

Vol.22 No.2

# The Grapevine April 2024 **Alabama Emmaus Community News**

#### Faith Community Humble Servants

By Butch Fennell, Community Lay Director

In Hebrews 11:1 (NIV) the bible says: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see"

A friend gave me a good example of what faith is one time and I have used it numerous times in talking to new Christians and young people.

If you were walking through the forest and vou encountered a stack of soda cans in the shape of a pyramid with no one anywhere around, what would you think (or believe)?



Most people would know (or believe) that a human being must have constructed the pyramid of cans. People would base this **belief** on knowledge from experience, education, and lessons learned from their parents and society. But did they see a human build it? No. So based on their knowledge (faith), they conclude that it was a human.

(Please See Fennell Page 2.)

## **Discipline: Not Just for Lent**

### By Terri Milstead, Community Spiritual Director

6 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice

and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?

7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

-Isaiah 58:6-7



This passage from Isaiah is one that you might have heard at an Ash Wednesday service earlier this year. As hard as it is to believe, as of the release of this issue of the Grapevine, we are very nearly to Easter. That said, I would like to challenge us all to carry at least a few Lenten practices beyond this preparatory season. I offer a few questions to ponder here that I hope will help us all continue to be intentional-even as the clock runs on our Lenten disciplines and fasts on Easter morning:

What practices did you take up during Lent that have been meaningful enough to continue? Are there things you would tweak about a Lenten discipline that might make it work long term?

Are there practices that seemed undoable at the beginning of Lent that are now more appealing? Maybe afternoon prayer walks, meditation time on a back porch in the morning, or an evening devotion time seem within reach with more hours of daylight.

#### Lay Director Butch Fennell

**Spiritual Director** Terri Milstead

Asst. Lay Director Debra Baker

Asst. Spiritual Director Ted Anderson

> Community Coordinator Lane Berry

Treasurer Kathy Mitchell

#### Board Members

Denise Cone Judy Anderson David Speegle Lynda Hall Debra Baker Anne Parris Georgia McCaig Bobby Jones Bill Rush James Dodwell Sally Cofield Ken Farr Will Clay Tim Cotton Jimmy Grisham Mary Lynn Whitten

> Literature Patricia Bush

Supplies Pam Kirsch

**Community Agape Bruce Parris** 

> Name Tags Dan Bell

Newsletter Stephen Milstead

## **Fennell**<sup>-</sup>

### (continued from Page 1)

The same conclusions can be made about God - not by seeing him, but based on education from the historical Bible, the experiences you and others have witnessed, lessons from parents, and observations about how things were created. Why is it so hard for some people to have <u>faith</u> in what they cannot see?

I remember Ronald Reagan's words "trust but verify". If you want to trust and have verification of a living God, talk to him. Only through <u>faith</u> will you get to know Him. Go to a closing ceremony of an Emmaus Walk if you want to see how faith is at work. It's really awesome.

De Colores

Butch Fennell, CLD

## **Milstead**

(continued from Page 1)

Any 40-50 day period is a good testing ground for new disciplines or habits. What could you take up or put aside from Easter until Pentecost?

And, remember, discipline is not just about the things we do daily. Just as we worship once a week, there are other things we can do that have non-daily patterns. Is there a service opportunity you could commit to once month or quarter? Is there a book or study you have been wanting to read that you could meet weekly with others to discuss?

Regardless of what we do, may we all continue to draw closer to God every day through our intentional spiritual disciplines—those that are seasonal and those that are lifelong.

De Colores.



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 catepillars 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

Upcoming Walks						
Walk	Date	Cluster	Board Rep			
521	Apr 18-21	Melissa Barnes	Preston Headrick	Tuscaloosa / West Alabama	Bobby Jones Mary Lynn Whitten	
522	May 2-5	Mike Williams	Mark Adams	Gadsden / Marshall	Debra Baker Will Clay	
523	Aug 8-11	Terry Lewis	Byron Vance	Huntsville	Anne Parris Tim Cotton	
524	Sept 12-15	Roxann Edsall	Lori Carden	So. Shelby / B'ham East / B'ham South	Denise Cone Bill Rush	
*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!						

