



## GOLDEN ISLES WALK TO EMMAUS

### February 2018 Newsletter

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

The month of February is oftentimes associated with the topic of love. Valentine's Day is observed with gifts of flowers and candy. Cards and packages are adorned with red hearts to signify the expression of love. We are all in need of giving and receiving love as a basic human trait.

The word "love" appears 551 times in the Bible. In Matthew 22:37-39, Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

There is a song from the 80's that was titled, "To Know Him is to Love Him," and it seems so appropriate that this is applicable to our Lord and Savior. We in the Emmaus Community are centered in our love of Christ and the celebration of that fact. So much love is extended and received during the Walk, it is almost overwhelming.

Your Emmaus Board recently met for the first time this year. Plans are moving forward for the upcoming Walks in March. There are two scheduled training sessions in coming weeks. A few slots remain unfilled for our teams. I encourage you to show your servant's heart if called upon.

**Important dates are :**

March 3- Set up at the Lions Camp,

March 8-11- Walk 33 (Men)

March 15-18-Walk 34 (Women)

You can still submit Pilgrim applications for these Walks, but please do so as soon as possible.

Also, please plan to attend the various activities such as sendoff, candlelight, and closing. Love is always in plentiful supply during these times.

Continue to be in prayer for these Walks, both for the pilgrims and the teams.

Finally, plan to join together at the February Gathering this Friday, Feb. 2nd at Blackshear UMC.

DeColores!

Phil Scott

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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](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Community Gatherings

**February 2 at 7:00** -- Blackshear UMC. [Click HERE for directions](#) .

**March** -- No Gathering due to the Walks

**April** --College Place UMC Pio Party

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 at [david.dubois@westrock.com](mailto:david.dubois@westrock.com) for more information regarding what is required of a host church.

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Plans are in the works for a Community Gathering Picnic to be held in lieu of the May gathering.

Locations are being surveyed and reservations will be made. This will be an opportunity to get together with all the Emmaus Walk attendees in our community.

If you have any suggestions on a park to have the picnic, please contact Dave DuBois ( [dubois01@tds.net](mailto:dubois01@tds.net) ).

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## Welcome to our New GIWTE Board Members

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**Pat Rusch**  
**Angels Coordinator**

Pat attended the Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus #25, where she sat at the Table of Sarah.

She lives in Waynesville and attends Glynn Baptist Church in Thalman, GA.

She has been a Willing Servant, working as an Angel and in Agape and served as Head Angel.

She says, "It is a blessing to me to have made the Walk to Emmaus and then be a Willing Servant. I know the Pilgrims will receive blessings in their lives also. "

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**Jay Clark**  
**Worship Coordinator**

Jay attended the Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus #24.

He was born and raised in Charleston, SC, and currently lives in Kingsland with his wife, Penny, and their teenage son and daughter. They attend Kingsland First United Methodist Church.

Jay works at Lockheed Martin and is a fan of the South Carolina Gamecocks and Dallas Cowboys.

Nancy Rivers and Craig Miller  
**Team Selection and Prayer Vigil**

Nancy is a native of Glynn County and just retired from 28 years of teaching elementary and middle school science.

She has been married to John Rivers for 37 years, and they have been blessed with five children and ten grandchildren.

She is a member of St. Simons Community Church, where she and John lead the Prayer 5:17 Ministry.

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Craig Miller attended the Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus #12 and sat at the Table of Mark

He met his wife, Lisa, barely one month after his walk in 2009, and they were married July 11, 2011.

He has no children of his own but they share their home with three dogs: Duncan, a dapple mix and the twin Chiweenies, Charlie and Millie.

Lisa has two boys, Adam, a Brunswick Firefighter, and Matthew a Camden Sheriff's officer. There are no grandkids YET.

Their home church is St Simons United Methodist, but they have been visiting at The Chapel Grace Campus and have found a real connection.

His sobriety date is May 23, 1999, and he was reintroduced to a relationship with God a short time thereafter.

He spends his time away from work managing a recovery house called Starting Point Recovery House, which he co-founded in 2006.

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## Reflections from the Heart

### Love Conquers All

Trisa Chancey GIWTE #2  
Table of Mary

My daughter Mary's favorite Bible verse is John 3:16. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

She recites it a little differently, but the meaning is the same, so I don't worry about correcting her. My favorite Bible verse is Jeremiah 29:11. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "They are plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a future and a hope."

Another version begins, "I know the thoughts I think toward you..."  
Knowing God loves me, and has a plan for me, provides me great comfort and peace.

Valentine's Day is, of course, a day set aside to remind people they are loved. Mary and I recently attended a women's conference together. One of the songs we learned there had the chorus, "When I thought I'd lost me, you knew where I left me. You reintroduced me to your love."

As Valentine's Day approaches, try to be aware of people in your circle of influence who are struggling. They may need you to be God's hands and feet, to reintroduce them to His love.

And if you yourself are struggling, reach out to Christian friends around you. We have a terrible habit of telling each other we are "fine," when in truth we are not. We cannot comfort each other when we are unaware of the need.

Remember that God's perfect love drives out fear. God provides us with the tools we need to express His love, mercy, and grace to each other.

His love does conquer all!

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[Click HERE for the Online Prayer Vigil Sign-up Pages](#)

As a first entry to the newsletter as Prayer Vigil Chair, I would like to ask all of you to think back to your walk and try to remember how you felt when you were told about the 72-hour Prayer Vigil.

How people all over our community had voluntarily signed up to pray for you every minute of every hour of the entire 72 hours. And how humbling that felt. And let's not forget the other Emmaus communities around the country and the world who had done the same, as well as prisoners throughout the Kairos ministry.

