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Perth Emmaus Community Newsletter – June 2018

COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Dear Perth Emmaus Community members,

I write this letter while listening to the rain outside, and just like the rain feeds the earth, I reflect on how we have all been abundantly blessed by Emmaus in one way or another. The seed was planted by our Sponsor, we attended the Walk and experienced that unforgettable feeling of agape love from all those around us.

There are many people feeling that way at present after two very successful Walks which were held in May. We welcome 26 new members to the Perth Emmaus Community. We pray that you will continue in your Fourth Days knowing and remembering that special feeling of agape love.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the teams, who have been preparing for a long time, the Walk Support team, quietly working in the background and for all your perseverance and commitment to Emmaus to hold our Walks.

The Emmaus Community exists through the partnership of Christ with us. He calls us to be His hands and feet, bringing love to those around us, and to the Emmaus Community. Helping in many ways, using our gifts and finding those talents we didn't know existed.

Please consider how you are able to serve in the Perth Emmaus Community. There are so many different areas where you can serve. The Perth Emmaus Community have a Board, who support and coordinate the various events. We have musicians doing the music at these events. There are groups that gather to pray and make agape. As you can see there are many different areas you can serve.

Consider sponsoring a Pilgrim to experience that love and joy of an Emmaus Walk. Yes, I know it is 11 months away but it is never too early to approach someone or to start praying for that person you have in mind. So, to help with this, the Perth Emmaus Board are happy to offer an EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT for early registrations!!!!

If you submit a Walk Registration before 30 November 2018 for the 2019 Walks you will receive \$40.00 of the Walk fee!!! The 2019 Walk Registration forms will be available within the next couple of days on our website, attached to the next newsletter or available from me, my details are below.

Please note that our next Perth Emmaus Gathering will be held on Saturday 14 July at 6pm at the South Perth Uniting Church. Please bring a plate to share with some new friends and some old friends. We all look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, I say "Come Holy Spirit, Fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your love."

De Colores
Ben Bothma
Perth Emmaus Community Lay Director

COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

I had the great joy, though it was a very tiring fortnight, to serve as Spiritual Director on both the Men's and the Ladies' Walks this year. I must say that they were two of the most blessed Walks that I have shared over the years. Pilgrims were extremely open to the experience and shared wonderfully in the activities of the weekend. On both the Men's and the Ladies' Walks the standard of evening presentations, banners, song, dance and poetry was the highest I've ever seen. Well done to the Lay Directors, Alf and Heather, the great support teams and the Conference Room teams.

The Gathering that followed the Walks at South Perth was one of the great get-togethers of Emmaus – a feast of generous proportions and fellowship that abounded in the richness of God's grace. I was particularly pleased with the turnout of Pilgrims from the previous walks and for the excitement that many of them have for coming back on team.

This is my last year as Community Spiritual Director, though I have no doubt that I will continue to support the work of Emmaus and get involved with the Walks. I am praying that God will stir the hearts of the clergy within our Community so that we might find a Spiritual Director to take over from me at the end of the year.

May you all enjoy love and blessings.

Peter Johnstone

2018 BOARD MEMBERS

Name	Position(s)	Phone	Contact Details
Ben Bothma	Community Lay Director Team Training Coordinator	0405287084	bennie.jenny@bigpond.com
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Madeleine Read	Team Selection Chair	94573116	gemread@iinet.net.au
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Gareth Stafford	Newsletter Editor Community Liaison Facebook Administrator	0422068788	staffordg@westnet.com.au

TEAM SELECTION

Please pray for the team selection committee, and those who are prepared to accept the call to be a part of Walks 65 and 66. We ask that God's hand will be in the selection process and that all those participating will seek His blessings.

Selection of teams for walks 65 and 66 will begin towards the end of July. We have already had a few people who have put their names forward for consideration. The Lay Director for Men's Walk 65 is Greg Corlett. Jenny Jay is Lay Director for Ladies Walk 66.

Being on team entails commitment to 2 and 1/2 training days, and of course the 72 hours of the walk including the camp fees (financial help is there for those with very limited funds)

Training half day orientation March 9th at Willetton (pm)

Team training days April 13th and 14th at Rehoboth school

Men's Walk May 2nd-May 5th2019, Ladies May 23rd to 26th2019

Many people are excited to be on team and to see God working through the Emmaus experience. Please be ready to step out to serve Our Lord in this way, so keep these dates free. There is still time to put your name forward for consideration. If you are a member of a reunion group and you know somebody who is reluctant to ask, please let me know. Jenny and Greg will begin phoning and emailing people late in July or August although Prayer Directors may have already been advised, and are praying for the next teams and pilgrims.

*De Colores
Madeleine Read*

SPONSORSHIP

To most things of value there are two sides and in this regard sponsorship is no different. On one side of the coin is the bringing of Pilgrims to their walk and giving them the joy of spending those three days in the presence of the Lord.

