

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the past few months, you have received repeated requests from myself and other members about the Suncoast Emmaus Community need for Board members. We have sent the Board nomination information in emails and posted the nomination information on our website. Having eight open positions going into 2021 and knowing the Community cannot function without a full Board of Directors, we have been in contact with the Upper Room for guidance on how to proceed. Over the years, we have somehow lost our way in understanding WHY we sponsor Walks to Emmaus and what the overall mission of EMMAUS is about. We have many reasons on why we do not want to serve on the Board but somehow think we will be able to continue to sponsor and serve on walks without a Board. We have lost that connection of serving to God's glory where we are needed even when it is not what we want.

The Upper Room has a program called the WHY initiative with a primary focus being a community wide online meeting called RECLAIMING OUR MISSION. This initiative is intended to re-energize, revitalize, and empower communities in order to strengthen local churches. The Board has started this initiative on behalf of the Suncoast Emmaus Community. The first part was an assessment form given to all Board members. The completed forms were compiled and submitted to the Upper Room last week. The Board will now be receiving and sending out information to the community in preparation for the online community session of Reclaiming Our Mission.

The Reclaiming Our Mission meeting will be held online via Zoom. The meeting is scheduled for Saturday November 21, 2020 from 08:00am – 12:00noon ET. This session will be facilitated by an Emmaus Ministries Office staff member(s) with the support of a Community leader. This will be a time for review of the Emmaus Mission and how best the community can reclaim their part in service within the community. We will be sending out additional materials prior to 11/21/2020 so we can all prepare for this time of journeying along our own road to Emmaus.

We respectfully ask that you put Saturday November 21, 2020 from 08:00am – 12:00noon ET on your calendars now. Please begin to pray about this session and the revitalization of the Suncoast Emmaus Community.

Please call me (941-545-5778) or Margarete Roser (ACLD—205-529-2447) with any questions. This world needs committed, energized disciples as much as ever. May our hearts burn within us as we walk with Christ into the future He holds for Suncoast Emmaus.

De Colores! Jesus loves you and so do I!

**Pam Hunt**

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Community Lay Director

Suncoast Emmaus