Wow, that's big!

This brings me to my plea.

Please click on the button above to go to the Prayer Vigil List and find a time where you can commit to be with the Lord in prayer for the pilgrims of Walks #33 and #34.

There are plenty of time slots available.

DeColores!  
Craig Miller  
GIWTE #12  
Table of Mark

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## A Little Help on Sponsorship Training

I hope everyone is really excited about the upcoming walks.

One of the hardest things for a sponsor to do is request letters from family and close friends who have not been on the walk. You're not always sure what to tell/explain to them about what you need.

Below is a sample letter you can e-mail, text, use as a talking point if you call, or even snail mail.

Hope it helps!

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Dear Family and Friends of (Pilgrim's Name),

(Pilgrim Name) will be attending the "Walk to Emmaus" on (Date) The Emmaus Walk is a spiritual weekend of renewal filled with many beautiful gifts and surprises. One such surprise is the mail that persons attending receive from their loved ones and friends.

As sponsors, we are responsible for contacting family and close friends and asking them to send a note or letter to (Pilgrim Name) so s/he will receive it during this weekend. This letter is an opportunity for you to express your appreciation of what your relationship with him/her has meant and still means to you. You might want to recall some humorous event or some happening that has been special to the two of you. This is a letter of love (agape) and WILL BE READ BY THE PERSON TO WHOM YOU WRITE.

Would you help make (Pilgrim Name)'s "Walk to Emmaus special by doing the following:

1. Write a letter to or get a card and sign it.
2. Put it in an envelope and seal it.
3. Write his/her name, but NOT YOURS, on the envelope where you would normally place the sending address
4. Write in the return address (upper left corner) either "family" or "friend", but not your name.
5. Put the envelope in a larger envelope and mail it to me by (Date) or hand deliver it to me by (Date) so I can get it to the proper place in time.

This should be a COMPLETE SURPRISE to (Pilgrim Name), so please help make it special by keeping this a secret until it's all over.

With Thanks!

Sponsor Name  
Sponsor Address  
Sponsor Phone Number

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I hope this helps – it is from the Sponsorship Training material. Of course, this is just a guideline, so if you want to "tweak" it some, feel free to.

DeColores,  
Cindy Jones  
Sponsorship Training

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### AGAPE NEEDED!

If we each bring a little, that little becomes a lot. Bring these to the next gathering or training date.

We need a few items for the upcoming walks:

Spiral bound notebooks  
Colored pocket folders (red, orange, yellow, green, blue & purple)

Construction paper (various colors)  
Individual boxes of tissues  
Colored markers  
Colored sharpies.

Don't forget to make table and oven agape to bring to send off!!

Thank you for your help!

Angela Dunn  
Agape Chair

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### **The Book Table Needs Your Donations!**

Hello friends!

As we prepare for the upcoming walks, I am reminded of the opportunities that I have had to grow in wisdom and truth since my walk in 1996.

The Grow Through Study talk testifies to the importance of spiritual growth and explores ways that we can learn and grow if we only have the willingness to learn, a quiet place to study, the right tools, and an open mind.

You have the opportunity to provide others with some tools for spiritual growth that they can take home after the walks.

Peruse your book and study collections for very gently used items.

Be careful that the content is appropriate for all Christians. Then bring your treasures to the gathering or to the one of the weekend events like send-off.

Your book or study guide may be a great tool to help someone grow spiritually or provide some good food for thought.

DeColores!  
Pam Herndon

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### **Share the Love: Become a Willing Servant**

Let's relive some of your favorite "Walk to Emmaus" memories.

Do you remember the fellowship?  
New friends?  
Candlelight?  
Meals (and those snacks!)?

The skits?  
The chapel?  
Prayer time?  
Communion?  
Dying moments?  
The letters?  
And all the love that surrounded everything?

How would you like to re-live those memories and share the love YOU felt during that weekend with others?

You can if you become a "Willing Servant" for the Pilgrims who will be on future Walks.

It takes MANY willing servants to make the "Walk to Emmaus" the experience it is for pilgrims. By being a willing servant, you get the opportunity to witness those special moments from a different perspective while at the same time, remembering your own journey. You get to "share the love" and help make this a memorable experience for the Pilgrims on their walk. That old saying is true – it is better to give than receive. When you work on a Walk, you receive so much. Those of you that have worked a walk know what I'm talking about!!

So, how do you become a "Willing Servant"?

Easy, fill out and turn in a Willing Servant form.

Click [HERE](#) to access the online Willing Servant form to fill out.

There are also forms available at the Gatherings each month.

If you have filled out a form in the past, how long ago was it that you turned it in?

The forms are purged every few years to keep our demographic information up to date. So even if you have recently worked a walk, ALL the forms are purged every few years.

The bottom line is, if you have NOT filled out a new form in the last 3-5 years ----- FILL OUT A WILLING SERVANT FORM.

If you cannot remember when you last filled out a form --- FILL OUT A FORM.

Also, if you have recently filled out a form and have not been called to work on a walk and would like to, feel free to speak up and let someone know.

Also, you can let any of the Emmaus Board Members or the Lay Directors for the upcoming Walks know, and they will get your name to the person who needs it.

We even still have a need for a few more background workers on the upcoming walks in March!

Share the Love – become a Willing Servant.

Now, when did I last fill out a form?

DeColores,

Cindy Jones  
Sponsorship Training

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

GIE Board Meeting February 17, 9 AM Brunswick FUMC.

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