

Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

August 2017



Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus - For the Development of Christian Leaders. www.nwgwte.com

Greetings Emmaus Community,

It is hard to believe that the summer will soon be coming to an end already. The kids will be going back to school and back in full swing with all the activities that involves. Vacations are probably for the most part over and we are settling in for what is next. As I write this, I am thinking that Christmas is only 153 days away. WOW are you ready for that yet! That is hard to believe is it not? Although all of these things are going on, we still have some exciting times ahead of us in our Emmaus community.

Gary Henkel and Christine Standridge are finished with team meetings and will continue to put the final touches on our fall walks: August 17-20 for Men's Walk #57 and August 24-27 for Women's Walk #60. Continue to lift them up, as the teams and the pilgrims that will be attending. We are in need of Agape items for both walks: oven agape, bed agape, and bottled water. I hope to see you at the Candlelight on August 19th @ 8:00 for the men, and August 26th for the women. If you are available and would like to work one of these walks, please do not hesitate to reach out to either of them [Gary or Christine] and let them know you are available.

Chuck Standridge will be going to Nashville in October as an advisor member to give input related to the manuals we currently use. Nashville will be making the manuals digital at some point in the near future. Also, they will be consolidating a lot of the material that is duplicated throughout the different manuals used on weekends.

Mike Amsbaugh and Winnie Buchanan are working on the data information to get it updated and ready for input into the new database we will be using. They will both need help with input so if you would like to help, let one of them know you are interested in helping with this task.

We are all pilgrims on our fourth day journey, and isn't it nice to know that you do not have to walk the journey alone? Not only is God walking with you but you have an Emmaus Community that wants to walk alongside you. When our weekends are over and we start our fourth days, we are excited and

full of the Spirit. But as life happens, we see that what we experienced on our Emmaus walk is not necessarily accepted by the majority. We come home from the weekend (whether as a first time pilgrim or one who has worked any number of teams) refreshed, excited, and on fire again. Then life happens and we begin to see that we are in a season that is moving slowly, with ups and downs, and our enthusiasm that we had after the weekend is running out.

Remember sitting with your table groups when you went on your Emmaus weekend? Those table groups were to simulate what a "reunion group" would be like after your weekend was over. The process of trusting those in your group began, and walls started to come down. Getting plugged into a reunion group is important as it helps you to have someone to share how God is working in your life. Those group members help keep you accountable, support you, love on you, and rejoice when things are going great. Let me encourage you to get involved with a group. If you need help finding a group, let me know and we will help you get plugged in. It is so easy for us to finish a weekend and then go back home and the race starts all over again. Before you know it, Emmaus is a thing of the past and something you do not have time for any longer.

We define busy lives in different ways; however, I would like to encourage you to pray about two things: 1. If you have not worked a team or if it has been a while, come work a weekend. 2. Pray about who God wants you to sponsor. Remember that feeling you had and how much it helped you get your priorities back in line with God's plan. Well there is someone out there that God is wanting you to sponsor. He needs you and this community needs you to make a friend, be a friend, and bring that friend who knows Christ to Emmaus. Christ has no hands and feet but yours and they are very much needed in the Emmaus community to make disciples for Jesus Christ. We are called to be like Christ and there are a lot of people who are in need of some real Jesus. Won't you join us on this fourth day journey!

How might I serve you? How might this board serve you? I love all of you with the love of the Lord!!!

DeColores,
Judi Rainey
Community Lay Director
678-416-9440

Clergy Corner

Spiritual Direction

My name is James Gwin. I crawled onto North Georgia Men's Walk to Emmaus #50 where I grew in faith and learned to soar on Wings of Eagles with my brothers at the table of John. Beth, my wife & Wonder Woman of faith, and I serve Jesus mostly among the powerful people of Acworth UMC (where I also serve as the pastor). We have five Gwinlings - 1 out of college, 3 in college, and one senior in high school. (Lord, hear our prayer.) for this newsletter, I am honored to be one of the Spiritual Co-directors for the Northwest Ga. Walk to Emmaus Community.

Let me share five actual quotes I've collected from Emmaus closings:

- *"Thanks to my sponsors **and** for all those who have tried to put a 2 year-old to bed. That was me. I came here kicking and screaming."*
- *"I've been waiting to go on Walk to Emmaus all my life. I just never knew it."*
- *"These three days have meant more to me than any three days of my life. . . except for the first three days with my wife."*
- *"I was on the road to Damascus, the scales fell off, everything clicked, and I felt the Holy Spirit for the first time in fifteen years."*
- *"I would really be crying more right now, but I have to go to the bathroom."*

It does not seem like twenty years since I served on my first WTE Team. I've worked teams before there was a model. I've worked teams using the model. I've served in other communities. I have been blessed to serve many times in the Northwest Ga. WTE Community.

