



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM



1996 – 2022

Perth Emmaus Community Newsletter

December 2022

Christmas Greetings for 2022.

GATHERING DATES

*Come – Sing – Listen –
Share – Fellowship –
Reunite*

*All Gatherings are at
South Perth Uniting
5 Sandgate St
(corner Angelo St)
South Perth.*

FEBRUARY

Sat. 25th at 7pm

MARCH

Sat. 25th at 7pm

APRIL

Sat. 23rd at 7pm

MAY

Sat. 27th at 7pm

What a truly Blessed year we have had, we postponed our Walks from May to September to avoid the covid, and except for a couple of people who had it after one of the trainings, I think we did well to manage our Walks without having to worry about it.

God certainly Blessed us this year with our Great Men's & Ladies Walk's, we had a wonderful group of people at Candle lighting for the Men's Walk, and then we saw all of the Mens Walk Pilgrims at the Ladies Candle lighting and closing, and that is a real Blessing when that happens.

At our AGM we welcomed three new members to our board in Karen Handley, Darren Sampson & Darren Gibbon, they are just what we needed to help us with our newsletters, Website and Trainings, so I praise God for these three wonderful servants and welcome them to our board.

At the moment we do not have a Men's Walk LD, so this is in God's Hands what happens next.

The Ladies Walk Director for 2023 will be Sonya McNicol, and I pray that we will all get behind Sonia and pray that God will show the team selectors & Sonia who he would like for the team on Walk 72# .

Our Dates for the Perth Emmaus Men's Walk #71 Thursday 14th to Sunday 17th September and our Perth Emmaus Ladies Walk #72 Friday the 22nd to Monday 25th September

I pray that all Perth Emmaus Ladies will start praying for guidance in preparation for when they are asked to be on Team, so that they will know their answer when they are called.

At our final gathering for the year we rejoiced and thanked our Lord and Saviour for all he did for us this year, and now have a short break until our first gathering in February.

I pray that as we all gather with our families and friends over the Christmas period, we might stop for a moment and truly get in touch with what our Faith in God truly means for us and our Loved ones.

"The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want"

I wish you all a wonderful blessed Christmas full of love and laughter.

de colores

Heather Haggerty

CLD Perth Emmaus Community

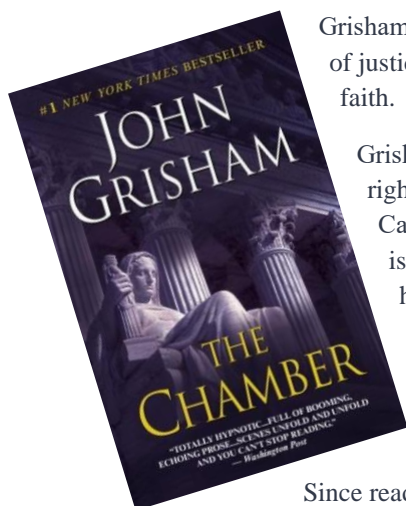
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Community Spiritual Director's Comment

I have recently completed one of John Grisham's books entitled *The Chamber* (1997). I enjoy Grisham's novels, they are compelling and fast-moving thrillers and often pick up on issues of justice. Interestingly, John Grisham is a Christian and his writing is influenced by his faith.



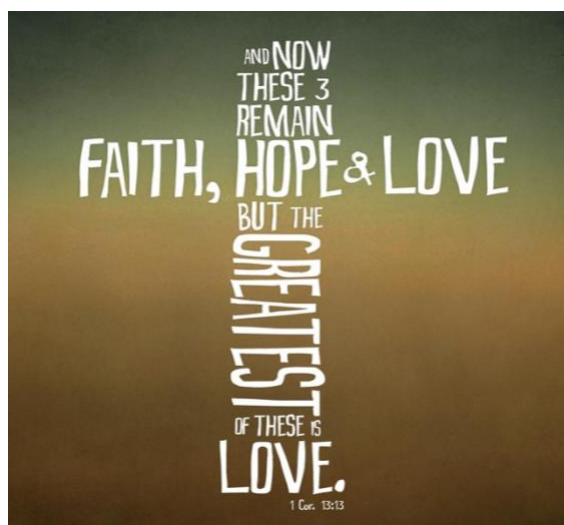
Grisham's *The Chamber* is fiction. The story is set around the turbulent times of the civil rights movement in the USA in the 60's. The main character, a Klansman named Sam Cayhall, is accused of bombing a Jewish lawyer's office, killing his twin sons. Cayhall is convicted and sentenced to death—condemned to the Gas Chamber. In the end this hate filled, unrepentant racist, is confronted by the love of God through a prison chaplain and gives his life to Christ. It is largely a disputation against the barbarousness of capital punishment and particularly the horror of the Gas Chamber (which incidentally, some US states are considering reintroducing).

