



# Newsletter

## Lowcountry Emmaus Community

Volume 24/Number 7/July 2015

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

### 2016 Walk Dates!!

**Men's Walk....February 18-21**

**Women's Walk....February 25-28**

*Please be in prayer for the Walks for 2016. It's NOT TOO SOON to send in applications.*

*Need more information? Please contact Registrar Sue Runnerstrom at 763-5778 or jandsrunner@gmail.com.*

### July Gathering

Friday, July 17  
Cokesbury UMC  
4990 Dorchester Road  
North Charleston, S.C. 29418  
(843) 552-4061

**Directions: From Downtown Charleston:** take I-26 North and exit on Dorchester Road (642). Continue North on Dorchester. Church is on right, across from Glass Pro.

**From Mt. Pleasant:** Take I-526 East and exit on Dorchester Road. Turn left on Dorchester Road (642) heading North. Church is about 1 ½ blocks on the right.

**From Summerville:** I-26 East to I-526 (to Savannah). Exit on Dorchester. Turn right on Dorchester. Church is 1 ½ blocks on right.

**August.....Cokesbury UMC**

**September...Celebration Gathering  
At Camp S&M**

### July Emmaus Board Meeting

LowCountry Emmaus Board meetings will take place at 6:30 before the July and August Gatherings. Regular meeting times will resume in September.

This month, the Board meeting will take place at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, in Charleston.

*With upright heart he  
shepherded them and guided them with  
his skillful hand.*

~

*Psalms 78:72*

Our Community, the Charleston Community, has been through a lot over the past few weeks. We have shown our strengths in a time of tragedy. In fact we have gotten stronger all by the power of GOD'S LOVE and our love for each other. Make no mistake we have seen a community become the hands and feet and body of CHRIST in so many ways, the marches, the prayer vigils, offerings, sacrifices, spontaneous prayer groups, church services, you name it and it has happened. OUR COMMUNITY has become a witness to the rest of the nation and the world of how God's love can heal and strengthen each other.

Our Emmaus community is a strong witness of the Love of Christ too and we have to keep the fire burning. This has been a tragic week but we are stronger as a Charleston Community, as a community of believers, as brothers and sisters in Christ, and as a community trusting in GOD'S grace for strength and comfort. The Emmaus Community has tools to keep the fire burning and show God's Love and Grace through reunion groups, gatherings, walks, church witness, and prayer. PRAYER is the back bone of God's love and grace and we need to remember that. Take a moment to pray for the families, our Charleston Community, the Emmaus Community, and for someone who might be a potential pilgrim for the upcoming walks. God knows who will be our pilgrims but he needs our hands and feet to reach out to them and pray for them. As you pray listen for God's response.

DECOLORES  
~Jimmy

**Fourth Day help needed, please.**

" I am asking ALL reunion groups to please review the list of reunion groups and e-mail me the necessary information to fill in the gaps where the question marks are. Thanks, Gary Ayers "

**Reunion Groups  
March 2015**

Name	Members	Meeting City	ZIP	Meeting Times	ANM ?	Contact person
AR Monday Small Group	1	Summerville	29485	Monday 6:30 pm	N	?
BASIC	8	N.Charleston	29416	1st Friday 7:00 pm	Y	?
Crossroads	11	Rosinville	29477	Monday 8:00am	Y	Sapp Wagers 843-563-28
Eagle's Wings	2	Summerville	29406	Wednesday	Y	?
Fourth Day Believers	14	Bamberg	29003	Tuesday 7:00 pm	N	?
Joyful Hearts	23	West Ashley, Chas.	29414	2nd Sunday of month 6:30pm	Y	?
Mustard Seed	4	N.Charleston	29414	Normally on Sundays	Y	?
New Hope Servants	10	Summerville	29483	1st Thursday of Month	Y	Helen Cash
New Joy	12	Swansea,North, Sandy Run	29160	7:00	Y	?
New Wine Too	12	Summerville	29483	2nd & 4th Tuesday 6:30 pm	Y	Linda Carter newwinetoo@att.n
Palms Up	12	Okatie	29909	2nd and 4th Thursday 5:00pm		
Sand Dollar	1	Mt.Pleasant	29464	7:00pm	Y N	Karen Ayers klayers49@Yahoo. ?
Sand Dollar Midweek	4	Mt.Pleasant	29464	Midweek evening	N	Beth Sorrow bsorrow@mcna
Sand Dollar Sunday night	14	Mt.Pleasant	29464	Sunday 7:00pm	N	Mary Ann Bolt mabolt1225@a
Seekers	1	Moncks Corner	29461	Every other Monday	N	?
Shepherd's Crook	14	N.Charleston	29418	Wednesday 12:30 pm		Bette Renaud 843-821-6804
Sole Seekers	2	?	?	?	?	?
St.Mark Seekers	15	Charleston	29407	2nd Wed of month 7pm	N	?
True Believers	6	Stallsville	29485	9:00 am (day?)	Y	?
United Hearts	8	Ridgeville	29472		N	Cindy Murdaugh
Via De Cristo	1	?	?	?	N	?
Village Reunion Group	9	Pinopolis	29469	?	N	Linda Collins
Willing Spirits	25	Summerville	29485	5th Sunday 5:00pm	Y	?
?	?	Moncks Corner	?	?	?	?
?	?					
Alpha and Omega, Love Notes	?	Sumter	?	?	?	?
?	?	St George	?	?	?	?

