

The Grapevine

Alabama Emmaus Community News

Vol. 17 No. 3

July 2019

Community Humble Servants

Linda Holt
Lay Director

Tim Alexander
Spiritual Director

Terrie Alexander
Asst. Lay Director

Dorothy Ann Webster
Asst. Spiritual Director

Angel Rait
Community Coordinator

Jim Sims
Treasurer

Terrie Alexander
Linda Case
Joan Cleveland
Lamar Hiett
Teresa Holderfield
Willie Johnson
Al Killen
Patsy Killen
Sherry Lockhart
Bob Manney
Dianna McQueen
Jackie Mize
Brian Moore
Jerry Nelson
Kay Parker-Phillips
Paul Webb
Board Representatives

Kathy Hall
Literature

Bob Manney
Supplies

Jennifer Swinney
Community Agape

Dan Bell
Name Tags

Rekindle our fires anew

By **LINDA HOLT**
Lay Director

I hope you are having a wonderful summer! With warmer temperatures and longer days, we have more opportunities to experience new places and meet new people, as well as renewing old friendships.

While you are enjoying the summer season, I pray you will rekindle your fire and enthusiasm for our Sponsorship Challenge and make sponsorship a priority! We have five Emmaus Walks remaining in 2019, and five opportunities to change people's lives. Sponsorship is the heartbeat of Emmaus.

We must have Pilgrims in order to have Walks, and we must have Walks in order to have Emmaus. Please keep Emmaus brochures and applications with you as you are enjoying summer activities and pray about people you can sponsor. Men's Walk 490 (October 10-13), and Women's Walk 491 (November 14-17) are definitely in need of Pilgrims. Through our Sponsorship Challenge and after the first five Walks of the year,

I am happy to say we increased the number of Pilgrims from this time last year, and I thank all of you who sponsored. Of course, we set our goals high for 2019, so let's rekindle our fires that ignite other fires and renew the face of the earth through Sponsorship.

Recently I heard a preacher speak about people losing their enthusiasm in church and church related activities, and just going through motions in our cluttered lives.

His prescription was to break the cycle and routine of life, and to let the Holy Spirit come into our lives to rekindle our fires. He also said we must get out of our rut, make a difference in people's lives, and to step out of our comfort zone.

He continued to say we must go back to basics and read the Bible, really listen to God, do random acts of kindness, stay connected to one another, and get enthused about our love for God. THIS IS EMMAUS!

This is what we do when we Sponsor, attend Cluster, become part of a Reunion Group, (Please See Holt Page 2.)

Be a living sanctuary

By **Tim Alexander**
Spiritual Director

"Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true; with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you."

This song written by Randy Scruggs and John Thompson has been popular with many Emmaus teams and on many Emmaus Walks. It is a reminder that our bodies are to be temples of the Holy Spirit. *"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and*

in your spirit, which are God's." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20, NKJV)

Unfortunately, too often we are not living out the lyrics of this song or the command of 1 Corinthians 6:20. We are not sanctuaries or temples and we are not glorifying God in our bodies or in our spirit.

As I write this article, the sheriff in the county I live in has recently pleaded guilty to defrauding a Food Bank and his own church. The purpose was to purchase food at a discounted rate for prisoners housed in the County jail and pocketing the extra money. This person has been an acquaintance of mine, even a friend, for many years. We played high school football to-

gether. I was shocked when the news came out. For me, it is one more example of the lack of integrity in our society.

Integrity is defined as "the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness." Integrity too often seems lacking today in every segment of our society. Why? It is one of the symptoms of the lack of relationship with Jesus.

I think about the "I" in acronym "RIPE" from the Sanctifying Grace talk. The "I" stands for "Imparting new life, new light, new strength, and new heart." Sanctifying grace is the process by which the (Please See Alexander Pg. 2.)

The moon and God Holt and communion

By ANGEL RAIT
Community Coordinator

I recently took my grandson, Jack, to the McWane Science Center in Birmingham. That day the I-Max movie was showing a documentary of the 1969 landing on the moon. It is no coincidence that I received this email within a couple of days of visiting the museum. Since communion is so special at Emmaus, I thought you all would be interested to hear this story.

