

# NEW COVENANT NOTES Fall 2022

# **Inside this Issue**

		NCEC Board of Directors	Page 2
	<u>Monthly Gatherings</u>	Community Lay Director	Page 2
	LOCATION:	Community Spiritual Director	Page 3
	Friendship Church	News and Updates	Page 4
	16479 Lucas Ferry Rd	Mark Your Calendars	Page 5
	Athens, AL 35611	Men's Walk Lay Director	Page 6
		Women's Walk Lay Director	Page 6
	WHEN:	Face-to-Face	Page 7
3	rd Friday of Every Month	-	
	TIME:	Kairos	Page 9
6:30pm—Food/Fellowship		Using Ministry Manager	Page 10
0.		Sponsorship	Page 11
	7:29pm—Worship	Volunteering Page 12	Page 12
		Fourth Days	Page 12
		72-Hour Prayer Tips	Page 14
		Online Resources	Page 16
		From the Archives	Page 18



# **NCEC Board of Directors**

Jeff Reynolds, Community Lay Director

Daryl Randolph, Community Spiritual Director

Mike Powers Robbi Montgomery Scott Kowerduck Tina Cook Jim Bennett Jesus Lopez Connie Watkins Jamie Rogers Lloyd Hayes Lorie Vital Sonya Shook Kelly Watts

## A Message from Our Community Lay Director



#### **Progressive Servanthood Development**

Recently there have been some questions as to how the Walk to Emmaus teams are selected. It is not unusual to hear the comment "the same people are doing everything". It does seem like we see many of the same faces on the teams. In fact, that is indeed the case, and it is intentional. The intent of "progressive servanthood" development provides those who serve on teams the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus and to learn more and more about the Emmaus program as a "behind"

the scenes" participant whose job it is to support the pilgrims and to aid the weekend leadership. Teams are developed by using the 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 model recommended by the Upper Room. This model suggests that 1/3 of the team be made up of new members (those who have just taken their walk and who have not, previously, served on a team). Another 1/3 of the team should be those who have served on several walks (2 - 4) in various roles. The last 1/3 is made of experienced team members who have served as team leaders and are being groomed for weekend leadership. As with many organizations, developing new and mature leaders is often a challenge. NCEC has committed to the Upper Room requirement of placing high priority on education and training of community members. We need to remember the reason or the "Why" we host Emmaus events. It is to develop strong leaders in our local churches. Emmaus is not a replacement for your local church but an opportunity to be active in building up the Body of Christ.

I would also like to welcome three new board members that are fulfilling the remaining terms of some board members that had to resign early. Please welcome Jamie Rogers (2022), Sonya Shook (2024), and Kelly Watts (2024). Thank you, ladies, for saying yes to the Holy Spirit to serve on the NCEC Board of Directors.

Be watching your inbox for the upcoming election ballot to vote for new Board members. And last but not least, if you have not updated and checked your information in Ministry Manager, I encourage you to do so by visiting <a href="https://newcovenantemmaus.com/">https://newcovenantemmaus.com/</a> and clicking the NCEC Database link at the bottom of the New Covenant Emmaus website. Please verify your information and update it if it is out-of-date or incorrect.

De Colores!

## Jeff Reynolds

Community Lay Director



## **Spiritual Director's Corner**

#### I am scared.

What a way to start the section of our newsletter that is supposed to be from the member of our board who has been chosen as our Community Spiritual Director. It may not seem like the best way to start, but I've always lived with this attitude: *"I want people to* 

be honest with me, so I better be honest with them." So, why did I start this portion of our newsletter with, I am scared? To put it simply, because I am, and I want you to know why and what we can do about it.

