

# Near the Cross Emmaus



October 2013  
Volume 8, Issue 10

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday, October 5**  
**Follow Up Meeting**  
FUMC Jonesboro  
11:00 am

**Community Gathering**  
FUMC Jonesboro  
South Annex Bldg  
12:00 pm

**Tuesday, October 22**  
Board Ballots must be  
submitted

**Saturday, November 2**  
**Community Gathering**  
FUMC Jonesboro  
South Annex Bldg  
12:00 pm

**COMMUNITY LAY LEADER**  
Jim Markley  
jmarkley\_best@msn.com

**COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIR.**  
Jimmy Anderson  
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**TREASURER**  
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**SECRETARY**  
Sara Frazier  
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Pam Slaven  
pam72403@yahoo.com

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
Haley Mitchell  
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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### WALK #29

Michael Ames	Harrisburg
Garland Arnell	Corning
Michael Blanchard	Paragould
Robert Bradley	Edgemont
Jerry Chappell	Corning
Hunter Daniel	Trumann
Jeremy Darden	Cordova, TN
Michael Emery	Caraway
John Gunkel, Jr	Blytheville
Chris Halk	Cherry Valley
Terry Howard	Jonesboro
John Hubbard	Jonesboro
Dillon Johnson	Jonesboro
Lanz Loyd	Paragould
Les Meurer	Caraway
David Milam	Bay
Clarence Overbay	Jonesboro
Jeff Ramsey	Jonesboro
Austin Slaven	Jonesboro
Mace Straubel	Rector
Brad Vaughn	Lake City
Heath Williams	Walnut Ridge

### WALK #30

Charlene Acklin	Mountain Home
Lavon Bloodworth	Bradford
Natalie Brister	Pangburn
Beverly Booth	Caraway
Tina Cook	Jonesboro
Karen Eldridge	Bay
Jackie Faulkner	Caraway
Bonnie Gentry	Helena
Joni Hill	Paragould
Sherry Horn	Caraway
Brenda Houlsworth	Greers Ferry
Betty Ann Hurt	Jonesboro
Candi Ibanez	Pangburn
Victoria McCoy	Leachville
Lee Ann McDaniel	Jonesboro
Kristy Milam	Bay
Teri Mulvaney	Dyersburg, TN
Sharon Overbay	Jonesboro
Amanda Roberts	Batesville
Britney Selig	Paragould
Doris Sibley	Helena
Lelia Timms	Lake City
Lee Ann Vanaman	Paragould
Heather Vernon	Friendship, TN

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Each local Emmaus community has some type of administrative structure to handle the operations. This is true of almost any organization. The size and type of an organization is important in determining its administrative structure. Within a church, there is at least one entity that serves as the policy-making body for the church. This body is generally referred to as a board of trustees or an administrative board.

The board consists of twelve laypersons and three clergy elected at large generally. Five members are elected yearly, each serving a three-year term. This provides the opportunity to maintain continuity for the board, yet allows new members to be added each year. Such a procedure sustains the viability of the board and simultaneously maintains the vitality of the board. It is required for all board members to be active members of their local church and NEAR the Cross Emmaus Community.

Nominees for this year's election are included in this newsletter. Please take the time to submit your votes to Secretary Sara Frazier by Tuesday, October 22.

**NEAR the Cross Emmaus  
2013 Board of Directors Nominees**

**LAY POSITIONS**

**Jimmy Hudspeth, FUMC Heber Springs**—Attended his walk at Noah’s of Ark. He is married to Renae and has two children and eleven grandchildren. Jimmy has served on several walks on outside and inside teams and has given all 15 talks in the Conference Room on walks. He meets with Living Waters reunion group.

**Christy Lemmons, FUMC Jonesboro**—Attended her Walk at NOAHs of Ark. She is married to Scott and has three sons-Max, Mason and Landon. Christy has previously served on the NEAR the Cross Board. She has served on several walks on inside and outside teams. She meets with the “Hebrews 10:25” reunion group.

**Jerry Martin, Caraway United Methodist Church**—Attended his walk at NOAH’s of Ark. He is married to Gundel and has two daughters and four grandchildren. Jerry has served on several walks on both inside and outside teams and has also served as an LD and Coordinator. He meets with “Fourth Coming” reunion group.

