

# Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

Summer 2018



Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus - For the Development of Christian Leaders. [www.nwgwte.com](http://www.nwgwte.com)

This edition of the NWGWTE Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of our Brother in Christ, Steve Standridge.

Please enjoy this dedication to this memory and pictures celebrating the fullness of life that Steve enjoyed and the love he shared with his beloved family.



A man and his wife went to New York City for a short trip. While there, the wife decides she wants to go shoe shopping. So the husband sits on a bench and dutifully waits while his wife shops. While waiting the husband strikes up a conversation with a stranger and introduces his new friend to Jesus Christ. The couple was Steve and Shari Standridge. I believe this little true story exemplifies the life of our Emmaus brother Steve, who never met a stranger and if he did, never let an opportunity pass to share the grace and love of Jesus Christ.

Steve was part of NWGWTE for 25 years, virtually serving in every position from cleaning the toilets to giving one of the grace talks. Truly, my brother had a servant's heart. For the past 5 years, I had the distinct pleasure to be in an accountability group with Steve. We shared our highs our lows, our shortcomings, and our victories in every avenue of our lives. No matter what came about, Steve was always smiling at the end. He was always willing to pray for others, help others, reach out to others, and give sound spiritual advice by listening to the voice of the Lord. Although, if you asked for advice, make sure you had eaten because Steve was never short on words (literally). Steve pleased God.

If you ask me what a disciple looks like, I would show you a picture of my brother Steve. Although we know he is happy, his wife of Holy Matrimony, children, mother, grandchildren, siblings, friends and family are still grieving the loss of him. Please continue to lift them up in your prayers. It has been 3 days since Steve's memorial service. So in closing, what have these three days meant to me

and what am I going to do about it? It has had me reflect on friendship, the value of spending time with loved ones, and who am I introducing Jesus to? And what am I going to do about it? I am going to try to be like my brother Steve.

De Colores,

Rich



Greetings Community,

Well did you all witness spring, because I sure did not. Summer is here, which means the walks will soon be here. Please be in prayer for whom God would have you sponsor.

How might your board be of help to you? Are there prayers that we can lift up? Let us know we are here for you.

Let me share what your board has been up too this last month. It was recognized that new manuals were needed. The information within the manuals was outdated, and there were duplicates of many things. Therefore, it was decided that we would meet at the end of April to begin the process of putting together new manuals. The board as well as community worked on updating the manuals for walks at the end of April and at the Heads meeting in May. Our goal is to have all the manuals updated by the first team meeting. There are materials that the Upper Room requires us to use, but we have not been able to update all the manuals with that information because it is on back order. We are working on putting together a three-day schedule that will be used by both men and women going forward. A huge thanks to Bonnie Standridge and Janice Russell, our Literature and Supplies team, for all they have done for this endeavor. Thanks to Fran Davis, our Reunion Group Chair, for her help with the three day schedule and other things needed for Literature and Supplies.

We are working on updating the By-Laws and Policies to make them more uniform and in compliance with the manual, thanks to Chuck Standridge. Your treasurer has worked very hard at making sure our finances are in order and we are blessed to be in the black. Susan Davis, keeps up with our taxes, the insurance, and 501c3. We are a blessed community for having her and her due diligence in looking at these very important items. If you have questions please reach out to Susan. Our secretary, Katie Fowler, works super hard keeping up with all of the discussion that goes on in the meetings. She is also responsible for our fabulous Newsletter. Our Agape chair Mel Crowe, works hard on getting agape letters, putting together the Prayer Charts, and making them available to all those who come to the gatherings. She also had tubs of agape that can be worked on at team meetings. If you need ideas, just call Mel and she will help you.

Ronnie Dishman is our kitchen chair, and soon he will be busy with taking an inventory of what is currently at the camp. He will also help the kitchen team with any food items needed at the camp for the upcoming walks.

Winnie Buchanan is starting to get busy with the registration of the new pilgrims that will be coming on the upcoming walks. Remember we need 14 men and 14 women with a \$25 dollar deposit before July 14<sup>th</sup>.

We are implementing a medical request on the team covenant. We also ask that when you sponsor a pilgrim please be sure that they have filled out the application to include what medications they are taking and what their current medical conditions are. This is vital in helping them should an emergency arise while at the camp.

As you can see from reading above we are not just board members who meet once a month. We are board members who work hard for this Emmaus Community. We love our jobs, and this community.

Can you think of something else we could be doing to help the community? We are here to serve God and you in any way we can to make the Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus a better community. We are always looking for people who want to help on the board. If you are willing to serve please let us know.