I shared briefly at our August gathering about one of my Biblical heroes, Gideon, and more and more I feel that I know him so well, because in many ways, I am him. I am the smallest, from the smallest, and all I have are small resources. I don't pastor a large church, my denomination is a fairly small one, especially in our area, and I definitely do not have a ton of resources at my disposal. That is where our hero is found. In Judges chapter 6, Gideon is visited and called a mighty warrior, and in verse 15 we see Gideon's response, "'Pardon me, my Lord,' Gideon replied, 'but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.'" So, as I have the privilege of stepping into this new role, those are my thoughts. Shouldn't God have chosen someone else? There must be someone better suited and someone who is better known, so Lord, why me?

So, why me? We know the story of Gideon and how God used him to defeat the Midianites. It is through this short passage of scripture that God reminds me of one simple fact, it's not about me. It has always been and will always be about the Lord. In verse 16 the Lord's answer begins with these 5 simple words, "I will be with you." So, as we go on this journey together, we first get to see that God wants to use us, and we must be willing to admit that there will be days that we are scared. And in those moments, we get to remind each other that it never has been about us. It is and will always be about the Lord, working in us and through us to accomplish great things.

De Colores,

Daryl Randolph

Community Spiritual Director

# Lots of good things are happening!



Now there is a safe and secure way to make donations and pay Pilgrim fees to the New Covenant Emmaus Community. The link is available on the NCEC website, by scanning our QR code on your mobile PayPal app, or simply go to PayPal and send money to ncectreasurer@gmail.com

Our community wants to stay in contact with our members. If you are a new member of our community or if you are a member who has NOT been receiving emails regarding gatherings and other NCEC news, please send your name and email address to: webservant@newcovenantemmaus.com





## **COVID-19 Precautions**

*Reminder:* both Pilgrims and team members will share a weekend in close proximity with others. Each person will need to take responsibility for his/her health issues and matters of vulnerability in this type of setting. If experiencing symptoms of illness,

please do not come to the camp. Sponsors, please make sure your pilgrims know they will be sharing lots of space and meals with others. This isn't spoiling the special moments; it's being responsible in looking after your pilgrim's needs.

## **Upcoming Events Schedule**



Men's Walk #104 September 8-11, 2022 Mike Watts, Lay Director

#### Women's Walk #105

September 15–18, 2022 Rachel Gargus, Lay Director

## Walk Gathering Follow-up Date

September 23, 2022 Food/Fellowship: 6:30pm Worship: 7:29pm Friendship Church Athens, AL

## Boy's Chrysalis Flight # 55

September 3–5, 2022 Pete Lawrence, Lay Leader Calan Smith, Peer Leader

## Face-to-Face Encounter #7

October 3, 5–7, 10, 12–14, 2022 Jeff Rothermel, Lay Director

> ENCOUNTER LOCATION: Isom's Chapel (Athens, AL)

## Men's Walk #104 - Lay Director

De Colores, from Men's Walk #104!! I can testify that forming an Emmaus team is a test of faith. When you are walking out a calling, there is a lot of heart searching between reaching objectives and waiting on the LORD. After all, it is His walk and His time with the Pilgrims. We are all His humble servants and are blessed

to be part of *His* walk. If you want to serve our LORD on Walk 104, we still have positions open in Agape, Refreshments and Worship. If you have missed the excitement of serving on walks over the last couple of years and are willing to serve now, call Kelly Watts at 256-652-6734. Our next team trainings are August 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. We would love to see you there.

If you are unable to serve on a team, come and bless the Pilgrims at send off on September 8<sup>th</sup>, candlelight on September 10<sup>th</sup>, and closing on the 11<sup>th</sup>. I do look forward to seeing many members of our wonderful community there!

#### Your Faithful Servant,

De Colores!

#### Mike Watts, Lay Director Walk 104

## Women's Walk #105 - Lay Director

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning, great is your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore I will hope in Him." Lamentations 3 – 22-24.



God's mercies never come to an end as we quickly approach the date of the Women's Fall Walk #105, scheduled for September 15 – 18. Three years ago, I never would have dreamed that we would have to wait three years and suffer many trials to get to this point. But, praise God, we're almost there! We have 24 confirmed pilgrims and a team that is certainly been tried by fire, but we are preservering!!

