



Volume 28 Number 4

APRIL 2026

**NEXT CLUSTER MEETING**

TUESDAY, APRIL 21

6:00 P.M.

TUSCUMBIA FIRST METHODIST

104 THIRD STREET

TUSCUMBIA, ALABAMA

BRING:

COVERED DISH

Worship Guide

Name Badge

GOOD JOKES

Joyful Noise Voice

An Emmaus Friend

AND YOU!!!

(NURSERY PROVIDED)

**SHOALS EMMAUS CLUSTER**

Cluster Leader

Jonathan Killen

(256) 412-8631

Cluster Spiritual Director

Bart Bowlin

(205) 353-2224

Website:

[www.shoalscluster.com](http://www.shoalscluster.com)

Facebook:

[Shoals Emmaus Cluster](#)

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**CAMP SUMATANGA**

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**2026 ALABAMA WALKS**

#541 April 23-26 Women

#542 May 14-17 Men

#543 August 13-16 Men

#544 September 10-13 Women

#545 September 24-27 Women



*The Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit makes intercessions for us with groanings that cannot be uttered. - Romans 8:26 (NKJV)*

**April is “Invite Someone to Cluster” Month**

April has been designated by the Cluster Board as the month to invite a member, who has not attended in some time, to come and join us. Sometimes an invitation like this is all it takes to get a person reconnected. We have so many folks who are missing out on the joy! Think about who you might reach out to and give them a call.

**New Video on Cluster Website**

Are you looking for more ways to explain the Walk to Emmaus to people you know, including those you may want to sponsor? Cluster Leader Jonathan Killen has supplied a new video to Webmaster Jimmy McCollum for viewing on the Cluster website –

[www.shoalscluster.com](http://www.shoalscluster.com). The video helps answer the question, “What is Emmaus?” for those who are unfamiliar with the movement. The video includes a number of personal responses that may help you as you discuss sponsorship with a potential Pilgrim.



**Upcoming Walks**

**WALK #541 IS SET FOR APRIL 23-26** —This Walk will be led by the Holy Spirit and Lou Ann Hubbard with Jeff Armbruster serving as the Spiritual Director. This is a Franklin/Haleyville/ Marion County Cluster Grouping team and they have nearly half the Pilgrims assigned so far. As The Apostle goes to press, there are **29** ladies assigned to this Walk!!! However, the Shoals has none of them! And by the time this newsletter reaches you, the deadline for applications – April 13 - will have already passed. But do keep everyone involved in your prayers and consider going to Candlelight.

**MEN’S WALK #542 IS MAY 14-17** —This Men’s Walk will be led by the Holy Spirit and Randy Nelson. The team is from the East Alabama/Cheaha Cluster Grouping, and the Spiritual Director will be Ted Anderson. At this point in time there are **21** men assigned to #542, and **1** of them is from Florence. However, his sponsor is from Athens, so it remains to be seen which Cluster he will join. If you’d like to have your Pilgrim assigned to this Walk, you have until May 4 to turn in that application.

**PILGRIM / HOMETOWN / SPONSOR**

**William Hernandez / Florence / Clay Jackson**

Be sure to write a letter for William, plan to be at Candlelight, and most of all – keep all involved in your prayers!

**WALK #543 IS SET FOR AUGUST 13-16** —It’s really getting close! Walk #543 will be led by the Holy Spirit and our own **Mitch Dobbins!** Of course our Cluster Grouping – Athens/Moulton/Shoals – will provide the team and our Spiritual Director will be **Bradley Higgs**. As of this date in April, there are already **8** men assigned to #543, and **one** of them is from Florence! If you’d like to sponsor a Pilgrim on this one, your deadline is August 3. You might want to get busy with that, since there may be lots of folks with the same idea! And don’t forget – the Cluster will pay \$200 of the \$230 total fees for your Pilgrim if you wish. See Anita Whitaker or Mitch Dobbins for help with this.