"Fifty years ago (July 20, 1969), two human beings changed history by walking on the surface of the moon.

But, what happened before Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong exited the Lunar Module is perhaps even more amazing because so few people know about it. Buzz Aldrin received communion on the surface of the moon.

Aldrin was an elder at his Presbyterian Church in Texas, and he felt that he should mark the occasion somehow. His minister consecrated a communion wafer and a small vial of communion wine. Aldrin took them with him to the surface of the moon and made the following statement: 'This is the Lunar Module pilot. I'd like to take this opportunity to ask every person listening to pause for a moment and contemplate the events of the past few hours and to give thanks in his or her own way.' He then ended radio communication, and on the silent surface of the moon, 250,000 miles from home, he read a verse from the Gospel of John, and he received communion.

Here is his account of what happened: 'In the radio blackout, I opened the little plastic packages which contained the bread and the wine. I poured the wine into the chalice our church had given me. In the one-sixth gravity of the moon, the wine slowly curled and gracefully came up the side of the cup. Then I read the scripture: 'I am the vine, you are the branches. Whosoever abides in me will bring forth much fruit ... Apart from me you can do nothing.'

'I ate the tiny toast and swallowed the wine. I gave thanks for the intelligence and spirit that had brought two young pilots to the Sea of Tranquility. It was interesting for me to think that the very first liquid ever poured on the moon and the very first food eaten there were the communion elements.'

And, of course, it's interesting to think that some of the first words spoken on the moon were the words of Jesus Christ, who made the Earth and the moon."

Angel Rait Emmaus Walk 173

The Grapevine

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email: Office@AlaEmmaus.org

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

(Continued from Page 1)

and serve on Walks. Through Emmaus we make a profound difference in people's lives. I promise your fire will be rekindled and will soar with every Pilgrim you Sponsor.

Our Emmaus Community Training Event is Aug. 16-17 at Camp Sumatanga. The Memorial Service will be held on Friday night, and the Training Classes will be on Saturday. This is a great event for new as well as experienced Pilgrims. You can get the Registration Form from our Community website (alaemmaus.org) or from your Cluster. Deadline for registration is August 9, 2019. This could be the time to rekindle our fires and spark our enthusiasm for Emmaus and for Sponsorship! I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Linda Holt, 2019 Community Lay Director

Alexander

(Continued from Page 1)

righteousness of Christ is imparted to us.

I guess what I am trying to say is that integrity is missing because we are not being temples of the Holy Spirit. We are not being temples because we are not imparting the righteousness of Christ in our lives.

Let's spend some time with God today – worshipping, studying, praying, listening, serving. Let's be living sanctuaries for Him.

On a personal note, this will be my last newsletter article. In August at the Training event, I will turn over the Community Spiritual Director position to Rev. Dorothy Ann Webster. Please keep her and the Alabama Emmaus Community Board in your prayers.

Updated Emmaus Board Briefs

SPONSORSHIP 101

APPLICATION TO ATTEND

Sponsors – are you aware that you may complete the Application to Attend on the Community website? Check it out – alaemmaus.org. You can fill it out online and print for mailing. This way you can be sure Angel Rait in the Emmaus Office can read every bit of it!

Just a heads up - revisions are currently being made to the Application to Attend, as well as the invitation sent to Pilgrims and to the letter that is sent to you when your Pilgrim is assigned to a Walk.

Some of the changes you'll soon see on the Application to Attend:

- A line added for name of Co-Sponsor(s), their contact information, and signature.
- Blanks added for the Sponsor's and Co-Sponsor's Clusters.
- Email being used in place of a postcard for notice that your Pilgrim is assigned to a Walk.
- A reminder that FEES ARE DUE WHEN THE PILGRIM ACCEPTS AN ASSIGNED WALK.

