



# RAINBOW REPORTER

The Newsletter for the Blue Lake Emmaus Walk Community

April 2024

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I sit here writing this, I am reminded of how blessed I have been through this Emmaus community. From my original walk 156, to serving on the current Chrysalis flight 110 and upcoming Women's walk 280. I have been blessed to serve with an amazing group of people. Each walk has been filled with people who truly love the Lord and want to show that love to others.

Our upcoming women's walk is May 2-5 and will be led by Sheila Smith and Rev Bob McKibben. Sheila's scripture is Isaiah 46:4 "Even to your old age, I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; Even I will carry, and deliver you." This scripture about the faithfulness of God and his promise to always be with us is so timely. It is always good for us to remember no matter what struggles we are facing God is faithful and he promises to carry us and deliver us.

This scripture takes the focus from me and puts the focus on God.

Specifically, who God is and what He promises. Regardless of the trials we are going through if we turn the focus back on God, we know the good news. God never changes, He is always God faithful and trustworthy, the Great I AM. His promises are true. He will carry us and deliver us. Praise God!

Please be in prayer for the women on walk 280 and their families. Pray that God will soften hearts, open minds, renew and revive each of these pilgrims who are preparing to take this walk to Emmaus with their Lord and Savior. Please pray that their families will be strengthened and grow in their love for the Lord. Be in Prayer for the servants as they leave their homes and families and commit to taking this walk alongside these pilgrims. Both in the conference room and in the background, they are all such a vital part of showing these pilgrims God's love. Please keep Sheila and Bob in your prayers as they continue to prepare to lead this walk to Emmaus.

Shevewan Cooper

Blue Lake Emmaus Walk 156

Table of Mary



Prayer is such a vital part of this ministry. We need every prayer warrior before, during and after to pray for our Emmaus walks, Chrysalis flights and journeys. I would call each of you to prayerfully step out in faith and consider sponsoring a youth for our Chrysalis flights and journeys or adult men and women for our walks. This Emmaus movement has changed lives and will continue to change lives and hearts, but it requires each of us to do our part.

Our Emmaus community has 3 more walks scheduled for this year. We always need people with a servant heart to come and serve on these walks, flights and journeys. Pray about what God would have you do. Each time I have answered God's call to serve He has truly blessed me.

Here are some ways you can serve: Sign up for the Prayer vigil, make agape, come to Candlelight, come up for the day or the whole weekend to serve in the background, sponsor a pilgrim or youth. You can contact the Support coordinator to see how you can serve on upcoming walks.

I pray that each of your 4<sup>th</sup> day's you would remember that we serve a big God He is faithful, and he will carry you and deliver you even to your old age.

DeColores, Fly with Christ

*Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.*

*Isaiah 46:4*



## Walk W-280 Pilgrims

*Even to your old age and gray  
hairs I am He, I am He who will  
sustain you. I have made you and  
I will carry you; I will sustain you  
and I will rescue you.*

