

# 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 10, October 17, 2025**

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## **CAROLYN'S CORNER by Carolyn McLean, Community Lay Director/Board Chair**



Oh, my, where has the time gone? I hardly know what to say to you in this final column (for me) of "The Messenger." Also, my time as the Community Lay Director/Board Chair is coming to an end on October 31, and I am filled with many emotions.

First of all, I want to say how deeply humbled and honored I am to have served our community in this capacity. I have always felt that I served best in the background, but God had other plans for me, and He surely stretched me during these past two years in ways that I could never imagine. I have received far more than I have given, and I can only say to God be the glory!

Secondly, I am privileged to have worked with the best during the two years I served as Board Chair. Each committee chairperson went over and above in serving the community, and in doing so, they were serving their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. God has provided so many needs for us, and we worked hard, prayed much, laughed tons, cried some, and always tried to put God first in everything that was said and done.

Thirdly, we all grieved having to postpone two walks during this time—one because of Hurricane Helene, and the other due to the lack of pilgrims. Our prayer is that the community will rally and step up to sponsor pilgrims for the upcoming spring walks.

As a new board begins work on November 1 with a new chairperson, let us all give our all to make Emmaus of the Midlands a thriving community—a community full of energetic, enthusiastic, Holy Spirit-filled servants seeking to sponsor those who need to know the love and grace of a risen Savior and whose lives will be changed forever. God bless us all!!

Much love and De Colores forever, Carolyn McLean

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

Thanks to all who cast ballots in our annual board elections. Congratulations to the following who were elected to a three-year term. They will take office on November 1, and a new board chair, vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer will be elected by the board at the first board meeting on November 10. Thank you, Terry Peterson, Kenneth Bundrick, and Carolyn McLean, whose terms have expired. Well done, good and faithful servants!

Becky Goudelock  
Matt Goudelock  
Delores Fish  
Jodie Harper  
Tina Lipscomb



**You are Invited to our Next Emmaus Gathering!**

**Friday, October 24, 2025**

**St John's Global Methodist Church**

**513 West Church Street**

**Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29006**

**Sponsorship Training - 6:30 pm**

**Fellowship Meal - 7:00 pm**

**Bring your favorite dish to share and join us for a time of fellowship and good food, followed by Prayer, Singing, Fourth Day Reflection, Communion and Worship.**

**We will also have several churns of homemade ice cream!! Yum-Yum!!!**



### **REFLECTION ON PEACE, PRAYER, AND HOPE - Mike Evans, Spiritual Director**

Staying Grounded in Faith During Uncertain Times

***Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. Col. 4:2***

As we watch the unfolding events in the news, the reports of peace in the Middle East bring both hope and a reminder of the ever-changing world we live in. In these moments, it is important to turn to Scripture for guidance and reassurance. Colossians reminds us that we only serve one Master, and our dedication to Him should be unwavering.



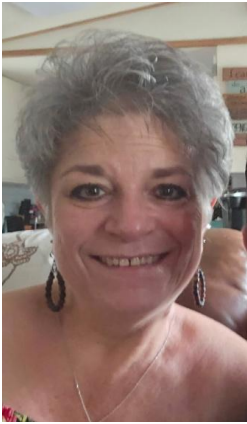
Let us be diligent in prayer, approaching God with thanksgiving for the blessings we have, and interceding for one another. The challenges of today call for us to lift up our friends, families, and even strangers in earnest prayer, trusting that God hears and answers according to His will.

As we keep our eyes on the eastern sky, waiting in anticipation for the return of our Savior, may we find encouragement to stay steadfast in faith. Let prayer be our anchor, drawing us closer to God and each other. In these times of uncertainty and hope, let us pray not just for ourselves, but for our families and for peace throughout the world.

May God bless you and keep you, granting you peace, strength, and unwavering hope as you continue to walk in faith.

## **FOURTH DAY REFLECTION**

I am Allison Thomson. I attend Red Bank Fellowship Church. I attended EOM Walk #17, and I sat at the table of Miriam.



*In your Piety, Study and Action in the last week, was there anything that stood out to you?*

A: My morning devotions, I listen to a lot of Joyce Meyer. The mind is where you win or lose everything that is going on. I think that is what I've learned the most recently. I was bad about letting my mind tell me how to act, how to respond, and it wasn't always good. And I like to sing. I have always said that that is me and God. That is my love letter to God. That's how we communicate-He puts songs in my head. I will say my weak point is daily prayer. He gives me little nudges, 'You aren't spending enough time with me.'

*At what moment in the past week or so, did you feel closest to God?*

A: I always feel close to Him because He always gives those nudges, that God wink. One that sticks out, though, is after the flooding in Texas. I was on my porch praying for those children. Just as plain as day He said to me, "I got them." I just bawled like a baby. John came out and said, "What's up with you?" And I told him I just couldn't stop crying. Just as plain as day. "I've got them. It's ok." And there is such a peace when He chooses to do stuff like that. It just blows me out of the water. That He knows our name. And He knows our heart. And He loves us enough to say, "I know your hurt. It's ok. I've got them."

*Thank you for sharing, now we're both crying.....at what moment during this week did you feel you were responding to God's call to be a disciple, be the heartbeat of Christ?*

A: Every day on my bus, is my opportunity to be the heartbeat of Christ. This little boy; definitely on the spectrum, he couldn't ride a regular bus. And at the school I drive for, if students don't play well with others, they'll put them on my bus. His second day, I was talking to him. He pointed to my ring-it had a cross on it-and said, "Are you Jesus?" And it just slayed me. I said, 'No, but I know him. Do you know who Jesus is?' From that day on, it was like a connection with him. He was always ready for a hug. It was a testament to what he needed. He lived with his grandmother; he had been taken from his mother; he was seven or eight. Living it and loving those kids. I mean, the old cliché, you're the first smiling face they see, and probably the last they see that day. And that is important. That's the biggest way I can live it with these kids. It's just loving them.

Submitted by Linda Kiraly, Gatherings and Reunion Groups

### **NEW BANNERS NEEDED**

As stated earlier in the year, many of our banners used in the conference room are beginning to look tattered. There is plenty of time between now and the spring walks to create new ones, and if you or your reunion group are interested in providing one or more, please contact Jodie Harper at [jodieharper55@gmail.com](mailto:jodieharper55@gmail.com). She has the sizes needed and plenty of ideas for easy to make banners.



# Spring Walks

Men's Walk – March 12-15, 2026  
Women's Walk – March 19-22, 2026  
Location – Camp Agape, Batesburg, SC

We believe wholeheartedly that God wants us to go forward with the spring walks. We are receiving applications and sponsor's covenants from now until January 29, 2026, when we must have at least 15 men and 15 women signed up. If we meet that number, we will schedule team training and continue to receive applications. Our goal is to have 20 or more for each walk.

Terry Booth will continue her work as Lay Director for the Women's Walk. Ken Medlin has been elected as Lay Director for the Men's Walk.

***“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever! Amen.” Ephesians 3:20-21***

## SIX THINGS TO DO AS WE AWAIT THE SPRING WALKS

PRAY

MAKE TABLE AGAPE

ATTEND A SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

FORM A REUNION/FOURTH DAY GROUP

ATTEND A GATHERING

TELL SOMEONE ABOUT EMMAUS AND OFFER TO SPONSOR

God can do what we can't, but let's not take for granted the part we can play in His plan. We have the privilege to be His hands, reaching out to those we are called to help. We can be His voice, speaking life into those who need it most. We can be led by His Spirit, showing love to those who feel hopeless. Remember, you can do the ministry He has called you to! (Anonymous)