## IT'S ALL UP TO US...

## By Lane Berry, Community Coordinator

As I write this, we have the following scheduled for the next 4 Walks.

Walk 521(W), April 18-21 – 9 applications.

Walk 522 (M) May 2-5 - 7 applications.

Walk 523 (M) Aug. 8-11 – 3 applications.

Walk 524 (W) Sept. 12-15 - 1 application.

We obviously need pilgrims in order to sustain our community.

Please prayerfully consider who God may lead you to approach about the Emmaus Walk, we all know it is a life-changing experience. Who might you want to afford that opportunity?

God Bless...

DeColores,

Lane

## **Board Bits**

The 2024 Alabama Emmaus Overnight Training Event and Memorial will be Friday and Saturday, August 9-10. Please see the registration form at the end of this newsletter for more information.

Also, the deadline to turn in names of Alabama Emmaus pilgrims who have passed away since May 30 of last year for the memorial service that will be held on Friday night of the Training Event is May 31. Any names turned in after May 31 will be a part of the 2025 memorial. Names should be turned in to Lane Berry at office@alaemmaus.org. Please include contact information of family, so they can be invited to the memorial.

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

## 2024 Walk Schedule

<u>WALK</u>	DATE	<u>GENDER</u>
518	Feb 1-4	Women
519	Mar 7-10	Men
520	Mar 14-17	Women
521	Apr 18-21	Women
522	May 2-5	Men
523	Aug 8-11	Men
524	Sept 12-15	Women
525	Sept 26-29	Men
526	Oct 17-20	Women
527	Nov 7-10	Women

## **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 Wilson Webb (117)

Dana (124) and Jeff (137) Fleming in the loss of her mom, Joyce Jones (190)

Don Alexander in the loss of his wife, **Kathy Alexander (254)** 

The family of Mike Riley (New Life 6)

Mark Dearen and family in the loss of his mom, **Chloe Dearen (113)** 

Barabara Meigs (261) in the loss of her husband, Paul (254)

Ruth Mary Norris (482) in the loss of her husband, Bob

Sally Moore (182) and family in the loss of her daughter, Shanna Moore Ozbirn (238)

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## Alabama Emmaus Walk 521 April 18-21, 2024

Lay Director M	elissa Barnes - Perseverance
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#### **Assistant Lay Directors**

Dot Brewer - Fourth Day Tinia McLaughlin - Priority Julie Thomas Juanita Meyer Norma Lemley Janice Stewart

Spiritual Director Preston Headrick - Means of Grace

#### **Assistant Spiritual Directors**

Lynn Gibson - Prevenient Grace Paul Wilson - Justifying Grace Alicia Rhodes - Obstacles to Grace Jeff Fleming - Sanctifying Grace

#### Music Chairperson Chris Barnes

#### **Assistant Table Leaders**

Jaime Rickert Gibson - Priesthood Patricia Bush - Piety Diane Cannon - Growth Through Study Angie Baines - Christian Action Karen Worley - Discipleship Tracy Morrison - Changing Our World Renee Rimer - Body of Christ

#### **Table Leaders**

Lynn Gregory Jill Kjar Judy Voss Esther Lawley Carol Frazier Sonya Guy Tracy Dent-Rivers

Bobby Jones Mary Lynn Whitten

#### **Board Reps**

#### Committees

Agape	Liz Moxley	205-999-0400
Food Service	Danny Lemley	205-799-8151
Refreshments	Mary Wilson	205-242-6120
Prayer Vigil	Polly Bailey	205-792-9315
Housing	Mark Scogin	205-349-7175
Candlelight	Dale McNees	205-662-4229
Clean-up	Tony Humphries	205-650-9076
Closing	Joy Jones	205-799-3972
Entertainment	Chris Barnes	205-454-7401
Follow-up	Judy Trull	205-596-3477
Prayer Chapel	Danielle Eppes	205-499-0717
Sponsors' Hour	Roy Bush	205-860-1161
Worship	Jacque Allred	205-275-2534
Photographer	Ryan Rickert	662-574-2474
Humble Servant	Joel McLaughlin	205-861-5225

