



Gatherings

1. **20 APRIL 7pm**
South Perth Uniting Church
2 Sandgate St
South Perth

2. **18 MAY 7pm**
South Perth Uniting Church
2 Sandgate St
South Perth

3. **15 June 7 pm**
Willetton Christian Church.
Cnr Portcullis/Gloucester Ct, Willetton.

Training Dates for Walks 2024

- 15 June at Willetton Christian Church
- 20 July at Rehoboth Christian College Kenwick
- 17 August at Rehoboth Christian College

Walk Dates 2024

Men's Walk: 5-8 September
Gareth Stafford WLD

Ladies Walk 12-15 September
Narelle Parker WLD

Both walks will be at Advent Park

From The Community Lay Director

A big welcome to every one of you. May you experience God's renewal and refreshing this year.

Our God is good and will never leave us to do new things that He has called us to do alone. We need to take care not to run ahead of Him. This can lead to quick, rash decisions.

I have had my share of doing that this year already, so I have taken a step back and will be attempting to hold back and let things sit to hear what God wants.

I am seeking God's favour in the decisions the Board and I make on behalf of the community.

Our encouragement as a community requires us to each look to Him to determine our part in the work, He has for us individually and as a group.

The Walk to Emmaus is God's work. It is a God-given instrument for encouraging church leadership to be refreshed and renewed. Through the walks, we can share God's promises and the impact His grace has had on our lives.

Our fourth-day speakers at each gathering showcase this, as do the pilgrims sharing at the end of each walk.

How blessed we are to hear that God is at work, and to be a small part of continuing his work through Emmaus.

Prayer Request

Our prayers continue for complete healing for Darren Sampson. He is unable to continue in his role on the board at present.

Board members are pulling together to cover all aspects of Board responsibilities. We have a few vacancies at present being covered.

Walks

The walks this year will come to pass through our prayers and obedience in action. We are reminded that every successful walk is the work of God himself.

He goes before us, and the Holy Spirit is our helper assisting each of us to undertake roles and activities in His name.

Through His grace, those in leadership can deal wisely with whatever comes to them.

In new roles and old, we may make mistakes, but through God's grace and the support of others, we can work together as the hands and feet of Christ to achieve that which God has asked of us. Let us work together encouraging each other to bring to pass the planned walks for this year knowing that we work to bring glory to our God while fostering leadership in Christian brothers and sisters.

De colores

Joy Loughton CLD

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Reflection James 2:14-26

¹⁴ My brothers and sisters, what good is it if people say they have faith but do nothing to show it? Claiming to have faith cannot save anyone, can it? ¹⁵ Imagine a brother or sister who is naked and never has enough food to eat. ¹⁶ What if one of you said, "Go in peace! Stay warm! Have a nice meal!"? What good is it if you do not give them what their body needs? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith is dead when it does not result in faithful activity.

¹⁸ Someone might claim, "You have faith and I have action." But how can I see your faith apart from your actions? Instead, I will show you my faith by putting it into practice in faithful action. ¹⁹ It is good that you believe that God is one. Ha! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble with fear.

²⁰ Are you so slow? Do you need to be shown that faith without actions has no value at all?

²¹ What about Abraham, our father? Wasn't he shown to be righteous through his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² See, his faith was at work along with his actions. His faith was made complete by his faithful actions.

²³ So the scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and God regarded him as righteous. What is more, Abraham was called God's friend. ²⁴ So you see that a person is shown to be righteous through faithful actions and not through faith alone. ²⁵ In the same way, wasn't Rahab the prostitute shown to be righteous when she received the messengers as her guests and then sent them on by another road? ²⁶ As the lifeless body is dead, so faith without actions is dead.

Thoughts to Ponder:

- **How will I serve Jesus?**
- **When I serve Jesus, no act of kindness is too small.**



SPONSORSHIP

THE MOST IMPORTANT JOB OF ALL

- Good sponsorship is the first act of Agape.
- Good sponsorship undergirds the whole weekend with sacrificial love on behalf of each pilgrim embodying the personal commitment of the community to each pilgrim
- Good sponsorship is the foundation for a healthy, effective Emmaus Movement that is fulfilling its true purpose: the development of Christian leaders and the renewal of the church in ministry

WHY DO WE SPONSOR? WHAT IS OUR AIM?

- It is **not** trying "to get all my friends to go" or to "fix people's problems" or to reproduce one's own religious experience in others.
- Rather, the sponsor aims to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who, in turn, will bring new life and vision to the work of the church in the congregation, home, workplace, and community.
- Sponsorship aims to build up the Body of Christ.

