



1996 -2020

Celebrating Over Twenty Years in Western Australia.

Perth Emmaus Community Newsletter – SEPTEMBER 2020

COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

JULIE MARSHALL

Greetings to all our Perth Emmaus Community (Western Australia) Inc. members! (That is our full title now that we have become incorporated.)

I am looking forward to catching up with as many of you as possible on 12th September as we joyfully meet face to face to worship and praise our God. The Peel Pilgrims Reunion Group has been enthusiastically preparing for this for many months and is sure to have a wonderful evening ready for us. Please do support them and the wider Community with your presence at The Billabong Uniting Church, Liffey Street, Canning Vale. It promises to be COVID-safe.

God has been so good to us here in WA, yet I feel for those of you who have family elsewhere in Australia and cannot visit or have them come over to you. Let's continue to pray that this situation will ease very soon.

As it will include our Annual General Meeting, we must have a quorum and I trust that our vacant positions on the Board will be willingly filled. If you have any queries about what is involved, please give me a call or email.

I am more than happy to help.

De Colores! Julie Marshall 0414 432 130 kajmarshall@yahoo.com.au

2021 IMPORTANT DATES

| Walk Orientation Day | March 20 | Willetton Uniting Church |
|----------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| Team Training Day 1 | April 10 | Rehoboth Christian College |
| Team Training Day 2 | May 1 | Rehoboth Christian College |
| Chrysalis Flights | April 8-11 | Advent Park |
| Men's Walk | May 27-30 | Advent Park |
| Women's Walk | June 4-7 | Advent Park |

COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

JOHN WHALEY

Who Would Have Known?

I guess we are all tired of the phrase "unprecedented times". How quickly things can change; we certainly do live in extraordinary days. Oh yes, we have had pandemics before, but this one has affected the whole world— every nation is coping with the issue, countless deaths and devastated families. And it's brought out the best and the worst in people. It's one result of our "shrinking" world— a symptom of the "global village". Last January, we were able to fly home from London direct to Perth in about 17 hours. The ease of travel creates a perfect pathway for a virus to spread.

Who would have known? Who expected one of our national icons could be brought to its knees, with Qantas mothballing much of its fleet, unable to fly to other countries and even domestic travel curtailed drastically? Who could have guessed so many people would lose their employment? That many businesses would fail? Or that Australia would have a debt estimated to be almost \$852 billion by 2021? Who would have known? Of course, as Christians, we believe our eternal God is all knowing, and is never surprised by world events. God would—and does—know. And as Christians we know God can be trusted. But the question is, you may *know* God can be trusted, but *do you* trust him?

It's a funny thing about trust. It works both ways; doubt and mistrust builds walls between hearts. We are not able to fully entrust ourselves to someone who does not trust us. Wariness hinders close friendship. So, if we are not fully trusting in Christ, it hinders our relationship with him. There must be perfect trust if we are to enjoy the closeness of an intimate friendship with him. Jesus knows the hearts of those who rest on him in faith and he hears every prayer of confidence that is breathed in the face of trouble.

When this pandemic broke out and we were in lock-down, a neighbour of mine was anxious about the implications for him and his family. When I was speaking to him one day, I told him I refused to live in fear. To be honest, I'm not sure I've perfected this yet. But perhaps saying it is the beginning of living it. Matthew tells us, "...don't worry about ... 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." (Matt. 6: 31-34, NLT) And John writes, "There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear... (1 Jn. 4: 18, NIV).

So, may we each learn to trust in Christ, so that in every experience—in both sorrow and joy—our faith remains calm and unbroken.

De Colores John Whaley CSD Perth Emmaus Community

EMMAUS WEBSITE

Did you know that Emmaus has a website once more? You may have visited the previous <u>http://www.perth.emmaus.org.au</u> and found it to be no longer available. However the good news is, we now have a new website up and running once more, where you can get all the information you need about Emmaus. Visit<u>mail.logicaldevelopments.com.au/pec</u> to see the new site. This is a just a temporary placeholder, while the new and improved permanent site is being developed.

