

# Emmaus of the Midlands Messenger

August 2008

## What Can I Do?

*Edna Bowers, EOM #25, Table of Mary*

I am just one person. I often ask myself what one person can do to help. Help what, you may ask. Let me explain.

I am first and foremost a Christian. I worship at a United Methodist church. I went on the Walk to Emmaus. I love working with youth and I love doing for others. I believe in the Salkehatchie program and will do whatever I can to contribute time, money and efforts toward it. I work for a food bank. What can I do to help combine these all together?

During the first four months of 2008, Harvest Hope Food Bank experienced a drastic increase in the number of people coming to us for assistance. As an organization, we saw this as an opportunity to increase our distribution. How we were going to do this though was the challenge. I went to my boss, Denise Holland (a member of Platt Springs UMC who has not attended the Walk to Emmaus but we are working on that), and talked to her about Salkehatchie. I knew that she was well aware of the camp since that is how I met her in the first place; her children attended the camp I worked with. She had taken food to give to the homeowners at the camps that her children worked but we decided we wanted to do this on a grander scale.

So we decided to provide a box of food for each person living in the homes that the Salkehatchie campers worked on in the 20 counties that Harvest Hope distributes to. I had the privilege of being the one to coordinate and deliver the boxes. I did not do this by myself. I had people helping to collect, sort and pack the food. Between the first of June and the end of July, we provide 350 boxes of food along with produce, bread and sweets to the Salkehatchie camps. In some cases, I felt like Santa Claus because the food was delivered to the camps and the campers did not see us. In other cases, the food was delivered to the campers and they handed to the homeowners. In a couple of other rare occasions, I was blessed to be able to take the food to the homes and the campers handed to the homeowners but I was able to see their reactions first hand. I saw expressions of surprise, tears of joy and shouts of praise for God. I was even told on two occasions that we were an answer to a prayer! I have been many things but never an answer to a prayer. I pulled up to one camp and when I introduced myself to the camp director he did not recognize me. When I explained who I was representing and what we were doing, I saw relief in his face. He had forgotten I was coming but then went on to explain that one homeowner's refrigerator had died and he was going to go and get a gift card for food to restock it with. With the assistance of Harvest Hope, not as much food had to be purchased.

What can one person do? One person can come up with an idea. When that idea is combined with other ideas, many can be helped. Christ tells us in Matthew 25: 35-40

<sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

I pray that you will find your way to help others and together maybe we can change the world and make it a better place.

*Decolores!*

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## Meet the New Members of the EOM Board of Directors

**John Denny** – (*Church of the Harvest in Lexington, EOM Walk #29, Table of Peter*). There have been a few events that have really helped me in my walk with The Lord. My experiences during the Walk to Emmaus was one of them. I shed so many tears during that walk I was on the brink of dehydration. At the end I was emotionally and physically drained but spiritually I was totally uplifted. The worse part about it was I couldn't share any of my experiences with my wife since she was going on The Walk 2 weeks later (if you've been through this, you know exactly what I'm talking about).

During my 72 hour experience I made some life long friends and "Brothers" who I know to this day would do anything for me. Then, this past spring I had the honor of working on Walk #31 and getting the opportunity to see things from behind the scenes. I was amazed at the amount of coordination, timing and volunteers that were needed to pull The Walk off. It's amazing because God's hands are all over The Walk and I was able to see The Walk unfold before my eyes. It was a privilege to serve with some unbelievable men.

I had just mentioned the word "serve". That's what The Walk to Emmaus taught me. It taught me about being a servant which is why I decided to apply to be on The Board of Directors. It was yet another opportunity to serve The Lord, serve people and serve The Walk that was so pivotal in my spiritual journey.

