



Community Humble Servants

Lay Director

Teresa Holderfield Walker

Spiritual Director

Gary Formby

Asst. Lay Director

Deanna Shotts

Asst. Spiritual Director

John Simmons

Community Coordinator

Angel Rait

Treasurer

Jim Sims

Board Members

Donna Ambrosius

Debra Baker

Karen Cotton

Bob DeHaven

Tami Glenn

Jane Hagler

Clay Hammond

Sherry Johnson

Danny Lemley

Randy Nelson

Sandy Parker

Stirling Rait

Jaime Rickert

Deanna Shotts

Melanie Skillman

Jennifer Swinney

Literature

Patricia Bush

Supplies

Amy Talton

Community Agape

Bruce Parris

Name Tags

Dan Bell

Newsletter

Stephen Milstead

Sponsorship 101 - Are Your Ducks in a Row?

By Teresa Holderfield Walker, Community Lay Director



Let me tell you, it is hard getting these little fluff balls all in a row, but very rewarding – actually eternally rewarding. Are your ducks in a row or are your ducks on the pond waiting to come home?

Let me quickly guide you through A Refresher Sponsorship 101 – Getting Your Ducks in a Row! #1 Prayer, Prayer, Prayer, Prayer, Prayer!

A lot of prayer time is the foundation for good sponsorship!

God puts them on my mind and heart. God makes them receptive, if not it may be all about timing. Not now, but definitely later. I have to share this. The longest I've waited for one of my ducks to go on a walk is 11 years. My daughter, Melissa Lett, attended Walk 476. So sometimes you have stubborn little ducks.

Who Do I Sponsor?

Well, it is not trying to get all my friends to go or to fix people's problems or to reproduce my own religious experience in others. Who do I sponsor?

(Please See Walker Page 2.)

Endings are Really Beginnings

By Gary Formby, Community Spiritual Director

Christians are people with a Resurrection perspective. We can't help it. We believe He is risen. We believe we are different people because God raised Jesus from the dead. What seemed to be a tragic ending turned out to be a new beginning. Since then we have lived with hope and expectation that trusts that there is always more to come. If we don't know how this will happen, we trust the One who will make it happen. What he did with Jesus is a glimpse of what he is always doing, bringing new beginnings out of all of our endings including what we might see as our final ending. This is our Christian lens through which we see everything: God, ourselves, others, life and the world in which we live.

Our world is now in a time of new beginning and while we are still transitioning. We know it's happening, and it feels great! So it is with Emmaus. Walk 494 is just around the corner with other walks coming close behind. We anticipate and are praying already that the love of God and life transforming work of God will once again be revealed and experienced in this anointed three day Walk to Emmaus! As we all know, God brings this about through his people as he always has. We've been patient but ready. We've tried to stay faithful and fruitful. We've been praying and working, knowing in our hearts that the joy of the Lord awaits us. This is going to be a wonderful fall at Camp Sumatanga for those making their walk to Emmaus. The time is here for a new beginning. Exciting isn't it?

I am excited to welcome John Simmons as he becomes the new Community Spiritual Director in August. He is a dear friend and has been a beloved leader in Emmaus throughout his ministry. He's invited me to share with him and you in some ways as we enter this time of new beginning as a community and I look forward to doing so. Let me encourage you to re-engaged in your cluster and pursue the possibilities for ministry in Emmaus as you reengage in all your new beginnings with God and others. De Colores!

Walker (continued from Page 1)

1. People who are committed to living a life that is pleasing to God.
2. Church leaders (lay or clergy)
3. People who are already on a pilgrimage.
4. People who exhibit an excitement about being a Christian.
5. Respected lay/clergy who will encourage others' participation.
6. Dependable church members.
7. Less active church members who need rekindling and renewal.
8. Christians who are hungry for something more.
9. Diverse Christian congregations, denominations, ethnic groups.

Emmaus is right for many people, but not for everyone. The AIM of sponsorship is to build up the Body of Christ.

Who Do I NOT Sponsor?