I am praying for each of you! May God bless you on all your Fourth days!

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

*1 Peter 4:10*

God has given each of you  
a gift from his great variety  
of spiritual gifts. Use them  
well to serve one another.



WorkingMomsBalance.com



## Clergy Corner

*Summertime, summertime... time to go on a diet.*

The ultimate goal of our Christian walk is to be like Jesus. The ultimate goal of our diet is to be trimmer and more fit. Both goals require great discipline and commitment. Both goals carry valuable rewards with them. It makes sense to combine the goals whenever we can.

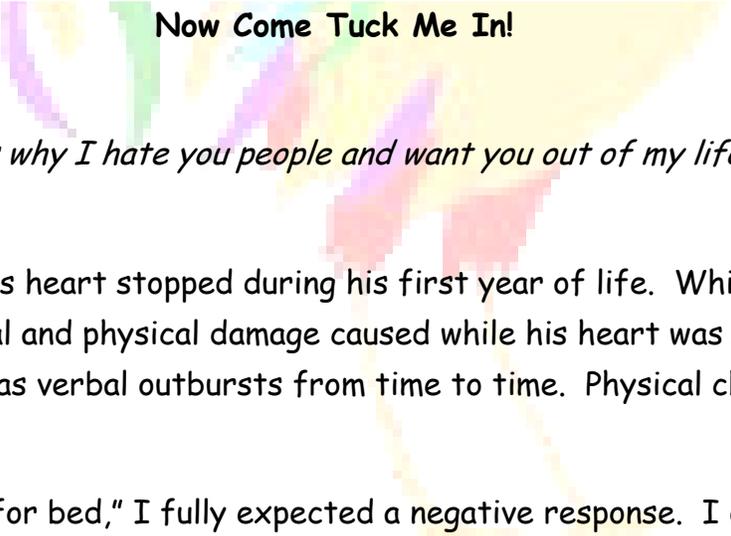
If we will diet prayerfully, constantly relying on Jesus Christ for comfort and strength, then we will please the Lord and lose weight at the same time. With Christ we become overcomers, and we are promised that we will share in Christ's reward in our heavenly home!

I hate dieting - I really do... but I want to be my best self and ultimately be more like Jesus!

Here's a thought... I cannot be beaten, as long as Christ is on my side!

**"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." - Revelation 3:21**

Donna Lucas



### Now Come Tuck Me In!

I said, *"It's time for bed."*

My son responded, *"This is why I hate you people and want you out of my life! Now come tuck me in Daddy!"*

Our son has challenges. His heart stopped during his first year of life. While that was more than a decade ago, the emotional and physical damage caused while his heart was stopped still makes life hard for my son. He has verbal outbursts from time to time. Physical challenges also complicate his life.

So when I said, "It's time for bed," I fully expected a negative response. I did not expect him to say, "Now come tuck me in!" Laughing, I followed my teenage son upstairs and tucked him into bed. Such is life in the Gwin household.

While this unusual conversation reflects a rather wild swing of emotions, I recently found myself complaining to God in a similar way. God, this is why I am so angry:

- People mistreat me.
- Friends hurt my feelings.
- No one appreciates all that I do.
- I suffer and no one cares.
- Someone else got my promotion.
- I prayed and things only got worse.
- This is NOT how my life is supposed to be.

When I hit a rough patch, I throw a really good "pity party." I sit and pout about how bad my life is and how great everyone else seems to have it. I allow life's challenges to darken my heart. In the bible, the book of Job tells of a man who suffers in real and profound ways. To be clear, Job is not patient in his suffering. He complains to God and others about his situation. He seeks to understand why this significant season of struggles has beset him. Even though Job complains, he does not give up on God. By the end of the story, Job finds both comfort and strength when God speaks to him.

I have learned a great lesson from my son (and Job.) When I am frustrated, depressed, or even angry with God, I may lash out a bit. But, I've learned to follow my complaining with a confession. "God, Thanks for listening to me complain. Now, come tuck me in!"

May God heal your frustration and then tuck you in well.

James Gwin  
Pastor,  
Acworth United Methodist Church

**From Your King's Retreat  
Trustee's...**

Brothers and Sisters, we need your help!

We have 4 projects at Kings Retreat that we would like to have community members provide estimates on:

**Project 1** - Need experienced painting or Handyman Company to prep and re-paint chapel and conference room.

**Project 2** - Need experienced contractor to repair water damage to columns by showers and replace/add non-porous surface to prevent further water damage in both shower rooms. May include addition of non-porous surface in other areas that need to be protected from water damage.

