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The Grapevine

Alabama Emmaus Community News

October 2026

Community Humble Servants

Lay Director

Ken Farr

Spiritual Director

Jeff Fleming

Asst. Lay Director

Jack Bailey

Asst. Spiritual Director

Lynn Gibson

Community Coordinator

Lane Berry

Treasurer

Kathy Mitchell

Board Members

Jack Bailey

Stephanie Kirby Minix

Mickey Phillips

Carlin Burrow

Lisa Socha

Laura Bracey

William T. Peeden (Pete)

Melissa Barnes

Brian Ledlow

Cathy Parker

Jill Sellers

Sheilah Wiginton

Melissa Lett

Sandra May

Celia Rudolph

Sarah Rickert

Literature

Emilie Sims

Supplies

Pam Kirsch

Community Agape

Judy Anderson

Name Buttons

Dan Bell

Newsletter

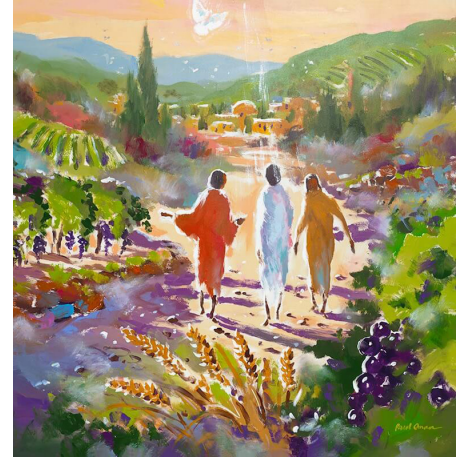
Stephen Milstead

Sponsorship is an Awesome Responsibility

By Ken Farr, Community Lay Director

Many of us have had the awesome responsibility of sponsoring a Pilgrim. Responsible Sponsorship is more than dropping off your Pilgrim at camp Thursday night and picking them up on Sunday afternoon. **Our first priority** must be to seek God's direction in who He wants us to sponsor. Pray about it, then wait and listen for God to whisper to you "This one is ready to be a leader for me."

The truth is, Emmaus is not for everyone. Emmaus is designed to transform active church members who are already on the journey with Christ into more effective leaders in their church. The whole objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our Grace filled lives to be lived and shared with others.



(Please See Farr Page 2.)

Look Ahead With Joy

By Jeff Fleming, Community Spiritual Director

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of GOD; 24 Being justified freely by HIS grace through the redemption that is in CHRIST JESUS. - Romans 3:23-24

Among the books I will never write, one of them would be a volume on great verses from the scriptures that are sometimes overshadowed by the verses that precede them. Romans 24 is one such example that I would cite. Verse 23 is an important reality to accept, that "we have all sinned and come short of GOD's glory. However, if we stop reading after that verse, we would be left with guilt, despair, shame and hopelessness. We don't have to stop there because GOD did not stop with that revelation. We are also informed that we are "justified freely by HIS grace through redemption that is in CHRIST Jesus:"

During the earlier days of my Emmaus experience there was a moment during the Liturgy of the LORD's supper that would always impact me. In an earlier edition of the Worship Booklet/ Pilgrims Guide there would be for me a small solemn pause that would occur during the reciting of The Confession and Pardon. At the bottom of page 26 we would read "Forgive us we pray," then we would shift our attention and continue reading with the first line of page 27, "Free us for joyful obedience through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. Amen" From the need of forgiveness to freedom and joy in just the turn of a page. Like in Romans 3:23-24, we don't just remember our sinfulness and guilt, but that GOD's grace allows us to experience forgiveness and freedom. We are not left to look back in disappointment, but we can look ahead with joy as GOD continues to work in us and through us.

De Colores!



Coordinator's Corner

By Lane Berry, Community Coordinator

Please continue to actively and prayerfully seek whom God may want you to approach about attending the Emmaus Walk, because - **IT'S STILL ALL UP TO US!**

We still have availability for some of these Walks.

Walk 546 (M) – October 15-18 18 applications

Walk 547 (W) – November 5-8 18 applications

Scheduling Tip – Since we are not in a 'waiting-list' situation right now, if you know which Walk your pilgrim is interested in, please include a note or simply notate on the application the Walk they prefer to attend. It will make scheduling much easier and save money in postage as well!

Thank you!
God Bless and DeColores!

Sponsorship Reminders

If you are sponsoring a pilgrim, here are some important reminders:

- Show up on Thursday between 6:30 and 7:00 PM.
- Do not leave until after praying over the crosses.
- Make your pilgrim's bed before you leave on Thursday.
- Candlelight worship starts at 7:45 PM on Saturday.
- Do not forget to collect agape letters.
- Closing starts at 4:45 PM Sunday.
- Do not let your pilgrim forget their agape bag in the conference room on Sunday!

