

# A Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus

August 2002

"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

John 8:12

## Many Hands, Light Work

Don't you just love the doctor's office? Wait, wait, and then wait some more? I had to take my son to the doctor this week. While waiting we began to look at a book that showed the cross sections of different items. There were helicopters, luxury boats, a space shuttle, a tank, and a jumbo jet. The one that fascinated us the most was a cathedral. The pictures showed the intricate details of a cathedral. It was amazing how many pieces of wood, tile, glass, and roof shingles it took to make up this cathedral. My son said that is was amazing that it took so many items to make up the house of God. As I thought about his statement I began to realize that without the people coming together for worship the building would be nothing.

Just as it takes so many pieces and people to make up the house of worship, it takes many pieces and people to make up Emmaus. We have people from many denominations who come together once a month for worship and twice a year to make the Walk to Emmaus possible. Those people sponsor, pray, work in the kitchen, drive the pilgrims to the camp and to candlelight, clean rooms and bathrooms, set up tables and chairs, hang curtains, mop floors, write agape letters, provide agape, attend candlelight, provide snacks, and so much more. I encourage every member of our community to sign up for one or more activities of the walks in October and participate in the privilege of making up the body of Christ! Sign up sheets will be available at the August gathering.

De Colores!  
*Laura Keck, Board Chair*

## New Board Member

Please join me in welcoming Jimmy Davis to the board. Jimmy will be filling the vacancy left by Mel Arant until the end of the year. Jimmy is in charge of Candlelight.

De Colores! Laura

## Worship Committee

If your church is willing to host the **September or January gathering** please contact Deedie Belangia at 676-1223. The August gathering will be held at Inman UMC. Please bring your favorite snack or drink to share with the community. Sign up sheets will be available for the fall walks.

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the things we enjoy most in the Emmaus Community is the food. Although some pilgrims are skeptical on Friday mornings of their walk, they soon learn that the good food is one of the highlights of the weekend. Of course, when we gather for any reason during our fourth days, the table is spread with good things to eat. Our Board of Directors often meets at a restaurant so that they can eat before, after or during the business meeting. It seems like we just can't do anything without eating. Christians are like that. We love to eat!

Many years ago Maggie and I attended a meeting of the Spartanburg Organist Guild at the Greek Orthodox Church. The priest explained their worship service to us, and although there was much that was familiar, some of it was strange to me. When we went into the fellowship hall for refreshments I felt right at home. I looked at the tables filled with food and thought I could have been in most any little Methodist or Baptist gathering. I have to admit that the dessert table was a little different. I've never seen so many Greek pastries in one place. Sometime later I was serving two churches near Dillon, SC and the pastor of the First Baptist there invited me to speak to their Men's Fellowship on Wednesday evening. The whole church gathered at about 6:30 in the fellowship hall and there was a long table filled with all sorts of food. There was a huge, iron pot filled with chicken and rice, a staple in the Pee Dee area, and an equally large pot of barbecue, turnip greens fried "lean meat" and all kinds of desserts. We ate our fill and the men went into the sanctuary for me to speak to them. I hadn't talked very long until they were all sound asleep. I can usually keep some awake till I'm finished but the combination of my talking, a hard day's work and all that hot food was more than they could endure. I'm sure they didn't come to hear me teach. They really just came for the supper. The teaching was just meant to add some spirituality - a religious excuse to meet and eat. Christians are like that. Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Greek Orthodox-we love to eat.

There's nothing wrong with that. Jesus was like that. His first miracle was at a wedding banquet. Not too long after he fed five thousand seated on a hillside several miles from town. He went to Matthew's, Zacchaeus's, Mary and Martha's-to eat with them. He described heaven as a "heavenly banquet." And he said, "Behold, I stand and the door and knock. If anyone will open the door, I'll come and eat with them." Jesus was often eating or talking about eating. There was one meal, however, that was different from all the rest. On the last night that Our Lord ate with his disciples, he blessed the bread, broke it and gave it to them. After supper he did the same with the cup of wine, and he said, "Whenever you do this, do it in remembrance of me." And it was so. After his resurrection he walked along the road to Emmaus with two friends who knew him well but did not recognize him until they reached home and he once again broke the bread and gave it to them. Jesus instituted a sacrament when he did this and Christians everywhere share in this sacrament of bread and wine. I'm not so sure that he had another thing in mind as well. I think he meant that whenever we gather and share a meal, whether it's a large banquet or a simple picnic among friends; that he is there with us; and we should remember him. For Christians, I think, every meal is Eucharistic. Matthew implied this also by using the same words in recording the miracle of Jesus feeding five thousand. He says, "He blessed the bread, broke it and gave it to them" .the same words. Whenever we break bread together, at home or church or banquet hall, he is with us. At times we all experience spiritual dry spells. We encounter hard times and challenging situations and don't feel the presence of God with us. Whenever this happens, it's a good thing to ask, "How long since you ate?"

