

Chatter Matters

June 2007
www.dayspringwalk.org

Dayspring Community

Volume 4, Issue 6
degar@windstream.net

Remember July 1st is the deadline for pilgrim applications for the September Walks. You can obtain the applications by at logging onto the Dayspring Community website, go to the community tab and click on the forms button (they are also attached to the end of this Chatter Matters). The Board has decided to make funds available for partial payment to anyone who is working or to any potential pilgrim who is having a financial hardship that would prevent him or her from being able to work or attend as a pilgrim. Contact Bruce Yawn at 912-764-2415.

The following ideas expressed below are a reference to The Upper Room/Walk to Emmaus publications and page number that is the source of the statement. The two sources consulted are The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus (2nd Ed. (designated EH); and The Emmaus Library Sponsorship (designated SB).

Why is prayer so important to sponsorship on the Walk to Emmaus?

God's timing is of utmost importance; and God knows better than we who is ready for The Walk to Emmaus experience. (SB16). Wise sponsorship is purposeful and prayerful; unwise sponsorship is haphazard and undiscerning. (EH16). Always remember that The Walk to Emmaus is only one of many events that God is using to grow the kingdom. (SB16). A sponsor is not responsible for getting everyone he or she knows to attend a walk. (SB16). That would result in frustration on the part of the sponsor and anger on the part of those who are not called to attend the walk. (SB16). While most church related functions take a "ya'll com!" approach to participation, Emmaus relied on a method that is more consistent with the message of the Walk sponsorship. (EH13).

Why should I limit the number of agape letters I collect between 8 to 12?

Limiting the number of personal agape letters to maximum of 12 is based on several established principles. (SB36). The pilgrims have a limited time to read these letters. Too many letters detract from the pilgrim's experience. (SB26). Furthermore, 50 letters from one pilgrim can present an obstacle to the message of grace for the lonely pilgrim who receives only 5 letters and does not understand why. (EH91). Limiting the number to 12 helps put all the pilgrims at ease; no one has to wonder why he or she did not receive as many letters as others received. (SB26). The qualities of the personal agape letters is more important than the number and are intended to be written by those close to the pilgrim. (EH91). Make sure the pilgrim receives letters from family members and close friends at that special time on the weekend. (SB27). Finally, the maximum number of 12 also relieves the sponsor of finding large number of people to write letters. (SB26).

Why shouldn't I make efforts to deliver a personal gift to a pilgrim on the Walk when we all wish to shower him or her with out love?

The giving of gifts to and the provision of special surprises for your pilgrim is not part of the model of The Walk to Emmaus. (SB27). The message of Emmaus is that God loves each person with the same love; God does not have favorites. (SB27). A sponsor who gives a gift to one pilgrim and not to others short-circuits this message of God's equal love. (SB27). Such efforts, though well intentioned, result in a problem for other pilgrims, the wonder why they didn't receive such gifts. (SB27).

Why do I personally need to transport my pilgrim to and from the Walk and attend all of the events when the shared love of others helping with this task should do? Can't I get friends to help do some of these things for me?

Attending send off with your pilgrim, Candlelight and Closing are other examples of your personal sacrifice to support your pilgrim and to support the Emmaus functions. (SB20). Your presence reinforces your commitment to your pilgrim and encourages them. (SB20). The personal character of sponsorship underlines God's personal care and commitment to each pilgrim. (EH13). The fact that the Emmaus experience passes from person to person reflects the relational nature of God and the manner in which God reaches out to people through people. (EH13).

Why do we in the Dayspring Community have to follow the guidelines of the Upper Room on Emmaus? Knowing our own people and situation, can't we do it better our own way?

