

Lowcountry Emmaus Community

Volume 28 Number 5 May 2019

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Agape: Karen Ayers

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Gatherings: Tom Thurman

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Newsletter: Becky Stacey

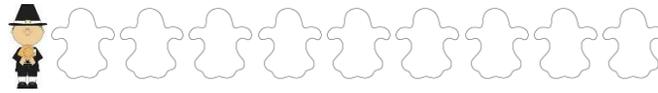
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Records: Helen Cash

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**Pilgrim Count as of May 1: 1 man and 2 women.
We must have 20 applications for each walk to
move forward. Let's replace those ghosts with
pilgrims!!!**

May Gathering on **Friday,
May 17th @ 6 pm
Mt. Moriah Baptist Church
7396 Rivers Ave
North Charleston, SC 29406**

Directions: From Summerville: Take I-26 E toward Charleston, Take exit 209A onto Ashley Phosphate Road, Turn left only Ashley Phosphate Road toward Trident Technical College, Turn right onto Rivers Ave, Make a u-turn at Dunlap St., the church is on your right.

From Beaufort: Take I-526 E toward North Charleston, take exit 17 to merge onto I-26 toward Columbia, Take exit 211B onto Remount Road, Keep left onto W Aviation Ave, Keep right onto Aviation Ave, Turn left onto Rivers Ave, the church is on the right.

From Mt. Pleasant: Take I-26 toward North Charleston, Take exit 211B onto Remount Road, keep left onto W Aviation Ave, Keep right onto Aviation Ave, Turn left onto Rivers Ave, the church is on your right.

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.



From our Community Lay Director: Dan Hare

To the Lowcountry Emmaus Community,

Easter has come and gone but not our call to reach out and make disciples for Christ. We tend to get wrapped up in the season and forget our daily walk for Jesus. Each day as we know is our "Fourth Day" to be called to serve Christ and bring more to him. As Christ ascended into heaven he left us instructions on what to do until he returns. The Emmaus walk can be one tool used to reach out and

help others to their calling. As we think about what God is calling us to do think about those we can sponsor on a walk.

The Board will reach out to churches in our area to see if they are interested in having a group from the Emmaus Community come to their church and present the Walk To Emmaus to them. If know of a church that is willing allow us in please contact a board member.

I would like to congratulate the new board members who were elected to the board. Gary Fellers, Peggy Lawton, John Lyons, Wayne Murdaugh, Carla Utsey, and Paul Lawton. The Board will be meeting on May 4th and then the jobs will be assigned at that time. I covet your prayers for the board and the work God has called us to do. Please remember the board cannot do all its jobs without **Pilgrims** so please be in prayer for the pilgrims you are thinking about sponsoring. Remember the walks are getting closer as each day goes by, so we can't wait until the last minute to sign up Pilgrims. We know the dates so you can allow people plan their time to be on a walk. This is a Gift to someone you care about, just think about the gift God gave to you.

This past month some have gathered at the camp to help clean it up so I thank those who were able to help because this helps reduce the cost of using the camp.

May God Bless you and Keep you,

DECOLORES,

Lowcountry Lay Director

Dan Hare

From our community spiritual director: David Lupo

Here's a note from the Community Spiritual Director



A part of the purpose of Emmaus is to ignite or rekindle in participants' lives their gifts as Christian leaders for their churches and communities. This helps us to carry out the larger purpose of strengthening the churches in our community.

Each one of us has a part to play in making this happen. Is there someone in your church who may have grown tired, whose fire for God might be rekindled on an Emmaus weekend? Do you know someone with a strong faith who might hear the call to put it into action? Perhaps you can talk about what the Walk to Emmaus has meant in your own life and offer those persons an invitation to take part.

We can also help carry out the work of Emmaus by encouraging fellow community members to be involved in the work of the Emmaus community (and by volunteering ourselves as well). Is there someone you know—maybe someone in your reunion group—who should be considered as a member of the next walk team? Do you know someone with skills that would be useful on the Board? Remember how many people were involved behind the scenes to make your own weekend possible, and ask not only where Christ is calling you to help, but what friend he wants you to invite along as well. Then let the appropriate board member know of your willingness to help.

De colores,

David Lupo



From Agape: Karen Ayers

It's not too soon to start working on your agape projects for the September walks. Remember you need 65 pieces of each item for each walk. If you need ideas, or want to make sure your group isn't duplicating what someone else is doing, or just to let me know your plans, please contact me at klayers49@yahoo.com or 843-812-8644.

From Literature: Karen Ayers

I'm still working on an album, a historical record, of photos and rosters for each of our walks. I have a number of photos I have not been able to identify and I'd like your help. I also need photos and rosters from some of our past walks. I will have a display during fellowship time at each of the gatherings and you can check them out. I can also make replacement nametags, and we have extra reunion group cards and other materials. Contact me at klayers49@yahoo.com or 843-812-8644.

