



Heart of Florida

Walk to Emmaus

A Ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Bartow
April/ May 2010 – Volume 13, Issue 3

The Newsletter of the Heart of Florida Emmaus Community

www.hof-emmaus.org

POST WALK GATHERING

Gathering

Saturday, MAY 1, 2010

at

First United Methodist Church

230 North 5th St., Lake Wales

863-676-6516

5 - 7 PM

Bring a covered dish

Child Care will be provided!!

FUMC is located

North of St. Rd. 60, East of Hwy. 27

Take Central Ave. East to

North Lakeshore Blvd.

To Orange Ave

To North 5th St.

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

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

Team Dedication/Gathering: April 10 – Ft. Meade UMC

Gathering: July 10 - Trinity UMC – Wesley Chapel

. . . from Our Community Lay Director

Ramblings from Your Community Lay Director

What if I said: "I am going to give each of you a huge sum - \$86,400.00, with just one small catch. You have to spend it all, every bit, today. Use it or lose it. Right now!" What would you do? Buy a car or a boat or jewelry or all of the above, but you have to spend it all today. How would you use this free gift?

THE BODY OF CHRIST needs to be intentional about what we do with our "gifts". We need to be certain that our behavior with friends and those who will become friends, is preparing us for service out in the world. We need each other so that we will not become self-centered and we need others to hold us accountable. This is why it is important as members of this Heart of Florida Emmaus Community to be active in an accountability group. We all know that when being held accountable, we will be greater disciples than if we are left on our own. Remember Jesus sent the disciples out with a partner to grow His kingdom. Accountability!

What have you done recently to grow His kingdom? Would this "gift" help you to take the time to sponsor more pilgrims on the Walk to Emmaus? When was the last time you took the opportunity and time to give someone the gift of the Walk to Emmaus? Are you being accountable to Heart of Florida?

I mentioned that I would like to give each of you \$86,400.00. Well, I would like to, however, I am not giving you money. I am giving you a reminder of something even more valuable than money. It is the 86,400, "non-refundable" seconds every day that God gives to you. What do they cost... Absolutely nothing, they are free. Use them or lose them. Either use them to become a better Christian, help to further the kingdom, or simply do nothing. Will you put off God's work until another day? I pray that you will choose to use his "gift" of time wisely and do it today. We all know that there is no assurance of tomorrow, but through Jesus Christ, we do know what we know!

*I remain His faithful servant,
Karolyn*

. . . Meet your HOF Emmaus Board members

During the Board meeting of March 15th we discussed the idea that it might be good to better acquaint the Emmaus community with those serving on the Board along with their duties and responsibilities. We will present some of these folks to you this month – watch the next newsletter for information about the rest of the Board members. To get further information, and a complete list of who is doing what, please visit the website at (www.hof-emmaus.org).

Community Lay Director – Karolyn Nunnallee

Community Spiritual Director - Jim Hatch, Pastor, First Presbyterian, Bartow

Assistant Community Lay Director – Eric Garnett

Assistant Community Spiritual Director – Pastor David Huff, Trilby and Blanton UMC

Treasurer – Hank Henry

. . . meet the Treasurer – Hank Henry

Hank is returning to the Board as Treasurer. This position is a 4-year commitment with the responsibilities of maintaining the checking account, paying our bills and keeping the Board informed of the community finances. At our last meeting the Board decided to have one collection at all gatherings with 20% going towards the scholarship fund. We want to reach as many as possible for Christ and if there is someone who needs assistance we are here to help.

. . . meet the Agape Coordinator – Bob Sarvis

As the community Snack Agape, Bob's job is to coordinate with Reunion Groups (or churches) throughout the HOF community to provide snacks for the weekend. This includes light refreshments for Send-Off on the Thursday nights of the Men's and Women's weekends, and all drinks and snacks for those on the Walks. **Weekend Agape:** For those groups or individuals making agape for the weekends, if you prefer to make agape only for the pilgrims – that will require 60 pieces (pilgrims plus table leaders sleeping in the pilgrims dorm, and table leaders and assistant table leaders sitting at the dining tables, and conference room tables). Be sure to clearly mark your agape "For Pilgrims Only" and indicate the number of pieces. If you have a specific time or location you would like to have the agape distributed, please indicate that also. This will help the agape team out tremendously as they sort through the bags and boxes. **Homemade and handmade – make your agape gifts with love and prayer.**

. . . meet the Sponsorship Coordinator – Tom Selander

Tom Selander is serving in his second year of a three year term as Sponsorship Coordinator. In this role I will be working with members of the community and community churches to strengthen the sponsorship for our walks. Everyone can greatly assist me by answering the four questions below and replying via email to: cortneysdad@cfl.rr.com or writing me at: Tom Selander 11612 Thurston Way, Orlando, FL 32837.

