



## GOLDEN ISLES WALK TO EMMAUS

AUGUST 2017

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### From the Desk of the Community Lay Director:

I'm excited to be able to give you some great news! The Board has set dates for the Spring Walks!

**Men's Walk #33 will be March 8-11.**  
**Women's Walk #34 will be March 15-18.**  
**Set up will be Saturday, March 3.**

A lot of prayer has gone into this decision to set dates. We're asking the Community to get all applications in to our Registrar, [Anne Wojcik](#), as quickly as possible.

*The deadline for submitting applications for the Spring Walks will be December 1, 2017.*

Once we have the necessary number of applications, we will start the team meetings. The Team Selection Committee will start forming teams in October.

However, if we do not have enough applications turned in by December 1st, we will postpone the Walks until the Fall of 2018 and try again. We do not want to scramble for applications.

We will follow Upper Room Guidelines, which instruct that invitations are to be mailed out to future pilgrims in the order their applications were received.

Once we have 30 pilgrims for each Spring walk, we will start the waiting list for the next walks.

*Because of this, it's important you DO NOT promise your future pilgrims that they will have a spot on the Spring walk.*

God will decide who He puts on the next walks.

Please get your applications in as soon as possible. Whether or not your pilgrims can attend the Spring Walks, we still need to get all applications in to Anne.

I also want everyone to know that your Board is centered in prayer. We ask God for his direction in all we do.

Finally, please consider attending our Board meetings to see how we come to the decisions that we believe are in the best interest for our community.

Our next Board meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on August 19th at the Miller Building at 1st UMC in Brunswick.

This is an exciting time for our Community!

PRAY!

Pray for the community, the future pilgrims, the future teams, and for your Board.

## A Devotion from Our Community Spiritual Director, Darrell Joiner

"Trust Him in Everything"  
by Byron Bohnert

In the sport of NASCAR there are individual drivers for every racecar and for every driver there is a spotter. On their own, a racecar driver is more likely to crash; but with the help of a spotter they are able to avoid some costly accidents.

Bob Margolis from Yahoo Sports explains, "The spotter is a team member with a radio who is placed in a high position where they can see as much of the entire race track as physically possible-usually on top of the highest grandstand. His or her primary job is to make sure the driver is safe during the race and to be a second set of eyes. More than anything else, it's a job based on trust. When a spotter says 'clear,' his driver has to trust he's being given good information and that no other car is there, meaning he can move up or down the track."

We, ourselves, are in a race, and God is our spotter. From His vantage point, God is able to see every detail of our life. Nothing is hidden from God's sight, and to Him our road ahead is clearly visible.

I'm learning that when things don't work out the way I would have wanted, there is a greater plan in the future. The focus has to be taken off my doubts and placed on a promised word from God.

His words in Jeremiah 29:11 are straightforward: "For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." (NLT)

In one of Pastor Kevin Gerald's messages he said, "The eyes of faith are not always looking at the natural, the eyes of faith look out and they see the good, and they focus on the positive, and the eyes of faith are going to continue to trust God in everything."

No matter how bleak today may look, there is always change on the horizon for those of us who have the faith to believe.

Habakkuk learned how to trust God and not be affected by the negative stuff going on around him. He writes in Habakkuk 3:17-19,

"Though the cherry trees don't blossom and the strawberries don't ripen, though the apples are worm-eaten and the wheat fields stunted, though the sheep pens are sheepless and the cattle barns empty, I'm singing joyful praise to God. I'm turning cartwheels of joy to my Savior God. Counting on God's Rule to prevail, I take heart and gain strength. I run like a deer. I feel like I'm king of the mountain!" (MSG)

When we're in a tight spot and problems are raging all around, a sense of uncertainty tries to envelop the mind. If we are not careful, it is easy to get mentally sidetracked. By focusing on our problems and never looking up, we will fail to experience the peace of God.

Isaiah 26:3 tells us,

"God will keep in perfect peace all who trust in Him, all whose thoughts are fixed on Him!" (NLT)

To reiterate about the spotter, Bob Margolis goes on to say, "Spotters can be responsible for keeping a young, perhaps emotional and easily frustrated driver calm while also telling him to slow down or speed up. He adds, "...the spotter also is a driver's co-pilot in the sense that he's able to see the big picture throughout the race."

You and I have to come to the place where we need to trust God completely and allow Him the freedom to point us in the right direction. Not only do we have to trust Him, we have to remember that "God causes

everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them" (Rom. 8:28 NLT).

Courtesy of: <http://www1.cbn.com/devotions/trust-him-everything>

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### **PILGRIMS!! We need PILGRIMS!!!**

And how, you may ask, do we get Pilgrims?

Simple.

We need folks from our wonderful Emmaus Community to SPONSOR PILGRIMS.

If you are unsure how to sponsor a Pilgrim, come to Sponsorship Training. We will have our next Sponsorship Training at 6:00 pm, Friday August 4th (just prior to the Gathering).

Please come and learn how to be a great sponsor.

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### **CURRENT PILGRIM COUNT**

**MEN- 20**

**WOMEN- 37**

**GOAL- 60 each**

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**Emmaus Leadership Training will be held at St. Simons UMC**  
**September 16th**

### **2017 Leadership Development Events**

Per our Covenant Agreements with the Upper Room, all Board members, who have not previously attended, should be in attendance at a Leadership Development Event.

All other community members are also welcome to and encouraged to attend!

