

# Lowcountry Emmaus Community

Volume 26 Number 11 November 2017

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

**November Gathering on Saturday,  
November 18 @ 6 pm  
Pinopolis UMC**

1833 Pinopolis Road Pinopolis, SC



**Directions from Charleston:** Directions: From Charleston, take the Moncks Corner/Goose Creek exit off I26 and head up 52. Stay on 52 until you pass the welcome sign in Moncks Corner. Turn Left at the first light onto 'old' 52. At second stop light take another left onto Hwy 6 (Main St.). Pass Berkely High School and bear right at the fork. This will bring you into Pinopolis. The church will be on the left.  
**From Columbia:** Take Pinopolis exit off I26, go left. Cross Hwy. 176 and 6. You will enter Pinopolis and the church will be on the left.

**Please note:** The Saturday 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 the October Gathering

As Christians, we are called to fellowship, to love one another as Christ loved us and to build up the Body of Christ. One of the ways we can do this is through our Emmaus Gatherings.

If you were unable to make it to the Gathering at Carteret UMC, you missed out on a really good time. The night was filled with excitement, good friends, and a lot of singing our favorite Emmaus songs.

We started out the night with an amazing meal together. I am always amazed at how much love and genuine care our Emmaus members have for each other. The conversations were frantic. Everyone just seemed to be so excited to catch up with their Church of the Palms friends and families. The desserts were absolutely incredible. The grape casserole and the apple dumplings were a huge hit. I watched more than one person attack the grape casserole dish multiple times.

After our bellies were filled and our sweet tooth satisfied, we moved over to the sanctuary for our service. The members of Carteret UMC are blessed with an absolutely beautiful sanctuary. The stained glass is some of the most beautiful I have ever seen. The beautifully stained woodwork was incredible as well. Several of us couldn't help but snap a few pictures of this beautiful building.

Once everyone made their way into the sanctuary and settled into their seats, the music team took over. Karen and her team led the group and we sang the night away. We experienced the joy of worship and communion together and the blessing of hearing what God is doing in each other's lives. What more could any of us ask for?

We had a really nice crowd. However, the drive to Beaufort does make it a little tougher for everyone to make it out. The November Gathering is at Pinopolis UMC. The members of Pinopolis have always been great host so please mark November 18<sup>th</sup> on your calendar now. Thank you so much to our new Carteret friends and thanks again to everyone that helped this month.

DeColores

David Beal

**From our Lay Director: Evyonne Thurman**

*Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and prophets. Matthew 22:36-40.*

And, this is the topic I wanted to write about in October when I wrote about Emmaus and Asbury Hills instead. I want to talk specifically about the second commandment Jesus gave us...."love thy neighbor as thyself".

Sometimes it is so hard to "love" your neighbor. I don't know about you, but I find this particularly difficult. It is much easier to "love" the strangers on the street, the person you don't know, rather than some of the people you do know, isn't it? But I don't think that's exactly what Jesus meant.

I struggle with this every day. Let me give you an example. One of my neighbors is not one of those "friendly over the fence" kind of people. It's hard to "love" this person. She doesn't like me, and I don't like her. We don't have a bad relationship....we have no relationship. I find myself struggling to speak, to be kind, to reach out. I've tried the usual things like home made goodies, being "friendly over the fence".... just trying to find some common ground. It has not worked. I think if anything, it has made her angry.

Truthfully, I have avoided her. But God will not leave me alone. He comes to me at night when I'm trying to sleep, and He wakes me up, whispering, "What about your neighbor?" Ughhhh!!!! God, I'm trying to sleep!

I've got the first commandment Jesus gave us down pat (or so I think until God starts pounding me at night). Because if I can't "love" my neighbor, how can I love God, who made us in his image and loves us all? So to God I say, "I am your child, and I want to be obedient. I love you, and I will do as you ask. I will love her because she is your child too".

I have been putting this off for a month now since Asbury Hills thinking this would go away. It hasn't. God is very persistent with me. His whisperings are more frequent and a little louder now. It is my choice because I love God, and I want to be obedient. I will pray for her, I will put her in my prayer book. I will seek her out, and do random acts of kindness and think positive things about her. I will actually invite her to church and Sunday School. Maybe I will start to "like" her. Maybe there will be a relationship. God has planted the seed in my heart, and I will water it. He will bring it to harvest when the fruit is ripe. To God be the Glory!

PS: Give the Gift of a Walk to a Christian Friend. Get those applications in. Time is flying by us. Teams are forming up and getting ready for God's awesome grace to be revealed.

DeColores, et (the cheerleader)

### **From our Agape Chair: David Lupo**

#### **Table Agape Time!**

With walks scheduled for early spring, it's time to start working on table agape--those little gifts that you found by your plate at mealtime. Most of the table agape is made by reunion groups, but if you're "between groups" you can work with a few Emmaus friends, maybe some from your church. (Who knows, you might even get a new reunion group started that way.) Here are a few hints to get you started:

- No individual names go on table agape. Please *do* include the name of your reunion group or your church and the name of your town on the items to let pilgrims know that people over a wide area are praying for them.
- Plan for a full walk. That means 65 pieces for each weekend. If your item might break, please include a few extras.
- If you don't know what to make, try searching Pinterest for "Walk to Emmaus agape."
- Be sure to pray for the team and pilgrims while you are making the agape. Table agape isn't just "religious stuff." It represents the love and prayer of the Emmaus community.
- Don't wait until the last minute. You can bring table agape to David Lupo at any Gathering as well as at Send-off.

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## Help Us Find Missing Table Agape

If you picked up your group's extra table agape at the last walk Closing, please check to see if agape from Grace United Methodist Church (small wood crosses) got mixed up with your items. The folks who made them would like to get them back so that they'll know how many more they need to make for the next walks. You can contact David Lupo or simply reply to the newsletter email.

## Agape for Other Communities

Please pray for these walks the weekend of November 9-12:

- North Georgia Walk to Emmaus Women's Walk #218
- Central California Emmaus Women's Walk #182
- Barbados Bridgetown Emmaus Community Women's Walk #20
- Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Men's Walk #117

And also for

Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Women's Walk #118 on November 16-19

## From the Kitchen: David Beale

### Lowcountry Emmaus Au Gratin Potatoes

3-5 pounds of potatoes – peeled and sliced

Two, 15oz cans of condensed cheddar cheese sauce

½ cup milk

One cup of shredded shudder cheese

One medium onion, diced

½ stick butter

Salt and pepper to taste

Heat cheese sauce, milk, salt, and pepper. Sauté butter and diced onions. Place potatoes and onions in a baking dish. Pour cheese sauce over potatoes and stir. Cover the top with shredded cheese. Bake @ 350 degrees for 30-40 or until golden brown.

