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# Lowcountry Emmaus Community

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*And their eyes were opened, and they knew Him ~ Luke 24:31*

**January Gathering on Friday,  
January 18, @ 6:00 p.m.  
Wesley Memorial, Ravenel  
5412 SC-165, Hollywood, SC 29449**



**Directions: From I-26,** Head northwest. Take exit 212B for I-526 W toward Savannah. Take exit 11B toward SC-61N/Ashley River Road. Merge onto Paul Cantrell Blvd. Turn left onto Bees Ferry Rd. Turn right onto US-17S. Turn left onto SC-165 S. Turn right to stay on SC-165 S. It is located about 1 and ½ miles on SC 165.

**From Summerville,** take Highway 61 to Bees Ferry Rd. Turn right onto US-17S. Turn left onto SC-165 S. Turn right to stay on SC-165 S. It is located about 1 and ½ miles on SC 165.

**Please note:** *The Friday Gatherings begin at 6 pm with fellowship. Please bring a snack or finger food to share with the Community. As always, the church will provide drinks. Worship will follow at 7 pm.*

**CALLING ALL PRILGRIMS:**

**Men's Walk – September 19-22**

**Women's Walk – September 26-29**



### **From our December Gathering:**

The Gathering at Stallsville has always been one of my favorites. The time of year, the decorations, and poinsettias make the church so beautiful. Also, this is the only formal gathering that we can get away from Emmaus music and sing Christmas carols and it be totally fine. As the Board Member in Charge, I believe this only adds to this great fellowship we share as an Emmaus Community. Introducing our 4<sup>th</sup> Day Speaker is always a great privilege, however listening to Becky Stacey deliver her talk was even more incredible. Listening to her on how she battled through failed marriages, abusive relationships, lost loved ones, and being a parent through all of these trials and tribulations is relatable and meaningful. It is through trials and tribulations that we, as Christians, grow and our relationship with our Father gets stronger. Becky's relationship with GOD grew-despite all the ups and downs of her life. Now, she can embrace her hardships through the love and grace of Christ Jesus. Thank you Becky, for such a wonderful testimony and a dynamic talk!

Decolores!

Aaron Edwins

### **From our Lay Director: Dan Hare**

To the Lowcountry Emmaus Community,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and celebrated the season for what it truly means.

We had a wonderful gathering at Stallsville and though the attendance may have less than normal, I know everyone was busy this time of year. We had a special fourth day speaker in our own Becky Stacey and I am sorry for those who missed it. We all have a testimony in our lives, so as someone approaches you to give your Fourth Day be in prayerful consideration to give yours.

As we are in a new year let us all evaluate what God is calling us to do. Jesus came into this world to show us the way, but he told us to go out and make Disciples in his name. We can't save anyone but we can show them the way and let Jesus do that part. As we prepare for a new year begin thinking what you can start doing to help the Emmaus community by serving on the Board or reaching out to sponsor Pilgrims for the next set of walks. We have scheduled the next walks for September 19-22 for men and 26-29 for women. We will have cards available with the dates and a place to put your name and contact number for whoever you give them to, so they will have the dates to plan. Remember it is not to early begin sponsoring, because we don't want to wait until the last minute to make sure the Registrar has all the necessary information prior to walks.

I hope as we move into this New Year, we keep in mind that the Emmaus Walks is a tool to strengthen the local Church, it is not the only way and it is a gift to those we sponsor.

May your new year be all God has planned for you and God bless you.

DECOLORES

From Lowcountry Lay Director

Dan Hare



REPRINTED in case you didn't get last month's issue.

A message from a pilgrim on Walk 85

I really cannot find words to express my thoughts and feelings about my Walk to Emmaus experience but I'm going to do my best. It was AMAZING. Something I will never forget. What an honor to be invited. Thank You!!! Thank You!!!

I had several conversations with my sponsor. I asked a lot of questions. I did not get too much information – and I'm so thankful that I didn't. It made every event a true surprise and the greatest experience.

I have attended retreats before but nothing like this one! To share my time with strangers who started turning into friends within minutes was such a blessing. The friendship and fellowship just grew and grew. What special sacred moments we shared all weekend.

I enjoy music and the singing was such a fun time. Since I am home, "DeColores" keeps popping into my mind, and I smile remembering all the joy singing on the way to meal times.

As I reflect on the weekend, I am overwhelmed at what I witnessed. Everything was planned and carried out to perfection. I know it took many hands and hearts to organize, to prepare and to work to carry out this beautiful 72 hours. Thank you to all who took part and showed so much love. Truly God's Servants you are. I will never forget this time and I will cherish it as long as I live.

I look forward to participating in future walks in any way that I can – to grow in serving God more.

I will end with a complaint. TOO MUCH FOOD! Everything was perfectly prepared and served. It made me eat too much! But I enjoyed every second of all the meals. So really – not a complaint after all... 😊

Thank you with so much love!

## For our Assistant Spiritual Director: Kevin Stroop

“as was his custom”

### Luke 4:16

<sup>16</sup> He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read . . .

As we look to the new year, 2019, we should also ask ourselves, “what are our customs?” What are the things that we do that comprise the whole of our lives? Are these “customs” good, are they beneficial, do they bring us closer to God?

Jesus went to the Synagogue and opened the Torah scrolls (vs. 17). He basically went to Church and looked up the Scripture. Is that our “custom”? Do we show up on Sunday’s and open God’s Word prepared and ready for worship? Prepared for God to speak to us?

Customs are particular. Families have customs – just think about what transpired throughout Christmas. Where did you go, what did you do, how did you do it? Customs? People have personal customs – what is your brand of Toothpaste? Wheel of Fortune or Jeopardy? What do you do on Friday Nights?

Customs like habits help to define who we are as people. Just think of it – did you miss your bed when visiting with friends this past holiday? When we are unable to do what is “customary” we get out of sorts. Just ask me, on day three of a visit away from the house. I am a mess! Edgy, sour and short (tempered)!

Let us begin our New Year with a new custom – from Luke 10:27 “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” This was Jesus custom- His life’s work to show us the way to live, not just on Sunday’s or the Sabbath, but every day. That’s a custom we can keep!

The next board meeting will be held January 8, 2018 at the Cabinet Shop 9475 US-78, Ladson, SC 29456 at 7:00pm.