



Messenger

Volume 14, Issue 2

February 2014

Chairman's Report

Upcoming Events:

*Feb 28 Gathering
Brookland UMC
West Columbia, SC
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8*

*March 10 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC @ 7 pm*

*No Gatherings
March Walk's
Men's 13-16
Women's 20-23*

*April 14 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC 7 pm*

*April Gathering
Mt. Horeb UMC
Lexington, SC
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8*

*May 12 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC*

*May Gathering
Available
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8*

*June 9 Board Meeting
Windsor, UMC*

*June Gathering
Bethel UMC
Jackson, SC*

[Emmaus Web Page](#)

Today I want to talk to you about a problem that really concerns me. The problem is the lack of clergy participation in our Walks. Unfortunately, the problem is multi-faceted. The first concern is the reluctance of pastors who have not been on the Walk to step forward and agree to go even though they may be getting encouragement from their Emmaus church members to do so.

The second problem is getting Emmaus clergy to come forward and volunteer to serve on Walk teams. Please do not get me wrong...I am very grateful to those of you who do come forward and agree to serve or those of you that have served numerous times in the past and feel like you need a break. I also understand how you as clergy are so busy and have so little free time.

However, my concern is that in spite of an Emmaus Board that is working hard and volunteers coming forward to serve in roles as Lay Directors, Team Members and behind the scenes in many roles, if we do not get enough Emmaus Clergy volunteers to come forward and volunteer for Clergy teams going forward, then our Emmaus of the Midlands community will fall apart and that would be a tragedy.

The third concern is that we are not doing a good job of getting new Emmaus clergy that are being transferred into our community in Contact Lists, welcoming them to our community and inviting them to become active in our community. I take part of the responsibility for not doing a better job on this issue. However, this is also where we can use your help. If you get a new pastor and you find out he is an Emmaus member, please get his contact information to our Community Spiritual Director, Wayne Smith or myself so we can follow up.

Also as Community members, if you have a pastor who has not gone on the Walk, please try to encourage them but do not badger them to the point you turn them against Emmaus.

If you are an Emmaus Pastor, please do not get the impression that I am trying to demean you because that is certainly not the case but instead I am just appealing to you that whenever the opportunity presents itself for you to be able to serve you will come forward and volunteer so that we can keep this Emmaus of the Midlands Community vibrant and serving our God until Jesus Christ comes again in all His glory.

I hope to see everyone at our February Gathering Friday night, February 28th @ 7:00 at Brookland UMC. God Bless. Leonard May

Messenger

February Gathering January 28, 2014 @ 7pm

**Brookland UMC
541 Meeting St
West Columbia, SC**

Directions from Newberry/Prosperity: Take I-26 toward Columbia 32 mi. and follow I-126 3.2 mi. Take the exit toward Huger St .2 mi. and merge onto US-176E/US21 S/ US321S .8 mi. Turn right onto US1 S/Gervais St. Continue to follow US 1. Destination will be on the left .9 mi.

Batesburg/Aiken/Lexington: Take I-20 toward Columbia. Take Exit 58 and merge onto US1 N Augusta Rd toward Columbia Airport/West Columbia. Continue on US 1 for 8.3 mi. Destination will be on the right.

Sumter: Follow US-76-378 toward Columbia 40 mi. Turn left on US 1/Gervais St and continue to follow US 1 for 2.8 mi. Destination will be on the left.

Meet Your Board Member

Hello Emmaus of the Midlands Community

I am Susan Matthews your board member responsible for Prayer Vigil and Seed Agape.

I went on walk #34 and sat at the table of Martha. Since 1957, I have attended Lexington United Methodist Church, but I did not officially become a member till 2010. I am active in the UMW and Sunday school . Having lived in downtown Lexington all of my life, I have seen a lot of changes. I am a member of the OES Order of the Eastern Star, DAR the Daughters of the American Revolution and the crazy red hats. For the past 23 years I have worked as a sales rep.

Never been married, no kids, but I do have a 10 year old 17# cat SQUEEKIE.

Signups for the 72 Hour Prayer Vigil have already begun. The Walk's are a month away and we have many blank spots on the rosters. There are several ways to sign up:

1. At the February Gathering
2. A link on the front page will take you to the Emmaus Web Site
3. By emailing Susan Matthews at PNKYPANTER@aol.com

We want our pilgrims to see a FULL ROSTER during the Walks. We covet everyone's prayers for the Walks. Please continue to pray for our new pilgrims, sponsors who will be inviting pilgrims to go on Walk 43, the potential pilgrims who are invited, and our board as decisions are made to improve our future Walks. Our participation and interest in the prayer vigils have been outstanding. Thanks to everyone for making EOM a growing and ever more prayerful community.

DeColores

Susan

Messenger

Election of New Board Members

My name is Al Carter. I worship at Bethel United Methodist Church in Forest Acres. I attended the Emmaus of the Midlands walk #4 and I sat at the table of Matthew. My board responsibility this year is luggage and I want to thank all who helped me with the last set of walks. It takes many hands and a few pick up trucks to make it an easy job! Please help if you can with the spring walks in March. It is almost time for our annual election for new board members. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve for the past 3 years. We need to replace 7 board members this year. Five positions will serve for 3 years, 1 will be a 2 year commitment and the final position will be for 1 year. Anyone who has been in the community at least a year is eligible to run. I would like to encourage our former Lay Directors to think about serving on the board! Your experience is invaluable. No one understands the importance of servanthood and the background jobs more than those who have been there. Your knowledge will serve the community well. I will have board commitment forms at the gatherings and upcoming spring walks. Please contact me or any board member if you have questions and are interested in running. The election will take place in May. We need your help. We need at least 10 people willing to run. Please pray about serving our community in this way!

God Bless and DeColores!

From the Registrar

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I am Carolyn McLean, I live in West Columbia, and I worship at First Christian Church, Columbia. I went on Foothills Emmaus Walk #3 and I sat at the Table of Mary. I have the honor and privilege of being the Registrar for the next set of walks. I served previously on the board for three years as Registrar and was asked to take over this responsibility again at the time of Tom Furse's death earlier this year. We are all heartbroken over the loss of Tom, but we know that he loved Emmaus and wanted all of us to go forward with the work of putting on walks.

I would like to especially thank Doug Meade, Tom's son-in-law, for his invaluable help in getting the updated database to me. It has taken some time to process all the new applications and, thankfully, that has been accomplished. I am now able to report the good news that we have on hand 16 applications for men and 22 applications for women. This is enough to go forward with the walks and we are praising God! But, the even better news is that you now have several weeks left to talk to prospective pilgrims, get them to fill out an application, and then send that in along with your sponsor's form. Remember that it takes 36 men and 36 women to have a full walk... so let's all pray and work hard to pass on this wonderful experience of Emmaus to those in our churches who want more of God in their lives.

**EMMAUS OF THE MIDLANDS
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