*Isaiah 46:4*

May 2 – 5, 2024

Lay Director: Sheila Smith

Spiritual Dir: Rev. Bob McKibben

As of: April 9, 2024



Pilgrim	City	Church	Sponsor
1. Austin, Cindy	Midland City, AL	Harvest Church	Eanes, Cindy
2. Benefield, Tomila	Marianna, FL	Restoration Church	Smothers, Edith
3. Blum, Connie	Pensacola, FL	Perdido Bay UMC	Stokes, April
4. Bowen, Linda	Ozark, AL	Harvest Church	Woodham, Misty
5. Burns, Donna	Ft. Walton Bch, FL	Trinity UMC	Grape, Elaine
6. Clark, E. Leanne	Dothan, AL	Harvest Church	Bowman, Cheri
7. Creswell, Jean	Thomaston, AL	Pine Hill-Arlington Methodist	Creswell, John
8. Detiege, Sharon	Niceville, FL	Crosspoint, Niceville	Clark, Beth
9. Duke, Cynthia	Panama City, FL	First UMC, Panama City	Lewis, Lucy
10. Ellis, Christina	Andalusia, AL	Ino Baptist	Barnes, Jerry
11. Evans, Sandra Lee	Niceville, FL	Crosspoint	Thorpe, Mary
12. Foster, Jane	Lillian, AL	Lillian UMC	Erwin, Betty
13. Gibson, April	Cantonment, FL	Farm Hill UMC	Johnson, Vera
14. Hiers, Beth	Miramar Bch, FL	Destiny Worship Center	Cox, Tess
15. Huff, Nicole	Dothan, AL	Memphis Baptist Church	Bowman, Cheri
16. Isley, Linda	Dothan, AL	First UMC, Dothan	Deaton, Ryan
17. Jones, Gloria	Cantonment, FL	Gonzalez Methodist	Lott, Teresa
18. Jones, Jennifer	Milton, FL	First Baptist of Holt	Scott, Cissy
19. LaPlante, Claire	Rosemary Bch, FL	Chapel at the Beach	Cox, Tess
20. Leach, Lindsey	Navarre, FL	Navarre UMC	Bush, Amy
21. Love, Gail	Pensacola, FL	Perdido Bay UMC	Hudson, Roy
22. McCarthy, Kimberly	Pace, FL	Liberty Church	McCarthy, Robert
23. Nelson, Barbara	Pensacola, FL	Perdido Bay UMC	Elizabeth & Rev. Dr. Scott Hohn
24. Overton, Wanda Sue	Panama City, FL	Woodlawn Church	Bozarth, Susan
25. Padron, Chrisna	Destin, FL	Destin Methodist	Crithfield, Jill
26. Powell, Anne	Flomaton, AL	Pollard Methodist	Webb, Trena
27. Ray, Brandy	Flomaton, AL	Pollard Methodist	Webb, Trena
28. Ritchie, Cheryl	Gulf Shores, AL	Crossview Church	Hammond, Jim
29. Robinson, Sheryl	Pensacola, FL	Perdido Bay UMC	Elizabeth & Rev. Dr. Scott Hohn
30. Thorpe, Brandy	Milton, FL	Immanuel Baptist	Whiting, Ashley
31. Tullos, Tammy	Dothan, AL	Harvest Church	Richardson, Hope
32. West, Debra	Ft. Walton Beach, FL	Trinity UMC	Tindall, Karen
33. White, Clara	Flomaton, AL	Pollard Methodist	Webb, Trena

A monarch butterfly with orange and black wings is perched on a bright yellow flower. The background is a soft-focus field of similar flowers and green foliage.

## A Call to Serve

# Chrysalis

Blue Lake Chrysalis 109 Table of 3 Men and a Lady. That's me the Lady! The table of the Lay Director, Board Rep and Spiritual Director. We each wore many hats that weekend. I was Board Rep, ASD, and a bit Ding. Since we had one Ding and no ATLS .....Background folks also shared many jobs. The Fabulous Flight of 14 young men had no clue there was anything missing – and the Lord was just fine with all of it! He poured out His great love on all of us! Thursday night gathering the young men started bonding as soon as they arrived. They were all so different and that didn't matter at all. Three of the four table leaders were new in the Conference Room, and they were awesome. One even gave a talk with a week's notice. God equipped us all with whatever was needed at the time it was needed. Agape was plentiful and we threw a lot around even a team indoor frisbee competition between cabins! Snacks were awesome! I won't say a few ate too much and had a bit of a tummy issue. The talks gave much for them to chew on to spit out posters, skits, and a song. A lot was dumped out and burned after the Prodigal talk at Lambuth. Saturday night dinner and entertainment brought a new performer whose spiritual gift is ad-lib comedy. Hmm, definitely funny! Candlelight wowed all of them that so many would come so far just to show Jesus' love for them! All the young men spoke at Closing! Eight of the candidates from the last two flights are working the upcoming **Girl's Flight 110 on April 11-14**. So, please help these girls have the best flight ever too by sponsoring a candidate, signing up for the Prayer Vigil on the [bluelakechrysalis.us](http://bluelakechrysalis.us) website, sending agape and snacks, and attend Candlelight on Saturday April 13 at 7:30 in Oakwood Gym (you will be immensely blessed as the kids plan to do their mime communion!!) God blesses us with our young people who will lead the next generation of Christians. We are to train them up so let's do it!



