



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM



1996 - 2023

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## Perth Emmaus Community Newsletter

November 2023

### GATHERINGS

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

#### December

*Christmas Celebration  
& AGM  
Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> 6pm  
South Perth  
Uniting Church.*

#### February

*Gathering hosted by  
Peel Pilgrims  
Sat 17<sup>th</sup> 7pm  
South Perth  
Uniting Church.*

#### March

*Gathering hosted by  
Willetton Warriors  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> 7pm  
South Perth  
Uniting Church.*

#### April

*Gathering hosted by  
Joondalup Joybells  
Sat 20<sup>th</sup> 7pm  
South Perth  
Uniting Church.*

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Dear Perth Emmaus Community,

As we approach the end of 2023, it's time to reflect on the incredible journey we have embarked upon together. This year, we celebrated the successful completion of the Men's Walk 71 and the Ladies Walk 72, welcoming 20 new members into our Emmaus family. The transformative power of these walks continues to touch lives and bring us closer to God.

During our first gathering after the walks, we were blessed with two powerful testimonies that reminded us of the unwavering presence of God in our lives. These personal stories served as a reminder of the profound impact Emmaus has on individuals and our community.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my fellow board members for their unwavering dedication and commitment to the Perth Emmaus Community. Your selfless efforts and support have been instrumental in creating an environment of love, acceptance, and spiritual growth. As we look ahead, I encourage all members to consider joining the board and contributing to the continued success of our community. Together, we can make an even greater difference.

Additionally, I would like to emphasize the importance of attending our monthly gatherings. These gatherings provide an opportunity for us to come together, share our stories, and strengthen our faith. Your presence plays a crucial role in creating a vibrant and connected Emmaus community.

Lastly, I want to express our need for more volunteers. Volunteering is a beautiful way to serve and give back to our community. Whether it's helping with future walks, organizing events, or offering your skills, your involvement will be greatly appreciated.

As we bid farewell to 2023, let us carry the spirit of Emmaus in our hearts and continue to be instruments of God's love in our daily lives. May the coming year be filled with blessings, growth, and countless opportunities to serve our community.

I look forward to seeing you all at our final gathering of the year on the 2nd of Dec.

In His grace,  
Heather Haggerty  
CLD Perth Emmaus Community

## From the Community Spiritual Director

By the time this newsletter reaches you, it will be close to 4 weeks to Advent - when the catholic (universal) Christian Church rejoices in the birth of Jesus! Immanuel! God with us!

The Old Testament promises of God of the birth of a Redeemer-Messiah were fulfilled. For the sake of humanity & the nations, this was a huge event. The Son of God was born to die - for my transgressions! Then this gospel was to be proclaimed to the whole world - & 2000 years later, it has reached you! By God's grace!

Again, as Christians, we are challenged with celebrating the birth of Jesus to the glory of God - no mean feat! The Church has given us the opportunity by reminding us to prepare our hearts to worship the Babe of Bethlehem in Spirit & in truth. So, in these weeks leading up to December 25, consider how you, then your family, will express its gratitude for Jesus - the Father's gift to us.

“For God so loved the world that He gave...”

It's also a time when we have a great opportunity to testify of the Saviour to friends & acquaintances - Jesus is the reason for the season! - we have the best of excuses to chat, discuss & even debate the significance of this virgin birth, prophesied of centuries before the event. Even the chief priests knew that Messiah would be born in Bethlehem - because of Micah 5:2.

Then there are family celebrations of Christ's birth to consider! Much time, cash & energy goes into planning the Christmas meal. I would like to challenge you to give a serious amount of time & energy into planning how to invite Jesus to your meal so that He is honoured, spoken about. It's a great opportunity for the head of the house to read scripture, prayerfully give thanks & remind all to trust in this Baby who bore our sins on Calvary.

As the Emmaus Community, we all continue in our 4th Day by living for Jesus - our Saviour, Lord & King!

**De Colores!**

**Ross Patterson**



## Christmas Celebration Gathering and AGM

The Perth Emmaus Community invite you to gather for a Christmas Celebration and AGM on **Saturday 2 December at 6pm** at South Perth Uniting Church, Sandgate St South Perth

Come and join in as the community meet over a christmas celebration meal at 6pm.

A short AGM meeting will start at 7pm, followed by a Gathering and commissioning of the Board for 2024.

Gatherings are a wonderful time of Fellowship, Worship, Prayer, Sharing, Communion and Thanksgiving. **COME, ALL WILL BE READY!**

**Please Bring:** Christmas-themed Finger Foods for a light meal at 6pm and a small plate for supper

## Participating in the work of the Board for 2024

Our Annual General Meeting is coming up really soon. Importantly, the AGM will appoint members of the Perth Emmaus Community Board who are responsible for organisation and oversight of our walks.

