

# NEWS

FROM THE

CENTRAL CAROLINAS  
EMMAUS COMMUNITY

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2010

## March Gathering!

Saturday, March 6 at [Woodland UMC](#)

801 Cherry Road  
Rock Hill, SC

7:00 PM!

Join us for covered dish fellowship before the weekend  
Saturday night service!

## Rainbow Brite Crashes February Gathering!

An awesome gathering crowd of over 200 CCEC faithful witnessed the surprise appearance of little Rainbow Brite at the February Gathering. Ms. Brite, in full color, gave witness to the dramatic change that can take place over an Emmaus weekend. In hilarious fashion, she related how her life had changed since her parents came back from the “Mess” weekend. According to Rainbow, ever since they returned their house has been filled with silly songs, smiles, and sudden impulses to “rotate”. Dressed in her multi-colored garb and accoutrements, she provided a wonderful and fun reminder of the many fun aspects of an Emmaus weekend. The community thoroughly enjoyed her presence and we thank Christy Stephens for arranging for her appearance.

## This Guy is No Menace

The gathering at Hickory Grove UMC was blessed to have Marcus Hamilton, CCEC Walk 21, provide the 4th Day talk. Marcus is the illustrator for the “Dennis the Menace” comic strips seen in newspapers Monday through Saturday. As he opened his talk, Marcus spoke of how CCEC is celebrating 25 years of seeing lives changed, and he used his own as an example. He told of how his Walk to Emmaus experience influenced his own life and his path to “Dennis”. Marcus went on to share that he had learned two great lessons—be prepared and to persevere.

He told of realizing early in life that he had a talent for and love of drawing. Parlaying that into a career, Marcus enjoyed early success and eventually opened up his own studio in 1972. After a time of initial success, his studio business began to experience a decline in the 1980’s as (continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

computer graphics began to become more popular. It was in this environment that friends sponsored him on the Walk To Emmaus.

Marcus remembered two songs from the walk weekend that have been favorites ever since—"Surely The Presence" and the "Spirit Song". He also realized that God wants us to have faith first, then He provides the proof. Marcus told us of a night of prayer on the walk, where he asked God to prepare him, and he heard the answer "Don't worry—trust Me".

Over the next two years he saw his career as an illustrator crash, and he lost his love of drawing out of frustration. Then he told of seeing Hank Ketcham, the creator of "Dennis", on TV speaking of a desire to retire. Marcus called Mr. Ketcham and ended up sending him samples of his work—and eventually worked with him learning the nuances of drawing Dennis. His love of drawing was rekindled. When Hank Ketcham retired in 1994 Marcus took over illustrating for the Monday—Saturday comics.

Marcus told of flying to meet Mr. Ketcham face to face, and reading his Emmaus devotional on the plane to calm himself. He told of meeting the artist who draws the Sunday strip, and how the bonded while playing guitar and singing two songs that they both knew and loved—"Surely The Presence" and "The Spirit Song".

After relating this story Marcus told us that nothing was a coincidence. God had prepared him for the opportunity over many years. And he told how Mr. Ketcham told him that Marcus was the only one who had responded to the 1993 TV show. The 21 years Marcus had spent as an illustrator was not a career, but was God preparing him for the singular opportunity that was to come. Marcus quoted Proverbs 3 which says in part, "Trust God with all your heart".

Dianne Lawhorn provided the clergy response. She quoted the book of Proverbs from *The Message*: *Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.* Dianne asked us to consider what it means to trust God. She told us we have to trust God to lead us and to prepare us, even if the preparation seems unclear to us. We have to trust that God knows what is good for us better than we do. God makes a way!

DECOLORES!

## Thank You Hickory Grove!

Many, many thanks to Hickory Grove UMC for hosting a truly wonderful gathering! The hospitality was incredible and everything was extremely well organized. We especially thank the wonderful team of musicians who led us in worship through song. What an incredibly talented group with an obvious enthusiasm for the Lord! It was an awesome night and we are very appreciative of everyone who worked so hard to make it such a great time!

