



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

Harvest Time

By Teresa Holderfield Walker, Community Lay Director



It's a beautiful Saturday morning and I get to play in the dirt or fertile soil (Master Gardener talk) that's been in my family since the great depression in the 1930's. My grandfather, father and his brothers turned, tilled, fertilized, leveled and molded the soil into neat rows and borders, preparing ready receptacles for seeds. After planting they monitored the soil, searching for weeds, scrutinizing for signs of pests or worms. Then they waited giving time and space for sun and rain and the mysterious and marvelous work of seeds becoming sprouts then becoming stalks. A farmer perhaps more than most, knows something about faith.

It's no wonder the scripture encourages us to look to the farmer as an example. When Paul tells Timothy to be strong in the grace of Christ, he points specifically toward the hard-working farmer in 2

Timothy 2:16. When he exhorts the Galatian churches toward endurance, he speaks of perennial planting and patient waiting for an inevitable harvest in Galatians 6:9.

(Please See Walker Page 2.)

God's Constant Reminders

By Gary Formby, Community Spiritual Director

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him give us everything else? Romans 8:31-32

As your outgoing Community Spiritual Director, the one who served during the COVID shut-down and who has done very little compared to previous Spiritual Directors, I have reflected on my ministry with the Alabama Emmaus Community in perhaps some new ways. I learned again that sometimes ministry is more a ministry of being than a ministry of doing. Many times during my 42 years of full time ministry, I felt that my best moments were those when I was helpless to change circumstances but was there none the less as a reminder that God was there too. God's love was there especially when someone (or I) felt helpless, hopeless, even abandoned. God's ultimate will was being worked out in the moment in ways no one could yet see. When I could do little, I could still be a reminder that God could and still would do so much for us in his time. This I firmly believe because I've seen what he did at one point in time through Jesus with the promise of so much more to come!

During this COVID time for me as your Spiritual Director, I and so many other followers of Christ have been saying in our own way that we know we can't make everything all right now. But we hold to the promise that the One who has loved us in the past will continue to love us into the future. In Christ, we hold both to what we know (that we are loved) and to what we do not yet know (how this love will play out tomorrow). Ministry that is a reminder of God's love and presence when there is little else we may be able to do under the present circumstances is good ministry, an important bridge to God's tomorrow! Thanks for all you have done to keep the return of Alabama Emmaus Walks a dream, all you are doing now in transition to a new year of life changing Walks, and for your faith in God who surely isn't finished with us yet!

Walker

(continued from Page 1)

A farmer has an unwavering commitment to the harvest. The farmer is covenanted to his work for a lifetime and he works his land with the yearly harvest ever before him. Farming is backbreaking work, dirty work, detailed work and most of all it is risky work. A tornado could blow through, too much rain, a drought, etc., etc. What is the point?

The farmer must be faithful to lay the groundwork for the harvest. It can only happen through the Lord's providence. There is joy in the harvest. Joy results from his long-term faithfulness. In our work and in our weariness let us look to the farmer. Let us keep the deep-root, big picture in mind. If we don't give up, one day we will enjoy the fruitful harvest and the bountiful rewards. Unlike our farming friends, this harvest, one cultivated by faith is absolutely guaranteed.

So it is with Emmaus, the fields have been laying bare for 1 ½ years but we've been diligently working and preparing the soil for the harvest the Lord will bring. We've tried to provide the safest possible environment for our pilgrims and teams to enjoy the Emmaus experience. It is exciting thinking of the harvest!

A big thank you to all who have participated in Work Days at Camp. Thank you for all who have sponsored pilgrims on our 2021 walks. Especially thank you for all the prayers lifted up for Emmaus, Camp Sumatanga and Tony & Shannon Jones. Continue to pray for upcoming Lay Leaders, Teams and Pilgrims. God is so good and I'm definitely looking forward to being back at camp!

De Colores my friends!

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.

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!

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.

We're Back!

By Angel Rait, Community Coordinator

Are you ready for an Emmaus Walk??? It is time to get back to our Kingdom Work! We are starting back soon. Here is the schedule for 2021:

Women #494 August 12-15, 2021

Men #495 August 26-29, 2021

Women #496 September 9-12, 2021

Men #497 October 14-17, 2021

There are a few changes. The Pilgrims will now be sleeping in the South Wing of the Lodge. That is the wing that comes out under the breezeway where we have the Saturday night gathering in the classroom. Registration and everything else will be in Hutto, just as before.

Hutto is in the process of getting a "make-over." After being closed for so long, there is a need for scrubbing, cleaning out and throwing away. There have been four workdays so far. The Agape Room, the Speakers Prayer Chapel, and the Pilgrims Prayer Chapel have been completed. There is still work to be done in the Banner Room, the Dining Room, the Worship Room, and a little bit of the conference room. Please contact me if your group is interested in coming to camp for a workday.

There are other ways of participating in the Walks; you can provide Agape. The new number for the conference room is 60 and 35 for bed agape. You can also sign up for the 72 Hour Prayer Vigil. Prayer is the backbone of our Walks.