Unnamed	?	Mt.Pleasant	29464	1st and 3rd Thursday 7:00pm	Y	Alan Sparks sparksalan@bellsco
Starbucks Group(Women)	?	Mt. Pleasant	29464	Wednesday 5:30pm	Y	Cheryl Boyle acl71570@gmail.c
Charleston Bagel (Men)	?	Mt. Pleasant	29464	Friday 7:00am	Y	Michael Boyle miklboyle@juno.
Walk with Grace	12	Charleston	29407	1st and 3rd Sundays 7:00pm	Y	<a href="mailto:nancy.broomall@gmail.com">nancy.broomall@gmail.com</a>
Got Grace	?	Charleston	29407	?	Y	Jack Baker 843-556-766
Shepherds of Christ	?	Charleston	29414	?	Y	Linda Halbritter lindadeefhalbritter@gmail.
In Step	6	Moncks Corner	?	Tues. 9 am Thurs. 10:00 am	Y	Beth Ackerman
Village of Grace	8	Pinopolis	?		Y	Lib Rentz Librentz@homesc.com

*“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”*  
~Matthew 18:20

### Tips for Leaders of Small Groups

- Always begin and end with a scripture reading and prayer. Allow members to voice their prayer concerns or joys.
- Remind members that the group is a forum for respectful, open discussion and mutual learning. Vital groups invite people to reflect on sensitive or even controversial issues. A spirit of humility and a genuine desire to learn from others enriches the experiences of the group members.
- Invite contributions from all, but respect members who choose to remain silent. Encourage members to share ideas and experiences briefly so that one member doesn't dominate the sessions.
- Keep discussions moving within the focus of the planned topic, but always be sensitive to what's being shared by members. Gently guide the discussion back on track after acknowledging members' statements.
- Ask members to evaluate the sessions regularly. Make adjustments to strengthen fellowship within the group. Use simple questions such as: What went well? What did you learn? What could be improved?

~www.upperroom.org

## **A Word about Sponsorship...**

### **While Emmaus is a Wonderful Experience for Many People, it is Not For Everyone.**

Sponsors must be sensitive to factors that may have a negative effect on a weekend or would be divisive to the Church. This is not just a fun weekend. These three days cannot rectify every problem marriage, bring enthusiasm to every disenchanted church member, cure disturbed persons, or make saints of sinners. This program is designed to change environments through Christian leaders. Participants should at least know where the path is, if they are not already walking it. We don't want just any candidate, we need the best.

-www.ipwe.org

### **The Upper Room Story**

Following the stock market crash in 1929 and the Great Depression that followed, Frances Craig, a Sunday School teacher at Travis Park Methodist Episcopal Church, in San Antonio, Texas, saw the comfort people found in short devotional readings. She urged her pastor, Dr. Paul Kern, to write a collection of devotionals. In the weekly church newsletter, Kern began suggesting daily scripture readings alongside short notes to encourage people to read the Bible. Mrs. Craig never forgot the impact of that daily guidance in Bible reading.

At the same time, Grover Emmons, a clergyman of the Methodist Episcopal Church who had served in France and the Far East, was also being prepared for his future role in developing *The Upper Room* daily devotional guide. In his ministry, Emmons saw that believers around the world have a common commitment to Christ. He dreamed of a devotional book that would be available and usable for all, "to cultivate an acquaintance with God." In early 1934, Emmons came to Nashville, Tennessee to work as the director of home missions, evangelism, and hospitals for the Board of Home Missions.

In December 1934 Grover Emmons gave a report about the committee's work on "the matter of a publication for devotional use in the home." The following motion was brought to the board:

*... To publish a quarterly devotional booklet to be sold in the local church through the Missionary Committee and to bear the imprint of the Commission [on Home Missions, Hospitals, and Evangelism]. This is to be an experiment for one quarter, details to be referred to Dr. Emmons .*

At the time, Frances Craig served as a volunteer director on the Committee on Devotional Literature for the Board of Home Missions, and she took news of the project back to San Antonio and asked the Philathea Sunday school class (a group of more than 100) to pray for the devotional project.

