

ALDERSGATE PILGRIM

Summer 2019

Reflections from our Lay Director



I am reminded daily, of how much we forget or take for granted, how much our Savior gave for each of us. When He came to us as a babe, grew into a young boy, taught in the Temple,

walked among the poor, the down-trodden, the forgotten, what a Fourth Day experience He had! Have we, as the Body of Christ, shown through our Christian Actions, that we are members of the Priesthood of All Believers?

As we are moving toward our Fall Walks #156, I invite each of us to think about our individual walks and what we felt emotionally and spiritually. Teams are formed, pilgrims are being invited to participate by their sponsors, team members are preparing via team meetings. There is, as you are aware, a lot of preparation that goes into each walk. I ask that everyone participate where you can – in the preparation of agape, signing up for the prayer clock, providing supplies for the weekend, but most importantly through prayer.

Prayer should be a priority in our lives. There's never a bad time to take our cares to God. No matter where we are in our spiritual walk, we are told in Phil. 4:6, "in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving [we are to let our] requests be known to God." Our heavenly Father is ready, willing and waiting for us to reach up to Him, because not only does He listen, but He also wants to speak to us as well.

Please pray about where you will be called to serve. May you be blessed in all that you do as we each travel on our Fourth Day journeys.

Frank Pifer

2019 Aldersgate Community Lay Director

fpifer@hotmail.com

Time to Register Pilgrims for Fall and Spring Walks

Demand is high for the upcoming October walks. Women's Walk #156 is full with 36 Pilgrims registered. The men's walk is filling up, but still has some openings. Even though the Women's Walk is full, Pilgrims sometimes need to cancel, creating last-minute openings. If you have Pilgrims who want to attend an October walk, go ahead and submit their applications to Registrar Evelyn Day, callitaday126@gmail.com. Applications may be downloaded from the Aldersgate website:

<https://www.aldersgateemmaus.org/applications> .

Any Pilgrims who cannot be registered for the October walk, will be first in line for the March weekends.

Even if you are not sponsoring a Pilgrim, please remember to support the weekends by making Agape items, taking a slot on the prayer clock, donating Green Agape and attending weekend events

Face To Face Training Set

Our long-time dream of hosting Face To Face events in Central Florida is coming closer to reality. A steering committee has been formed and an official Upper Room training session has been set for November 9th.

An adaptation of the Walk to Emmaus, Face to Face is specifically crafted to meet the needs and life-stages of older adults. The program seeks to invite men and women, ages 60 and older, to experience Jesus through an 8-session journey, covering subjects such as discipleship, mission, grief, and end-of-life issues.

The highly flexible schedule allows participants the freedom to engage in structured Bible study and prayer in a church setting or other community space. Led by clergy and lay leaders, Face To Face strengthens and renews followers of Christ and bolsters the spiritual life of individuals, families, and congregations everywhere. Face To Face is open to members of any Christian denomination who want to strengthen their spiritual lives, discover answers to their questions about faith, and are open to understanding the responsibility of living a Christian lifestyle.

If you would like to get involved with Face To Face, contact Tim May at tpmfj@aol.com.

Upcoming Community Events

Tri-County Plus Cluster Upcoming Gatherings

☒ **September 19, 2019 - 6:30pm**

New Covenant UMC Lake Deaton, 6500 County Road 143,
Wildwood, FL

☒ **November 14, 2019 - 6:30pm**

New Covenant UMC Summerhill, 3470 Woodbridge Drive,
The Villages, FL

*Fun, Fellowship, Food and 4th Day Talk
Bring a Covered Dish to Share*



*All scheduled Emmaus Walks will
be held at the Warren Willis United
Methodist Camp in Leesburg, FL*

2019 - 2020 Walks

Men's Walk #156

October 3 – 7, 2019

Women's Walk #156

October 10 – 13, 2019

Men's Walk #157

March 5 – 8, 2020

Women's Walk #157

March 12 – 15, 2020

*Invite Pilgrims to attend and
Sponsor them on their Walk*



Cornerstone Family Church
2925 Canoe Creek Road
St. Cloud, FL

November 16th
Central Florida
4th Day Follow-Up
&
Cluster Gathering

4th Day Follow-Up — For New Babe Chicks and Sponsors
4 to 5 p.m. (Stay for Gathering beginning at 5 p.m.)

Learn how to :

- Get Involved in the Community
- Sponsor a Pilgrim
- Work on a Walk Team
- Join a Reunion Group

Cluster Gathering - Everyone is Invited

5 p.m. (Immediately following 4th Day Training)

- Fellowship
- Dinner - Bring a covered dish to share
- Music and Singing
- Community Updates
- 4th Day Talk

Mark Your Calendars and Don't Miss it!

Emmaus Gathering
Saturday, August 17th
#Worship Together Grow Together

Doors Open 5PM - Gathering 5:30 PM
***Potluck* - Bring A Dish To Share**

Sylvan Abbey UMC
2817 Sunset Point Rd,
Clearwater
(727) 796-3057

My 4th Day Experience

Aldersgate Lay Director Frank Pifer received a phone call earlier this year from a grateful Emmaus Pilgrim. The Pilgrim followed up with a letter detailing how his Walk to Emmaus impacted his life. Frank shares his amazing message below.

