



Messenger

Volume 14, Issue 4

April 2014

Coming Events

April 25 Gathering
Mt Horeb UMC
Lexington, SC
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

May 12 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC

May 23 Gathering
Trinity UMC
West Columbia, SC
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

June 9 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC @ 7

June 27 Gathering
Jackson UMC
Jackson, SC
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

July 14 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC @ 7

July 25 Gathering
Lewis Chapel UMC
Sumter, SC
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

August 11 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC @ 7

August 29 Gathering
Macedonia Lutheran Church
Prosperity, SC
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

September 8 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC @ 7

From Your Chairman

In contemplating what to write about in this article, I was working on my Sunday School lesson using a series of books called “Journey Through the Bible” and specifically the book of Mark when I came across this commentary entitled Cross-bearing Discipleship.

Now before I give you the story I have to ask if anyone knows where Buffalo, SC is located? If you do, please enlighten me.

Agatha Burgess of Buffalo, South Carolina has risen early every morning five days a week for twenty years to spend the rest of her day in the kitchen until ten o'clock that night. From that kitchen she single-handedly fed the other 1,640 people who live in Buffalo. Anyone who has come to her kitchen, friends or strangers, person confined to indoors to whom she delivers meals on wheels she has fed: turkey and dressing, gravy and rice, corn and beans, muffins and peach cobbler. For those who can afford to pay she asks for three dollars. For those who cannot she asks for nothing. Agatha Burgess is over 80 years old.

Why, she was once asked, does she do this? I love it. Some ask “Miss Burgess, why don't you stop and rest”? She answers: Wouldn't have anything to live for. Because these people coming every day they mean so much to me. You see, I think this story represents a wonderful example of servant-hood and to me that is what Emmaus is all about. The Walk to Emmaus experience is designed to motivate you to go back into your church, community, and Emmaus community and serve God as he leads you. Remember that at the Closing Ceremony of your Walk, many were recognized as having served in one or more areas during the weekend. Areas of service are: Serving on the Board; Serving as a Team Member in the Conference room; as Sponsors enabling others to experience this wonderful 72 hours; working in the kitchen, prayer vigil, attending Candlelight, furnishing snacks, making table agape, Agape Feast, luggage and writing letters as well.

My challenge to you is that you support your Emmaus Community by serving in one or more of these areas as you are able.

God Bless,
Leonard May

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April Gathering

Mt Horeb United Methodist Church

1205 Old Cherokee Rd

Lexington, SC

Directions : From I-20

Take Exit 61 for US-378 W toward Lexington—Merge onto Sunset Blvd/

Slight right onto Old Cherokee Rd/State Rd S-32-485

Turn right toward Old Cherokee Rd/State Rd S-32-408

Turn left onto Old Cherokee Rd/State Rd S-32-408 Destination on left

From Prosperity: Follow SC-391 to traffic circle

At traffic circle take third exit onto UD-378-E Turn left onto St Peters Rd

Take second right onto Old Cherokee Rd/State Rd S-32-408 Destination on Right

Meet Your Board Member

My name is Boyce Brooks. My wife Kathie and I live at Lake Murray and worship at Mt. Horeb UMC in Lexington. I attended Foot Hills Emmaus Walk #5 and sat at the table of Peter. This is my second stint on the Board – I filled in for a while as Spiritual Director a few years back but my present Board Responsibility is Housing/ Camp set-up & take-down. As such, I coordinate with the Nazarene Camp Manager and ensure our weekend housing and facilities requirements for both Men's and Women's Walks are scheduled and ready when needed. I also solicit Community help in getting items out of storage and positioned them as appropriate in Conference Room, Lake House, Kitchen and Chapel and after the Walks putting things back in storage. As for me, I grew up in Easley, SC, attended Easley High School and Wofford College, spent a career in the US Military with assignments in Georgia, Germany, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Vietnam, Virginia, South Korea, and Arizona. While in the Military, I felt called to full-time Christian ministry and responded by attending Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky. After Graduation, I served appointments in the United Methodist Church in McBee, Seneca, Charleston, Spartanburg and Whitmire. I retired in 2001 although I still help out with weddings, funerals, baptisms, retreats and pulpit supply. I have been active in Foot Hills and Midlands Emmaus Communities since my walk in 1994. My wife Kathie and I have nine children and fifteen grandchildren. I enjoy sports, traveling and interacting with and trying to keep up on all that's going on in the lives of our children and grandchildren.