1. The name of the church you attend and if that church and pastor are active in the HOF community?
2. Approximately how many church members from this church are active in the HOF community?
3. Would you, or other community members be willing to attend a 15-20 minute overview regarding sponsorship?
4. How can our sponsorship committee help you, and or the church, sponsor new pilgrims?

Please pray for sponsorship for the upcoming walk, and pray for all the pilgrims.

. . . meet the Weekend Facilities Coordinator – Wade Willey

Wade Willey serves our community as “the guy” who makes sure that all the tables, chairs, and other furnishings are in place before the weekend and cleaned up after both the men’s and women’s walks. This process is quite an undertaking and requires a great deal of time and the need for many hands to assist. Please let Wade know that you will be there to lend a hand.

. . . meet the Chrysalis Liaison

Courtney Schulz serves in this role and would like to share some important information with all. What is Chrysalis? It’s a three-day event much like your Walk to Emmaus, but it is geared toward teenagers. Your Heart of Suncoast Chrysalis Community welcomes teens who are 15 AND a sophomore in high school up to 19 and a freshman in college (provided there are enough college-age students to make a table). There are a few differences between the Walk and Chrysalis. While there are still 15 talks, the talks are a little bit different. For example, we call the Grace talks “God talks.” God Loves You, God Designed You, God’s Gift to You, God Sustains You and God Empowers You. The students also hear a talk on being a single Christian and a talk on being a married Christian. Instead of Dying Moments Communion, we celebrate Mime Communion. One way for you as a member of our adult community to get involved is to serve on a weekend. I know there are many of you out there who are a little reluctant to commit to a full three day event with teenagers. **Here’s a bit of good news: You don’t have to commit to three days!** Yes, we need adult team members to work in the talk room, in agape, in logistics, in the prayer chapel, and in the kitchen. We also need some fill-in help sometimes. Rotary’s Camp Florida doesn’t have a kitchen staff like Masterpiece Gardens, so we have to prepare all of our own food. We *always* need help in the kitchen. Besides, an afternoon of helping in the kitchen is a good way to get your feet wet with Chrysalis. We also have an outside support team – the Rockin’ Big House – that stays on camp and makes agape, sets up the dining room, serves meals, and prays in the chapel. RBH is at camp from Friday evening to Sunday after Candlelight and doesn’t require that third day commitment. Our fall Flights are scheduled for October 9-11 (girls) and October 16-18 (boys). If you are interested in serving, please let me know so I can put you in touch with our team selection committee or give you more information about serving outside the team. You may reach me at butterflies4cb@verizon.net or 863-559-0749

******Newsletter and Email Update******

As postage rates and other newsletter-related costs continue to rise, it is important that we remind each member of our ever-growing community that the newsletters are available on our HOF website:

www.hof-emmaus.org. If you want to print the newsletter from the site, you can.

If you have signed up for the HOF-Emmaus Message Group in the past and need to update the email address that you currently are using, all you need to do is log on to the message group (using the old address) at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HeartofFloridaEmmaus/>, and then go to “edit membership” where you can update your profile and add your new email address and delete the old one. If, after trying this, you are not successful, send a note with your old email address and the new one to our webmaster for help

(webmaster@hof-emmaus.org). If you are not already a member of our message group, you can join by going to our website and selecting the “message group” menu item and then click on the link in the paragraph “How do I join?”. When completing this email, be sure to include the information on your walk, e.g. Your name, walk location, walk number and table. After you have joined the group, you will get notices from the webmaster whenever a new newsletter has been posted on the website.

For those who prefer to continue receiving the “snail mail” paper version of the newsletter, please let Sharon Harris know this by sending a little note to her (at: First Presbyterian Church of Bartow; P.O Box 1412; Bartow, FL 33831-1 412) with the name and correct address you wish the newsletter mailed to.

It would also be nice if you included a small donation to cover paper, postage, and even the gas for her to drive to the closest post office that accepts bulk mail.

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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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