



www.crosspointemmaus.org

Cross Point Emmaus

Cross Point Quarterly Newsletter©
Copyright 2021 Cross Point Walk to Emmaus

MMXXI Number 1

June 2021

THE TIME IS NOW! LET'S LIGHT THE FIRE!!

Dear CROSS POINT EMMAUS COMMUNITY,

THE TIME IS NOW to “turn your worries into worship and watch God turn your battles into blessings.”
Let’s ignite our fire once again for God, for Grace and for our upcoming Fall Walks.

We announced in the last few weeks that we will be going ahead with our Fall Walks #109 & #110, and we can’t be more excited and ready! We have all had one roller coaster ride of a year and are anxious to be able to meet again and celebrate God’s Love and Grace through attending our church functions, Emmaus Gatherings, and Walks. I know I have missed seeing so many of you and I believe we all could use a good dose of Gods Grace! Amen? AMEN!!

As this newsletter is being sent out, Melissa and Gary, Lay Directors of our upcoming Walks, are planning trainings and putting teams back together. They have been preparing for the Walks that they have been commissioned, for 2 years now, and they are asking for your help! They would appreciate lots of prayers and they would love for you to volunteer your time and love. They need Conference Room and Hands and Feet team members. Please fill out an application online or contact myself or them directly.

Oh, and one more thing! We are going to need some pilgrims! Pray, Pray, Pray. Then ask. God is Moving!!

De Colores,
Amy Heller
Community Lay Director

June Gathering

Sunday
June 27, 2021
3:00 pm

FUMC Ardmore’s
Colvert Ministry Center

GATHERINGS

Bring a fingerfood dish and friends (even non-Emmaus) and help us prepare, as a community, for Walks 109 and 110! By bringing a non-Emmaus friend(s), you introduce them to the community and they can see for themselves what our community is about. We are not a “private club” as some have been misinformed, so invite someone new to any Gathering! Our Send-off, Candlelight and Closing services are the events reserved only for Emmaus Community members.

We will follow the format of food first, then worship, news and announcements, lay talk, and end with Holy Communion.

Do you have new ideas for Gatherings? Such as, should we host multiple Gatherings on the same date in several counties (every other month) to ease with travel and attendance; and then one “community-wide” Gathering a year? Continue with community-wide Gatherings every other month in various locations? Would your church like to host a Gathering? Would you or your Reunion Group like to be a part of the Gathering Committee? Contact Melissa West at 580-465-4012, mysunshine0225@yahoo.com.

SPONSORSHIP - THE COMMUNITY'S STRENGTH

Sponsorship is more than "signing up people for the Walks.". The Model contains many points about sponsorship, and I will share several from "The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus," pages 13-20.



- First, good sponsorship is the first act of agape before a Walk ever begins; the experience of the Walk for a pilgrim really begins with how we handle sponsorship.
- Second, good sponsorship undergirds the whole weekend with sacrificial love on behalf of each pilgrim. Sponsors use discernment in recruiting pilgrims, embody the personal commitment of the community to each pilgrim, and provide personal acts of agape during the three days for the pilgrims. These acts of agape include prayer, agape letters, presence at Candlelight and Closing, and follow-up.
- Third, 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. Wood and Roy write in *Day Four: The Pilgrim's Continued Journey*, "**The strength of any Emmaus Community is a direct result of that community's recruiting practices. If the community is committed to recruiting strong church leaders for the purpose of strengthening the local church, then the community will be a strong vital force in the renewal movement.**"
- Emmaus is for active Christians and members of churches whose own renewal will mean new energy, commitment, and vision in the church and everyday environments for Christ's sake.
- Emmaus is right for many people – but not for everyone. The religious background or emotional condition of some people may make Emmaus an improper discipleship tool for them.
- Wise sponsorship is purposeful and prayerful; unwise sponsorship is haphazard and undiscerning.
- Sponsorship is like being a godparent. A godparent doesn't just stand with a person at the front of the church, but helps him or her grow in the spiritual life.

Given the importance of sponsorship, Boards of Directors may develop local guidelines and reasonable expectations to ensure responsible sponsorship (page 17 of the Handbook). The Cross point Board of Directors considers Sponsorship to be critical to a Pilgrim's Walk experience, and to the Community's growth and stability. To help sponsors balance all of their responsibilities towards their pilgrims and pilgrims' families during the Walk weekend, the Board strongly recommends that a sponsor **limit their sponsorship to 2 pilgrims per Walk**. This will help a sponsor with being able to meet the needs of their pilgrims, including such things like getting their pilgrim to Camp on Thursday night, making the pilgrim's bed, visiting with the spouse over the weekend, assisting with childcare, obtaining agape letters, taking their pilgrim home after closing, taking their pilgrim to a Fourth Day meeting, helping the pilgrim get connected with a Reunion Group, and being a valuable source during the pilgrim's Fourth Day journey. It's a privilege to sponsor someone, but with that privilege comes real responsibility. On the surface the process seems easy, but fulfilling the responsibilities can be exciting and exhausting. Yet, it is spiritually rewarding!

For more information, visit our website at www.crosspointemmaus.org or contact Judy Roberts, Registrar, at 580-504-7924, muchhunting@hotmail.com.