Grace and peace,  
*Richard Hopper*  
*Assistant Community Spiritual Director*

# fall walks

# *Etiquette*

A Reminder Of Good Community Etiquette From The Board

The entire Emmaus Walk program was carefully designed and has served well over many years and many different types of communities. The following guidelines do have a purpose in the total design of the weekend. Thank you for observing them.

## **General, Gatherings, Etc.**

1. Please wear your nametag. A cross is optional. Bring snack food/drinks to share following the service. Be alert to welcome new persons to the community. Remember the Emmaus community is called to demonstrate the inclusive love of God.
2. People, who have not attended an Emmaus Weekend or similar weekend, are not to attend gatherings just prior to or immediately following a set of Walks. Nor are they to attend Send Off, Candlelight, or Closing.
3. Sponsors, please see that children of Pilgrims DO NOT attend Send Off, Candlelight, or Closing. Make provisions for baby-sitting needs as part of your sponsoring agape.
4. The community does provide baby sitters at Gatherings. No baby-sitting is provided for Send-Off, Candlelight or Closing. These functions can be long and the Board recommends that children do not attend.
5. Have no personal agape for a Pilgrim. The weekend is not a time to show someone how much you personally care for them. It is an immersion in God's love by God's people. Personal agape can be a good Fourth Day blessing after the Walks.

## **Send-Off. (Thursdays at 7:00 pm to register, Send-Off at 7:30 pm)**

6. Please wear nametags. Please do not overdo it with wearing Emmaus clothing. NO Emmaus crosses. Be friendly, but not overly warm and hugging. With Pilgrim apprehension high at Send-Off, we don't want any appearance of an exclusive group.
7. Sponsors, help get the Pilgrim(s) luggage tagged, then take them directly to the registration table.
8. Resist asking community members if they are on the team or whom they are sponsoring. You could put a team member in an awkward position if in the presence of a Pilgrim.
9. When names are called out for the team and Pilgrims to leave, please limit your enthusiastic response to clapping. Shouts for some, but not others, add to the high anxiety levels.
10. Sponsors, if you cannot be present, have someone at sponsors' hour to pray for your Pilgrim(s).

## **At the Camp.**

11. Members may wear Emmaus clothing. Men, who have just completed their Walk, are not to work at the camp the following women's weekend. Enter the kitchen through the door located at the loading dock.
12. Kitchen workers are not to socialize with the Pilgrims, other than polite responses to those they know. When kitchen workers are introduced, no nametag, cross or watch should be worn. Remember to give only your first name, then your church, town, Walk and table. **Do not plan to stay overnight at the camp.** If you are working the kitchen on Saturday night, please be sure to bring black pants and a white shirt.

## **Candlelight. (Saturdays at 8:30 pm)**

13. Park at the back of the church. Wear nametags. Crosses are optional. Do not reach out and hug the Pilgrims as they pass. Do not stand in the vestibule or aisle. Leave the church quietly, and keep conversation outside the church low.

## **Closing. (Sundays at 5:00 at the Camp)**

14. Wear nametags and crosses. Do not take communion with a Pilgrim. Let them have this opportunity to take communion together as they end their Walk to Emmaus.
15. Please do not form the large circle for the closing "Weave" song, until communion is completed. The "socializing" that occurs as the circle is formed destroys the reverence of communion.

# Volunteer

## From the Registrar:

It's almost here! Two months until the Fall Walks!!!! We have 16 couples, 2 single men, and 10 single females for the October Walks.

We also have one single lady on the waiting list. For those of you have already sent in your pilgrims' applications, you should receive confirmation and information by the end of August. Your pilgrim will also receive the information they need concerning the walk. If you are considering sponsoring pilgrims for the Fall Walks, please get the information to me as soon as you can. Please include the pilgrim's application, the sponsor's sheet, and the \$25 deposit. Thank you for your cooperation.

