

Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus

September 2019



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

Greetings NWGWTE Community,

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans" ~ Proverbs 16:3

When you joined your church family, you committed to support your church through your prayers, presence, gifts, and service. When you were asked to attend an Emmaus weekend, you committed to be present and participate during your weekend. After your weekend, you committed to walk with God during your Fourth Days.

As members of this community of faith, we should be committed to this Emmaus community and the other community members in this community. Please think about this question: Am I fulfilling my commitment to my Emmaus community through my prayers, my presence, my gifts, and my service??

You are the only person who can answer this question. I ask you to pray specifically for this community, your board, Pilgrims, and upcoming weekends. If you haven't worked a weekend in a while, PLEASE get back involved!! You are missed, and you are always welcome!! There is always a place for you!!

THIS Saturday, September 21st, the board will meet at 4:00pm and we have our monthly Gathering starting at 6:00. This month our Gathering will be hosted by Acworth United Methodist Church, located at 4340 Collins Circle Acworth, GA 30101. Please make plans to attend!!

Please think about the following questions: Where are you?? Where are the pilgrims you have sponsored on previous walks?? What can we do to help prayerfully seek answers to these questions?? Search your heart!!

We will be praying for you all THIS Saturday, Sept. 21st, at Acworth UMC!! Come join us!! We look forward to good spiritual fellowship and food!!

In HIS Service,

Chuck Standridge
Community Lay Director

For you have been called for
this purpose, since Christ
also suffered for you,
leaving you an
example for
you to follow
in His steps,
1 Peter 2:21

Moment of Reflection

"It is good to praise the Lord...For you make me glad by your deeds, Oh Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands." ~ Psalms 92:1-4

I have recently realized that I have become increasingly negative in my thoughts about things at work, in my life, and in my church. I don't know when this spirit of complaint snuck into my life, but it began making me increasingly bitter and unpleasant to myself and those around me.

Y'all this NOT who I am!! I pride myself in always being a "glass half-full" kinda girl. This realization that I was not the usual positive, happy person that God created me to be, was both unsettling and upsetting. Life is hard, and our life has becoming increasingly difficult with obstacles and just stuff that has happened. This stuff had crept into my heart, and caused me to become the opposite of what I strive to be.

When I realized that this was happening, I immediately sought out devotions and extra prayer time to help me better understand how I could get out of this negative state of mind. I found lots of devotions that I sat with and meditated on, and I am so glad to say helped me change my negative perspective. In one specific devotion entitled "Turning Complaining into Praise" by Wendy Pope on *Proverbs 31 Ministries*, readers were challenged to begin keeping a Praise Book. The author explained that when her family did this it "made us more aware of God's goodness and we give praise more readily. We've experienced how good it really is to praise God. Every day gives us opportunities to worship God, whether they seem minute or mighty. Through praise, our burdens don't seem so heavy and our life becomes a sweet fragrance to those around us...Give praise today. It's good for you and will transform you and others."

Although it's still a struggle at times to find something to praise God for, it's becoming easier the more I make it a priority. She's right, people notice when you are positive or negative and will develop the same attitude the more they are around you (either negative or positive). What spirit are you giving off?? Are you helping others to find the positives around them, or are you being part of the negative attitude that there's already too much of in society??

While you may not be the type of person to write down your praises in a journal, I strongly recommend that you make time each day to specifically identify the praises you have each day and name them (either in prayer, aloud, or in written form) as a reminder to yourself that God is still blessing you, even when it may be hard to see. I promise, this will help change your mindset and your spirit which in turn will change those around you!!

*"Dear Lord, I want to sing a song of praise every day in response to Your goodness. Prick my heart to praise You in the minute and the mighty. You are worthy!
In Jesus' Name, Amen"*

DeColores!
Katie Fowler

Board Spotlights

LITERATURE AND SUPPLIES

The N.W.G.W.T.E. Board is a working board. Each board member has a specific job. One of these jobs is Literature and Supplies. This job is co-chaired by Janice Russell and Bonnie Standridge.

We are responsible for all literature and supplies. Most of these supplies support the Conference Room. Most of the manuals support the team members and the board members. We order and stock in our storage room at the King's Retreat approximately one hundred thirty five individual supply items. That includes everything from pens, pencils, binders, poster boards, Pilgrim Guides, Speaker crosses, pilgrim crosses, and on and on. You get the picture.