Following the Upper Room model assures that Emmaus, no matter where it is conducted, will be a common and trustworthy experience. (EHix). We should be able to sponsor family and friends in other states and in other countries with confidence that Emmaus will be the same event for them as it was for us in terms of procedures and design. (EHix). When communities take liberties with the 3-day model, it weakens the trustworthiness of the Walk, and the quality becomes more dependent on particular leaders. (EHix). Emmaus depends on a team of ordinary Christians working together according to the directions of an objective manual for proven model. (EHvii). The Upper Room model also serves as a check on our human inclination to innovate. (EHix). Most additions and changes in the model accommodate the team and community members, not the pilgrims. (EHix). The Walk to Emmaus model already includes more than anyone can absorb in 3 days and enough to chew on for a lifetime. (EHix). The model serves as a plumb line that prevents traditions from developing and keeps each Walk centered on the prescribed program. (EHix). Finally, we have a covenant relationship with the Upper Room. (EHix). Emmaus is a program copyrighted by The Upper Room to which we have contractual obligations. (EHix). As a condition of that covenant, each community has agreed to follow the model. (EHix). The Dayspring Board of Directors are called upon each year to renew this covenant relationship by signing a Letter of Agreement. In this Letter, we as a community promise to carry out our Walks in a manner that is faithful to The Upper Room model and in accordance with The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus. In fact, the Bylaws of the Dayspring Emmaus Community state: "The Community will follow the guidelines of The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus program in the formation of the three-day (72hours) experience 'Walk to Emmaus.'"

The South Georgia Conference United Methodist Church Board of Ordained Ministry is sponsoring an event at Epworth By The Sea on January 4-8, 2008 for persons in the 11th grade and up who may be interested in various forms of full time ministry. The event is called: IS GOD CALLING YOU? "A Ministry Exploration Event". Hopefully the only cost to the students

will be their travel to Epworth; food and lodging will be free. This is for persons of all denominations even though it will lean toward the United Methodist Church. The topics will encompass "Recognizing The Call", "Honest Questions, Clear Answers", "Real People, Real Ministries", and "Next Steps". Eventually more information and brochures/registration forms will be available online at www.sgaumc.org and www.epworthbythesea.org <<http://www.epworthbythesea.org/>>.

Please send any comments, any question, an article, testimony or any other concerns related to Dayspring Community email to Debra Taylor at degar@windstream.net.

Community Prayer Concerns

Dinah Yarborough	Kevin Anderson	Sarah & Frank Crane
Our Churches	Kerry Sharpe	Donald Toole
Leigh-Ann White (Walk 51)	Sonny Mason	Nanette Lawton's family
Tyler Sanders	Erin Haskins	Charles Deal's family
Sara Mathis	Ivagene Archambeault	Bob Jacobs' family
Emmaus Walks #60 & #61	Hudson Cason	Layra McKinley
Christopher Schmidt	United States of America	Rosalie Parody
Ricky McIntyre	Sam Brannen	Bill Tyson
Judy McCorkle	Jerry Hendrix	Terry Cross
Savannah Ivey, her parents, Rusty and Lily Ivey		Windel Marsh

Send prayer concerns and answered prayers to Debra Taylor at degar@windstream.net.

Journey

The Journey Board has decided to set aside a line item in their treasury and actively request money for scholarships. "We don't want a young person to not be able to experience Journey because of money when there are so many of us adults who should be willing to share." For more information contact Michelle Patterson at fmpatterson@planters.net or Carroll Gay at gaycarolyn@hotmail.com

Applications to work a Journey can be obtained from our website, go to the community tab and click on the forms button.

Chrysalis

Chrysalis is the version of Walk to Emmaus designed for teenagers age 15-18. The next Chrysalis Flights for Coastal Georgia are scheduled for June of this year. The location of the Flights will be Tattnall County Camp Ground.

The online prayer Vigil has been posted for these Flights and is available for you to sign up. Sign up now to get your preferred time slots.

Girls Chrysalis flight #54, Lay Director; Shae Zeigler, June 14-16. [Girls #54 Prayer Vigil](#)

Boys Chrysalis Flight #55, Lay Director; Rocky Reed, June 21-24 [Boys Flight #55 Prayer Vigil](#)

The Chrysalis board request that the Emmaus- Chrysalis community please begin to make plans now to provide the Agape items for these flights. With flights during the very busy summer these items get over looked. Please makes plans today.

For any more information you can call Bill Hayes at 478-237-0772.

Dayspring Board Members

Bruce Yawn, Board Chair	912-764-2415	Laura Marsh, Secret Angels	912-865-5589
Warren Ball, Reunion Groups	912-865-2898	Buddy Morgan, Worship	912-587-9393
Doty Dunn, Secretary	912-764-4318	Jonine Northrip, Clergy	912-857-5728
Talbert Edenfield, Kitchen	912-772-5022	Gary Page, Clergy	912-684-2982
Claude Howard, Housing	912-682-3863	Bill Smith, Gathering Cord.	912-865-2164
Evelyn Hubbard, Treasurer	912-564-7421	Debra Taylor, Communications	912-564-2390
Ricky Lane, Music	912-587-2055	Sam Wilder, Spiritual Director	912-681-6777
Don Marsh, Agape	912-865-5577	Betty Williams, Training	912-852-5257
Jeanne Anne Marsh, Registration	912-865-2324	Bruce Yawn, Purchasing	912-764-2415

