



## Gulfcoast Walk to Emmaus

# Gulf Coast Emmaus September 2021

### Contact Us

#### Gulf Coast Emmaus

P.O. Box 2638 Fort Myers, FL 33902  
[info@gulfcoastemmaus.com](mailto:info@gulfcoastemmaus.com)

Check out our Website

[www.gulfcoastemmaus.com](http://www.gulfcoastemmaus.com)

### *Philippians 4:8*

*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things.*

Dear Gulf Coast Emmaus Community Members,  
I hope you and your family are well.

**This letter may look familiar because it was previously in the June newsletter.**

**It wasn't until weeks later that we became aware of the fact that our [info@gulfcoastemmaus.com](mailto:info@gulfcoastemmaus.com) email was not receiving emails. That was another setback for our community but the problem has been resolved. **If you responded in June, please send your response again. If you did not respond, please do so now. We value everyone's feedback.****

As you know, we have been unable to communicate with the community by email for the last two years. We are hoping for that ability in the near future. In the meantime we are utilizing FaceBook and our website. Please pass this information to your Emmaus brothers and sisters so they can stay informed.

The Gulf Coast Emmaus community has struggled to offer Emmaus weekends for the past several years. The past two years has been more than stressful for all of us as we try to stay healthy and keep our families safe.

Gulf Coast Emmaus has reached a crossroad because we do not have members willing to serve on the Board of Directors. Because a community cannot function without a board, we have been in contact with the Upper Room to discuss our options. We cannot continue to maintain the community with a handful of volunteers.

Please complete the survey on the next page so we may gauge community interest, and return your answers as soon as possible by email to [info@gulfcoastemmaus.com](mailto:info@gulfcoastemmaus.com) or by mail to Gulf Coast Emmaus, P.O. Box 2638, Fort Myers, FL 33902.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Walk # \_\_\_\_\_

1. Will you attend Emmaus gatherings when it is once again safe to do so? If not, why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Will you sponsor pilgrims on future walks when it is safe to do so? If not, why
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Will you be willing to serve on the board of directors if elected?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Will you be willing to serve on a support committee (team selection, quartermaster, gatherings etc.)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Will you be willing to serve on future weekend teams? If not, why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Will you financially support Gulf Coast Emmaus? If yes, donations may be mailed to: Gulf Coast Emmaus, P.O. Box 2638, Fort Myers, FL 33902.

**Please return your completed survey ASAP.  
The future of Gulf Coast Emmaus depends on YOU.  
DeColores, Nancy Fichter**



eNews from Emmaus Ministries

THE UPPER ROOM

The Upper Room has finally finished the mass messaging tool. What does this mean for us?  
We once again will have the ability to send mass emails to our community  
to keep you up to date on news and events.

However, each individual will have to sign up for this function in the ministry manager.

If you have not done so already, please go to

<https://ministrymanager.upperroom.org> to sign up.

Page 4 has more information from The Upper Room that was sent to our Board President  
Nancy Fichter. Any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

[info@gulfcoastemmaus.com](mailto:info@gulfcoastemmaus.com) God Bless and De Colores

## AUGUST 2021 News

### WORDS FOR REFLECTION

Read these words from Psalm 57 (NLT) in a meditative spirit:

My heart is confident in you, O God;

my heart is confident.

No wonder I can sing your praises!

Wake up, my heart!

Wake up, O lyre and harp!

I will wake the dawn with my song.

Using your journal, recall an instance in which God drew near to you in the midst of stress or distress.

Who around you needs God's strength, wisdom, and support today? How can you pray for them?

How can you be God's hands and feet to them in the coming days?

### REGIONAL GATHERING AND CELEBRATION

For now, we are still planning to gather in person on October 8-10, 2021 in Missoula, Montana.

However, we are watching the news and CDC guidelines in response to the Delta variant.

We will make a final decision by September 1.

Either way - in person or online - we are excited to offer a **Chrysalis Focus Day on** Friday, October 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. mountain time. This will be a full day of fellowship, learning, and networking, alongside leaders from other Chrysalis communities, members of the Chrysalis Advisory Team, and the staff at the Emmaus Ministries Office. Sessions on this day will include info about the new Chrysalis materials: you will hear sample talks, experience Table Communion, learn about the new Chrysalis team structure, and more. Other sessions will focus on the general needs and struggles of communities so that you can take information back to your boards with a newfound inspiration for this new season of Chrysalis. Emmaus Ministries News Continued on next page →

If we hold the Regional Gathering in person, we encourage those who register for this extra **Chrysalis Focus Day** to arrive on Thursday so you don't miss anything the next morning. Lunch will be provided on Friday, with dinner on your own before the main session begins Friday evening. If you have questions about the Chrysalis event, contact Matthew Smith from the Chrysalis Advisory Team at [chrysalis1@upperroom.com](mailto:chrysalis1@upperroom.com).