**MISSION:**

Empowering Leaders through Emmaus & Chrysalis to be the hands and feet of Christ

**VISION:**

Fourth Day Leaders Embodying Jesus Christ

**To Register:** Please RSVP to [ladyandthestamps@gmail.com](mailto:ladyandthestamps@gmail.com)

[Click HERE for More Information and to Sign-Up for the Training.](#)

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

[Click HERE for Pilgrim Applications](#)

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

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### Calling all Pastors!

Darrell Joiner, our Community Spiritual Director, needs to know if you have attended a walk. If so, he needs your information.

Also, if you haven't filled out a Clergy Willing Servant Form in awhile, please do so again to update your information.

Click on the **BUTTON** below to access the form. Fill it out and send it to Darrell. Click [HERE](#) for Darrell's email address.

[Clergy Leadership Webpage for Emmaus/Chrysalis Team](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Community Gatherings

**August 4--Kingsland First Baptist Church 7 PM**

**September 8th--Brunswick First UMC 7 PM**

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 [David DuBois](#) for more information regarding what is required of a host church.

## Reflections from the Heart

## New School Year...New Opportunities to Minister!

Trisa Chancey  
GIWTE #2  
Table of Mary

Education is important to our entire society. Even if you don't have a child in school, education is important because, as Henry Peter Brougham said, "Education makes a people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern but impossible to enslave." And as H.G. Wells said, "'Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe.'" Education prepares people for the future, and we must be working to raise the leaders of our next generation.

Through our Walk to Emmaus we have felt the warmth of our Heavenly Father's embrace. Feeling safe in His arms allows us to risk sharing His love with others. Throughout the school year, there will be many opportunities to share God's love with those around us.

The church I attend recently held a clothing share for families who need school clothes and supplies. This is our third year with this ministry. It gets better organized each year, and it's amazing to see the needs that are met. Families who come to our church for the clothing share are treated with compassion and understanding. They have the opportunity to hear the Gospel message, and to have their needs for school clothes and supplies met. The clothing share opens the door for us to get to know people in our community and what their needs are. People learn that we want to bless them because God loves them, and we want them to know that love in a personal way. As the school year progresses, we will have additional opportunities to minister to these families as they return to our church for worship services, AWANA, and other church programs.

You don't have to wait for a special occasion to be God's hands and feet this school year. Every time God gives you the opportunity, encourage students to study and teachers to teach. Help them recognize the talents God has given them, and inspire them to use those talents for God's purposes. You have no idea what a difference a smile or a kind word can make in the day of a student or teacher.

James 3 reminds us of the great effect our words can have, like the movement of a ship's rudder changing the course of the ship. Proverbs 18:21 tells us that "the power of life and death is in the tongue." Proverbs 25:11 reminds us that "a word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver." Let's make a point of using our words to encourage others, especially students and teachers.

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### Church Reps Needed

To help ensure that all GIWTE community members are receiving information about our community, the Board is seeking a volunteer from each church in our community to facilitate information distribution from emails and Facebook notices among your church's Emmaus group.

Please contact [Lori Durham](#) if you are interested in volunteering to help spread news throughout the churches in our community.

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[GETTING TO KNOW THE MEMBERS OF OUR GIWTE COMMUNITY BETTER](#)

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

*In this section of the newsletter, I'm asking you to consider writing a short piece (about 300 words) about how you have experienced life in God's Hands.*

*I'll print stories from Community members each month. It's my hope that this discourse will allow us to get to know each other better and to rejoice in the many ways God has blessed us and kept us safe as we have trusted Him on our 4th day adventures.*

*To submit your story, please email me by clicking [HERE](#) .*

*Thank you!*

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## **In God's Hands**

Hannah Boggs  
GIWTE #25

I started this reflection by writing one word, "**Why?**" at the doctor's office. Then I was called in and left it blank pondering on it for a few weeks.

It's no secret I deal with congenital heart disease and was just in a car accident which resulted in injuries and the driver running off.

Why God?

After all, I have felt my circumstances and health have always been a magnet for bullies--even Christian ones which caused my faith to waiver even more.

So, why?

We're told in the Book of Job that Job was considered upright and blameless. He suffered with loss and disease. He demanded God show up to explain everything that was happening to him. Job's friends even alluded to the fact Job must have done something (sinned) to cause these terrible events. But, he remained faithful and never cursed God throughout his suffering. He was finally restored.

Sometimes when life gets tough, or maybe your life has always been a scary ride, one event after another, you may feel the same way.

You may even ask, "Is God real?" And, if he is, why has this all happened to me?

In my case, I don't know, just like I don't know why I was born with a major heart birth defect that has resulted in many major open heart surgeries as well as many other occurrences in my life. I can't answer that.

One day I may find out why. My faith waivers sometimes, I get down, but I always manage to come back to the Cross. I can say, He is all I have and looking and embracing the incarnation, the Cross, and the

Resurrection gives me hope. This world of suffering will one day be all gone. It will be just a tiny speck in time while our future home will be most glorious and eternal. This is where I place my hope and pray I always will.

CS Lewis wrote, "They say of some temporal suffering. 'No future bliss can make up for it.' Not knowing, Heaven, once attained, will work backwards and turn even that agony into glory."

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### **Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus Board Meeting**

The next GIE Board Meeting will be held August 19, at 9 AM at Brunswick FUMC, Miller Building.

Emmaus community members are always welcome at Golden Isles Emmaus Board Meetings, which are normally held the third Saturday of each month at the Miller Building behind Brunswick First United Methodist Church