Have you thought you'd like to support the work of the Perth Emmaus Community but you weren't sure what you could do? You can support by being on the Walk Teams and Walk Support on the Emmaus Walks, but you can also support Emmaus throughout the year through participation in the work of the Board.

But what does the Board do? Here's a quick breakdown of the roles on the Board

**COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR (CLD)** – Administrative oversight of the Community: Ensures that the Emmaus ideals are upheld and adhered to; Liaison with Advent Camp Site for Walks; Upfront person for the Community; co-ordinates Candle lighting and Closing; provides Newsletter reports and invites future Walk Lay Directors, as directed by the Board.

***This year we have two nominations that meet the criteria for the Community Lay Director role, Joy Loughton and Neal Leggo. We will be electing a CLD at the AGM!***

**COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR** - Maintains Spiritual oversight of the Community, takes Holy Communion as required.

**TREASURER** – Maintains financial records for the Community; tends to banking and payments; prepares budgets; arranges annual inspection of the Books of Account.

**SECRETARY** – Provides an Agenda and Records minutes of Board, special and annual general meetings; attends to correspondence.

**TEAM SELECTION** - convener of the team selection meeting, provides (through the team selection meeting) the list of people for the Walk Lay Director to use to call a team.

**TEAM TRAINING** – Responsible for organising the Orientation and Training Weekends.

**REGISTRAR** – Point of contact for all nominations for pilgrims on Walks; receive all application forms and send out acceptance letters; keeps Community Lay Director and Walk Lay Directors informed of pilgrim registrations.

**AGAPE** – Collect agape from Reunion Groups for distribution at the Walks; Agape letters/e-mails to other Emmaus Communities; Encourages community to be involved via newsletter and at Gatherings; Liaises with the Walk Agape support person; collects left over agape post Walks.

**REUNION GROUPS** – Use the Newsletter to encourage sponsors and new community members to form groups of support and encouragement; provides updates and information from the group's leaders to the board.

**GATHERINGS** – Co-ordinates the eleven events each year covering venue, leader, musicians, hosts, Fourth Day Speaker(s).

**PRAYER VIGIL / PALENCA** - Responsible for the Worldwide Prayer Vigil for each Walk; encourage community support via newsletter and at Gatherings; prepare the Walk Prayer Vigil boards. Encourage other Emmaus Communities to contribute agape letters/e-mails for the Walks here in Perth.

**MUSIC** - Keep and maintain the Community's music boxes and equipment; distribute boxes to Walk musicians; liaise regarding music for Gatherings and Candle lighting; annual license reporting.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - Be responsible for four newsletters per year e-mailed to membership. Gives a deadline and collects the board member's reports; includes notices of coming events well in advance.

**SPONSORSHIP** - Encourages sponsorship in Newsletter, Facebook and at Gatherings; provides educational information to the Community.

**SUPPLIES** - Ordering of supplies and maintaining equipment trailer; getting equipment to Orientation, Training and the Walks. Checks Trailer registration and License are up to date.

**WALK SUPPORT** – Oversight of catering and other loving and sacrificial support at the Walks, Orientation and Training weekends.

**IT and DATABASE** – Maintains the records of the Community – pilgrims, Community, Walk participants. Updates information regularly to provide correct information as needed.

We are looking for nominations for the Board for election at the AGM on 2 December. If you can think of anyone who would be great for these roles, please nominate them. If you think you'd like to join the board, chat to another community member and ask them to nominate you!

Election to the Board is for a period of up to three years, but you can choose to serve for a shorter time.

**Please come prepared to the AGM to select a board to organise the Emmaus Walks for 2024. A nomination form is included with this newsletter.**

## **WLD Neal Leggo's Report to the Community.**

This report on Men's Walk 71 to the Perth Emmaus Community is presented in a spirit of humility and faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ. The Walk was held at Advent Park, Maida Vale from 14 to 17 September 2023.

### **Pilgrims**

The team was blessed with a fantastic group of 9 Pilgrims. God clearly had things in His control because from the get go all of the Pilgrims were highly motivated. Just listening to the comments made by the Pilgrims at the closing service was an uplifting and blessed opportunity to see and hear the Lords gift to all who participated.

### **Team Formation**

As Lay Director I found that team formation was by far the most difficult task associated with the LD role and running a successful walk. Nevertheless, the quality of those who accepted the call to be on team was very high and this was an important factor in the success of the walk.

### **The Team**

The conference room team consisted of 18. Due to the small size of the team one talk was provided by the board representative and one by a community member. One of the highlights of the walk was the way the other team members covered the roles of those missing. They worked very harmoniously together.

All 15 talks were very good.