**Project 3** - Carpet replacement - we have carpet being donated, but need an experienced carpet company to remove old carpet and install new carpet. Will include moving furniture and may include installation of padding.

**Project 4** - Need experienced roofing company to do soffit, fascia and minor roof and gutter repairs. To include replacement of rotten wood, painting and repair/replacement of damaged shingles. Secure gutters and repair gutters that do not drain properly.

If you have someone in mind for us to contact, or would like to submit an estimate on one of these projects, please contact Tim Sanders at trsanders@yahoo.com.

Thank you.... your Kings Retreat Board of Trustees

### **We are in the planning stages of the next set of walks!**

Thank you to Linda Wallace, Women's Lay Director for walk #62 and to Matt Fowler, Men's Lay Director for walk #59.

The walk dates are: Men's #59 ~ August 16 - August 19 and Women's #62 ~ August 23 - August 26.

They will both be calling you to work the weekend. If you are interested in working the weekends, feel free to contact the Lay Director and let them know. If you see a number that is not familiar, it could be them. Go ahead and add their phone numbers to your phones, so that when they call you will recognize the name. Linda's number 662-420-3135, and Matt's number is 770-365-7665. If you want to work the walks, feel free to call them and they can put you on their list.

We have made a commitment to the Upper Room to work towards the 20 pilgrims in order to have a walk by increasing our numbers by 2. Therefore, we need to have 14 men and 14 women with the \$25 deposit in the hands of the registrar no later than July 21<sup>st</sup>. As a board we are committed to following the handbook as the covenant that we signed calls us to do. Our only request of you is to help us by sponsoring well and by getting the applications to the registrar in a timely manner. I am already praying about who He wants me to sponsor. I pray you are as well!

If you have questions about Emmaus or if you just want to talk, feel free to call me anytime?

De Colores,

Judi Rainey  
Community Lay Director  
678-416-9440



**Team Meeting Schedule for  
NWG Men's Walk #59 & Women's Walk #62:**

Please mark your calendars now for the following team meeting dates and locations:

- Team Meeting #1. Sat, June 30, 2018: 8:30 - 3:00 @ Acworth UMC
- Team Meeting #2. Sat, July 14, 2018: 8:30 - 3:00 @ Villa Rica 1<sup>st</sup> UMC
- Team Meeting #3. Sat, July 28, 2018: 8:30 - 3:00 @ Acworth UMC
- Team Meeting #4. Sat, August 11, 2018: 8:30 - 3:00 @ Villa Rica 1<sup>st</sup> UMC

*\*\*Childcare is available for all team meetings.\*\**

**Church Addresses:**

Acworth UMC  
4340 Collins Circle  
Acworth, GA 30101

Villa Rica 1<sup>st</sup> UMC  
1789 Carrollton-Villa Rica Hwy  
Villa Rica, GA 30180

**Upper Room Handbooks**

The new Upper Room Handbook is available for purchase. There are a few options if you would like to order one: either digital or a hard copy. I hope you will order one and help keep your board accountable to what the manual says. Here is the link you need in order to get your copy

<http://emmaus.upperroom.org/news/291>

just follow the instructions once you click the link.



EMMAUS MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY MANUAL

# You're Invited

Please make plans to attend our

June Gathering:  
District Line UMC  
3044 Morgan Road  
Bremen, GA 30110

Please make plans to attend our

July Gathering:  
Flint Hill UMC  
4072 Hiram Sudie Road  
Hiram, GA 30141

Board Meeting at 4:00pm (NO Board Meeting in July)  
Graze at 6:00 (bring a covered dish to share), and Praise at 7:00.  
Childcare will be provided.  
Directions will be available on the website.

## Chrysalis

Chrysalis Flights Are Taking Off Soon!

It's time to prayerfully sponsor youth for the upcoming Chrysalis Flights. Teams are forming as well as meeting so please also be in prayer for the many servants that are preparing and planning.

Visit the Application Page for details and a downloadable application. As a reminder, this is for students in 10th - 12th grade and young adults ages 18-24. The individual should be active in church and ready for a faith building experience.

Do you know of anyone that fits this description? If so, please consider sponsoring and giving him/her the blessing of Chrysalis.

**Chrysalis #95/YAC #72(Female)**

**July 12-15, 2018**

Lay Director: **Loretta Yike**

[lyike@hillsideumc.org](mailto:lyike@hillsideumc.org)

**Chrysalis #96/YAC #73 (Male)**

**July 19-22, 2018**

Lay Director: **Terry Cooper**

[terrycooper2151@aol.com](mailto:terrycooper2151@aol.com)

As a reminder, you can stay up to date on Chrysalis and what is happening! For up to date information please sign up for our texting service. Just text- Chrysalis to 313131. We will keep you informed of all the fun stuff coming down the line!!

