



# Tuscaloosa Grapevine Alabama Emmaus Cluster May 2019 Newsletter



## IMPORTANT

Our next meeting will be held at 6:15 at University Church of Christ on **Tuesday, May 7, 2019**. The church is located at 1200 Julia Tutwiler Dr. Tuscaloosa, AL 35404, off McFarland Blvd, right behind Baumhower's Wings. Please enter in the back of the church. There will be signs pointing the way. **Child care is provided; parents must provide dinner for their children.**

### Monthly Message from our Lay Director:

*Unexpected events can be unsettling or anxiety provoking in some case, while at other times can trigger excitement or curiosity. Not too long before I Easter I was getting ready for bed one evening when my dog became increasingly fixated with something under the tv/entertainment chest in my living room. He tried his best to squeeze his head and large body underneath or behind the piece of furniture that simply would not accommodate his size. He simply could not let it go. Uneasily, I got out a flashlight and moved well out of striking distance to take a look. I had hoped to see a dog toy or ball. However, along the back edge I could see a fur-ball with eyes looking back motionlessly at me. Not good. It was too late in the evening to call for assistance to catch or move whatever it was (somewhat larger than a mouse or rat, but not really discernible). I deferred stirring the pot in hopes that I could deal with it the next day after work during daylight-if it survived the insistence of my dog. As suspected, I initially could find no evidence of a critter the next afternoon when I got home, and my dog seemed curiously oblivious. However, about 815 that evening, I walked into my kitchen to see a small, dark gray bunny crouched on the kitchen rug under my kitchen sink.*

*The bunny promptly scooted behind my refrigerator without a sound. My son was out of town with his family, and my husband's aunt and uncle who live nearby were also out of town. I elected to call my husband's cousin, wondering if he might have a small net and a few minutes to help me catch a bunny that had stowed away in my house- hidden behind my refrigerator. Got a long pause, and a question if I might instead have a mouse or a rat. (I know what a mouse or rat looks like, and I know what a bunny looks like). Then I got a sigh, and a curious sounding agreement to come over with a net to check things out. More questions upon arrival to my house-as to whether I was sure there was something there, and that it went behind my refrigerator. (Yes, unless it found another hiding place while I was answering the door). We got the refrigerator moved out, with the cousin peering behind & voicing his surprise-sure enough,*

it was indeed a BUNNY sitting motionless behind my refrigerator. The bunny was easily scooped up in the net, jumping briefly with anxiousness, before being placed in a small shoebox for transport to the cousin's house for release out of reach of my dog. Finally got a chuckle that it would be nice if all surprises were that simple to fix!

To this day, I do not know how the unexpected visitor got into my house. The event went from initial anxiousness to a sense of curiosity and a challenge, as well as convincing someone else that enlisted help was warranted. Thankfully, all worked for the good of the bunny, as well as for me and my dog. I thought of the story in Mark's gospel of Jesus helping a man's son who had been possessed by a spirit, with Jesus indicating to the father that everything is possible for those who believe. The father IMMEDIATELY exclaimed: "I do believe, help me overcome my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24). I have had additional opportunities in the past year to move forward with my belief in Jesus Christ, and the need to ask for help from others since I now live alone and manage my household as a single person. God continues to help me in my singleness. Starting this year of service with the Tuscaloosa Cluster required me to ask God to not let me give in to doubt or unbelief of his provision to serve as I had agreed. He has proven faithful. When it came to an unexpected bunny in my home, God helped me believe that the request for help with securing a bunny to freedom would be answered—and it was. He is the God of the big things in life and the small things in life. Thanks be to God for his amazing grace and his sense of humor! I encourage you to pass on your belief and your stories of God's goodness, including to those folks you may potentially sponsor in Emmaus!

Grace and peace,

Esther Lawley

# Tuscaloosa Emmaus Cluster

## 2019 Board of Directors

Lay Director	Esther Lawley	932-7834	Asst Newsletter	Gaynor Scoggin	799-3561
	<a href="mailto:esther.lawley@yahoo.com">esther.lawley@yahoo.com</a>		Follow-Up	Tinia McLaughlin	799-0203
Asst Lay Director	Joel McLaughlin	861-5225	Asst Follow-Up	Melissa Barnes	454-7401
Spiritual Director	Heath Allred	431-6384	Refreshments	TBD	
Asst Spiritual Director	Alicia Rhodes	454-2224	Asst Refreshments	TBD	
Secretary	Kacie Davis	799-6922	Reunion Groups	Joy Jones	799-3972
Asst Secretary	Julie Thomas	799-6069	Asst Reunion Groups	Lynn Gregory	799-6922
Treasurer	Bob Sandel	330-1508	72 Hour Prayer Vigil	Ken Worley	454-1477
Asst Treasurer	Mark Scogin	349-7175	Asst 72 Hr Prayer Vigil	Jill Hannah	657-9058
Music	John Coleman	242-2962	Worship	Betsy Hass	799-7727
Asst Music	Dennis Gregory		Asst Worship	Sharon Bailey	783-3241
Database	Sherry Lockhart	242-6048	Sponsorship	Norma & Danny Lemley	556-1345
Asst Database	Barney Cargile	339-8636	Asst Sponsorship	Lynn & Don Odom	331-0133
Agape	Belinda Sherrill	333-9123	Board Representative	Sherry Lockhart	242-6048
Asst Agape	Jill Colburn	344-3644	Website	Jill Hannah	657-9058
Newsletter	Jana Weaver	393-9520			
	<a href="mailto:jweaver@fa.ua.edu">jweaver@fa.ua.edu</a>				

