



FUMC MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering Leaders to be the hands and feet of Christ

EMMAUS

Ken Cooper – FUMC Coordinator, Barbara Colvin and Patricia Cooper - Newsletter

November 2016

Today's Prayer

From the Upper Room daily devotional guide.

Dear Lord, give us hearts to serve others, eyes to see when you are performing miracles, and a desire to behave as kindly as you do. Amen."

Our Goal

Our goal is to keep you informed of the local Fairhope EMMAUS current events. Your input is paramount to our success. Please contribute to this effort by emailing items of interest to bcolvin12@gmail.com / kencooperjr@hotmail.com / patriciaucooper@hotmail.com .

Emmaus Luncheon

Put this on your calendar! The next Emmaus covered dish is scheduled for December 4th, in the Wesley Fellowship Hall, immediately after the 11-12 service. It will NOT be in the CLC. More information will follow.

Future Community Meetings

Following are scheduled dates/locations for the Community Meetings for 2016, and heads up for the Community Meeting at Fairhope UMC next year.

November 19th (Saturday): Spanish Fort, 6530 Spanish Fort Blvd #D, Spanish Fort, AL 36527. See below for directions!

No meeting in December.

April 15th (Sat): Fairhope UMC

Future Planned Walks

Servant Heart Emmaus future Walks to Emmaus to be held at Camp Whispering Pines in Citronelle.

Men's Walk

#37: Sept 21, 2017

Women's Walks

#36: Mar 2, 2017 / #38: Oct 12, 2017

Please consider potential applicants for a future Walk, especially considering the vision of the Walk as per below:

The Vision of the Walk to Emmaus is three-fold:

FIRST – WE SEEK TO DEVELOP CHRISTIAN LEADERS

We invite Christians who are active members of local churches to come to the three-day weekend. While on their walk, they are challenged to take on the disciplines of piety, study, and Christian action for the rest of their lives.

SECOND - WE SEEK TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL CONGREGATIONS

We want pilgrims to return to their local churches and continue to offer themselves in service to God through their congregations. They take back their understanding of a life marked by piety, study, and Christian action. They bring home a renewed energy for loving God and neighbor. They bring back a revitalized desire to offer sacrificial love within the church.

THIRD – WE SEEK TO CHRISTIANIZE THE ENVIRONMENT

We want the pilgrims to return to their homes, places of work, schools, neighborhoods, and be faithful witnesses to the grace of Jesus Christ. It is our hope and vision that their witness will make a difference in their world, that their lives will be marked by honesty and integrity, and that the light of Christ will shine through their words and deeds.

November 2016 GATHERINGS

The November Community Gathering will be held on the third Saturday of November (November 19) at Spanish Fort UMC in Spanish Fort, 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.

Directions to Spanish Fort UMC

Drive eastbound or westbound on I-10 to exit 35. Exit and drive north on US-98 to US-31. Turn right (eastbound), continue for about a block, and you will find the church on your right. The Fellowship Hall is just to the right of the Sanctuary. For those of you blessed with a GPS, the address is:

6690 Spanish Fort Blvd, Spanish Fort, AL 36527

**Book Review by Terry Hicks
“In His Steps by Charles M. Sheldon”**

This is a compelling book detailing the impact that the Christian Community can and should have were we to follow in Jesus’ steps.

This story begins when the Rev. Henry Maxwell is preparing his sermon at home and he receives a knock on the door. A down and out tattered looking man asks if the reverend can help him find a job as he has been without work for 10 months. Rev. Maxwell expresses his remorse but excuses himself as he is busy working on his sermon.

The scene then shifts to the next Sunday’s service where following the sermon there is a commotion at the back of the church. This same individual comes out of the gallery walking to the front of the church to address the congregation. He states he was wondering “if what you call following Jesus is the same as He taught”? What did He mean when He said “Follow Me”? What do you mean when you sing “I’ll go with Him all the way”? He further wondered out loud if a lot of the trouble in the world would somehow not exist were those who sing and say such things lived them. “I do not understand but I wonder what “Jesus would do”.

The man collapses and although cared for at the reverend’s house, he dies.

What this man said and how he felt haunts Rev. Maxwell to the point where he challenges his congregation. “I put this proposition before you bluntly, I want volunteers from First Church who will pledge themselves earnestly and honestly for an entire year not to do anything without first asking the question “What would Jesus do?”

This book tracks the impact and effect on the lives of these individuals as they fulfill this commitment. It also details the struggles brought on by this pledge as it goes against the opposing forces in the community. This movement gains national attention and moves from this small community to the large city of Chicago where lives are changed as it addresses the needs of the very desperate in the worst sections of the city.

The interactions of the people making this pledge, the struggles, the moral compass that the Holy Spirit brings to these people leads Rev. Maxwell to conclude: "There is not a different path today from Jesus' own times. It is the same path that calls for us to enter into a new discipleship with Jesus, just as when the disciples left all and literally followed the Master."

As you read this book, it is most likely that you will look at many of your own decisions, your actions and your relationship with Christ in an entirely different manner than we do now. It is a must read. (copy available in the church library).

Pilgrims from Men's Walk #35
13-16 Oct 2016



Ed Glaize

Phillip Spears

John Hodgkins

Dave Mastrone

Ron Robinson