

Great Smoky Mountain Emmaus and Chrysalis Communities

September 2018 Newsletter

Gsmec.org

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Upcoming 2018 Walks/Flights

Fall – Men’s Emmaus Walk #110 – Postponed til Spring

Fall – Chrysalis Flight – Oct 13th-15th, 2018

*Fall – Women’s Walk #111 – November 1st – 4th, 2018
(Currently 5 pilgrims signed up)*

Team Selection News

First, we are in the process of recruiting and organizing the team for the Women’s Fall Walk. Libby Murphy will be serving as the Walk Lay Director for Walk 110, November 1 thru 4. We are still looking for volunteers to serve on this weekend. If you would like to serve, contact Lee Carleston immediately. If you get a call from Libby or one of her assistants asking you to serve on the Team, please be ready to pray and commit to serving the Pilgrims who will attend this Walk. We need you!

Second, there have been some questions about how Walk Teams are selected and how a person gets chosen to serve. The Team Selection Committee meets several months prior to a Walk date to prayerfully consider who should be called to serve. As we put together lists of names for all the Team positions, the committee looks at who has contacted Lee and volunteered to serve, who has been active recently in serving or preparing meals, who has been attending Community events or a Reunion Group, who has been sponsoring Pilgrims, and who served on Teams in the past. Our aim is to have about 1/3 of the Team with no previous Team experience, about 1/3 of the Team with 1-2 walks experience, and about 1/3 of the Team with multiple (3 or more) Walk experience. There are about 30 people needed

to cover all the positions. By the time we finish with the Team Selection meeting, we will have about 90 names listed for the Team Leadership to contact. We try to make sure every Pilgrim gets a call to serve soon after their Walk.

For Team Selection, we use what is called progressive servanthood. Initially, Pilgrims will be asked to help serve on an Agape Team outside the Conference Room. Persons will also be called to serve as first-time assistants in the Prayer Chapel and on the Music Team. As persons show a desire to participate, they will then be called to serve as Assistant Table Leaders, and maybe give a talk. Next, they progress to serving as a Table Leader and giving a Talk. It is then that a person with several Walks experience may be called on to serve in one of the Team Leadership positions... again, in order of experience, as an Assistant Lay Director, as a Lay Director In-Training, and finally as a Lay Director.

We have several thousand persons on our Community roster and we try to track everyone and give everyone an opportunity to serve. But, in these days of cell phones and caller I.D., it is some times frustrating and hard to contact a person. That is why I ask for folks who would like to volunteer to serve to contact me. Your name will get put on one of the "short" lists. We do not want to overlook anyone who has a desire to serve.

Serving on a Team requires a short-term commitment to serve on the Walk and the Pilgrims. There will be 3 or 4 team meetings to prepare for the Walk weekend and then the Walk itself. Serving on a Team is very rewarding, enriches the Pilgrims' experience, and strengthens your walk with Christ as a Disciple. You can contact me at carlestonl@aol.com or at 865-384-2602 to volunteer.

Decolores!

Lee Carleston

Chrysalis

The Chrysalis experience is one of the most unique ones on earth. It truly is surreal. You give to God three full days of your everyday life and He shows up in such a mighty way. When does something like that ever happen to you? My advice, try it. If you have, then sponsor someone to have this surreal experience. Come volunteer during our next flight, October 13-15 at Sevierville FUMC. Every young person needs spiritual tools to navigate this world and this is one of the best. Be blessed.

Debbie Pope

Hey Community,

The Chrysalis Community is still in need of people for both the boys and girls teams for the next flight, October 13-15. Chrysalis is a chance to make a difference in young people lives.

You don't have to be young to serve, you just need a willing heart. Please let me know if you are interested. We would love to share the Chrysalis experience with you!

Rebecca Bar

More info about upcoming Chrysalis needs at
<https://www.facebook.com/GSMECKnoxville/>

Reunion Groups

Look for Reunion Groups in the next newsletter. If you currently are the Leader of a Reunion Group, please email me your information at Fishygotum@yahoo.com: time, date and location to send in the next Newsletter.

The Emmaus group reunion is a small accountability group of two to six persons who have usually participated in the three-day Walk to Emmaus and who want to continue their pursuit of a life lived wholly in the grace of God. These small follow-up groups help pilgrims translate the message conveyed on the Walk to Emmaus weekend into a daily walk with Christ. With the regular support of a few faithful friends, the gift of God's love in Jesus Christ becomes a lifestyle of Christian discipleship through the threefold discipline of piety, study, and action.

Reunion groups are a way of preserving your walk with Christ. For an effective reunion group, keep the following points in mind:

- **Be Serious** - You are dealing with things eternal. There is always time for levity but the focus should be on the condition of your walk with Christ.
- **Be Discreet** - Openness and honesty must be respected. The discussions of the group stays in the group. Your reunion group must not be a source of gossip.
- **Be Sincere** - You must be completely open and honest with your group. If that is not possible you may be in the wrong group.
- **Be Regular** - This can be tough but regular attendance will develop into a habit that can become a major influence facing problems and staying on course. Again it requires perseverance to grow and find nourishment.

Gathering Schedule

Saturday Septmeber 15th - 6:30 pm

Trinity United Methodist Church

5613 Western Ave. Knoxville, TN 37921

Covered dish supper with praise, prayer and worship to follow

