



Heart of Florida

Walk to Emmaus

A Ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Bartow
February / March 2009 – Volume 11, Issue 1

The Newsletter of the Heart of Florida Emmaus Community

www.hof-emmaus.org

Gathering

Saturday, March 14th, 2009

at

Mulberry United Methodist Church
306 North Church Ave. (State Rd. 37)

863-425-3401

5 - 7 PM

Bring a covered dish & your prospective pilgrims
Child Care will be provided!!

Mulberry UMC is located on the west side of SR 37
2 and a half blocks north of SR 60
(There is parking north and south of the sanctuary)

Mark your calendar and don't miss out on this wonderful time of fellowship!

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

Spring Walks

Men's Walk #19 April 16-19, 2009
Women's Walk #19 April 23-26, 2009
Masterpiece Gardens, Lake Wales

Post Walk Gathering:

May 9th, 2009 at
First UMC, Lake Wales

. . . from Our Community Lay Director

Greetings HOF Community,

We love, because He first loved us. I John 4:19

Each of us experienced this amazing love as we took our Walk to Emmaus. The love of our church family, the love of our sponsors, the love of the team, the love of the HOF Emmaus community, the love of the other pilgrims sharing the experience, and most of all – the love of GOD!

As we prepare for the Spring Weekends (Walk #19: The Sequel), it is with renewed enthusiasm and joy in God's plan and timing. Teams are being formed and preparing for training, pilgrims are being gathered, prayers are being said. We are a community that has been blessed with dedicated people, strong in their faith and commitment, and filled with the love of the Lord.

Think about the love gifts you received from Emmaus. Pray about how you can be part of a love tithe back to God -sponsorship, working the team, committing time for the prayer clocks, providing agape, assisting in efforts to get pilgrims to and from the weekend, and of course being there for send off, candlelight, and closing. Busy schedules, gas prices, a long drive to Masterpiece Gardens, and all the other reasons for NOT being part of the weekends are really attacks on our reason for being there. Tithing your time, energy, gas, and love is essential to making every weekend as special and god-filled as yours was. Think about what you can do to "love, because He first loved YOU."

De Colores!

Susan Garrett

Heart of Florida Board of Directors

NAME	Term Ends	Hometown	NAME	Term Ends	Hometown
Dennis Autry	2009	Winter Haven	Rev. Roy Lowe	2011	Bartow
Heather Beato	2009	Sebring	Ronnie Mincey	2010	Ft. Meade
Michelle Brewington	2010	Lake Placid	Karolyn Nunnallee	2011	Ft. Meade
Anthony DuPree	2011	Bartow	Faye Sarvis	2009	Bartow
Dawn Eller	2010	Sebring	Tom Selander	2010	Orlando
Eric Garnett	2011	Winter Haven	Richard Thompson	2009	Lake Wales
Susan Garrett	2009	Wesley Chapel	Kim Travolina	2011	Davenport
Toni Griffith	2011	Lake Wales	Wade Willey	2010	Lakeland
Dave Huff	2011	Trilby / Blanton			
Honorary Members					
Jim Hatch (Founding Spiritual Director)		Bartow			
Bill Dwinell (Web Master)		Lake Placid			

Teams Men's Walk

Jay Hannifan	Joe Nobles	David Bishop	B. J. Coryer
Jay Allen	Bob Stephens	Alf Halburton	Carl Feddler
Barry Zimmerman	Bob Devlin	Jim Nunnallee	Vincent Pollard
Sal Emmolo	Hank Henry	Albert Reece	Dennis Autry
Joe Aguilar	Kent King	Tom Selander	Don Miller
Dennis Guenther	Jerel Eller	Bryan Simpson	Keith Thompson
Keith Reilly	Jim Haskiell	Jim Hatch	

Women's Walk

Molly DuPree	Dawn Eller	Susan Garrett	Faye Sarvis
Karolyn Nunnallee	Kathy Bryant	Kim Travolina	Jackie Guenther
Toni Griffith	Joanna Muscato	Ruthann Kleinhans	Debbie Hannifan
Diane DiMonaco	Courtney Canady	Joan Batchellor	Deanna Harrison
Quinta Boudreaux	Michelle Tattersall	Candice Straughn	Jeannette Lewis
Sheila Oakley	Cindy Wheatley	Ginger Selander	Merrilyn Seib
Neva DuPree	Karen Mathre	Ann Cone	Florence Pollard
Mary Anne Zimmerman	Suzanne Hill	Marty Vanaskey	Jaime Woechan
Sharon Allen	Peggy Obel	Beverly Feddeler	Cathy Hatch
Gerry Hubbs	AC Bryant	Val Hattery	Meredith McMillan
Debbie Drash	Dave Huff		

Agape – Acts of Love

Emmaus is an event unlike any other religious program or retreat. It is an extraordinary act of love – people loving other people into a deeper realization of God's love. The purpose of agape for the weekends is to show our love in special and unexpected ways. It is our opportunity to give of ourselves in support of one another in the decision to walk in the grace of Jesus Christ, and sacrificing to make this three day walk with God possible for others. Remember how excited you were when you received your little trinkets expressing love or were delighted to taste that homemade cookie? Now it is time to pass that feeling on!

Think about your agape offerings – food, bed, table or dining room agape. Choose to make this a true LOVE offering. Ask yourself "Do I grab a plate of brownies at Publix as I head to Send Off?" "What bed agape can I pick up at Wal-Mart?"

How about making a love commitment? "I will make the time on Wednesday night to bake a batch of brownies from scratch." "I will work with my accountability group to make special gifts for each person." As I do so, I will pray for the weekend, for the pilgrims, for the team, for the Spiritual Leaders." During your time to make or gather agape, remember to weave in the LOVE and be thankful for the blessings God has provided.

Homemade, Handmade, Lovemade – these are agape gifts from our hearts.

Chrysalis News

Chrysalis Girls' Flight is coming up, **March 21-23** at Rotary Camp Florida in Brandon. The sendoff is at 8 am the 21st, Candlelight at 8pm the 22nd, and Closing at 4pm the 23rd. Applications to send a youth are on the website at www.heartofsuncoastchrysalis.org. The minimum requirements are that they be 15 years old AND in the 10th grade. Our own Courtney Canady is the LD for the flight, and we hope to have a lot of participation from HOF. Any questions can be directed to Heather Beato: hbeato@sao10.com or 863-661-3682.

Boys' Flight will be **May 2 – 4**. More details to come.

www.hof-emmaus.org

Here are a few things that are on the website:

Directions to Masterpiece Gardens and churches where gatherings are held

Forms – Reservation for Pilgrims, Sponsor's form, Team Application

There is also a **Heart of Florida email group** – sign up for this group and receive e-mail communications about upcoming events.

The newsletters are also posted there. We are hoping some of you might prefer to read your newsletter online instead of receiving it by mail. If you would like to receive it via the website instead of snail mail – please email Sharon Harris at info@fpcbartowfl.org.

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