

Messenger

A monthly newsletter of the Emmaus of the Midlands Community

Volume 19, Issue 12, December 2019



Upcoming Events:

December Gathering:

December 7, at 6:00 pm at
Rehoboth UMC, Columbia,
SC

Board Meeting:

December 9, 7:00 pm @
Red Bank UMC, Lexington,
SC

Board Meeting:

January 13, 7:00 pm @ Red
Bank UMC, Lexington, SC

January Gathering:

January 24, at 7:00 pm at
St. Johns UMC in Lugoff.

Board Meeting:

February 10, 7:00 pm @
Red Bank UMC, Lexington,
SC

February Gathering:

There will be no February
gathering due to the Walks.

Board Meeting:

March 9, 7:00 pm @ Red
Bank UMC, Lexington, SC

March Gathering:

March 27, at 7:00 pm at to
be determined.

Board Meeting:

April 13, 7:00 pm @ Red
Bank UMC, Lexington, SC

April Gathering:

April 24, at 7:00 pm at to be
determined.

Spiritual Director's Message

This Advent

This Advent, let me anticipate the birth day of Jesus
With renewed longing in my heart for God's coming;
With enough space in my life to allow for the special moments;
With an open heart and an open mind to hear of peace, joy and
justice;
With the eagerness and wonder of a child;
With a waiting that acknowledges excitement and the unexpected.

This Advent, let me prepare for the birth day of Jesus
By savoring the opportunities of sharing and caring;
By reaffirming both the comfort and the judgment that God gives;
By lighting the Advent wreath and the Christmas tree
As symbols of hope in the midst of darkness;
By cleaning, shopping, baking without being frantic and harried;
By being available for the awe, despair, doubt, surprise
And expectations of family, friends, and myself.

This Advent, let me celebrate the birth day of Jesus
With thanksgiving for God's forgiveness and mercy;
With a birthday cake and a song with those I love;
With God's grace in my life and a "yes" to God's guidance;
By giving gifts with joy and receiving gifts with grace;
By remembering with action God's children living on the edge of
society.

This Advent, let me wait in faith for God's Promised One.
Let me be ready and open to God's surprises.
Let me celebrate God's presence and the hope, joy and peace
That comes to all through this child/man, Jesus.

Written by Joyce S. Sohl, UMC Women's Division
Blessings to each and every one this Advent and Christmas
season!

DeColores,
Pastor Linda

The Chairman's Corner

We hope you all had a happy and blessed Thanksgiving. As we approach the busy-ness of the Christmas season, let us not forget the reason for the season as Linus recited from Luke 2: 8-14:

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this [shall be] a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.

Sponsors remember to bring your pilgrims to the next Gathering that will be held on December 7, 2019 at Rehoboth United Methodist Church in Columbia.

Upcoming Walks

Upcoming EMMAUS walk dates:

February 20-23, 2020 Men

February 27-March 1, 2020 Women

We need pilgrims for these Walks. Since these Walks are coming up quick, please be diligent in identifying pilgrims for them. Get your pilgrim applications to Mary Brown as soon as you can. Let's pray for full Walks!

Board Vacancy Announcement

Your Emmaus Board is in need of a Secretary. If you would like to fill this position contact Sid Hawkins for more details. We have several board members that will be rotating off soon. Please prayerfully consider running for one of these positions.

If you would like to host a gathering at your church in 2020 contact Sid at (803) 206-1022 or at sidhawkins@aol.com.

May God lead you all in your Fourth Days.

Prayers, Concerns and Praises

- Pray for upcoming Emmaus events: Walks, Gatherings, Board Meetings, etc.
- Pray for the upcoming holiday season
- Pray for those serving our country at home and abroad.
- Pray for all pastors and churches

Sponsorship

Sponsorship training is held a few times per year about twenty minutes prior to a monthly Gathering. The next Sponsorship training session will be held before a future Gathering as the need arises. Please submit Pilgrim applications as soon as you can. Pilgrim applications should be mailed to:

*Mary Brown (Registrar)
320 Blanding St.
Batesburg, SC 29006
803-447-0179 (cell) maryb1025@gmail.com*

Just a reminder, if you have any information for upcoming newsletters please notify me at my contact info below. Also, if you know of a community member that is not receiving the newsletter, either electronically or via hard copy, let me know.

DeColores!

Terri Goodman, P.O. Box 851, Jackson, SC 29831
(803) 471-2305 (Home) (803) 215-7744 (Cell), terrigoodman59@gmail.com

Emmaus of the Midlands
PO Box 25165
Columbia, SC 29224-5165