Often times, after our weekends, our new community members just seem to disappear and we never know if their lives were impacted by their three-day experience.

I was recently contacted by Charlie Potter, Walk #69. In his letter he stated: "I was forced to go on my weekend, but I went unwillingly, kicking and screaming. I had to go so my wife could go. My sponsor Bill Loos knew how I felt. I started to come home the first night but didn't. The talk on Prevenient Grace turned my life around. I missed the third talk, because I was sitting outside talking with a Pastor. I completed the Walk a new man."

Charlie goes on to mention that he worked at GTE until he retired and relocated to Georgia. He went to seminary and became an ordained Presbyterian minister. He continued his education and became a certified Chaplain and Christian counselor. He continues to say that none of this would have been possible without the Emmaus Community.

He recently served on a Walk and was giving the Justifying Grace talk where the pilgrims are introduced to agape. The Aldersgate Community agape letter was in the few that he was handed to read. "I was so surprised and pleased to see my home community's letter in my group. I had to share what my experience was like with our pilgrims."

Pastor Charlie thanked us for what we do as a community.

What a beautiful tribute to who we are. Yes we, do make an impact on people's lives.



On behalf of the Central Florida Cluster, Beth Minks accepts the coveted "Aldie" award from Lay Director Frank Pifer. The Central Florida Cluster raised more than \$2,425 dollars during the Great Green Agape Challenge. In total, the Aldersgate Community contributed \$4,825 to support scholarships and weekend expenses. The 2019 Great Green Agape Challenge will kick-off this Fall.

Sign-Up for Prayer Clock

Day	Time	Name	Location	Email Address
Thursday	7:00 PM			
Thursday	7:30 PM			
Thursday	8:00 PM			

As you know, our weekends are covered by 72 hours of Prayer. We are always in need of prayer warriors to fill those 30-minute slots around-the-clock. To reserve your prayer slot, [click here](#) to pull up an upcoming weekend at aldersgateemmaus.org.

Select your desired walk number and select an available prayer slot. If you are logged in, your name will be automatically be added to your requested time(s).



Treasurer Needed for Aldersgate Emmaus

We are looking for someone in the Emmaus Community to serve as our volunteer Treasurer. If you are a CPA or have bookkeeping experience, we'd like to hear from you. Excel and Quickbooks skills are required. To express interest or seek more information, contact Frank Pifer, fpifer@hotmail.com.

Warren Willis Camp & Conference Center Adopts a New Logo



Republished from Warren Willis News Release

At the start of 2017, the Life Enrichment Center and Warren Willis Camp merged into one site offering sacred space in Fruitland Park. This marriage has been an involved process, and the need was clear for a name that reflected our connectedness. This year, our board approved our new name: Warren Willis United Methodist Camp and Conference Center. In addition to our new name, we have a new logo for this united ministry.



The Cross on the Lake has long been an iconic image of camping ministry on these grounds and is a great space to view each morning's sunrise. The cross was rebuilt last year after sustaining heavy damage from Hurricane Irma. The new-and-improved cross pictured here is a contemporary update of

this historic symbol. The shape of the letters are meant to invoke the waters of Lake Griffin, and the leaf symbolizes the many trees that adorn the property. Guests of the Life Enrichment Center have long celebrated the Live Oak trees around the property and sunsets on the lake. This new logo represents decades of spiritual growth that has occurred in these spaces, and it points toward a bright future for the camp and conference center.

We are so excited for this new name and logo, and we stand committed to our mission: to prepare a sacred space in a natural setting for all to grow in community and connect with Christ.

Emmaus Turns 40

For 40 years, people have been experiencing life-changing spiritual growth on the Walk to Emmaus.

(Reprinted from The Upper Room)

40
for
EMMAUS

Over one million pilgrims have gone on a Walk, and Emmaus Ministries has grown to include Chrysalis, Journey to the Table, Face To Face, and Discovery Weekend.

Join us in celebrating the 40th anniversary of Emmaus Ministries! In honor of 40 meaningful years, we are looking for pilgrims to commit and give \$40 per year for five years to the Emmaus Ministries' operating fund, the financial backbone of the ministry. Your commitment will ensure that the ministry remains viable. By giving an anniversary gift, you will be helping to support updates to the Emmaus core materials; the network of Communicators, Consultants, and Trainers working with staff and communities; and the development of Ministry Manager, the new community management system.

[Together we can live out our call to renew Christian disciples and strengthen local churches.](#)

Make your commitment today by visiting <https://emmausgift.org/> or calling 615-340-7288. Checks can be mailed to The Upper Room, P.O. Box 305150, Nashville, TN 37230-9891. Make checks available to The Upper Room, and memo Emmaus Operating Fund.

Newsletter Submissions Always Welcomed

The Aldersgate Pilgrim is a quarterly publication of the Aldersgate Emmaus Community. We welcome submission of articles, pictures, event information and stories about 4th Day experiences and activities. Please send submissions to Gary Brelsford, gbrelsford@gmail.com.

Remember to pray for our October teams as they prepare, write, travel, meet and preview their talks.