

Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

February 2019



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

Greetings Northwest Georgia Community,

I pray that you have all had a joyful and most spirit-filled holiday season. As we look forward to a new year, my prayer is that we, individually and as a community, grow in faith. As I ponder the past holiday season, and look forward to the coming season, I wonder why mankind doesn't, or can't, continue to have the same kindness and compassion for each other throughout the year as they did just a few short weeks ago. I am reminded of Ephesians 4:32 "*be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you.*" So, as we move forward into 2019, my prayer is that we all have the same love, kindness and compassion towards each other as we did during the Christ Season, for His love is everlasting. Amen.

Shifting gears, I would ask that you please be in prayer for your new Board members, listed below:

Chuck Standridge, Ed McGrory, Mark Michalisko, Katie Fowler, Susan Davis, Winnie Buchanan, Linda Wallace, Melody Crowe, Janice Russell, Fran Davis, Guppy Gladstone, Marcia Dillard, Bonnie Standridge, James Gwin, Ronnie Dishman, Julie Fuller, Flora Lowe-Rockett, and Judi Rainey

And also for Linda Wallace and Matt Fowler as they continue to prepare to lead Christ's walks in March. As a reminder, Men's Walk #59 is scheduled for February 28th thru March 3rd, and the Women's Walk #62 is scheduled for March 7th thru 10th.

As always, the Board is here to serve you. Board meetings are held the third Saturday of each month from 4-6 p.m. before the Gathering and are open to everyone in the community. We welcome you to bring your concerns, questions and ideas to a meeting. The only request we have is that you would notify me beforehand that you plan to attend so we can add your items to the agenda.

Also, please reach out to older community members, and prospective new members, and invite them to a Gathering. Remember, one doesn't have to have attended a Walk to come to a Gathering.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you. I look forward to a prosperous year for our community.

DeColores.

In His Service,

Chuck Standridge

NWGWTE Community Lay Director

Clergy Corner

1 Corinthians 13 is one of the best-known passages in the Bible because of its use in weddings. It's easy to understand why. It represents one of the most beautiful expressions of love found in the Bible. Because the passage doesn't reference God or Christ, it is selected for its broad appeal to one's guests, whatever their spiritual orientation. It has become one of those texts that we know exactly when to use. However, I came across the context of this passage, which put some things in perspective.

In this apostle, Paul's first letter to the church in the city of Corinth (in ancient Greece), he wasn't happy with the behavior of church members. They were argumentative, divisive, pushy, petty. He was embarrassed that they gave places of honor to the wealthy. He was irked that their worship services were raucous expressions of self-ism. So, he wrote to tell them to stop acting up, and to encourage them to do better. In the 13th chapter, he takes a time out to include a love poem. Not, of course, in the romantic sense, but a poem about mutual love and the give and take of God-like respect.

When love takes its full place, a community can live, develop and, if necessary, be rebuilt. It is no longer the place of endless rivalries, grudges and jealousies. Richard Hays wrote that "love gives meaning to an otherwise unintelligible world." The expression is beautiful. There is, in fact, an intelligibility proper to love. It is not enough to stick to principles or to know who was wrong and who was right on a divisive issue. When it comes to life in the Church, those who love will find the right answers, correct behavior and actions which best correspond to what can help a community to grow. Contrary perhaps to the Corinthians, Paul does not forget that we are still on the road, that we go forward as best we can. Fortunately for all of us, "love is patient."

So, when it comes to conflict and the body of Christ, these two are no strangers to themselves. But as my former pastor used to say, we have more in common than we have differences.

Yes, we may have differing opinions on how music should be run in the conference room, the arrangements of the chapel, or even how we clean but when we come at the Lord's Table, those differences are laid aside. When we remember the sacrifice of Jesus made for us, when we eat of the bread as a reminder of the broken body and drink from the cup of the blood of Jesus poured out for us. That my friends unites in love. The great love God has for us and this world should unite us and not divide us. That great love, God lavishes over us should empower us to share it in our divided world. We are to be the peacemakers, the witnesses to the world that LOVE conquers all. Will we always agree with everyone in the body of Christ- NO WAY!

But what we can do is follow the witness Christ had in the world and that was through his love for everyone. Is it easy to love those that are different than us, think differently than us, act differently, look differently than us- no! I struggle at times with seeing people through the eyes of God. I'm quick to

judge, based on looks, actions, even how they treat me. But what I remind myself of, is those people are Children of God just like I am.

