



Community Humble Servants

Lay Director

Butch Fennell

Spiritual Director

Terri Milstead

Asst. Lay Director

Debra Baker

Asst. Spiritual Director

Ted Anderson

Community Coordinator

Lane Berry

Treasurer

Kathy Mitchell

Board Members

Denise Cone

Judy Anderson

David Speegle

Lynda Hall

Debra Baker

Anne Parris

Georgia McCaig

Bobby Jones

Bill Rush

James Dodwell

Sally Cofield

Ken Farr

Will Clay

Tim Cotton

Jimmy Grisham

Mary Lynn Whitten

Literature

Patricia Bush

Supplies

Pam Kirsch

Community Agape

Bruce Parris

Name Tags

Dan Bell

Newsletter

Stephen Milstead

Thankful

By Jane Hagler, Community Lay Director

It is hard to believe that the year 2023 is almost over. In some ways the year has passed slowly; in other ways it has passed too quickly. Here we are again in the 'holiday' season, the time from Thanksgiving till New Years. A time for family, friends, gatherings, parties, and lots of food. Sometimes we are so rushed and worried about 'things' that we lose this opportunity to be truly thankful. Being thankful and expressing our thanks is so simple, but what a big impact it has on others. It also impacts us.

I would like to take this opportunity to let the Community know how thankful I am for your support, help, encouragement, and most of all prayers this year. I want to give a special thanks to the Board members for all they have done to guide, support, and to encourage me. It has been an honor to serve the Community. Next year, 2024, will bring a new Community Lay Director, Butch Fennell. Please continue to support him as you have supported me.

May God bless you and your families.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

De Colores,

Jane Hagler

Alabama Emmaus Walk # 32



A Childlike Faith

By Terri Milstead, Community Spiritual Director

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.
-Isaiah 9:2

There is no real basis for us to believe that Jesus was born on December 25th. There are a lot of explanations for how we came to celebrate Jesus' birth on a day that we do, but I will not get into them here. However, the fact of the matter is that Jesus was likely born in the fall, not in the depths of winter.

That said, I have always found it so beautifully appropriate that we celebrate Jesus' birth when we do as it places our celebration of Advent, the four preparatory weeks leading up to Christmas, in the darkest part of our year.

(Please See Milstead Page 2.)



Milstead (continued from Page 1)

Every day of Advent is a shorter day than the one before it until we reach the shortest day of the year on December 21st, winter solstice. We are, quite simply, plunged deeper and deeper into darkness this time of year.

In this darkness, the light of Christmas shines even brighter. We put lights on our houses and on our trees, We place candles on our mantles, and light fires in our fireplaces. The light of the coming of Christ shines brightly in the darkness, no matter how long the nights.

After the winter solstice, just a few short days before Christmas, the nights get shorter, the days get longer, and we begin to emerge from the darkness--just as we celebrate Christ's birth.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
John 1:1-5

May we--Emmaus people, church people, Christmas and Easter people--be active bearers of the Light, not just this Advent and Christmas season, but in all of our Fourth Days, wherever they may take us, in the year to come.

Blessings to you and yours this holiday season.

De Colores

Board Bits

We would like to welcome the new board representatives beginning their two-year terms in 2024, and to say thank you to the board members whose terms end this year.

The Board Reps rolling off this year are:

Julie English

Butch Fennell (2024 Community Lay Director)

Amy Crim

Jackie Mize

Lane Berry (New Community Coordinator)

Ken Albrecht

Donna McDaniel

Mike Whitten

The new Reps joining the board in 2024 are:

Bill Rush (Birmingham South)

James Dodwell (East Alabama)

Sally Cofield (Blount County)

Ken Farr (Franklin County)

Will Clay (Gadsden)

Tim Cotton (Huntsville)

Jimmy Grisham (Athens)

Mary Lynn Whitten (West Alabama)

Upcoming Walks

Walk	Date	Lay Director	Spiritual Director	Cluster	Board Rep
518	Feb 1-4	Cathy Parker	Paul Vick	East Alabama / Cheaha	Judy Anderson James Dodwell
519	Mar 7-10	Jim Maynard	Larry Hogan	Athens / Moulton / Shoals	Georgia McCaig Jimmy Grisham
520	Mar 14-17	Lee Ann O'Toole	Cam Price	Blount / Cullman	David Speegle Sally Cofield
521	Apr 18-21	Melissa Barnes	Preston Headrick	Tuscaloosa / West Alabama	Bobby Jones Mary Lynn Whitten

*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!

An Introduction

By Lane Berry, Community Coordinator

Hello! My name is Lane Berry, I attended Alabama Emmaus Walk 137 and sat at the table of John.

My wife, Lee, and I worship at Hokes Bluff First Methodist Church. I am a member of the Gadsden Cluster and have also been a member of the Marshall and Cullman Clusters.

I am honored and humbled to be serving as your new Coordinator for our Alabama Emmaus Community as of September of this year. I understand I have huge shoes to fill in taking over for Angel Rait who served our Community with so much dedication and compassion. Thank you, Angel, for your excellent training and help as I have settled in.

Please know that I am available to help in any way possible as it relates to our Community and scheduling pilgrims for upcoming Walks.

With that said, I can report to you that Women's Walk 518, scheduled for February 1-4, 2024 is full!

But we do need pilgrims for all subsequent Walks of 2024.

Walk 519 is a Men's Walk scheduled for March 7-10, 2024, and we have only six applicants so far. Please reach out to that fellow you may have considered asking about the Walk...

Since the pilgrims' accommodations have moved to the South Wing of the Lodge, the maximum number of pilgrims for a Walk is 27, so we have LOTS of room for more guys on Walk 519!