God bless you all,  
Savonda

## kitchen

Interested in being a kitchen servant this fall? Everyone will have the opportunity to sign up at the August and September Gatherings for the fall walk. The kitchen is staffed on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the men's and women's walk. The shifts are 6:30 a.m. breakfast, 10:00 a.m. lunch, and 2:00 p.m. dinner. Servants will work various jobs including preparing the meals, serving the meals, and cleaning up. If you have any questions, please contact Carol at 864-627-8350 or carolhetzel@charter.net. Remember, this is one of the many ways to serve others in love.

## MUSIC NOTES FROM MAGGIE

When I was confirmed in the church I received Colossians 3:16 as my special verse: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." This is how many of us feel after our Walk to Emmaus, especially following such fine renditions of "De Colores!"

If any of you gifted by God in the area of music would like to share with us at a monthly Gathering, please contact Maggie Hopper by phone (864)877-2277, E-mail, rdhopper@juno.com, snail mail, 1899 Gap Creek Road, Lyman, SC 29365, or in person at one of our Gatherings. If you want to know more about serving on a weekend Music Team, I'll be happy to give you this information and answer questions you may have about the responsibilities. Looking forward to hearing from many of you!

De Colores,  
Maggie Hopper

**Foothills Emmaus Directories are now available at the Gatherings!  
To have one mailed to you, send \$5, and your name and address to**

**Christina Turner,  
118 Carbandy Drive,  
Inman, SC 29349  
864-472-0993**

**E-mail turnercarbandy@att.net**

## Housing Needs You

It's time again for the fall walks and I need your help in preparing the camp for the pilgrims. We will setup on Oct. 3rd, Clean up after the men's walk on Oct 7th, and take down on Oct 14. The meeting time shall be 9:00 am for each task. I especially need some strong men to help move furniture. We have a great time of fellowship and prayer in setting up the camp, come and be a part. I will have sign up sheets at the August Gathering or you can email me at [discipledad@charter.net](mailto:discipledad@charter.net)

Peace in Christ,  
Dennis Smith

## Candlelight Committee

I'm sure we all remember how meaningful candlelight is for the pilgrims. But when all the pilgrims are gone, we have to prepare the church for Sunday morning. Join the candlelight committee at Hardee's for fellowship after candlelight. When the pilgrims leave we will go back to the church to clean up. Contact Jimmy Davis (363-2429 or [jwdavisr@mindspring.com](mailto:jwdavisr@mindspring.com)) if you are interested in helping or sign up during the next two gatherings.

## Agape

The Fall Walks are fast approaching. I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and is ready to show God's love to a new group of Pilgrims. If your Reunion Group is planning Agape for Walk #25, please let me know the name of your Reunion Group, a number where someone can be reached, the item you are providing, and how many items you are providing as well as the names of those in the Reunion Group that participated in the creation of the Agape. I welcome your phone calls (864-836-6046), emails ([joanna.neubert@canal-ins.com](mailto:joanna.neubert@canal-ins.com)) or snail mail (20 Durango Place, Cleveland, SC 29635). The information you provide helps us make sure we have sufficient Agape for the Walks. A complete set of Walks requires 144 items (72 for each Walk). Thank you all for the love and time that each of you put into making these beautiful gifts. I look forward to seeing all that you have created for showing the Pilgrims the love of God.

I am looking for volunteers to assist on Thursday nights and Sundays to set up the mailboxes and to prepare the packets and mail envelopes. Please call or email if you are available to help.

In His Service,  
Joanna Neubert

## transportation

De Colores everyone! It's that time again ... the fall walks will be upon soon. That means we need to be thinking about getting pilgrims and their luggage from send-off to the camp. Check your calenders for the 3rd and 10th of October for send-off and don't forget that candlelight will be on the 5th and 12th of October. If you can help in transporting pilgrims or luggage on any of those dates contact James Peavey at (864) 879-3704 or e-mail [jjpeavey@juno.com](mailto:jjpeavey@juno.com). And of course, sign up at the gatherings for the next two months.