## Important Reunion Group Information!

We need to know how to contact your Reunion Group! We are asking EVERY Reunion Group to send contact information to Angie Lord at [angielord@blairroadumc.org](mailto:angielord@blairroadumc.org) with the following information:

Reunion Group Name

Contact Name

Contact Email

Phone Number

## REMEMBER THE 4TH DAY RETREAT!

Please Join us at Camp Caraway for a Wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> Day Retreat  
On August 5 - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
as Central Carolinas Emmaus Community celebrates  
What it means to be a Joyful Christian!

Mark your calendars now & turn in your reservation; forms are available on the CCEC website and at upcoming Gatherings. You don't want to miss this wonderful weekend of Emmaus renewal (I'd tell you to stop clowning around and sign up but I might be giving too much away!)

Click [HERE](#) for a reservation form.

## SERVANTS WELCOME!

If you would like to help serve during the upcoming weekends please be sure to contact either Elaine Claiborne or Ginger Alden. There are always "last minute" opportunities and needs for volunteers. If you have not signed up yet please contact either Elaine at [elaine@perigee.net](mailto:elaine@perigee.net) or Ginger at [aldens@carolina.rr.com](mailto:aldens@carolina.rr.com) to see what needs remain to be filled. This is a great chance to support the weekends and to be a part of the Emmaus experience.

## Looking For a Mission Opportunity?

Faith United Methodist Church in Indian Trail will be holding a hands-on food packing event to feed children in Haiti. One "MobilePack" event requires 500 volunteers who volunteer some of their time to put together 100,000 meals that go to starving children. Each meal costs 17 cents at a cost of \$17,000.

An organization called "Feed My Starving Children", [fmsc.org](http://fmsc.org), will arrive with a truck loaded with rice, soy nuggets, vitamins, dehydrated vegetables and chicken flavoring. Volunteers from 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to adults will form packing stations to put together the highly nutritious meals in small pouches. Three opportunities are currently scheduled for the month of June to participate in this effort.

Faith Methodist has set a goal of packing 1,000,000 meals. This will require 5,000 volunteers and a need to raise \$170,000 to pay for the meals. Faith is reaching out to entire surrounding communities and extending the plea to other churches, mosques, synagogues and businesses to come together as one community working for one common vision – feed 1,000,000 starving children. Faith is hoping to see at least nine other community organizations and businesses join together to raise \$170,000 for 1,000,000 meals for starving children in Haiti.

"Feed My Starving Children" has worked with mission partners in Haiti for more than 10 years, and currently holds close partnerships with nearly 200 Haiti-based programs. Several of these programs are already offering meals to victims of Tuesday's earthquake. One million meals are currently on the ground in Haiti. "Feed My Starving Children" would like to send an additional three million meals for Haiti relief. We believe people in the Charlotte area can provide one million of these meals.

Contact Phil Cauthen at (704) 756-0511 or Dan Buchholtz at (704) 882-7655 if you would like to help with a "MobilePack" event or need more information.

