

The Messenger



A monthly newsletter of the Emmaus of the Midlands Community

Emmaus of the Midlands
PO Box 85
Lexington, SC 29071

Volume 25, Issue 5, May 27, 2025

Upcoming Events:

Board Meeting

Monday, June 9, 6:30 pm
Brookland UMC

June Gathering

Friday, June 27, 2025
7:00 PM
Dalzell Methodist Church

Team Training

August 1-2, 2025
August 15-16, 2025
Location to be determined

Fall Walks

Men's Walk, Sept. 25-28
Women's Walk, Oct. 2-5

MIKE'S MOMENT

As we look back on Easter Sunday and as we reflect on the risen Savior in our own life, let us focus on Him and all He has done for us. Let us look at the storms in our own life and let us focus on Him as the sun shines on our face and the rain falls on our backs. Remember to keep him close in all of life's ups and downs.

"If then, your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, then the whole body will be full of light." Luke 11: 36

De Colores
Rev. Mike Evans,
Emmaus of the Midlands Spiritual Director
Walk 47, Table of John

CAROLYN'S CORNER

Preparations are well underway for the Fall Walks for Emmaus of the Midlands. Bill Rose, Lay Director of Men's Walk #57, will be making calls shortly to the board's recommendations for the Conference Room Team, as well as Terry Booth, Lay Director for Women's Walk #57. The Team Selection Committee met Saturday, May 24, and had a very productive morning coming up with names of people to serve in the Conference Room. This was after much thought and prayer that God would lead us to the right servants. If your name was not selected for this walk, remember that you can still serve by volunteering for kitchen help, camp set-up and take-down, making snack agape, table agape, writing letters, attending Send-Off, Candlelight Communion Service, and Closing. You could possibly sponsor a pilgrim to attend.

It takes a lot more than the 28 members of the Conference Room to put on a Walk. Ask God how you can serve best. It takes sacrifice and commitment to serve our Lord in whatever way He chooses to use us. And, by the way, if you are interested in serving in the Conference Room, please let someone on the Board of Directors know. There is no hierarchy in Emmaus. The one who is Lay Director is no more important than the one who cleans the toilets. I ask each of you to please pray that when all is said and done, that the teams for these Walks will be God's Team. Blessings to all of you, Carolyn McLean, Board Chair



THE PICNIC THAT ALMOST WASN'T, A FOURTH DAY REFLECTION

Linda Kiraly, Board Chair, Gatherings and Reunion Groups

An hour before the picnic Gathering was supposed to start, I felt the first raindrops. I watched my weather app all week, and the reports were never good. It now confirmed that a line of storms was ready to dump rain on the picnic right about the time it was scheduled to begin. At first, I felt frustrated and helpless. Then, some of that Word I had hidden in my heart came to me. In Daniel 3, King Nebuchadnezzar found out that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to serve his gods, and promised to throw them immediately into the fiery furnace if they did not serve his gods. The king asked them, "Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?" The Hebrew youth replied that the God they served was quite able to deliver them from the fiery furnace. Verse 18a: "But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods."



Now, I know that is a little dramatic, and I promise that I do realize I was not being called upon to exercise nearly the level of faith these young men of God did. But I felt the realization that I had been bargaining with God in order to be obedient to Him. I will do this and, in return, I expect You, Lord, to do that. The realization that I, like those Hebrew youth, was called to be faithful to do His will regardless of His response hit my spirit like a stick of dynamite. I felt the importance of faith and obedience to His calling, and to let the outcome be in His hands (as if it should be any other place). My relationship with God cannot be transactional. He gives pressed down, shaken together, and overflowing because it is in His nature. My actions cannot be dependent on what follows, but on obedience to the call. If you love Me, keep My commands-Jn 14:15.

Those of you who attended the picnic know the end of the story. There was no rain, and the cloud cover kept the temperature comfortable in the pavilion. We enjoyed a joyful, Spirit-filled time of music, testimony, prayer and fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ. I thanked God for what He did and asked forgiveness for what I did.

How does this relate to our Fourth Day? As His body, many of us are asked to participate according to His calling on our lives. We are asked to serve in the conference room or the kitchen, start or change reunion groups, take up a new church ministry or revive an old one, or prioritize a daily time with Him. Does our fear of the weather forecast get in the way? Or, like those Hebrew youth, can we faithfully answer that call and see what the day brings us?

You are Invited to our Next Emmaus Gathering!

Dalzell Methodist Church

3330 Black River Rd, Dalzell, SC 29040

June 27, 2025, 7 pm

Bring your favorite dish to share and join us for a time of fellowship and worship.

A REFLECTION BY BRIAN AUSTIN

I can't see it, but I know the sun did rise. Got me thinking about our faith this morning. There are times that we don't see God in our life. There may be times we do not feel God in our life. But he is always there whether we feel him or see him. I didn't see the sun rise this morning, but it sure did. I didn't see the Son rise all those years ago, but He sure did. And He did it just for me! Well, my friends, this is one awesome morning!!



******Important Dates – Mark Your Calendar******

Fall Walks

Men's Walk #57 – September 25-28, 2025

Camp Agape

Lay Director – Bill Rose

Women's Walk #57 – October 2-5, 2025

Camp Agape

Lay Director – Terry Booth

Team Training for Men's and Women's Fall Walks #57

August 1-2, 2025

August 15-16, 2025

Spring Walks

Men's Walk #58 – March 12-15, 2026

Camp Agape

Lay Director – Ken Medlin

Women's Walk #58 – March 19-22, 2026

Camp Agape

Lay Director – Tina Lipscomb

If your church can host Team Training by providing sleeping arrangements, kitchen, meeting room for both teams together, and separate rooms for training for men and women, please contact Carolyn McLean, Board Chair, at 803-414-6216.

The EOM Board of Directors is now offering sponsorship training at each Gathering, for those interested in learning about sponsorship according to the Emmaus model. This is a great way to prepare for the responsibility of helping a pilgrim on their journey with Christ prior to, during, and after the Walk. These trainings will be at 6:30 pm at the church. The June Gathering is at Dalzell Methodist, 3330 Black River Rd Dalzell SC 29040. Pre-Registration is required, so please email Adam Kiraly at adamkiraly2326@gmail.com if you would like to attend. Even if you have sponsored before, this could be very beneficial. De Colores!

2024-2025 Board of Directors

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