Important Sponsor Dates

Thursday Night Send-Off @ 7:00pm Men's - Sept 2, Women's - Sept 9

Saturday Night Candlelight @ 8:00pm Men's - Sept 4, Women's - Sept 11

Sunday Closing @ 4:00pm Men's - Sept 5, Women's - Sept 12

Fourth Day @ 6:00pm September 14
Location TBD

SNACKS!!!

Every Walk depends on many important things. One that we may take for granted, because we know it is coming, is snacks. Think back to your Walk and how these “treats” mysteriously appeared just when you were hungry. Okay. You were never hungry on a Walk, but think of how food is a way of showing love for another person—an agape gift. Now is the time to begin signing up to donate snacks and drinks to those pilgrims on the next Walks. Patti Tickel is the board member currently overseeing snacks. She needs commitments— not at the last minute, though! Funds are limited for snack purchasing, so we need your donations! Please sign up on the website, by clicking on the link on the “Forms/Signups” page. Select the items you would like to donate, for either the men’s or women’s, or BOTH!! Contact Patti at ptickel@hotmail.com or 580-795-4388, if you would like donate and are having difficulty signing up online. Thank you!

VOLUNTEERING - WE NEED YOU

Please be praying about serving for the next Walks. If you want to volunteer, please fill out a volunteer form online at www.crosspointpointemmaus.org. Deadline for Conference Room Volunteers is June 30th. You may also contact the Lay Directors: Gary Heller garylee@fitnesslady.net or 580-465-8448, and Melissa Grace melissagrace52@gmail.com or 580-465-9040.

Cross Point Emmaus 2021 Board

Community Lay Director - Amy Heller
Community Spiritual Director - Rev. Joel Thompson
Assistant Community Lay Director - Kirk Blancett
Secretary - Melissa West
Treasurer - Jerold Phillips
Kitchen/Snack - Patti Tickel
Letter Agape/Prayer Room - Melissa Grace
Candlelight/Sponsor’s Hour - Steve Littrell
Setup / Tear Down - Jay Grace
Literature / Supplies - Gary Heller
Fourth Day - David Daniel
Gatherings - Melissa West
Music/AV - Rick Hamilton
Table Agape - Terry Pierson
Registration - Judy Roberts
Newsletter - Kenna Johnson

TABLE AGAPE

Remember how you felt on your Walk, when you entered the dining room and found all of the goodies at your seat? Wasn’t it fun to wonder what would be left at the next meal? Let’s give that same feeling to our next Fall pilgrims! If you haven’t started working on items with your Reunion Group, please make plans to start. We need 72 pieces of agape per Walk. Be sure to identify your reunion group’s name on the agape.

Contact Terry Pierson at papat1954@hotmail.com or 580-220-8737.

*“We say this all the time: the walks
run on prayer!”*

Sign Up for the Prayer Vigil online!

SET UP AND TEAR DOWN VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to assist Jay Grace with setting up and/or tearing down the Tabernacles for the Walks, please contact him. The camp has a few employees, but it takes the community’s help to get the gathering buildings prepared for each Walk. The more volunteers, the faster it goes! You can reach Jay at 580-465-1040 or jaygrace52@gmail.com.

THANK YOU!

As we are beginning to plan and prepare for another set of Walks, the Board would like to say “thank you for serving!” Are you thinking, “I didn’t serve on the last walk? Did I?” There are many ways to serve and many of you do it without knowing.

Thank you for the cookies you baked, for that delicious cheese ball, and for the fresh fruit. Thank you for the agape gifts that show your love at meal times. Thank you for coming to Candlelight and giving the pilgrims a little glimpse of heaven. Thank you for the prayers and the letters. Thank you for welcoming the teams into your church and feeding them as they prepared. Thank you for the applause at Opening and Closing. Did I mention the food you always bring to gatherings? Thanks a lot (especially for those little meatballs!) and for taking the time to attend and sharing memories. Thank you for supporting this community and making each new pilgrim feel as though he/she is special—because they are! And guess what? You are too! Thank you for serving!

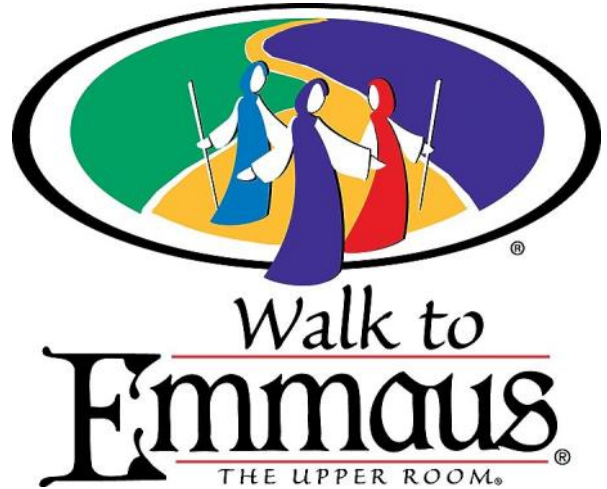
On the Road to Emmaus

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles¹⁴ from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

....
²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

—Luke 24: 13-16, 28-32



Note: If you have anything to add to the next quarterly Newsletter, send your copy or photos to Kenna Johnson at kennagail@yahoo.com.

Please be mindful of space considerations, relevancy, and credit as necessary. No copyrighted works can be included without permissions. All submissions will be subject to editing as to length and content.

Most members of the Cross Point Emmaus community receive Newsletters and information by email. Please ask your Emmaus friends if they receive the Newsletter. We do not want to accidentally omit anyone.