FACEBOOK

Another great way to stay up to date with Emmaus news, is by joining our closed Facebook group. We post all of our regular gathering information, important news, and relevant items here. This is also a space of encouragement, where you can privately share prayer requests, inspire one another with what God is revealing to you through his Word, or ask questions of the community. You can request to join our group by searching for "Perth Emmaus Community" when you log on to Facebook or follow this direct link: www.facebook.com/groups/perthemmaus

REUNION GROUPS

Willetton Warriors (Contact: Julie Marshall 0414 432 130)

Willetton Warriors meet at Julie and Kevin Marshall's house on the SECOND Monday of each month, from 7pm.

Joining and participating in a reunion group is a great way to stay connected within the Emmaus community. At the moment there are four reunion groups active across the metropolitan area:

- Willetton Warriors see above information
- · Joondalup Joybells covering the northern suburbs (Darren 0404 751 981)
- Hillbillies covering the eastern suburbs (Heather 0408 565 315)
- Peel Pilgrims covering the far southern suburbs (Joy 0408 675 163)

If you would like some help starting a new group in your area please contact Neal Leggo (0421 747 870), the reunion groups coordinator on the board.

BOARD NOMINATIONS

There are currently a number of vacant positions on our board. With our AGM less than two weeks away on September 12, now is a good time to think about who can fill these roles. You might like to consider nominating yourself or someone else that you think would be a good fit. If you want to know more about what roles are available, and the level of commitment and engagement required, please call or email our CLD Julie Marshall.

Nomination forms are attached to this email, and can be sent back to us at the earliest convenience, or brought along to the AGM.

SPONSORSHIP

One of the key aspects to the success of each walks, remains the need for community sponsorship. Without the pilgrims, we have no walks, and we have been all too acutely aware of this fact in recent years with the cancellation of men's walks due to low numbers. The smaller number of new community members also affects the pool of people we can choose to be on team, with many of the same people often asked to fill roles year upon year. It is imperative that pilgrims are sponsored to ensure we have passionate people coming through to preserve the community for years to come. It's never too early to think about sponsoring someone, so let's start having discussions with potential pilgrims today.

Perth Emmaus Gathering and AGM - SATURDAY 12TH September at 7pm.

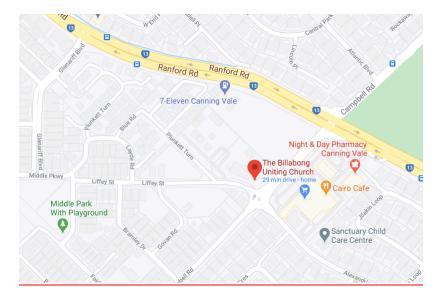
Hosted by the Peel Pilgrims Reunion Group.

To be held at <u>the Billabong Uniting Church in Canning Vale,</u> Corner of Liffey St and <u>Campbell Rd (which is off Ranford Rd.)</u>

PLEASE PLACE THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDARS

IT IS THE FIRST FACE TO FACE GATHERING SINCE FEBRUARY It WILL BE a COVID safe socially distanced event with a supplied supper So get along Perth Emmaus Community, and from beyond if you are visiting.

COME to say "Hi". COME to see Emmaus <u>Friends, co-team members</u> and CATCH UP. COME to worship and give Thanks. COME for great fellowship. COME to hear what the Peel Pilgrims have been up to. COME and update with the latest 'Perth Emmaus News'. COME to discern if God has a role for you on the Perth Emmaus Board. COME with His peace "Fear Not, For I am with you". COME with your sadness and worries – and LEAVE with His peace and smile. COME to share together with a cuppa following. COME with someone if you can, BRING someone if you can. COME to the Billabong Uniting Church for a 7pm start.



PARKING available behind the Billabong Community Centre

This ONE night outWILL BE – MEDICINE- for your SOULDECIDE to COME, PLAN to COME, then JUST DO IT - on the dayPLEASEPLEASEPLEASEPLEASEPLEASE