

LowCountry Emmaus

And their eyes were opened, and they knew him. Luke 24:31

Volume 18 Number 2

February 2009

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Gatherings)

February 20	St. George UMC
March 20	Pinopolis UMC
April	No Gathering - Walks

Directions to St. George United Methodist Church

St. George UMC is located at 120 N. Parler Ave. (U.S. Highway 15) in St. George.

From I-95: Take US 78 (St. George) exit. Go toward St. George. At Hwy 15 stoplight, turn right. Go beyond the 1st stoplight on Hwy 15 (N. Parler Ave.), and immediately on left is St. George UMC.

From I-26: Take US 15 (St. George) exit. Go toward St. George. When you come into the town limits, you will go through 2 traffic lights. Immediately past the 2nd light on the left is St. George UMC.

Gatherings are on the 3rd Friday of each month, beginning at 7:30 PM.

Board meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 PM at Cokesbury UMC.

FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR

What Is Sponsorship? Sponsorship is revisiting the Walk to Emmaus experience with another person whom God has laid on your heart. Sponsorship requires extensive prayer, diligent thought, and careful planning and follow-through.



Remember the focus of Emmaus when you consider someone to sponsor. The walk is not to fix problems. Using the weekend for this purpose will only weaken the community. The walk is to help us to become stronger Christian leaders in our homes, at our churches, at work and in our communities.

Prayer. Praying is the first step in sponsorship. It is how we commit the process to God. We should be releasing our control, desires and expectations to God. The idea is

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FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

The peace of the Lord be with you.” “And also with you.” These are the traditional words of the greeting of peace. When we share that greeting in church with those around us in turn, we often speak of “passing the peace.” Sometimes we forget, though, the nature of this peace we are offering to one another.

In John’s Gospel, we read the words of Jesus to his disciples shortly before his arrest: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.” The peace that Christ offers does not guarantee a comfortable life. It is not what the world might consider



2009 WALKS

Spring 2009 (Confirmed Dates)

Men’s Walk—April 16-19

Women’s Walk—April 30-May 3

Fall 2009 (Tentative Dates)

Men’s Walk—September 24-27

Women’s Walk—October 8-11

Don’t wait! Please submit applications to the Registrar now for Pilgrims you would like to sponsor on upcoming Walks.

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Low Country Emmaus Community Board

Position	Name	Phone	E-mail address	Class
Lay Director	Randy Woods	843-873-7061	randallwoods3@bellsouth.net	2009
Spiritual Director	David Lupo	843-856-9246	david@lupofamily.org	2009
Vice Chair/Treasurer	Karen Ayers	843-525-0882	gwayers@islc.net	2009
Secretary/Team Selection	Diane Edwins	843-688-5461	lauralfarms@hotmail.com	2011
Kitchen	Cliff Simpson	843-875-5342	csimpson3@sc.rr.com	2010
Literature/Letters/Supplies	Barbara Bilton	843-563-8444	biltonts@bellsouth.net	2009
Agape	Gerald Murray	843-737-4550	gcmurray2@comcast.net	2010
Registrar	Teresa Strickland	843-871-1406	jstdhs@yahoo.com	2010
Gatherings	Robert Nix	843-870-2724	nix2724@bellsouth.net	2009
Luggage/Transportation	Norman Murdaugh	843-871-6392	stumpbump@aol.com	2010
Fourth Day	Perry Buchanan	843-525-6166	twostep2@charter.net	2009
Music/Entertainment	Francis Harter	843-688-4483	fharterjr@yahoo.com	2011
Prayer Vigil/Refreshments	Carroll Cash	843-873-1037	cashbilly143@aol.com	2011
Newsletter	Dudley Patrick	843-881-0857	jdpatrick@bellsouth.net	2011
Housing	Billy Gaines	843-766-2066	bilyngains@aol.com	2010
Sendoff/Candlelight/Closing	Lynn Dukes	843-270-5004	ldukes@sc.rr.com	2011

Treasurer's Report

(as of January 30, 2009)

Beginning Balance – checking	\$2,189.65
Income	+ 1,154.44
Deposits	404.44
Donation	750.00
Disbursements	- 196.77
Newsletter	156.77
Babysitting	40.00
Ending Balance – checking	\$3,147.32
Savings Balance	\$2,562.69
Total on Hand	\$5,710.01

De Colores,

Karen Ayers

New Cushions Needed for Conference Room

The old cushions used for the Conference Room chairs are really showing their age! The Board would like to invite Reunion Groups to consider purchasing a set of cushions for one of the Tables. Our goal is to have new cushions available for the upcoming Walks. Please contact Billy Gaines, Housing, or any Board member if you can help out.