## SNACK AGAPE NEEDS YOU!

We need a volunteer to be our **SNACK AGAPE COMMITTEE COORDINATOR**. *This position is responsible for overseeing the Snack Agape Committee including maintaining current procedures, training weekend volunteers and new recruits, and helping with team formation on each walk.* Our current procedures are already well documented and we will make sure that our new Snack Agape Committee Coordinator is properly trained and well supported!

The Snack Agape team has replaced the 'Refreshments team' as, post-COVID, walks no longer have 'refreshment breaks'. Instead, a refreshment table is set up in the conference room and 'refreshed' several times a day while the pilgrims are not in the conference room. Additionally, drink stations (think coffee, water, sodas) are set up in the entry foyer for use by the pilgrims and conference room team as they desire.

Again, the new procedures are well documented, run quite smoothly, and are much less cumbersome than the previous methods. This is a real need for our Blue Lake Community. *If you would like to volunteer for this position or need more information about this ministry opportunity, please contact Iris Schipper via email at [iris@pbmgmt.com](mailto:iris@pbmgmt.com) or via cell phone at (850) 685-7010.*





**Scholarships Available:** The Mike Ruthven Memorial scholarship has been set up to help anyone who would like to attend a Walk to Emmaus- Bethlehem, Big Bend, or Blue Lake.

For more information contact Elsie Williams at 850-596-2627 or at 111 Loyola Lane Panama City, FL 32405.

# Emmaus Ministry Calendar



<u>2024</u>				
<u>Walk</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Lay Director</u>	<u>Spiritual Director</u>	<u>Support Coordinator</u>
W-280(W)	May 2-5	Sheila Smith	Rev. Bob McKibben	Dawn Hall
W-281(M)	Aug 15-18	Carter Borland	Rev. Lew Wilder	Larry Bates
W-282(W)	Sep 26-29	Vera Johnson	Rev. Kevin Holland	Denise Heath
W-283 (W)	Nov 7-10	Beth Webb	Rev. Nancy Hammond	Trena Webb
<u>Chrysalis</u>				
Girls Flight	Apr 11-14	Cissy Scott	Rev. Donna Coty	

Please be in reverent prayer for our Pilgrims as they journey on their Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis Flights. Also remember them with your gifts of agape', weekend service, Agape' letters, and your attendance at candlelight service. Search your heart and remember the joy your walk or journey experience gave you. Now please prayerfully consider sponsoring a church family member or close friend so that they will share abundantly in Jesus Christ's unconditional love!



**DeColores!**

# And Their Eyes Were Opened

**T**he Walk to Emmaus received its name from Luke 24:13-35. On the afternoon of the first Easter two disciples were returning home to Emmaus saddened by the recent turn of events. They were so focused on their own disappointments and difficulties that they were prevented from seeing God's purpose in the things that had happened. At first, they were even blinded to the presence of Christ walking with them along the road.

Could it be that is precisely where many of our churches are today? With the disaffiliation of many congregations several things have happened. Many congregations have remained United Methodist, while several have joined the newly formed Global Methodist Church. Others have joined other Methodist denominations, and a few have even remained independent of any denomination.

In the midst of all this, families and individuals have moved their membership. Organizational structures and leadership roles have changed, and in some cases dissolved altogether. New leaders are emerging and stepping up to fill the voids. *AND THAT IS WHERE THE EMMAUS WALK CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!*

It is on their Emmaus Walk that so many present-day disciples have regained their focus on Jesus Christ and renewed their desire to serve Him within their local church. During their Emmaus experience their eyes were opened and their faith revived to a ministry of grace and love. Whether remaining United Methodist or moving to become Global Methodist or independent, all congregations can be refreshed and renewed, when led by grace and love filled disciples.

The Walk to Emmaus is an ecumenical spiritual renewal program specifically designed to strengthen congregations by the enhancement and nurturing of Christian disciples and leaders. All Christian faith traditions are welcome. Now is the time to put our faith into action by sponsoring new pilgrims, giving them the opportunity of a lifetime and allowing the Holy Spirit to raise up a new group of disciples and leaders within our church.