## Upcoming Walks

**Walk 486, May 2-5, 2019 (Men)**

**Walk 487, August 15-18, 2019 (Women)**

***Pilgrims from our area:***

<b><i>Walk</i></b>	<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Sponsor</i></b>
486	Daniel Terry – Coker	Dan Robertson
486	Dave Hollis – Tuscaloosa	Dan Robertson
487	Melissa Carden - Birmingham	Tara Glass & Jason Garnette
487	Heather Monsma – Hoover	Tara Glass & Jason Garnette

## Cluster Related Announcements

\*Attendance at the January Cluster Meeting was **38**.

\*You may bring your yearly gift of \$20 to one of the follow-up gatherings or mail to the Cluster Treasurer, Bob Sandel –. Please make checks payable to “Tuscaloosa Emmaus Cluster”.

\*Any announcements for the newsletter or if you need a newsletter mailed to you, contact Jana Weaver at (205) 393-9520 or [jweaver@fa.ua.edu](mailto:jweaver@fa.ua.edu)

## Change of address

If you need to change your email address, update your mailing address or be removed from the Cluster mailing list, please contact Sherry Lockhart at

E-mail: [slclockhart@yahoo.com](mailto:slclockhart@yahoo.com)

US mail: 14965 Carmen Dr.  
Northport, AL 35475

Phone: (205)242-6048

## Further Emmaus Announcements

\*Cluster website: <http://www.tuscaloosaemmauscluster.weebly.com>

\*Remember to check out The Grapevine: <https://alaemmaus.org/>

## Refreshments

*The food theme for May is “Mexican”*

## Cluster Prayer Network

Ken Worley is the Tuscaloosa Cluster’s Prayer Coordinator. Please call or email with prayer requests or to be a partner in the prayer network.

## Cluster Reunion Groups

For a list of Reunion groups or to make corrections/changes, please call Joy Jones at (205) 210-3824.

### Knuckleheads Reunion Group

When: Tuesdays, 6:30 a.m. - Where: First United Methodist Church - Room: Choir Room

Contact: Bob Harris - Phone: 242-7314 - E-Mail: [bharris172@gmail.com](mailto:bharris172@gmail.com)

### Morning Bread Reunion Group

When: Thursdays, 7:00 a.m. - Where: Heritage House – 18 McFarland Blvd, Northport

Contact: Sandra Brasher - Phone: 333-3694 - E-Mail: [sanbrasher@comcast.net](mailto:sanbrasher@comcast.net)

### To Love Christ (TLC) Reunion Group

When: Thursday evenings at 5:30 pm - Where: Dunkin Donuts – 2520 Stillman Blvd

Contact: Tinia McLaughlin - Phone 799-0203 - E-Mail: [tiniatr@gmail.com](mailto:tiniatr@gmail.com)

### Saturday Morning Reunion Group

When: Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. - Where: St. Mark United Methodist Church - Room: Parlor

Contact: Paul Bourgeois - Phone: 333-1370 - E-Mail: [pcbouge@gmail.com](mailto:pcbouge@gmail.com)

### Called to Serve Reunion Group

When: Every Thursday except cluster meeting weeks, 2:30 pm - Where: St. Mark UMC Library

Contact: Mickey Cargile- Phone: 339-8636 - E-mail: [brcargile@comcast.net](mailto:brcargile@comcast.net)

### No Name Reunion Group

When: Every Tuesday, Noon - Where: Law Office of Espy, Nettles, Scogin, & Cain- 2728 8th Street,

Tuscaloosa Contact: Mark Scogin- Phone: 349-7175- E-Mail: [scoginlaw@gmail.com](mailto:scoginlaw@gmail.com)

### The Women at the Well Group

When: Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. Where: University Church of Christ – High Tidlers room

Contact: Sharon Bailey - Phone (256)783-1517 - E-Mail: [smilinnurse@gmail.com](mailto:smilinnurse@gmail.com)