



### Vol. 25 No. 1 – January 2024

Epiphany is one of my favorite times of year. It may be partly because my husband and I were engaged on Epiphany Eve, but I've always been a stickler for observing the twelve days of Christmas AFTER December 25, as they should be! Of course, I leave my decorations up until January 6<sup>th</sup>, too – and, admittedly, it is a handy excuse for getting cards and gifts delivered late! I love the story of the Magi because they represent the Good News being spread to people of all nations. (My most recent addition to a nativity collection has wise men traveling on a camel, an elephant, and an Arabian stallion.) I am reminded by Epiphany that Jesus came for us all, without regard to our skin color, gender, political ideology, wealth status, church denomination, or even where (or whether) we made our walk to Emmaus. He calls us simply to love one another with that same lack of regard for our differences. May you love and be loved this Christmas/Epiphany season and throughout 2024 as Jesus loves and is loved by us. And if that love should express itself in a donation to Emmaus, or sponsorship of a pilgrim, or serving on a team, or holding all in your prayers, then Hallelujah!

May your 2024 be blessed.

Barbara Fike Community Lay Director





## **Upcoming Walks for 2024**

Go to azemmaus.org for new applications and deadlines.

Lakeview	UMC, Sun	City
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Men's Walk 259 – 2/15/24 Lay Director Ed Taylor

Lay Director Joyce Trevolt

Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff

Men's Walk 261 - 7/18/24 Lay Director Scott Mathe

Women's Walk 260 - 2/29/24 Women's Walk 262 - 7/25/24 Lay Director Julie Vlieg



Remember your Baptism. These words get said fairly regularly in churches across the country as we are reminded of the commitments that were made at that time. For some of us, those promises were made for us because we were still infants. For others, you spoke responses to questions that were asked of you and professed your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. For most of us, the memory of that day is faint at best and we probably can't recall exactly the questions that were asked. But that is not what "Remember your Baptism" means.

When Jesus was baptized in the River Jordan, he and John most likely spoke to each other in Hebrew or Aramaic, not the Greek language in which the snippet of conversation is recorded. In Hebrew, the word "remember" has a different meaning than "recall." When we recall something, we are able to describe from our memories the events and dialog. When we remember something, we honor the event or commitments. God remembers the covenant made with humankind through Adam and Eve, through Noah, through Abraham, through David, through Moses, and through Jesus Christ. God remains ever-faithful, honoring the promises even when we do not.

As you read this letter, we are still in the 12 days of Christmas (December 25 through January 5), but we are moving quickly to the celebration of Epiphany (January 6) and then Jesus' baptism. Though these dates get little notice in our society, they are important dates for the ministry of Jesus. As we approach our Walk to Emmaus weekends, we are to remember our baptism and the glorious God we worship. Jesus opened the doors of Heaven through his birth, life, death, and resurrection. We remember the events of Jesus' life as we strive to live into the promises of baptism. We offer an opportunity to others to experience the presence of Christ in their lives through the Walk to Emmaus weekends, but that only becomes real when our experience is real.

Authentic worship is something we carry with us in our daily lives. How we treat others. The awe of God's handiwork in creation and how we exercise stewardship of all that God has given us. These are how we remember our baptisms.

The Walk to Emmaus is not a baptismal event, but it is an opportunity to be renewed in our faith and be restored in our eagerness to serve God. I pray that you will remember your baptism each day and live your fourth days with the enthusiasm you had when you first recognized that you are a beloved child of God.

De Colores!

Carl Peterson-Community Spiritual Director



Thank you everyone who has donated to Arizona Walk to Emmaus in 2023. January is our big bill time. The insurance for the truck and corporation will be \$3586 together. Remember when you are writing checks for donations or fees, make them out to AZ Walk to Emmaus. You can also use Zellle. There is only one account for the state of Arizona. I apologize that I am behind in writing donation letters. It started with laptop and printer issues. Then some health issues.

Mary Ann Crist-Treasurer

# Please keep our teams in prayer:

#### EMMAUS WALK #259 Team

#### Spiritual Team

Bob Holliday Jim Wiltbank

#### Leadership team

Ed Taylor - LD, Perseverance Don Campbell - Music Leader, Priority John Campbell - ALD, Priesthood of Believers John Ross - ALD, 4th Day Scott Mathe - ALD, Piety Joe Rudder - HC, Servanthood (team)

#### Talk Team

Jon Achilles - Body of Christ Jeff Goudie - Discipleship Michael Harris - Changing our World Keith Kearns - Christian Action Tom Lane - Changing our World Ross Parrott - Study John Paterson - Discipleship John Thomas - Study

#### Cook Team

Peter Arkin - Agape/3-day Bret Blackburn - Cook Richard "Red" Hinckley - 3-day Robert Jeffery - 3-day David Peterson - Cook Jack Schraven - Agape Michael Snyder - Cook



#### EMMAUS WALK #260 Team

#### **Spiritual Team**

Louie Lyon Deborah Schauer

#### Leadership team

Joyce Trevolt - LD, Perseverance Kat Tracy - ALD, Priority Tracy Thompson - ALD, Priesthood of Believers Ann Skipper - ALD, 4th Day Robbin Brooks - ALD, Piety Cathy Flusche - Music Leader

#### <u>Talk Team</u>

Marla Lind - Changing Our World Deby Campbell - Growth thru Study Kristin Forrester - Discipleship (team) Beth Troxler - Body of Christ (team) Kathleen Griffin - Changing Our World Julia Frichtl - Chistian Action Diane Jameson - Discipleship Ann Bernal - Body of Christ Nancy Pitts - Christian Action (team) Betts McCalla - Growth thru Study (team)

#### Cook Team

Dee May - Head Cook Jean Booth - Assistant Head Cook Nancy Oyler - Agape Cheri Peterson - Agape Mary Ann Willkie - Agape Ginni Hoaglan - 3-day Julie Martin - 3-day Nichole Kluth - 3-day Sue Flater - 3-day Joyce Lyon - Cook Merry Lassa - Cook **Roxanne Jueckstock - Cook** Sandy Dorland - Cook Susan Snyder - Cook Lenore Yarbrough - Cook Candy Green - Cook Jo Willis - Cook Megan Tosh - Cook Barbara Burford - Cook

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2024**

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January-2024

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