

Alabama Emmaus Community News

The Grapevine

Vol. 15 No. 4

August 2017

Community Humble Servants

Ricky Hall
Lay Director

Chuck Worley
Spiritual Director

Bill Beatty
Asst. Lay Director

Tim Alexander
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
Linda Holt
Brenda Kent
John Schuessler
Mike Shotts
Rita Speegle
Jane Sims
Katie Woodward
Board Representatives

Kathy Hall
Literature

Bob Manney
Supplies

Jennifer Swinney
Community Agape

Dan Bell
Name Tags

We live through peaks, valleys

By **RICKY HALL**
Lay Director

I started trusting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior at a very young age. Unlike many of you, I do not remember the date, but I know it was in the fall of 1971. But, I do remember the time very vividly, how God used the very soft-spoken Brother Gordan Newton to pierce my heart and soul with his words and how Jesus came into my life that day and how eternally thankful and grateful I am for His salvation.

Being raised in church, I just thought that this should be the way of life for everyone, having a loving and caring church family. As I've grown older, much older, I've realized that I've come to know some of the most kind hearted and Godly people that have ever walked God's good earth. I have also come to know many people who were not so very Godly, many of these people I have called my friends.

One thing that I have learned in all of these years is that none of us are immune from difficult times. We all live through peaks and valleys. My

Emmaus walk was definitely one of my highest peaks, but I have also lived through my share of the valley experiences. When traveling through one of these valleys, I will always try to look to someone who has gone through a similar situation. There is always wisdom to be found there.

David writes to us in Psalms 18:16-18 "He sent from above, he took me, he drew me out of many waters. He delivered me from my strong enemy and from them which hated me; for these were too strong for me. They prevented me in the day of my calamity; but The Lord was my stay."

God tells Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9 "My grace is sufficient for thee."

What I have best learned from these experiences is that the ones who make it through the valleys of life the best are the ones who depend on God to be their stay and realize that God's grace is sufficient enough for all of us.

Brother Dallas Culver gives an excellent lesson about pruning and how God sometimes sends

(Please see Hall Page 2.)

Rock piles

Go build cairns of glory

By **CHUCK WORLEY**
Spiritual Director

Words cannot express the great joy I have in my heart for the opportunity to serve the Alabama Emmaus Community as your new Spiritual Director. I am looking forward, with you, to making new disciples of Christ, helping to transform the world for Him, and being a part of the renewal of others in Christ as we are being renewed. I am looking forward to worshipping and serving with you my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I had an opportunity to participate in Walk 194. It was

a monumental experience in my own spiritual life and one that I will always look back on and know that God was active in my life on that journey.

Speaking of which...My family and I love to get out in God's creation hiking, camping, and exploring the wonders of nature with which he has graced us. On our many trips along the trails of the Southeast we sometimes spot piles of rock beside the trail. These rock piles are constructed by other hikers to mark the way, or to mark a beautiful spot, and sometimes they just simply make the statement,

"I was here." If you want

to know more, I invite you to Google 'cairns,' click images and be amazed.

Look at Joshua 4 and you will find that the Israelites who were facing the last barrier in their journey to the Promised Land-the Jordan River also built a pile of rocks. Following God's instructions the people of Israel forded the river and entered the land set aside for them.

As they crossed the Jordan priests picked up stones, as God had commanded and placed 12 of them

(Please see Worley Page 2.)

What CAN I DO?

By **CAROLYN PHILLIPS**
Community Coordinator

As I am getting things in the office ready for a move to its new home, I am finding papers I must stop and read.

There was a newsletter article from April 2006 about an overnight trip to Lake Junaluska. The purpose of this trip was to take Sybil Bynum and Jane Williams for an Elderhostel Week.

I was taking them up and Sybil's granddaughter would bring them back. These were two special ladies in our church who never gave up on learning more about many things. Sadly, Jane passed away this week, but I know she and Sybil are together now for a new adventure.

It was a trip that showed me how much He is in control. Two seniors setting out on their own to learn more about His creation.

The weather that day showed us daffodils, dogwood and fruit trees in full bloom while a shower of sleet turned to snow. The snow melted and the sun came out showing how spring is a time of new beginnings.

As preparations for my new beginning are made, I hope to have the faith these two godly women had so that I can be all I can be for my local church, my community and my fellow man.

She has done what she could. (Mark 14:8)

This tells us of the woman who anointed Jesus with very expensive ointment in preparation for His death.

I pray to do more now and beginning in 2018 to see the new places to share His love.

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

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Hall

(Continued From Page 1.)

us through these valleys just to be pruned. All of this is His plan to make us better people. As a matter of fact, I believe its ok for a man to get knocked down now and again because the next time it happens, he will handle that situation much better!

May God always be your stay and may He always give you His grace!

DeColores,
Ricky Hall
Community Lay Director

Worley

(Continued From Page 1.)

at Gilgal to commemorate the event. That pile of rocks was a cairn. In Hebrew it was called an ebenezer, a pile of rocks. It marked a special event in the life of the Hebrew people, a time when God delivered them.

