



FUMC MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering Leaders to be the hands and feet of Christ

Ken Cooper – FMUC Coordinator. Barbara Colvin – Newsletter, Patricia Cooper - Editor

August 2016

“Today's Prayer

from *The Upper Room*
daily devotional guide

Dear Lord, thank you for your grace and loving-kindness. Help us to care for our spirits by spending time daily with you. Amen. (August 1, 2016)

OUR GOAL

Our goal is to keep you informed of all the local Fairhope UMC EMMAUS current events. Your input is paramount to our success. Please contribute to this effort by emailing items of interest to either bcolvin12@gmail.com / kencooperjr@hotmail.com
It is our goal to publish a newsletter quarter.

August 2016 Community Gathering

The August Community Gathering will be held on the third Saturday of August (August 20) at Zirlott Road UMC near Coden AL. The gathering will begin at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall with a Pot Luck dinner and fellowship. After that, we will hold a communion service with a 4th Day speaker. The gathering should be complete around 8:00 pm. There will be a training session about 20 minutes before the gathering for those interested in learning more about Emmaus in general and the Servant Heart Emmaus Community in particular.

Directions to Zirlott Road UMC

Take I-10 to Exit 17 and take AL-193 S/Rangeline Road. Stay on AL-193 S to AL-188W (Approximately 18 miles). Turn right on AL-188 W and continue to Zirlott Road (Approximately 1.7 miles) Turn right onto Zirlott Road and the church will be on the right (about 0.6 miles).

For those of you blessed with GPS in your vehicle, the address is: 14891 Zirlott Road, Coden, AL 36523

Future Community Meetings

Following are scheduled dates/locations for the Community Meetings for 2016.

- **20-Aug:** Zirlott Road UMC, [14915 Zirlott Rd, Coden, AL 36523](#)
- **17-Sep:** Saraland UMC, [415 McKeough Ave, Saraland, AL 36571](#)
- **15-Oct:** No gathering (Walk to Emmaus #35)
- **19-Nov:** Spanish Fort UMC, [6530 Spanish Fort Blvd # D, Spanish Fort, AL 36527](#)

Future Planned Walks

Men's Walks

- #35: 13-16 Oct 2016
- #37: 21-24 Sep 2017

Women's Walk

- #36: 2-5 Feb 2017
- #38: 12-15 Oct 2017

Notes from the Community Meeting, July 16th by Tommy

I was so encouraged after attending the gathering this past Saturday night at Foley UMC. I counted 74 people in attendance. That was an awesome turnout.

At 5:40 (after the board meeting and prior to the gathering) there was a PowerPoint training session conducted by Laurie Kelley. Laurie did an outstanding job of reminding us about all of the aspects of being an effective sponsor. ***Please take note that it has been decided that a similar 20-minute training session (on different aspects of Emmaus) will be presented prior to each future gathering.***

I respectfully and reverently urge you to print multiple copies of the attached application, pray for God to place a name or names on your heart, and then act upon that prompting by approaching one or more people with application in hand and a genuine heartfelt appeal to them to prayerfully consider attending the Walk to Emmaus.

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TALKING WITH GOD by Ken Cooper

After my walk to Emmaus last October I realized that I needed to spend more time in prayer talking with God. So, upon my return I asked Ed what is a good book that would help me in my prayer life? Ed recommended the following book:

Prayer: [Finding the Hearts True Home](#)
Richard J. Foster
ISBN: 978-0-06-062846-8

As I started reading the book one passage that really jumped out at me was the following from the first chapter which I do come back and reread from time to time:

Coming Home: An Invitation to Prayer

“... We do not need to be shy. He invites us into the living room of his heart, where we

can put on old slippers and share freely. He invites us into the kitchen of his friendship, where chatter and batter mix in good fun. He invites us into the dining room of his strength, where we can feast to our heart's delight. He invites us into the study of his wisdom, where we can learn and grow and stretch ... and ask all the questions we want. He invites us into the workshop of his creativity, where we can be co-laborers with him, working together to determine the outcomes of events. He invites us into the bedroom of his rest, where new peace is found and where we can be naked and vulnerable and free. It is also the place of deepest intimacy, where we know and are known to the fullest. ...”

Perhaps this passage struck me as it describes some of my feelings in communing with God. I know that I can share anything with him! I can laugh, cry, yell, disagree, talk, listen as I know he understands where I am coming from when I do talk with him.

As I read further I found that there are many different ways to pray. He starts off in Chapter 1 with describing “Simple Prayer” as “beginning prayer”. The prayers we would offer during the day for whatever reason, a prayer for our needs, not a prayer that we might say in a grand cathedral but a ‘down home’ prayer for me. Maybe a prayer to complain, to give thanks or just to ‘talk’.

He talks about “The Prayer of Rest” described in Matthew 11:28. “A Petitionary Prayer” similar to the Lord’s Prayer where we ask God to give, forgive and deliver us.

These are just three of the many kinds of prayer that are presented. Richard Foster has put his discussion of prayers into three categories:

Moving Inward: Seeking The Transformation We Need

Moving Upward: Seeking The Intimacy We Need

Moving Outward: Seeking The Ministry We Need

There are seven chapters under each heading discussing different types of prayers.

I highly recommend this book. Ken