## Christ Is Counting on You

## **ATTENTION EMMAUS CLERGY MEMBERS**

With the rapidly changing landscape of Congregational and Clergy affiliation, the Upper Room has asked that we update our Clergy records. The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus criteria for Clergy remains the same as it has always been. The Walk to Emmaus is an ecumenical Fourth Day movement and members of all Christian organizations and denominations are welcome to participate and serve.

Clergy who choose to serve as Weekend Spiritual Directors and Assistant Spiritual Directors do have certain criteria they must meet. We've been asked to update our Clergy Applications so our Emmaus Board can be confident that each clergy member is licensed or ordained by their parent organizations.

### **PLEASE ACCOMPLISH THESE TWO ITEMS:**

1. Update your information in Ministry Manager.
  - a. Login to <https://ministrymanager.upperroom.org>
  - b. Update each field.
  - c. Click the Clergy box.
  - d. If you cannot login for any reason please email Joquita McKibben ([joy4heart@bellsouth.net](mailto:joy4heart@bellsouth.net)). You will receive follow-up instructions.
  
2. Complete an Emmaus Clergy Application.
  - a. Log into The Upper Room and request copy
  - b. Email Dr. Bob McKibben ([revbmck@bellsouth.net](mailto:revbmck@bellsouth.net)) for copy
  - c. Return completed copy to Bob McKibben



# BLUE LAKE EMMAUS PRAYER VIGIL

Follow steps below to locate and sign up for the Prayer Vigil for upcoming Emmaus Walks.

1. Login to Ministry Manager. <https://ministrymanager.upperroom.org>
2. Located on the bottom right from your home dashboard in Ministry Manager select *Upcoming Prayer Vigils* and *Read More*.

## Prayer Vigils

MY PRAYER TIMES

UPCOMING PRAYER VIGILS

Prayer vigils coming up where I can choose to sign up to pray

[Read More >>](#)

3. From the list of available Prayer Vigils select the Walk # you want to sign up for.

## Events with Prayer Vigils

**AUG**  
11 Prayer Vigil for M-273

**SEP**  
29 Prayer Vigil for W-274

**NOV**  
10 Prayer Vigil for W-275

4. You now see the information for the walk. Select the tab under the general information that says Prayer Vigil.

## Blue Lake Emmaus >> M-273

START DATE	END DATE	TIME ZONE	CONTACT NAME
08/11/2022 06:30PM	08/14/2022 06:30PM	Central Time (US & Canada)	Melanie Schenck
DESCRIPTION			CONTACT EMAIL
Lay Director: (Trimble Perry) Spiritual Director: (Rev. Bob Bailey) Support Coordinator: (Melanie Schenck)			wmschenck@cox.net
LOCATION:			CONTACT PHONE NUMBER
Blue Lake Assemble, Alabama			+18504966314
TEAM ROLE ASSIGNMENTS PARTICIPANTS TALK ASSIGNMENTS <b>PRAYER VIGIL</b> NOTES			

5. Choose a time slot available indicated by the blue select button.

CHOOSE A PRAYER TIME	
AUGUST 11, 2022	
6:30pm	Select
7:00pm Filled by Joquita McKibben	Unassign
7:30pm	Select
8:00pm	Select

# Key Links for the Blue Lake Community

**Website:** [www.bluelake.us](http://www.bluelake.us)

**Webmaster:** [web.master@bluelake.us](mailto:web.master@bluelake.us)

**Registrar:** [registrar@bluelake.us](mailto:registrar@bluelake.us)

**Rainbow Reporter editor:** [savedbygrace010509@gmail.com](mailto:savedbygrace010509@gmail.com)

**Emmaus Application:**

<https://blew.box.com/BLEW-Emmaus-Application>

**Emmaus Walk Calendar:** [www.bluelake.us/events.html](http://www.bluelake.us/events.html)

**Blue Lake Community Waiting List:**

<https://blew.app.box.com/v/Registrar-Wait-Lists>

**Chrysalis Web site:**

[www.bluelakechrysalis.us](http://www.bluelakechrysalis.us)

**Chrysalis Application:**

[www.bluelakechrysalis.us/images/documents/chrysalis\\_application.pdf](http://www.bluelakechrysalis.us/images/documents/chrysalis_application.pdf)

**Chrysalis Calendar:**

<http://www.bluelakechrysalis.us/index.php/events>

**Blue Lake Camp Spark Campaign:**

[Give - Blue Lake Camp](#)



# Ministry Manager Tips

De Colores brothers and sisters in Christ. Here are the instructions for updating your email addresses in the Upper Room Ministry Manager.

