
- The Early History
- Day Four

These books are produced by The Upper Room. They are \$6.00 each and are located in the foyer in Hutto. The Board Representatives for the walk occurring will be at the Registration Table to assist you with your purchase.

Worship booklets are also available for \$2 each and DeCOLORES bumper stickers are available for \$1. Worship booklets, Day Four books and DeCOLORES bumper stickers are available on Sunday night prior to Closing.

DeColores!  
Kathy Hall, Walk 379 Literature/Permanent Committee

## *Praying for You*

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

**Chet Johnson**, for the loss of his father

**Malanda Bopp (190)**, for the loss of her husband, **Ed Bopp (188)**

**Martha Shelton (251)**, for the loss of her husband, **Joe Shelton**  
**Karen Barnett (50)**, for the loss of her husband, **Marv Barnett (49)** and **Mindy Barnett (133)**, for the loss of her father

**Leigh Martin (369)**, for the loss of her mother, Charlene Pounders

**Magdaline Mallory (291)**, for the loss of her husband, **W. Joe Mallory (289)**

**Villa Wright (415)**, for the loss of her husband, James G. Wright, Jr.

**Beverly Easterwood (275)**, for the loss of her sister, Candace Simmons.

**Brian Bice (248)**, for the loss of his father, Robert Bice.

**Audrey Pate (291)**, for the loss of her brother, Wallace Shoemaker.

**Bob Williams (12)**, for the loss of his wife, **Julia Williams (13)**

**Charlotte Hall (326)**, for the loss of her husband, **Bryce Hall (239)**

**Jeremy Coburn (404)**, for the loss of his grandfather, **Tom Coburn (304)**

**Becky Sutton (252)**, for the loss of her husband, **Bob Sutton (208)**

The family of **Connie Hicks (96)**