



#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! GEORGETOWN GATHERINGS!!

JANUARY 15: Wellspring UMC <u>FEBRUARY 19</u>: First UMC <u>MARCH 19</u>: St John's UMC <u>APRIL 16</u>: Wellspring UMC <u>MAY 21</u>: First UMC

Emmaus Gatherings are held on the third Sunday each month at 5:30 pm. GEORGETOWN EMMAUS COMMUNITY GATHERING Sunday, January 15 At 5:30 p.m. Wellspring UMC 6200 Williams Drive

## FOURTH DAY SPEAKER: Brenda Rumbellow

Join Georgetown Emmaus on January 15 at Wellspring UMC for worship with a potluck to follow. This will be the first time for Wellspring UMC to share in hosting the monthly Georgetown Emmaus Gatherings since pre-pandemic. Bring your friends to enjoy the reflection, fun, food, and fellowship.

2023 has arrived with expectations of joy, celebration, and fellowship. Georgetown Emmaus Gatherings are still in need of 4<sup>th</sup> Day speaker for 2023. We are all waiting expectantly to hear YOUR witness. Please look to God for courage and inspiration in sharing your personal story with the Emmaus Community.

Upcoming Fourth Day Speakers										
Please of	consider presenting	g the 4 <sup>th</sup> Day Talk at	a gathering this year. See our							
Georget	own Emmaus Webs	site for 4 <sup>th</sup> Day Talk	Information.							
	<b>January 15</b>	Wellspring UMC	Brenda Rumbellow							
	February 19	First UMC	Open							
	March 19	St John UMC	Open							
	April 16	Wellspring UMC	Open							
	May 21	First UMC	Open							
Please d	contact Rev John C	lifford, Rev May Pov	vell, Brenda Rumbellow or Carolyn							
		present your witnes								



From Spiritual Director, Rev John Clifford

#### Prayer: Lord God, teach us to grasp and enjoy each new day – and year – you give us. Amen.

January – a new year – a time to explore new beginnings and look ahead.! These are wonderful, exciting days, full of promise and possibility. After all, we as Christians are people who believe in forgiveness, in putting our past away to start afresh! We look to our future, glorified in Christ's presence, basking in our heavenly home.

Still, a bit of reflection, of reviewing the year just ended, is useful. We survived! We met challenges and prevailed. The pandemic, which seems unending, has only slowed us down, while we learned new ways to connect and share with one another. We discovered God-still-with-us in fresh ways, and to appreciate life as it comes to us.

Remembering that, we are prepared to look forward again and continue to seek to be the hands and feet and voice of Jesus in our small part of the world. We still enfold our friends in prayer (and, hopefully, our opponents, too!), knowing God does hear us, and longs for all the same blessings we long

for.

In Emmaus, we call this our "Fourth Day", going ahead of us each moment; but it is also our "first day" of new opportunities to grow and serve our Lord. Thanks be to God.



The Georgetown Ecumenical Wholeness Service continues in-person services in 2022-2023, with its fifth service gathering on Jan 22, 2023 at 6:30 pm. This year, we celebrate a season of Beatitudes with monthly speakers from the pastoral community of our Williamson County partner churches. We will meet at San Gabriel Presbyterian Church, Georgetown Texas. The address is 5404 Williams Drive. All services are open to the public.

We will pray together by combining two very special types of worship services: the Service of Healing and Wholeness and Taizé Common Prayers. We are a diverse community of area Christians, and these services are open to all who would come. Songs are sung from the Community of Taizé. Opportunities are given for intercessory prayer and the lighting of candles. A time is set aside for anointing by ministers. Communion is offered to all in attendance, with pre-packaged and gluten-free elements available.



#### **Greetings From Your Lay Directors**



Our December gathering was a wonderful experience. Rev Mary Powell and Rev John Clifford led us in lessons of several Christmas Carols. The stories of the carols and the songwriters were inspirational and the singing of the carols was heavenly. We are so grateful for our wonderful Spiritual Directors!!!

We wish everyone a very happy new year and look forward to seeing you at gatherings, walks, and candlelights!!!