YBIC,

Lane

Walk 137, Table of John

The Grapevine

Alabama Emmaus Office, PO Box 2531
Gadsden AL 35903
256-441-6140

Web: www.AlaEmmaus.org
email: Office@AlaEmmaus.org

Address changes should be sent to: David Hall, 849 County Road 3926, Arley, AL 35541, or emailed to DHall92727@aol.com

2024 Walk Schedule

<u>WALK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GENDER</u>
518	Feb 1-4	Women
519	Mar 7-10	Men
520	Mar 14-17	Women
521	Apr 18-21	Women
522	May 2-5	Men
523	Aug 8-11	Men
524	Sept 12-15	Women
525	Sept 26-29	Men
526	Oct 17-20	Women
527	Nov 7-10	Women

Upcoming Chrysalis Schedule

<u>JOURNEY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GENDER</u>
110	Feb 23-25	Young Ladies

Praying For You

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

Donald Alexander in the loss of his wife, **Kathy Alexander (254)**

Sammy Hayes (232) in the loss of his mom, **Alice Hayes (192)**

Norma Colbath (286) and family in the loss of their husband and father, **Don Colbath (270)**

Lionel Butler (55) and **Connie Butler (56)** on the loss of his mother, **Charlotte Butler**.

Jim Saunders (78) and **Mary Nell Saunders (81)** on the loss of her Father, **Dennis Harris**.

The family of **Dr. Harry Goodall (3)**

Eddie Hampton Nelson (506) in the loss of her husband, **Ray Allen Nelson**.

Stephanie H. Jennings (511) in the loss of her step-father.

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 518
February 1-4, 2024**

Lay Director Cathy Parker - Perseverance

Assistant Lay Directors

Christine Neese - Fourth Day
Debra Fennell
Suzanne Batchelor - Priority
Linda Stanfield
Kathy Mitchell
Louise Tapley

Spiritual Director Paul Vick - Means of Grace

Assistant Spiritual Directors

Lori Carden - Obstacles to Grace
Gerald Carnes - Prevenient Grace
Todd Henderson - Sanctifying Grace
Ted Anderson - Justifying Grace

Music Chair Rhonda Dehaven

Assistant Table Leaders

Kasey Allen - Changing Your World
Sybil Pemberton - Discipleship
Valrie Bain - Body of Christ
Stephanie Kirby - Christian Action
Kristy Akin - Life of Piety
Beverly Murphy - Priesthood
Dian V Long - Growth Through Study

Table Leaders

Dianne Wingfield
Linda Williams
LaNola Clark
JoAnn Singleton
Cindi Blair
Sharon Seals
Woni Nelson

Board Reps Judy Anderson
James Dodwell

Committees

Agape Steve Lyles 256-749-7107
Food Service Donald Neese 256-596-2100
Refreshments Patrice Booth 256-234-9251
Prayer Vigil Andy & Bernice Robinson 256-499-5193
Housing Teely Samson 256-239-6263
Candlelight John Ray Hardy 256-770-6918
Clean-up Paul Webb 256-493-4712
Closing Sterling Rait 256-225-3840
Entertainment Steve Culberson 256-749-1282
Kay Davis 256-627-8438
Follow-up Linda Kociaba 256-820-1931
Prayer Chapel Roberta Wyckoff 256-794-5603
Sponsors' Hour James Long 256-839-6827
Worship Kim Warren 256-404-2432
Photographer Deb Hendrix 256-861-2000
Humble Servant Mike Parker 256-749-8124

Pilgrims

Name	Location	Sponsor
Margarita Freeman	Albertville	Christina Davis
Rhonda Osborne	Albertville	Debra Baker & Fran Elmore & Kathy Childress
Patsy Baret Shaw	Arab	Clay Hammond
Risa Jo Mansfield	Columbus, MS	Mary Lynn Whitten
Dana Vail	Columbus, MS	Mary Lynn Whitten
Robin Hayes	Fayette	Judy Trull
Cindy Deitsch	Grant	Donna Black & Tammy Day
Foster Buckley	Guntersville	Jim Harris
Ellie Burns	Guntersville	Charlotte Watts & Barbara Harris
Kylah Lenore Glenn	Guntersville	Susan Briscoe & Barbara Harris
Sheri Laferriere	Guntersville	Barbara Harris
Rachel Mason	Guntersville	Jim Harris & Ashley Bice
Joanie Still	Guntersville	Gloria Hayes
Alecia Taylor	Guntersville	Gayle Buchanan & Brooke Frazier
Martie Schrimsher	Lincoln	Angel Rait
Carol Moats	Madison	Genie Riddle & Lee Riddle
Amelia Rudolph	Madison	Roy Rudolph & Celia Rudolph
Marjory M. Bates	Maplesville	Dale Greene & Evie Jo Greene
Beth Merchant	Maplesville	Dale Greene
Linda M. Emmons	Melbourne, FL	Gay Mori & Gayle Buchanan
Nancy Cagle	Meridianville, LA	Ann Turner
Karen Phillips	Northport	Dana Gilliam & Margaret Kuntz
Sherry Scelsi	Pell City	Angel Rait
Rheagan Buckman	Scottsboro	Barbara Harris
Michael Gilliam	Scottsboro	Frank Barger & Carol Arthur
Alexandra Wilson Carrington	Somerville	Steven Varnell & Justin Carrington
Christi Lynne Mann	Somerville	Steven Varnell & Justin Carrington
Deidre Maston	Talladega	RoxAnne Henderson & Charlotte Washam