Some of these items can be ordered through the Upper Room. The rest we shop for at various stores, always trying to get the best price.

We are also responsible for seventy one team manuals that are used by team members on each Weekend. We have to see that each manual is in good condition and up to date. We are in the process of updating each manual at this time. The Upper Room revises parts of the manuals periodically. So this means we must go through each manual and pull out the old sheets and insert the revised sheets. This is a time consuming, tedious procedure. The revisions we are doing now are quite extensive. Some Emmaus members have been helping us with this process, for which we are very grateful. Thank goodness these extensive revisions do not happen often.

Each board member has a manual for the job he/she is responsible for on the board. That is sixteen manuals. We collect these from outgoing board members, check the manual to be sure it is intact, and give it to the new board member who will be responsible for the particular job.

We also order all of the booklets that are given out at the follow-up meetings. Booklets such as "What Is Emmaus", "Sponsorship", "Group Reunions".

We enjoy being on the Emmaus Board because we are serving our Emmaus Community. But most of all, we are serving our Lord Jesus Christ.

In His service,

Janice Russell and Bonnie Standridge



WHEN GOD CALLS, YOU ANSWER

Hello, my name is Daphne Lyle. I have 3 children: Jonathan who is 18, Alyssa who is 11, and Aubrey who turns 7 in two weeks. Together we worship and serve the Lord at District Line UMC in Bremen with my mother and father who currently serves there as Pastor.

In October of 2016, I went on Northwest Georgia Walk to Emmaus #58 where I sat at the table of Elizabeth. Unlike the majority of you, I was not excited for this weekend at all. I was nervous, scared, unsure, and somewhat bitter. I couldn't understand why father thought it would be a good idea for me to attend at that point in my life. With all that was going on, how could he? You see, just a few days earlier my son had attempted to take his own life. He had just been released from the hospital and he needed me. My babysitter had just unexpectedly quit. I was financially strapped, and I had just received a verbal reprimand about absenteeism from my employer. My father was aware of all the present obstacles and still wanted me to attend. So that Thursday night in October, I found myself in a dining room full of strangers, who I would later come to know as my Emmaus family! Today I thank God and everyone who saw it fit for me to attend that weekend. Despite me wanting to be anywhere but there, the ladies and gentlemen who served showered me with unconditional love to the point where I began to feel I was right where I belonged. For the first time in a long time, my faith grew bigger than my fear. I had known about unconditional love, but never fully experienced it like I had on those four days. I came to know God on a whole new level. My heart was full. I couldn't wait to go out and serve and continue to strengthen my personal relationship with the Lord.

Fast forward to January of 2019. While attending a Gathering at Acworth UMC, Janice Russell nominated me to join the Community Board. I was immediately flooded with a river of emotions and doubt, but I was honored. If I had not learned anything else from that Thursday in October I learned this: **WHEN GOD CALLS, YOU ANSWER!!** I accepted the nomination. In February, I attended my first Board meeting at New Beginnings UMC. I have discovered that we face many challenges and differences on the Board, but in the end we always come together as one for the Community and, most importantly, for our Risen Savior. During the August Board Meeting, Chuck Standridge asked me to write an entry for the upcoming newsletter. I was hesitant. After all, even though I am on the Board, I have not yet taken a position. By the end of the meeting, that would all change. Funny how things work out. Between now and December I will be working with Winnie Buchanan to learn the roll of Registrar. Even though my journey to Emmaus and my Fourth Days have not always been easy, I have grown in more ways than I ever thought possible. I look forward to seeing what else God has in store for me!

DeColores!