1. Log in to Ministry Manager at <https://ministrymanager.upperroom.org/>. If you do not already have an account, you will have to create one.
2. Near the upper-right corner of your web browser window, click on “My Account.”
3. Ensure the “Profile” tab under your name is selected.
4. Review your account information, to include your email address. Update any information to bring your record current.
5. At the bottom of the window, click “Save.” Please do not click “Change Account Info.” Feel free to explore the other tabs next to the Profile tab and add your Church and anyone you have Sponsored.

**Rainbow Reporter:** To join this list, send an email to blue-lake-emmaus-community+join@googlegroups.com. Include your name, walk number, and location. You must be a member of the Blue Lake Emmaus Community for your join request to be processed. If your name or email address has changed since you went on your walk, let us know the previous information too so we can match the record. Ensure your Ministry Manager information is correct first. Please note: People not in the distribution list do not receive the Rainbow Reporter, so feel free to forward this information to them.





# 2024 Blue Lake Emmaus Governing Board

<p><b>Chairperson</b> Shevewan Cooper</p> <p><b>Past Chairperson</b> Trena Webb</p> <p><b>Team Selection</b> Cheri Perry</p> <p><b>Blue Lake Camp Liaison</b> John Bozarth</p> <p><b>Emmaus Community Lay Director</b> Iris Schipper</p> <p><b>Emmaus Community Spiritual Director</b> Rev. Dr. Bob McKibben</p>	<p><b>Vice Chairperson</b> Randy Brook</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Becky Rogers</p> <p><b>Agape</b> Dawn Hall</p> <p><b>4<sup>th</sup> Day</b> Margarita Vazquez</p> <p><b>Chrysalis Community Lay Director</b> Cissy Scott</p> <p><b>Chrysalis Community Spiritual Director</b> Rev. Donna Coty</p>
--	--

## Non-Voting, Non-Elected Positions

<p><b>Treasurer</b> Tom Risavalto</p> <p><b>Registrar</b> Vida Straley</p> <p><b>Community Support Coordinator</b> Denise Heath</p> <p><b>Agape Community Contact</b> Sharon Patterson</p>	<p><b>Data Mgr/Lay Dir Trainer</b> Joquita McKibben</p> <p><b>Chief Information Officer</b> Rob Buckman</p> <p><b>Newsletter Editor</b> Larry Bates</p> <p><b>Webmaster</b> Jim Reynolds</p>
--	--



# Emmaus Community Member Checklist

1. Check your information on the Upper Room Ministry Manager website and submit any changes. Go to <https://ministrymanager.upperroom.org/>
2. Within your Ministry Manager profile opt-in the Mass Messaging feature.
3. Meet with a reunion group. See your Emmaus Cluster contact list to get connected with a group.
4. Serve in your home church. The Emmaus Ministry goal is to grow Christian leadership within the local community church. Ask your pastor where you can serve.
5. Look and pray for candidates to sponsor for an upcoming Emmaus Walk or Chrysalis Flight/Journey.
6. Seek the Lord God first in all things and maintain a heart to answer God's call. Be prepared to serve the Lord with self-surrender and charity for all.