The 'talk work' was excellent. Both tables did chapel visits. Posters and presentations showed the wonderful spiritual impact each talk had for the pilgrims. Our Prayer Directors, Janice and Denis, kept the event covered in prayer throughout and were a wonderful support to the speakers. All members of the Walk 71 team were great in their roles without exception. I am ever so grateful to them.

### **Facilities**

Overall, Advent Park facilities were adequate for the purpose. However, there are some significant problems. I have provided a detailed report on the facilities to the board, who will review and see what can be done for future Walks.

### **Music and Entertainment**

Music in the conference room was mainly provided by the team's two Musical Directors, however when a Musical Director started feeling fatigued and strained voice, two of the ASD's with musical ability volunteered to assist. Having three or four musicians for several brackets

actually made for wonderfully uplifting sessions of worship. All pilgrims got involved with singing during worship. A solo guitarist played during our Saturday evening dinner, which was very much appreciated.

### **Kitchen and Dining Room**

The food was excellent and the efforts of the cook and kitchen staff and their service to the team and pilgrims was greatly appreciated. The lamb shanks served on a Saturday night were huge! The pilgrims (and the team) were blown away.

### **Agape**

The agape was wonderful and about the right amount. Several pilgrims specifically mentioned the impact it made for them. Thanks to the community for your agape work.

### **Candle lighting**

I was so pleased with the turnout for mens candle lighting. As always a heart warming vision as the team and pilgrims entered the hall. The team appreciated the Emmaus Community actively supporting the candle lighting and closing ceremonies for this Walk, and I thank all the members of the community who came, for their loving support.

### **Personal Reflection**

Perseverance is the title of the Walk Lay Director Talk and was very apt for me. I praise our Lord Jesus Christ for the strength received in answer to prayer, which enabled me to overcome three derailed attempts and persevere to eventually lead this Walk (in collaboration with Ross Patterson the WSD) finally some four years after my initial call to be a WLD. I am ever so grateful for the support of all board members, my reunion group and the Perth Emmaus community in general during this 'COVID journey'. I am very content to have finally been able to fulfill this significant chapter in my own Emmaus fourth day.

### **De Colores**

**Neal Leggo**

## **Joy's Report. How can you help?**

### **Secretary**

I have been sitting in Neil Leggo's seat for his year, while he has been the Men's Walk Lay Director, and now away in the USA caring for a daughter getting back to health following an accident, it has been an honour, even amid my little mistakes, that thankfully have usually been corrected in a timely manner.

Our monthly agenda has been full and well supported, getting the business done as has been required at the time. 'Homework' Tasks for the individual board members have usually been

done and not left to linger on. Various members have had leave for various reasons, and we have covered as we needed to for them.

Ross Patterson has already commenced the role of our Community Spiritual Director for 2024, and we gladly welcomed him, while sadly saying Goodbye to John Whaley. This man will not be forgotten, as we will be seeing him from time to time at gathering etc. I am sure.

## Reunion Groups

The Hillbillies - Have reported Anne Steed as their new leader for 2024. The Agape they produce is always well made and received – The venue will remain at Steed’s place. Ask for the details of when they meet.

Joondalup Joybells, I believe this group could do with some more folk to meet up and support each other in the Lord’s work and personal struggles.

The Willetton Warriors are still strong, and we Thank the Lord for their enthusiasm and great agape that they make, with loving hands.

The Peel Pilgrims – We struggle on. The few faithful’s that can come on a Sunday afternoon, are a blessing to each other, as they catch up and support each other. Sadly the others often have other commitments. We have a new member Enoch, a pilgrim on the last walk, sadly when he came to our meeting there was only 3 of us to welcome him , not that he minded. Bob Baird and Val Roberts could not make it (following Bob’s hip replacement, Val’s husband Ken’s too recent back operation, and Urshala’s Melbourne trip). Our last meeting for the year will be a lunch out on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

## How can you help?

Join a Reunion or Agape group or simply come and support others at the Gatherings

<b>Willetton Warriors</b>	<b>Joondalup Joybells</b>	<b>Hillbillies</b>	<b>Peel Pilgrims</b>
<i>Southern suburbs.</i>	<i>Northern suburbs.</i>	<i>Eastern suburbs</i>	<i>Far southern suburbs</i>
<i>Julie Marshall -</i>	<i>Darren - 0404 751 981</i>	<i>Anne – 94546973</i>	<i>Joy and Eric –</i>
<i>0414 432 130</i>	<i>Carolyn - 0409 901 854.</i>	<i>Meeting at</i>	<i>0408 675 163</i>
<i>Meeting at</i>	<i>Meeting at</i>	<i>John and Anne Steeds’</i>	<i>Meeting at</i>
<i>5 Corsair Drive,</i>	<i>9 Nimrod Place,</i>	<i>12 Mustang Court,</i>	<i>22 Murdoch Drive,</i>
<i>Willetton</i>	<i>Hillarys</i>	<i>High Wycombe.</i>	<i>Singleton.</i>
<i>Meeting on the</i>	<i>Meeting on the</i>	<i>Meeting on the</i>	<i>Meeting on</i>
<i>2nd Monday of the Month.</i>	<i>3rd Tuesday of the month,</i>	<i>1st Monday of the month,</i>	<i>Sunday afternoons (2pm).</i>
	<i>7 to 9pm</i>	<i>7.30 to 9.30pm</i>	<i>Next dates: 20th August;</i>
	<i>CHECK ANY CHANGES</i>		<i>29th October; then lunch</i>
	<i>BEFORE YOU GO.</i>		<i>on 3rd Decemb</i>