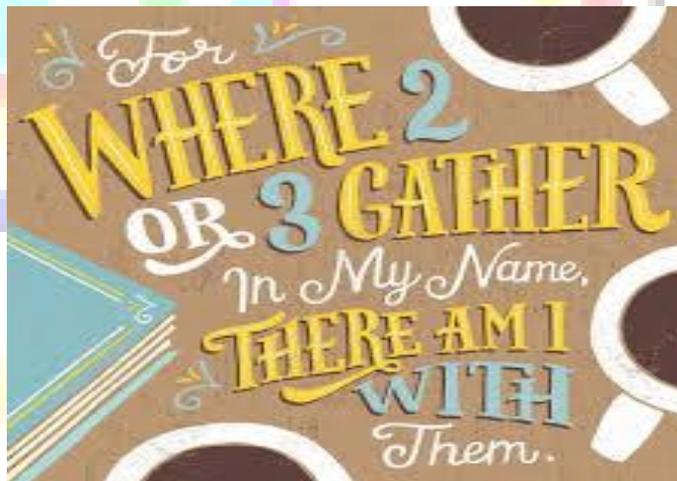
Daphne Lyle



You're Invited

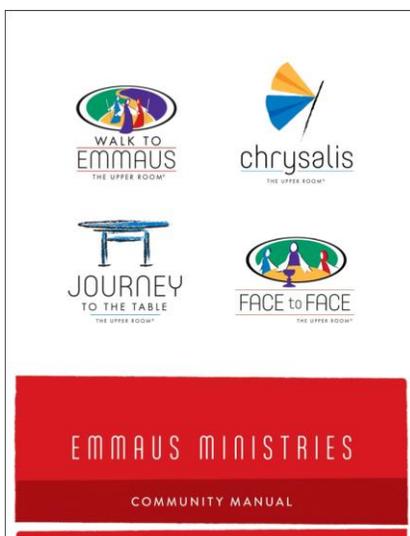
Please make plans to join us for our September Gathering.
Our September Gathering will be held Saturday, September 21, 2019 at
Acworth United Methodist Church
4340 Collins Circle
Acworth, GA 30101

The Board meets prior to the Gathering at 4:00. The Gathering begins 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.



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.



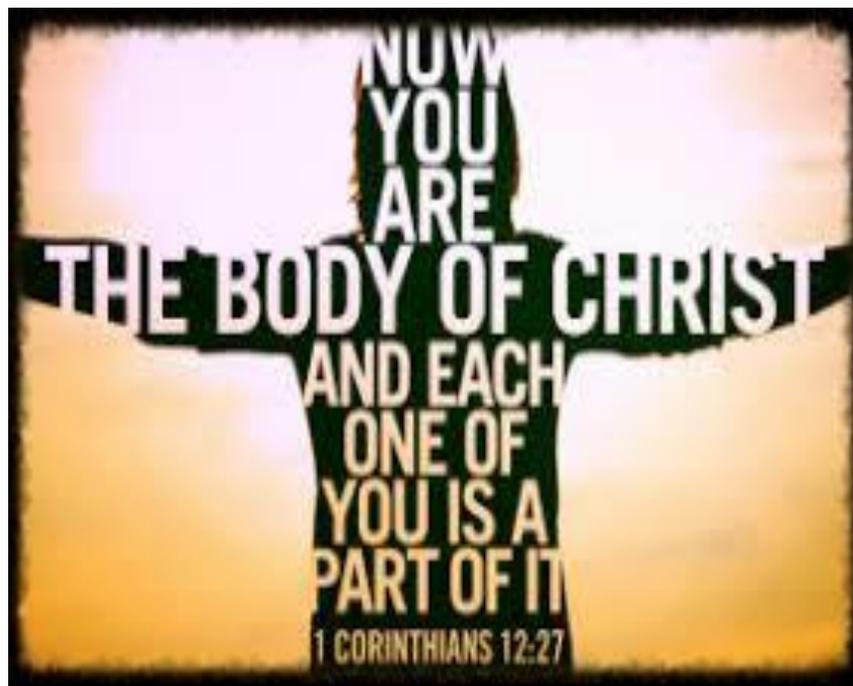
Communication Updates



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!



| 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 | emajjk@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 |
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| Mel Crowe | Agape | bornhigh38@yahoo.com 678-392-6568 |
| Janice Russell | Co-Literature & Supplies | russell_janice@bellsouth.net 770-853-3545 |
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| Guppy Gladstone | Set-Up & Take Down/ Follow Up | guppy731@gmail.com 770-617-1625 |
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| Judi Rainey | Ex-Officio/ Trainer | judi.rainey@yahoo.com 678-416-9440 |

* Denotes Executive Board members