



Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

Autumn Blessings

October

Issue 9

Community Lay

Director

God is good, all the time: All the time, God is good.

Community we have just had two GREAT WALKS. It is time to keep the momentum up. We are back at it again in February. We have two great Lay Directors for the upcoming walks. They are Donald Stephens for the Men's Walk and Donna Greiner for the Women's Walk. If you attended the Closings for both Walks you will know that God touched those Pilgrims. We are now looking for a few good men and women to work our upcoming Walks. Please pray for the Lay Directors and the Pilgrims that will be attending these Walks. Also pray about working the Walks. If we don't call you please call us. You can call the Lay Directors or Gary Henkel.

Gary Henkel gthenkel@gmail.com 404-702-2799

Donna Greiner gardongre@aol.com 770.505.7481

Donald Stevens donalds761@aol.com 770-301-6147

I worked the Men's Walk and what a blessing. I saw men's continence change as God touched them

throughout the week. I also made many new friends in the Kitchen and Dorm. I only knew them by name. I had no close relationship with them. I now know them all to be great men of God. We even had one gentleman, Doc that drove from South GA to slave over the dishwasher the entire Walk. He also offered to come back and work our next Walk. We need a full support team, as much as we need the Conference Room team.

On behalf of the Board and me personally, a special thanks to Phil Cole and Katie Fowler and to everyone who worked tirelessly on these Walks.

Now is the time to start praying about Sponsorship. This was the first Walk in a long time that my wife and I had not sponsored a Pilgrim. Something seemed missing. I will be working harder to make sure we sponsor Pilgrims in the next Walks. Sponsoring someone not only is a great blessing for them but also for you. You usually make lifetime friends of that Pilgrim. Sometimes they become one of your very best friends. You will get to know that person in a new and personal way. What a blessing on Sunday to see

how God has touched them. Start now. If God has placed someone on your mind, go ask them. If they say "no", keep praying about it. If they say "yes", have an application with you and close the deal right then. If they say "I'll think about it or pray about it", pray about them and continue to ask. Don't be a pest but be a constant reminder. I would love to see us have a wait list. Pray that God blesses us and the Pilgrims who will be attending these upcoming walks. He has already blessed us with two great Lay Directors.

I would love to see a full house at our Follow-up and Gathering at Acworth UMC. Sponsors, you still have one task left in sponsoring your Pilgrim. You need to bring them to the Follow-up. They need to learn about how to work a walk and sponsor a Pilgrim. Let's keep them filled with the spirit and on the Mountain Top. Hope to see you all there Saturday, October 18, 6 PM, Acworth UMC, 4340 Collins Circle, Acworth, Georgia 30101.

DeColores, Gordon

Autumn

Pastor Thoughts

Please like us on Facebook:

Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

know that our temporary loss of sleep and disruption of daily habits were SO WORTH IT! As our spirits were refreshed and, our faith renewed as we saw how powerful God can be when we set aside the time and put our focus on Him. As you



live into the remainder of your fourth days, never forget that the only reason God seems more present at King's Retreat is because of our willingness to put our attention upon serving Him and serving others. I

wonder how our spirits might be fed if we continued to find all the ways we could serve Him and serve others at our workplaces, in our homes, through our churches... Take the mountaintop experience of Emmaus and let it kindle in each of you a burning ember in your fourth days that will not be put out; for God wants to continue to feed you and draw close to you in all the parts of your lives. Stay in Christ and continue to be made new! Praying for all you!

Blessings,

Leonard

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:17

Hope all of you, both folks who have been in this community for a while AND those of you who just joined the community, have been able to get some rest!! We were blessed to have two wonderful walks with lots of new folks who are living into their fourth days, but sometimes it feels like it takes several days to get back into the routines of our daily lives and to get rest!! But we also

If you have not fulfilled your financial responsibility and paid for your team fees, please remember to pay yours & your pilgrims team fees as soon as possible. This helps the community fulfill our obligations to King's Retreat and pay other Walk fees.

Follow-Up October Gathering will be at Acworth UMC, on the 18th. Please come to fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Bring your favorite Pot Luck Dish and a huge smile.

Sponsors please bring your New Community Members 4340 Collins Circle, Acworth, Georgia

♥ Please contact Ed Beacham or Gordon Norman with your most recent information, phone numbers, addresses or email addresses, so we are able to contact you to serve or send out any new information quickly and efficiently. Info on the last page.

Announcements...Thoughts...

