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Cross Point Emmaus

Cross Point Quarterly Newsletter©
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MMXXII Number II

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Dear Crosspoint Emmaus Community,

We have been planning for the September 2022 Walks for three years. Yes! We last held Walks in 2019 and are FINALLY able to move forward to hold them. With starting trainings and then stopping trainings for two go-rounds, due to the pandemic, our lay directors are tired and weary....BUT more than anything, THEY WANT TO FINISH WHAT GOD HAS CALLED THEM TO DO!!

Dates have been set for 2022: Men's Walk #109 - September 22-25 and Women's Walk #110 - September 29-October 2.

Lay Directors, Gary Heller (Walk #109) and Melissa Grace (Walk #110), NEED VOLUNTEERS to work the Walks. If you have ever previously served in the Conference Room, we need you! If you have previously served on the Hands and Feet team at least once, we need to know if you're available and willing to train to serve on the conference room team! If you're available to work the Hands and Feet team, either of the weekends, but especially the first one, we need you!

Here's the process for the Conference Room team.

1. Men interested in helping in the conference room can text or call Gary (580) 504-8336. He needs folks willing to give Talks and also serve as table leaders.
2. Women interested in serving on the conference room team can text or call Melissa (580) 465-9040.
3. Applications must be completed and submitted, then the Emmaus Selection committee must approve team members before Gary and Melissa can ask a person to serve in a particular role. We are getting short on time, so we are asking those who can help to contact the Lay Directors directly this time and follow up with the application.

The process for the Hands and Feet teams will be:

1. Complete an application online or print one off the website and mail it in.
2. If you have already filled out an application (even three years ago when we started), we have those for the Hands and Feet Team!! If you have already said YES when they have called/texted/emailed any of the past three times, you can still express willingness to help, by contacting Gary or Melissa.

The Lay Directors have not reached out to the Hands and Feet team for this set of Fall Walks, yet. The Hands and Feet team IS VERY NECESSARY and will be handled separately in a month or two. The first priority right now is making sure we have a fully staffed Conference Room team, of willing and joyful servants, who are ready to help with these Walks.

What can you do?? Pray about it. Let a Lay Director know you're available. Complete a volunteer application.

A grant has been received that will help fund scholarships for team members, as well as pilgrims. Costs to host a walk have gone up and these scholarship funds from the United Methodist Lake Country District are greatly appreciated. (Thank you, Lord, for this provision!)

Let's Do THIS!

Your Crosspoint Emmaus Board

WE NEED TEAM MEMBERS FOR FALL WALKS!!!!

Men's #109 – September 22-25

Women's #110 – September 29-October 2

Scholarships are available!

It has been a long road to get where we are now. Thursday, May 12, the Emmaus Board met. (During each of our meetings, a board member gives a devotion.) This time, it was given by Melissa West on "What is the Heart of a Servant?" She reminded us the heart of a servant gives of time, talents, and treasure to serve others. She reminded us of the overwhelming amount of love she felt (and we all did) on our original Walks. She reminded us that it was the people coming out of nowhere who made our Walks so special. Do you remember how many people were behind the scenes for snacks, meals, and dining tables? These things just popped up ready for us to sit down and enjoy. Cabins were cleaned and beds straightened....so many LITTLE things and ways that others sacrificed their time and energy to do for US!!?! No task was too small for Jesus. No task is too small for us. Jesus defined service by showing us how to be among people and serving others. Our service is rooted in JOY, not duty. (Free us for joyful obedience, Lord!)

Following the meeting, the Board laid hands on and prayed for us (Gary Heller and Melissa Grace). We were weary. We were tired. We have been frustrated that it has taken so long to get to hold a Walk. We have held four trainings with two different teams and now we are starting again. AND WE ARE STARTING AGAIN! We are on team #3 (which is a combination of the first two teams and some new team members.) This prayer time was peaceful, filling and so special. Allergies kicked up in the room and there wasn't a dry eye in the place, as board members shared and prayed from their hearts for God to SHOW us what He's doing; for Him to throw us a biscuit for wisdom, for understanding, for perseverance to finish this strong. Words were spoken against satan and the evil ways he's been active over the past three years to separate us from our reunion groups, churches, and each other. No more. NO MORE. Prayers also for God to FILL the hearts of His faithful...the ones He has called to lead these walks and for angels to whisper into the hearts of those He is calling to serve alongside the leaders. For the spark from the beginning to be flamed into a full-fledged fire. For the fire and passion to return to us and our community.

We want to express a huge thank you to each and every one who has said Yes at various points in the process over the past three years. We truly appreciate it so much. And now as we work towards the finish, we appreciate those who HAVE said Yes! and those who WILL say Yes!, as we work first to complete the Conference Room teams and then the Hands and Feet teams. The time is now. Help us get these walks rolling again. Invite others you know that have been on the Walk to help. We need you. Christ is counting on us and we are counting on Him.

De Colores,
Gary Heller and Melissa Grace, Walks #109 and #110

Cross Point Emmaus Brothers & Sisters,

In reading my daily devotional for the day, the question was posed: "Which comes first for a Christian disciple: believing or belonging?" The author of the devotion believed that belonging is the starting point. Jesus calls his disciples to follow him long before he asks them about who they believe him to be.

