



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM

1996 -2020

*Celebrating Over Twenty Years in Western Australia.*

**Perth Emmaus Community Newsletter – JUNE 2020**



**COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR**

**JULIE MARSHALL**

Greetings to all of Perth Emmaus Community!

Firstly, let me say how sorry I was to hear of George Turpin's passing just a little while ago. Many of us have had the privilege of serving alongside him on Walk and Chrysalis Teams and knew him to be a fine Christian man who loved his garden. On behalf of the whole Community we extend to Glenys our sympathy and prayers for God's peace to uphold her and her family at this sad time.

So much has changed since our last Newsletter! At that time, we had held our Walk Orientation and had gone ahead in faith with our first Training Day for Walks 67 and 68. Soon after – lockdown!

Praise the Lord for WA's better than expected progress and recovery from the pandemic! Failing a "second wave", we can hopefully anticipate holding those Walks next May/June. Please keep Neal Leggo and Cathy O'Dea in prayer as they continue encouraging their Teams.

With no physical meetings being permitted for a while, the Board has held several online meetings, including one with Vince Van Sant representing the National Board., which was very encouraging.

We have now become an officially incorporated body in order to offer greater protection to all persons involved in our Walks as well as office holders on the Board. I would like to acknowledge the work of Cathy O'Dea in preparing our Rules for Incorporation – no small task, given the close reading required to meet the requirements of the relevant legislation.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the September Gathering and I urge you to prayerfully consider how you might be being called to serve the Perth Emmaus Community in your Fourth Days. We need a new Treasurer, a Registrar, an Agape Coordinator, assistant Walk Support Coordinator (Candlelight and Closing), at the very least.

May God bless you and keep you as you continue to serve Him and His Church.

De colores!

Julie Marshall

CLD

Greetings in the name of our great God who loves us and gave Himself for us.

I firstly want to acknowledge the work and commitment of our past Community Spiritual Director Rev. David de Kock. David is a willing and diligent worker for our Lord and is passionate about seeing the Kingdom of God increase in its effectiveness in people's lives. David has many roles and wears many hats; the main responsibility he has, General Secretary of the Uniting Church, is very demanding on his time and his personal life.

Nevertheless, David continues to give of himself to the many demands that come his way, enthusiastically meeting any challenge in his preparedness to serve God and the church. And his role within the Emmaus Community is evidence of his joy in serving. Not only has David been serving as the Community Spiritual Director but has also held the role of Walk Spiritual Director numerous times in the past in both the Perth and Great Southern communities—and is the current Spiritual Director for Perth Men's walk in 2021. I for one don't know how David achieves everything he commits himself to, but this community values his contribution as he serves with vigour and efficiency.

I also recognize and pay tribute to Margaret's contribution to Emmaus and her wider work for the Kingdom in every aspect of her love and service for the Lord. We look forward to continuing fellowship with both David and Margaret in the future.

Some of you may not know me so I thought I should give an introduction of myself. My name is John Whaley, I'm married to Lyn and we have three adult children and five grandchildren. We have been in pastoral ministry for 30 years and served in both city and country congregations. Also, we have been involved in Emmaus for 26 years having completed our Walks in 1994. It has been a tremendous privilege to serve God alongside so many amazing people in both the Perth and the Great Southern communities and over that time witnessing people's lives being touched and transformed by His amazing grace.

I have to be honest and say that I have tried hard to avoid taking on this role. But I'm not sure who is the most persistent, Julie or David or God. Anyway, having "retired" and recently downsized to a smaller home I can hopefully find more time to devote to this ministry. Thank you to the Board for their confidence.

One of the things we all learn throughout our Christian walk is that we can never say no to Jesus when He calls. It's easy to follow when the road is smooth and the path agreeable. But then sometimes He asks us to venture where the way is rough and steep and hard going. Sometimes it is to some self-sacrifice or trial, or even serious physical and/or psychological pain or illness. Some we can choose; other situations are chosen for us. And I *do not* mean that God deliberately causes bad things to happen—but He does use them for His glory and our learning. So, we ought be able to trust God's wisdom, especially when we can't see the benefits along the way. In trust we can find that every path the Holy Spirit leads can be a rich journey. De colores.

John Whaley  
Community Spiritual Director

## 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](mailto:logicaldevelopments.com.au/pec) to see the new site. This is just a temporary placeholder, while the new and improved permanent site is being developed. Thanks to Paul and Caroline Mulroney for all their work creating and developing the 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](http://www.facebook.com/groups/perthemmaus)

## REUNION GROUPS

Willetton Warriors (Contact: Julie Marshall 0414 432 130)

Willetton Warriors Reunion Group has been in recess for most of the lockdown period. We held one online meeting to stay in touch and have recently got together for a face to face meeting  
Hallelujah!

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.

## OFFERINGS

With face to face gatherings not currently an option, many may be wondering how you can contribute financially to the work of Emmaus. The best way to do this currently is through online banking transfers, however if this is something that you are unfamiliar with or unable to do, please let us know and we will seek to make alternate arrangements.

Please note our banking details below, and make your payments via EFT for the time being.

Perth Emmaus Community (WA)

BSB : 066-101

Account: 10041338

## GATHERINGS

NEAL LEGGO

Thank you to all of those who came online on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> June for our second ever Zoom Gathering. We were blessed by the fantastic music, and sharing from Nicole Sampson, our fourth day speaker for the night. All being well, our next gathering will be held in person at the Billabong Church in Canning Vale. We will continue to adhere to COVID-19 protocols until further notice, and practice safe social distancing to ensure the safety of every participant.

## WOMEN'S LAY DIRECTOR

CATHY O'DEA

With the cancellation of the walks this year and restrictions required to keep the general community safe, we have all had to be creative to sustain contact with loved ones and friends. No doubt you have seen examples of this on the media.

The Perth Emmaus Community has utilised technology to hold a zoom gathering and the Board has also used this technology to adhere to restriction requirements while still being able to conduct business matters.

As for the team of women who had stepped up for Walk 68, most have indicated a desire to remain on team in 2021. In order to build and support them, the use of technology has been important.

A WhatsApp group has been formed and members have been able to share and encourage one another. Prayer and worship songs have been exchanged. We have begun to get to know each other albeit from a distance.

The lifting of restrictions may see team members being able to meet together but, in the meantime, the use of the app means we are only a phone buzz away from each other. My thanks go to each member of the team for embracing the app and supporting other members. Together we are undertaking the Master's work and

He walks with us as we seek to do His will.

Please continue to pray for the team and their availability in 2021 and for the sponsoring of pilgrims. Let's afford the opportunity of blessings through an Emmaus Walk to those God calls us to approach.

de colores

Cathy O'Dea

Lay Director Ladies' Walk 68