The Pilgrim Invitation and Letter to Sponsors now state:

(1) Children are not to be present in Hutto while a Walk is in progress; (2) No photos are allowed on the premises; (3) No watches,

(Please See Briefs Page 3.)

Register now for August training event

The 2019 Annual Training Event is Aug. 16-17, and yes, **you can anticipate!!!** But whatever you do, don't wait! The deadline for registration is Aug. 9. Even if you've attended before, you don't want to miss this one. Since the training last year, virtually all guidelines for serving on a team have been revised, so this time is a must!

This is also a wonderful time to renew old friendships and create new ones! And as with all Emmaus events, there will be food, fun, fellowship and music!

On Friday evening, Aug. 16, the schedule includes registration and room assignments, dinner, and a Memorial Service for Alabama Emmaus Community members who have passed away since last year's event.

On Saturday, training for team service is offered in three sessions. This gives you the opportunity to get an in-depth view of at least three team positions of your choice. There are also general sessions that offer updates to the entire gathering. Members of the

Alabama Emmaus Community Board of Directors will be introduced and be available to answer any questions you may have.

Rooms may be secured for Friday and Saturday nights, and event participants will be lodged in Retreat Center Buildings 1, 2 and 3. This is also the weekend for Walk #487. If you wish to serve the Pilgrims of #487, you **must** contact the Food Service Chairperson for that Walk. (See team listing elsewhere in this issue.) Remember, there is a limit to the number of servers. Meals for the Training Event will be served in the lodge Hundley Dining Room.

Registration forms are available under 'Announcements' on the Community website at alaemmaus.org and from your Cluster Leader. If your Cluster has a website, you may check there.

Make sure you get your registration form in early in order to get the classes you wish to take. If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact Jim Sims at **205-531-4965** or jrsims@otelco.net. See you there!

Briefs

(Continued from Page 2)

cell phones, pagers, cameras, recorders or any other electronic devices are allowed during the Walk.

These last three items are not new rules. It is hoped that by including them in the invitation and the letter that everyone will be encouraged to abide by them.

The Alabama Board of Directors hopes EACH of you will sponsor at least one Pilgrim this year! But just a reminder before Walks begin again in August – if you are serving in the Conference Room for one of these teams in the fall, you may not sponsor a Pilgrim on that Walk, nor can there be a Pilgrim on that Walk

who is your family member, even if sponsored by someone else. For further information, please see your Board Members.

Agape Information

If you wish to provide agape, you must provide the required number of pieces. Are

you aware that Team Members are always included when agape is given? The number of pieces for the Conference Room or the Dining Room is still 80. If you are providing bed agape, the number is still 65. If you provide fewer pieces than indicated, the

(Please See Briefs Page 6.)

| UPCOMING WALKS | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--|---|
| Walk | Date | Lay Director | Spiritual Director | Cluster | Board Rep |
| 487 | Aug 15-18 | Melanie Skillman | Barry Hallman | Blount/Cullman | Bob Manney Kay Parker-Phillips |
| 488 | Sep 5-8 | Donnie Armstrong | Dale Cohen | Shoals/Athens/ Moulton/Decatur | Patsy Killen Brian Moore |
| 489 | Sep 19-22 | Jamie Rickert | Lynn Gibson | Tuscaloosa/W. AL | Terri Alexander Sherry Lockhart |
| 490 | Oct 10-13 | Don Johnson | Mark Mayo | Cherokee-Dekalb/ Marshall/Gadsden | Lamar Hiett Teresa Holderfield |
| 491 | Nov 14-17 | Joyce Smith | Sherill Clontz | Huntsville | Al Killen Linda Case |
| 492 | Feb 20-23 | Rhonda Rush | John Simmons | Bham E/Bham S/ Shelby | Dianna McQueen |
| <p>*Men's Walk Reminder: Candlelight service begins at 7:45; Closing begins at 4:45. Please remember that children are <i>not</i> to be present in Hutto or at meals during a walk!</p> | | | | | |

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 487
August 15-18, 2019**

Lay Director Melanie Skillman (Perseverance)

