



GOLDEN ISLES WALK TO EMMAUS

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## April 2016 Newsletter

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### From the Desk of our Chairwoman...

Sponsorship is the lifeblood of our Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus community and is the most important job. It is vital to our community for participation and our continued growth. It is more than “signing up people”. Emmaus relies on it as the means to promote participation because the personal character of sponsorship underscores God’s personal care and commitment to each pilgrim.

God uses each of us to reach out to other persons as we sponsor pilgrims to attend a Walk weekend. As we share the gift of The Emmaus experience with others, God’s gift of grace is passed on through us. The Walk experience begins with how we handle our role as sponsors.

Sponsorship is the first act of agape.

After the last two walks, I encouraged the Pilgrims to think about who they may want to share the Gift of Emmaus with and begin to pray for those persons. I encourage each of us to do the same.

I also want to take a moment to thank everyone who worked, attended, and participated in the last set of Walks. God was very present, and we were all aware of His presence. Leaders were empowered to be the hands and feet of Christ.

To God be all the glory!

--Melinda Hollington

Click on the button below to learn more about  
Sponsorship.

[Become a Sponsor](#)

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## A Report from the Recent Lay Directors

### Men's Walk #29

--Dan James

The Walk to Emmaus is truly a unique, once in a lifetime experience that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, uses to Baptize us in the Holy Spirit and change our Heart, Mind and Soul in a personal relationship with him for the rest of our lives.

This desire instilled in us on these Walks to know our Heavenly Father in a personal, intimate way through Jesus releases us for joyful obedience that changes our desires and actions in our Fourth Days. We have seen him make the same changes in others on the Walk, just as he did for us, each time we participate in Emmaus.

Men's Walk #29 was no different. This was obvious as we observed and talked to the men throughout the weekend and heard what they had to say at Closing.

We had a tremendous team in both the Conference Room and Background. Both Walks were baptized in Prayer many, many, months before the Walks came to pass, and it was obvious because the men on Walk #29 were truly ready to be there.

The Holy Spirit was in our presence, setting our hearts on fire as the scripture was revealed and opened up to us. I also believe every team member was changed in some way. Thanks be to God.

I once again thank the Lord for allowing me to serve as the Lay Director on this Walk and thank the Emmaus Board of Directors for the many hours they put in to make these Walks a success and to keep our Emmaus Community active.

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**Women's Walk**  
**#30**                      **--Cheryl**  
**DeZouche**

Flexibility was the key word on Walk #30.

I built six tables during preplanning with faith that if I built them, God would send the women to fill them. And send them He did!

We had 37 women!

Bunk rooms were tight and meal times stretched to the max. But God showed up in a big way and hearts were gently warmed as they walked the Emmaus Road with Jesus.

Friday night the skits and songs were lively. The level of talent from this group of women was amazing. The bonding started early on Friday and continued into Saturday.

Candlelight was another heavenly event with many commenting they thought this is what heaven would be like. Friday and Saturday morning all Pilgrims were in the Chapel and ready to go 30 minutes before they were supposed to be there!

Our Kitchen team did a great job of adjusting to this. We didn't have to worry about early Chapel visits Sunday morning because it was Daylight Savings time. Most were still in bed for the Sunday wake up call.

ALD's kept us on time all weekend and even ahead of schedule most of the time. The background team bonded as well, and it truly blessed my heart seeing them all work together. Angels, Agape and Worship servants filled in serving meals when the Kitchen staff was short Friday. That is what the spirit of Emmaus is all about! Serving where you are needed and genuine Team work.

Most importantly, many burdens were left at the cross. You could see a physical difference in most of the women by Closing. Big smiles, lots of hugs and an excitement to go home and share about their amazing Walk to Emmaus journey!

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**Reflections from the Heart**

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## Spring Fever

As spring approaches, I always get excited – we old souls call this “Spring Fever”. God has created such a beautiful world for us to live in and everything is new and fresh in the springtime. When the first hyacinth blooms in my flower bed and the azalea buds start flowering, I feel joy and hope. I used to love taking spring wildflower walks in the woods in West Virginia and communing with God while looking for the first violets and daffodils.

God has also created beautiful people. I was privileged to witness this past week the church being the hands and feet of Jesus. Bill and I attended church services with friends in South Carolina and sat in their Sunday School class with them. Toward the end of class one of the members got a phone call from the nursing home telling her that her mother had just passed away. Those who were close to her and the pastor gathered around her in support and prayed for her. What better place to hear news such as this than in the house of God surrounded by people who love you? I could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit. I thank God for allowing us to witness this display of sharing and caring. That precious Mom had just started a “new and beautiful forever life”.

Jeanie Hoffman  
Coastal Georgia Walk to Emmaus #65  
Newsletter Committee

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## 4th Day

It's time to welcome our new Pilgrims into their Fourth Days. It's hard to believe all that the Walk to Emmaus accomplishes in our hearts and lives in the three short days of our Pilgrim Walk. But it's how we walk out those Fourth Days that shows the change in our hearts and lives.

My husband, Keith, and I had the privilege of being present for the Candlelight ceremony for the most recent Women's Walk. It was a pleasant and peaceful time of being reminded of our own walks. Keith was on the very first Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus, and I was on the second. Our Fourth Days have been a steady stream of living...just as all others who have taken the Walk to Emmaus before us and after us.

I was reminded by a phone call from my adult daughter this morning just how short and how precious life really is. She called to tell me that Kathy, my first mother-in-law and my daughter's "Grammy Kat," passed away about 1:00 this morning. Kathy and I haven't actively been a part of each other's lives in over 25 years. But still I feel that a light has gone out. A prayer warrior is gone.

So here I am, thinking about my own 4th Days...how I can live each one to honor the God who made me. How I can encourage others to be all God has called them to be. And again, I

encourage you to "Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle you know nothing about."

Trisa Marie Chancey  
Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus #2  
Table of Mary  
Newsletter Committee

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Recently, someone on Facebook asked about reunion groups. She could not meet at the same time as a group at her church.

One person offered to meet at a good time for her until a new group could be created. Someone else joyfully asked the newcomer to visit their group.

Our Fourth Day lives are nourished and strengthened by reunion groups. Many people will not join an established group without a persistent welcome from others.

Let your invitation to others be grace filled and intentional to start new groups or to add to others. Prayerfully, seek others out as Jesus seeks each one of us.

DeColores!

Elizabeth Houston  
Reunion Groups/4th Day Meeting Chair  
South GA Walk to Emmaus #32  
Table of Esther

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Please help the International Emmaus Ministries staff learn more about conducting ministry with youth by clicking on the Survey button below.

[YOUTH MINISTRY SURVEY](#)

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## Community Gatherings

**April 1 at 7:00 p.m. (Pio Party)**  
**College Place UMC**

**May 6 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Blackshear UMC**

If you would like to offer your church to host a Gathering in the future, or would be interested in sharing a Fourth Day testimony, please contact Phil Scott at [scottjp@comcast.net](mailto:scottjp@comcast.net) for more information regarding what is required of a host church.

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## Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus Board Meeting

GIE Board Meeting April 16th, 9 AM Brunswick FUMC, Miller Building.

Emmaus community members are always welcome at Golden Isles Emmaus Board Meetings normally the third Saturday of each month at the Miller Building behind Brunswick First UMC.