



GOLDEN ISLES WALK TO EMMAUS

<http://www.goldenisleemmaus.org/>

January 2016

From the Chairwoman's Desk...



In the Fourth Day talk I gave at the December Gathering, I asked each person present to consider a question posed at a recent Emmaus Leadership Training: *Is our Community Weekend driven or Fourth Day driven?*

As we move into the new year and are presented with a new set of Walks coming up real soon, this question continues to stay on my mind. It is said several times during a walk weekend that what is most important about a Walk to Emmaus is not what happens on the weekend but what we do with what we've experienced there in our Fourth Days.

The main purpose of the Emmaus Walk is to strengthen the Christian community and to equip disciples who will give their lives to sharing Christ. It is designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled life to be lived and shared with others. We should work hard to put on excellent Walk Weekends, but we need to emphasize the strength of our supportive Community in the Fourth Days.

I would like to challenge all of us to support the upcoming Walks starting today. Please pray for the teams, the pilgrims, the sponsors, the Board, and each member of our community. Plan now to attend Weekend events for both Walks.

I would also like to challenge all of us to focus on our continued Fourth Days and be intentional about sharing them within our own community and with others who may need the gift of Emmaus.

Let's lift up our Community in prayer and watch as God reveals His Glory in our Fourth Days!

—Melinda Hollington



We would like to thank Anne Wojcik for her hard work and dedication to the Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus Community. Anne has served as Registrar since our inception as an organization. More recently, she has also served as Chair of the Board.

Throughout the years, we have witnessed her leadership at countless events while fulfilling a wide range of duties. Her guidance has been a constant presence as our community has grown.

Thank you, Anne, for your faithful service to the Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus Community!

A Note From our Spiritual Director

Hello friends of the Golden Isles Emmaus Community.

Mary and I have had an some amazing times together with family and community over the last few weeks as we have reflected on our Savior's birth. I am sure you and your family have had similar experiences during this time of celebration. As this season comes to an end, it is a time to focus on the new year and what God has for our community.

As I reflect back on my walk in the light of Christmas, my walk to Emmaus is probably the best gift I have ever received from anyone and also the gift which changed my life more than any other gift I have ever received. My sponsors were a big part of that and they are the ones who gave me that gift. As the new year begins, our Walks are right around the corner with the Men's Walk beginning March 3rd and the Women's on March 10th.

How can you help? You can be in prayer for our community board, for the teams which are being formed, the pilgrims who will be attending, and for those you know who would possibly attend. Wouldn't it be awesome if this year you could give someone the most valuable and life changing gift they have ever received? Please print out some applications and keep them in you car and be prepared to share with friends who you think would benefit from the walk.

May God bless each of you as you serve Him by serving others. I look forward to seeing you on the 8th of January at the Gathering.

Give the gift of a walk this year!!
With love in Christ,
Emory



Fourth Day Reflections

"Un"-decking the halls from boughs of holly is not nearly as much *fa-la-la-fun* as "decking" them was. I feel a little defeated looking at my living room. Do I start by cleaning up the ornaments, lights, and tree, or would it be better to pack up the assorted nutcrackers standing sentry around the fireplace? Which would be easier? Actually, I wonder if I could just squeeze in a nap before I have to do anything!

January begins a time of renewed resolution of purpose in our lives. The December lessons of the Christ-child are now, after having been celebrated, ready to be applied more intentionally to our lives. January begins our spiritual journey toward Calvary, where our Risen Lord redeemed the world. As such, our focus should be on sharing this Good News of Christ's love with all those around us.



Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us to, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." As we begin our journeys through 2016, remember the Lord is going before us and will be with us, no matter what challenges we face. Furthermore, it's a comfort to know we have Christian brothers and sisters to encourage us when we falter in our resolve.

As I take down the decorations from my house, I realize this cleansing is also necessary on a spiritual level in order to continue being the hands and feet of Christ in this broken world.

Likewise, as you prepare your home for the new year, my prayers are with you as you strengthen your resolve and refocus your purpose in your walk with the Lord.

DeColores,
Lori Durham
Newsletter Chair



Happy New Year!

Well, maybe. "Happy New Year" is an extremely common greeting, delivered with a smile. But we can't predict how anyone's tomorrow will go, let alone how their entire new year will be. Was 2015 gentle with you, or do you feel like you experienced trial by fire? Are you looking forward to 2016 with the peaceful delight of watching a new sun rise, or is 2016 bearing down on you like a runaway freight train?

Are you one of those people who comes up with resolutions every new year? Or are you one who thinks New Year's Resolutions are to be avoided? I fall into the second category. I have made too many commitments, too many plans, that didn't come to fruition. So I have taken to living each day to the best of my ability and hoping that will do. However, I find no fault with those who choose to make resolutions. A new year is always a good time for a new start!

This year I challenge you to make our Emmaus community a priority in your life. Take time to remember the people who invited you to begin this journey. Drop them a thank-you note if you still know how to reach them. Take time to reflect on your initial Walk to Emmaus, and if you have had the opportunity to work with the Walks, reflect on those experiences as well.

Throughout 2016, and in all your daily interactions with others, I encourage you to remember this quote attributed to T. H. Thompson and John Watson, "Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle you know nothing about."

Trisa Chauncey
Newsletter Committee



Says "Thanks"

I delivered our Emmaus community donation to Care Net and was greeted by two enthusiastic staff members who helped me unload my car.

They were so thankful for our consideration of their program. We restocked their depleted supply of a particular size of disposable diapers and formula items.

The ladies expressed their sincere thanks for this and the miscellaneous toy items and layette and blanket items.

Thank you to every one who contributed to this community need.

Martha Dixon
Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus #11
Table of Esther



Upcoming Events

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

- ◆ Gathering — January 8 at 7:00 p.m. — Wesley United Methodist Church, St. Simon's
- ◆ Gathering — February 5 at 7:00 p.m. — TBA

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 [Gretchen Bell at gbell_31566@yahoo.com](mailto:gbell_31566@yahoo.com) for more information regarding what is required of a host church.

Save the Dates! Spring 2016 Walks to Emmaus

Men's Walk #29, March 3-6, 2016

Lay Director: Dan James

Women's Walk #30, March 10-13, 2016

Lay Director: Cheryl DeZouche

Pray! Pray! Pray!

GOLDEN ISLES WALK TO EMMAUS BOARD MEETING

GIE Board Meeting January 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.

JOURNEY 2016 is coming soon!!!

JOURNEY is the young adult version of the Walk to Emmaus. This is for ages 19-24 and is geared toward college age young adults. These "caterpillars" take their flights in February of each year. Girls go one weekend ahead of the boys. The Journey flights take place at Tattnall Campground. You can change a young person's life by sponsoring a young adult to go on Journey!!



Girls' Journey Flight #30

February 4-7, 2016

Lay Director, Haley Higgs

Boys' Journey Flight #31

February 18-21, 2016

Lay Director, Bo Davidson

Please go to www.dayspringwalktoemmaus.com to find an application for Journey.

Workers and caterpillars are needed!

Send completed Journey applications to: Roxanne Durrence at roxannedurrence@gmail.com
or Mail to: Roxanne Durrence, P.O. Box 2004, Reidsville, GA 30453