**Toy Morgan, Central Baptist Church Jonesboro**—Attended his Walk at NEAR the Cross. He is married to Rhonda and two children, Ashley and Meg. Toy has served in the kitchen and as Kitchen Coordinator on multiple walks.

**Melissa Russell, Cornerstone United Methodist Church (Jonesboro)**—Attended her walk at NEAR the Cross. She is married to Mike and has two stepchildren. Melissa has assisted with luggage and has served on inside and outside teams on several walks. She meets with “Daughters of the King” reunion group.

**CLERGY POSITIONS**

**Dan Brand, Holiday Hills United Methodist Church (Greers Ferry)**—Attended his walk at Noah’s of Ark. He is married to Shirley and has one son, Mark. Dan has served on several walks both with Noah’s of Ark and NEAR the Cross and previously served as Chair of the Board for Noah’s of Ark. He meets with “Waves of Grace” reunion group.

**Rocky Starnes, FUMC Pocahontas**—Attended his walk at Noah’s of Ark. He is married to Cindy and has two sons and one granddaughter. Rocky has served on several walks with Noah’s of Ark and NEAR the Cross.

**NEAR the Cross Emmaus Community  
Board of Directors Official Ballot**

If both spouses are Emmaus members, you may vote with separate emails/ballots.

**DEADLINE: Must be Postmarked by October 22, 2013**

**LAY POSITIONS (Vote for 4 Only)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Jimmy Hudspeth  
\_\_\_\_\_ Christy Lemmons  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jerry Martin  
\_\_\_\_\_ Toy Morgan  
\_\_\_\_\_ Melissa Russell

**CLERGY POSITIONS (Vote for 1 Only)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Dan Brand  
\_\_\_\_\_ Rocky Starnes

**Submit ballots by mail or email to:**

**NEAR the Cross, Secretary  
Sara Frazier  
402 Cedar St  
Pocahontas, AR 72455  
wsfrazier@live.com**

# PRACTICAL LOVE

What would happen if love were the goal of every event in your church? What would change if people prayed for each program and then offered it to the church or community for the glory of God? What if the church's agenda were based on loving as Jesus loves? What if the chairperson of the board of trustees began by saying, "Our job is to use and care for our facility so that people feel the love of Christ when they are here." What would change if all the committees of the congregation sought to love God's people, rather than to do God's chores?

The goal of Emmaus is not to recreate the Walk in the local church or to recruit people for the weekend retreat. The goal is to return the spirit of agape, which is also the spirit of Emmaus, to the local church. As pilgrims return from Emmaus, they need to ask themselves questions such as these: How can I help my congregation be intensely loving? How can I help my congregation think of ministry as an act of agape?

Jesus said, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35). Returning to the congregation is above all a matter of returning with a greater awareness of and reliance on God's love.

In the excitement of the Walk to Emmaus, we sometimes forget that the purpose of the event is to develop Christian disciples who will renew local churches. How do pilgrims bring agape to their congregations? To be agents of renewal, they must make God's love tangible.

Here's a list of twenty ways to renew local churches. What would you add to the list? What is God calling you to do?

## 20 Ways to Renew the Church

1. Ask your pastor how you can be in ministry. (Bring smelling salts!)
2. Be the friendliest person at a church event.
3. Teach a Sunday school class.
4. Start a prayer group.
5. Sponsor a congregational leader for the next Walk to Emmaus.
6. Begin a Bible study group.
7. Help with the youth group; introduce them to Chrysalis.
8. Sponsor the pastor and his or her spouse on a Walk.
9. Help the church secretary with the newsletter or other duties.
10. Write about the Walk to Emmaus for the church newsletter.
11. Visit the homebound for prayer and fellowship.
12. Visit people in the hospital.
13. Join the women's or men's group in the church. (If your church doesn't have a group, could you start one?)
14. Be a friendly usher at worship.
15. Volunteer to serve on the worship, mission, or evangelism committee or in another area of ministry that interests you.
16. Help with the church library.
17. Serve on the board of trustees; open the church building to the community.
18. Tithe.
19. Send agape to church members in crisis.
20. Start a program to feed the hungry to to shelter the homeless.

Remember: the real fourth day of the Walk to Emmaus involves the renewal of your church.

*The Emmaus Library  
Coming Down from the Mountain:  
Returning to your Congregation*

 Find us on  
**Facebook**

This is a closed group to keep in touch and share our 4th Day experiences, study material, prayer requests and praises. This is not an official page of the NEAR the Cross Board of Directors.