We can be the most knowledgeable about scripture, we can have the most beautiful talents to serve Christ, we can even give the most time and money to the Lord. But Paul tells us that none of those things truly matter IF we do not love first!

DeColores!
Julie Fuller
Community Co-Spiritual

Board Spotlights

GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER!

No, not gonna happen!
Not this year, too busy!
Sorry, I have to work this weekend!
I am so glad I have gotten past all of the excuses.

Hello, my name is Ed McGrory and I attended Northwest Georgia Men's Walk to Emmaus #53, where I sat at the table of Luke. I am humbled to be asked to serve on the N.W. Georgia Emmaus Board, and I am honored to serve as your Co-Vice Chair as well as Gatherings Chair.

My wife Michelle and I worship and serve at New Covenant United Methodist Church in Douglasville. While living in the Dallas area, surrounded by our four children and six awesome grandchildren.

I will leave you with this provoking quote by C. S. Lewis: "You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending..."

De Colores,
Ed McGrory
NW Georgia Walk to Emmaus



Love. Grow. Serve.

Women's Team Selection Chair

My name is Marcia Dillard and I attended the NWGAWTE #34. It is now my honor to serve on the board as the women's team selection chair. The whole idea behind the Walk to Emmaus is to promote Progressive Servanthood within our Emmaus community so that we can equip members to go back to their local churches and take on leadership roles.

So, Progressive Servanthood. What is it and why is it important to our Emmaus Community? First of all, we all come into the community as pilgrims. Typically, the next time we have a walk we are asked to serve in the kitchen but it can also be other areas of service. When working in any of those areas, we are TEAM MEMBERS. From that position as a team member, you may be asked to serve in another area: dorm, chapel, snack agape, letter agape, etc. as a team member again. After serving as a team member in a few different areas, you may be asked to be an Assistant Head and next, the Head of an area. All of the positions in which we serve are kept in a database that's managed by a board member.

Eventually, you may be asked to serve in the conference room, first as an assistant table leader and eventually, as a table leader.

As women's Team Selection chair, I ask four or five sisters, one of our Spirituals and the next Lay Director of the women's walk to meet with me soon after a walk has occurred. I try to ask ladies who represent different churches and different age groups to serve on that committee with me. We pray, asking God to lead us to the people HE wants to use on the next walk. Then, we go through the database and see who has served where and who needs to get on track with Progressive Servanthood. We also take into account the wishes of the next Lay Director as she has spent many hours in prayer for the walk AND for the team God will pull together.

There are a few rules we, as a committee, try very hard to adhere to:

1. We cannot serve in the Conference room two walks in a row. Once in the conference room, we must serve in another area before going back into the conference room.
2. Before we can serve as a HEAD of an area, we must serve as an Assistant head of that area.
3. We also look to see who has been active in the community by attending Gatherings and/or working walks in the past.

From our meeting, the Lay Director and her Assistant Lay Directors (ALDs) will begin the tedious task of calling people to see if they will serve.

Serving as team selection chair is a wonderful way of becoming familiar with our Emmaus sisters. I would suggest if you ever want to serve on our Emmaus board, you consider this position because it gives you great insight into the foundation of Progressive Servanthood.

De Colores,
Marcia Dillard
Women's Team Selection Chair



Our Upcoming Weekends are quickly approaching!!!

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 ~ Feb. 28-March 3 and Women's #62 ~ March 7-10.

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 by Saturday, February 9th. 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!



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 Mtg. #3: Sat, February 9, 2019: 8:30 - 3:00 @ Acworth UMC

Team Mtg. #4: Sat, February 23, 2019: 8:30 - 3:00 @ Villa Rica 1st UMC

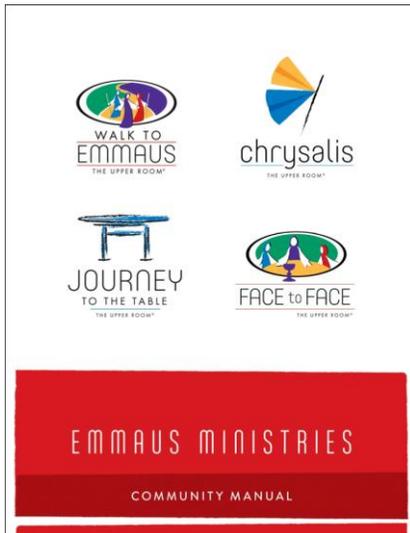
Childcare is available for all team meetings.