What I've found to be true is this. It does not matter where a walk happens. It does not matter which notebook is used. It does not matter what gender the pilgrims are. What does matter is people being loved. Thus, as you can hear from the quotes above - *the people who pray, sponsor, serve, and walk as pilgrims matter*: Walk to Emmaus is all about people sharing and experiencing grace. Again and again I witness the impact of this seventy-two hours change people's lives forever.

I am so grateful to the pilgrims about to journey on the Northwest Ga. Women's and Men's walks. Because of their sponsors and those who serve, I hope to be able to write down a few more closing quotes.

Your Christ-loving servant,

James Gwin
Community Spiritual Co-Director.

Upcoming Weekend Info.

- ✦ **NWGWTE Men's Walk #57** will be held on August 17-20, 2017. The Lay Director for this weekend will be Gary Henkel. There is always room for more servants!! If you would like to volunteer to work, contact Gary: gthenkel3@gmail.com.
- ✦ **NWGWTE Women's Walk #60** will be held on August 24-27, 2017. The Lay Director for this weekend will be Christine Standridge. There is still room for more servants for this weekend as well!! If you would like to volunteer to serve, contact Christine: clstandridge@comcast.net.

Please be in prayer for these weekends: for the pilgrims, the team, and their families! These weekends are also in need of AGAPE of all types. The weekends are also in need of bottled water as well. Thank you in advance for your support of our upcoming weekends!

Please make plans to attend Candlelight for these weekends: **Men's Candlelight - August 19th @8:00** and **Women's Candlelight - August 26th @ 8:00**. Remember, childcare is NOT provided for events at King's Retreat.

You're
Invited

DUE TO THE MEN'S WEEKEND FALLING ON THE 3RD WEEKEND OF THE MONTH, WE WILL NOT BE HAVING A TRADITIONAL GATHERING FOR AUGUST.

Our Gathering this month will be held at King's Retreat at Men's Candlelight. The community gathers at 8:00 for a time of Worship and Communion together before Candlelight begins with the pilgrims at 9:00. Join us as we support our new brothers in Christ who are journeying through their Emmaus weekend.

Prior to Candlelight, there will be a Board meeting at 6:30 at King's Retreat in the Chrysalis Room.

The address for King's Retreat is 111 School Rd., Dallas, GA 30132

The Board Needs YOU!

We are approaching Board elections for the next year. In order to continue moving our community in the right direction, we NEED committed people to serve on our Board of Directors. Board members are asked to commit to a 3-year term, and can serve in various capacities on the board. Please be in prayer about whether or not YOU are being called to serve on the board. More information will be forthcoming about board elections. If you have any questions, please contact a board member.

Gathering Hosts Needed

We are looking for churches that are willing to host Gatherings for the upcoming year! If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Linda Wallace.

linda.wallace66@gmail.com

Communication Updates

There are several ways to communicate and stay in touch with your NWGWTE community:

- ✦ Visit our website www.nwgwte.com to find applications, upcoming walk information, Gathering directions, and other community info.
- ✦ Like us on Facebook: "Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus"
- ✦ Email us at nwgwtenews@gmail.com to share any prayer requests or contributions for the monthly newsletter.

We look forward to hearing from you, and staying in touch in the future!

2017 Board Members

Position	Name	Contact Information
*Chair/Training	Judi Rainey	judi.rainey@yahoo.com
*Vice-Chair/Website Manager	Mike Amsbaugh	mike.amsbaugh@gmail.com
*Secretary/Newsletter	Katie Fowler	katie.fowler@carrollcountyschools.com nwghtenews@gmail.com
*Treasurer	Susan Davis	Susan.Davis@childressklein.com
*Community Spiritual	Donna Lucas	donnatlucas@comcast.net
Asst. Spiritual	Rich Arcaro	iwitnesslegal@comcast.net
Asst. Spiritual	James Gwin	jamesrgwin@gmail.com
Agape	Melody Crowe	bornhigh38@yahoo.com
Send-Off/Candlelight	Chuck Standridge	wcsjr3@comcast.net
Set-Up/Take Down	Roger Hitchcock	augustusmayday@gmail.com
Gatherings	Linda Wallace	lindajwallace66@gmail.com
Follow-Up/ King's Retreat Board Rep	Bill Rhodes	billthetreeman@gmail.com
Kitchen/Chrysalis Rep.	Lori Haney	lorijhaney@comcast.net
Literature & Supplies/Music/ King's Retreat Board Rep	Gayle Watkins	gaylewtkns@gmail.com
Registration	Winnie Buchanan	winnie19@bellsouth.net
Ex-Officio	Gary Henkel	gthenkel3@gmail.com
Women's Team Selection	Bonnie Standridge	bonniestandridge@aol.com
Men's Team Selection	Phil Cole	folkstonefarm1996@yahoo.com
Sponsorship/Group Reunions	Calvin Waddell	clw1967@comcast.net

* Denotes Executive Board members