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Meet Our New Webmaster

Bob Martin, Diakonia Emmaus – Eagles Wings Community (Central Texas), Walk #89, Table of Luke. Easter greetings to all in the Emmaus of the Midlands Community! It was just a year ago that my wife, Kim and I moved back to South Carolina. I came to South Carolina out of college in 1988. I was one of the folks from the North that came to visit and stayed! We married in 1997 and lived with our three children in Lexington up until 2000, when I joined Dell Computer and we moved central Texas. Our oldest son and daughter were in college, so they chose to stay in South Carolina and we set out with our youngest daughter. It was a tough move as we both also have extended family here. We knew no one in Texas and had no within two states! God had a plan for our move. Kim and I were charter members for a new church development in the Presbyterian USA Church. It was quite an experience and one we never imagined ourselves being part of. Church was in local elementary schools each Sunday and we unpacked trailers – “church in a box” was our favorite saying. Over the years, the church grew and we both served in all kinds of positions within the church, as you might imagine in a new church, if someone doesn’t step up, things don’t happen! We both served three year terms in positions on the church leadership team (Kim over Care and Fellowship and I was involved with Missions). I also chaired our initial capital campaign as we officially chartered and moved to our permanent home! For ten years I was also the high school youth lead and Kim founded the Stephen Ministry program. As you can tell, no rest for the weary, but as our youngest daughter went through high school and on to college, our church was truly our Texas family! In 2007, after turning down multiple requests, I had a friend of Kim’s offer to sponsor me on a walk. The timing was right, I went with five other men from our Church. As all will tell you, it was the “Best Walk Ever!” My walk had a great influence on me, but my “A-ha” moment really came after my walk. Our group of men that had gone together on the walk, met every Monday evening for our Fourth Day group and followed the Upper Room guide. Over the next six years, I served on two walk teams, gave two talks and was asked to help the community stand-up their first website. Each time I worked on a walk, I was able to see God in action through servants throughout our Emmaus community. This servant leadership really struck a chord with me and connected with the many different ministries Kim and I had worked with. The website role was eventually integrated in with the community board and I served a three-year term. This gave me visibility to the many aspects and roles across the community as the website can touch all parts of the Emmaus ministry. It was a few years after my walk that Kim went on hers. From that point on, Emmaus was a key part of our relationship.

In 2008, I started working out of our home in Texas. Our goal had been to someday be able to move back to South Carolina and closer to our family. It would take some time to show that I could do my role without being in the office (which was only fifteen miles away). I have worked in computer Technical Support and Support Services for 25 years now. I have focused primarily on supporting big corporate customers and have traveled around the world, fixing problems and developing new tools and ways of doing support. I led a project to create a new, global internet set of tools that launched in 2012. With that success, the timing was right to ask to return to South Carolina. Our youngest daughter had graduated from college and was starting her career in Houston. My parents were in need of some help and with five grandchildren, we were ready to be the grandparents that could come to baseball games and dance recitals! We were blessed as it was approved for us to move back and our home in Texas sold in two weeks!

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Now the move wasn't as smooth on the South Carolina end. We had multiple attempts to purchase a home fall through for various reasons and thankfully had a motorhome that we lived in for three months with our three dogs (where I worked from as well). Wasn't exactly what we expected! We were eventually successful in purchasing a home in Lexington and started visiting churches. Finding a church home was proving to be one of our more difficult parts of the move. We had changed as disciples quite a bit in our time in Texas and were looking for something...we just weren't sure what that was? Mt. Horeb UMC is actually just down the road from our home and our new neighbors indicated that they too had come from the Presbyterian USA background, but suggested we visit. Safe to say, the rest is now history. We joined Mt. Horeb in January of this year and are now excited to have a new Church home. Mt. Horeb is not a small/mid-size church like we have experienced, so we were (and still are to some extent) intimidated by how large it is. With many members and volunteers, we don't have to be in everything like we were used to. This meant we needed to find our place, the place God was calling us to. We believe we have found this with the Emmaus ministry. We are excited that there are great opportunities to expand Emmaus at Mt. Horeb and within the community. This is a great community with so much to offer. God also put me here at a time when work was needed on the website. As we all know, he has the plan. We just need to be open to seeing where he is directing us!

I look forward to continuing to learn about the great things happening and understanding how Kim and I can help! I am still with Dell and work a lot of hours with teams all around the world. Kim is responsible for attendance at the new River Bluff High School in Lexington. She is looking forward to the Summer break! We have baseball, dance and family that also occupy our time, but know there is always time for God's work. We look forward to continuing our faith journey with you!

DeColores...Bob

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