Farr

(continued from Page 1)

What if my Pilgrim is not regular in attendance, not actively involved or in between churches? As a Sponsor, we must decide if the timing is right to sponsor an individual. Would my Pilgrim be able to participate in the table discussions? Would they feel intimidated by their table mates? Are they really ready to attend an Emmaus Walk? These are hard but necessary questions we must ask ourselves before approaching someone about attending an Emmaus Walk.

A lot has been written and discussed this year about Sponsorship and how we need to Mentor our Pilgrims after they attend a walk. **It is just as important to determine if our prospective Pilgrim is actually ready to attend a walk.** The prayers and effort we put into determining if a person is actually ready to attend a walk will lead our Pilgrim to having that life changing moment and experiencing God's love in a fresh and exciting way.

**Never Underestimate The Difference You Make
And The Lives You Touch!**

De Colores!



Join us on
Facebook

Join the Alabama Emmaus Community Facebook group for online information about Emmaus events. Search for Alabama Emmaus Community.

Upcoming Walks

Walk	Date	Lay Director	Spiritual Director	Cluster	Board Rep
546	Oct 15-18	Bob Dehaven	David Socha	Gadsden / Marshall	Lisa Socha Melissa Lett
547	Nov 5-8	Layne Salvador	Tommy Gray	Huntsville	Laura Bracey Sandra May
548	Feb 4-7	Beckee Blackmon	Angela Martin	Bham East / Bham South / South Shelby	Brian Ledlow TBD
549	March 4-7	Chris Burcham	Alan Beasley	Franklin / Haleyville Marion	Sheila Wiginton TBD

*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!

2026-2027 Walk Schedule

546	Oct 15-18	Men
547	Nov 5-8	Women
<u>2027</u>		
548	Feb 4-7	Women
549	Mar 4-7	Men
550	Apr 1-4	Women
551	Apr 22-25	Men
552	May 13-16	Women
553	Aug 12-15	Men
554	Sept 9-12	Women
555	Sept 23-26	Women
556	Oct 14-17	Men
557	Nov 4-7	Women

Alabama Emmaus Shirts

We have new long sleeve shirts to go with our short sleeve shirts. Shirts are on sale at each walk on the book table and can be purchased by pilgrims and team members. Short sleeve shirts are \$20 and long sleeve shirts are \$25.



Alabama's Young Adult Chrysalis

Alabama's Young Adult Chrysalis is a three-day spiritual renewal retreat for ages 18-28. Like the Walk to Emmaus, the weekend is filled with talks, food, fellowship, and sharing the love of Christ. "Butterflies" hear talks similar to Walk to Emmaus talks, but with a focus on the needs of young adults in today's society.

Our Chrysalis community is seeking help in building a pool of caterpillars for future Chrysalis Journeys. Consider sponsoring a young adult, no matter where they are in their walk with Christ, for upcoming journeys.

Attending a Chrysalis journey does not preclude someone from going on an Emmaus Walk in the future.

There is a participant application on the Alabama YAC website at:

<https://www.alabamayac.com/applications>

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

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 **Reverend Paula Calhoun (234)**.

Brenda Causey (207) and family in the passing of her husband, **Reverend Jack Causey (FL 119)**.

The family of **Linda Fowler Hatchett (436)**.

Kelly Scott (229) and his wife **Kim (233)** in the death of his mother, **Dianne T. Scott (86)** of Alexander City. Dianne is also survived by sons Brent (Carol) Scott and Hunter Scott, brother Derryl (Judy) Thompson, and sister Delaine (Stanley) Clark.

Helen White (9) and her sons, Jeff and Kelly in the death of her husband and their father, **Reverend Byron White (5)**.

Alabama Emmaus Walk 546 October 15-18, 2026

Lay Director Bob DeHaven - Perseverance

Assistant Lay Directors

Lane Berry (Lead)
Charlie Baker
Wes Neyman - Fourth Day
Stirling Rait
Todd Walker
Mike Williams - Priority

Spiritual Director David Socha

Assistant Spiritual Directors:

Josh Brogdon
Donald Douthit
Todd Henderson
Paul Vick

Music Chairperson Rhonda DeHaven

Assistant Table Leaders

Rod Eddelman - Body of Christ
David Moorer - Discipleship
Josh Tanner - Priesthood
Chris McGinnis - Christian Action
J D Ryan - Piety
Kelly Saylor - Growth Through Study
James Dodwell - Changing our World

Table Leaders

Butch Fennell
Will Clay
Rick Hannefield
Howard Beason
Jeff Dietsch
Lee Martin
Matt Hendricks