## Gatherings and AGM

Hosts for the Gatherings These Reunion groups host, once or twice a year at our Gatherings, by organizing the Fourth Day Speakers, checking with the CSD to serve the communion, to ask available Musicians and of course in the serving of the supper. We are blessed as a Board to have them in God’s service. The Board is then left to organize the Training Day and other Gatherings associated with the Walks.

I am very pleased to report with gratitude, the numbers at the Post Walk gathering held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October, was rather pleasing to see. The fellowship was ‘not to be missed’. IF by chance you were one of the misfortunate ones that just couldn’t come, please be sure that you place the Gathering dates onto your calendar and try to make a special effort every other time or so.

Our next Gathering will be held on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is the last chance you may have to wish people a Merry Christmas.

A shared finger food meal will start at 6pm, followed by the 7pm Gathering. At the South Perth Uniting Church. We are looking at having a short time allocated for the AGM proceeds. Never-the-less, it will a great time of encouragement and fellowship.

### **How can you help?**

Plesse pray about what the Lord may be asking you in the quietness of your time with Him each day. Is he asking you to put a little time aside for His work in Emmaus. If so, a Nomination Form is attached to this Newsletter. *Maybe you don’t think that you can offer yourself* – maybe someone else will, if so, be a Samuel and be saying ‘Here I am Lord send me’.

If you are definitely, hearing a “No my son/daughter, not at this time” then please pray about who the Lord would like you to consider – and ask them to pray about it. Then nominate them.

### **Prayer Vigil and Palenca**

The Prayer Vigil and Palenca has Steve Charles as the organizer to handle these in and out agape messages to and from the other Emmaus Communities, even to around the world. Thank you Steve, for your faithfulness. Steve is not on the Board but is in communication through me to the Board.

### **How can you help here?**

1. Always look up the prayer vigil and pop your name in – do this early and get your best time slot.
2. Put your hand to creating a message to another community having a Walk – or a general one that Steve can add to or send as it is, from the Perth Emmaus Community.

### **Agape**

Reunion groups and ‘agape’ groups gift some lovely agape, made with beautiful verses to match their gifts to the Walks.

Not to be missed is the valuable service that Greg Corlett has given to the Board over the year. He manages the Web-site and has often been in the Agape room at the Walks, and has been responsible for taking the Walk group photo, and the individual photos to be printed e.g.. for the Fourth Day packs.

I do need to take responsibility for the errors in the Contact sheets information supplied to the teams, and pilgrims with their Walk photo in their Fourth Day packs. Especially at the last Ladies Walk. My checking was not adequate at all. And I am told that the WLD hadn’t had an opportunity to look over it and to give the pilgrims and team the opportunity to correct any errors. I will ensure that more effort is in place in this area in the years to come.



## How can you help?

On Registration forms and Pilgrim Application forms, please print clearly; don't be one of those who rush things – like me!!

Thank you.  
De Colores

Joy Loughton  
0448 194 992



## 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	Ross Patterson	0429081242	rosspaddo@bigpond.com
Secretary	Neal Leggo	0421747870	secretary@perth.emmaus.org.au
Treasurer/Registrar	Cathy O'Dea	0409085680	treasurer@perth.emmaus.org.au registrar@perth.emmaus.org.au
Property & Supplies	Eric Loughton	0408675163	ericjoy1@tpg.com.au
Agape/Gatherings/Reunions	Joy Loughton	0448194992	ericjoy1@tpg.com.au
Prayer Vigil/Palenca	Joy Loughton/ Steve Charles	0448194992	ericjoy1@tpg.com.au stephen.p.charles@gmail.com
Newsletter & Facebook	Darren Sampson	0403881235	darrensampson@mac.com
Database & Website	Darren Gibbon	0404751981	darren2014@hotmail.com
Team Selection & Training Music	Karen Handley Vacant	0449981529	karen.perthemmaus@gmail.com
Walk Support	Carolyn Gibbon	0409901854	carolyn-2014@hotmail.com
Team Selection/Team Training	Karen Handley	0403349903	karenhandley@iinet.net.au