Dayspring Journey Board Members

Molly Bickerton,	912-489-5157	Lennie McGowan, Registrar	912-653-2400
Brenda Bush, Registrar	912-727-3039	Michelle Patterson, Treasurer	912-772-5362
Carolyn Gay, Worship Head	478-982-1054	Karen Prevatt, Clergy	912-897-6478
Carroll Gay, Chairman	478-982-1054	Jim Stephens, Vice Chairman	912-489-3140
Donna Hagan, Secretary	912-727-2013	Jody Sweeney, Angel	912-264-3272
Bill Hayes	478-237-0772	Elizabeth Tuttle, Asst. Agape	912-756-4169
Elizabeth Hilderbrand	912-704-3294	Skip Tuttle	912-756-4169
Jincy Hinely, Agape	912-754-3512	Jose Velasquez, Clergy	912-826-5435

Calendar of Events

- June 14th-16th Girls Chrysalis Flight #54 Tattnall Campground
- June 21-24 Boys Chrysalis Flight #55 Tattnall Campground
- June 26th 1st team meeting for Walks #60 & #61 At 1st UMC of Statesboro 8:30 – 3:00
- July 1st Pilgrim applications due
- July 5th Board Meeting, 1st UMC Statesboro 6:30
- July 28th Gathering First Presbyterian Church Statesboro 6:30
- Sept 1st-3rd Emmaus by the Sea (application attached)
- Sept 6th Board Meeting, 1st UMC Statesboro 6:30
- Sept 13-16 Walk #60 Men Dayspring Walk to Emmaus
- Sept 20-23 Walk #61 Women Dayspring Walk to Emmaus
- Sept 28th PIO Party Tattnall Campground 7:30

DAYSRING EMMAUS REVISED Dec 2003

Application due:
For Spring Walks: January 1
For Fall Walks: July 1

Dayspring Emmaus Community
Pilgrim Application (rev. 10/5/04)

“The DaySpring from on high hath visited us.” Luke 1:78 (KJV)

Men’s Walk _____ OR Women’s Walk _____

Spring Walk Year _____ OR Fall Walk Year _____

Have you applied before? _____ If yes, how many times?

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATE: Fill in all spaces below and return to your sponsor at least 8 weeks before the date of the walk. ALL INFORMATION IS NECESSARY for your proper placement on a Walk to Emmaus; your application will be returned if incomplete. Letters letting you know if you have been selected will be mailed to you and your sponsor 6 weeks prior to the walk. The fee to attend is \$90.00. No money is to be sent with the application, but will be due upon responding to an acceptance.

Candidate’s Name _____

Address _____ City, St., Zip _____

Name preferred on name tag: _____ Age: _____ Number of Children: _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Circle Marital Status: Single Married Widowed Divorced Separated Date of divorce/separation: _____

If married, name of spouse: _____ Will spouse attend this walk? Yes No

If spouse not attending, please explain _____

Has spouse attended a prior walk: Yes No If yes, date and place attended: _____

Your occupation _____ Employer _____

Your Church’s Name _____ Denomination _____

Church Address _____

Church Phone Number _____ Are you a member of this Church? _____

Describe your involvement in your church _____

If Clergy, describe your current position and duties: _____

Are you on a special diet? _____ If yes, describe: _____

Are you on any medication? _____ If yes, describe: _____

If you have any health problems or physical disabilities that may affect your attendance on the Walk, please explain:

Has your sponsor explained to you the Walk to Emmaus and follow up activities such as reunion groups and monthly gatherings?
Yes No

State briefly why you wish to attend the Walk to Emmaus : _____

Candidate’s Signature _____ Date _____

This side of application to be completed by Sponsor and returned to Registrar.

INSTRUCTIONS TO SPONSOR: DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 8 WEEKS BEFORE THE WALK. Mail the completed application to Registrar, P.O. Box 1312, Statesboro, GA 30459. The application will be returned to you if not complete, which includes a signed Sponsor's Covenant acknowledging your responsibilities as sponsor. You will receive a letter letting you know if your candidate was accepted 6 weeks before the walk.

