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Perth Emmaus Community Newsletter - MARCH 2020

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Members of the Perth Emmaus Community

The Perth Emmaus Board has been monitoring the unfolding responses to the current COVID-19 virus threat across our communities. As a consequence of these matters, a special meeting was held on Tuesday 17 March at which the Board agreed to cancel the second training day and the 2020 walks.

As an organisation we need to demonstrate responsible care and compassion for all members of the community as well as possible pilgrims. We want pilgrims to have a full Emmaus experience. This is one of connecting with others and sharing in community.

Restrictions presently being imposed across the wider community are impacting on our ability to ensure that such an experience is possible. Further, there have been few applications received to date and these restrictions make it unlikely the numbers will grow as we had hoped.

Those who had committed to being on team for 2020, we thank you for making yourselves available, and ask that you would consider remaining on team for the next walk, scheduled in May 2021. We understand that this is a long way off, and that circumstances change, however please keep the matter in prayer over the next twelve months.

We recognise that some may be disappointed in the decision to cancel the walks at this time. However, our prayer is that we all accept the cancellation as a positive and proactive step for the benefit and wellbeing of all involved.

If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact a member of the board for more information.

Thank you all for the time, work and prayer you have already invested.

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Julie Marshall CLD

Cathy O'Dea & Neal Leggo LDs

PERTH EMMAUS COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS

Name	Role(s)	Email	Phone Number
Julie Marshall	Community Lay Director/Team Selection	kajmarshall@yahoo.com.au	0414 432 130
David de Kock	Community Spiritual Director	revinoz@outlook.com	0488 267 442
Steve Charles	Secretary/Wall Agape	stephen.p.charles@gmail.com	0475 815 961
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Neal Leggo	Gatherings/Walk Support/Reunion	nnkdta@iinet.net.au	0421 747 870
	Groups		
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Jenny Bothma	Team Training	Bennie.jennie@bigpond.com	0415 943 975
Natalie Bock	Community Liaison and Facebook	bockhaus@westnet.com.au	0487 777 415
Gareth Stafford	Newsletters	staffordg@westnet.com.au	0422 068 788

BOARD VACANCIES

We have a number of vacant positions on the board that are still to be filled. If you have an interest in serving the Emmaus Community, and feel that you may be a suitable candidate, then please prayerfully consider joining us. There are only seven board meetings a year, and for a lot of roles, attendance at meetings is not essential. We currently have vacancies in the areas of General Agape and Sponsorship, while the positions of Treasurer and Registrar will also need to be filled in the near future. If you are interested in any of the vacant positions, please contact the board for a Nomination Form or use the one included in the newsletter.

INCORPORATION

The Perth Emmaus Board has decided to pursue incorporation as soon as possible and as such there are a number of legal requirements that must be undertaken in order for this to occur. Those requirements have been attached for the perusal of the Community. Should you have an interest in this area, or any questions concerning the rules of incorporation, please contact Community Lay Director Julie Marshall or any of the board members

EMMAUS WEBSITE

Did you know that Emmaus has a website once more? You may have visited the previous http://www.perth.emmaus.org.au 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 mail.logicaldevelopments.com.au/pec to see the new site

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

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:

- Joondalup Joybells covering the northern suburbs (Darren 0404 751 981)
- Hillbillies covering the eastern suburbs (Heather 0408 565 315)
- · Willetton Warriors covering the central and southern suburbs (Julie 0414 432 130)
- 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.

GREAT SOUTHERN COMMUNITY

ERIC LOUGHTON

At this time, the Great Southern Community walks will possibly go ahead as planned in August, however we are monitoring the current world situation, and will advise if this changes at a later date.

Great Southern walks will be run on the 13-16 August for the men and 20-23 August for the ladies with all members of either community invited to join in the candlelighting and closing ceremony

Unfortunately, our scheduled gathering on March 21st was cancelled due to coronavirus concerns, and we may have to cancel further gatherings down the track as the virus threat evolves and changes rapidly. Further updates will be provided in due course.

Other gatherings being held before the walks will be in Merredin (Sat 2 May) and Katanning (19 July), which will include the team training and commission.

GATHERINGS NEAL LEGGO

For the time being, face to face gatherings are not possible, given the spread of coronavirus. However we do not want this to be a reason for the community to be scattered. In light of the above news surrounding the ever growing and serious spread of COVID-19, we will look at trialling something new for the next Gathering. As many churches and groups are doing, we may gather online as a virtual community. The exact details of how this will all work, are still being finalised, so keep an eye on your inbox for further information as it comes to hand.