



GOLDEN ISLES

EMMAUS

May 2024 Newsletter



Board Chair Letter

They say April showers bring May flowers and with all the rain we have had in April, surely God will bless us with those flowers. As we step into spring, in all its beauty and rolling temperatures this means we have to be ready for anything and with God's mercy we will be.

I have been sharing excerpts from Sustaining the Spirit book over the last few newsletters. This month I was preparing this message away from home. I found the following from the Golden Triangle Emmaus Community (Beaumont, TX) November-December 2008 Newsletter and thought this was perfect for our newsletter this month.

The purpose of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and places of work; and to renew the church through Christian Leadership.

Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

So the question is how do we know if we have a successful Emmaus Community? Is it by the number of people who attend our gatherings? Or is it by how many walks we plan each year? Or how many pilgrims names we add to our book?

We may never see the fruits of our labor. Emmaus is truly Kingdom work. It is an investment in other churches and people we don't even know. The success of the Emmaus Community is determined in the willingness of it's servants to do the work God has called them to do. Emmaus is only one of the many ministries that we are able to bring others to a deeper relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

The concept of Emmaus is built on God's Grace coupled with Christian Action. When this is shared with others the body of Christ is renewed and strengthened.

We had visitors attend our April Gathering from the Florida Crown Emmaus Community (Angela & Jared Dunn had met them when attending a Town Hall meeting for their community). They enjoyed our fellowship as we did theirs. They shared they have many servants but very low numbers of pilgrim applications for a walk.

At our April Board meeting, we had further discussions about the health and viability of our community. Part of the discussion was to reach out to both the Florida Crown and Coastal Georgia Emmaus communities to attend their next board meeting to have conversations and prayer if working with one or both communities might be a segway to restoring health to our Emmaus community.

One of our Board members posted on Facebook - Pray for our Emmaus community. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes an Emmaus Village to keep our community alive and thriving.

I end this month's newsletter message with the Prayer to the Holy Spirit –

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in us the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit, and we shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Oh God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit
we may be truly wise
and ever enjoy your consolations.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

De Colores, Anne Wojcik

DID YOU KNOW...
EMMAUS IS ECUMENICAL!!!

Ecumenical is defined as: a body of Christians of, relating to, or representing the whole of a body of churches OR promoting or tending toward worldwide Christian unity or cooperation



Lies We Believe

“If you obey God your life will be comfortable.” Jesus obeyed God perfectly. Would you call His life “comfortable?”

“If you once felt close to God and now you don’t, He’s not the one that moved.” All relationships ebb and flow. We all cherish our mountaintop experiences. But the greatest growth happens in the valleys. Once we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit lives within us. It’s not possible to get any closer than that. We can’t rest our faith on the flimsy foundation of our feelings.

“You can’t get mad at God.” (Or at least you shouldn’t.) You most certainly can! And many people do. Job got mad at God. The psalmist got mad at God. I have gotten mad at God myself. When we authentically share our emotions with God we provide Him the opportunity to teach us how to manage our emotions in healthy ways. And as we manage our emotions in healthy ways we provide the people around us with the chance to learn the same skill.

“There are no miracles nowadays.” Miracles abound. The birth of every single child is a miracle. That comfort can be found in a word or a hug is a miracle. The way a seed can die and be planted and come back to life is a miracle. If you aren’t seeing miracles, you aren’t looking for them.

“God helps those who help themselves.” God helps those who *cannot* help themselves! And He gives you and me the chance to be His hands and feet, making those miracles happen.

“If people with mental illness had enough faith they could get well without medication.” Mental illness can be compared to diabetes, high blood pressure, and a host of other medical conditions. If you wouldn’t expect a diabetic to do without insulin or someone with high blood pressure to do without their medicine, don’t expect someone who is mentally ill to do without their medicine.

“If people aren’t healed it’s due to their own lack of faith.” What about Paul? He asked for freedom from a “thorn in the flesh” and the only response he got from God was “My grace is sufficient for you.” What about the crippled man who was lowered through the roof to Jesus by his friends. It was because of the friend’s faith that Jesus healed the man!

“Someone else will do it.” How many of us thought “someone else” would sign up to help with our spring Walks? The Walks that were subsequently cancelled due to lack of Willing Servants? How often do we think that “someone else” will

minister to that homeless person, speak to that lonely person, return the driver's license that the person ahead of you left at the cash register?

I would like to remind you that as each of us does what Christ is counting on us to do and supports others in what Christ has called them to do, we can't help but become Better Together. *How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!* Psalm 133:1.

DeColores, Emmaus Family. I hope to see you all soon.

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



NEWS FROM YOUR 2024 MUSIC DIRECTOR

NEWS FROM YOUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

Hi. Brian Vigue here, Golden Isles Walk to Emmaus Walk #3, Table of Matthew.

In the future, I would like to share the honor of leading worship to our community during our monthly gatherings. I am seeking volunteers that are willing to share the stage with me and assist me in leading our singing. I think it would be great to have

different singers each month. I want to share that feeling of having God work through you to lead in worshipping our King. It truly is an amazing feeling.

Don't worry, if you are nervous, I am not asking for a solo performance. Everyone is singing so you don't need to be another Whitney Houston, Taylor Swift, or even Neil Diamond. I'll be right there by your side singing too. I just want to share that amazing feeling with others. If you are interested, please let me know.

Also, we are still in need of women musicians. As I stated before, I am happy to teach guitar playing so you can be ready to lead at monthly gatherings and walks. If you are interested and you have a guitar, please let me know.

If you have any questions or I can do anything for you, please contact me at bikerbrian@tds.net or 904-894-6753.

I look forward to serving with you in the future.... DeColores!

Brian

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

May 3rd, 2024 @ 7pm

St. Simons United Methodist Church
624 Ocean Blvd
St. Simons Island, Ga 31522

June 1, 2024 @ 7pm

Southeast Community Church
790 May St
Kingsland, Ga 31548

July 2024

No Meeting

August 02, 2024 @ 7pm

TBD

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

Melissa Bender Moreno at mfbmoreno@gmail.com 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

Brian Vigue at [904-894-6753](tel:904-894-6753) or bikerbrian@tds.net.



There have been a few people say that they would like to connect with a reunion group. I am working on getting people connected. If you are interested in going to a reunion group or help starting a new reunion group, please contact Connie Eastwood at giwtereuniongroup@gmail.com

Please send me an email with days and times of availability.

Thank you!

Connie

Reunion Group Chair

[Click HERE for GIWTE Website](#)

[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](#)



Find us online on [Facebook!](#)