Church Addresses:

Acworth UMC
4340 Collins Circle
Acworth, GA 30101

Villa Rica 1st 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.

You're
Invited

You are invited to our February and March Gatherings!!

Our February Gathering will be held Saturday, February 16, 2019 at New Beginnings United Methodist Church
2975 Cobb Pkwy NW
Kennesaw, GA 30152

Our March Gathering will be held Saturday, March 16, 2019 at Villa Rica First United Methodist Church
1789 Carrollton-Villa Rica Hwy.
Villa Rica, GA 30180

The Board meets prior to the Gatherings at 4:00. The Gatherings begin with a covered dish supper at 6:00 followed by Praise and Worship at 7:00. Childcare is provided for the Gatherings. Directions will be available on the website.

Year-End Giving for King's Retreat New Year's Renovations



We celebrated the 35th Anniversary of North Georgia Walk to Emmaus this summer and have been blessed to have **26 years at King's Retreat!** In 2018, we hosted 30 weekends, with one more to go!

We have worked hard to maintain the facility over the years and have some major projects planned in the coming year. We need to replace the **carpeting** throughout the facility, make improvements to the **team showers** and the **White House**, and hope to complete the next phase of **parking lot pavement**. After diligent price negotiations, the total needed for this work is **\$114,000**.

We need your help for all this work on the facility that means so much to all of us. This is a great time to give and receive a tax deduction for your donations.

The Trustees also have the following items on their **Wish List** to be donated:

blender

carafes

Pitchers

bread baskets

bread knives

rubber spatulas

serving bowls (12 ea.) *new sheet pans (full size)* *white Christmas string lights*

vinyl zippered twin size mattress covers

Corelle white dinnerware- salad bowls, dessert plates, dinner plates & coffee mugs

Please contact Gwen Hamill to arrange for shipping and/or delivery options.

(momma4god@comcast.net).

Thank you all for a great year at King's Retreat! We currently have 34 weekends booked for 2019 and want to maintain the facility with all the excellence we can afford.

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!



2019 Board Members

Name	Current Board Position	Contact Information
*Chuck Standridge	Community Lay Director/ Group Reunions	wcsjr3@comcast.net 770-366-0587
*Ed McGrory	Co-Vice Chair/ Gatherings	emajk@yahoo.com 770-864-4545
*Mark Michalisko	Co-Vice Chair/ Sponsorship/Webpage	mark.michalisko@gmail.com 678-596-3566
*Katie Fowler	Secretary/ Communication	katie.fowler@carrollcountyschools.com 770-265-3763
*Susan Davis	Treasurer/ King's Retreat Trustee	susan.davis@childressklein.com 770-789-3552
Winnie Buchanan	Registrar	winnie19@bellsouth.net 678-838-3325
Linda Wallace	Asst. Women's Team Selection	lindajwallace66@gmail.com 662-420-3135
Mel Crowe	Agape	bornhigh38@yahoo.com 678-392-6568
Janice Russell	Co-Literature & Supplies	russell_janice@bellsouth.net 770-853-3545
Fran Davis	Kitchen	fdavis2552@aol.com 770-375-6604
Guppy Gladstone	Set-Up & Take Down/ Follow Up	guppy731@gmail.com 770-617-1625
Marcia Dillard	Women's Team Selection	marciadillard@gmail.com 678-232-2451
Bonnie Standridge	Co-Literature & Supplies	bonniestandridge@gmail.com 770-941-2914
*James Gwin	Co-Community Spiritual Director	jamesrgwin@gmail.com 770-757-0403
Ronnie Dishman	Men's Team Selection/ Send-Off & Candlelight	rdishman@bellsouth.net 678-386-6425
*Julie Fuller	Co-Community Spiritual Director	butterflyrev@gmail.com 770-900-4614
Flora Lowe-Rockett	King's Retreat Trustee/ Chrysalis Rep	florarockett1@gmail.com 908-451-6305
Judi Rainey	Ex-Officio/ Trainer	judi.rainey@yahoo.com 678-416-9440

* Denotes Executive Board members