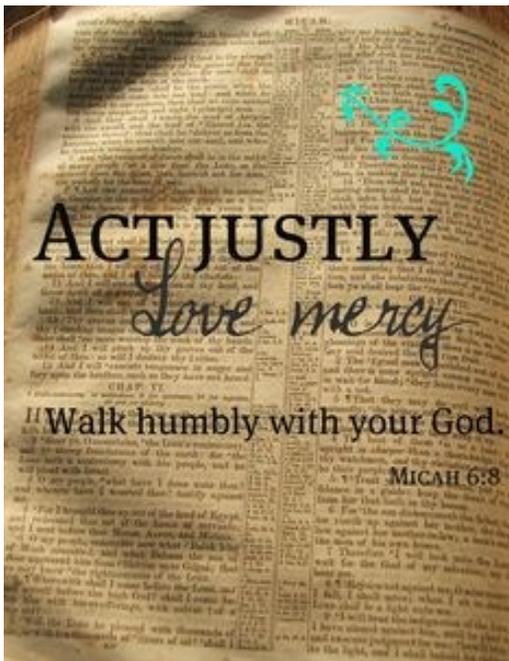
On September 15, 2014, the Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus Executive Committee met at 6:30 PM in the home of Donna Lucas. Present were Chairperson Gordon Norman, Vice Chair and Treasurer Toni Cox, Co-Spiritual Donna Lucas and Co-Spiritual Leonard Akers. Secretary Heather Halbrooks was out of the state and was contacted via telephone. Minutes of the meeting were taken by Toni Cox in Heather's absence.

The Executive Committee met and we unanimously would like to recommend to the board and the Community that on September 20, 2014, Article IV, Section 9, Clergy, be removed from the Bylaws where it was added in the Revised Bylaws dated June 16, 2012.

On Sept. 20, 2014, this resolution was approved by the Board. It will be voted on by the Community at the Nov. Gathering/Business meeting, Nov. 15, 2014.

Article IV, Section 9: Clergy

Clergy may attend Board meetings and serve on the Board in an advisory capacity. They will not have a vote in Board Matters. If the Community Spiritual Director cannot attend a meeting, he/she may designate another clergy to fulfill their duties.



Our Spring Lay Directors for 2015 are Donna Greiner (Mar 5-8)& Donald Stevens (Feb 26-Mar 1)! Please be in prayer for them as they listen for God's voice to build the team. Prayerfully consider pilgrims that God lays on your heart. Team Meeting Dates & location will be announced at a later date.

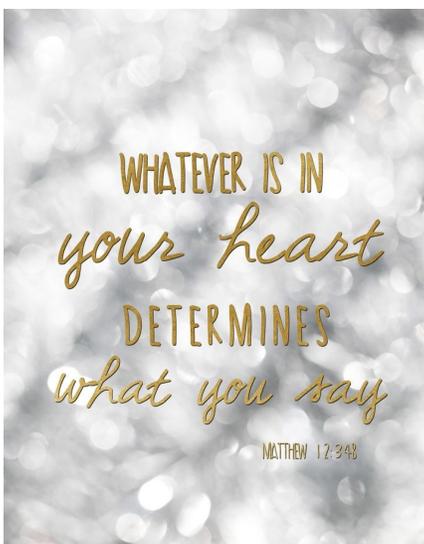
2015 Board Nominations

We will also be voting on the following New Board members, Class of 2015 –2018. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted. Please make sure you have talked to the person you would like to nominate before putting their name into nomination. We still need two more Board Members. Please be in prayerful consideration.

Roger Hitchcock, Katie Fowler,

Goals for 2014:

- 1-Everyone Prayerfully Consider Sponsoring
- 2-Fill the teams
- 3-Have a wait list
- 4-Remain financially stable
- 5-Update community roster
- 6-Establish community involvement on committees



Autumn

From the Heart

The **one thing** I love most about the Emmaus Journey is that everyone has their own experience. God reveals something different to everyone. He tears down walls, cleans out the heart and fills you up with His Spirit.

Not everyone walks away with a Mountain Top feeling, and that is not a bad thing. Sometimes you just walk away with a Revelation, a truth that is spoken straight to the heart. And it is what you do with that truth in your "Real Life" not "King's Retreat Life" that matters. You let Him come back home and really make a difference with your family, friends, work & church life.

I am so thankful I was able to be board Rep this past Women's Walk. It was a complete blessing, and once again God showed up and provided me with a growing moment, a moment of healing and a moment of love. The opportunity to focus on His LOVE and the many ways He provides that through experiences, memories, His WORD & His People.

