



August 2020 Newsletter



Dear Emmaus Community,

We have officially survived the month of July, with its predictable summer death and scorching temperatures. Now that August has arrived, it is safe to say that none of us can predict what lies ahead for the next 31 days. Are we even surprised that this first weekend of the month has already kicked off with hurricane warnings for a storm named Isaias, predicted to visit the Florida coast, before it skirts along the coasts of Georgia and the Carolinas.

When life as we knew it took a severe turn in March, I find myself in a perpetual state of repentance for all of those days I took the predictable for granted. I miss the predictability of my own life where I actually followed a weekly schedule, with my favorite events written in on my calendar. I miss celebrating graduations, birthdays, and anniversaries in person. I really miss hugs that are so strong, you can feel each other's heartbeat..

As the Emmaus Board came together last Saturday (in person!) we began working on strategies that will allow us to safely gather together again as we celebrate the

fellowship among The Body of Christ. Of course, safety and well-being have been at the forefront of every decision, and we believe the time has come to take some steps in the right direction. The plan is as follows:

*Move the Gatherings for September, October, and November from Friday evenings to Saturday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The specific parking lot for each Gathering will be announced after the Board meets in August, but the location for each will be:

September - Blackshear

October - Darien Waterfront

November - Brunswick

*We will follow a tailgate format, with each family bringing their own picnic, beverage, and outdoor chairs.

*There will be an optional "community dessert table" for folks who want to bring a favorite dessert to share with others. Of course, we ask that each dessert be individually pre-wrapped, in order to eliminate the possibility of any cross-contamination.

*Have a Music Team lead us in worship.

*Have a Fourth Day speaker.

*The Spiritual Team will provide disposable, pre-wrapped Communion cups, with wafers included. The Spiritual Team will also lead Communion for us, but we will celebrate this holy rite at our individual vehicles or chairs.

*Encourage Reunion Groups to make colorful signs or matching t-shirts and park their vehicles in the same area. (Note: there may actually be a door prize for the most creative display.)

*Invite potential Pilgrims to follow you to Gatherings, and have them park next to your vehicle.

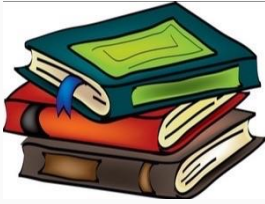
It is our prayer that we will be able to break bread together, when it is time for our annual Christmas Gathering in December. In the meantime, we are hoping you will be ready, willing, and able to join us at the three Gatherings that are planned.

Please understand that this is a work in progress. We are open to viable suggestions, as we continue to move together in the months ahead. More than ever, the Board members would appreciate your prayer support and encouragement, as we attempt to rebuild the wall around this amazing Community. Please let us hear from you.

“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 3:14)

De Colores,
Nancy Rivers, Board Chair
Coastal Georgia Walk to Emmaus #69
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Longing for Normalcy

Patsy Clairmont is a Christian speaker and author. Many years ago she wrote a book entitled “*Normal is Just a Setting on Your Dryer.*” Today I have a “normal” setting on my washing machine, but not my dryer. But Patsy Clairmont’s point remains the same. In life there is no such thing as “normal.” There are things we grow accustomed to, outcomes we expect for our actions. But getting used to things doesn’t make them “normal.”

Jamie Kimmett sings “*Prize Worth Fighting For.*” Part of the lyrics include:

*When every day is just another struggle
And every choice is an act of war
Gotta pray, gotta press on
To the prize worth fighting for*

The “prize worth fighting for” is the hope and peace that can be found in faith in Jesus Christ. I say “can be found” because even when Jesus is our center the world’s turmoil can rock our boat. But Jesus promises to ride out life’s storms with us. Scott Krippayne sings “*Sometimes He Calms the Storm,*” which includes the line “*Sometimes He calms the storm, and other times He calms His child.*”

School is getting ready to start up. COVID-19 still has many unanswered questions. Teachers and parents are headed into uncharted territory, and doing their best to help children in their care feel loved and safe in this uncertain world. I encourage you to practice the thought pattern I saw expressed on Facebook: When a friend says they’re sending their kids back to school... “Man, I’m so proud of you! I know it wasn’t easy making that decision.” When a friend says they are virtual learning... “Man, I’m so proud of you! I

know it wasn't easy making that decision." When a friend says they are homeschooling their kids: "Man, I'm so proud of you! I know it wasn't easy making that decision."

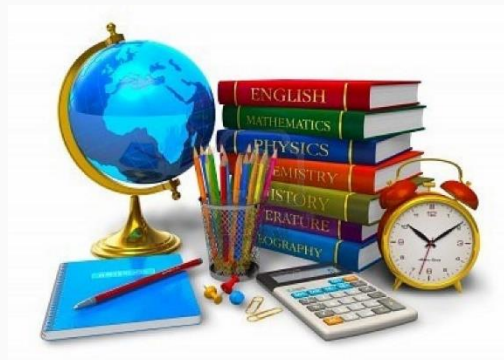
Galatians 5:22-23 lists the Fruit of the Spirit: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Let's see to it that we allow the Spirit to exhibit those traits in us. And let's follow the advice of *Hebrews 4:16 (King James Version): "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."*

DeColores,

Trisa Chancey

Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus #2

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SPRING WALKS 2021

MEN'S WALK #39 Spring 2021 TBA
Lay Director Phil Scott

WOMEN'S WALK #40 Spring 2021 TBA
Lay Director Lori Durham

TRAINING			DATES:		TBA
SETUP	DATE	FOR	LION'S	CAMP:	TBA

Background Servants only need to be at 1st & 3rd meetings. Training dates begin at 8:30am with food and fellowship, then training begins at 9:00am.