Since reading this book, I have discovered it is loosely based on fact. Grisham remembered a discussion in the late 1960's: the men in his church were talking about a Klan bombing campaign against Jews. He recalled the men did not disapprove. In the early 70's, another writer, Thomas A Tarrants, wrote about his own racial hatred and violent Klan activity against Jews. Against this background, John Grisham wrote *The Chamber*.



Tarrant's book was revised and republished in 2019 and is titled *Consumed by Hate, Redeemed by Love*, intervened in this violent Klansman's life, bringing him through repentance and faith to champion racial harmony and reconciliation.

As we celebrate again this Christmas season, may we reflect on God's wonderful and powerful love which, through the advent of Christ Jesus, has the potential to change a person's life so radically. One of the most quoted verses of the Scripture is John 3: 16—For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. It is quoted so tritely sometimes, yet it reveals the power of God and His agape love to powerfully restore, transform, and re-energise those who come to Him.



I think the agape love of God is best expressed in the term "grace". God's grace in Christ Jesus is the transformative love that dramatically changes lives, from lost to found, from blindness to sight, from hate to love.

Paul's hymn of agape love (1 Cor. 13: 1-13.) wonderfully describes grace in all its beauty and all its transformative power. He concludes by saying, ...these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. Love can change the world—and this is the real message of Christmas.

Please remember to pray for Emmaus on the first day of every month.

Rev John Whaley—December 2022

A word of encouragement from the National Emmaus Spiritual Director

Hebrews 12:1 – 3 Running with Endurance – ‘Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Considered him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.’

During this time of year when so many activities are on for all of us it is so easy to get caught up with events that our time begins to get eroded, until we realise it's time to just 'rest, restore and remember' our precious Saviour and Lord. God gave the author of Hebrews just the right words we need to help us in these times when we just have so much going on. The author tells us that a great cloud of witnesses surrounds us; these witnesses not only watch us but they looked to Jesus so they could run the race of Christian living with endurance.

As we celebrate around our nation in our Emmaus communities let us always remember God's love for our nation of Australia and for each other, remembering the first day of each month to commit to prayer communities far and wide and, believe with me that we will witness Emmaus rise again to the magnificent arm of service it is for our churches and to all believers, strengthening them for continued service to our Saviour and Lord. Let us not be defined by what we see but be truly defined by our faith in Christ. Remember that 'cloud of witnesses' ? they are 'cheering' us all on as we unite fixing our eyes on Jesus !

May the Saviour of Christmas be in your hearts, minds and souls bringing renewed endurance for 2023

Yours in Christ's love

Reverend Christine Rose

M.Ed. Studies (Counselling); B.Soc.Sci; Dip. Business; J.P. (Qual)

Gatherings Report

Our almost monthly, gatherings this year have grown from 20 to 30 plus, and our Post Walk gathering was the best, with many more in attendance. We as a board would LOVE to see that number as a regular occurrence. "Please Lord".

The Hosts for each gathering are either the board or a Reunion Group, who arrange the program, musician's, Communion officiator, and for the Fourth Day Speaker liaising with everyone for a smooth result. We have a times of praise and worship; being encouraged by our speaker; a reflection time and prayer time. Then of course there is Weave sang so joyfully that it always touches my heart, followed by a time of fellowship over supper.

The emails sent out reminding you all, of the gatherings IS important in this busy world that we live in. Please take note and write these in your diary as a 'would love to do'.

Our gatherings need YOU, so that we can continue the encouragement to others that we ourselves received at our Pilgrim Walk. Emmaus is about walking the road of life, side by side, some of us have very healthy church families and some of us don't and need the spiritual friendship that Emmaus can offer them. So please give a gathering or two per year 'a go', others will be so encouraged by your time sacrifice. And it will be appreciated.

The Gathering Dates for the beginning of 2023 are:-

FEBRUARY	Sat.	25 th	7pm	<u>South Perth Uniting Church.</u>
MARCH	Sat.	25 th	7pm	<u>South Perth Uniting Church.</u>
APRIL	Sat.	23 rd	7pm	<u>South Perth Uniting Church.</u>
MAY	Sat.	27 th	7pm	<u>South Perth Uniting Church.</u>
JUNE	Sat.	17 th	7pm	To be Advised.

Looking forward to happy times as we meet, united as one in our Lord.

Joy Loughton

Reunion Group Report

Each Reunion Group Leader has been encouraged to write a little report to you all, to finish off the year.

Joy Loughton

Willetton Warriors

Southern suburbs.

Julie Marshall - 0414 432 130

Meeting at

5 Corsair Drive, Willetton

Meeting on the 2nd Monday of the Month.

Joondalup Joybells

Northern suburbs.