Name

Neely Andrews Robin Bauer Deanna Duren

Alyssa Elliott Sherry Howard Ruth Jacobson Katie Kirk Tyler Lancaster Deborah Mcclean Morgan Purcell

Tina Robinson Janie Ross

Tracy Sullivan

## Pilgrims

### Location Sp

Columbus, MS Sa Jacksonville Su & Gordo Ci Haleyville Gi Huntsville De Northport Ba Birmingham Tr Northport Ar Fayette Ma Hamilton Di Bankston Da

Fayette

Tuscaloosa

Sponsor Sarah Rickert Suzanne Batchelor & Sylvia Cashen Cindy Woodring Kiker Gina Frazier & Carlin Burrow Desiree Smith & Rhonda Rush Barbara & Ken Hanby Tracey Evanko & Anita Gray Andrew Lancaster Mary Ham Wilson Dianna Cantrell Dana Gilliam & Margaret Kuntz Gerald Ross Betsy & Ronnie Brasher



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### Alabama Emmaus Walk 522 May 2-5, 2024

Lay Director	Mike Williams - Perseverance	Jo
Assistant Lay I	Directors	Jo
	Lane Berry	D
	Todd Walker	
	Tim Jolley - 4th Day	Ιм
	James White - Priority	
	Stephen Milstead	Ta
	Kelly Saylor	
Curinitual Dina at	an Mark Adama Maana of Cross	A
Spiritual Direct	or Mark Adams - Means of Grace	FI
Assistant Spiri	tual Directors	
	Vicki Mann - Prevenient Grace	
	Joey Croft - Sanctifying Grace	

David Socha - Obstacles to Grace Bradley Petrey - Justifying Grace

#### Location Sponsor Name lordan Gray Fayette Dana Gilliam & Priscilla Gray lorge Martinez Bremen Zendy Martinez & Kay Parker Phillips Dustin Murray Hamilton Melinda Shay Pounds & Sarah Emerson Aark Patty Weaver Barry Thompson aylor Peterson Helena Gene Ingram Anthony Reynolds Albertville Terry Fulwider loyd Rodgers Fayette Ebony Rodgers & Dana Gilliam

**Pilgrims** 

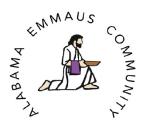
#### Music Chairperson Bill Truetell

#### **Assistant Table Leaders**

Wes Neyman - Discipleship Jack Bailey - Changing our World Bob Dehaven - Body of Christ Cliff Myers - Pristhood of all Believers J D Ryan - Life of Piety Bob Townley - Christian Action Bruce Carpenter - Growth Through Study

#### **Table Leaders**

	Joshua Tanner Howard Beason Jonathon Harris John Myers Charlie Baker Mitch Floyd Eddie Gore	
Board Reps	Debra Baker Will Clay	
Committees Agape Food Service Refreshments Prayer Vigil Housing Candlelight Clean-up Closing Entertainment Follow-up Prayer Chapel Sponsor's Hour Worship Photographer Humble Servant	Lisa Socha Joey Colgrove Jessica Winfrey Gail Hiett Lisa Saylor Sterling Rait Joe Edmondson Jim Harris Bill Truetell Nancy Beason Tami Kelley Vivian McCrae Angela Jolley Andy Powell Dana Williams	256-393-8831 256-558-8445 256-659-6161 256-509-3060 256-225-3840 256-677-5171 256-572-3026 205-999-1292 256-878-2044 256-506-6116 256-738-4640 256-506-5858 256-478-7611 256-302-3337





## Alabama Emmaus Community Annual Overnight Training Event Retreat Center - Camp Sumatanga August 9-10, 2024 Registration from 5-7 PM



Serving on an Emmaus team is something to be anticipated! It can be an ultimate form of service and a source of blessing to the giver and the receiver. Is this your calling? Would you like to know more? This is your golden opportunity! The Alabama Emmaus Annual Training Event for team service is to be August 9 & 10, 2024. The training sessions will be enjoyable as well as informative. As with any Emmaus event, there will be food, fun, fellowship, and music. Come spend some quiet time at camp, renew old friendships, and make some new ones. This is a great event for your new pilgrims!

