

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22

A Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus

September 2003

A note from our Spiritual Director

I am very grateful to the community for sending me to the 25th Anniversary Celebration in Nashville. It was a marvelous event. Over 1300 delegates from 40 states and 14 foreign countries, representing 37 different denominations were present. I was first impressed with the quality. Everything was well planned and presented. As you might guess, the music was outstanding. A praise band led in singing a harmonious blend of traditional and contemporary numbers. Some of the music was written just for the celebration and not yet published. Although some of it was too loud for my liking, it was all well done with no fumbling around or wasted time. Two jumbo screens projected the words for all to read. We were never asked to pass our song books to the center aisle. As a matter of fact, we sat at round tables, six to a table just like our walks except there were no table leaders.

Our first Communion Service was at 8:30 Friday morning. The leaders said they had planned for about half the delegates to be present at that time of the morning and hadn't brought a lot of bread. To their surprise, there were no empty seats! The miracle of the blessed and broken bread occurred again. Everyone had plenty and we were served quickly and gracefully. At the closing service, after everyone had received communion, they wanted to form a circle around this huge room. It was a convention center about the size of two football fields! The circle got bigger and bigger until everyone was included. It was reminiscent of all our closing services.

In the afternoons, there were all kinds of workshops on different subjects. I took a wrong turn and ended up in a class led by Bob Wood on *"The Early History of the Walk to Emmaus"*. Although it was not where I was headed, I decided to stay and catch the other workshop later. As I listened I realized that I was hearing the "man who wrote the book." I got a totally new understanding of the way *The Walk to Emmaus* came into being. I knew that *Emmaus* had come out of Cursillo, a program of the Catholic Church but I didn't know exactly how that came about. Bob Wood and Maxie Dunam made a Cursillo week end and were very impressed with the possibilities for Protestant Churches. Cursillo only allowed six non-Catholics in each week end. Bob and Maxie and others from the United Methodist Church wanted to make Cursillo ecumenical and world wide. The Catholic bishops would not agree to this but after a while agreed to allowing them to use the basic plan for a week end program like Cursillo. They put *Emmaus* under Upper Room because it was already a well-established world wide organization. Bob Wood was the one who wrote the outlines for the clergy talks. I felt close to the roots of the Emmaus movement.

There were other classes as well and we got some helpful information for our Foothills Community. One of the surprises of the Emmaus week end is the realization by pilgrims that this is something bigger than the one hundred or less gathered in the conference room. I got that feeling in Nashville. The *Walk to Emmaus* is bigger than we imagine it to be. Over 600,000 pilgrims have made a Walk in over 400 communities. The Lord has used it to impact churches all over the world.

Richard Hepper, Community Spiritual Director

See you at the Table

I am so blessed to have been able to attend the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Walk to Emmaus in Nashville, Tennessee. Over 1300 Emmaus folks gathered from 14 countries to share in worship, fellowship and continued education. The Foothills Emmaus Community was well represented with 16 from our community in attendance.

We began our weekend on Thursday evening with a Worship Service. Each day we gathered for Communion Service and songs of praise led by the Praise & Worship Band from Discovery UMC in Birmingham, Alabama. We had opportunities to attend workshops, browse through the products offered by the vendors, make agape, take part in special prayer times and take a prayer journey through a labyrinth.

We met people from Australia, Africa, Mexico and all over the US. We were enlightened by reports from other communities. One community reported preparing for walk #1139! Another said they were putting on 15 walks a year. Larnell Harris led the worship on Friday night. He blessed us with his unique style of music for over an hour and a half. He then stayed to sign autographs late into the evening. Dr. Tony Campolo concluded the weekend with a worship service on Sunday morning. Dr. Campolo is never afraid to step on your toes and sometimes his toes also. He challenged us all to not only minister in our own churches but to step outside of our comfort zone and get involved in projects around the world. Some of the areas he encouraged our participation in were: AIDS hospices, inter-city youth organizations and world hunger. These are just a few ways we can serve our Lord Jesus and make a difference.

At the close of the communion service it was a real joy to join hands in a giant circle of Christian love around the convention hall as we sang the theme song for the weekend, "Making A World Of Difference". So, 4th Day Pilgrims, I encourage you to make a difference in your world. Also, with our fall walks just around the corner we need your help. Sign-up sheets for anonymous servanthood will be at the gathering. Feel free to contact any board member to volunteer your services. Please keep the walks, pilgrims and team members in your prayers.