The Fall Walks have been postponed until Spring 2021 due to the Coronavirus. We are still accepting applications. Pay love forward and sponsor a pilgrim! Please continue to pray for the upcoming walks. Pray for a loving unity that only God can give and that no one can break. Pray that our hearts will be truly faithful, available and teachable. With our minds and hearts focused on God, He can and will do great things during our team preparation and the upcoming walks!

Matthew 19:26 But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

We would like to challenge ALL Reunion Groups to pray and find a Pilgrim to sponsor! Sponsors...please stay in touch with your pilgrims through these upcoming months and pray for them. Reach out to them and let them know you are here for them.
De Colores!



Emmaus Gatherings

The year 2020 has certainly been an unusual time in our nation, and the Body of Christ is not exempt. Corona Virus is impacting us all in ways we never would have imagined, and we have all had to adapt to new ways of living life since last March. Our Emmaus community has been faced

with unprecedented issues as we have moved through the year. One of the issues to deal with has been how we as a community should conduct monthly gatherings. Our gatherings are most important as they create the time and place monthly for us to fellowship and build relationships with one another. God's Word tells us that we are not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. Knowing this, we as a board have, I believe, heard a really cool idea from God as to how we should do monthly gatherings in the midst of a pandemic. **So..., (drum roll please) on September 12, in Blackshear, we will have the first of our Tailgate style gatherings. Each member of the Golden Isles Emmaus Community is invited to come to Blackshear at 4:00 pm, (exact location to be announced on the FB page later) bring a tailgate style meal, some lounge chairs and some expectations, and enjoy an afternoon of "socially-distanced" outdoor fellowship. The specifics of how we handle communion, rules for moving about, etc..., are yet to be determined, but it will be fun figuring out together. Future gatherings are in the works for October and December and will be announced later and certainly in Blackshear at the September gathering.**

Andy Amason
GIWTE Gatherings Guy
Coastal Ga Walk to Emmaus #46
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[Click HERE For Information To Become A Sponsor](#)

[Click HERE For Pilgrim Applications](#)

[Click HERE For Willing Servant Form](#)

[Click HERE For The Upper Room Walk To Emmaus Website](#)

[Click HERE for The Ministry Manager.Org Website](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

COMMUNITY

GATHERINGS:

PICNIC AND GATHERINGS ARE POSTPONED FOR AUGUST.

However, during September, October, and November, we will plan outdoor gatherings on a Saturday, using a tailgating format. Each family is asked to come to an outdoor location (locations are currently being selected), park your vehicle in a designated area, and enjoy a picnic, worship music, and a Fourth Day speaker from your own chairs set up near your vehicle. Please also remember to invite guests or Pilgrims you have sponsored, and have them park near your vehicle. We will also be ordering prepackaged Communion juice and wafers, so that we can still share this Holy Sacrament together! Hopefully by December we will be able to celebrate our Christmas gathering at an indoor location!

SEPTEMBER 12th BLACKSHEAR 4PM
FIRST EVER TAILGATING STYLE GATHERING
REUNION GROUPS TRY TO SIT NEAR ONE ANOTHER AND
PRESENT A POSTER! BEST POSTER REPRESENTING THEIR
REUNION GROUP GETS THEIR PICTURE IN SEPTEMBER'S NEWSLETTER!!!!

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 [Andy Amason](#) at 912-270-7790 for more information regarding what is required of a host church. If you are interested in sharing your musical gifts at Community Gatherings or Walks, please contact [Jim Hitt](#) at 912-614-4701.



[REUNION GROUPS](#)

I wanted to take this opportunity to reach out to all Reunion Groups about our Community's next Gathering, September 12th, Blackshear Georgia. The Gathering will be a “TAILGATE” style. It would be nice to assemble your vehicles as a Reunion Group. Feel free to decorate and show the true Emmaus Spirit of your groups nickname.

This will be a fine time to see those within the community you have not seen in a while. We can mix and mingle but social distancing is encouraged. Additionally, feel free to bring prospective Pilgrims as well as your own vittles to avoid cross contamination. We will have parking lot style praise and worship, a Fourth Day talk, and most importantly Communion.

DeColores,
Jimmy Johnson
GIWTE Reunion Groups Head



THE NEXT GIWTE BOARD MEETING WILL BE:

AUGUST 19th AT 9AM***

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:

[First United Methodist Church](#)

[1400 Norwich Street](#)

[Brunswick, GA 31520](#)

*****DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS WE WILL BE MEETING IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AT FUMC TO GIVE US AMPLE SOCIAL DISTANCING DURING THE MEETING.**