Saturday will be a day spent in worship, our **keynote address**, and the introduction of **several exciting announcements** to help all Emmaus Ministries communities grow stronger and have more tools to use as we **Renew Christian Disciples and Strengthen Local Churches!** The afternoon will be spent in smaller workshops that will share many best practices and tools for you to take back home.

We are working with a refugee resettlement group called **Soft Landing Missoula** for our lunches for Friday and Saturday. They have shared some wonderful ideas for the menus, which include Syrian and Iraqi cuisines. Stay tuned for more information.

On Sunday our Western Montana Community has arranged for a tour that will include seeing the Mission Mountains, the Mission at St. Ignatius, lunch on Flathead Lake, and a visit to the National Bison Refuge. We will leave Missoula at 9:30 a.m. and return between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m. A wonderful tour for only \$30.00 per person. Watch for further information coming soon.

**REGISTER TODAY** [Fall 2021 Regional Gathering in Missoula, Montana, October 8-10, 2021 \(google.com\)](#)

You need to have a Google Account to fill out the registration form. You can sign up from this [safe link](#).

---



---

## CONTINUED COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

As we mentioned in our previous newsletter, it is important for all Emmaus Ministries communities to maintain vigilance in following the CDC, U.S., state, and local guidelines concerning gatherings, wearing masks, and cleaning protocols. This is the safest way to progress when your community Board of Directors decides it is time to begin in-person events again. The Emmaus Ministries office provides "Guidance for Emmaus Ministries in a Post-COVID World" with more specific advice for moving forward.

Email us at [emmausministries@upperroom.org](mailto:emmausministries@upperroom.org) and we will send you a copy.

- Form a task force - Community members who are familiar with the environment in which the community hosts events: Look at event schedules with the facility in mind and notice where problems could possibly occur (bottlenecks, limit in numbers of participants to maintain safe distances, increase in sanitization policies, etc.).
- Check with your Insurance - We have not heard of any carriers who are offering COVID riders on liability policies.

It is always appropriate and important for us to be prudent and cautious when it comes to the well-being of our team members and participants. Please, please be careful and vigilant in doing all you can to prevent others from becoming ill !!!

---



---

## NEW WEBSITE COMING FOR THE UPPER ROOM'S EMMAUS MINISTRIES

As of June 2021, the web platform that has been used for many years to host all of the Emmaus Ministries websites has now become a legacy site and can no longer be updated.

We are excited to announce that a new website is on the way, and it promises to be more user friendly and have an updated look and functions. All of the content on the Boardroom on the old website will soon be available through Ministry Manager, and every community will receive instructions and logins for Ministry Manager. The information that was viewable on Boardroom will now be available on the new web pages through Ministry Manager. This will also assist in facilitating community communication between Agape Chairs, as well as other Board positions, for all of our included ministries.

---



---

## Resilience - Healing Practices for the Mind, Body, & Spirit

Registration is now open for [RESILIENCE | Healing Practices for Mind, Body, and Spirit](#) Join us for this special online event from The Upper Room on Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2021, as we explore spiritual practices for healing from trauma. Early registration pricing ends August 30. Learn more at [UpperRoom.org/resilience](http://UpperRoom.org/resilience).

To open the safe links, place your cursor over the link, press Ctrl and click the left mouse button.

Your browser will open to the website to view more information.

**EMMAUS MINISTRIES VIRTUAL WALK AND CHALLENGE - COMING SOON!**

The Fourth Day 5K promoted earlier this year is back on track and has developed into a fitness walk and challenge - both physically and spiritually. The online event takes place October 1 - November 12 and gives participants the opportunity to walk virtually from Jerusalem to Emmaus with their community members. Using the app **Charity Footprints**, participants can earn points for steps, spiritual practices, and other activities that lead to wholeness. All proceeds will go to the Fourth Day Fund, the operations fund for Emmaus Ministries. We will notify you when registration opens in late September. This will be a fun event with wonderful benefits for a great cause, so mark your calendar and get those walking shoes ready!