

Messenger

Volume 16
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July



Coming Events

July 22 Gathering
Macedonia Lutheran
Prosperity
Meal @ 7 Worship @ 8
Board Meeting
August 8 @ 7
Windsor UMC
August Gathering
Boiling Springs UMC
Lexington, SC
Board Meeting
September 12 @ 7
Windsor UMC
September Gathering
Trinity UMC
Sumter, SC
Meal @ 7 Worship @ 8
Board Meeting
October 10 @ 7
Windsor UMC

The Big Question

What has the Emmaus Community meant to you in the past? For many of us, our Pilgrim walk was a life changing experience. For others, it was their teaming experience that they loved; while many Christian men and women have held other roles in the Emmaus Community. For me, my spiritual life has not been the same since my walk in 2007. However, sometimes life gets busy and no matter how important something is to us things do have the tendencies to fall to the way side. Now listen, I do understand. Many evenings I find myself either tired, overwhelmed or even overbooked. We have a pretty busy life going on here at the Adams' house, but we try and not let the good things, or should I say, the great things of God slip away. As we head into 2016, I want to challenge you to keep the monthly gatherings on your calendar. What better way to see both new and old friends from the Emmaus Community? I don't know about you, but any given night I find myself sitting in front of the TV letting it take time away from me that could be used for God. So how about another question? Can you give God one Friday night a month? Can you do it? Sure you can. Jesus wants you to come out and hang with your Christian brothers and sisters. Is there any better way to spend time? I don't think so! The night always begins with an opportunity to feast upon the delectable offerings from all over the community. If you cannot find something you like, you're too picky. Following our meal, we always enjoy an inspiring time of worship. Our focus is on lifting up and glorifying God. Our goal is to bring together our brothers and sisters in Christ to lift Him up and continue to build the Emmaus Community for Him. We can't wait to see you! –

Charles

Messenger

BOARD ELECTIONS

Board Nominees Sought: Emmaus of the Midlands will hold board elections this Fall. Who would you like to see in leadership roles?

Without the support and participation of the Community membership, we would not be able to do what we do. Each and every walk requires coordination and leadership. Our routine business requires coordination and leadership. Functions such as team selection, walk registration, and data collection all require coordination and leadership. Now is the time for you to become involved. Please consider if you or someone you know would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors.

Elections will be held later this year for the class of 2017. In addition, several at-large positions are in need of filling. Please pray and then respond to the needs at hand. Contact any Board Member for information.

Messenger

Greetings in the name of the Lord,

Let me take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Midlands Emmaus Community. Most of you know me already from the last few gatherings and Walk #47, where I served as the Weekend Spiritual Director. Thank you for the honor of serving as your newly elected Community Spiritual Director. I have been asked to give you a brief biography of myself and my family.

I grew up in a Christian home in Jacksonville, Florida. At the age of eighteen, I joined the U.S. Navy where I served for twenty years before retiring as a Senior Chief Petty Officer. Most of those twenty years I bounced between Charleston and the Tidewater Virginia area, finally settling down in South Carolina where I have lived since 1991. It was while I was still on active duty that I attended Low Country Emmaus Walk 13 in 1994. Although I felt I was called by God to serve the Church through ordained ministry as a teenager, it wasn't until that call was reaffirmed at the walk and I committed to it that I started the process which led me to where I am today. Since then I met and married the Rev. Sara White who is presently serving as the Director of Congregational Development of the South Carolina Annual Conference.

When I retired from the Navy in 1994, I finished my undergraduate work and became a Student Local Pastor in 1995. After receiving my Bachelor's Degree I started attending Erskine Theological Seminary after a short stint at Lutheran Southern in Columbia. After receiving my Master of Divinity in 1999 I was ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church in 2001. As far as the church goes, I have served in various locations in the Marion, Charleston, Rock Hill and Columbia Districts. As far as Emmaus and Chrysalis goes, I have served as part of a music team as a lay person, and as an ASD and Weekend SD as a clergy person. I also served a two-year term as the Community SD for the Low Country Emmaus Community. Presently I am serving as the pastor for Windsor United Methodist Church in Northeast Columbia where I have been appointed since 2013.

I look forward to the great things God will do in and through the Midlands Emmaus Community as we journey together. Let us all be reminded of the purpose of the Walk to Emmaus as defined in the *Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus*, Chapter One, page 2, where it says, "The purpose of Emmaus is to renew the church as the body of the risen Christ in the world through the renewal of Christians as faithful and committed disciples of Jesus Christ."

DeColores,

Steve

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www.midlandsemmaus.com

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