Please join us as we show the love of God to the Pilgrims of Walk 105 by attending Send-Off on Thursday, September 15 at 6:30pm; Candlelight on Saturday, September 17 at 8pm; and Closing, Sunday September 18 at 5pm

Please continue to be in prayer for the Pilgrims and the Teams of all the upcoming Walks.

#### **De Colores**

Rachel Gargus, Lay Director Walk 105



#### An Experience in the Emmaus Tradition For 60 and Older

*Face-to-Face* is designed and developed by the Upper Room. It is designed to challenge and equip Pilgrims for Christian Action. This short course in Christianity will help Pilgrims to become more effective disciples of Jesus Christ and actively

engage in God's mission in the world.

This program is for persons 60 and older who have never been on a Walk to Emmaus. It was developed for this age group because their health risks and energy levels require a longer schedule with shorter sessions. It is tailored to meet senior men and women on their terms. Men and women will be together in the conference room.

The four or eight sessions will offer 15 talks about God's love and grace. The sessions will offer exciting and hospitable opportunities for Christian learning. There will be tasty refreshments, lots of laughs, surprising personal encounters, and spiritual experiences. There will be worship, communion, singing, joking with one another, and simply experiencing an avalanche of God's grace and love.



#### **Thoughts from the Face-to-Face Lay Director**

Do you remember your Walk to Emmaus? How excited you were by all of the spirit-filled talks, gifts of agape, food, and friends you made? I remember my Walk like it was yesterday! I also remember walking a lot and even feeling sleep-deprived at times. If you know an older person who would enjoy and benefit from a Walk, but who is not up to the

physical demands of an intensive 72-hour weekend, the Upper Room has the solution for them! It's called the *Face-to-Face Encounter*, and it is for people aged 60 and older. Face-to-Face has virtually all the elements of a Walk: good food, lots of laughs, surprising personal encounters, uplifting and inspiring talks, spiritual experiences, worship, communion, and singing. And did I mention jokes? The New Covenant Emmaus Community is sponsoring Face-to-Face Encounter #7 at Isom's Chapel UMC, 16230 Mooresville Road, Athens, AL, on Oct. 3-14, 9:30am – 12:30pm. We will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The church facility is ideal, with no steps for Pilgrims to climb. If you want to know more about Face-to-Face, or if you would like application forms to share with others, please contact Lay Director Jeff Rothermel, (256) 682-6232, rothejx@gmail.com. Sponsorship is welcome but is not required. Please begin lifting the team in prayer. There are still a few positions open in the Conference room and on the Support team. And please pray especially for those whom the Holy Spirit even now may be laying on your heart to invite to this exciting and transformative experience!

Jeff Rothermel Lay Director Encounter #7

## Chrysalis: Spiritual Renewal and Formation For Grades 8 to 12

**Chrysalis** is designed specifically for youth. New Covenant Chrysalis community accepts applications from anyone Grades 8-12. At this age, young people are making major decisions about religion, lifestyle, vocation, and lifelong



relationships. Chrysalis challenges them to grow not only in mind and body but also in spirit and faith. The **Chrysalis** weekend events, referred to as Flights, are offered separately for girls and boys to allow youth freedom to explore their relationship with God without worrying about how they may appear to the other gender. It provides an opportunity outside their local congregations or youth groups to grow in their faith alongside their peers.



#### **News from the Butterfly Front**

Dear New Covenant Family,

It's kind of hard to believe that 25 years ago, New Covenant Chrysalis Community held Flight #1 at Camp Crystal Springs! And here we are again, at Camp Crystal Springs for Flight #55. I can't begin to explain how excited we are to hold our first Boys Flight in almost 4 years! It is amazing that young men want to take time away from the world, so they can grow in Christ. The young people of today are the future of our country and our world. And we have the opportunity to

share the love of Christ with them and help them to grow as Christian leaders. We can't ask for much more of a blessing!