Asst. Lay Director Kerry Janvey (Priority)
Lee Ann O'Toole (Fourth Day)
Amy Crim
Sara Manney
Sandy Parker
Jill Sellers

Spiritual Director Barry Hallman (Means of Grace)

Asst. Spiritual Directors Cam Price (Prevenient Grace)
Lisa Holmes (Justifying Grace)
Harvey Beck (Sanctifying Grace)
Joe Hastings (Obstacles to Grace)

Music Bob Bentley

Asst. Table Leaders Emilie Sims (Priesthood)
Mary Quick (Study)
Carol Glover (Discipleship)
Judy Larocque (Changing Our World)
V.J. Brown (Christian Action)
Amy Armstrong (Body of Christ)
Joyce Doak (Life In Piety)

Table Leaders Kathleen King
Kathy Hall
Lana Beck
Marsha Hamilton
Donna Wilson
Tiphonie Gatgens
Rachel Gargus

Board Reps. Bob Manney, Kay Parker-Phillips

Committees

Agape: Judy Bonds 256-636-2735
Meal Service: Tom Larocque 205-625-7051
Refreshments: Jim Saunders 205-275-2292
72-Hour Prayer Vigil: Bill Price 205-681-4093
Housing: Bain Brown 205-369-7630
Candlelight: David Wilson 205-625-8266
Clean-up: Bill Cofield 205-274-8033
Closing: Bill Cofield
Entertainment: Don Rayfield 205-274-7400
Follow-up: Ricky Hall 256-810-8988
Speakers' Prayer Chapel: Paula Cheney 205-274-0505
Sponsors' Hour: Jim Doak 205-647-0921
Worship: Pam Branham 205-837-2708
Photographer: Neal Brooks 205-274-7203
Humble Servant: Mark Skillman 205-446-2451

| Name | City | Sponsor |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Evelee Long | Adamsville | Steve & Sandra Smith |
| Nikki May | Albertville | Angie & Roger Talton, Vicki Mann |
| Tamara Powers | Albertville | Anne Sweitzer & Amanda Williams |
| Wendy Wyatt | Alexander City | Debbie Hicks |
| Melinda Lunsford | Ashville | Teresa Holderfield |
| Angela Ennis | Athens | Kim Henry & Carrie Powless |
| Amanda Romine | Athens | Carrie Powless & Kim Henry |
| Pam Goodwin | Bessemer | Steve Smith, Joyce & Raymond Cook |
| Pamela Crowe | Bessemer | Vicki Herring & Jan Nolen |
| Cas Scott | Birmingham | O'Lolade Erinkitola |
| Melissa Carden | Birmingham | Tara Glass & Jason Garnette |
| Tammy Cooper | Boaz | Shalynn Kilpatrick |
| Kiah Nesmith | Chattanooga | Tami Fuller |
| Sylvia Russell | Dora | Steve & Sandra Smith |
| Lynn James | Ellisville | Ann Turner |
| Misty Buerhaus | Florence | Pete Peeden |
| Sandra Cole | Florence | Elaine White & Russ White |
| Ashley Mitchell | Florence | Pete Peeden |
| Heather Monsma | Hoover | Tara Glass & Jason Garnette |
| Cynthia OliverCarter | Huntsville | Bobbie Moore & Lola Spearman |
| Edna Sheridan | Huntsville | Bobbie Moore & Lola Spearman |
| Mandi Faith | Huntsville | Gary & Cheri Crawford |
| Crystal Holt | Leighton | Lori Mills |
| Alice Lessmann | Madison | Steve Lessman & Al Killen |
| Lysa Beard | Muscle Shoals | Bill Beard, Chuck & Elaine Beard |
| Amy Shiew | Northport | Sherri Trick |
| Teresa Schmitt | Owens Cross Rds | Ken & Jackie Albrecht |
| Linda Cournoyer | Pinson | Joyce & Larry Green |
| Joy Coleman | Pleasant Grove | Steve & Sandra Smith |
| Terri Scheetz | Rogersville | Linda Watson |
| Brandy Tucker | Springville | Lindsey Deweese |
| Meagan Welch | Trussville | Spencer Welch & Monty Bell |
| Mattie Hogan | Tuscaloosa | Patricia Bush & Judy Trull |
| Sue Shelton | Tuscaloosa | Sherri Trick |
| Meredith Easterwood | Vinemont | Melissa Stricklin & Jill Strickland |

