

Messenger

A monthly newsletter of the Emmaus of the Midlands Community

Volume 20, Issue 9, September 2020



Upcoming Events:

Board Meeting:

September 14, 7:00 pm to be determined.

September Gathering:

Cancelled until further notice due to pandemic

Board Meeting:

October 12, 7:00 pm to be determined.

October Gathering:

Cancelled until further notice due to pandemic

Board Meeting:

November 9, 7:00 pm to be determined.

November Gathering:

Cancelled until further notice due to pandemic

Board Meeting:

December 14, 7:00 pm to be determined.

December Gathering:

Cancelled until further notice due to pandemic

Board Meeting:

January 11, 7:00 pm to be determined.

January Gathering:

Cancelled until further notice due to pandemic

Spiritual Director's Message

I was reading the other day and found this writing from Rachel Held Evans, who died recently. It is from her book, Searching for Sunday. It tells a hard truth that perhaps we all need to hear today.

“But the modern-day church doesn’t like to wander or wait. The modern-day church likes results.

Convinced the gospel is a product we’ve got to sell to an increasingly shrinking market, we like our people to function as walking advertisements: happy, put-together, finished—proof that this Jesus stuff WORKS!

At its best, such a culture generates pews of Stepford Wife–style robots with painted smiles and programmed moves.

At its worst, it creates environments where abuse and corruption get covered up to protect reputations and preserve image.

“The world is watching,” Christians like to say, “so let’s be on our best behavior and quickly hide the mess.

Let’s throw up some before-and-after shots and roll that flashy footage of our miracle product blanching out every sign of dirt, hiding every sign of disease.”

But if the world is watching, we might as well tell the truth. And the truth is, the church doesn’t offer a cure.

It doesn’t offer a quick fix.

The church offers death and resurrection. The church offers the messy, inconvenient, gut-wrenching, never-ending work of healing and reconciliation.

The church offers grace.

Anything else we try to peddle is snake oil.

It’s not the real thing.”

We need to focus on the “real thing” as a community of faith as we support our churches trying to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

DeColores,
David Anderson

The Chairman's Corner

Due to the Covid-19 virus our newsletter is very minimal. Since we haven’t been meeting, we don’t have a lot of information to share. Once

we begin meeting again and get back to our normal status, we should have an expanded newsletter. But, until then, stay safe and pray for our country.

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land”.
2 Chronicles 7:14

When it is appropriate we will again gather and celebrate with food and companionship but until then know that you are all missed, thought of, and loved.

Thad

Upcoming Walks

The Camp Directors, Allen and Bonnie, have retired. The new camp director is Grip Lawson. The next Walks are scheduled for March 4-7, 2021 (Men) and March 11-14, 2021 (Women). We need pilgrims for these Walks. 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!

Gatherings

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our Gatherings have been canceled until further notice.

If you would like to host a gathering at your church once they have resumed, contact Thad Hinnant at 803-490-1202 (thinnant@sc.rr.com).

Prayers, Concerns and Praises

- Pray for upcoming Emmaus events: Walks, Gatherings, Board Meetings, etc.
- Pray for an end to the coronavirus and for healing for those that have it.
- Pray for Sid Hawkins
- Pray for Ida Corl

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 from your church (example: yard sales, concerts, special events, etc) 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 (check your spam folder) 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

