

LowCountry Emmaus

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

Volume 17 Number 12

December 2008

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Gatherings)

December 19, 2008 Stallsville UMC
January 16, 2009 To be announced

Directions to Stallsville UMC

Stallsville United Methodist Church is located at 255 Stallsville Road in Summerville, SC.

From I-26 exit 199, take US 17-A south. About one half mile (a couple of blocks) south of the Interstate, turn left onto Berlin Meyers Parkway. Follow the parkway until it ends. Turn left, and you will be at the fork of Trolley Road and Bacons Bridge Road. Take the left fork (Trolley Road). The next light will be Stallsville Road. Turn right, and the church will be on your left.

If you are coming into Summerville on US 78, you can go south on Berlin Meyers Parkway and follow the directions above.

If you are coming up SC 165, that is Bacons Bridge Road. Stallsville Road turns off to the right just before you reach the junction with Trolley Road.

***Gatherings are on the 3rd
Friday of each month.
Board meetings are on the 2nd
Tuesday of each month.***

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

We find ourselves, once again, in the season of Advent. It's time to get ready, but ready for what? If we spend all our time decorating the house, buying and shipping presents, and preparing a lot of food, we will have missed an opportunity to hear the Good News of

FROM THE LAY DIRECTOR

The last Gathering was at St. James UMC in Goose Creek. Jimmy Hinson gave an inspiring 4th day witness of his life following his weekend. Lisa Hawkins provided an insightful 4th day response. Dudley Patrick was the BMIC. A praise band of Donna Dantzler, Lim Boughamer, Vance Ross and two others provided the music. Most of these band members had been on a 3 day renewal weekend of Cursillos (Presbyterian/Episcopalian) or Via De Cristo (Lutheran). The December Gathering is at Stallsville UMC in Summerville. It starts at 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

My job took me out to San Diego, California for four days this last week. I lived in San Diego for a year back in 1970 and then again for three years in the late 70s. Mission Valley is a valley just north of San Diego. When Pam and I lived there Mission Valley was developed from the coast at

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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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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	biltons@bellsouth.net	2009
Agape	Gerald Murray	843-737-4550	gcmurray2@comcast.net	2011
Registrar	Teresa Strickland	843-871-1406	jstdhs@yahoo.com	2010
Gatherings	Robert Nix	843-870-2724	nix2724@bellsouth.net	2008
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	843-308-9160	fharterjr@yahoo.com	2011
Prayer Vigil/Refreshments	Carroll Cash	843-873-1037	cashbilly143@aol.com	2008
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

Calling On All Churches!

The attendance committee has sent out 174 letters to all of the pastors of Methodist churches in the LowCountry Emmaus community. (Methodist churches were used because of the readily available data we already have for them.) We will meet later to determine the best way to get in touch with other congregations. One way the committee has thought of is for each of the committee members to get in touch with at least 3 churches in our communities that might be interested in "The Walks". We would like to extend that challenge to all of you in the community. If the brochures explaining "The Walk to Emmaus" come in before the next Gathering I will have them available to anyone who would care to accept this challenge.

Please be in prayer for these letters. We will follow the letters up in the near future with phone calls and e-mail.

We are also still looking for volunteers to help give presentations to various churches. If you are interested please get in touch with me.

De Colores,

Norman Murdaugh

Just prior to press time, the Low Country Emmaus Community was shocked to hear of the sudden death of long-time LCE member Billy Edgin (Stallville UMC, Summerville). Billy had undergone surgery and was recovering when he passed suddenly on Friday, December 5, 2008. The LCE extends its heartfelt condolences to Billy's family.

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the ocean just past interstate 5. The area is known as Hotel Circle about 5 miles inland. They built Qual Com Stadium while we were living there. The valley has grown over the years. Shopping centers fill the valley all the way inland to El Cajon. It's about nineteen miles from Ocean Beach to El Cajon. I keep thinking 'where will the growth stop'. It has been people to people up and down the coast for a long time and now it's people to people from the coast inland.

I saw something that was rare to me this trip. Ever since I have lived in and visited San Diego I had never seen a rainbow. Tuesday morning when I opened the curtains in my hotel room I saw one of the most magnificent rainbows I had ever seen. The hotel is located on the south side of the valley and the rainbow was on the north side of the valley. It was very long and tall. It stretched from just west of highway 163 just past Mission Center road. The roads are over a half mile a part.

Seeing this rainbow gave me a different perspective of what I had been thinking of the San Diego area and other areas of our country I visit. It gave me the thought that God is everywhere and I should be sharing this with the people I come in contact with even if they do not appreciate the place they are living or visiting. It is my responsibility as a Christian to raise their awareness of God's love being everywhere. That is where God was working in my life. This is when I felt closest to Christ during the week.

I also had an encounter with a Christian friend that made me feel I was being His disciple. The encounter was at Food Lion. He began to tell me of the bad events taking place in his life. His wife has cancer (very bad cancer). He had overcome cancer himself only a few years ago. As we continued to talk I reminded him that we all have to live in the fruit of the spirit. That when we let ourselves get engrossed in the world we disallow or chase away the spirit from living in and through us. He said he was supposed to have seen me at Food Lion that day.

Be in prayer for sponsors and pilgrims (see the November 2008 newsletter "Fourth day corner" for the 14 responsibilities of sponsors). Continue to be in prayer for Terry Lupo and Ron Bycroft as the next Lay Directors. Be in prayer for Beth Pregnall and Joel Strickland as ALD's in training.

De Colores,

Randy Woods

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what God is doing while we human beings are busy rushing around in all directions.

An appropriate place to look for a reminder in this season is the first chapter of Luke's Gospel. Before jumping into the story of Jesus' birth in chapter two, take some time to reflect on the response of Mary (Luke 1:46-55) and Zechariah (Luke 1:68-79) to see what God was doing. (I suggest finding a translation that formats these passages as poetry. You may also want to read some of the hymns that have been based on these texts.)

In her song, Mary says, "[God] has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty." That could be a response to this week's newspaper headlines! What Mary sings about is not yet complete, but God has promised it. The good news is that God cares not only about people who lived two thousand years ago, but also about those in need today.

Take time, in this season, to hear what God is doing, and become a part of sharing that news with the world.

De Colores,

David Lupo

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Fourth Day Corner – Sponsorship 2

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 our Literature, Letters and Supplies board member.

In the front cover of the booklet it states: No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without permission except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles or reviews. For information, write the Upper Room Books, 1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville, Tn. 37212. I will be using quotes from this booklet in the critical area of sponsorship. It is an attempt to inform the Low Country Emmaus community members as to what sponsorship is, whom to sponsor, responsibilities of the sponsor, Q & A about sponsorship and personal contact techniques.

The Introduction of this booklet begins with a description of a couple describing The Walk to Emmaus with another couple. The receiving couple accepts the invitation to go on the walk. Prayer was a main ingredient throughout the process.

This description is followed by “God decides whom we should sponsor and when. “We simply need to be attentive to God’s leading and patiently ‘wait...on the Lord’!”

The booklet goes on to define sponsorship in that; “a sponsor is one who takes responsibility for another. The suffix “ship” refers to the skill involved in the activity. So sponsorship is the skill of taking responsibility for another. It goes on to say the Emmaus sponsor must use skill in taking the responsibility of a pilgrim. It is a long term process. Being a sponsor means you become a prayer partner for your pilgrim and that you use a lot of energy and time. You should try to satisfy the fourteen responsibilities of the sponsor that were covered in the November 2008 Fourth Day Corner.

(Provided by Randy Woods)