*DeColores,
Amy Hanson
Community Lay Director*

Notes from the Registrar:

Thank you sponsors for the unconditional love you share with your pilgrims! Without *you* there would be no walk! I appreciate your patience this summer while I was on vacation and want to extend a special thank you to Barbara Ware for taking such good care of the registration process in my absence. Walk #27 is approaching fast! We have 36 women and 29 men registered at this time. Acceptance letters have been mailed to the pilgrims and sponsors that will be attending Walk #27. Sponsors, please double check the dates with your pilgrims. We have people on the waiting lists who would love the opportunity to attend. (The deadline for making additions to the walk is two weeks prior to the men's walk, so the sooner I know of any changes the better.) May God Bless You!☺

Notes from Agape Chairperson Kathy Mims:

Do you remember how the little tokens of agape meant so much to you on your Walk? The memories they bring back, even months and years later! It is time to get that agape ready for our fall Walks. I will be collecting it at the Gathering in September. Don't forget that you need at least 72 for each walk (a total of 144 for both Men's and Women's Walks) Thanks for all the hard work! If you have any questions call 233-5438! Thank You! Kathy Mims ☺

Notes From Housing Chairperson Andrea Young

As the Fall Walks draw near, it is time to reflect on those "luxurious" accommodations of your Emmaus weekend. It takes a tremendous amount of work to setup and to breakdown the camp. We will be setting up on Thursday, October 2, at 9:00 a.m. Camp breakdown will be Monday, October 13, at 9:00 a.m. Please prayerfully consider signing up for one -- or both -- dates and be a part of this transformation! The more workers we have, the quicker we get done! Sign up sheets will be available at the September gathering. Thank you in advance for your support and prayers! DeColores, Jeff Young, Housing Chairperson

Notes from Transportation Chairperson Barbie Cutts:

We still need one van (Church Bus) to transport pilgrims (for both the men and women's walk) to the camp on Thursday night and also to and from Candlelight on Saturday. Aaaaaannnnnnndddddd.....we also need several people to help put the luggage in the rooms. The more we have helping the less work for all of us! Please call me at work if you can help us in these very important Walk activities. My number is 261-0700 Tuesday thru Friday 10 AM - 6 PM, and Saturday 10 AM – 4 PM. Thank You!

Notes from 72 Hour Prayer Vigil Chairperson Mike Reid:

Hi All, Remember your walk? I know I do, and what I remember the most is how the Walks are "Bathed in Prayer!" The 72 Hour Prayer Vigil plays a very important role in the upcoming walks. Your prayers are needed all weekend for each walk. If you would like to sign up for the 72 Hour Prayer Vigil please do so at the next Gathering at St. Andrew in Easley or you can Email me at Usscowpens5@aol.com. Also we currently have 152 participants from the Foothills Emmaus Community who receive Prayer Requests from our community. If you are not a member of the Email Prayer Chain and wish to be, just send me an Email and I will add you to the list. I look forward to serving God through this committee this year. God Bless each of you on your 4th Days. Thank you for your prayers and thank you for signing up!!!

Notes from the Literature Chairperson James Peavey:

Well, it's a new year and that means new committees for us on the Board. As head of the literature committee I would like to solicit help from you, our community. These are called committees for a reason and I could use your help. The literature committee is responsible for choosing, procuring, and selling the books, pins, and other paraphernalia on the book table during the weekends. This committee is also responsible for making copies of all pertinent information and stuffing of the pilgrims' packets, and making sure all the supplies for the conference room are handy. If you have read a book that was inspiring and think it would help someone else please let me know (especially the women!). The walks will be upon us sooner than we think. So, if you are interested in helping please call me, James Peavey, at (864) 879-3704 or e-mail me at jjpeavey@juno.com .

