



Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

December, 2008

A Word from Linda:

Community

“All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all of the people.” Acts 2:44-47

What is the meaning of Community?

We call ourselves the Emmaus community. But what does that mean? The dictionary defines us as people living in the same vicinity of each other- or a group of people that live together with common interests. But those definitions are very different from the community we read about in the book of Acts. The community in Acts is a community of heart and commitment. It is a community that believes that love is a verb: an action, not just a feeling, a response to a God who loves and care for them and each other. It has a purpose, an agenda, a calling, an energy, a goal to be an example of the Body of Christ in a world that needs to know and to see Christ in Action. One can literally feel its identity and purpose.

That is one of the things I most love about Emmaus. We see it at Candlelight for the numbers of us that travel long distances to sing love songs to people we don't even know. We experience it in all the loving oven agape—the excesses of brownies for the men's walk- and the prayer chart of people willing to get up and pray at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning for God's blessings on our pilgrims and team. How about all those sponsors who give time, money, and availability for the pilgrims to meet Christ in a whole new way?

Typical of this kind of community is a new decision for us to join together to provide the supper for Thursday nights! Several walks have experienced some of this. Is it not wonderful to taste all those casseroles or soups, sandwiches and salads, veggie trays and condiments? And what a help to reduce our costs for the weekend! You will hear more about this later but join with us in this joyful sharing because, after all, we are not just a community, WE are the Body of Christ!

In Christ,

Linda



2008 Gathering Schedule

NO GATHERING IN DECEMBER
Have a wonderful Christmas season

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.

- January 17th New Covenant
- February 21st Southern Hills
- March 21st McEachern UMC
- April 18th open
- May 30th Villa Rica 1st UMC (this is the fourth Saturday due to Memorial Day.
This will also be Gathering and Follow-Up together)
- June 20th Hiram UMC
- July 18th open
- August 15th Old Camp UMC
- September 19th open
- October 17th open
- November 7th open (this will also be a Gathering/Follow-Up combo)
- December - no meeting due to Holidays

Contact Donna Grenier with any questions about Gatherings
Donna Grenier, 770-505-7481
gardongre@aol.com

I would like to wish all my Emmaus Brothers and Sisters the very best for the Holidays to come.....and don't forget to sign up for 2009 Gatherings!

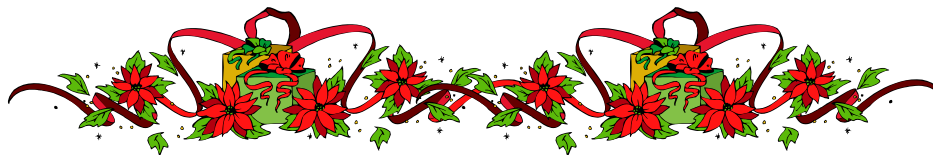
It has been an honor serving you through the Board as Gathering Chairperson. I have had the privilege to meet new Brothers and Sisters and rekindle with the past. You have to attend Gatherings to see some of your Brothers and Sisters. As this is a time to renew, refresh and revive your connections. So please come and share food and praise the Lord with new and old songs. And renew your Spirit through a 4th Day Talk.

Don't forget there are others in your Church that are also Emmaus Brothers and Sisters, even if they went to another community they are still all welcome.

Until the next Gathering.....DeColores Donna Grenier



There was a meeting recently concerning the continuation of our Chrysallis Community. They have decided to reorganize, and to look into a new structure. They currently have 2 dedicated individuals (youth) who have committed to do what it takes to make it happen, and have found 5 others to help them in their endeavour. Their next meeting will be at New Covenant UMC on Jan 17, 2009, at 3:00 PM, and they would appreciate any help we (all) can give them. Anyone interested can just show up at New Covenant or contact Judi Rainey at 678-416-9440 with any concerns or questions. We, as an Emmaus Community cannot allow them to fail as they are our future.



John 6:35

Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

Thoughts on today's verse

We crave food at regular intervals during the day. During this holiday season food occupies our thoughts and fills up our activities. But deep in our soul is a hunger, a soul hunger. It cannot be filled by food, drink, or chemicals. This hunger was the desire built into us by our Creator, placed there when he knit us together in our mother's womb. This hunger can only be satiated by Jesus.

Prayer:

Please fill me, my Father, with Jesus. Give me today, my Daily Bread, that I may find life in all its fullness. Precious Lord, Jesus my brother and Savior, fill me and touch me with your presence so that I can serve you by blessing those around me with your grace. Amen.