



GOLDEN ISLES WALK TO EMMAUS

November 2018 Newsletter

From the Desk of the Community Lay Director:

The term theophany is defined as a visible manifestation to humankind of God. Recently, the question was raised before a Sunday school class, "When have you experienced a theophany in your daily life." The answer to this question can be very complex or quite simple. We see manifest evidence of God in the birth of children and grandchildren. The beauty of nature stirs strong emotions and reminds us of God's creation. We have all experienced the powerful effects of Candlelight during the Walk to Emmaus. Many pilgrims have commented that heaven must be just like Candlelight.

The Fall Walks were wonderful, energized and invigorating for our Golden Isles Community. There was a tremendous turnout for the Pio Party as new members were welcomed into the Community. We are always in need of Willing Servants, and we now have new groups to serve on future Walks.

As we enter November, our minds turn toward Thanksgiving. We look forward to giving thanks with family, friends and neighbors. As we share in communion, we respond that, "It is right to give our thanks and praise." 1 Thessalonians 5:18 instructs us to "give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." It is completely appropriate for the Golden Isles Community to be thankful for the many blessings we have received this year.

The recent hurricane has devastated a large area in Florida and Georgia. We must keep our brothers and sisters there in our prayers during this prolonged, difficult time. Many local churches and organizations are involved in assisting those in that area. Members of our community have traveled to help in any way necessary, and donations, both monetary and in materials have been made. It is truly a beautiful thing to see people come together for good in trying times.

Our next Gathering will be on November 2nd at Blackshear FUMC. Think of someone who has not been to a Gathering in a while, or has not been active in the Community. Give them a call or visit with them and invite them to join in the fellowship, worship, music, and praise.

Thank you for supporting our Community .

De Colores!

Phil Scott

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

[Click HERE for Pilgrim Applications](#)

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

ATTENTION MUSICIANS:

If you are interested in sharing your musical gifts at Community Gatherings or Walks, please contact Jim Hitt, the Music Board Rep, at: (912) 614-4701.

Upcoming Events

Community Gatherings:

Friday, November 2nd--7:00 p.m. Blackshear FUMC

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.

Dates for the 2019 Spring Walks

Men's Walk #37 will be held March 7-10 .

John Rivers is the Lay Director.

Women's Walk #38 will be held March 14-17.

Vickie McDonald is the Lay Director

Setup for the Walks will be on Saturday, 3/2.

Please pray for the up-coming walks, the Background and Conference Room Teams, and the Pilgrims who will attend.

Prayerfully consider serving on the Walks. If you wish to serve the walks and haven't received a call by March, please let one of the Board Members or Lay Directors know.

There is ALWAYS a need for Willing Servants.

[Click Here for the Willing Servant Form](#)

Reflections from the Heart

Thanksgiving

Trisa Chancey
GIWTE #2
Table of Mary

What a difference a year makes! November 29 marks the one-year anniversary of my husband Keith's kidney and pancreas transplant. The difference in his health is phenomenal and a true miracle. Keith's transplants brought me new insight to the work God does in each Christian when He gives us a new heart.

Ezekiel 36:26 says that God will “remove our heart of stone and give us a heart of flesh.” That’s a different sort of transplant than the ones Keith received. Right now Keith is walking around with two pancreases and three kidneys in his body. Because “transplant” means taking from one person and putting into another person. The doctors explained that removal of organs is more traumatic to the body than adding organs, so they opened Keith up and shifted his innards around to make space for the new-to-him organs. We are incredibly thankful for the gift of life that his organ donor provided.

I think of things that cause a “heart of stone.” I don’t think we’re born with it. I think life’s experiences harden our hearts as a measure of self-protection. We feel strong when we hold onto our hurt and anger. We feel strong when we use harsh words to put others down. We feel strong when someone hurts us and we return the hurt. And each of those feats of strength harden our hearts that much more.

But when we are truly strong is when we admit our weakness. When we come to Christ with the broken pieces of our lives, and place our hard and broken hearts in His hands. Our hearts, given to Him, become soft and malleable. Christ is then able to work through us to infuse the world with his gentleness, grace, mercy, and peace. It is in allowing Christ to work through our hurts that we are given opportunities to minister to others. Christ provides us with hope, so we can pass that hope along.

This month find reasons to be thankful. Invest much time in prayer. Look for people who are discouraged and lift them up. Spread words of life-enhancing encouragement. We have no way of knowing the eternal effects of our prayers and actions. But we can be assured that the ripples will be felt for generations. What a scary, yet comforting thought!

Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus Board Meeting

The next GIWTE Board Meeting will be held on December 8th at 9 A.M.

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