



Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

September, 2008

A Word from Linda:

“There are different kinds of gifts, but one Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. .. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”
1 Corinthians 12: 4.5.7 (NIV)

I cannot speak for you, but for me one of the most exciting things about being a parent is watching my children develop their God given personalities and gifts. Which one would be the writer, the actor, the comedian, the artist, the athlete, or the chef? Who wanted to sing or paint or enjoy nature? It was such fun to see each discover themselves and to encourage them into becoming that person that God designed him or her to be, and to recognize their discoveries and their growth.

I cannot help but think that God, as our heavenly Father, feels that way about each of us. But one of the most discouraging and perplexing things that I faced as a pastor was people’s unwillingness to embrace and use their gifts “for the common good.” They would have a gift of discernment, “This church really needs to” but not be willing to be a part of a task force to pursue it. They would be natural leaders, a rare and necessary gift for any organization to go forward, and be unwilling to accept a position that required that skill. They would have a beautiful voice, but not sing in the choir. They would have the gift of hospitality but not be an usher or invite newcomers or neighbors into their homes to share their love for their church and Christ. I didn’t understand it because God had given them such a gift; and when we use God’s gift it brings us such joy and God is so pleased and the Kingdom goes forward.

I hope that in the Emmaus community, where there is such openness to God’s will for our lives, we do not suffer the same gift of discouragement that is found in many local churches. As a community of faith we need all the obedient, Spirit filled, joyous servants we can find to do the work of God on the Emmaus boards for 2009. Does that include you? After all, “To each the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”

In Christ, Linda



This is a message from our Southeast Regional Emmaus Representative, Scoofer Jordan.

A WORD TO THE WISE

Many, if not most, communities feel they “must” have walks every season as they always have. Years ago this was not a problem, but now it is most definitely a problem as more and more communities are struggling with low pilgrim count and having to make very hard decisions about holding a walk. The 20 pilgrim minimum has a two fold principle backing the Upper Room guideline that says not to go forward with less than 20 pilgrims. First, you do not want the number of team members to overpower the number of pilgrims. If communities are not careful, the walk goes forward for the benefit of the team because of “all the hard work done in training”. Second, you cannot in most cases, justify the expense of a walk with less than 20 pilgrims.

The reason I take time to review this with everyone is because apparently many of you feel you **MUST** have as many walks as you always have had. **NOT SO!** In fact, you don’t have to have walks at all. You can gather as a fourth day community until such time as you do have enough pilgrims. It may even work to your advantage to cancel or postpone a walk from time to time in order to get the attention of the community about their failure to sponsor.

May I suggest that each Board review their policy concerning holding walks. You will not be judged on canceling or postponing a walk from time to time, but you could be judged on going forward with less than 20 pilgrims.

In some cases, and maybe in many, the equal commitment rule is being misused or not used at all. Conscientious sponsors take the time to sit down with both husband and wife to explain Emmaus, so they both hear your Emmaus story at the same time. When done this way, most spouses will agree to go on the walk without hesitation. Please don’t take the easy way and only speak to one; see both so the two can discuss clearly from the information you shared with them.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me. Most of the time I’m a pretty good listener, and I surely believe in fixing things that are broken.

Scoofer Jordan
S/E Regional Rep.

NOTES FROM PAT

The fall walks are approaching fast!!! Have you been in prayer about whom you are going to sponsor for the walk? Our Emmaus community depends on good sponsorship to keep our community alive and on fire for Christ. Look around you at those who are active in your church and community and those who demonstrate a desire to serve others!! Don't take sponsorship lightly; don't assume that others will fill the conference room. Our community depends on you and the pilgrims that you sponsor!!! Let's set the world on fire with the Love of Christ!!!

De Colores!!