When I pondered on this, I thought of our Cross Point Emmaus Community. A community where we can come together to fellowship (belong) and worship Jesus Christ (believe). I am excited to let you know that we are having Fall Walks this year! The men's Walk #109 will be September 22-25, led by Gary Heller. The women's Walk #110 will be September 29 - October 2, led by Melissa Grace.

The past three years have been hard. Every time we scheduled a Walk, a surge of Covid would emerge. This year, I ask that you pray for God's hedge of protection for the team and the pilgrims. Speaking of pilgrims, start praying for who God is leading you to ask to come and experience the Walk to Emmaus - God's agape love poured out to others.

I have missed seeing and visiting with so many of you. I'm ready to see your smiling face and give a big O hug (belong), then worship together when we lift our voice to our Lord Jesus Christ (believe).

May God richly bless you as you continue your 4th day.

De Colores!
Patty Tickel, Community Lay Director



'Let's do this!'

Do you remember how much table agape you received when you were on your walk? Remember the candy and ear plugs left on your pillow at night? Remember when you first saw the placemats that had your name on them with Jesus saying, "I love you!" ? I do! All the agape I received was special to me! Now it's time to show our new pilgrims how much love the Emmaus community has for them! Remember it's the thought that counts! It doesn't have to be much. Get together with your reunion group or just do something on your own! God will bless any effort! It's time now. Let's do this!

Terry Pierson

JUNE GATHERING
Saturday, June 4, 2022
6:00 PM
Location TBD

It's a Reunion!!
Bring a donation. Bring your Emmaus friends. We will follow the format of mingle, worship, news/announcements, layperson 4th Day Share, and end with Holy Communion.

Do you have new ideas for Gatherings? 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.

"BUILD IT BACK" SUPPLY DRIVE

We need to replace items that were damaged, while stored in our shed at Cross Point Camp. Inclement weather created holes and gaps, in which wild life entered the shed; both were catastrophic to our supplies!

Here are some things we need:

- Helium Balloon Tank
- Agape Paper Sacks (lunch size)
- Alter Kneeling Pads – Recovered
- 12 Large/X-Large Umbrellas
- 72 Seat Cushions (butt agape)
- 8 Banners for the Conference Room – hand made or bought (*i.e. Sunrise, De Colores, Jesus with the 2 on the Walk to Emmaus, Talk Titles*)
- Markers
- Pens
- Pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Scotch Tape
- Painter's Tape
- Rubber Bands
- Paper Clips
- Binder Clips (small, medium)

We will utilize our next Gathering for a supply drive. Bring any donation!

Greetings Cross Point Emmaus Community!

Because I am fairly new to the Cross Point Emmaus Community and the CPE Board of Directors, I want to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Steve Littrell. My wife, Wanda, and I have been the pastors at First UMC in Madill for about 2 ½ years. I was a pilgrim at the Table of Paul on Great Plains Walk to Emmaus #24 in January of 2001, over 21 years ago. Since then, I have worked dozens of Walks and/or served on the Boards of five different Fourth Day Communities in Oklahoma: Cross Point Emmaus, Great Plains Emmaus, Northwest Emmaus, SWJC Kairos Torch (serving on Torch teams in four different juvenile prisons in OK), and Pioneer Country Chrysalis. For the first five years of my Emmaus journey, I served as a lay person; and for the last sixteen, I have served as clergy.

My current responsibility as an Assistant Spiritual Director on your Cross Point Emmaus Board is to facilitate and make the necessary arrangements for Sponsor's Hour and Candlelight. I cannot wait to pray for our new pilgrims! I cannot wait to light a candle and sing "Jesus, Jesus" to them! I love the ministry of the Walk to Emmaus and I am excited for our Cross Point Community to become active again after struggling through two very difficult Covid years. Please get excited with me! It is time for us to gather and worship! It is time for us to Walk to Emmaus together! It is time to begin inviting the next wave of Emmaus Pilgrims to experience God's Amazing Grace! It is time.

De Colores!
Rev. Steve Littrell

CROSS POINT CAMP/EMMAUS PRICING

Cross Point Camp had to increase their prices by 19%. This also includes the cost for them to host our district's Walk to Emmaus. The new Volunteer price for an entire Walk is \$200. If you volunteer without overnight stays, the cost is \$65 a day, with meals included. If you can only volunteer a portion of the days and want to stay the night, the cost is \$65 a day, plus \$8 for each meal.

Scholarships are available for those who need them! Please do not hesitate to complete an application for a scholarship; we do not want cost to be a deciding factor in volunteering!

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Psalm 51:12

PAYPAL DONATIONS & PAYMENTS

Do you know that you can donate monetarily to our Community through PayPal? You may use this feature to pay team and candidate fees or donate for any designated purpose (snack agape, scholarship fund, general fund, etc). You may also choose to setup recurring donations. Visit our website and click on "Donate," or login to your own PayPal account and send your donation to "info@crosspointemmaus.org." Please specify what the donation or payment is intended for, in comments/purpose. You may also scan this QR Code to donate on a mobile device.



On the Road to Emmaus

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^a 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

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