From Facilities: Ed Hickey

As announced in our March gathering at Bethel, our LCE board is planning a gathering at Camp S&M June 1, 2019. The board will provide the meat. Please sign up at the May gathering, if you have not already done so, to bring a side and/or dessert. Hopefully many families in our community will set aside this day and plan to attend.

Directions to camp: From I-26 E or W: Take exit 149 for Hwy 33 Cameron SC! Take left on 33 and go approx. 2 miles. Turn left on Shulmer Rd(New camp sign on left) go approx. 2 ½ miles to stop sign, Church Camp rd. Turn right Camp will be on left approx. 1/8 mile.

From Hwy 176: Turn on Belleville Rd (Rt if traveling toward Cameron or left if traveling away from Cameron and go approx. 3 miles. Turn left on Church Camp Rd. Go approx. 2 miles and camp in on the left

DeColores and Peace,

Ed Hickey

From Music/Entertainment: Dominica Harrell

We continue to have a need for musicians at gatherings. If you harbor any interest, contact me. Dominica dominicasmail@gmail.com.

Prayers, love and peace.

From Records: Helen Cash



To the Lowcountry Emmaus community members:

Our LCE community data and records have been moved from IMS to a new Upper Room Program called Ministry Manager. After March 30, IMS will no longer be available.

You will be receiving an email from Upper Room Ministry Manager asking you to "join Emmaus". This invitation is legitimate. Please accept it so that you will stay connected to the Lowcountry community.

Helen Cash

Records



Love Letters

“.....and a little child shall lead them.”

Isaiah 11:6

When my oldest son was just 12 months old I bought him a set of magnetic letters that we stuck on the refrigerator. He soon began to recognize the letters that spelled his name. Thus began Thomas' love affair with letters and words. By the time he was three years old and starting pre-school he also recognized the words momma, daddy, James (his younger brother), cat, dog, hot, up and, oddly enough, several of the planets in our solar system.

I knew I was introducing him to the gift of words, but I could never have known back then the gift I was giving to myself. As a young mother, I guess I didn't realize the real impact the lesson of the colorful magnetic letters would have on my son's life, or on mine. For many years I have tried to keep a journal. Admittedly, I have not been very good at it. I just couldn't make it work no matter how hard I tried. A number of years ago my attempts at journaling took on the form of short stories that I write as I realize how God's handiwork is a part of my everyday life. But it wasn't until I sat down one day and read all of my stories at one time, in the order I had written them, that I was "journaling" in my own way. My stories are a journal of my coming home to God.

I have discovered that my story telling is also a unique way that I have found to pray. We all pray in our own way and this writing of stories was fast becoming my way. Without even realizing it in the beginning, I discovered that I praise God through my stories. I recognize His hand in my day to day life and my heart is humbled by His presence. Soon, I was looking for other ways to pray. And I found it in the form of magnetic letters and words in much the same way that my son used them as a toddler.

While in a store one day I came across a rack advertising several different kinds of magnetic letters and words, adult style. There was one Christian edition. I immediately purchased it. And with those magnetic letters and words, I began a new daily prayer routine.

Tearing into the package, my refrigerator was soon filled with letters in much the same way it had been so many years ago. It was exciting for me to pull together several letters and begin to form a word, a prayer. I could only imagine what my young son must have felt all those years ago as his little world began to open up because of letters and words. My heart skipped a beat as a flood of memories came back to me. His beautiful blue eyes brightened each time we went to the refrigerator and he identified this new word, or that one. His precious little smile melted my heart. Wiping away a stray tear that had begun to roll down my cheek, and bringing myself back to the present moment, my first prayer became the scripture from Thessalonians 5:18, "in all things, give thanks." Every day for a week as I entered my kitchen, I read those words. Then I added more and more and more. Many, many years after introducing the magnetic letters to my son I have learned the same lesson for myself. Words are magic. These prayers of mine, posted on my refrigerator back then, have led me to write stories about my relationship with my God (both the triumphs and the tragedies). They have become such an encouragement to me. My stories are love letters to my God.

Thirty nine years later, my son has grown into a fine young man. He received his undergraduate degree in English and has a Masters in Renaissance English. He no longer needs the magnetic letters to help him form and recognize words. He has learned the value of letters and words. I, too, have "graduated." I no longer need the magnetic letters on my refrigerator to help me pray. I have found the way that works best for me. Being able to express myself on paper is one of the greatest gifts God has given me. More than any other thing in my life, writing my stories has changed my relationship with Him. My book of stories is my gift to a loving God who sees our struggles and helps us along the way.

They say that God works in mysterious ways. Loving my first born and wanting to help him learn has also taught me a valuable lesson. God was there through it all. I see now what I didn't see then.

DeColores

Peggy Lawton

North Alabama Walk #181

Table of Anna

The next board meeting will be held May 4th, 2019 at Pinopolis UMC at 9:00am. This will be our new board training.