

# Footsteps *In the Footprints of Christ*

## From Your Lay Director

Some of you may remember a young man by the name of Matt Emmons. He competed in the 2004 Olympics in rifle shooting. He had won one gold medal and was on the verge of winning his second gold medal. He was on his last shot and held such a commanding lead that he only needed to hit near the bull's eye. He set up for his final shot, and focused on the target. At that moment, he had one thought on his mind: to hit the target and win his second gold medal. He fired and hit the target! There was just one problem: he hit the wrong target. He was shooting in lane two but hit the target in lane three. He had cross-fired, a very rare occurrence at this level of competition. This mistake caused him to drop from first place to eighth place in the competition. During his preparation, Matt had focused on the wrong target.

In Philippians 3:14, Paul says, "I pressed toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus". Paul was focused on this goal. It was his target, and he was very intentional in working towards that target. He kept his sight on the goal and worked to eliminate distractions.

We all have goals and targets. We are all focused on certain priorities, and we all have distractions. I have a target of paying off my house early. That target leads to another goal of retiring early. (Right now, I am only 21 years away from retirement!) While I have set these targets, they are worldly targets. I refuse to let them take priority over giving to my church or helping other people. I refuse to let these targets take over my life and cause me to lose focus on what's really important – striving to be more like Christ. While I know I fall short of that goal, it remains my focus, my target, my goal, and my priority. I want to live life along the way. I don't want to be focused on the wrong goal and miss the only goal that really counts. Yes, there will be distractions, but it is up to me to maintain focus.

What is your target? What is your goal? What is it that consumes your time, energy, and money? There is nothing wrong with these targets - as long as they do not come between you and God. We can have multiple goals, but as Paul reminds us, our main goal should be serving our Lord. What's in your crosshair today?

*DeColores,*

*Leah*



## September Gathering

September 17<sup>th</sup>; 7:30pm

**Mauldin UMC**  
100 E. Butler Rd.  
Mauldin, SC 29662

### Important Fall Walk Information:

Men's- September 30- October 3

Ladies- October 7-10

Application Deadline: **September 10, 2010!!**

## From the Agape Chairman

I just wanted to give the community a little reminder that **THE FALL WALKS ARE ALMOST HERE AND WE NEED MORE**

**AGAPE!** For the past couple of walks, the amount of agape that has been available for the pilgrims has been noticeably less than in years past. Let's get our reunion groups together and demonstrate God's love through a few extra gifts to place on their meal tables. I would love nothing more than trying to meet the challenge what to do with a "heaped up and overflowing" abundance of agape. We certainly have enough time to make this fall walk a "wow" experience for our pilgrims.

If any reunion group needs a project to work on, we no longer have anyone making covers for the pilgrim guides. Over the years, this has been one of the more durable and practical agape gifts. Just send me an email and let me know if you're interested in taking over this project.

Thank you for everything you do for our pilgrims, our community, and our churches.

George Yoder  
Agape Chairperson

## Future Gatherings

October 15<sup>th</sup>

St. Matthew-Greenville

November 19<sup>th</sup>

Cowpens UMC-Cowpens

## Candlelight Service

We are quickly approaching the walks. We all need to be in prayer for the pilgrims, teams, and the weekend as a whole.

We will need help on both the men's & women's walks to clean up after the pilgrims leave to return to the camp. A few energetic people and we can make quick work cleaning up, vacuuming, removing candle wax, and putting the sanctuary back as we found it. You can sign up for one or both. All help will be greatly appreciated. We want this to be a wonderful time and experience for all the pilgrims. Call me at 864-895-4288 (leave a message please), or e-mail me at [jfbyrd2@aol.com](mailto:jfbyrd2@aol.com).

DeColores,

Janice Byrd  
Candlelight Chairperson

## Housing

HOUSING ..... you remember, when a group of Emmaus folks gets together to set up the Camp for the Walks. Yes, I'm still the Housing Chair, and following this surgery I'm sure I won't be able to do a lot of physical stuff for a while. SOOOOOOOO , I need your help -- and lots of it.

Set-up: meet at the Camp at 9am on Sept. 30. The more of you there are who come to help, the quicker we'll get finished. I'd appreciate it if somebody will volunteer to re-set the camp between the two weekends. If you can do this part, I'll discuss it with you in detail.

Break-down: 9am on Monday following the Women's Walk. Naturally, the more the Community can do after Closing on Sunday, the quicker we'll be able to finish on Monday.

Don't forget -- the Camp is ours until Monday of break-down, so save yourself some mileage if you plan to be at Closing, and spend the night there on Sunday night. Several of us have done this numerous times, and you wouldn't believe everything we can get done before bedtime on Sunday. We work hard, but we have lots of fun. Think about it this way ....

Work Is Worship When Done For The Lord. Housing is an excellent way to PRAISE HIM.

PLEASE e-mail me if you can plan to be available. I'll need your phone number, name and e-mail address.

I love you all.

DeColores, Connie <><