



Messenger

Volume 15, Issue 7

July 2015

Coming Events

July 13 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC
Columbia, SC

July 24 Gathering
Leesville UMC, Leesville
St. Johns UMC co-hosts
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

August 10 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC
Columbia, SC

August 28 Gathering
Beulah UMC, Gilbert
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

September 14 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC
Columbia

September 25 Gathering
Lexington UMC, Lexington
Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8

October 12 Board Meeting
Windsor UMC, Columbia

Community Lay Director's Voice

CHANGE

Water resistant, stain resistant, wrinkle resistant, change resistant. One of these describes me. Perhaps you are like me- reluctant to change. I can find all kinds of reasons to not change things with which I am comfortable. Notice I did not say change was bad. Some changes are our choice and sometimes it is beyond our control. I know that sometimes things need to change, so why do I find all kinds of "reasons" to avoid change.

Well, sometimes I like the old way; if it's working why change? Change requires effort on everyone's part. What is it that I fear about change? Maybe I can't handle the new change, and I'll be frustrated or embarrassed. I'll probably have to change my way of thinking, and admit there is a better way. Maybe I am just stubborn.

When you went on your Walk To Emmaus, do you remember examples that were presented in the talks that would help you grow in your Christian walk? I certainly do. My priorities had to change if my relationship to God was going to grow to maturity. I believe change can be God's instrument to bring growth and redirection to our lives. So I am working on being open to the possibilities that changes bring to my life, and having faith that God works through changes.

Recently the Emmaus of the Midlands Board made a change as members rotated off and new Board members were installed. I along with our community are grateful to each departing member for their sacrificial service. Our newest members (see accompanying list) earnestly ask for your support as they faithfully minister to this community. We ask nothing less than your earnest prayers, presence, gifts, and your service.

Through prayer and guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Walk To Emmaus offers God's plan for change in the lives of Pilgrims and community members. Won't you join me in praying for those who will lead, and those who will attend Walk 46? I pray that God's love and His plan for a changing relationship with Him will be revealed to each of us in the coming days.

(Thanks to Cindy Cunningham for her inspiration for this article)

Charles

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Board Members Complete Service

The Community expresses their appreciation
For the service rendered for the following board
members:

Leonard May – Lay Director
Rev. Wayne Smith, Jr. – Spiritual Director
Boyce Brooks – Housing and Camp Setup
Ron Mankin – Luggage
Sue Thomas – Table Agape
Voigt Kempson – Snack Agape
Greg Prewit – Candlelight

We are proud to have had each of you as an
essential part of the Board of Directors.
“ Well done good and faithful servant...Mat

Community Elects New Board Members

Results of recent election for Board of Directors:

Bobby Bowers
Ginny Braddock
Dorothy Longshore
Therry May
Bobby Sandifer
Duane Sirhal

We appreciate each new member who was elected not knowing which position each would be asked to fulfill, they volunteered their service to help this community in its purpose in providing support for and the equipping of leaders to serve in the local church. “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord...Col 3:23

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Alfred Leo Huggins, Sr., 67, husband of Betty Way Huggins, died Friday, July 3, 2015 at Tuomey Regional Medical Center.

Born in Sumter, he was a son of the late Clarence Lester Huggins and the late Bernice Louise Davis Huggins. Mr. Huggins was a member of Lewis Chapel United Methodist Church where he was a member of the Methodist Men's Club. He was also a member of the Porter's Store Men's Group. He retired from Bosch. Following his retirement he worked with Waste Management as a Recycling Center Operator.

Survivors include his wife of 46 years; two sons, A. Le Huggins, Jr of Alcolu and Justin C. Huggins(Katie) of Dalzell; two daughters, Lisa Tisdale(Alex) of Sumter, and Misty Huggins of Alcolu; five grandchildren, Justin M. Huggins, Brittany Huggins, Parker Tisdale, Crosby Tisdale, and Jack Huggins; one brother, James W. Huggins (Linda) of Alcolu; a Goddaughter, Nicloe Davis Griffin; and a number of nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Clarence E. "Gene" Huggins.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Lewis Chapel United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jerry Watson officiating. Burial was in the Brunson Cemetery.