**FLY WITH CHRIST!**  
**The North Georgia Chrysalis Board**

*Join us as we celebrate "40 years of the Walk to Emmaus Ministry"  
by joining us on a Caribbean cruise!*

*Experience a time of fellowship, music, worship and fun with fellow Emmaus pilgrims!*

Each morning you will have the opportunity to share in worship together. When we are at sea, you will have the opportunity to hear speakers talk about their Emmaus experiences and how it affected their Christian lives:

**Rev. Stephen Bryant**, currently serves and Publisher of The Upper Room and Associate General Secretary at Discipleship Ministries. From 1986-1992, he served as Director of Spiritual Formation for The Upper Room and as the International Spiritual Director of The Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis. Steve is an author and launched Discipleship Resources International, a resourcing initiative for Central Conferences.

**Pat Luna**, is an international consultant/instructor in stewardship, board member of the General Board of Church and Society and a recipient of the Denman Award for Evangelism. She has been a retreat leader for the Academy for Spiritual Formation and is deeply involved with the Emmaus ministry since her Walk in 1985.

**Jacob and Rachel Armstrong**, founded Providence Church near Nashville TN in 2008 to see those who are disconnected from God and the church find hope, healing and wholeness in Jesus Christ. They co-authored the book *The Connected Life: Small Groups that Build Community*. Jacob attended Chrysalis in 1998 where he felt called to the ministry. Rachel attended the Walk to Emmaus in 2002.

Emmaus Ministries staff will share about newer ministries like Discovery Weekend, Chrysalis, Journey to the Table, and Face to Face in a question and answer period. When we are in port you will have an entire day to discover Cozumel, Mexico.

The link to download a brochure, get more information and to register is: <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/cc19032819y#.WsTpEFI5Dcs>

Registration is now open!! If you have any questions, please let us know.

*We hope you can be part of this time together, celebrating 40 years of Walk to Emmaus!*



## Blue Skies - Mission Opportunity



Meet Zack Attack. He is the little dude in the flash t-shirt. This is the kid we were assigned for the week. At 11 years old, he is can hardly hold 65 lbs. because he can seldom eat. This week he got to forget he has a picc line and is recovering from chemo. This week he got to be a kid again with other kids just like him. Many of these kids are terminal and for 2 in this picture it was the last best week of their lives. Along with these kids, parents and siblings spend most days in and out of hospitals. Activities are missed or no longer allowed, plans made far in advance are canceled, siblings take a back seat to everything, and vacation is an impossibility.

Enter Blue Skies. It is literally the BEST WEEK EVER for these families. Volunteers give up time and money to serve these families so they don't have to lift a finger all week. All meals are provided, all laundry, all house cleaning, all the super amazing fun their little hearts can stand is packed into one amazing week that they can cling to while throwing up, when their hair falls out again and they simply want to give up. It wouldn't be the BEST WEEK EVER if God wasn't involved too. Every morning these families get to worship God looking over the shoreline. Then toward the end of the week we have an open baptism call in the ocean. Remember Zack Attack...yeah he was baptized!!!

