

## January 2019 Happy New Year from Emmaus

Great Smoky Mountain Emmaus Community

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# Emmaus Newsletter Jan 2019



## 2019 is Here

Hi Layne,

2018 is in the rear view mirror and 2019 is upon us. We had a good year this past year. We moved in to our new Walk location at Sevierville First UMC, We had 1 Men's walk, 2 Women's walks, & a Chrysalis Flight. God has been good and has blessed many people with a closer relationship to Him. Thank you for all your prayers, time, money, and most importantly sharing the Love of Christ.

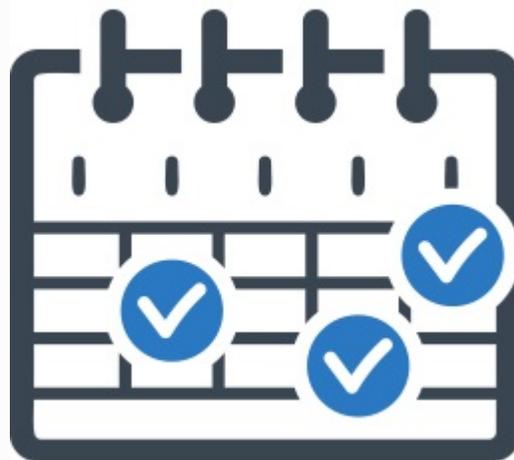
We have a pretty busy 2019 planned. We hope to have 1 or 2 Chrysalis Flights, 2 Men's Walks and 2 Women's Walks this year. A Full Schedule is always on the [www.gsmecc.org](http://www.gsmecc.org) website if you ever wonder when things are happening.

## Walk/Flight Dates

**Spring – Chrysalis Flight –  
February 16th – 18th, 2019**

**Spring – Men's Walk #111  
– March 14th -17th, 2019**

**Spring – Women's Walk  
#112 – April 25th-28th,  
2019**



## **Fall – Men’s Walk #113 – September 12th-15th, 2019**

## **Fall – Women’s Walk #114 – November 7th-10th, 2019**

[www.gsmecc.org](http://www.gsmecc.org)

**If you would like to share Emmaus with someone, here is an article that helps to explain what it is all about.**

Are You on the Right Path in your Faith Journey?

Since 1993, the Smoky Mountain Emmaus Community has been conducting three-day retreats for men, women, and teens to offer today's believers an opportunity to rediscover Christ's presence in their lives. They also provide a fresh understanding of God's transforming grace, and help form friendships that foster faith and support spiritual maturity.

The retreat for adults is called a Walk to Emmaus® and gets its name from the story in Luke 24:13-35, which provides the central image for the three-day experience. In the story, the two disciples' sadness and hopelessness blinded them from seeing God's redemptive purpose in things that had happened to Jesus.

After explaining to them the meaning of all the scriptures concerning his ministry, Jesus shared a meal with them, which opened their eyes to the risen Lord. Within the hour, the two disciples left Emmaus and returned immediately to their friends in Jerusalem to describe their encounter with him.

Where are you on your faith journey? Would you recognize Jesus on the path you are on? The Walk to Emmaus® will give you a new perspective on your spiritual life.

You will discover that Christianity is about loving relationships and you will experience God's grace and love through other believers. Talks by clergy and laity along with singing, praying, worshipping, and reflection will restore and renew your faith and put you on the path toward becoming a true disciple of our Lord Jesus.

The youth version of the Walk to Emmaus® is called Chrysalis for those aged 15 to 18. Chrysalis is the growth stage between caterpillars and butterflies and the name symbolizes the growth of faith in the lives of youth, the spiritual growth that is necessary between adolescence and adulthood. It is a crucial time in a maturing faith for discipleship.

The focus of Chrysalis is commitment to Jesus Christ through the local church. The talks focus on the needs of maturing youth and offer the message of the Gospel and the friendship and example of Jesus. Through talks, discussion, and reflection, participants will explore how this friendship with Jesus can help them live their faith with family, friends, and community.

We need participants for the Emmaus walk and for the Chrysalis flight this year. If you are a Christian and attend a local church of any denomination, you may apply.

The schedule for the events in 2019 are:

Chrysalis flight: February 16th – 18th

Men's spring Emmaus walk: March 14th – 17th

Women's spring Emmaus walk: April 25th- 28th

Men's fall Emmaus walk: September 12th – 15th

Women's fall Emmaus walk: November 7th – 10th

If you would like to apply, want more information or are willing to be a sponsor visit our website at [www.gsmecc.org](http://www.gsmecc.org)



## Chrysalis

As we close 2018 and look forward to 2019, please be aware that on President's day weekend (February 16th - 18th) we will have our next Chrysalis flight. Like Emmaus, we need worker bees too. We need your help, yes you. Come to Sevierville FUMC and help us build up boys and girls. Maybe we won't have to repair as many men and women!!

If you have not participated in Chrysalis, come enjoy lively worship at Candlelight! Lee Bell will be blessing us with music.

Please sign the prayer vigil at [www.gsmecc.org](http://www.gsmecc.org), the bedrock of all we do.

Debbie Pope.



## Team Selection News

The 2019 Spring Walks are upcoming and we are recruiting the Conference Room Team, Music Team, Prayer Chapel Team, Agape Team, and Clergy Team for each of the Walks. We have already asked for volunteers and have met to develop lists of names of persons who have attended Community events, are involved in a Reunion/Accountability group, and/or have served previously on a Walk weekend in some capacity. If you would be interested in serving a walk, please contact Lee Carleston at 865-384-2602 or [carlestonl@aol.com](mailto:carlestonl@aol.com). We will need about 30 persons to serve on each Walk. And, we always need some who have not worked on a Walk before.

Serving in a position on a Walk Team can be a very fulfilling blessing. Although I cannot guarantee what your experience will be, God will provide you with an experience that will surprise you. It may be in the new friendships you come away with, it may be in the support you provide to one of the Pilgrims, it may be in the experience that you gain for some future event that only God knows about. Walk after Walk, I have experienced this and seen it experienced by others, both Team members and Pilgrims.

As Christians, we are called to be His disciples and to minister to others, not ourselves. Yes, serving on a Team for a Walk takes a time commitment and some effort, a commitment and effort that ministers to others. And, we will not ask you to do something that you are not capable of doing. We may be asking you to have faith and courage in what God needs of you but a life in discipleship requires us to grow in

our faith and courage. When you get a recruitment phone call, how will you answer God's call on your life to serve others?

Let's all get excited about the opportunities to serve on the upcoming Walks and influence the Pilgrims in a way that they will be blessed beyond their wildest dreams! DeColores!

Lee

## Gatherings

In the past we had a gathering every month on the 3rd Saturday of the month. In 2019 we are going to change that to the 2nd Saturday of Each month due to many holiday's falling on the 3rd Saturday this year.

We also plan to go back to a rotation of the location of the Gathering each month to meet in a variety of areas around our region. If you would like to host a gathering at your church please let us know by sending an email to [communications@gsmec.org](mailto:communications@gsmec.org).

Our Next Gathering is Saturday January 12th at 6:30pm. It will be held at Trinity UMC at 5613 Western Ave, Knoxville, TN 37921. Hope to see you there.



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