



Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

March 2009

A Word from Linda:

“Oh Lord in the morning do I lift up my prayer unto thee and wait...”Psalm 5:3

Waiting! I hate it don't you? Waiting for the phone to ring after I interview for a job. Waiting for the biopsy verdict to return. Waiting for the medicine to kick in. Waiting for the loved ones car to pull into the driveway. Waiting for that teenager to get some sense back into their life. Waiting for the economy to pick up. Waiting to see if we get that dreaded “pink slip”. Waiting for the baby to get born. Waiting for the computer to finish its booting up. Waiting for the check that is coming in the mail. Waiting for Santa Claus or the Easter bunny to show up. Waiting for the boss to have a better mood. Waiting for the coffee to perk. There are so many times in our lives that are spent waiting. Some of these times the waiting is agonizing, sometimes it's fun, and sometimes it is monotonous. But life is full of waiting.

Do we wait in fear of what is going on around us and perhaps with in us? Or do we wait in expectant hope?

What I realize is if the newspaper says that we will have a mighty blizzard, everyone believes the report, runs to the supermarket, and stocks up on staples for their home. But God's word tells us: “I alone know the plans that I have for you,” says the Lord, “plans for good and not for evil to give you a future and a hope.” Jer. 21:11 And, that we are so special to God that we are even engraved us on the palm of his hands! Is. 49:16 And we live in fear and fret!???

Who are we going to believe? The newspaper whose reports vary in accuracy or the God whose son died for us on that cross? The Bible talks about God's waiting too, but the terms used are reminders of his faithfulness to us and his promises to us as our God. We forget we do not have control but live in God's timing and not our own.

In my Bible study the other day we were reminded that if we wait on THINGS we will indeed grow weary, but if we wait on GOD, God will renew our strength and we can mount up on wings like Eagles- even in difficult times. So my scripture this month is to remind me to rise each morning in praise and thanksgiving to God, give him my burdens as I start out my day, and then wait for God's response- confident that as his child he will take care of them because he cares for me. I thought that you might like that reminder too.

De Colores, Linda



Brothers and Sisters,

Please allow me to thank you for showing God's love to me on NWGa Walk to Emmaus #11 at the Table of Matthew. Also, thank you for allowing me to serve this community as Community Lay Director.

Please join with me in celebrating the two very powerful weekends we had during the fall. God was glorified and His kingdom made stronger with the addition of the many new community members from those weekends. Thank you to Wade Conklin and Judi Rainey for allowing the Lord to work through you as He led the fall weekends

I would like very much at this time, to give my thanks to the outgoing board members—Jim Aiken, Phil Cole, Marcia Dillard, Janean Endraske, Donna Lucas, and Janice Russell. It's been great serving on this board with you all. You will be missed greatly. They are not replaced but are being followed by some really strong leaders—Julie Fuller, Sharon Gladstone, Gary Henkel, Tommy Holder, Karen McEntyre, Donald Stevens, and Evelyn Waters.

We now are approaching the Easter season when we acknowledge the sacrifice that Jesus made on our behalf and we celebrate the victory of our Lord and Savior over death when He arose from the grave. At the same time, we are preparing for our spring weekends. After Easter, I hope we can all slow down for a bit and focus our attention to the ways that God will change our lives and the lives of the pilgrims during these coming weekends. As I write this letter, it is with great anticipation of what God has in store for this community. God is lifting up some really strong leaders in Leigh Halbrooks and Nathan Lippert as Lay Directors for the spring weekends. God has continually allowed this community to become stronger. I believe it is in direct response to the strong prayer warriors we have in this community.

I would also like to thank Jim Aiken for his support of me and all the board members and activities of the past year. He shared the duties of Community Spiritual Director with Linda Hessel. Please lift Jim up for healing and restoration of his strength, as he is recovering from surgery. Linda will continue as Spiritual Director.

The March Gathering will be held on Saturday the 21st at McEachern Memorial UMC in Powder Springs, GA. We would like to thank New Covenant UMC for hosting the January Gathering and Southern Hills Christian for hosting their first ever NWGWTE Gathering. We look forward to visiting with Southern Hills Christian again.

If you know of someone who is a member of our Community and you didn't see them at the Gatherings earlier this year, please give them a call and let them know when and where it will be in March. As always we will gather for dinner at 6:00pm and Praise and Worship at 7:00pm.