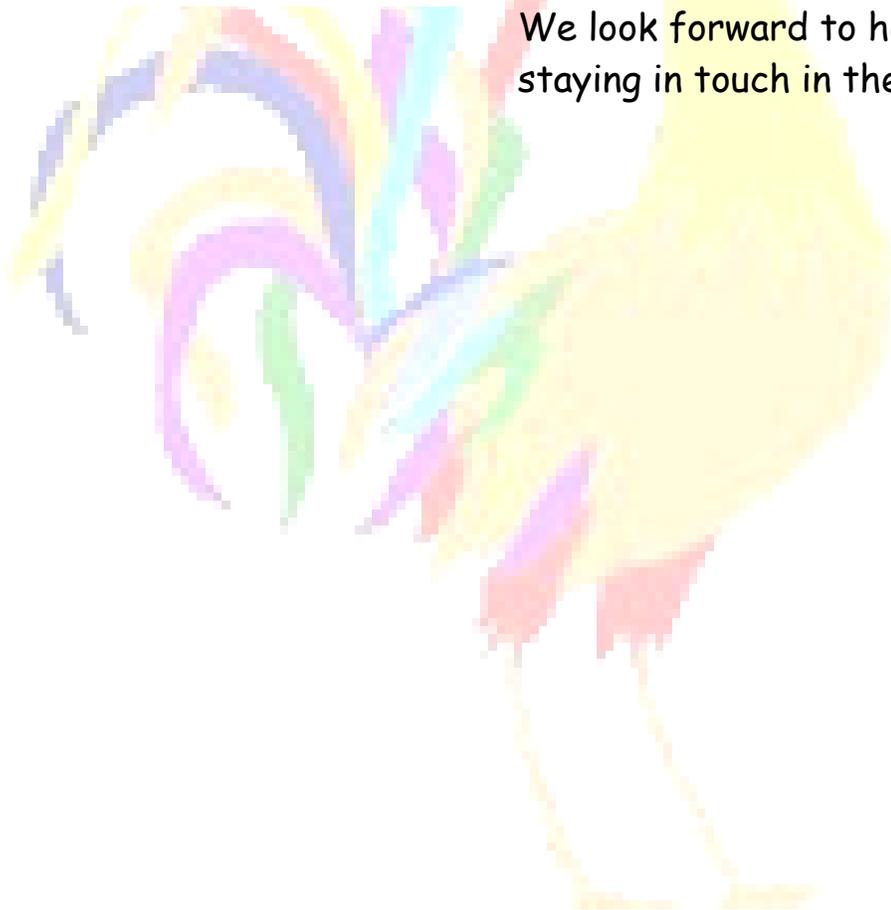
Each week costs close to \$75,000 to pull off and they run all summer. Each volunteer pays \$1,000 to help cover the cost, but this year our week is struggling. Please consider helping these kids make connections that hopefully last a very long lifetime by donating. To donate go to [www.classy.org/fundraiser/1466936](http://www.classy.org/fundraiser/1466936) Feel free to click around to find out how to help others raise money or to come and serve yourself. It is truly one of the most rewarding experiences.

# Communication Updates

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

- ✚ Visit our website [www.nwgwte.com](http://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](mailto: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!



## 2018 Board Members

Position	Name	Contact Information
*Community Lay Director	Judi Rainey	<a href="mailto:judi.rainey@yahoo.com">judi.rainey@yahoo.com</a>
*Vice Chair/ Candlelight & Send-Off	Chuck Standridge	<a href="mailto:wcsjr3@comcast.net">wcsjr3@comcast.net</a>
*Secretary/ Communication/Music	Katie Fowler	<a href="mailto:katie.fowler@carrollcountyschools.com">katie.fowler@carrollcountyschools.com</a> <a href="mailto:nwghtenews@gmail.com">nwghtenews@gmail.com</a>
*Treasurer/ King's Retreat Trustee	Susan Davis	<a href="mailto:Susan.Davis@childressklein.com">Susan.Davis@childressklein.com</a>
*Community Spiritual Director	Donna Lucas	<a href="mailto:donnatlucas@comcast.net">donnatlucas@comcast.net</a>
Spiritual Director/ Sponsorship	Rich Arcaro	<a href="mailto:iwitnesslegal@comcast.net">iwitnesslegal@comcast.net</a>
Spiritual Director	James Gwin	<a href="mailto:jamesrgwin@gmail.com">jamesrgwin@gmail.com</a>
Agape	Melody Crowe	<a href="mailto:bornhigh38@yahoo.com">bornhigh38@yahoo.com</a>
Gatherings	Linda Wallace	<a href="mailto:lindajwallace66@gmail.com">lindajwallace66@gmail.com</a>
Registrar/ Website	Winnie Buchanan	<a href="mailto:winnie19@bellsouth.net">winnie19@bellsouth.net</a>
Co-Literature & Supplies/ King's Retreat Trustee	Bonnie Standridge	<a href="mailto:bonniestandridge@gmail.com">bonniestandridge@gmail.com</a>
Men's Team Selection	Phil Cole	<a href="mailto:folkstonefarm1996@yahoo.com">folkstonefarm1996@yahoo.com</a>
Women's Team Selection	Marcia Dillard	<a href="mailto:marciadillard@gmail.com">marciadillard@gmail.com</a>
Reunion Groups	Fran Davis	<a href="mailto:fdavis2552@aol.com">fdavis2552@aol.com</a>
Co-Literature & Supplies	Janice Russell	<a href="mailto:russell_janice@bellsouth.net">russell_janice@bellsouth.net</a>
Set-Up & Take-Down	Guppy Gladstone	<a href="mailto:guppy731@gmail.com">guppy731@gmail.com</a>
Kitchen	Ron Dishman	<a href="mailto:rdishman@bellsouth.net">rdishman@bellsouth.net</a>

\* Denotes Executive Board members