**DeColores!** 

Brenda Rumbellow and Carolyn Henry



Newsletter Articles and Devotionals WANTED:

If you have any inspirational or wonderful devotionals you would like to share with our Emmaus brothers and sisters, please send to Linda Miles at <u>milesIm75@gmail.com</u>

GT COMMUNITY TREASURER'S REPORT: Balance as of August \$1202.42

#### **DEVOTION FOR THE NEW YEAR**

A Prayer to Keep God First This New Year

By Debbie McDaniel

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." - 2 Cor. 5:17

Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said "no," "not yet," or "wait." We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honored by our lives, and others would be drawn to you.

We pray that you'd keep us far from the snares and traps of temptations. That you would whisper in our ear when we need to run, and whisper in our heart when we need to stand our ground.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways.

We ask that you would keep our footsteps firm, on solid ground, helping us to be consistent and faithful. Give us supernatural endurance to stay the course, not swerving to the right or to the left, or being too easily distracted by other things that would seek to call us away from a close walk with you.

Forgive us for the times we have worked so hard to be self-sufficient, forgetting our need for you, living independent of your spirit. Forgive us for letting fear and worry control our minds, and for allowing **pride** and selfishness wreak havoc over our lives. Forgive us for not following your ways and for living distant from your presence.

We confess our need for you... fresh... new... again. We ask that you make all things new, in our hearts, in our minds, in our lives, for this coming year. We pray for your refreshing over us.

Keep your words of truth planted firm within us, help us to keep focused on what is pure and right, give us the power to be obedient to your word. And when the enemy reminds us where we have been, hissing his lies and attacks our way, we trust that your voice speaks louder and stronger, as you remind us we are safe with you and your purposes and plans will not fail. We ask that you will be our defense and rear guard, keeping our way clear, removing the obstacles, and covering the pitfalls. Lord, lead us on your level ground.

We ask that you would provide for our needs, we ask for your grace and favor. We pray for your blessings to cover us, we pray that you would help us to prosper and make every plan that you have birthed in our heart to succeed. We pray that others would take notice of your goodness and could not help but to say, "These are the ones that the Lord has blessed."

Help us to be known as great givers, help us to be generous and kind, help us to look to the needs of others and not be consumed by only our own. May we be lovers of truth, may the fruits of your spirit be evident in our lives - your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set you way before us. May all your plans succeed. We may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing.

To you be glory and honor, in this New Year, and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **OUR WONDERFUL GEORGETOWN EMMAUS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

Our Emmaus Community continues looking to each of you to discern where you can support our 4<sup>th</sup> day walk in Georgetown. We are blessed by a dedicated leadership team. Many thanks to each of those below who have agreed to serve in their role for 2023 for the Emmaus Community. If you are interested in serving in any leadership role or an any Emmaus team, please contact one of the Lay Directors and let them know.

- Spiritual Director: Rev John Clifford
- Spiritual Director: Rev Mary Powell
- Co-Lay Directors: Carolyn Henry
- Co-Lay Directors: Brenda Rumbellow
- AV/Technical support: Tim Nickerson
- AV/Technical support: Dianne Nickerson
- Music Director: Janet Pyle
- Treasurer: Chris at FUMC Terry France contact
- Board Rep: Tina LaCagnina
- Team Selection: Anne Castle
- Agape Co-Coordinator: Terry France
- Agape Co-Coordinator: Nikki Underwood
- Communion Steward: Rita Handley
- Newsletter: Linda Miles
- Newsletter Distribution: Mark McCartney
- Webmaster: Ken Sommerville
- Hospitality: FUMC: Terry France
- Hospitality: St John's: Debby Lesher
- Hospitality: Wellspring: Linda Miles

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#### **CENTRAL TEXAS EMMAUS**



Tina LaCagnina, CTC Emmaus Board Representative, continues to support our Georgetown Emmaus Community on the Central Texas Emmaus board. Please try to support each Walk as you are able.

**Sign up for participation on a team!!!** Contact Tina LaCagnina or Anne Castle if you are ever interested in serving on a team. **Discern where God is calling you to sponsor a Pilgrim on a walk!!!** Talk to friends in your community about the Walk to Emmaus and sign up a pilgrim for a 2023 Walk. You can find the team and pilgrim application forms at <a href="http://ctcemmaus.org/index.php/downloads">http://ctcemmaus.org/index.php/downloads</a>

The Pilgrims and you will all be blessed by participating in the Emmaus weekend.