1. Non-Christians and people with no relationship to the Church of Jesus Christ.
2. People who are not currently active members of a church.
3. People who are undergoing an emotional crisis or health problems.
4. People who decide not to make a Walk after being presented the opportunity.
5. Christians whose theology and/or practice is notably different or incompatible with the traditional theology and practice presented by the Walk to Emmaus.
6. Church hoppers and soap boxers. You know who they are!
7. People who are always looking for another spiritual high to help them arrive.

What are Some of Our Responsibilities as a Sponsor?

1. Spend concentrated time in prayer.
2. Continue to spend time in prayer.
3. Give your pilgrim an application with walks & dates and brochure about Emmaus (Join us on an Emmaus Journey with Christ). This brochure has been a winner for me. Order from Upper Room.

4. Obtain the completed application and complete the sponsor's part.
 5. Depending on the pilgrim's circumstances you may pay their deposit and registration fee, co-sponsor or get your cluster to sponsor. You might even consider a book table agape gift for your pilgrim. Do a pre-filled check to Alabama Emmaus Community.
 6. Begin preparations to request the personal agape cards & letters. I use face to face, Facebook, Instant Messenger, Texts and Email contact. Yes, it is very stalker-ish but effective. Don't forget to include your pastor and staff too.
 7. Contact your pilgrim a few days before the weekend.
 8. Take your pilgrim to dinner and assist with check-in, carry luggage, and make their bed. You bring their sheets and blanket.
 9. Spend as much time as possible in prayer for your pilgrim.
 10. Support the walk with agape.
 11. If your pilgrim has food allergies, bring their snacks. Refreshments will make sure they get them. Also, put special diets on their application, an example is a diabetic diet.
 12. Sign up for 72-hour prayer vigil.
 13. Check on pilgrim's family.
 14. Attend Sponsor's Hour.
 15. Serve a meal.
 16. Attend Candlelight and Sunday Closing Service.
 17. Take your pilgrim to cluster meetings and keep inviting and taking them.
 18. Get your pilgrim hooked up to a Reunion Group or start one.
 19. Teach your pilgrim how to be a good sponsor by co-sponsoring with them.
 20. One last thing, it is impossible to be a great sponsor if you are working your pilgrim's walk.
- Sponsorship is the most important part of Emmaus. No pilgrims, no walks, no Emmaus.

Rev. W.G. Henry said you should be the pilgrim's friend for life and you have certain duties that are NOT an option.

I know this was a speedy course. Ok, quick learners, go my children and get your ducks in a row! Quack, quack, quack, quack, quack!

Upcoming Walks

Walk	Date	Lay Director	Spiritual Director	Cluster	Board Rep
494	Aug 12-15	Carla Roberts	Tim Alexander	Franklin/Haleyville/ Hamilton	Deanna Shotts Jennifer Swinney
495 *	Aug 26-29	David Speegle	Mac Buttram	Blount/Cullman	Melanie Skillman Sandy Parker
496	Sept 9-12	Rosemary Lewey	Tony Jones	Shoals/Athens/ Moulton-Decatur	Tami Glenn Clay Hammond
497 *	Oct 14-17	Butch Burgess	Lynn Gibson	Tuscaloosa/W AL	Jaime Rickert Danny Lemley

*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!

Hallelujah Homecoming

October 15-16, 2021

Including: The Overnight Training Event and Memorial Service

Come and help us celebrate being back together as our Alabama Emmaus Community comes back home to Camp Sumatanga on October 15-16, 2021 for a time of sharing the past, present, and future of our Alabama Emmaus community. Let us spend time together in the Training Event learning new ways of serving our Lord. Help us lift up our brothers and sisters in Christ who have gone on before us in the past two years as we honor their memories during the Memorial Service on October the 15th. Throughout this wonderful weekend, let us rejoice with the Homecoming Spirit that we have been holding in our hearts for so long. Registration forms will be available soon!

With the 2021 Walks postponed, there will be no income for the Community until the walks resume in August. If you would like to give a love offering, please make checks to the Alabama Emmaus Community and mail them to Community Treasurer Jim Sims at 535 Sims Road, Oneonta, AL 35121.