If there were an inscription it would likely read, "Here passed the people of God, by these stones we will remember." The idea may bring to mind the words to

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.

For those of us who have been there, the Emmaus Walk was both a spiritual journey and an ebenezer in itself. Our "walk" was a journey toward Jesus. It marked a point in our lives when we were led to make decisions for Christ that led to renewal and to a calling to further serve.

We have an opportunity this year to build cairns of glory commemorating how and where God has called us to fulfill his Great Commission. We also have a most humbling opportunity to serve as guides for others as they raise their own ebenezers to the glory of God in celebration of what he has done and will continue to do in their lives.

God bless you in your journey.

**The Alabama Emmaus
Board of Directors and
Community would like
to thank Tony Jones
for his service as Spiritual
Director for the past year.**

**Welcome to Chuck Worley
as he begins his year of
service in that position!**

Training attendance declines this year

By MIKE SHOTTS

The 2017 Alabama Emmaus Training event / Memorial Service was held on August 4-5. Attendance was down from previous years by almost one half, which did not hold down the quality of the training or the fun of fellowship everyone enjoyed.

The Emmaus Board agreed not to mail out individual registration forms, but to communicate the event through local clusters and the newsletter. This was a change from previous years and could have been part of the reason for the attendance reduction.

The memorial service held on Friday night was well attended, and we had twenty memorials to Emmaus people who had passed away during the previous 12 months.

Please remember that if a family member or friend passes away, please let Carolyn know at the Emmaus office so we can have their name lifted up at next year's memorial service.

The overall training event was attended by about 50 people and we had experienced trainers, who had filled the positions they taught several times, or were past lay directors or board members. Something new is always learned at training events.

Lynda Bottcher gave an informative talk on our cluster grouping team selection process. Doc Hall from the Emmaus International Office gave us an update on world wide Emmaus programs and also talked about the new "Face to Face" Emmaus program designed for people over 60. Ricky Hall, our Community Lay Director, updated everyone on this year's Emmaus board activities, and Bill Beatty discussed the standing rules.

Overall, the annual training event was a success; however,

attendance continues to decline.

Please try and attend next year's training event which will be held in August of 2018.

Scripture for Thought...

22 "Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3: 22-23

UPCOMING WALKS

WALK	DATE	LAYDIRECTOR	SPRITUALDIRECTOR	CLUSTER	BOARDREP
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	Tony Jones	Cullman/Oneonta	Jane Sims Rita Speegle
472	Feb 1-4	Rod Alexander	Eric Brown	Shoals/Moulton-Decatur/ Athens	Chad Bottcher
473	Mar 1-4	Sarah Rickert	Lynn Gibson	Tuscaloosa/WAL	Katie Woodward

*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 470
October 12-15, 2017**

Lay Director	Lynda Hall (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Director	Jennifer Swinney (Priority) Vickie Johnson (Fourth Day) Laurie Bolt Kathy Hall Debbie Dearden Peggy Vick
Spiritual Director	Jeff Ambrester (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Patrick Cooley (Prevenient Grace) Joyce Synder (Justifying Grace) Preston Headrick (Sanctifying Grace) TBD (Obstacles)
Music	Sheilah Wiginton
Asst. Table Leaders	Carrie Bolt (Priesthood) Carlin Burrow (Study) JJ Headrick (Discipleship) Leah Torisky (Changing Our World) Pam Putman (Christian Action) Gloria McKee (Body of Christ) Linda Aldridge (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Diane Lynch Nancy Bowling Joan Cleveland Ginger Gattis Pat Cranford Kittie Frederick Anne Vinson
Board Rep.	Fred Crumpton, Mike Shotts

Committees

Agape:	Kevin Posey	205-412-2602
Meal Service:	Tony Mize	205-269-0344
Refreshments:	Carla Roberts	205-412-4056
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Patty Gregg	256-504-2006
Housing:	Jackie Mize	205-486-2787
Candlelight:	Willa Dean Gregg	205-570-4494
Clean-up:	TBD	
Closing:	Johnny Hardin	256-436-5646
Entertainment:	George Childree	205-412-5135
Follow-up:	Dolores Sparks	256-668-2141
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Deanna Shotts	205-412-2771
Sponsors' Hour:	Donald Blalock	205-487-3549
Worship:	Paula Woods	205-921-7134
Photographer:	TBD	
Humble Servant:	Tony Mize	

