

FOOTPRINTS—

Foothills Emmaus Community

January 2010

Lay Director's Comments

Happy New Year to all you. I know that many of us are glad to see 2009 come to an end! It has been a difficult and challenging year for many people as the economy has continued to struggle, and we all know people who have lost jobs in this tough economic climate. Even so, I am reminded of just how blessed we all are. We live in one of the wealthiest countries in the world. We often take for granted the freedom that we have been given to openly serve and worship our Lord.

2010 offers all of us the opportunity for new beginnings. My heart is always warmed at the Closing ceremony when pilgrims share what the weekend has meant to them and what they intend to do with it. It is by the grace of God that each pilgrim attends a weekend Walk. It is through your sponsorship and involvement that these Walks become a reality for pilgrims. It takes many people serving in a wide variety of capacities to form the Body of Christ to serve the pilgrims during a Walk weekend.

In that spirit, I would like to ask that you consider 3 actions this year in relation to the Foothills Emmaus Community: (You may want to write these down.)

1 – Pray – Pray for the Foothills Emmaus community. Pray that we remain

focused on doing God's will and furthering His kingdom here on earth. Pray for the Board to make wise decisions as we face tough challenges. Pray for those who will serve in leadership roles during Walk weekends. Pray for those who will serve in the background as humble servants throughout the year. Pray for our clergy.

2 – Sponsor – Consider sponsoring someone for a Walk. Before approaching a potential pilgrim, please take a moment to review the Sponsorship section of the website. The first step to sponsorship is:

PRAY: Before even talking with someone about the walk, pray for the Lord's guidance in who & when to sponsor. Pray for the person you are considering. Prayer should be focused on how this person can become a more vitally alive Christian in helping bring God's kingdom into his/her natural environment, rather than how to get

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<p><i>this person to attend the weekend.</i></p> <p>It is in this spirit that we should consider sponsoring individuals. Who can you think of who would be a good fit for a Walk? Begin praying for that person, and then make an appointment with him/her to talk about Emmaus. Be honest with your answers to questions and sensitive to those who show hesitancy.</p> <p>3 – Participate – On the third Friday of every month, the Foothills Emmaus community gathers at a church for singing, witnessing, communion, prayer, food, fun, and fellowship. It is a great opportunity to reconnect</p>	<p>with others from the community and to meet new people. One of the best ways to meet new people in the community is to serve in the kitchen during a Walk. If you cannot serve in the kitchen, there are <u>many</u> other ways to participate in the community.</p> <p>I welcome the challenges that face us in 2010, and I trust that with your action and the grace of God, this community will continue to touch many people.</p>	<p>I look forward to serving the Foothills Emmaus community with you this year.</p> <p>DeColores!</p> <p>Leah O'Neal Board Chair</p> 
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<p>Thank You</p> <p>I just want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the board who are leaving after serving so faithfully the past three years. Craig Dittmar, Libby Waldrep, Bill Houx and Sherrill Austin have been remarkable people to work with. I also want to thank the rest of the board members who will be staying on to serve the community. The past year</p>	<p>was a difficult one, not only for the community but for the world.</p> <p>We had to make some decisions that we felt were in the best interest of the community and stand behind those choices. Now it is time to take action to put those choices to work for us as members of the Body of Christ.</p> <p>As we move into the New</p>	<p>Year with new members on the board, I know that they will do what is right for this community! I ask that each of you stand behind them and the decisions that are made. And I ask that each of you step forward to ensure that we will continue to move in the right direction. It not only depends on the board but</p>
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each of us to make a success of The Walk to Emmaus! Keep the members of the board, the community, and those who will be and should be on the walks in your prayers. Remember that the walks are there to help the church to grow, and only through the work of each of us can that be achieved! I urge you all to participate in the community functions, the walks, prayer and especially sponsorship, because without these, we are not doing what Jesus told us to do!

May the Spirit be with each of you as we move forward! May each of us walk humbly with our Lord and serve him as we are instructed to do!