Everyone in our community can touch these young men's lives by attending our Candlelight and/or Closing ceremonies. Because Chrysalis begins on Saturday morning, Candlelight will be held on Sunday, Sept 4. @ 8 pm. Closing will be held the following day at 5 pm. Please consider showing these young men the love of Christ by simply holding a candle!

Thank you so much for your support! But most importantly ... PRAY!!!!

De Colores and Fly with Christ,

Pete Lawrence. Flight 55 Lay Leader

## Kairos Prison Ministry God's Special Time



Kairos is an opportunity for prisoners to learn that they are worthy of God's love, light, and grace. It's a time to assure them that no matter who they are or what they have done, God forgives them.

When a former negative or gang leader accepts Christ, it can influence the very atmosphere of a prison for the better. As the Kairos Christian community inside a prison grows and begins to gain influence, the incidence of violence often decreases.

The next generation experiences a change in their released family member, who begins to model a lifestyle without crime. New, positive behavior is reinforced. The local communities become safer, as parolees and former prisoners make positive life choices from the foundation of ongoing Christian "Prayer and Share" meetings. Families are reunited with more hope for the future.

## **News from Kairos**

North Alabama Kairos teams are up and running again. Formerly known as Decatur Work Release, the North Alabama Community Work Center had its first weekend on July 28-31. The team consisted of 40 men who ministered to 24 inmates. Of those 24 inmates, 23 of them made a commitment to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ.

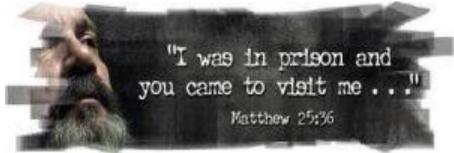
Limestone Correctional Facility is preparing to start its first weekend in October 2022. It will be the first one since March of 2020. The Women's Prison Julia Tutwiler has not started any movement toward Kairos weekends yet.

If anyone is interested in being part of Kairos, please contact me, Jesus Lopez, via phone call or text at 603 714-9664.

#### De Colores,

## Jesus Lopez

Kairos Liaison



## **NCEC** Database

#### ???DOES NEW COVENANT HAVE YOUR INFORMATION CORRECT???

MINISTRY MANAGER IS THE DATABASE FOR NCEC!

Below are simple steps to use Ministry Manager. .

- Go to: https://ministrymanager.upperroom.org/
- Sign Up by: creating your account using your email and a password.
- Log In

· Your options are on your home page. Below is information on these options.

#### MINISTRY MANAGER THE UPPER ROOM HOME MEMBERS COMMUNITIES CHURCHES EVENTS

#### HOME PAGE:

- Welcome <u>your name</u>
- <u>Calendar of NCEC events</u>
- Scroll down to find a place to sign up for prayer vigils

#### MEMBERS:

- Type in **your name** in the "existing member" and hit search. (You may have to scroll down a little to see the search results)
- Click on your name to go to your profile. Scroll down this page to check if your personal information is correct. Add a profile picture.
- Your profile page has a slide bar with the following items to check on. <u>Profile</u>, <u>Background Check</u>, <u>Communities</u>, <u>Church</u>, <u>Events</u>, <u>Sponsor</u>, <u>Emergency Contact</u>, <u>Notes</u>, <u>My prayer times</u>, <u>Email preference and Activities</u>.
- Existing members is where you search for all Community members.
- **NOTE:** The phone number of 555-555-5555 has been placed in <u>all vacant</u> phone number by UR. **ALL blanks** must be filled for the database to work. If wrong correct your personal phone number, please. This is the number that you want to be contacted to work on walks. It can be your cell phone for all three blanks.
- **NOTE:** If the database administrator did not have your birthdate, one was entered for you. You may correct it if you desire.