Name	City	Sponsor
Sherry Townsend	Bessemer	Susan Blackmon
Jeannie Burton	Birmingham	Laura Ray & Jim Foster
Pam Lacy	Columbus	Rachel Caruthers
Jan Humphries	Cullman	Patricia Strickland
Bridgett Vines	Florence	Tammy Kirk
Tamara McGahee	Gadsden	Tarrah Kilpatrick
Stephanie Lawley	Greenpond	Susan Blackmon
LeAnne Burns	Guin	Corrine Franks
Cynthia Taylor	Guntersville	Shirley Chupp
Tiffany Thomson	Guntersville	Shirley Chupp & April Simmons
Jennifer Wellman	Guntersville	Shirley Chupp
Annette Smith	Gurley	Pamela & Rusty Congo
Wanda Bishop	Hackleburg	John & Pat Hardin and Keith Bishop
Devin Marbutt	Hackleburg	Jeremy Marbutt & Amber Steward
Jodi Trulove	Hackleburg	Amber Steward
Angie Speight	Hamilton	Deanna Shotts & Debbie Dearen
Helenn Drake	Huntsville	Juanita Harris & Carlotta Maneice
Lisa Howell	Huntsville	Phyllis Howell
Tammi Davis	Jacksons Gap	Cynthia Traylor & Dell Stone
Toni Knie	Lewisburg	Carol Reynolds
Joanne Cox	New Albany	Deanna Shotts, Melinda Knight & Rhonda Vogt
Jennifer Tubbs	Northport	Barbara Hanby, Dot Brewer & Mary Wilson
Kris Moser	Rogersville	Linda Watson
Amber Holcomb	Rossville	George & Dolores Childree
Lorrie Owen	Somerville	Tanya Andrews
Rita Flory	Steens	Sarah Rickert
Teresa Robertson	Tuscaloosa	Bunk Harpole and Chris & Melissa Barnes
Diane Sausen	Vestavia	Dorothy Walker

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 471
November 16-19, 2017**

Lay Director	Emilie Sims (Perseverance)
Asst. Lay Director	Sara Manney (Priority) Kerry Hanvey (Fourth Day) Diane Herfurth Melanie Skillman Joyce Doak Cheri Waldrop
Spiritual Director	Tony Jones (Means of Grace)
Asst. Spiritual Directors	Cam Price (Prevenient Grace) Barry Hallman (Justifying Grace) Joe Hastings (Sanctifying Grace) Tammy Jackson (Obstacles)
Music	Bob Bentley
Asst. Table Leaders	Cindy Hallman (Priesthood) Monnie Brooks (Study) VJ Brown (Discipleship) Sherry Fincher (Changing Our World) Sandy Parker (Christian Action) Mary Quick (Body of Christ) Shannon Jones (Life In Piety)
Table Leaders	Rebekah Massey Kathleen King Judy Bonds Sherry TKelly LeeAnn O'Toole Tina Holcombe Roxanne Henderson
Board Reps.	Jane Sims, Rita Speegle

Committees

Agape:	JoAnn Gargus	205-274-9253
Meal Service:	Charlie Herfurth	256-708-0963
Refreshments:	Carol Roberts	205-559-2596
72-Hour Prayer Vigil:	Max Moody	205-353-2026
Housing:	Bill Price	205-681-4093
Candlelight:	Lane Berry	256-506-6233
Clean-up:	TBD	
Closing:	Mark Skillman	205-446-2451
Entertainment:	Don Rayfield	205-274-7400
Follow-up:	Shirley Hays	256-565-0858
Speakers' Prayer Chapel:	Bucket Guthrie	256-385-1370
Sponsors' Hour:	David Speegle	205-385-1401
Worship	Paula Cheney	205-274-0505
Photographer:	Neal Brooks	
Humble Servant:	Jim Sims	

Name	City	Sponsor
Sharon Ams	Birmingham	Susan Miller
Rhonda Williams	Huntsville	Maureen LaComb
Jennifer Plummer	Irondale	Peg Schoettlin
Nicki Thompson	Madison	Jana Killen
Tammy Ellis	Northport	Betsy Hass
Vonda Proctor	Scottsboro	Alan & Becky Richardson

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

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.

Leslie Colegrove (190), Lane Berry (137) and Jeff Berry (178), for the loss of their father, **Buddy Berry (165)**

Wendell (5) and Marie Copeland (348), for the loss of their son, **Greg Copeland (16)**

Linda Barrow (72), for the loss of her mother, France Mae Davis Jones

Steve Lyles (103), for the loss of his father, Ralph W. Lyles
Phil (400), Lee and Mike (203) Jackson, for the loss of their sister, **Amanda Cain (230)**

Ricky Nails (57), for the loss of his father

Kelly Bottcher (37), for the loss of her husband, **Charles Bottcher Jr. (38)** and **Mary Jim (17)** and **Charlie Bottcher (20)**, for the loss of their son. **Jane Ann Nesmith (32), Ben Bottcher (26)** and **Gina Bottcher (113)**, for the loss of their brother

Griffin Bond (327), for the loss of his mother, Dorothea Bond
Becky Littrell (448), for the loss of her husband, Steve Littrell
The family of **Connie Hicks (98)**

The family of **Watts Cole (408)**
Annie Faye Sullins (66), for the loss of her husband, **Everette Sullins (62)**

Judy Isom (66), for the loss of her husband, **Jackie Isom (70)**
The family of **Elowayne Slaton (326)**
The family of **Marsha Snoddy (211)**