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 488
September 5-8, 2019**

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Lay Director | Donnie Armstrong (Perseverance) |
| Asst. Lay Director | Hall Mille (Priority) Fredrick Martin (Fourth Day) Ronnie Cronister Brant Rutledge Roy Rudolph David Twesme |
| Spiritual Director | Dale Cohen (Means of Grace) |
| Asst. Spiritual Directors | Gary Formby (Prevenient Grace) Tony Jones (Justifying Grace) Sammy Hayes (Sanctifying Grace) Tony Latham (Obstacles) |
| Music | John Schuessler |
| Asst. Table Leaders | Joe Peden (Priesthood) Jamey Cosby (Study) Neal Harvey (Discipleship) Wes Canestrari (Changing Our World) Christ Waldrep (Christian Action) Jonathan Killen (Body of Christ) Clay Jackson (Life In Piety) |
| Table Leaders | Kermit Campbell Allen Schollin Bob Young Heath Reed Mike Creecy Jim Maynard Andy Clem |
| Board Reps. | Patsy Killen, Brian Moore |

Committees

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Agape: | Megan Smith-Keenum 256-810-7689 |
| Meal Service: | Rosemary Lewey 256-565-7356 |
| Refreshments: | Revonda Twesme 256-762-9964 |
| 72-Hour Prayer Vigil: | Kris Murphy 256-777-0163 |
| Housing: | Melissa Parks 256-366-5088 |
| Candlelight: | Milton Powell 256-350-2335 |
| Clean-up: | Louis Taylor 256-389-3851 |
| Closing: | Linda Watson 256-627-3060 |
| Entertainment: | Thomas Martin 256-366-0353 |
| Follow-up: | Clay Hammond 256-247-0538 |
| Speakers' Prayer Chapel: | Jan Hargrove 256-777-4095 |
| Sponsors' Hour: | Tom Thompson 256-810-7158 |
| Worship | Ann Cohen 256-508-9097 |
| Photographer: | Thomas Martin |
| Humble Servant: | Mary Armstrong 256-710-0102 |

| Name | City | Sponsor |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Brandon Turner | Albertville | Steven Varnell |
| Andrew Gomez | Alexander City | Wayne & Debbie Hicks |
| Rob Phraner | Athens | Mark George |
| Robbie Taymon | Athens | Greg Patrick |
| Steven Porter | Athens | Tony Jones |
| Marcus Everhart | Birmingham | Charles Belitz |
| Nick Mobley | Centre | Lisa Mobley & Jay Myrick |
| Jason Roberts | Eutaw | Clay Barns & Lee Hamilton |
| Shawn Gober | Hackleburg | Cheri Gober & Lisa Nichols |
| Johnny Palmer | Hamilton | Wannell Scott & Liz Bankston |
| Brian Webb | Huntsville | Terry Fulwider |
| Rock Wilson | Huntsville | Bill Smith |
| Dan Furno | Madison | Taylor Edge |
| K.C. Orr | Madison | Shannon Reed |
| Ty Ford | Meridian | Charles Bush |
| Ricky Gilliam | Northport | Lynn Gibson |
| Cary Gibbs | Owens Cross Rds | Robert & Mary Beth Pendley |
| Jerry Stewart | Piedmont | Ted Anderson |
| Leon Bradley | Piedmont | Marcel Emigh, Ted & Judy Anderson |
| Shane Petree | Red Bay | Jeff Frame |
| Phillip Hamilton | Russellville | Pat Seal |
| Chad Talley | Sheffield | Mary Kate Mills, Lynda Bottcher & Janie Oaks |
| Jeffery Dewese | Springville | Marshall Tucker & Charles Land |
| Jerry Kent | Springville | Chip Vann |
| Gabe Basinge | Tuscumbia | Band of Brothers Reunion Group |

**Exciting new opportunity
VHUMC hosts first
“Face to Face Encounter”**

The first Face to Face Encounter in the Alabama Emmaus Community was held at Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church on May 13, 16, 20, and 23, 2019, with 20 Pilgrims.