On the other side of the coin is our continuing care of the Pilgrims as they embark on their fourth day journey. This time, soon after the walks is a crucial time where sponsors have a role in continuing to support their Pilgrim and encouraging them and showing them by example the joy of life as part of the Emmaus Community. This may involve keeping in touch and bringing the Pilgrims along to Gatherings.

Coming back to heads, it is now time for us to start the process of identifying possible Pilgrims for next year and praying for those people. This is the start of the sponsorship process and this happens well before we as potential sponsors approach those people to whom we have been led by God. As in all things Emmaus, this process too needs to be undergirded by prayer.

Until next time

*De Colores
Barry Tyrie*

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REUNION GROUP NEWS

Willetton Warriors

Willetton Warriors Reunion Group continues to meet the first Monday of the month at the home of Kevin and Julie Marshall in Willetton. We will be hosting the next Gathering at Willetton Christians on 14th July.

We have been busy making Agape for the Great Southern Walks and enjoying fellowship with a few new members since the last Perth Walks. Welcome Florence and Nerry, Anita and Cathleen!

Contact: Julie Marshall 9332 1396 or 0414 432 130

OTHER REUNION GROUP CONTACTS

The Mighty Midwest

Meeting once a month in the Geraldton area

Contact Anne Ashby anne.ashby56@gmail.com

Hillbillies

Meeting on the first Monday of the month in the Hills

Contact Heather Haggerty heather.ian@bigpond.com

Peel Pilgrims

Meet 2pm Sundays once a month 2pm

Contact Eric and Joy Loughton ericjoy1@tpg.com.au

Southern Lights – Canning Vale

Meet in different homes once a month.

Contact laverne.volmink@gmail.com

GREAT SOUTHERN COMMUNITY EVENTS

We would love to invite anyone from the Perth Emmaus Community to the Great Southern Emmaus Gathering which will be held on Saturday 23rd June at the Merredin Church of Christ - 17 Throssel Road, Merredin. A shared lunch at 12 noon and the Gathering starts at 1pm. For those people who are wanting to stay overnight we usually go out to a restaurant for the evening dinner and attend Church next morning.

Training weekend for the August Walks will be held at Kobeelya House in Katanning on the 20th to 22nd July.

Commissioning of the team members will be held on Sunday 22nd July about 3pm.

The men's walk will be held between the 16th and 19th of August with the candlelighting on Saturday night at approximately 7:30pm. The walk will come to a close at around 3:30pm on Sunday.

The women's walk will follow the week after from the 23rd to 26th of August with candlelighting from around 7:30pm on Saturday night. The walk will finish around 3:30pm on the Sunday afternoon

Please pray for Lay Directors Michael Hart and Wendy Whyte as they build their teams in preparation for an amazing time together. Please pray that pilgrims will be called to participate in these Walks.

John Eva 0487 777 415

GATHERING

The speaker at the Gathering this month in Willetton Christian Church on July 14 is Florence Khimbi who was a pilgrim on Walk 64. The WWC is close to Roe Hwy in Portcullis Drive, and the church should be warm. There is plenty of parking. Join us in fellowship and celebration at 7.30. Ladies bring a plate of finger food for supper after communion. Men serve and wash up.

The August 11th Gathering will be run by Chrysalis and held at the Billabong Church in Canning Vale. Look out for more details. All the offering will go to Chrysalis to help with their next flights.

AGAPE

I praise God for all the amazing people who helped in any way at all big or small, in making our ladies Walk 63 & 64 such a beautiful weekend. Colleen and Bev who took over the Agape delivery during the Men's Walk, and Janice for once again delivering the Agape for the ladies, made harder by the rain.

The Agape people had been very busy making the wonderful pieces with such love for the Pilgrims and Team who would receive them. Thank you God for these Blessings.

The Teams for the Walks next year may not have been chosen in full yet, but now is the time to put your thinking caps on and start creating those beautiful agape pieces you intend to make. Remember the 3 days are God, Jesus and Holy Spirit, so keep this in your prayers as you think about what to create. Keep in mind how much impact these little pieces can have on a Pilgrim. We had a few double ups with the Agape this year, so I will be talking to people about that, so that it doesn't happen again, I'm sure we can come up with some new ideas,

I would once again ask that you contact the agape person, and let them know well ahead of the walks, what you intend to deliver, some people even send a photo, now this is very helpful, especially if it is new agape, if its new to you please check with the Agape person to make sure it isn't already being made, Also, pray about the verse you mean to put on your agape piece, as it's so much better if it's an uplifting verse.

And most importantly, please put your Agape group name on each piece and on the box or bag they are delivered in, so that we know where to return any leftovers.

Each year we have agape that we have no idea where they have come from, so we cannot return them. So then if you are making it each year, you are making more than you need to make. We were wonderfully Blessed again by the beautiful floral arrangements by Rhonda.

I would love people to put their hands up for sewing bags or doing the flower arrangements for next year's Walks, it is an extra Blessing for the team and for you who volunteer to do these things.

*My richest Blessings to you all
de Colores
Heather Haggerty
heather.ian@bigpond.com*