All training sessions will be held on Saturday. This is your information sheet and registration form. You may copy this form as needed. Please note the deadline for registration! On the second page of this form is the tentative schedule of events and a list of classes. Please fill out the "Registration for Classes" section with the classes you would like to attend. (Note: the candlelight class is only taught in the first session).

The costs for housing and meals are also listed on the second page. Participants will stay in Buildings 1, 2 and 3, and rooms are first come, first served. If you wish to serve the pilgrims of Walk 523, which will be the same weekend, you must contact the Food Service Chairperson of that walk. Remember, there is a limit to the number of servers. Meals for the Training Event will be in Lodge Dining Room. Rooms may be secured for Friday and/or Saturday nights. A registration fee of \$5.00 is requested of each person who attends the Training Event. This fee covers materials that will be provided. Please submit your form by Aug 1st. If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact Bill Rush (205) 612-9397 or wmgrush@gmail.com.

COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TODAY TO BILL RUSH AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN BELOW Registration Deadline is August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2024					
Name:			Cluster:		
Address:			City, State, Zip:		
Telephone: (Home)			(Cell)		
Email:					
TOTAL HOUSING TOTAL MEALS WITHOUT HOUSING	\$		MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM TO: Bill Rush 1855 Lake Ridge Road		
PARTICIPATION FEE *PER PERSON*	\$	5.00	Homewood, AL 35216 (205) 612-9397		
TOTAL PAYABLE Please make checks payable to: ALABAMA EMMAUS	\$				

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### Friday, August 9th

	0 Registration, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, McKinney-Atkins	Music
6:00	Dinner, Lodge Dining Room	Refreshments
7:00	Welcome & Singing	Candlelight
7:15	Memorial Service	
8:00	Break	Housing & Registration
8:15	Guest Speaker	Sponsor's Hour/ Closing / Follow-Up
8:45	Lane Berry, Alabama Emmaus Coordinator	Speaker's Prayer Chapel / 72 Hour Pra
9:00	Singing and Announcements	Agape
9:15	Good Night	Meal Service
Satur	day, August 10th	Worship
<u>Satur</u> 8:00	Breakfast in Lodge Dining Room	Tech Support
8:00	Registration, 2nd Floor McKinney-Atkins	
8:15	Announcements & Singing	
	Devotion	
8:00	Break	<b>REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES</b>
10:00	Class I	
10:45	Break	
11:00	Class II	CHOICE #1
12:00	Lunch in Lodge Dining Room	
1:00	Butch Fennell, Community Lay Director	CHOICE #2
1:15	Class III	
2:15	Closing	CHOICE #3

## HOUSING AND MEAL INFORMATION

Participants will be housed in the buildings at the Retreat Center. Each room has two double beds and a bathroom with a shower. Linens are furnished. Handicap accessible rooms are available on request.

#### Please circle the option you are choosing. Room cost includes Friday Dinner, Saturday Breakfast, and Saturday Lunch

ACCOMODATIONS	NO. OF NIGHTS	COST PER PERSON PER NIGHT	TOTAL COST
Retreat Center (circle one)			
1 Person for 1 night or more		104.00	
2 Persons for 1 night or more		70.00	
3 Persons for 1 night or more		63.00	
4 Persons for 1 night or more		60.00	

## **\*IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL, IT MUST BE DONE BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 2nd OR YOU WILL BE LIABLE** FOR ANY RESERVATIONS MADE\*

Meal Rates: Rates for anyone not staying overnight. Dinner, breakfast, and lunch are included for anyone staying overnight. Meals will be served in Lodge Dining Room.

MEALS	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	TOTAL
Breakfast		\$10.00	
Lunch		\$12.00	
Dinner	\$15.00	N/A	

NOTE: These meals will not be in the dining room with the pilgrims of Walk 523. If you wish to serve a meal on Walk 523, please contact the Food Service Chairperson of that walk. If room to serve is available, make reservations and pay the walk meal service chairperson at the time you serve.

## **TENTATIVE CLASSES**

Assistant Lay Directors Table Leaders & Assistant Table Leaders D ayer Vigil