#### COMMUNITY:

- 1. Scroll down, click on New Covenant Emmaus
- 2. Scroll down to find a slide bar for information.
- 3. Click on walks, here you will find the team list for NCEC walks.
- 4. There is also a **prayer vigil** button on this page as well. Feel free to sign up for each walk.

#### TIPS:

1. Always scroll down on the pages of this database. Most of the time the information that you need will be in the middle of the page.

2. Use the slide bars for more information.

Your experience is listed on the slide bar on your profile page under activities and events.
If you cannot correct your information yourself, please email Kay Hannah at <u>grannyk721@gmail.com</u>. She can help you or input your data for you. If you are from another community and are working a NCEC walk, we will need your information to be entered into

this database.

5. Print this page and place by your computer.



## SPONSORSHIP... The Most Important Job of All

for the development of Christian leaders Sponsorship is the foundation of a healthy, effective Emmaus movement that is fulfilling its true purpose - the development of Christian leaders to strengthen our local churches.

A "sponsor" is one who takes responsibility for another. The suffix "ship" refers to the skill involved in the activity. Sponsorship is the skill of taking responsibility for another. First and foremost, it requires prayer. Sponsorship is a dynamic partnership between you and God. It will also require your time, energy and dedication.

The sponsorship process begins with prayer. Commit the process to God and rely upon Him to direct you to the individual or couple. You must be open and available to allow God to work through you.

It is important to remember that not everyone is an appropriate sponsor choice. A person with beliefs about God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit that differ from the traditional Christian belief of the Holy Trinity would not be a good sponsor choice. The walk is designed to bring together the body of Christ and controversy over doctrine can lead to divisiveness during the walk. Persons in the middle of an emotional crisis, such as a family breakup or severe grief, or that are psychologically unstable, also should not be considered. Pray for guidance when these circumstances appear to be present.

Those to consider for sponsorship include individuals and couples that are willing to grow and move forward in their journey of faith. They know that God can and has made a difference in their lives and they exhibit an excitement about being a Christian. Another example of those to consider for sponsorship are those that are already leaders in their church, including clergy - those that receive joy from serving God in the little ways and willingly do whatever is asked of them.

This is not a quick and easy process and should not be taken lightly. It may take a long time before you have a response from God about who you should sponsor. Don't be discouraged. God's timing is always perfect.

The aim of sponsorship is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who will bring new life and vision to the church, congregation, home, workplace, and community - to build up the body of Christ.

To sponsor someone for a walk, flight, or encounter, look under the SPONSORSHIP tab on our community website. (NOTE: Registration fees will increase for Walks beginning in 2023. Be sure to use the new application which will be available on September 15)

www.newcovenantemmaus.com



#### WILLING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

If it has been a while since you've been invited to serve on a Walk, or if you have yet to be invited to serve, please be sure you have filled out and submitted a volunteer form.

> Visit our website to fill out a form. <u>www.newcovenantemmaus.com</u> (Forms are located under the VOLUNTEER tab.)

If you have already done so, and still have not been invited to serve, please let the Registrar or any Board member know of your interest. We would love to have you join us in serving on an upcoming Walk.

## **Fortifying Fourth Days**

#### Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them. Matthew 18:20



How are your fourth days? We know the scripture from Luke Chapter 24, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the scriptures to us?" Is your heart still burning? Are you still on fire for Jesus, or have you allowed the distractions of life to cool that desire to worship and to serve? The Emmaus Community is a precious gift to us-an instrument through which our Lord can and will work to renew his church. God still has so much in store for us!

Please consider volunteering to serve on an upcoming New Covenant Emmaus Community event! (Walk to Emmaus, Face-to-Face, Kairos, or Chrysalis) Christ is counting on you, and there are so many ways to use your talents to serve. Are you active in your Reunion Group or another accountability group? Please don't miss out on the blessing they provide. These are small groups of Christian friends who meet to discuss piety, study, and action. They often offer food and fellowship with Jesus in the midst following the Emmaus tradition. Members of the group challenge one another in their discipleship. I strongly encourage you to find or create a Reunion Group. The group card that everyone receives at the close of the Walk indicates the order of the meeting and provides you with additional information. Please feel free

to contact me if you have any questions, please email me at NCECReunionGroup@gmail.com or the POC in the following list. (Please let me know of any changes I may not be aware of!)