Board Reps

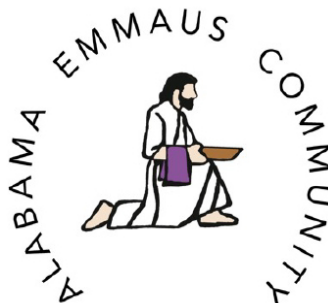
Lisa Socha
Melissa Lett

Committees

Agape Pam Walden
Meal Service Leslie Colegrove
Refreshments Susan Tanner
Prayer Vigil Shalynn Kilpatrick
Housing Debra Backer
Candlelight Misty Brogdon
Clean-up
Closing Jacque Clay
Entertainment Carol Scroggin
Follow-up Lisa Saylor
Prayer Chapel Jill Sellers
Sponsors' Hour Judy Anderson
Worship Teresa Walker
Photographer David Wilson
Humble Servant David Rhinehart

Pilgrims

Name	Location	Sponsor
Ryan Ross	Alabaster	Blair Morrison, Barbara Hanby & Ken Hanby Sr.
Thomas Eaton	Athens	Scott Thackerson & Mike Raby
Lukas Johnson	Athens	Scott Thackerson & Mike Raby
Brock Roland	Athens	Scott Thackerson & Mike Raby
Lucas Terry	Athens	Mike Raby & Scott Thackerson
Will Yarbrough	Athens	Scott Thackerson & Mike Raby
Gerard Maxwell	Birmingham	Bill & Rhonda Rush
Jared Shepherd	Columbus, MS	Hanna Shepherd & Dana Gilliam
Jeffrey Hamlet	Cragford	Keith Minix & Stephanie Kirby Minix
Riley Gilbert	Crossville	Susan Tanner & Tashina Dunn
Mark Brickey	Guntersville	Justin Dunn & Tashina Dunn
Frank Filgo	Helena	Russell Greenhalgh & Charlie Beavers
Lovis Gibson	Huntsville	Mike Nolan & Nancy Nolan
Mack Savage	Huntsville	Justin Stiles & Jeff Langhout
Craig Watson	Madison	Shirley Ryan & Mike Whitten
Ben Singh	Northport	Danny Sims
Brandon Storey	Talladega	Greg Leonard
Wesley Hopson	Tuscaloosa	Mark Sullivan



Alabama Emmaus Walk 547 November 5-8, 2026

Lay Director Layne Salvador – Perseverance

Assistant Lay Directors

Chris Bragg
Linda Case - Priority
Tara Dombrowsky
Hillary Dunham
Julie Durling - Fourth Day
Stacy Hedden

Spiritual Director Tommy Gray – Means of Grace

Assistant Spiritual Directors

Donna King – Prevenient Grace
Jody Hoooven – Justifying Grace
Chris Martin – Obstacles to Grace
Barry Dunn – Sanctifying Grace

Music Chairperson Fran Cornelison

Assistant Table Leaders

April Briggs – Priesthood
Mary Millhouse – Piety
Linda Mason – Grow through Study
Brenda Williamson – Discipleship
Amy Key – Body of Christ
Renee Rowse – Changing Our World

Table Leaders

Rebecca Berman
Debbie Collins
Carol Green
Diann Haas
Lisa Lee
Harmony Steed
Debbie Weaver

Board Reps

Laura Bracey
Sandra May

Committees

Agape	Leigh Martin	256-731-9955
Meal Service	Ken Albrecht	256-698-6042
Refreshments	Sarah Findley	256-337-1147
Prayer Vigil	Ralph & Sandra Jones	256-678-7268
Housing	Karen Cotton	256-651-9450
Candlelight	Jason Dunham	256-508-4819
Clean-up	JJ May	703-307-3533
Closing		
Entertainment	Ken Mason	256-759-0608
Follow-up	DeAnn Creel	256-682-5345
Prayer Chapel	Rica McRoy	256-527-2906
Sponsors' Hour	Nancy Nolan	256-656-3107
Worship	Sherry Johnson	256-714-1909
	Leslie Comer	256-509-1142
Photographer	Terry Lewis	256-755-1821
Humble Servant	Thomas Rowse	256-658-2060

Pilgrims

Name	Location	Sponsor
Fredia Dillard	Alabaster	Julie English
Sharon West	Boaz	Will Clay
Jama Turner	Columbiana	Jenni Ridenour
Etta Crow	Detroit	Jeremy Prestage & Rob Crook
Alana Lovelace	Fayette	August & Sam Junkin
Emily Walter	Guin	Jeremy Prestage & Rob Crook
Regina Dumpson	Hamilton	Deborah McClean & Theresa Dumpson
Lindsey Eastwood	Hoover	Rick Parsons & Vicki N. Parsons
Mimi Murphree	Hoover	Darlene Lyles
Deb Price	Huntsville	Vicki LeFevre & Debbie Weaver
Wanda Lucas	Lake View	Susan Blackmon
Candi Chaney	McCalla	Susan Blackmon & Vickie Snider
Faye Gamble	McCalla	Vonette Scott
Robin Giles	Owens Cross Roads	Teresa & David Schmitt
Jody Crowe	Trafford	LeeAnn O'Toole & Cam Price
Sarah Cowart	Vestavia Hills	Suzanne Scott Trammell
Misty Gomel	Vestavia	Cynthia Dugger