Dr. Emmons began to develop the structure of the magazine; daily entries would include a quoted scripture verse, a suggested scripture reading, brief comments, a prayer, and a closing thought for the day. Individuals were invited to provide content for the daily entries and the emphasis was on personal stories of everyday people. When Frances Craig received a letter asking her to write entries for the new magazine, she knew that her prayers were having effect—production of the magazine was underway.

Grover Emmons and Bishop Arthur J. Moore talked to pastors and leaders of all denominations throughout the United States and shared the vision for the little magazine: reestablish the "family altar"—the practice of daily prayer and Bible reading in the home.

The new magazine would not be just a Methodist publication but a gift from Methodists to the larger church. Dr. Emmons envisioned a devotional aid that was not doctrinal but inclusive, centered not on differences but on beliefs that Christians hold in common.

Attending a church conference in Richmond, Virginia, Grover Emmons heard Reverend John W. Smith speak about the power of God descending on Jesus' disciples as they prayed in an upper room. Dr. Emmons was inspired: the magazine would be called *The Upper Room*.

In early 1935, 100,000 copies of the first issue (April-May-June 1935) sold out quickly. The staff ordered 160,000 copies of the second issue and 211,000 of the third issue. By the seventh issue, the print run was half a million copies.

Almost immediately after the magazine's publication, readers began writing and sending in devotionals that spoke of their personal faith stories. By 1938, the magazine was publishing meditations written by ordinary readers, not just invited writers. With the January–February–March 1939 issue, less than four years after the first issue, circulation reached an astounding one million copies.

Today, *The Upper Room* daily devotional guide is a familiar item on kitchen and bedside tables around the country. Over the years, that little, beloved magazine has sparked a global ministry that now reaches millions around the world in 100 countries in 35 languages.

Upper Room Ministries now include [magazine](#) and [book publications](#), a [museum and chapel](#) in Nashville, Tennessee, and [program ministries](#) like The Walk to Emmaus, The Academy for Spiritual Formation, and The Living Prayer Center.

*Loving God, you enrich our life with your love and compassion.  
 Help us to show that love to others in all we do. Amen.*



**Low Country Emmaus Board 2015-2016**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Email</b>
Lay Director	<i>Jimmy Hinson</i>	(843) 830-0778	J14hinson@live.com
Spiritual Director			
Asst. Lay Director	<i>Gary Fellers</i>	(843) 670-2639	dudefellers@yahoo.com
Asst. Spiritual Director			
Secretary/Treasurer	<i>Marlene Harter</i>	(843) 688-4483	mharter10@yahoo.com
Music & Entertainment	<i>Betsy Fanning</i>	(843) 729-5371	betsy.a.fanning@gmail.com
Kitchen	<i>David Beal</i>	(843)873-5648	jaxwildwingcafe@yahoo.com
Fourth Day	<i>Gary Ayers</i>	(843) 525-0882	gwayers@yahoo.com
Luggage/Transportation	<i>Al Freeman</i>	(843) 822-1639	emptyatm@gmail.com
Send-off/Candlelight/Closing	<i>Steve Waterhouse</i>	(843) 437-0915	swater4579@aol.com
Records	<i>David Lupo</i>	(843) 200-3758	david@lupofamily.org
Facilities	<i>Gary Carter</i>	(843) 552-5272	carter7124@bellsouth.net
Agape	<i>Katie Brock</i>	(864) 621-3604	ktbrock85@gmail.com
Gatherings	<i>Yvonne Thurmond</i>	(843) 696-6828	thurmanev@gmail.com
Newsletter	<i>Cindy Murdaugh</i>	(843) 871-6392	heartstrings03@aol.com
Literature & Supplies	<i>Sandy Hickey</i>	(843) 452-1392	Hckybug91@sc.rr.com
Registrar	<i>Sue Runnerstrom</i>	(843) 763-5778	jandsrunner@gmail.com

**A Request for Records Updates:**  
 If your contact information (name, address, phone, email) has changed recently, please let any member of the Board know by email or a phone call. You may also update the information directly through the Lowcountry Emmaus IMS website at <http://lce.inetmember.com/>. These updates are critical to our ability to maintain effective communications with each community member.

**Sponsor Applications:**  
 A copy of the application for the Walks can be downloaded from the Lowcountry Emmaus Community website at:  
<http://www.umcsc.net/communities/lowcountryemmaus/>





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