These lyrics by Hillsong United have been a blessing daily to my soul, I listen to it in the car, in my classroom, while I complete grad school homework, it has been my prayer for the last 9 months or so, to fully embrace His Love & Trust, to sit still and listen for His guidance, His Plan, His Wisdom. To have faith that He will provide in His Own time, Not Heather Renee's time.

This past year has been my greatest year of growth, in my Walk with the Lord, in my relationships with people, my marriage, in my career & in my relationship with myself. I fully threw everything in His hands and aligned

my heart with His Plans 'Delight yourself in the Lord and He will fulfill the desires of your heart.' Your desires be-

come His desires when you are being obedient and walking in His Light with your heart, your money, you job, your relationships & especially the focus of your prayers on His Will.

Since the walk, I officially became a member at Acworth UMC which allows Coop and I finally have a place to call HOME! And that was just the one of many blessings that God threw our way. There are so many exciting adventures and changes ahead that it is a comfort to know He is walking with us! Just the few prayers that I wanted answered, God went way beyond my prayers to show me that He is always provides. I have diligently been obedient in the last 6 months. I dug into the word, I desperately sought out His will for Coop & I. 'You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all of

your heart.' Jeremiah 29:13. I chose to live in what He wants and He provided ten-fold. I know that walking with the Lord is not always a piece of cake, but it is so exciting to see His Grace and His plans unfold.

I am thankful for my strong convictions, I am thankful for my tender heart & I am thankful for the urge to always love without limits. These characteristics come straight from the Lord and sometimes they make it hard to face those that hurt me to the core, but His truth states that I belong to

Him. That His Love is the ONLY thing that matters! I will call Upon His Name and Keep my eyes above the waves! And Know that I am His & He is mine! Those words bring so much comfort to my crazy soul and will be the words I call on when I feel like things are out of my control, because ultimately He is in control!

Be willing to be used by Him, have an open heart and just live in Him!

My Emmaus family is one of the best blessings in my life. This community has been one of my biggest supports and some of my greatest friends. I am thankful!

Decolores,
Heather Halbrooks
NWGWTE #45



The Good Shepherd
by Laura Smith

There once was a flock
That was lost and afraid
It wandered around
Without direction for days
But the Lord looked down
With compassion from above
And sent a good shepherd
To lead them with love
The shepherd was kind
Loving and wise
And he cherished his whole flock
No matter the color or the size
Though the shepherd was quiet
Humble and meek
Every ear listened
Whenever he would speak
He showed them the way
To walk in the light
And he prayed every day
For God to give them true sight
He taught them about
The blood of the Lamb
And about the creator
The great I AM
They flourished and they grew
Through the knowledge they gained
About the Saviour from above
Who lived without blemish or stain
The flock was so thankful
To the Lord up above
For sending a wise leader
Who was so full of love
He lead them with
A strong and gentle good hand
And took the whole flock
Safely into God's Promised Land

For
EVERYTHING
there is a
SEASON,
and a **TIME**
for every
PURPOSE
under heaven.
Ephesians 3:1

Pastor
Appreciation Month

Thank you to all of the Pastors that are involved in Our Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus Community. You guys go above and beyond to serve on the Weekends, board meetings & Gatherings and we are grateful for the sacrifices you make. You guys pour your hearts, souls, gifts, talents & love into the pilgrims and the team members. You all are amazing vessels of the Lord and bless us all so much! Thank You for speaking truth into our lives and being obedient to the Lord's Call over your lives. Lots of Love & Blessings over your lives.

Love The Community

Let your light shine so
people everywhere may
see your good actions
and praise God in
heaven because of it.
Matthew 5:16



North West Georgia
Walk to Emmaus

Contact Heather
Halbrooks if you have
any communication
requests:
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@gmail.com

**For the
Development of
Christian Leaders**

WWW.NWGWTE.COM

Gatherings 2014

- January 18 Midway UMC
- February 15 Hiram UMC
- March 15 Hollydale UMC
- April 19 No Gathering
- May 17 TBA
- June 21 Acworth Beach
"2nd Annual Father's
Day Picnic"
- July 19-Jasper UMC
- August 16 Due West
Methodist
- September 20 Bascomb UMC
- October 18 Acworth UMC
- November 15 DUE WEST
Methodist
- December Merry Christmas!

2014 Board Members

Gordon Norman-Head Chair

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Toni Cox-Vice Chair/Training

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Bruce Straw-Literature