Here is food for thought—"The ultimate characteristic of servant leadership centers on love and leadership. I can serve people but not love them; however, I cannot love people and not serve them." Roger Helland author *The Journey: Walking with God*

Your brother in Christ,

Ed Beacham
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Board Members for 2009

- Chair: Ed Beacham
- Vice-Chair- Steve Standridge
- Secretary – Sharon Gladstone
- Treasurer – Jan Lempke-Springmeir
- Registrar – Evenlyn Waters
- Gatherings – Donna Grenier
- Literature/Supplies – Donald Stevens
- Clergy – Linda Hessel, Julie Fuller, Tommy Holder, Frank Boone
- Set –Up/Tear Down – Billy Halbrooks
- Send Off/Candlelight – Steve Standridge
- Communications – Sharon Gladstone
- Kitchen – Karen McEntyre
- Follow-Up – Calvin Waddell
- Agape/Training – Debbie Beck
- Team Selection – Gary Henkel

PLEASE GO TO OUR WEB SITE TO GET THE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THESE YOUR SERVANTS WWW.NWGWTE.NET



GATHERINGS 2009

When is your church going to host a gathering?

Please contact Donna Grenier as soon as possible, as assignments are 1st come, 1st served.

- Graze (Covered Dish) – 6:00PM
- Praise & Worship - 7:00PM

March 21st - McEachern Memorial UMC
 Christian Life Center (the three story building furtherest from the road)
 4075 Macland Road
 Powder Springs, GA 30127

From I-20 West

Take I-20 W 2.36 miles
 Merge onto GA-6 N via exit number 44 toward AUSTELL. 4.82 miles
 GA-6 N becomes CH JAMES PKWY/THORTON RD SW. 4.84 miles
 Turn RIGHT onto FLORENCE RD SW. 1.96 miles
 Turn RIGHT onto MACLAND RD/GA-360.
 Continue to follow GA-360/MACLAND RD SW. 1.97 miles.

The CHURCH is on the RIGHT at the intersection of MACLAND/NEW MACLAND/LOST MTN RDS

From I-75 North

Take I-75 N toward MARIETTA/CHATTANOOGA. 1.12 miles
 Take the WINDY HILL RD exit toward SMYRNA. 0.34 miles
 Keep LEFT at the fork in the ramp. 0.01 miles
 Turn LEFT onto WINDY HILL RD SE. 6.34 miles
 Turn LEFT onto AUSTELL RD SW/GA-5 N. 1.44
 Turn RIGHT onto CALLAWAY RD SW. 2.67 miles
 Turn LEFT onto POWDER SPRINGS RD SW/GA-360. 0.48 miles
 Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto MACLAND RD SW/GA-360 W. 8.08 miles

(GATHERINGS, CONT)

April 18th - Hiram UMC

May No gathering in May because of walks

June 6 - Villa Rica 1st UMC - This will also be Gathering and Follow-Up together)

Note change of date The follow up will begin at 5:00PM, then covered dish at 6:00PM and Praise & Worship at 7:00PM

June 20th - There will be NO gathering on this date.

July 18th - OPEN

August 15th - Old Camp UMC

September 10th Bright Star UMC

October 17th open

November 7th open (this will also be a Gathering/Follow-Up combo)

December - no meeting due to Holidays

I want to thank all that have had a Gathering. In this time of struggling we still need the time to gather and remember **"WHO"** is really in charge.

Gathering Chairperson

Contact Donna Grenier with any questions about Gatherings

Donna Grenier, 770-505-7481 gardongre@aolcom

Spring Walks

Men's - April 30 – May 3, 2009.

Women's – May 14-17, 2009

The dates of the remaining team meeting(s) are March 28 and April 11 & 25 at Acworth UMC, 4340 Collins Circle, Acworth, GA

With the Lord's wisdom and guidance, we are in the midst of our team formation process. We are still making phone calls, e-mails, etc. If you have not had a chance to sign up for the team, there is still plenty of room, so be sure and contact us by phone or e-mail. We wouldn't want to leave anyone out that would like to serve on a team!

Please be in prayer about sponsorship. Of course we would both love to have a full conference room with the maximum amount of pilgrims! The applications can be printed directly from the website:

www.nwgwte.net.

Leigh Halbrooks - sportlh22@bellsouth.net – 770-639-6816

Nathan Lippert – dawnlippert@bellsouth.net – 404-558-3598