The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday at Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Memorials may be made to Lewis Chapel United Methodist Church, 3030 Plowden Mill Rd., Sumter, SC 29153 or the Oncology Department of Tuomey Healthcare System, 129 N. Washington St., Sumter, SC 29150.

Elmore-Cannon-Stephens Funeral Home and Crematorium of Sumter was in charge of the arrangements.

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Emmaus had a presence at this year's Annual Conference. Thank you to all those that had a hand in preparing and manning the booth for the week. We hope to have participation from all the communities next year.





NEWS RELEASE

May 19, 2015

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Evelyn Lemly, Kairos Executive Director/CEO

evelyn@kmi.org

407-629-4948

Stephane Brooks, Director, Emmaus ministries

sbrooks@umcdiscipleship.org

877-899-2780

Partnership in Ministry: Kairos Prison Ministry International and The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus sign Memorandum of Understanding

Walk to Emmaus, an international program ministry of The Upper Room, and Kairos Prison Ministry International announce the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two ministries in order to celebrate the partnership between the organizations, invite local Emmaus and Kairos communities to collaborate and form new partnerships, and encourage Emmaus and Kairos communities to engage in conversations that will advance the purpose of sharing God's love with all.

Both Walk to Emmaus and Kairos Prison Ministry International have been working together for many years. Many who have participated in a weekend Walk to Emmaus and are currently serving in Emmaus are active in Kairos Prison Ministry teams—groups that offer Christ's love and forgiveness to incarcerated individuals and to their families. As a vital Fourth Day Movement, Kairos Prison Ministry International volunteers host weekend and follow-up ministry events inside prisons, minister to youth offenders, and work with female loved ones of incarcerated men, women, and youth.

The Memorandum of Understanding states that Walk to Emmaus and Kairos Prison Ministry International acknowledge that the two organizations journey together as covenant people in community, seeking spiritual growth and transformation under the guidance of Jesus Christ. The Emmaus and Kairos ministries seek to learn together and to strengthen each other so that more and more people will receive the grace and love of God.

"We rejoice together as God changes and transforms lives through our program ministries and partnerships," said Evelyn Lemly, CEO/Executive Director of Kairos.

"It is our hope," said Stephane Brooks, Director of Emmaus ministries, "that in the context of this newly signed memorandum both ministries will invite their community leaders to contact their respective offices to discuss local needs and the application of the renewed partnership between Emmaus and Kairos ministries."

For more information about Kairos Prison Ministry International, visit: www.kpmi.org or call 407.629.4948.

For more information about Walk to Emmaus and other Emmaus ministries, visit: emmaus.upperroom.org or call 877-899-2760.



Kairos Prison Ministry International is "Changing Hearts, Transforming Lives, Impacting the World" by taking the love, grace, and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to incarcerated adults, youth, and their families. From simple beginnings as a short course in Christianity inside a Florida prison in 1976, Kairos has grown into an international ministry serving more than 480 communities in 10 countries. More than 30,000 volunteers give over three million hours of service each year.



The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus seeks to inspire, challenge, and equip leaders for Christian action in their homes, places of work, and communities. The first Walk to Emmaus, then known as The Upper Room Cursillo, was held in Nashville, Tennessee in 1978. Today, the Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis (for youth) are 620 communities strong and growing. It is estimated that since its inception, 1.5 million persons have participated in a Walk to Emmaus throughout the world. Walk to Emmaus empowers leaders to be the hands and feet of Christ.

PO Box 25165
Columbia, SC 29224-5165



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www.midlandsemmaus.com

[map](#)

**Gathering
July 24, 2015
Leesville UMC
St Johns UMC co-hosts
510 E Columbia Av
Leesville, SC**

Meal @ 7, Worship @ 8