

February 2006

# Foothills Walk to Emmaus



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## Blessings and Greetings to All!

I am honored to be the Community Lay Director this year. I am looking forward to a year of renewal. My desire for this year is to identify and implement ways to increase the number of members attending the various functions we have as well as increase the number a reunion groups. In that vein, during the January board meeting the members voted to hold all monthly gatherings at Mauldin UMC located on E. Butler Road in Mauldin (directions are included in this newsletter). Hopefully having the gathering location constant more members will have the opportunity to attend and make it easier for everyone to plan.

We were fortunate to have Scoofer Jordan, SE Regional Upper Room Representative, give the 4<sup>th</sup> day talk at our January gathering. Saturday he met with the board members and several community members for a training session. What we discovered is our community is doing a great job showing God's love and grace to others and to each other. There were a few items that we need to improve upon but as with everything there is always room for improvement. The board will discuss and vote on the suggested changes over the next several months and the changes will be implemented as it makes sense to do so. The first area that will be looked at and brought in line with the Emmaus Handbook will be the team selection process. The new and improved process will be implemented for our Fall Walks. Our desire is for the weekends to continue to be God led and Spirit filled in spite of us.

I am always available for questions, comments and suggestions. Please let me hear from you. Again, I am honored to be a member of the Foothills Emmaus Community and I pray that in all that I do, I do for Him.

### De Colores!

Joanna Neubert

*Foothills Emmaus Board Chair*

## A word from your Registrar

The acceptance letters have been mailed to the Pilgrims and Sponsors. If you have not already spoken to your pilgrims, please touch base with them to confirm that they will be attending the Spring Walks. If not please let me know ASAP. Also ask if they have any additional questions or concerns.



*Application deadline for  
the Spring Walks is  
February 16!*

Send-off is at 7:00PM. Please be considerate and arrive on time. Late arrivals place a hardship on Transportation, making it difficult to get their luggage to the camp and put in the pilgrims' rooms before their arrival. After checking in with Transportation please bring your Pilgrim(s) directly to the registration table. It is extremely important that everyone, **INCLUDING THE TEAM**, is accounted for as soon as they arrive.

If you're considering sponsoring someone for the Spring Walk, time is rapidly running out, BUT, openings are still available for both Walks.

### De Colores,

Tom Howard

*Foothills Emmaus Registrar*

## Next gathering

February 17, 2006 7:30 PM

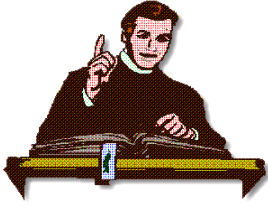
**Mauldin UMC**

100 E Butler Rd.

Mauldin, SC 29662

**Come sign up for the  
Spring Walks!**

## From our Spiritual Director



To those who do not know me, let me introduce myself. My name is Julian Ford. I am your new Community Spiritual Director. I think they gave me this job because I have been around for a while...around the Foothills Emmaus Community that is. I have seen this community grow from infancy into now its teen years. I have watched as hundreds of people have made the Walk. I have seen the Emmaus experience positively effect people (most of them) and some it negatively effected. Most left with a new vision born of a new relationship with Jesus Christ. Some left as they came, still trying to sort it all out. I have seen some of our early pilgrims hang in for the long haul. I have watched as some early and late

have fallen away. While we would like once again to see those who have fallen away return to our gatherings and sponsor new pilgrims, we understand that priorities change. Our only hope is that that which has precluded regular participation by those of us no longer regularly involved is the fact that we are now involved in other ministries, especially the local church. Let us not forget the main purpose of Emmaus is to build leaders in the local church.

When I made my Walk some 22 years ago, I recognized immediately what a wonderful and powerful tool Emmaus was for encouraging the laity and under-girding pastors. It still is today. Emmaus does in three days what it takes pastors years to accomplish in the lives of persons with whom they share ministry. But this only happens when people are afforded the opportunity to attend a Walk. We need every member of the Emmaus Community, new and old, to offer Emmaus to their fellow christians, relatives, pastors, and church members. The Walk is not for everybody. Pilgrims should be chosen carefully under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Emmaus is not designed to fix broken marriages, cure substance abuse, or bring a person to conversion nor is it a cure for a myriad of other human afflictions. Emmaus is for Christians whose desire is to have a deeper more personal relationship with Jesus. If we who have been on the Walk truly have a love for the local church and pray to see God's Kingdom built on earth, we should be sending people on the Walk. Emmaus is not the only way, but is one way, and still one of the best the Christian Church has come up with in the last hundred or so years to encourage and embolden Christians for Christ's work.