# Blue Lake Emmaus Clusters

Find one near you and get involved today

Community	Contact	Phone	email
Andalusia Travelers	Julie Terrell	850-712-0456	<a href="mailto:cdt1230@aol.com">cdt1230@aol.com</a>
Blue Angel (Pensacola)	Jim Hammond	850-748-3531	<a href="mailto:jhammond@uwf.edu">jhammond@uwf.edu</a>
Camden	Dan Burford	334-399-4614	<a href="mailto:danburford@mchsi.com">danburford@mchsi.com</a>
Cantonment (Gonzalez Grace)	Teresa Lott	850-501-5182	<a href="mailto:lott01@bellsouth.net">lott01@bellsouth.net</a>
Crestview	Pam Hight	850-758-8201	<a href="mailto:pjhight51@gmail.com">pjhight51@gmail.com</a>
Daleville	Debi Corbett	334-494-2340	<a href="mailto:debic122@gmail.com">debic122@gmail.com</a>
Dalraida UMC	Doris Persons	334-271-2533	<a href="mailto:dorisdpersons@gmail.com">dorisdpersons@gmail.com</a>
Destin UMC	Duane Crithfield	727-560-1342	<a href="mailto:duanecrithfield@live.com">duanecrithfield@live.com</a>
Dothan	Cheri Bowman	334-237-2102	<a href="mailto:shalomcsx2@gmail.com">shalomcsx2@gmail.com</a>
Enterprise	Joanne Parker	989-214-0201	<a href="mailto:ent36330jpark@outlook.com">ent36330jpark@outlook.com</a>
Foley	Peggy Ratcliff	251-975-8336	<a href="mailto:peggyratcliff@gmail.com">peggyratcliff@gmail.com</a>
Ft. Walton (Beachside Emmaus)	Jane Pratt	850-244-5342	<a href="mailto:jpratt1687@embarqmail.com">jpratt1687@embarqmail.com</a>
Good News UMC	Judy Brook	850-543-5336	<a href="mailto:judyabrooke@gmail.com">judyabrooke@gmail.com</a>
Gulf Breeze (Angels of the Son)	Vida Straley	850-206-1019	<a href="mailto:vidas@bellsouth.net">vidas@bellsouth.net</a>
Hartford	Vicki Baxter	334-389-6212	<a href="mailto:jojodbax1@gmail.com">jojodbax1@gmail.com</a>
Jackson	Tommy Gaillard	334-246-4744	<a href="mailto:wtgaillard@bellsouth.net">wtgaillard@bellsouth.net</a>
Luverne	Paul Nichols	334-790-5102	<a href="mailto:panic48@yahoo.com">panic48@yahoo.com</a>
Marianna Cluster	Karen Elizabeth Carrel	850-209-4690	<a href="mailto:kecarrel@embarqmail.com">kecarrel@embarqmail.com</a>
Mary Esther	Deidre Sanders	208-599-5332	<a href="mailto:deegie87@gmail.com">deegie87@gmail.com</a>
Milton/Pace (Scratch Ankle)	Dawn Hall	803-580-9487	<a href="mailto:pinkgerbera71@gmail.com">pinkgerbera71@gmail.com</a>
Navarre	Glenda Cody	850-380-8896	<a href="mailto:glendacody@aol.com">glendacody@aol.com</a>
Niceville (Bayou Blessings)	Larry Bates	850-218-6586	<a href="mailto:savedbygrace010509@gmail.com">savedbygrace010509@gmail.com</a>
Opp	Jerry Barnes	334-764-3705	<a href="mailto:jblb1968@yahoo.com">jblb1968@yahoo.com</a>
Panama City/Bay County	Nancy Ruthven	850-769-1951	<a href="mailto:mnruthven@yahoo.com">mnruthven@yahoo.com</a>
Perdido Bay	April Stokes	850-390-0246	<a href="mailto:april@perdidobay.church">april@perdidobay.church</a>
Point Washington	Danny Powell	850-278-6588	<a href="mailto:danny@dplamail.com">danny@dplamail.com</a>
Shalimar	Sharon Patterson	850-609-1496	<a href="mailto:sharon_in_florida@cox.net">sharon in florida@cox.net</a>
St. Luke UMC	Vicky Barnett	850-791-6925	<a href="mailto:vsbrdh@aol.com">vsbrdh@aol.com</a>
Trinity UMC Ft. Walton Beach	Karen Tindall	850-863-2436	<a href="mailto:karentindall.fl@gmail.com">karentindall.fl@gmail.com</a>
Troy	Cindy Boswell	334-556-0494	<a href="mailto:cebos1818@gmail.com">cebos1818@gmail.com</a>

## Cluster Leaders:

**If your cluster contact information is not correct or has changed, please email the correct information to**

**Larry Bates at [savedbygrace010509@gmail.com](mailto:savedbygrace010509@gmail.com)**

**DeColores!**