Sponsor's Name _____ Email: _____

Address: (Street, City, State, Zip) _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Sponsor Attended (circle): Walk to Emmaus Chrysalis Cursillo Tres Dias Kairos Journey

Community Name _____ Walk # _____ Year You Attended _____

Are you active (check)? In a Reunion Group _____ Gatherings _____ Walk Activities/Committees _____ Agape _____

Have you attended a Dayspring Sponsorship Training Session (circle): Yes No

Are you a Conference Room team member on the Walk this candidate would attend (circle): Yes No
Support team member? Yes No

If your candidate has a physical or mental disability or currently is under any emotional strain that would in any way impair or impact the candidate or other pilgrims, please describe:

Why are you sponsoring this Candidate? _____

Does your Candidate need any special accommodations? _____

Have you explained the Walk to Emmaus, Reunion Groups, Pio Party and Monthly Gatherings to your pilgrim? Yes No

Sponsor's Signature _____ Co-sponsor's Signature (if applicable) _____

In case of need, the following person will act as my alternate and will be responsible for all notifications to and contact with the candidate, spouse of the candidate and the Walk Lay Director.

Alternate Sponsor's Name _____ Email: _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip) _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Name, number and date of Alternate Sponsor's Walk _____

Alternate's Signature _____

Pastor's Affirmation:

As the Pastor of this candidate, I verify that this candidate is a member of my church in good standing and my belief that both this candidate and our church will benefit from the candidate's participation in this activity.

Pastor's Signature _____ Print Name: _____ Date _____

PLEASE ATTACH SPONSOR'S COVENANT TO COMPLETE APPLICATION

Sponsor's Covenant

I wish to sponsor _____ (name) as a pilgrim on the next Dayspring Walk to Emmaus. As a sponsor, I hereby agree to enter a covenant relationship with the Dayspring Walk to Emmaus community.

I. As part of this covenant, I believe the following to be true about this pilgrim:

- a. This pilgrim is a member of a church and an active Christian whose own renewal will mean new energy, commitment, and vision in the church and everyday environments for Christ.
- b. This pilgrim is committed to living a life that is pleasing to God, and wants to grow and increase his or her knowledge and understanding of God and God's will.
- c. This pilgrim's theology and/or practices are compatible with the traditional theology and practices represented by the Walk to Emmaus
- d. This pilgrim is psychologically stable and is not involved or has not recently been involved in any situation of emotional distress which could interfere with the pilgrim giving his or her full attention to the message and experience of the Walk to Emmaus.
- e. This person does not have characteristics or traits of personality which would distract other pilgrims who want to enhance their spiritual growth during the weekend.

II. As part of this covenant, I make the following assurances about myself as a sponsor:

- a. My decision to sponsor this pilgrim comes from a concentrated time in prayer to discern who God wants me to sponsor.
- b. I understand the ultimate reason for recruiting someone to attend the Walk is to deepen that person's existing relationship with Christ and to create an enthusiastic disciple to work in God's kingdom. I understand that looking upon Emmaus as a hospital where every human ill can be cured will have a weakening effect on the entire community. My motivation in sponsoring this pilgrim is not "to get all my friends to go," to get this pilgrim "straightened out," to change this person, or to make a new Christian.

III. In fulfilling my duties as sponsor, I pledge the following:

- a. To continue in prayer for this pilgrim.
- b. To give my undivided personal attention to my pilgrim, including transporting the pilgrim to and from the weekend, and attending key events such as Send-off, Candlelight and Closing.
- c. To fully support the pilgrim's family and/or meet other needs in the pilgrim's home and personal life, such as feeding pets or watering plants, during the three days.
- d. To collect at least eight (8) but no more than twelve (12) personal agape letters from close friends and family members. I will work quietly behind the scenes to obtain these letters so the pilgrim is unaware of what is happening. I will hold back any extra letters above twelve (12) and present them as a fourth-day surprise to my pilgrim after the weekend.
- e. To sponsor only one person per Walk, and to avoid working as a Conference Room team member on this pilgrim's walk or engaging in other activities that would dilute the effort required of a sponsor.
- f. I will not make efforts nor will I ask team members to deliver personal gifts to this pilgrim during the three days.

To these beliefs, assurances and pledges, I offer my covenant as sponsor.

Date: _____ Name: _____

Dayspring Emmaus Community

C/O Debra Taylor 202 Magnolia Crescent

Sylvania, GA 30467