Last, but certainly not least, please remain connected to your Emmaus friends and family by attending our monthly gathering! The community gathering is a monthly reunion of the Emmaus community held on the third Friday night of each month. We miss you! Please make plans to attend the next gathering and hear from all our new Pilgrims! Hope to see you soon!

#### De Colores!

#### Sonya Shook 4<sup>th</sup> Days Liaison

	NCEC Reunion Groups		
Name	Point of Contact	Location	
AHA SIsterhood (Women)	Robbie Walls, 256-656-4949 Robbielynn153@yahoo.com	South Huntsville	
CandleGlow (Women)	Sheri Richardson 256-777-5872 sheridr10@gmail.com	Harvest	
D By J	Sharon Keffer, 256-656-4522 pastorsharonkeffer@gmail.com	Virtual	
Expresso Yourself (Women)	Debra Snyder	Scottsboro	
Fourth Day Way (Mixed)	Mary Patterson 256-558-7278 patt4us@yahoo.com Doug Kirk 256-541-7470 dougkirk10@mail.com	Grant	
Full Circle (Men)	Bruce Parris (256) 325-6082, bruce.gameon@yahoo.com	Virtual	
G Girls (Women)	Connie Watkins, 256-679-6727 connieraewatkins@gmail.com	Cullman	
Bearded Brothers (Men)	Chris Spain (256) 321-1015	Athens	
Journey with Jesus (Women)	Beverly Heddens or Kim Lankford	Harvest/Madison	
JOY (Women)	Annette Strickland 256-233-3601	Athens	
Lunch In the Park (Mixed)	Jack Lawrence (256) 830-6830, jkpmlawrence@bellsouth.net	Huntsville	
Morning Glories (Women)	Tina Cook, 256-998-2043 transformed2011@outlook.com	Athens	
Ragamuffins (Mixed)	Kay Dotson (931) 242-1957, kdkdotson@gmail.com	Loretto TN	

Redeemed (Women)	Robbi Montgomery 256-682-1478 rmontgomery331@gmail.com	Hazel Green
TBD (New Group) (Women)	Val Krumrie (708) 769-1038 Mary Adkins (256) 776-4883	Woodville
Renaissance (Mixed)	Keith Lewis (256) 762-9050 keithdlewis2384@yahoo.com	Florence
Resurrection Rejoicing (Women)	Teresa Martin (256) 498-3162	Somerville
Running The Show	Steve Williams, 256-206-5416	Athens
Sassy Sisters (Women)	Debbie Reese, 256-599-8887 rareese2000@yahoo.com	Langston AL
See You at the Crossroads (Men)	Cody Gilliam revcbgilliam85@gmail.com	Owens Crossroads
Soaring Sisters (Women)	Kimberly Henderson (256) 710-9736, timberlandranch@gmail.com	Athens
Son Shine	JoAnn Clem, 256-682-2446 joannfclem@att.net	Huntsville
SOS: SIsters of Serenity (Women)	Vicki McCurry, 256-603-4001 vickimccurry@gmail.com	Huntsville
Southern Girls 4 Him (Women)	Beverly Patalas 256-609-5401	Scottsboro
Thursday Morning Men's Group	Harry Richardson	Harvest/Madison
Tuesday Morning Men's Group	John Beatty (256) 729-1311, johnbeatty55@gmail.com	Athens
Unnamed	West Chiles 931-607-7514	Pulaski TN
We Are Family (Women)	Cindy Glover (931) 363-3233 cindyglover@gmail.com	Pulaski TN
Women of Grace	Jeana Kowerduck	Huntsville
You Get a Line, I'll Get a Pole (Mixed Group)	Kelly Watts (256) 652-6734, kellyduffie@aol.com	South Huntsville Area
Zero Dark Thirty	Gary Liederbach 256-302-3785	Huntsville

## 72-Hour Prayer Tips

Often when passing around the 72-Hour Prayer Vigil for an Emmaus Walk or Chrysalis Flight we hear, "I can't pray for a whole half-hour." You'd be surprised how fast that half-hour can go!