“What is a Face to Face Encounter?” some of you may be asking. Face to Face, another facet of the Upper Room Emmaus Ministry, is similar to an Emmaus Walk, but has been adapted for older individuals who might find it difficult to be away from home for 72 hours.

An Encounter is held in a church or other facility closer to the Pilgrims' homes. Men and women can attend the same Encounter, but the tables are assigned by gender.

Most of the fourteen talks are the same as Emmaus talks, with a couple of exceptions. There are some of the same meditations, and the Pilgrims get to experience Candlelight and Closing.

If you would like additional information about conducting a Face to Face Encounter in your area, please contact Jerry Nelson, jpop825@gmail.com, or Ted Hagler, edwardthagler@bellsouth.net.

Pilgrims attending Encounter 1 included: John Fisher, Roula Wolff, Paula Jowers, Lynn Abrams, Red Hamilton, Carol Madderra, Rose Anne Beasley, Judy Keenum, Rick McCleney, Tricia Banks, Jerri Gray, Cortez Harden, Robert Simmons, Janice Watson, Julie Heckman, Janet Harden, Clayton West, Eleanor Berr, Sheila Kidd, and, Christian Johnson

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

Briefs —

(Continued from Page 3)

Agape Committee will be unable to share the items you have lovingly prepared. And remember; only the names of churches, Clusters and Reunion Groups are allowed on your agape. Also, if you leave a gift for one Pilgrim only (Individual Agape), it will be returned to you for gifting after the Walk is over.

Worship Update

The Worship Guidelines were revised in October of 2018. However, during its May meeting this year, the Alabama Emmaus Board of Directors made a revision regarding Worship photographs. The Worship Committee has always been allowed to photograph altars as long as no Pilgrims are present in these pictures. The revision to this policy disallows the appearance of any altar pictures on any form of social media.

Praying for You

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

To the family of **Mike Sparks (61)**
To the family of **Judy Esslinger (266)**
To Martha Stevens (LW#26) in the loss of her husband, Mitchell Stevens (LW#19)
To the family of **Villa Wright (415)**
To the family of **Alfred Lawrence "AL" Watson (183)**
and **Jeanette Randall Watson (104)**
To the family of **Rita Jeffreys (312)**
To the family of Helen Stevenson (NAS)
To the family of **Doris Davis (234)**
To **Judy Gilliland (133)** in the loss of her husband, **Hershel Gilliland (137)**
To the family of **Mike Morgan (331)**
To the family of **Fred Gleason (81)**
To the family of **Mary Nelson (442)**
To the family of **Danna Phillips (41)**
To **Wendell (5) & Marie (348) Copeland** and **Shirley (193) & David (453) Copeland Hays** in the loss of their sister, Mary Copeland Bates (CA Cursillo)
To **Ronnie (16) & Minnie (21) Heaton** and **Byron Heaton (82)** in the loss of their brother Wayne Heaton
To **Connie Butler(56)** in the loss of her brother, Tommy Johnson
To **Sue Bradley (19)** in the loss of her husband, **Rayburn Bradley (18)**
To **John Cole (97)** in the loss of his son and to **Lori Tafazoli (131)** in the loss of her brother, Chris Cole
To **John Kermondy (170)** in the loss of his wife **Rose Kermondy (176)**
To **Rich & Ella Sweazy** (Great Plains OK) in the loss of their daughter
To **Carol Ann Russell (464)** in the loss of her mother, Sarah Wood Mullins
To **Carol Weeks (64)** in the loss of her husband, **David Weeks (78)**