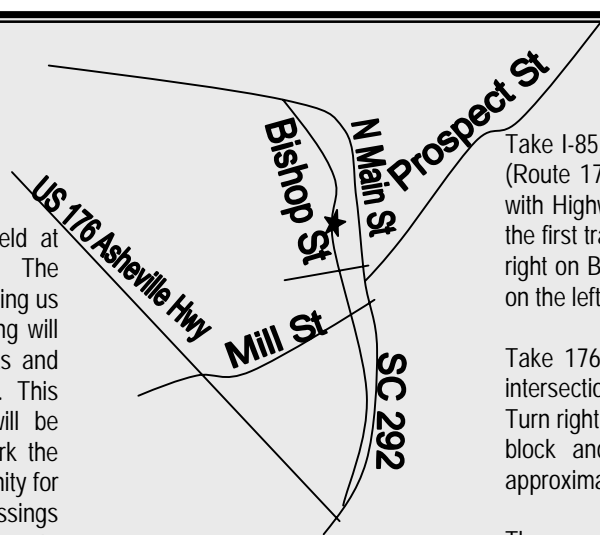
Thanks and God Bless  
James Peavey

"I am the light  
of the world.  
He who follows  
Me shall not walk  
in darkness, but  
have the light of life."  
John 8:12

**Footsteps**  
Foothills Emmaus Community  
P.O. Box 25024  
Greenville, SC 29616

## Gathering August 16 7:30 PM

The August Gathering will be held at Inman United Methodist Church. The talented youth of IUMC will be entertaining us with a special performance. Babysitting will be provided. Be sure to bring snacks and beverages to share after our fellowship. This is an important meeting as there will be sheets available for signing up to work the October walks. This is a great opportunity for our newest members to share the blessings of serving on a Walk. It offers a new way to experience Emmaus. See you there!



**Inman United Methodist Church**  
27 Bishop Street, Inman, SC

*From Greenville*

Take I-85 North to I-26 West towards Asheville. Take Exit #15 (Route 176) towards Inman. Stay on 176 to the intersection with Highway 292 (Hardees is on the corner). Turn right. At the first traffic light turn left on Mill Street. Go 1 block and turn right on Bishop Street. The Church is approximately 2 blocks on the left (parking lot is on the right).

*From Spartanburg*

Take 176 (Pine Street) from Spartanburg to Inman. At the intersection with Highway 292 (Hardees is on the corner). Turn right. At the first traffic light, turn left on Mill Street. Go 1 block and turn right on Bishop Street. The Church is approximately 2 blocks on the left (parking lot on the right).

There are several restaurants & Fast Food stops in the Inman area to eat at if you don't have time to cook at home.

### Being Grateful

In our day-to-day lives it is easy to take things for granted. As we encounter our normal challenges, we seem to think that life is so difficult. I just wanted to let my Emmaus family know what happened to me to make me grateful for the blessings I have in South Carolina.

I work in the cable TV construction and upgrade business. It is extremely challenging even under the best of conditions. Our company had a project in Southern West Virginia and I was asked to come up and help with the organization and prepare for an audit. Events unfolded and with personnel leaving and projects added, I ended up working there for about nine months. Nine months of traveling through the fall and winter months and losing daily contact with my church, family and friends and the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy mixed in. Murphy's law being what it is, the project turned south and major difficulties were everywhere; we couldn't get enough personnel, the personnel we had were under trained (I am being kind here) and there was a change in our customer's management which gave us a very ambitious and unrelenting regional manager. So these are the elements that I had to deal with for nine months.

Driving north and seeing the upstate fade away in my rear view mirror and the mountains getting larger was always difficult, but I can say that my prayer life increased. Praying for successful completion and returning home soon was always in my thoughts and prayers. Going home on weekends, going to church early for Sunday school, worshipping at the main service and especially communion were about the only bright spots I had for nine months. This did teach me to be grateful for where I live, grateful for the church, grateful for my minister Rev. Stephen Taylor, grateful to the prayer partners at church who prayed for me and grateful for family and friends that I could share things with.

So when things get rough, remember that they could get much rougher. Remember to keep your pride in check, love your brothers and sisters in Christ, appreciate the blessed land we are in, be grateful for our Church and our Savior Jesus Christ who delivers us from our times of trouble. These are just some of the thoughts that I wanted to share to my Emmaus family.

God bless you and De Colores,  
Scott Bigham  
Covenant Methodist Church  
Greer, SC.