There are a lot of you who believe the conference room is the best place to serve. Some have even lost interest in Emmaus because they never made it back *via* the conference room. Maybe we forgot that part in the Lay Director's talk on Friday night that says "Emmaus is a once in a lifetime experience". Let me assure you that the best place to serve, the place that has the longest lasting reward is sponsorship. I have probably served in the conference room more than any person in our community. Most often I have served as the Weekend Spiritual Director. There are people who have been on those weekends who can't remember who their Spiritual Director was. But not one pilgrim Jane (my wife) and I have sponsored has ever forgotten who their sponsor was.

If you have been gone from us for a while, we would like to see you back. If you made your Walk recently and have fallen away from the community, we would like to see you back. If you have become disheartened or disappointed, we would like to see you back. The best way to find your way back is through sharing Emmaus with another person through sponsorship. Pray, as I will pray, that God will put someone on your heart to send to the Mountain. Hope to see you soon.

Come or come back as the case may be. Renew your Walk. Remember —**Christ is counting on you!**

**De Colores!**

Julian

## Calling all budding artists and writers!

If you'd like to contribute a short article or picture to Footsteps, attach your creation to an email and send it to the Editor at [newsletter@foothillsemmaus.org](mailto:newsletter@foothillsemmaus.org).

## 2006 Spring Walks

### Mens #32

March 2-5

LD: Dennis Smith

### Women's #32

March 9-12

LD: Renee Reid

### Send-Off

Mar 2 & Mar 9

7:00 PM

St Andrew UMC

309 Pelzer Hwy

Easley SC

### Candlelight

Mar 4 & Mar 11

8:30 PM

Grace UMC

309 E Cedar Rock St.

Pickens SC

### Closing

Mar 5 & Mar 9

5 PM

Wesleyan Camp

Table Rock

Off Hwy 11

Pickens SC

## We are once again centralizing the Gatherings.

We are trying to make it easier for you to plan your travel time to and from without the worry of trying to find a church you've no idea where it is. Mauldin UMC was selected as the most appropriate site based on its central location, ease of access, parking space, and adequate facilities. You will find the new location in the Gathering announcement included in this Newsletter.

**For directions go to [www.foothillsemmaus.org](http://www.foothillsemmaus.org).**



### From the Treasurer.....

We all feel a certain amount of amazement when we come to the camp to serve the first time. So many people, so much food, piles of agape to distribute ....

I want to share with you the monetary requirements for this past year's Walks. The Spring and Fall Walks (including an extra Women's weekend) required nearly \$22,000. This includes camp facilities charges of \$12,000 and groceries of \$7500. The balance includes a per pilgrim fee to The Upper Room, group photos, conference room supplies, and donations to Send Off and Candlelight churches.

Our communications cost last year was just under \$3900. This includes the printing and postage for the newsletter; and the fees for web site hosting. We also incur a copyright licensing fee for our music.

Gathering offerings, Candlelight offerings and Walk weekend fees help keep us near breakeven for the year. The January Gathering Offering was \$460. For 2006, the Board is considering helping the camp make repairs to the dividing wall in the conference room and replacing a number of worn out tables.

In Christ,  
Ray Williams

Help us reduce costs by getting the newsletter electronically. If you currently are on the mailing list and wish to get it from our web site, please send an email to [newsletter@foothillsemmaus.org](mailto:newsletter@foothillsemmaus.org).

### About those Snacks...

Do you remember all the wonderful snacks on the snack table? Do you want to be a part of the upcoming walks? There is an opportunity for you to help provide the many items that make up that great snack table and your help is needed. Sign up sheets will be at the next Gathering for you to help provide snacks, sweets, and fruit. There is also an opportunity to help serve snacks at Send Off, and help out with the ice cream party. Please do not put your name on any snacks going up to the camp. Your name should only appear if your plate will need to be returned after the walk. Again, your help is needed and greatly appreciated. Sign up at the next gathering or by contacting me by phone at 627-1113 or email [annachandler@charter.net](mailto:annachandler@charter.net).

Anna Chandler

### Music Notes



We are going to try a couple of changes for our community regarding music this year. We would like to re-establish the "Emmaus Singers", and have the music for gatherings be coordinated by reunion groups, rather than the host church.

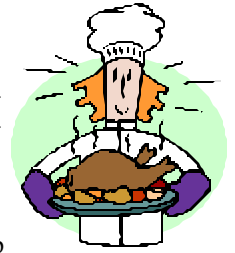
Anyone with a desire to make a joyful noise is encouraged to return the response form below at a gathering, by mail to our editor, or email to [dennis@splashngo.com](mailto:dennis@splashngo.com). We really want everyone that wants to participate to come join the fun, regardless of talent level. We will need vocalists as well as musicians, and a couple or three volunteers to serve as leaders. Reunion groups are asked to arrange to have two to five people to lead us in praise songs for the gatherings. The songs will come from our Maranatha song book, and will follow our worship format.