The Grapevine

Alabama Emmaus Office, P.O. Box 38
Cropwell, AL 35054
205-812-0345

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

Tentative 2022 Walk Schedule

<u>WALK</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GENDER</u>
498	Feb 10-13	W
499	Mar 3-6	W
500	Mar 17-20	M
501	April 21-24	W
502	May 19-22	W
503	June 16-19	M
504	July 7-10	M
505	Sep 8-11	W
506	Sep 22-25	W
507	Oct 20-23	M

Any needed changes to this tentative schedule will be announced at a later date.

Praying For You

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

To **Bobbie Blankenship (192)** in the loss of her husband, and to **Kathy Mitchell (240)** and **Susie Simmons (225)** in the loss of their step-father, **Jack Ed Blankenship (CAE)**

To **Blue Vardaman (AE)** and **Pam Young (212)** in the loss of their mother, **Magdalene Vardaman.**

To **Barbara Shaw (482)** in the loss of her husband, **Rev Lee Roy Shaw, Sr (AE)**

To **Debra Fennell (296)** in the loss of her father, **Ralph Durden.**

To **Cheryl Petrey (259)** in the loss of her husband, **Joe Petrey (255)**

To **Reggie Smith (245)** in the loss of his wife, **Joy Smith (245)**

To **Paul Wilson (420)** in the loss of his son, **Landon Wilson.**

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 495
August 26-29, 2021**

Lay Director David Speegle - Perseverance

Asst. Lay Directors

Lane Berry
Charlie Herfurth – Priority
Rickey Hall – 4th Day
Jim Doak
Bob Manney
Jim Saunders

Spiritual Director Mac Buttram – Means of Grace

Asst. Spiritual Directors

Walter Cash – Sanctifying Grace
Dudley Brock – Prevenient Grace
Mark Mayo – Justifying Grace
Todd Owens– Obstacles of Grace

Music Chair Bob Bentley

Asst. Table Leaders

George Lyrene – Priesthood
Ken Farr – Study
Glenn Stokes- Body of Christ
Tim Culpepper – Piety
Buddy Predue – Christian Action
Tom LoRoque – Changing Our World
Gerald Weatherly – Discipleship

Table Leaders

Morris Seymour
Bob Burgess
Doyle Jones
Jim Frazier
Rocky Stone
Bill Barnett
TBA

Board Reps

Sandy Parker
Melanie Skillman

Committees

Agape	Judy Bonds	256-636-2735
Food Service	Diane Herfurth	256-708-8740
Refreshments	Kathy Hall	256-810-0894
Prayer Vigil	Gordon Boyd	256-734-3850
Housing	Bain Brown	205-369-7630
Candlelight	Mickey Phillips	256-796-8125
Clean-up	Rita Speegle	256-339-4791
Closing	Mary Nell Saunders	205-522-4828
Entertainment	Dianne Herfurth	256-708-8740
Follow-up	Carolyn Peinhardt	256-739-1493
Prayer Chapel	Jane Sims	205-274-7302
Sponsors' Hour	VJ Brown	205-368-6226
Worship	Amy Crim	205-274-7074
Photographer	Rita Speegle	256-339-4791
Humble Servant	Rita Speegle	256-339-4791
	Jackie Mize	205-269-0344
Tech	James Webb	256-710-0037

Pilgrims

Name	Location	Sponsor
Rick Hannefield	Albertville	David Wilson
Kevin Hubbard	Birmingham	Jim Price & Mary Price
John Walls	Boaz	Nelson McClure
Hugh Crim	Gadsden	Doug Lewis
Abel Walker	Helena	Gene Ingram & Scott Mitchell
Eric Lindsey	Hoover	Tom Cawthon
Gary Metzger	Huntsville	John Newton
Larry Conwill	Huntsville	Bill Smith
Bob Freeman	Huntsville	John Newton
Butch Jeffries	Huntsville	Mike Rucks
Blake Pattillo	Huntsville	Robert & Spencer Pendley
Colin Cotton	Jacksonville	Ted Anderson
Steve Westerfield	Jacksonville	Ted Anderson & Marcel Emigh
Fred Falbo	Odenville	Marshall Tucker
Jimbo Blackmon	Trussville	Susan Blackmon & Beckee Scott Blackmon
Zac Langer	Tuscaloosa	Randy Smith

