



## GOLDEN ISLES WALK TO EMMAUS

### October 2016 Newsletter

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#### From the Desk of our Chairwoman:

Amazing!

That's the only word spinning in my head as I left the Lion's Camp on Sunday after the last Women's Walk.

God is simply amazing, and I was so thankful to be sitting on the sidelines watching Him pour out His blessings during and through the walk weekends.

It was such a blessing for me to actually hear His stories through the pilgrims sharing at closing as I know it was for everyone who has heard even a small part.

I want to once again welcome the new Pios to our Emmaus community. I hope you'll find a place in our caring family and will participate as much as you can. We look forward to getting to know each of you much better.

I hope to see all of you at our Pio Party on October 14 at College Place UMC in Brunswick at 7 p.m.

--Melinda Hollington

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#### Helpful Links for ALL Community Members

Click on the link below to view a video about the Walk to Emmaus. It's a great introduction for

prospective pilgrims.

[Click HERE for Information to Become a Sponsor](#)

[Click HERE for Pilgrim Applications](#)

[Upper Room video about the Walk to Emmaus](#)

[Click HERE for the Upper Room Walk to Emmaus Website](#)

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## Upcoming Events

### Community Gatherings

October 14 at 7:00 p.m. (PIO Party) College Place UMC

November 4 at 7:00 Waynesville Missionary Baptist Church

December 2 at 7:00 Wesley at Frederica UMC on St. Simons Island

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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### **REUNION GROUPS: We Need Your Help!**

Elizabeth Houston is compiling an updated list of Reunion Groups to put on the GIWTE Webpage.

Kindly assist her by clicking [HERE](#) to email her. Be sure to include the name of your Reunion Group and the day, time, and location where you meet.

Thank you!

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## Reflections from the Heart

## A New Perspective

--Lori Durham, GIWTE #11

I had a tough time getting to work one morning this past month.

Some of my students had been overly rambunctious the day before, I hadn't slept well the previous night, and to add insult to injury, as I walked out of the house, I saw my cat curled up sound asleep in our bed in perfect bliss. (I would much rather have crawled back into bed with him than head to school to face another day with rowdy teenagers.)

Things didn't get much easier as I drove south to school. Traffic was heavier than usual on I-95, so I had to concentrate harder than normal on the road. I gripped the steering wheel with both hands, stared straight ahead, and didn't take my eyes off the road as I tried to anticipate any obstacles in my path. Rain clouds hovered overhead, making my already tired and arthritic muscles throb in pain.

Usually I talk to God on the trip to school every day, but on this gloomy day, I was in a foul mood and not feeling particularly prayerful. I grumbled under my breath as cars and trucks cut me off or tailgated me, and instead of praying for my students, I repeatedly pleaded, "*God, get through this day!*"

I had driven about half way to work when the sky opened up and sheets of rain pummeled my car. "*Good Grief!*" I thought. "*I can't catch a break this morning!*"

It didn't take long to drive through the rain, but as I continued to look southward, my mood darkened just like the storm clouds above me until I happened to glance over my left shoulder to change lanes.

It was then that I saw the sunrise, orange and red, against the dark background of storm clouds and fading night. At that moment, I caught my breath and whispered, "*Wow, God! Well done!*"

If I had kept my eyes straight ahead on my path and not turned my head, I would only have seen the gloom of an approaching day and missed the stunning colors of the sunrise. By looking left, I created a new perspective for myself: one filled with divine beauty.

In Psalm 121:1-2, David reminds us to change our perspectives when we are weak, miserable, and fighting the storms of life. He tells us, "*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.*"

There aren't many hills in South Georgia to look up to, but I sure can remember to look over my shoulder the next time I'm unable to see past my nose. In so doing, God will remind me He is with me even when I'm in a dark and grumpy mood.

DeColores!

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## Fear or Fun?

--Trisa Chancey  
Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus #2  
Table of Mary

Trick or treat?

The trick-or-treating of my childhood involved people giving apples and homemade sweets. My younger brother and I had no fear of what might be in them. We simply enjoyed whatever was given. Back then the world seemed like a safe place. We could play outside all day and come in when the street lights came on.

My youngest daughter knows nothing of trick-or-treating. She will be 18 years old this month, and all she knows is going to Fall Festival at church. She also knows nothing of playing outdoors in the neighborhood unsupervised and coming home when the street lights come on. If she is outside, she is supervised.

Halloween decorations frighten my daughter. She IS nearly 18 years old, but she also has Down Syndrome, so functionally she is much younger. When we go into a store that carries Halloween decorations, I have to walk between her and the decorations. Even then, she clings to me.

As you make your choices for how to recognize the fall season, whether by participating in a Fall Festival or handing out candy for trick-or-treaters, or any number of other options, do what you can to turn the focus to our God and the love he has for all people. Consider how you can best represent Christ and the Emmaus community.

As you walk the path God has chosen for you this month, remember to "Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting a hard battle you know nothing about."

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## Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus Board Meeting

GIE Board Meeting October 15th, 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 United Methodist Church.