Following are some tips to help you focus your prayers during your commitment time. Use this as a guide but don't



limit your prayer time to just these tips. Begin by scanning the list and marking those items that touch you the most. These are the prayer points that the Spirit has led you too. Don't feel pressured to pray the whole list; trust that God will lead others to pray, and He will cover all the points on the list (and more). As you begin to pray for the items you marked, pause at each one and ask God what He would have you specifically pray about that point. When you can think of no more then move to the next item. If you should finish your list before your time is up, then go back and pray about the ones you did not mark. You may want to make these "bullet" prayers as you read down the list. You'll be amazed at how long you can actually pray when you commit yourself to giving the time! At the end you'll find that you were a blessing to others and received a great blessing yourself as well.

#### Pray for the Pilgrims/Caterpillars:

- Pray for them individually if you know their names or as a group.
- Pray that walls would come down and hearts would be opened to understand the depth, the height, the breadth, and width of God's love for them.
- Pray that each participant would receive a personal touch from God during his or her journey.
- Pray for the participants to be able to leave the world behind and give themselves to the weekend.
- Pray for the families of the participants.
- Pray protection for the participants as they leave the weekend behind and face the world again.
- Pray that they will carry the weekend with them into their world.

#### Pray for the Team Members:

- Pray for them individually if you know their names or as a group: Meal Service, Logistics, Conference Room, Agape, Worship, Events, etc.
- Pray that each team member would serve with humility and grace.
- Pray that each team member would receive a renewed touch from God as they see the weekend through the eyes of those experiencing it for the first time.
- Pray for the specific duties of teams that you may have participated in working with before. No one knows how hard it is or what could go wrong better than those who have experienced it!
- Pray for protection and strength.
- Pray that grace would abound when hiccups occur...and they always occur.

#### **Pray for Defining Moments:**

- Think back to your walk/flight and those events that meant the most to you...your *defining moment*. Allow God to take you back to that time.
- Pray for each participant out of the heart of this memory.
- Pray for the little moments that no one thinks gets noticed but might mean the world to someone else.
- Pray for the weekend.
- Pray that God is glorified by His will and ways being done.
- Pray for protection over the weekend, the grounds, and the people.
- Pray for the community as they gather to support special events.
- Pray that God's Spirit and Truth would abound.
- Pray the Lord's Prayer and think about how you could specifically apply moments of the weekend to it. Example: "...daily bread" Pray that the Bread of Life be broken and received with each talk.
- Pray about the moments of Communion /Lord's Supper. Pray for mealtimes and snack times. Pray that when it is over everyone involved will be able to say, "I came looking for Jesus and found Him here.



## **Online Resources**

**Bible Gateway** - <u>https://biblegateway.com</u> - Many translations, plus daily reading plans and other resources

Daily Hope with Rick Warren - http://pastorrick.com - Daily devotional and other resources

**First 5** - <u>http://first5.org</u> - Apps and other resources for personal and group Bible study. Geared toward women, but all can benefit.

Turning Point with David Jeremiah - <u>http://www.davidjeremiah.org</u> - Daily devotional and other resources

Desiring God - John Piper - http://www.desiringgod.org - Articles, sermons, free e-books and more

**Upper Room Devotional** - <u>http://devotional.upperroom.org</u> - Daily devotional from the organization that sponsors Walk to Emmaus

Insight for Living Devotional - Chuck Swindoll - <u>https://www.insight.org</u> - Daily devotional and many other resources

**Our Daily Bread** - <u>https://odb.org</u> - Daily devotional and other resources

**Christian Classics Ethereal Library** - <u>https://www.ccel.org</u> - "The mission of the Christian Classics Ethereal Library (CCEL) is to build up the church by making classic Christian literature widely available and promoting it use for edification and study by interested Christians, seekers and scholars."