Nominations for the Low Country Emmaus Board

Nominations for the Low Country Emmaus Community Board of Directors' Class of 2012 will be included in a ballot in the March 2009 newsletter. The ballot will include a slate of nominees from which 4 lay persons and 1 clergy will be elected by a plurality vote (i.e., most number of votes) of the Community. Newly elected Board members will begin their service in May 2009 and will serve a 3 year term. Those rotating off include members of the Class of 2009. Be in prayer for this important process in the life of the Community.

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to let God work through us. During this praying we should be asking for God to fill us with His instruction, timing and the right person to sponsor.

Openness to God. Our openness allows us to become God’s instrument in furthering divine will through the walk. Our openness allows us to receive God’s instruction even if His instructions do not meet our expectations. Make it by His will that we sponsor.

Calling by Name. The booklet references multiple scriptures supporting the calling of names. God called people by name. Jesus called people by name. Call your pilgrim by name, speak their name out loud during your praying.

Wise Sponsorship. The booklet recommends all sponsors to read Day Four (we get this booklet in our packages prior to closing), specifically the sponsorship chapter. It provides information to help the sponsor understand their role as a sponsor. Galatians 5:22-23 (Fruit of the Spirit) is the fruit that should be the result of our sponsorship. Galatians 6:7-8 is about reaping what you sow. The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus lists 3 aspects of sponsorship:

- *It is “the first act of agape” before a Walk ever begins.*
- *It undergirds the whole weekend “with sacrificial love on behalf of each pilgrim.”*
- *It is the foundation for a healthy, effective Emmaus movement, which results in the renewal of the church.*

De Colores,

Randy Woods

The sponsorship articles are based on the Sponsorship booklet obtained from the Emmaus library. The book was written by Richard and Janine Gilmore in 1998. This booklet may be obtained from the Emmaus Library upon request through the Literature, Letters and Supplies board member.

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peace. It is, instead, a promise that, even in the midst of trouble, our hearts can be at peace.

In an old hymn, the poet William Alexander Percy reflected on the nature of God’s peace as he considered the hardships the apostles faced as they went out to share the Gospel: exile, imprisonment, and death. He wrote, “The peace of God, it is no peace, but strife closed in the sod. Yet, brothers, pray for but one thing—the marvelous peace of God.”

The purpose of “passing the peace” in our worship is to act out sharing this gift from God with one another. Sometimes at recent Gatherings, it has drifted into a time to talk with our neighbors or hurry across the room to hug someone we haven’t seen in a month. While those activities are important to our life together, that’s what the fellowship time is for. If we let ordinary conversation replace the words of Christ, “Peace be with you,” then we have missed the opportunity to offer a true gift to those sitting around us.

Let’s try to make the greeting of peace a sacred moment in our Gatherings together.

De Colores,

David Lupu

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Don't Wait Any Longer!

The Community Registrar must have a minimum of 25 applications in hand before February 15th in order for the Board to confirm the Spring 2009 Men's Walk, scheduled for April 16th-19th. Applications for the Men's Walk will be accepted through April 1st.

The Community Registrar must have a minimum of 25 applications in hand before March 1st in order for the Board to confirm the Spring 2009 Women's Walk, scheduled for April 30th-May 3rd. Applications for the Women's Walk will be accepted through April 15th.

Application can be downloaded directly from the Low Country Emmaus website at <http://www.umcsc.net/communities/lowcountryemmaus/> or you can contact any Board member for a copy.

Turn in completed applications to the Community Registrar, Teresa Strickland, or to any Board member.