Notes from the Candlelight Chairperson Christina Turner:

Do you remember how awesome Candlelight was for you? Do you remember how strong the presence of the Holy Spirit was felt that night in that Church? Well, this is an opportunity for you to bask in the afterglow of this special evening. We need volunteers for the Men's and Women's Walks to stay and help clean up after the Candlelight Ceremony. We will go off-site while the Pilgrims have their experience, then go back to the Church to make sure it is in the condition we found it in and ready for Sunday's service. If you can help one or both nights, please contact Christina Turner at 864-472-0993 or by e-mail at turnercarbandy@att.net. Thank you. ☺

Notes from the Kitchen Chairperson Jim Bleakley:

Thanks to many of you who have so generously volunteered your time, the slots for kitchen help are being filled. However, more volunteers are needed for the following: Men's Walk Friday: All three meals Saturday: Breakfast Sunday: Breakfast and Lunch Women's Walk Friday: All three meals Saturday: A couple more volunteers could be used at each meal Sunday: Breakfast and lunch In addition anyone who could help with the kitchen set up and breakdown would be greatly appreciated: Men's Walk Set up: Thursday, October 2 Breakdown: Sunday, October 5 Women's Walk Set-up: Thursday, October 9 Breakdown: Sunday, October 12 Times to do this can be discussed To volunteer, contact Jim Bleakley by phone at 864-391-3101 or by fax at 864-391-3102 or e-mail at jamary@wctel.net. Thanks and DeColores! ☺ Jim Bleakley

Notes from the Vice Chair Follow-Up and PR Chairperson Dennis Smith:

Nominations for New Board Members

Each year there are 5 new board members elected to the board. The board is comprised of 15 people from various parts of our community. Each board member is required to serve a 3-year term. Nominations are now being accepted for anyone wanting to serve on the board or someone you may know that is willing to serve in this capacity. Nominations must be turned in by October 15th. Voting will take place in November and new members will be announced at the December gathering.

Please be prayerful about your decisions. Nominations are to be sent to Dennis Smith - Nominations Chairman discipledad@charter.net or by calling 292-5188.

Person Nominated _____
Walk # _____
Church _____
City _____
Thanks,
Dennis

Fall Walks *community conduct and Etiquette*

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.

SEND-OFF

THURSDAY

October 2nd and 9th at 7:00 pm

Family Life Center 864-859-0486

St. Andrew UMC at Easley

309 Pelzer Hwy, Easley SC 29642

CANDLELIGHT

SATURDAY

October 4th and 11th, at 8:30pm

Grace United Methodist Church

309 East Cedar Rock Street

Pickens, 29671

CAMP CLOSING

SUNDAY

October 5th and 12th, at 5:00 pm

Wesleyan Camp

125 Bethany Cove Drive, Pickens, SC 29671

PRAY FOR EVERYONE DURING THESE WALKS !!!!!!! PILGRIMS, THOSE SERVING, THOSE GIVING TALKS, THOSE LEADING, THOSE COOKING, THOSE DRIVING, THOSE PRAYING!!!! PRAISE THE LORD! GOD IS GOOD!

Commit to the Lord
whatever you do,
and your plans will
succeed.
Proverbs 16:3

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

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!Attention All Sponsors !!!!!!!!!!!!!

WALK #27

*Send-off will be at

St. Andrew UMC

(864) 859-1567

309 Pelzer Hwy Easley, SC 29642

*Total Cost Per Pilgrim \$85.00

*Please be Prompt (Check in at 7:00pm)

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE!!!

www.foothillsemmaus.homestead.com

Closed Gathering: September 19th at 7:30 PM
Covenant United Methodist Church in Greer
1310 Old Spartanburg Rd Greer, SC
864-244-3162

Follow-up Gathering: October 17th at 7:30 PM
Buncombe Street UMC, Greenville, SC

From I-385, come into downtown Greenville. The interstate will become College Street. Turn right onto Academy Street (after Richardson). At the third traffic light, turn left onto Buncombe St. The church is immediately on the left. Parking is in front of the church to your right. Please call for additional directions at 232-7341

200 Buncombe Street, Greenville, SC

Fall Walks

Men's

October 2-5

Spiritual Director Mel Arant
Lay Director Mackie Manning
LDIT Roy Suttles

Women's

October 9-12

Spiritual Director Julian Ford
Lay Director Laura Keck
LDIT Christina Turner

**WANT TO HOST A
GATHERING? CALL
MAGGIE HOPPER
877-2277**

DIRECTIONS TO COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