Please let us know of your interest, even if you have previously served musically or indicated your interest to do so on the Fourth Day service sheet you received on your walk.

De Colores,  
Dennis Jones

### From the Kitchen:

Thank you to everyone who signed up to work in the kitchen at the January Gathering. Praise God for so many willing servants eager to help prepare and serve the pilgrims on the March Walks. There are still plenty of spaces available for those who wish to serve in the Kitchen. Sign up sheets will be available at the February Gathering. As the walks draw close, one thing the Board would like our kitchen servants to be mindful of is to only be in the kitchen during your scheduled time to serve. The kitchen has limited space, and we make too much noise when there is a large number in the kitchen. Also, everyone wants to have jobs to complete while they are on the mountain, and there are only so many duties that can be fulfilled during each shift in the kitchen. Please be aware of the times for each shift (Breakfast 6:30AM-10AM, Lunch 10AM-2PM, and Dinner 2PM 'til clean up is finished), and plan to be in the kitchen accordingly. Thank you so much for your understanding in this matter.



De Colores,  
Dawn Rampey

Send Community Prayer Requests to [prayer@foothillsemmaus.org](mailto:prayer@foothillsemmaus.org)  
Remember to include your name and Walk #.



### Make note of this!

We now have our own domain name!  
It is [foothillsemmaus.org](http://www.foothillsemmaus.org).  
The new web site address is <http://www.foothillsemmaus.org/>.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Walk #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church and Town: \_\_\_\_\_  
I'd like to help with music: \_\_\_\_\_ On a Walk \_\_\_\_\_ At a Gathering  
Instrument(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Vocalist? \_\_\_ Vocal Range: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Foothills Emmaus Newsletter  
c/o Forrest C. Gilmore  
147 Antioch Drive  
McCormick, SC 29835

## Pray without ceasing.

— The Apostle Paul

If you would like to send articles for the news letter, have an address change, or would like to be removed from the email list, send email to [newsletter@foothillsemmaus.org](mailto:newsletter@foothillsemmaus.org).

Our web site is <http://www.foothillsemmaus.org/>.

## Come to the Gatherings!

Sign-Up Sheets  
For the Spring Walks

**AGAPE**  
Enthusiastically Accepted!

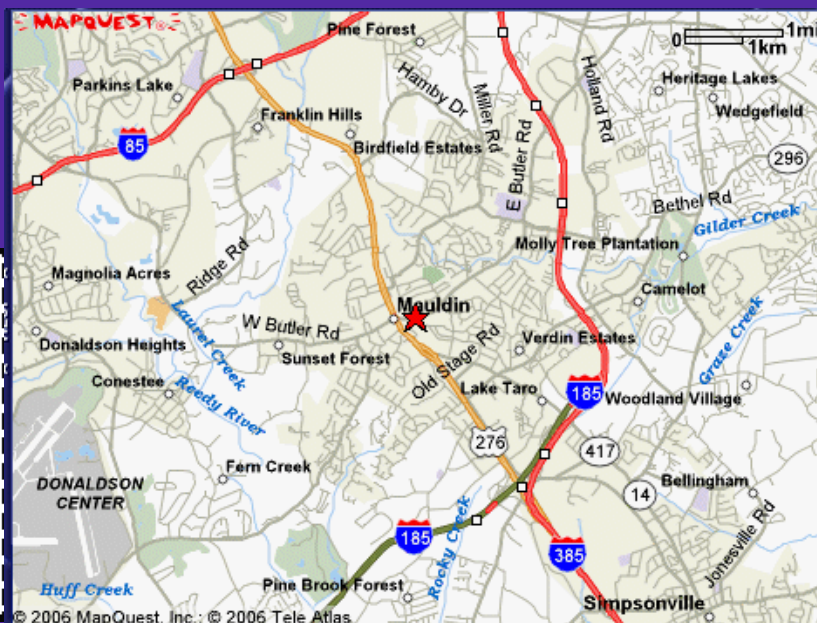
SHOW GOD'S LOVE

**AGAPE NEEDED**

**Foothills Emmaus Community**

Agape now due for the Springs Walks —  
144 pieces are needed (72 each Walk)

All Gatherings are held at  
Mauldin UMC  
100 E Butler Rd  
Mauldin, SC 29662  
At 7:30 on the 3rd Friday of each month



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