Do you feel led to invite a pilgrim to the 2024 walks?

Please prayerfully consider whom God is asking you to sponsor.

Pilgrim Forms

An editable PDF is available via our registrar, Cathy O'Dea.

registrar@perth.emmaus.org.au

We will shortly also be making this form also available on the Perth Emmaus Website for downloading as well.

NATIONAL EMMAUS CONFERENCE 2024

This was held via Zoom on 23 March.

Perth Emmaus was well represented by Joy and Eric Loughton, Ross Patterson, Karen Handley, and Cathy O'Dea

Jo Toi, the National Lay Director, with support from Mostyn Krollig, the National Newsletter Editor, led the meeting. Christine Rose, the National Spiritual Director, led a time of devotion and prayer.

After the AGM, break-out groups were formed to engage members in discussion on several subjects including how we can engage the support of the local church as members of Emmaus.

Discussion summaries were shared.

Many of the issues we face here in WA in engaging members in the movement and encouraging them to both sponsor and serve on teams are experienced elsewhere across the nation.

Various strategies were discussed, and successes and obstacles were shared. The movement is keen to encourage younger members to step up to leadership to ensure the Emmaus community continues to have an impact.

The National Secretariat will be discussing the information gathered on the day to support the work of the movement.



Stéphane Brooks was the guest speaker at the conference. He is employed by the Emmaus Ministries Board in the USA, where

he continues to work to provide spaces for persons to experience God's grace in new and profound ways.

Stéphane believes that knowledge is one of the keys to liberation and has great hope for the Emmaus Ministries classroom. For him, this informational and transformational tool will lead to Emmaus Ministries communities continuing to step into their calling to renew disciples and strengthen local churches.

Have you checked it out?

Go to

<https://emmausministriesuniversity.upperroom.org/>



WHAT IS AGAPE?

The word agape was used by early Christians to refer to the self-sacrificing love of God for humanity and the reciprocating love toward God and among one another. In simple terms, agape means love, as in the love of God.

In the Emmaus Movement, agape acts are special acts of prayer, sacrifice, and expressions of Christian love on behalf of a Pilgrim by another Christian.

What are examples of agape acts and when are they presented?

- Sponsorship of another pilgrim is the ultimate act of agape since by prayerfully seeking God's guidance and through self-sacrifice, you can bless another individual with the experience of three days in His presence.
- Agape letters from other communities and the 72-hour prayer vigil are introduced on Friday afternoon and illustrate God's love for everyone

through community prayer and sacrifice.

- On Saturday, the pilgrims become increasingly aware of table agape which is the same for everyone but shows up as a gift for each person, reflecting the fact that God loves us all the same but cares for each of us individually.
- On Sunday afternoon, the personal agape letters from family and friends communicate God's love for each pilgrim in personal ways that are unique through relationships.

How might you demonstrate agape within the Perth Emmaus Community?

Are you being called to be:

- a sponsor?
- a team member
- a prayer vigil participant?
- a reunion group agape gift maker?
- a letter writer?
- a candlelight vigil participant
- a support team worker?
- a closing ceremony encourager?

Please contact the following Board members if you need further information.

- Sue Arthurs for Agape gift making sue.arthurs@edutel.com.au
- Carolyn Gibbon for walk support. carolyn-2014@hotmail.com
- Steve Charles for prayer vigils (stephen.p.charles@gmail.com)
- Cathy O'Dea registrar for forms for pilgrims, conference room team, and support team members. registrar@perth.emmaus.org.au

Walk Support Registration

If you would like to register to be part of the Walk Support team for this year's Perth Emmaus Community walks (Men's 05 - 08 September and the Women's 12 - 15 September), please click the following link to register your interest and details:

[PEC – Walk Support Registration](#)

Alternatively, just scan the following QR Code:



Prayer Vigil Request

Brisbane South Emmaus Community have a number of walks coming up in May. to sign into the following Prayer Vigil page and register your details:

[Active Prayer Vigils \(emmaus.org.au\)](http://emmaus.org.au)



Membership Database

The PEC Board is updating our membership database, following queries in recent months from members not receiving a newsletter via email. In doing so, we have identified inconsistencies with some of our member's email preferences.

In seeking to remedy this, the Board has approved the decision that all members where an inconsistency was identified will by default receive a copy of the PEC Newsletter via email.

Those wishing to unsubscribe/opt-out can still do so by emailing darren2014@hotmail.com, with the subject heading "UNSUBSCRIBE".