

Emmaus of the Midlands Messenger

New Members of the Emmaus Board of Directors

The new members of the Emmaus Board are

<i>Name</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>City</i>
Carson Chitty	Chapin UMC	Chapin
Bernie Gathers	Wesley Memorial UMC	Columbia
Leonard May	Wightman UMC	Prosperity
Bob Pettus	Lexington UMC	Lexington
Greg Prewitt	Windsor UMC	Columbia

Please welcome these five new members to the Board as they begin their 3-year terms.

Financial Report as of 14 May 2007:

Beginning Balance:	\$15,687.17
Income:	\$718.00
Expenses:	\$5,839.10
Ending Balance:	\$10,556.76

McLemore at vickijerry1@juno.com or 803-353-1014.

If you have any questions, please contact

John Chitty (JChitty@iso.com)
803-732-7021

Doris Crocker (doriscrocker@bellsouth.net)
803-932-0366

Rejoice! We are at it again!!!

After the highly successful Chrysalis flights we held at the beginning of the year we have decided to hold more flights before the teens get back to school. They will be held at Wightman UMC in Prosperity. The boys' flight will be July 26-29, the girls' flight August 9-12. Registration fee is \$70 and sponsor forms are available at www.midlandsemmaus.com. Please help us get the 30 young people that will make up a full flight by encouraging any youth in your church who have completed 9th grade to come and have a special time of fun, faith building and fellowship. They will build relationships just as they do at Salkehatchie

We would also like you to help us with prayer by signing up for the 48 hour prayer vigil that is on-line, by giving agape gifts and by sponsoring a meal. You can sponsor a meal by providing money to buy food or better still, you can come to Wightman UMC, bring the food and help prepare it. That way you get to meet the young people and receive their thanks as well as ours. The menu is below and we would like you to please stick to the menu so we do not get two or more meals that are the same. You can sign up for a meal by contacting Vickie

Day 1

Breakfast – Individual boxes of cereal, warm Danish, fresh fruit salad, juice

Lunch – Half a huge baked potato, sour cream, butter, grated cheese, bacon bits, broccoli florets, green salad, Italian and ranch dressings, apples, grapes, rice crispy treats

Dinner – Stouffers lasagna, garlic bread, salad, cake squares, fresh strawberries and cool whip

Day 2

Breakfast – Sausage, cheese and egg casserole, grits, biscuits, fresh fruit, juice

Lunch – hamburgers with trimmings, small packets of chips, fresh fruit, choc chip cookies

Candlelight Dinner – Baked chicken breast, green beans, rice, rolls, choc éclair layer cake

Day 3

Breakfast – 2 bacon strips, hash browns, grits, French toast fingers, fruit

Lunch – Assorted breads, slices of ham, turkey and cheese. Lettuce, tomatoes, onions. Fruit.

After candlelight – cream puffs, small tarts, fresh strawberries, cake squares, melted choc, sparkling non alcoholic wine.

Rev Doris Crocker, Chrysalis



My Chrysalis Experience

Hi I am Ashlyn Ruczko

I attended Chrysalis of the Midlands Flight # 2 and Sat at the Table of "Heaven's Seven".

It all started when my close friend, Ashley Weathers, wanted me to go with her on a "weekend church retreat" called "Chrysalis of the Midlands" that her mom was making her go on. As partners in crime, I figured it wouldn't be too bad since I would have Ashley to keep me company but I was not thrilled AT ALL.

Our mothers conversed and my mom told me I could make the decision on whether or not I wanted to go... and I was set on NOT going. However; little did I know, the Lord and my mom had already made the decision for me.

I found myself in the car, with my bags packed, on the way to Lexington Methodist Church with my sponsor, Mrs. Sharon Allen.

Ashley and I were determined to prove our mothers wrong about this "good experience" and we desperately wanted to tell our mothers "I told you so" when they came to pick us up. Neither of us were thrilled that we were spending a three day weekend, Saturday through Monday, not to mention, Monday being a school holiday, at a church retreat our mom's signed us up for.

I guess it was safe to say that I had the worst possible attitude and I didn't exactly have an open mind about Chrysalis.

After getting settled in and saying good-bye to our sponsors, there was an "Ice-Breaker" exercise where the girls got to know each other. It was here, where I found that I was not alone. After talking to a few girls, I found that there were many girls who had the same negative attitude as I did. As the hours came and went, so did different speakers who talked about topics that actually pertained to us, teenage girls.

That was one awesome thing about the talks because they were all relevant to a teenage girl's life, which was a refreshing change from the usual preaching by adults on how "our generation" should behave or act. Real life issues and topics that usually were swept under the rug or merely ignored were addressed at

Chrysalis. There were girls from all different backgrounds and walks of life.