Decolores!
John MacKeil



Below is the list of Board Members for 2010

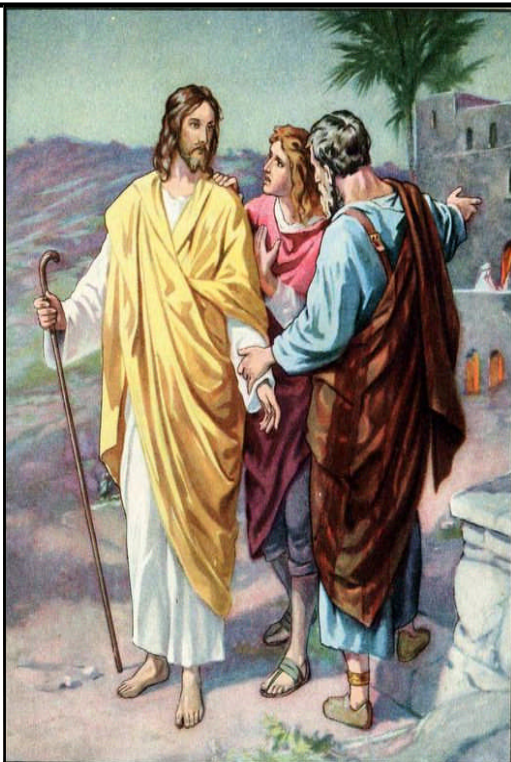
Board Chair ~~~~~Leah O'Neal
 Vice Chair ~~~~~ Roy Suttles
 Secretary~~~~~George Yoder
 Treasurer ~~~~~Jimmy Davis
 Spiritual Director ~~~~~Peggy Garland
 Asst Spiritual Director ~to be determined
 Registrar~~~~~Laura Keck
 Housing~~~~~Connie Herring
 72 Hour Prayer Vigil~~~~~Ray McCoy
 Kitchen~~~~~Lydia Beck
 Music~~~~~Steve Grose
 Agape~~~~~George Yoder
 Worship~~~~~Conway Belangia
 Transportation ~~~~~Alice Galloway
 Newsletter/Web/Dir~~~~~Barbara Rambo
 Literature~~~~~Holly Gunderson
 Refreshments~~~~~Renee Reid

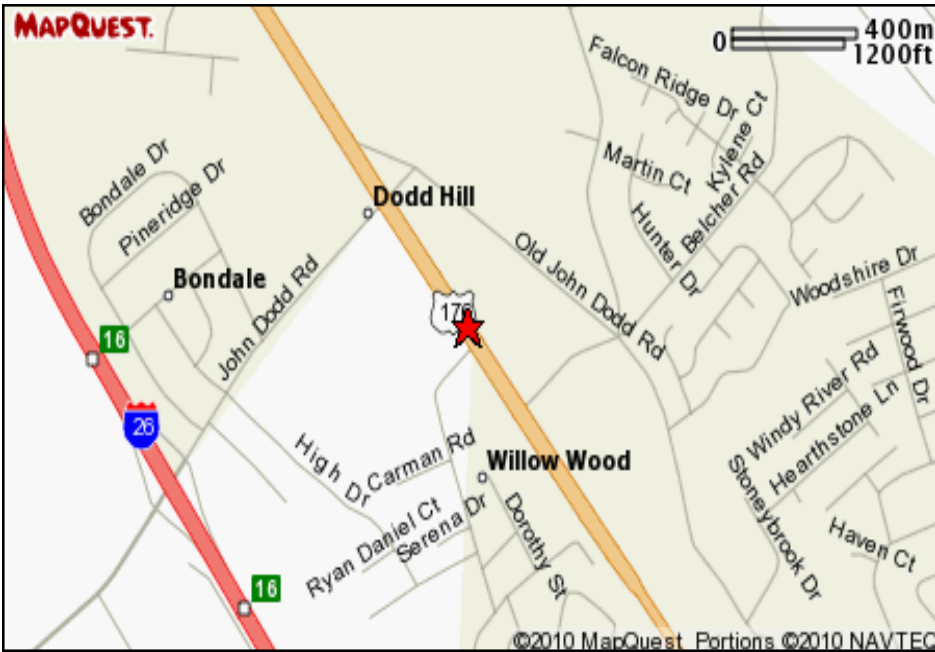
IT'S ALMOST TIME!!!!

The deadline for sending applications for the Spring Walks is approaching quickly. At this time there are 17 men and 25 ladies registered for the Spring Walks.

Applications forms must be filled out completely and legibly.

You can download a form from the website www.foothillsemmaus.org or can receive one by fax, U.S. mail, email or at any gathering. An application that does not include the \$25 non-refundable deposit, the completed Sponsor's form or is incomplete or illegible will be returned to the sponsor. The balance of \$60 is due at Send-Off. Please read the Sponsor's Responsibilities section of the application. The responsibilities are updated periodically so be sure to read them carefully!
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January Gathering

January 15th; 7:30pm

**UMC of the Covenant
9020 Asheville Hwy
Spartanburg, SC 29316**

**Open Gathering
Bring a Friend,
Prospective Pilgrim,
and a dish!**

A full walk consists of 36 pilgrims. We can only accept 6 pilgrims per church. The deadline for sending in applications for the Spring Walks is February 19. Any applications received after that time will be deferred to the Fall Walks.

Please do not call or email me to "save a spot" for your potential pilgrim. The list is comprised of those who have turned in completed applications with the \$25 non-refundable deposit.

You can mail your form to the PO Box on the application or to me at:

Laura Keck
147 Stoddard Mill Rd.,
Gray Court, SC 29645

DeColores, Laura

Are You Ready to Do Your Part?

For those who wish to work "behind the scenes" (i.e. Refreshments, Prayer Vigil, Transportation, Candlelight, Kitchen, Agape, Housing, Luggage) for the Spring walks, Sign-Up Sheets will be available following the January and February Gatherings.