Darren - 0404 751 981

Carolyn - 0409 901 854.

Meeting at

9 Nimrod Place, Hillarys

Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7 to 9pm.

Hillbillies

Eastern suburbs

Heather - 0408 565 315

Meeting at John and Anne Steeds' 12 Mustang Court, High

Wycombe.

Meeting on the 1st Monday of the month, 7.30 to 9.30pm

Peel Pilgrims

Far southern suburbs

Joy and Eric – 0408 675 163

Meeting at

22 Murdoch Drive, Singleton.

Meeting on Sunday afternoons – usually monthly.

Hillbillies Reunion Group Report

We meet on the first Monday of every Month of the year except January, at 7.30pm, at the lovely Home of Anne & John Steed 12 Mustang Court, High Wycombe and anyone who would like to join us is very welcome. We may be mature in age, just don't dismiss us because of that. Our Group still loves to Volunteer in different ways on our Perth Emmaus Walks. And creates lots of Agape each year. By the time you read this, we will have just held our end of year gathering at Anne & John's Home where we will share a Christmas Meal together to celebrate all that our lord and Saviour has given us this year.

We look forward to 2023 and what it will hold for our Perth Emmaus Community.

de colores

Heather Haggerty

Peel Pilgrim Report

We are a small but growing group, we had 6 at our End of Year breakup lunch on Sunday, with 5 who put in their apologies. There are 3 new members to our group Theresa and Charlie Beaglehold, and Vicky Mc Kenzie plus two husbands that usually come to any social events. We do struggle to 'think up' what to make, but do what we can. We do sometimes make 'a lemon' which we don't repeat. We enjoy the fellowship, sharing, prayer, afternoon tea and encouraging one another.

We meet on a Sunday 2pm usually monthly, at 22 Murdoch Drive in Singleton WA.

Contact Eric or Joy 08 9537 2541 0408 675 163 0448 194 992 (Jan 29th next time).

Hosting the Gatherings once or twice a year has become a norm, and is well received.

Joy Loughton

Willetton Warriors Report

Willetton Warriors meet on the second Monday of the month at the home of Kevin and Julie Marshall, 5 Corsair Drive Willetton.

All Perth Emmaus Community members who live in the general area of Willetton and surrounds are welcome to attend, starting at 7pm.

For further information, please phone Julie on 0414 432 130 or Kevin on 0414 432 125

Julie Marshall

Agape Report

This year we had an abundance of agape gifts for distribution at the Men's and Ladies' walks. **Thank you for the loving hands that made them.**

Join a Reunion Group or:

Boddington Agape Group

Cathy O'Dea – 0439 696 010

Meet the 1st Monday of the
month.

Willy Wags Agape Group

Nicole Sampson 0433 283 893

Southern Saints Agape Group

Ian Knight 0408 378 939.

Four pieces of agape at any one time is enough. This may mean that some pieces may not be put out. When choosing which pieces this may be – it would be the ones without a **Scripture reference** or **Reunion Group/Agape group identification name attached** in some way, that are chosen first.

Points to note when deciding on your agape piece: -

- How big will it be on completion. (Smallish is good).
- How might the receiver use this gift. (As a keepsake or to gift on).
- Is it a safe thing for a child to get hold of. (Could cut or be swallowed).
- Is it relevant, as an agape gift at the Emmaus Walk.
- Is it well presented. (Doesn't look rushed or badly made).
- Has a Bible verse attached.
- Is it identified for the returns of unused pieces.
(Reunion or Agape Groupname attached – in smaller print is good).
- If you are not in such a group >> then contact others, you know who live close(ish) to you and be an encourager. Meet and, 'presto done'.

KEEP up the great work everyone. 2023 is a new year – to try something different maybe. THINKING CAPS ON over the Christmas break.

Joy Loughton

Perth Emmaus Community

If from some reason you no longer wish to receive our Newsletter, please let us know by return email.

If you have something to ask, say or be thankful for Emmaus we would love to hear about it.

If you desire to be more involved in some way, please let us know.

Throughout this newsletter we have contact numbers that you can ring or message. Please don't be silent. Let your voice and servanthood be heard and used – for God's glory through His work in Emmaus in our state

Perth Emmaus Community Board 2023

Community Lay Director	Heather Haggerty	0408565315	cld@perth.emmaus.org.au
Community Spiritual Director	John Whaley	0429651378	whaleez@icloud.com
Secretary	Neal Leggo	0421747870	nnkda@iinet.net.au
Treasurer/Registrar	Cathy O'Dea	0409085680	symetric@iinet.net.au
Property & Supplies	Eric Loughton	0408675163	ericjoy1@tpg.com.au
Agape/Gatherings/Reunions	Joy Loughton	0448194992	ericjoy1@tpg.com.au
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