I could tell the Lord was really with us that weekend because I was placed in an amazing table group. I was able to talk about issues I was unsure of or had been struggling with, with girls who were my age and had been through them already.

There was a special moment during Chrysalis when Ashley and I were praying in the sanctuary one night, and we both looked at each other and realized that our moms were unfortunately right, yet again.

They were wrong about one aspect though. This was not a "good experience", this was a "life changing experience". And I am so grateful that I was able to become a member of the Chrysalis community.

I have made Christian friends with girls my age who live near here, so we are able to keep in close contact.

I still get together with some of my friends and go shopping or out to eat, whom I would have never met if it weren't for Chrysalis. I have made life-long friends who I know will keep me in check and we are there for each other in times of need.

From the ABUNDANCE of food and laughter, to the abundance of love and hope, Chrysalis is filled with positive and encouraging moments.

I had an awesome opportunity to sponsor my "Special Friend" Luke Lovelace for this past Boys Chrysalis. After bugging him and trying to reiterate on how amazing this experience was for me, Luke reluctantly agreed to go to Chrysalis.

Being able to sponsor Luke was awesome because I was able to share my thoughts and feelings with someone who had been through Chrysalis just as I had. It was such a rewarding feeling when Luke wrote me a letter telling me how Chrysalis changed his life too.

One of the best parts of Chrysalis and what sets it apart from all of the other church retreats is that there are so many surprises.

Chrysalis is all about taking a chance. Many of you, who may be thinking about attending

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Chrysalis, probably have your doubts. As I said earlier, I sure did. But I am an advocate about how amazing this experience really is.

It has helped shape my life and I know if the Lord could take a stubborn, hard-headed girl like me and change me into enthusiast... He can do the same for you.

Fly with Christ.

Emmaus of the Midlands Board of Directors for 2007

Ret Rev. Jerry Watson – Spiritual Director
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Rev. Dickie Knight – Asst. Spiritual Director
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Pam Rankin – Kitchen Coordinator
803-983-2382 pamrankin@ftc-i.net

Ed Hynson – Kitchen Coordinator
803-783-4144 ejhynson@bellsouth.net

Bernie Gathers – Transportation/Public Relations
803-787-4269 JGathers@aol.com

Carson Chitty – Prayer Vigil/Seed Agape
803-732-7021 CChitty@Firstsouthbancorp.com

Praises:

Gene Aiken has been appointed as the new

Youth Director for St. Johns UMC, Aiken
Bill & Brenda Aiken recently celebrated their
38th wedding anniversary
Mitzi Shipman just celebrated her birthday
("about 49")

Prayer Requests:

Heather McCoy (granddaughter of Beasley &
Margaret Newman
Crystal Newman, (daughter in law of Beasley
and Margaret Newman)
Cliff Corbett (St Petersburg, FL)
Mildred Bailey
Margaret Carter
Margie McGee
Janet Horton
Laura Davis, Frank Davis, & Olive Wilson
Ashlyn Kinard

Announcements:

Rehoboth UMC Vacation Bible School, June 24
– 29, 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Windsor UMC welcomes Tony and Mary Rowell
in June

Trinity UMC (West Columbia) Youth will be
having a car wash in conjunction with WHMK
on June 23rd. Contact John Denny @
dennytribe@hotmail.com if you are interested
in helping or participating.

Baptisms:

Adam Robert Lavelle (Virginia Wingard UMC,
May 6, grandson of Charles & Mitzi Shipman)

**Emmaus of the Midlands
P.O. Box 25165
Columbia, SC 29224-5165**

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If you receive this newsletter and have an e-mail address, please consider using the Emmaus Web site to read the monthly newsletter. This will reduce the cost of printing and mailing. If you are willing to help in this way, e-mail furset@bellsouth.net

Upcoming Events (2007)

June 22:	Gathering @ Lexington UMC
July 26-29	Chrysalis Boy's Flight # 3 – Wightman UMC
August 9-12	Chrysalis Girl's Flight # 3 - Wightman UMC
August 17-18	Emmaus Team Training for Walk #31
September 20-23	Emmaus Men's Walk #31
October 11-14,	Emmaus Women's Walk # 31
December 13	Christmas Gathering at Camp Agape

Lexington UMC 309 East Main Street Lexington, SC 29072

From I-20, take the US 1 exit (exit 58) toward Lexington. The church is on the left, at the top of the hill, approximately 2.4 miles from I-20.

Use the Fort Street entrance, which is just past the church and park in the lot to the right (the main church sign is in front of the lot)..