## 2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 4	<b>CCEC Walk 114 Send-off</b> ; 7:00 pm <a href="#">Pineville UMC</a>	Apr 3	<b>CCEC Gathering</b> , Saturday; 6 PM; Sponsorship Training 6 PM <a href="#">Weddington UMC</a>
Mar 6	<b>CCEC Gathering</b> ; 7:00 pm Fellowship Before Candlelight <a href="#">Woodland UMC</a>	Apr 8	<b>CCEC Board Meeting</b> , 7 PM; <a href="#">Central Steele Creek Pres.</a>
Mar 7	<b>CCEC Walk 114 Closing</b> ; 5:30 pm <a href="#">Pineville UMC</a>	Apr 15-18	<a href="#">Grace EC</a> Men's Walk 28
Mar 11	<b>CCEC Board Meeting</b> , 7 PM; <a href="#">Central Steele Creek Pres</a>	Apr 22-25	<a href="#">Grace EC</a> Women's Walk 29
Mar 18	<b>CCEC Walk 115 Send-off</b> ; 7:00 pm <a href="#">Pineville UMC</a>	May 1	<b>CCEC Gathering</b> , Saturday; 6 PM; Servanthood Training 6 PM <a href="#">Pineville UMC</a>
Mar 18-21	<b>KAIROS</b> —Kershaw #21	May 13	<b>CCEC Board Meeting</b> , 7 PM; Central Steele Creek Pres.
Mar 20	<b>CCEC Candlelight</b> ; 8:30 pm <a href="#">Woodland UMC</a>	May 20-23	<a href="#">CC Chrysalis</a> Girls Flight #44
Mar 21	<b>CCEC Walk 115 Closing</b> ; 5:30 pm <a href="#">Pineville UMC</a>	June 5	<b>CCEC Gathering</b> , Saturday; 6 PM; Sponsorship Training 6 PM <a href="#">First UMC Stanley Family Life Center</a>
Mar 25	<b>Walks 114 &amp; 115 Follow-up</b> ; 7:00 pm <a href="#">Pineville UMC</a>	June 10	<b>CCEC Board Meeting</b> , 7 PM; <a href="#">Central Steele Creek Pres.</a>

## 2010 CCEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Responsibility	Phone	Email
Andrea Reed	Community Lay Director	704-548-1200	<a href="mailto:andireed01@bellsouth.net">andireed01@bellsouth.net</a>
Tom Coggins	Vice Chair/Worship	803-547-6862	<a href="mailto:CogginsWT@comporium.net">CogginsWT@comporium.net</a>
Vicky Scott	Secretary	704-567-9004	<a href="mailto:vickyscott@carolina.rr.com">vickyscott@carolina.rr.com</a>
Doug Morgan	Treasurer	704-391-2121	<a href="mailto:the_bootery@bellsouth.net">the_bootery@bellsouth.net</a>
Rev. Scott Ireland	Community Spiritual	704-799-2029	<a href="mailto:scottireland@williamsonschapel.org">scottireland@williamsonschapel.org</a>
Rev. Gayle Montgomery	Ass't Community SD	704-542-2944	<a href="mailto:gayle.montgomery@harrisonumc.org">gayle.montgomery@harrisonumc.org</a>
Laura Shirey	Community Records	704-556-1752	<a href="mailto:lshirey@carolina.rr.com">lshirey@carolina.rr.com</a>
Angie Lord	Agape	704-291-3057	<a href="mailto:angielord@blairroadumc.org">angielord@blairroadumc.org</a>
Dave LeGrande	Fourth Day Activities	803-328-6381	<a href="mailto:dlegrande@comporium.net">dlegrande@comporium.net</a>
Ronnie Baker	Housing	704-821-9121	<a href="mailto:RBaker11@carolina.rr.com">RBaker11@carolina.rr.com</a>
Mike Raynor	Literature	704-399-2832	<a href="mailto:mandbraynor@yahoo.com">mandbraynor@yahoo.com</a>
Mark Shutt	Newsletter	704-542-6777	<a href="mailto:mark.shutt@duke-energy.com">mark.shutt@duke-energy.com</a>
Steven Jenkins	Transportation	704-821-7508	<a href="mailto:jenkins2x4@alltel.net">jenkins2x4@alltel.net</a>
Michelle Jones	Registrar	704-542-9575	<a href="mailto:mlj86@juno.com">mlj86@juno.com</a>
Elaine Claiborne	Weekend Volunteer	704-366-6558	<a href="mailto:elaine@perigee.net">elaine@perigee.net</a>
Ginger Alden	Weekend Volunteer	704-786-8562	<a href="mailto:aldens@carolina.rr.com">aldens@carolina.rr.com</a>
David Osborne	Worship Committee	704-588-8075	<a href="mailto:david.osborne@siemens.com">david.osborne@siemens.com</a>