**PILGRIM / HOMETOWN / SPONSOR**

**Shaun Fuller / Florence / Skip Hopson & Chris Weldon**

It’s going to be important to check each issue of the newsletter through the next few months to see the added Pilgrims and to be aware of any way you may be able to serve!

**2026 CLUSTER BOARD**

CLUSTER LEADER

Jonathan Killen

ASST CLUSTER LEADER

Jean Peeden

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Bart Bowlin

ASST SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Bradley Hipps

CLUSTER COORDINATOR

Michael Carr

SECRETARY

Janice Alcorn

TREASURER

Mitch Dobbins

ASST TREASURER

Anita Whitaker

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Pam Roden Jones

REUNION GROUP COORDINATOR

Clay Hammond

MUSIC

Patsy Killen

DATABASE

Revonda Tweseme

AGAPE

Brenda Quesenberry

ASST AGAPE

Patsy Hammond

SPONSORSHIP

Pete Peeden

CLEOPAS CONNECTION

Roy & Celia Rudolph

ASST CLEOPAS CONNECTION

Jennifer Bennetch

72-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

Mitch Dobbins

INFORMATION TABLE

Glenda Sue Peeden

CLUSTER TALK COORDINATOR

Stephanie Hipps

REMEMBRANCE COORDINATOR

Lynda Bottcher

WEB SERVANT

Jimmy McCollum

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jimmy McCollum

PAST CLUSTER DIRECTOR

Stephanie Hipps

BOARD REPRESENTIVES

Pete Peeden & Celia Rudolph

# The Apostle

Shoals Emmaus Cluster

104 Lindsey Ct, Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674

## “Investment”

This year, Community Lay Director, Ken Farr, has chosen “Investment” as it applies to sponsorship as the theme for his tenure. There are so many ways to apply this term. Initially you may think of the investment in the person you have in mind to sponsor. And certainly it’s a primary focus. But just as important is the investment of yourself as the sponsor.

As you consider the potential Pilgrim, there are so many ways this person may respond to the experience of the Walk. While the Walk to Emmaus assumes church membership, there are often church goers who experience conversion during their Walk. You know these - they’re brand new when you go back to get them on Sunday night. Then there are those who made a commitment to the Lord when they were maybe 12 to 14 years old, but ‘left Him there’, so to speak, and moved on with the rest of their lives. For them, the Walk is an opportunity to reconnect with Him at their current age and see Him in a whole new light. Then you have those folks who’ve never moved away from the Lord since they met Him, and just bathing in His love during the weekend is pure joy and something of a recharge.

Are you just putting all the pieces together to get your Pilgrim to Camp and expecting them to have a good time? That’s all well and good. But which of these investments will you actually be making into the lives of your Pilgrim(s)? How much of yourself will you invest in these possibilities? And to what degree will you receive your ROI (Return On Investment)?



Would you like to get Shoals Emmaus Cluster announcements by text message?

You can sign up by sending the word “Emmaus” in a text message to the number 1-855-428-2047.



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

## Reunion Groups

Band of Brothers  
Hearts Desire  
Prayer Breakfast  
Thursday’s Lunch Bunch

First Light  
His Girls Friday  
Sons of the Light  
Women of the World

Girls Rejoicing in the Spirit  
Old Friends, New Friends  
The Son Risers

For day/time and place click [Reunion Groups](#) or visit [www.shoalscluster.com/reunion-groups](http://www.shoalscluster.com/reunion-groups).

### 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

Jan—North Wood UMC

Feb—Tuscumbia First Methodist

Mar—North Wood UMC

**Apr—Tuscumbia First Methodist**

May—North Wood UMC

Jun—Tuscumbia First Methodist

Jul—North Wood UMC

Aug—Tuscumbia First Methodist

Sep—North Wood UMC

Oct—Tuscumbia First Methodist

Nov—North Wood UMC

Dec—Tuscumbia First Methodist