## 2023 Women's Walks

Walk 470 - Mar 2-5 Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center, Glen Rose, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Tarrant County

Walk 472 - Apr 20-23 Latham Springs Baptist Camp, Aquilla, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: DeCorEllis

Walk 475 - Sep 21-24 Solid Rock Camp, Eastland, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: TBD

Walk 476 - Oct 5-8 Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: TBD

# 2023 Men's Walks

Walk 471 - Mar 23-26 Greene Family Camp, Bruceville, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: TBD

Walk 473 - May 4-7 Solid Rock Camp, Eastland, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: TBD

Walk 474 - Sep 7-10 Latham Springs Baptist Camp, Aquilla, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: TBD

Walk 477 - Oct 19-22 Glen Lake Camp and Retreat Center, Glen Rose, TX Sponsoring 4th Day Group: Tarrant County

### From the Greater Austin Emmaus Community

The next GAEC walk, Women's Walk #149, is scheduled for May 4-7, 2023. Now is the time for you, the members of our community, to seek and sponsor additional pilgrims to make this the "Best Walk Ever". We encourage the community to talk to people you know, complete applications early, and submit them as soon as possible. The instructions and applications are available on our website: <a href="https://www.austinemmaus.org/forms-forms-forms/">https://www.austinemmaus.org/forms-forms-forms/</a>. We have also scheduled Men's Walk #150 for Nov. 2-5, 2023. With the hope of Jesus, we continue to step forward one day at a time. Thank you for all you are doing to keep hope alive, and continued blessings on you and all those around you.

### **REUNION GROUPS**



#### From DAY FOUR, The Pilgrim's Continued Journey

Many aspects of our world threaten the survival of the life which the Walk to Emmaus presents – the truly Christian, truly human life. Once we have returned to our everyday world, it does not take us long to discover that it is well-nigh impossible to go it alone. One way of being in touch with God's power to make that new life totally secure is through contact with other Christians who share the priority of a life in grace. . . the group reunion is a way of maintaining that contact – an important means of persevering in the life in grace.

If you are not meeting with a reunion group, please contact one of our brothers or sisters below to connect in the life of grace.

GROUP	ТҮРЕ	DAY	TIME	PLACE	STATE	CONTACT	PHONE	EMAIL
Pass It On	Women	Monday 1st & 3rd	5:15 PM		full	Linda Lindell	(512) 863-8161	Lindell108@gmail.com
The Go Fourthers	Women	Monday	5:00 PM	St John UMC Horizon	open	Carolyn Henry	(512) 217-0879	hnrylucas@aol.com
Soul Sisters	Women	Thursday 2nd & 4th	1:00 PM	Sun City	open	Dianne Nickerson	(817) 269-4149	dnickerson314@gmail.com
Rainbow Connection	Women	Thursday	7:00 AM	FUMC Library	open	Jeannine Fairburn	(512) 863-5962	jw5689f@suddenlink.net
Lifetime Reunion	Women	Thursday	9:00 AM	Barbara Knorre Home	Closed - Full	Barbara Knorre	(512) 863-9708	bknorre@suddenlink.net
Grace Galore	Women	Friday	10:00 AM	Zoom	open	Nancy Marsh	(512) 635-0036	nmarshtx@earthlink.net
Saturday Sisters	Women	Saturday	8:00 AM	City Market, Sun City	open	Mary Meoli Johnson	(512) 636-5572	meolitx@gmail.com
Wesleyan Women	Women	Wednesday	8:00 AM	Zoom	open	Mary Powell	(512) 740-8984	maryfisherp@gmail.com
Hombres DeColores	Men	Monday	8:00 AM	San Gabriel Park	open	Bill Marsh	(512) 635-0035	bill.marsh.tx@gmail.com
Eye of the Storm	Men	Saturday	7:00 AM	Mariachis De Jalisco	open	Ken Sommerville	(512) 810-3848	ksommerville@yahoo.com