There are still openings on the men's walks. The goal is to have 21 applications accepted to attend. Is there someone you have been wanting to sponsor??? Now could be that time. 1 Peter 3:15 says, "Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it." God is calling us to tell others our story and how Emmaus has strengthened our Walk With God, so S.S.S - Sponsor Someone Soon!

DeColores,

Angel, sjc Walk #173

BOARD BITS

COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

The term for the Alabama Emmaus Assistant Community Spiritual Director is from August to August. Each year the Community Spiritual Director from the previous August steps down and the Assistant Community Spiritual Director steps up to take over. According to the By-Laws, an Assistant Community Spiritual Director is to be named by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Board of Directors in May of each year. This year at its May Meeting, the board heard the nomination of Paul Vick and approved him as the new Assistant Community Spiritual Director.

In August Gary Formby will end his term as Community Spiritual Director and John Simmons will step up to that position. Paul will then begin his term as the Assistant Community Spiritual Director.

REVISED COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

The AEC Board of Directors has approved the resumption of Walks in August with Walk #494. During the suspension of Walks, we were first asked by Camp Sumatanga to move everything to McKinney-Atkins and the Committee Guidelines for Walks were revised accordingly. Now in 2021, with a new Camp administration and the relaxing of some COVID protocols, Walks will be back in Hutto, and the Pilgrims will now be housed in the South Wing of the Lodge. Thankfully this eliminates the need to transport Pilgrims from Retreat Centers 1 and 2 to Hutto and everyone can work where their supplies are stored. Of course this called for yet another revision of the Committee Guidelines. Please be aware if you are working on one of the upcoming Walks that your information may need a little bit more of your attention.

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

Praying For You

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

To **Sara Nix (111)** in the loss of her husband,
Jackie Nix (159)

**Alabama Emmaus Walk 494
August 12-15, 2020**

Lay Director Carla Roberts

Asst. Lay Directors

Kathy Hall - Fourth Day
Jolene Stockton
Vickie Johnson
April Terrell - Priority
Pam Putman
Konnie Thrasher

Spiritual Director Tim Alexander – Means of Grace

Asst. Spiritual Directors

Jeff Fleming – Prevenient Grace
Lynn Gibson – Justifying Grace
Elliott Gordon – Obstacles to Grace
Preston Headrick (Sanctifying Grace)

Music Chair Debbie Wood

Asst. Table Leaders

JJ Headrick – Priesthood
Joanne Cox - Piety
Carlin Burrow – Study
Dianne Lynch – Christian Action
Teresa Seal - Discipleship
Laurie Bolt – Body of Christ
LouAnn Hubbard (Changing Our World)

Table Leaders

Kitty Frederick
Judy Burcham
Patty Gregg
Sarah Nix
Dolores Sparks
Amber Steward
Melissa Swinney

Board Reps Deanna Shotts
Jennifer Swinney

Committees

Agape Ricky Hall (256) 810-8988
Food Service Tony Mize (205) 486-2787
Refreshments Nancy Bowling (256) 577-0863
Prayer Vigil Jan Page (256) 668-0075
Housing Sally Moore (256) 668-0666
Candlelight Pat Seal (256) 412-4701
Clean-up Ronnie Hellums (256) 356-9006
Closing Johnny Hardin (256) 436-5646
Entertainment Donald & Sheila Jones (205) 932-3534
Follow-up Dolores Sparks (256) 668-2141
Prayer Chapel Mike Shotts (205) 468-7181
Sponsors' Hour Lynda Hall (205) 412-0410
Worship Kim Perdue (256) 331-0140
Ponda Gordon (256) 627-3627
Photographer Jeremy Roberts (205) 412-4055
Humble Servant Jeremy Roberts (205) 412-4055
Pat Seal (256) 412-4701

Pilgrims

Name	Location	Sponsor
Tai Pruitt	Aliceville	Edgar Pruitt
Barbara Spurgeon	Arab	Vivian McRae
Sandra Garris	Ashville	Gary Garris & Marshall Tucker
Angie McCune	Athens	Clay Jackson
Sarah Fiori	Columbus, MS	Sarah Rickert & Mary Lynn Whitten
Tracy Morrison	Columbus, MS	Sarah Rickert & Mary Lynn Whitten
Allene Crew	Fayette	Dana Gilliam
Angie Cornutt	Gadsden	Lynne Davis & Tim Davis
Jessie Sims	Hamilton	Melinda Knight & Mike Shotts
Julia Morrison	Harvest	Jana W. Killen
Jessica Lucas	Kimberly	Vivian McRae
Aimee Burnham	Meridianville	Chris Burnham & Brian Burnham
Kay Cherry	Moody	Cynthia Lesley
Kaye Bailey	Rainbow City	Wilson Webb Teresa (Holderfield) Walker
Christi Wolf	Springville	Jeffrey Deweese & Lindsey Deweese
Lucy Coker	Vestavia Hills	Suzanne Scott-Trammell Melinda Burnett
Miriam Adams	Vinemont	Dianne Herfurth & Peggy Burgess

