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Lowcountry Emmaus Community

Volume 30 Number 8 August 2021

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

July Gathering on Friday,

August 20th @ 7 pm

Historical Cypress Campground

256 Myers Mayo Road

Ridgeville, SC

Gathering Note: *This gathering will be outdoors under the Tabernacle. More info below. (Bring your own chair if you would prefer).*

Pictures from the July gathering:





Community Lay Director: Helen Cash

Hello Emmaus Family.

At the June 8 board meeting I was elected as the Lay Director for LCE. It is an honor and privilege to serve you. Our Emmaus Board has suffered some sad losses with the passing of Gary Fellers, Dan Hare, and Carla Utsey. They will be dearly missed. We mourn our loss and also celebrate their home going. When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be.

I read an excellent response to someone who says they do not need to go to church which I would like to pass on to you. I hope it encourages you to attend future gatherings.

Thought for the Day

We are members of the body of Christ and accountable to one another. Thank you, dear God, for the fellowship of believers. Teach us to cherish it and to play our roles in the community of faith. Amen.

"I went mountain climbing the other day and met up with some energetic students. When I thought I could not possibly go on, they shouted words of encouragement: "You can do it!" "You are one strong lady!" "This is nothing. You've made it this far; the worst is over." At times, they burst into song to boost morale. Together, we made it all the way. This experience reminds me of our Christian walk. Sometimes the battle is too fierce, and

we feel we can't go on. We don't have the strength even to pray. In such times, we need other people to support, encourage, and admonish us in love. Through Christian fellowship, we have the strength to hold on to God's sure promises and to continue. Being accountable to one another keeps us on track. Some people say that they need not go to church anymore because they listen to sermons on TV or on the Internet. This practice is no substitute for Christian fellowship. The TV won't comfort us through hard times, rejoice in our blessings, or keep us accountable. Our brothers and sisters in Christ will."

Notes from the July 16th gathering: I'm glad we are beginning to gather again. I have truly missed my brothers and sisters in Christ. I admit, I was concerned about the weather that day. It was very hot and very humid – something I don't do well in my old age. But I remembered my devotion that morning reminding me to get up every day and do my best and trust God for the rest. So I packed up my guitar and music and Carroll and I headed out at 5:00 to arrive at Hibben UMC in Mt. Pleasant by 6:00. The traffic was cooperative and we arrived on time.

What a beautiful setting Hibben UMC provided for the gathering. A large tent and beautiful trees and friendly faces. I send a very special thanks to Becky Stacey and Peggy Lawton for joining the band, to Jimmy Hinson for the superior sound system, and to all the Hibben members who made it an exceptional gathering. It was great to see Jeff and Wendy Hollman who happened to be in town. And the 4th day talk by David Wiley was motivating. We followed his journey after his Emmaus walk as he began to participate more in the work of his church. He reminded us that there are resources and training for any function we want to accomplish for the United Methodist Church. His devotion and activities to the prison ministry he supports were inspirational. He credits all of his growth and outreach efforts to his experience on the Walk to Emmaus.

I close with a prayer of praise to God for the tremendous fresh wind that kept all of us so delightfully cool. The breeze was so strong that it kept blowing the music sheets off the music stand. I asked Google, "What does the Bible say about a fresh wind?" The message that returned read "the breath of God or the wind of the Holy Spirit, to blow freshly upon us." In Isaiah 40:31, we read "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their

strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” We know from Matthew 18:20, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them”.

I pondered the words “the breath of God or the wind of the Holy Spirit.” It is easy for me to imagine God blowing his breath to cool us, and the wind of the Holy Spirit present in our midst. And I’m reminded of my devotion – get up every day and do your best, and trust God for the rest.

I am hoping and praying to see some more of my Emmaus family on August 20 under the Tabernacle at the campground at Cypress UMC.

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Helen Cash, Lay Director



From Gatherings: Ronnie Brewer

The “Lowcountry Emmaus Community” held its first “In Person Gathering” since over a year ago on 16 July 2021 at Hibben United Methodist Church in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

The “Gathering” was held outside under a tent with music/singing led by a wonderful music team, “a 4th Day” talk by David Wylie, clergy response from David Lupo, Board updates and Holy Communion.

If you missed the July 2021 “Gathering” well guess what, you have an opportunity to attend the August 2021 “Gathering! The following information pertains to the next “Gathering”.

Gathering Date/ Location---The month of August 2021 “Gathering” will take place on 20 August 2021 starting at 7 PM. Location will be at the Historical Cypress Campground, located at 256 Myers Mayo Road, Ridgeville SC. The “Gathering” will be held under the Tabernacle, which is located in the center of the campground. If weather does not permit for an outside function, the Cypress United Church has agreed that we could use the social hall or church if needed and the church bathrooms will be available.

Social Time---It was decided that this “Gathering” will not have any scheduled social time prior to the actual “Gathering”. This does not mean that we cannot visit before or after the “Gathering” but it will not be part of the “Gathering” agenda. The “Board” will provide water for the community.

Social Distancing---Seating will be as if it were at a normal church service. Masks are optional for those that have been vaccinated and for those that have not been vaccinated, it is requested that masks be worn based on the honor system.

Gathering Agenda---Songs, Guest Introduction, Lay Director Report, Board Reports, Prayer/Prayer Concerns, 4th Day Speaker, 4th Day Spiritual Response, Communion (Self Contained Package) and Closing.

Additional “Gathering” Information”: Gatherings cannot be held without a host church

and location. Currently we have no volunteers for the months following August 2021. I ask that you consider hosting such an event, so we can schedule out for the rest of the year. The “Board” will be meeting soon to further discuss extending the social time with refreshments prior to the “September Gathering”.

I look forward to this continued “new start” for our Emmaus family. See you on 20 August 2021, 7pm at the Historical Cypress Campground. Any questions pertaining to the upcoming or future “Gatherings”, please call me at 843 754 9257.

Decolores

Ronald L. Brewer, Lowcountry Walk #50, Table of John
Board Member in charge of Gatherings

We will meet for a board meeting, August 10 @ 7pm via Zoom.