Pat

Contact Information for Fall Walks

Men's Walk #44	Wade Conklin	478-951-3468	
		October 30th -November 2nd, 2008	
Women's Walk #45	Judi Rainey	678-416-9440	jamship@yahoo.com
		November 6th-November 9th, 2008	
Team meeting dates and location:	Lithia Springs UMC	8:00am - 3:00PM	
	October 4th, October 25th		

The first 2 team meetings have come and gone. Some of the past LDs have said it is all downhill from here. Wade and I would ask that you continue to cover everyone in prayer; the pilgrims, the team and our families. I can tell you from the attacks on my family alone that this is going to be an amazing weekend God is doing some powerful stuff. At last count keep in mind these are not all confirmed but as of 9.15.08 there are 21 ladies and 13 men signed up for the walk. God has BIG plans... Wade and I would like to invite you to come to any or all of the team meetings that you feel lead to come too. The team meetings are at Lithia Springs UMC we have two left: Oct 4, and Oct 25; praise and worship starts around 9:00am and gets over about 9:45 or so. There is child care provided; so that you can come pray and worship with us. There is also going to be an Agape night at Lithia Springs UMC on Oct 10th; if you are interested in coming let Lisa Whitfield know at news lady77@comcast.net.

We appreciate all the prayers that are being lifted up for the pilgrims, for the teams, and our families.

DeColores

Wade Conklin and Judi Rainey

2008 Gathering Schedule

6:00pm Graze (pot-Luck)

7:00PM Praise & Worship

October 18 -Wesley Chapel - Villa Rica

November 15 - Host: Love EMC @ Kennesaw UMC
Combination Follow-Up and Gathering

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

AGAPE

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AGAPE

Hello Everyone! There is going to be an Agape night at Lithia Springs UMC on Friday, Oct 10th; if you are interested in coming let Lisa Whitfield know at news lady77@comcast.net

Our upcoming walks are quickly approaching.....so, I need to remind you all of our agape needs. Oven agape, 2 liter drinks, small bottled water, and handmade agape.

Thanks for giving!

For a special agape for Women’s Walk #45, please bring boxes Puffs tissues to Gatherings and give them to Donna Grenier. Thanks.

In Christ, **Debbie Beck** 📞404-259-9004

Training& Agape chair ❤️❤️🎁



BOARD ELECTIONS OCTOBER 18, 2008

Everywhere we go, we are bombarded with news about the upcoming elections!! We are reminded constantly how important it is to vote for the right person, the hardest worker, the one who will do their best to make sure that our country is the best that it has ever been. Well, the presidential elections are not the only important elections in our future. We have the important responsibility of electing the people who will become our new Emmaus board members. Sure this is not the presidential election, but this is an important election just the same. We have to make sure that the people we elect are totally committed to Emmaus and that they take their place on the board seriously. Our board is a working board and board members should be committed and willing to support the board with their prayers, their hard work and their attendance.. Please be in prayer as we seek the people God would have lead this community.

Our elections will be held at the October 18 Gathering, held at Wesley Chapel UMC in Villa Rica. You will be voting for 2 lay men and 2 lay women.



MEN LAITY

GARY HENKLE
DONALD STEVENS

CLERGY
TOMMY HOLDER

WOMEN LAITY

SHARON GLADSTONE
KAREN MCENTYRE
EVELYN WATERS

If you cannot be at the meeting and you need to request an absentee ballot, request a ballot from one of the members of the nominating committee, which will then be faxed to you, and must be back in Phil Cole's hands by 5:00 PM on Friday, 10/17/08 to be considered. The committee is Phil Cole, Pat Stevens, Janice Russell, Marcia Dillard, and Donna Lucas. I will have all the ballots.



Sponsors This is just a reminder:

Pilgrims need to be dropped off no earlier than 6:30 for send off; the pilgrims will check in and then go into the kitchen for a snack type meal. If you come to send-off feel free to stay for the meal, everyone is invited to stay. After the pilgrims are dismissed the sponsors and anyone else who feels lead please go back into the Chrysalis room for Sponsors hour. We will pray for each Pilgrim and take communion in their name.

Candlelight will start at 9:00pm and we will gather in the kitchen. There will be people their giving directions on what to do if you have not participated in candlelight in a while.

We are also in need of Janitors for Jesus; if you can't serve on the team please come and help us clean up on Sunday. The team by Sunday will be tired and the extra help will be greatly appreciated.

The walk dates are for the Men: Oct. 30th – Nov. 2 and the Ladies are Nov. 6 -9.

Love and blessings my brothers and sisters