



The

# APOSTLE

THE SHOALS CLUSTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 22, Number 12  
DECEMBER 2020

*The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.*  
*Isaiah 9:2 NIV*

### 2020 CLUSTER BOARD

#### LAY DIRECTOR

Clay Hammond

#### ASSISTANT LAY DIRECTOR

Joe Peeden

#### SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Mark Parris

#### ASST SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Sam Hardie

#### CLUSTER COORDINATOR

Janice Alcorn

#### SECRETARY

Allison Brooks

#### ASST. SECRETARY

Patricia Jester

#### TREASURER

Anita Whitaker

#### ASST. TREASURER

Mitch Dobbins

#### COMMUNICATIONS

#### COORDINATOR

Stephanie Hipps

#### REUNION GROUP

#### COORDINATOR

Mary Kate Mills

#### MUSIC

John Schuessler

#### DATABASE

Melissa Parks

#### ASST. DATABASE

Jonathan Killen

#### AGAPE

Brenda Quesenberry

Megan Smith-Keenum

#### SPONSORSHIP

Jean Peeden

#### ASST. SPONSORSHIP

Katie Dobbins

#### CLEOPAS CONNECTION

Lisa Keys-Mathews

Deborah Whitten

Joe Holley

#### RECONNECTION

Georgia McCaig

#### 72-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

Mary Lee Dobbins

#### INFORMATION TABLE

Cathy Everett

#### WEB SERVANT

Jimmy McCollum

#### PAST CLUSTER DIRECTOR

Revonda Twesme

### 2021 ALABAMA WALKS



I'm a Champion for  
Camp Sumatanga

CREATING CAMP CONNECTIONS  
2020 Annual Campaign Supporting Camp Sumatanga

### EARLY REPORT

The tally on December 5 gave a total for the campaign of \$102,673. Camp Director Tony Jones had a total of \$33,595 so far. As a Camp Champion, Alabama Emmaus Community came in 7<sup>th</sup> with a total so far of \$4,052. There was a goal for the Community to at least be in the top 10. The grand total insures the repairs to the Camp Kitchen in the Lodge.



### AEC BOARD UPDATE

The Alabama Emmaus Board of Directors met via Zoom on December 5 and made some pivotal decisions. After a poll of Clusters, it was determined that resuming 2021 Walks in February is too soon. With the current information regarding the COVID vaccine, plus the knowledge of Summer Camp use, the Board opted to look at August dates already on their calendar as a possibility for resuming. This will allow time for more of the planned renovations at Camp. Additionally, plans through the summer had been to move all Walk activities to McKinney-Atkins and the Retreat Centers except Candlelight, which would have still been in Hutto. In November, Tony Jones offered the Community the use of the Lodge as another option and the Board accepted this. With the delay in Walks, more of the renovations can occur and the possibility of returning to more of the usual locations grows.

### NO CLUSTER MEETING

~~Tuesday~~

~~CANCELLED~~

~~6:00 p.m.~~

*Where you have fun and get a blessing!!!*

**TUSCUMBIA FUMC**

*In Beautiful Downtown  
Tuscumbia*

**BRING:**

Worship Guide

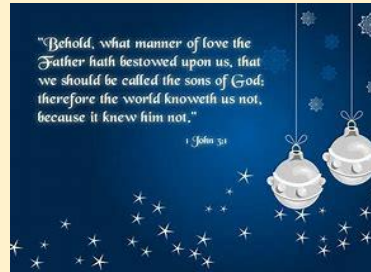
Name Badge

**GOOD JOKES**

Joyful Noise Voice

An Emmaus Friend

~~-AND YOU!!!~~



*May all the  
Peace  
and  
Joy of  
Christmas  
be yours!*

### DECEMBER MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED

The Cluster board met on the 7<sup>th</sup> and concluded that with the spike in COVID cases, it would be wise to forego this month's meeting. Another part of the decision was the anticipation of the Memorial Service with the likely inability of many family members to be there. We will not meet in December, but the service will be held at a later date. Please keep in mind the names listed below, and if others are to be added, be sure to notify Clay Hammond or Lynda Bottcher.

### 2020

- KENNETH BARNES - #304
- LARRY BROADFOOT - #280
- JIM CABLER - #191
- BECKY DICKINSON - #300
- DAVID LAWLER - #220
- MARY MCCORKLE - #217
- JIMMIE RUTH PARRIS - #8
- SAM STRIBLING - #297
- LARRY YOUNG - #299

The Emmaus Community was not able to hold its Annual Training Event this year, which is when the Community holds its memorial service. That Board plans to continue the list until there is a time that the Community can regather, and this is much the same plan made by the Cluster Board. Be sure to keep in touch via this newsletter and the Cluster website for updates. Decisions about Cluster meetings will be made on a month-to-month basis. Please also help get the word to others.



**SHOALS EMMAUS CLUSTER**  
4409 Misty Mountain Road  
Tuscumbia AL 35674



Find Us On

Or - On the Web at  
[www.shoalscluster.com](http://www.shoalscluster.com)

#### RG CORNER

If your Reunion Group still has not been meeting in person, consider contacting the other members in a special way for Christmas. At this time of year, cards are great if some of your members don't use media. But for those who do, of course you can continue FaceTime, Zoom, text and email. And phone calls work any time. There are even ecards that can help you celebrate the season! Stay in touch!



**SPONSORSHIP 101**  
**HERE GO THE CHANGES AGAIN!!!** Sponsors have to really be on their toes these days! And after you see these changes, don't think this will be all! As noted on the front page, 2021 Walks are suspended until at least August, and this is tentative. So many things depend on virus related situations. And added to that are the ever-changing updates from the Camp. With new Trustees and new Executive Director, the possibilities for Emmaus are continuing to change. In last month's issue, all the information centered around Walks being held across the

Road at McKinney-Atkins and the Retreat Centers. Now the Lodge has been offered as another option and the Board has taken that option. As we go to press in December 2020, a lot can change before the Walks resume sometime in 2021. It appears that the Board will wait to do this until after Summer Camp. It will be your responsibility as a sponsor to keep your Pilgrims up to date. The Community Coordinator will be in touch with you, not your Pilgrims. So be sure to check here and on the Cluster website!!!



*Unto Us  
a Child is Born*

**Rejoice!!!**

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Shoals Cluster Leader Clay Hammond – (256) 810-4750  
Cluster Spiritual Director Mark Parris (256) 443-8298  
Community Coordinator Angel Rait [Office@alaemmaus.org](mailto:Office@alaemmaus.org)  
P.O. Box 38 – Cropwell, AL 35054 (205) 812-0345  
Community Treasurer Jim Sims – (205) 531-4965  
Camp Sumatanga – (256) 538-9860 (Prompt #5)

**2020 MEETING SCHEDULE**  
**TUSCUMBIA FUMC**

**No Meeting in  
December**