**The Bible Project** - <u>http://thebibleproject.com</u> - An excellent source for short animated videos on every book of the Bible, themes and word studies

**Bible Broadcasting Network** - <u>http://www.bbnradio.org</u> - Many resources, including a free "Bible Institute" with many courses available. Somewhat antiquated website, but worth looking into for the content.

A Word with You - Ron Hutchcraft - <u>https://hutchcraft.com</u> - Daily inspirational messages and other resources

All Worship - Free Christian Music - <u>http://www.allworship.com</u> - Christian music online and apps, devotions and other resources

Walk in the Word with James MacDonald - <u>http://jamesmacdonald.com</u> - Daily devotions, various resources

Seedbed - Daily Devotional - <u>www.seedbed.com</u> - Daily devotional and many other resources

Bible.com - https://www.bible.com - Bible online, apps, reading plans and other resources

Days of Praise - http://www.icr.org - Daily devotional and many other resources

**Christian History Magazine** - <u>https://www.christianhistoryinstitute.org</u> - Excellent resource for learning about the history of Christianity, various denominations and important historical figures in the life of the Church. Back issues available online.

**Christianity Today** (monthly magazine) - <u>http://www.christianitytoday.org</u> - "Since 1956, Christianity Today has challenged the church with real-world content that is timely, compelling, insightful, balanced - and biblical."

**World** (biweekly news magazine) - <u>https://world.wng.org</u> - News presented from a conservative, evangelical perspective. Insightful commentary in each issue.

\*\*Please note that while the websites listed above were suggested by members of the New Covenant community, their inclusion here does not imply endorsement by the New Covenant Emmaus Board of Directors or the Upper Room Ministries.



# From the Archives

New Covenant Emmaus History

## "It only takes a spark to get a fire going...and soon all those around will warm up in its glowing."

In 1994, there were many who were ready to **BE A SPARK!!!** 

Following a tornado that destroyed Goshen UMC on Palm Sunday weekend, about 50 Christians met in the auditorium of Martin Methodist College in Pulaski, Tennessee. Among them were members of the Nashville Emmaus Community who agreed to hold two of their upcoming walks at the college that summer as an outreach to start a new community. From then on, it would be up to those of us who would ultimately make-up the New Covenant Emmaus Community.

A steering committee was formed and became active immediately. The Reverend from St. Andrew Memorial UMC in Pulaski, Tennessee became the first Spiritual Director. The church became the designated monthly gathering place.

In July 1994, Nashville Walks #83 and #84 took place with about half the team from Alabama and the other half from Tennessee. Most of the 51 total pilgrims were from North Alabama with a notable exception that eight female pilgrims were visitors from Russia.

In November 1994, the first Board of Directors was elected. Bob Potter became our first Community Lay Director. Kerry Lawrence came up with the winning name for our community -*New Covenant*. Walks #1 and #2 were led by Jerry and Joann Wiemers in June of 1995.

The rest is history. NCEC has now completed over 100 walks at five different locations consisting of thousands of pilgrims of many denominations. We have also added new chapters. In 1996, the Holy Spirit energized members to establish a Chrysalis community for high school youth. Many flights have produced many butterflies. In June 2017, we conducted our first Face-to-Face Encounter which is designed for individuals 60 years of age or those who could not physically participate in the 72-Hour Walk to Emmaus. Encounters have expanded the opportunity for our senior adults to experience the encouragement, joy, and courage of Emmaus.

This community continues to grow through the spirit of cooperation and charity in God's will and for His glory.

## **DE COLORES...FLY WITH CHRIST...BE A SPARK!**