

Messenger

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April 23, 2017



Coming Events

April 28 Gathering
Boiling Springs UMC
Meal @ 7 Worship @ 8
May 8 Board Mtg
Various Locations 7 pm
May 20 Gathering
Picnic Nazarene Camp
June 12 Board Meeting
Various Locations
June 23 Gathering
Open
July 10 Board Meeting
Various Locations
July 28 Gathering
St Johns UMC Sumter
Meal @ 7 Worship @ 8
August 14 Board Mtg
Various Locations

April News

Well, we're past the April Walks and the pilgrims are on their fourth days. From all accounts that I have heard, both Walks were very successful. You would surely feel this way about the Walks if you were present for closings. We heard the pilgrims telling what the Walk meant to them and what they planned to do about it when they got back home. Their responses let us know that God was definitely in the camp during the Walks.

As we plan for the October Walks we need to seek God's help in directing us to those persons that God would put in our hearts and that we feel could benefit from the Walks. What we need are willing sponsors that will help us find these pilgrims and get them signed up for the October Walks. There will be sponsorship training at the gathering at Boiling Springs UMC this Friday at 6:30 p.m. If you cannot go to training, get someone to co-sponsor with you.

The May gathering will be at the Nazarene Camp where we hold our Walks. It will be on Saturday May 20, 2017 at 6 p.m. Please note the different day and time. Bring a chair and whatever you feel will be useful as we are treating this as a tailgate party for Emmaus. We will have drinks, plates, napkins, cups, and serving spoons. Bring some food and come join us as we sing some Emmaus songs and have Communion and fellowship outdoors. Rev. Allan Pullen, camp director, has offered a tour of the camp for those that would like to see it. This is an informal, fun filled gathering we have planned. Please come join the fun! Directions are D. Moody Gunter Camp and Retreat Center, 1420 Nazarene Road, Batesburg, South Carolina 29006. Let's try to have a record turnout!

At the moment we do not have any church committed to sponsor the June gathering. We need a church to volunteer and let us get this date and place on our calendar. If your church needs any help, the board will

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be glad to help you. Please let us know if your church can help. The gathering would be June 23, 2017.

The gatherings on our 2017 calendar are:

July 28,2017 - St. John UMC in Sumter

August 25,2017 - Dalzell UMC

September 22,2017 - Lexington UMC

October - Walks

Joint November/December Saturday December 2,2017 - Wightman UMC in Prosperity

As we pray for the upcoming Walks we need to remember that the purpose of Emmaus is to conduct Walks and to serve the pilgrims so that God is glorified. Pray that God will help us get the pilgrims who want to grow in their knowledge of Him and come back to serve the Lord in their local church.

DeColores:

Bobby Bowers

Lay Director

Emmaus of the Midlands

April 28 Gathering
Boiling Springs UMC
Lexington, SC

Meal @ 7 Worship @ 8 [map](#)

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When asked as Lay Director for Men's Walk # 49 to write an article for the Newsletter about the weekend I thought it would be easy. However, as I sit here trying to put the weekend on paper it is not so easy.

It is kind of like what we tell perspective pilgrims, you cannot describe it but you have to experience it in order to fully appreciate and understand the Walk.

Satan tried his best to stop this Walk from happening. We lost 3 pilgrims to illness the last week but we cut back to four tables and reassigned some of our team members and persevered. At Closing I said Jesus only had 12 disciples and one of them betrayed him leaving 11 disciples. We were left with 11 pilgrims and I am convinced there was not a Judas among them.

Thanks to all the team members and everyone who participated to make this Walk a success.

Also, I would like to thank the community for all their contributions in making it possible for us to be able to purchase a golf cart. This golf cart was a big help on both walks but especially on this Men's Walk because one of our pilgrims would not have been able to participate without the use of the golf cart.

Thank you community for allowing me to serve as your Lay Director for Men's Walk # 49. To Jesus we give all the honor and glory for this weekend.

God Bless,

Leonard May

It was a real humbling experience being lay director! There were so many people praying for this to be a great walk, and God did not disappoint! When the walk began and I read the part about even the smallest things may seem unimportant? well, how true that was! I took for granted all the things that happen throughout the weekend!

When things started going wrong, such as candlelight, I thought the pilgrims were going to be disappointed, but nothing could have ruined that special moment! God was in charge of every aspect of the weekend! He turned those things that I thought were mistakes into blessings! I'm so grateful to have been part of such an amazing team and community! Everyone came together in such a big way to make the walk extra special for everyone there!

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve!

Terri Goodman

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It is with great sadness that I share the information below regarding Buddy Baird. Buddy was an instrumental part of our Community in our early days. We lift up his family in our prayers and celebrate his life and gifts to our Community.

[Charles Adams](#)

Ralph Horace "Buddy" Baird, Jr. BATESBURG - March 25, 2017 Ralph Horace Baird Jr. aka "Mr. Buddy" ascended into heaven. Buddy was born Sept. 12, 1939 to the late Ralph Horace Baird Sr. and Beulah Tippins Baird in Ila, GA. Buddy is survived by his wife of 52 years Betty Evans Baird, son Griffin Baird and daughter Camille Bisulca of Charlotte, NC, three grandchildren Michael, Rachael and Lauren Bisulca. Buddy graduated high school in 1957 from Vero Beach, FL and enlisted and proudly served in the US Navy. After his enlistment, Buddy enrolled the University of Georgia where he graduated with a degree in Business. Buddy moved to Batesburg in 1970 with the Federal Land Bank and he concluded his career as Director of Transportation for Lexington County School District 3. Buddy was a member of St. John's UMC in Batesburg, SC. where he served in many positions including Sunday School Teacher and Adult Choir member. He went of the Emmaus of the Midlands Walk # 8 and sat at the table of Paul. He was a proud sponsor of many pilgrims and worked behind the scenes on many walks. Buddy enjoyed making the black nail crosses that pilgrims receive on their walk. He will be missed by all in the community. A celebration of his life will be held at St. Johns United Methodist Church, 513 W Church St, Batesburg, SC 29006 Wed. March 29, 2017 at 2pm. The burial will follow at Ridgecrest Cemetery. Visitation will be Tuesday from 6:00 to 8:00pm at Barr-Price Funeral Home, 256 Main St, Leesville, SC 29070. Memorials can be made to St. Johns United Methodist of Batesburg, SC or [American Cancer Society](#), S.C. Division, 128 Stonemark Lane, Columbia, SC 29210. [Barr-Price.com](#) (803) 532-4411.