My current board responsibilities are Public Relations and Transportation. Please pray for me. The Transportation role takes someone who is incredibly detail oriented. Being "detail oriented" is not in my spiritual giftings wheel house. I know The Lord is teaching me something here, but in the mean time until that lesson is revealed to me- please pray. Together, He and I (along with some help from previous Board members : )) will come to a mutual understanding and we will be able to pull off

the logistics and transportation in the same efficient, professional manner it's always been done. With that said I am just thrilled to have the opportunity to serve this fine community and the future members of this community.

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## Daily Bible Readings for September

This schedule of daily bible readings will take you through the entire bible in the course of a year. The reading schedules began in January; however, remember that you may start at any time.

- 1 Ezek. 15-16; Ps. 70; Rev. 6
- 2 Ezek. 17-19; Rev. 7
- 3 Ezek. 20-21, Ps. 111; Rev. 8
- 4 Ezek. 22-24; Rev. 9
- 5 Ezek. 25-28, Rev. 10
- 6 Ezek. 29-32; Rev. 11
- 7 2 Ki. 25; 2 Chr. 36; Jer. 40-41; Rev. 12
- 8 Jer. 42-44; Ps. 48; Rev. 13
- 9 Lam. 1- 2; Obad.; Rev. 14
- 10 Lam. 3-5; Rev. 15
- 11 Dan. 1-2; Rev. 16
- 12 Dan. 3- 4; Ps. 81; Rev. 17
- 13 Ezek. 33-35, Rev. 18
- 14 Ezek. 36-37; Ps. 110; Rev. 19
- 15 Ezek. 38-39; Ps. 145; Rev. 20
- 16 Ezek.40-41; Ps. 128; Rev. 21
- 17 Ezek. 42-44; Rev. 22
- 18 Ezek. 45-46; Lk. 1
- 19 Ezek. 47-48; Lk. 2
- 20 Dan. 5-6; Ps. 130; Lk. 3
- 21 Dan. 7-8; Ps. 137; Lk.4
- 22 Dan. 9-10; Ps. 123; Lk. 5
- 23 Dan. 11-12; Lk. 6
- 24 Ezra 1; Ps. 84-85; Lk. 7
- 25 Ezra 2-3; Lk. 8
- 26 Ezra 4; Ps. 113, 127; Lk. 9
- 27 Hag. 1-2; Ps. 129; Lk. 10
- 28 Zech. 1-3; Lk. 11
- 29 Zech. 4-6; Lk. 12
- 30 Zech. 7-9; Lk. 13

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### Interested in going on a 10-day pilgrimage in November 2008 of Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Missionary Journey?

If so, please consider going with a group being hosted by Boyce and Kathie Brooks through Educational Opportunities. The group will depart from Columbia in time to make a November 5 flight out of New York headed for Athens, Greece. Group will tour Athens and Corinth and set sail on a Chartered Cruise Ship for other guided shore excursions in Greece and Turkey. Bishop William Willimon is slated to provide Biblical insight into the life, teachings and ministry of Paul along the way. (Bishop Willimon is currently Bishop of the North Alabama Conference of the UMC. He is a native of Greenville, SC)

*For more information and a brochure, please contact Boyce or Kathie Brooks at (803) 532-9490 or email them at [boykath@aol.com](mailto:boykath@aol.com).*

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### **Upcoming Events**

**August 15 - 16:** EOM Team Training Walk 32

**August 22** - Gather at Red Bank UMC

**September** - no gather

**Men's Walk 32 Sep 18-21, 2008**

(Candlelight Saturday Sep 20, 8 pm)

**Women's Walk 32 Oct 2-5, 2008**

(Candlelight Saturday Oct 4, 8 pm)

### **Next Gathering**

**August 22, 2008**

**7:00 pm Meal - 8:00 pm Worship**

**Red Bank UMC - Lexington**

**Directions:** Red Bank UMC is located at 2909 Old Barnwell Road in Lexington, SC. Take exit 55 South off I-20. (This is Hwy 6) Go about 1 3/4 miles to Old Barnwell Road. Turn left and the church is within sight. Phone (803) 359-4031