

Rooster Tales



Vol. 25 No. 5 – May 2024

PILGRIMS NEEDED FOR WALKS 262 AND 263, OR THE WALKS MAY HAVE TO BE CANCELLED!!

Scripture readings in churches in the weeks following Easter often describe the various appearances by Jesus to His disciples – including His encounter with Cleopas and friend on the road to Emmaus. Those appearances and encounters not only shared the Good News that He is risen, but also reminded His followers that their journey was just beginning, not ending as they had feared. They were challenged and encouraged to continue the work He had started.

We are likewise challenged to continue the labor. Emmaus exists to share that Good News, and you are instrumental in that mission. We are in a season of new beginnings, but the rebirth of Arizona Emmaus still needs to be nurtured – by you. Here are some things you can do:

- 1. Sponsor pilgrims.** The go forth date for the Flagstaff walks is May 15, and the pilgrim applications are very few. Get those in ASAP – find them at <https://azemmaus.org/emmaus-registration/> or contact a board member.
- 2. Become a member of the Emmaus Board.** Elections are coming up in June. We need people to serve as Community Lay Director Elect, as Registrar, or as Agape chairperson.
- 3. Share Emmaus** – with your church, neighbors, friends. Also, especially if you leave in Southern Arizona, consider spending some time hosting the Emmaus display table at DSCUMC Annual Conference in Tucson June 13-16.

I pray you are able to enjoy the blessings of the beautiful world God gave us and enjoy Spring days – however few they may be in Arizona!

De Colores!

Barbara Fike
Community Lay Director



GROUPING

When I went on my walk almost 35 years ago, I realized that I had been hearing about Grouping for many years. Since I participated in a Walk to Emmaus I've been a part of several different groups - some lasted for weeks, some for months, and some for a couple of years. The group I am with now has been together for about 7 years and is going strong.

Why should you group? The card that says "Christ is Counting on You" is really a very good way to stay focused on what is important, God. We have many distractions in our lives and the card brings us back very simply to where we can walk through our Christian life with a little more ease. Having a group that has similar ideas or thoughts can be nice but isn't always necessary or sometimes better; because, with diverse thoughts, you get a broader view, broader ideas.

The group I am in welcomes everybody whether they have gone through the Walk to Emmaus or not. One of the longest attending members will soon be my 14-year-old grandson. We support each other through the ups and downs of life.

We recently lost a member and we needed one another's support for us to carry on. With Grouping comes the celebrations of events and the achievement of families. It also comes with unconditional love. When volunteer work comes up, we have the help of others in the group. The most amazing thing about this is it is celebrating God.

John Campbell, Registrar



Happy Easter! I know that sounds like I'm about a month off, but I think too often that many of us forget that Easter is a 50-day celebration and not just one early Sunday morning. As Easter people, raised by the power of Christ, we should be more aware of this great holiday and the meaning that it has. It is during these 50 days after that resurrection that Jesus walked with, talked with, ate with the disciples and some 500 other people. Our Walk to Emmaus is an opportunity to encounter the risen Christ in our conversations with others and the activities of the church. The love we felt on our walk weekends is not intended to be a one-and-done thing, but the beginning of the adventure of experiencing Christ in our lives.

I just undertook the task of looking through our AZ Walk to Emmaus database – all 8528 “active” records. I was looking through all of the records to update any and all that I knew, especially clergy. One of the things that became clear to me really quickly is that I don't have the time to look at 8500 database records. Another thing that was clear was that our database records need maintenance. Unlike God, we don't know when people move, die, or get married and change names. I was surprised as I came across records of people I know to be dead. I've since gone in and updated their records, but, at first, I couldn't figure out why these hadn't been updated already. Then I figured it out. Everybody was waiting for somebody to do it and not just anybody can so nobody did.

That is a persistent problem in our churches, isn't it? We have the people who have been doing the same job in the church for so long no one else knows how to do it or gives a thought to the idea that someday that person will not be there to do it anymore or whether that job even needs doing anymore. Christ taught a small group of disciples and charged them to share his teaching.

Those disciples started to share what they had heard and found they were caught up in the busyness of caring for those gathered to hear the message that they needed more helpers. So Stephen and others began ministering to the crowd and the disciples shared the good news. In so many churches, and even in our Emmaus community, there are so many people who want to hear the good news but do not want to get involved in ministering to others.

Do you recall the great meals you had on your walk weekend? Do you recall noticing that the toilets were always clean and there was toilet paper available? The cook team took care of your personal needs so you could focus on hearing the message of the weekend. Do you recall that all of the rooms were ready when you came in? And all of the items were cleaned up afterwards? Do you recall seeing the people scurrying around as you were getting ready to leave after the weekend? The three-day team and cooks and others were putting the church back in order so the facility could go back to its routine on Monday morning. Do you recall the agape gifts you received? Did you know your sponsor arranged for that?

Our Emmaus walk weekends rely on support from the community – being on the teams, helping out with getting supplies to/from the site, financial support, prayers. Many of the people supporting the weekends are unseen; but their support contributes to the success of the weekend. Christ is counting on you – to be engaged in ministry in your local church, in this community, and wherever life takes you (even if it is only a trip to the grocery store). We must talk with each other to be able to share our message with the world. We must walk with each other through the difficult days as Christ walked with Cleopas and the other on that difficult day when they met. We must quickly take care of the mundane to be able to have the time to work on the reign of Christ and the transformation of the world. By the way, you can update your own database record by going to the azemmaus.org website and selecting “database.”

But each of us knows our own story, so now is the time for each of us to update our own information in the database. It is impossible for a few people to do it all, but possible when we all do a little.

De Colores!

Carl Peterson
Community Spiritual Director

TEAM=
Together, Everyone Achieves More





Registration Reminders

Walks 259 and 260 are now complete. The new community member information has been added to Ministry Manager. Those of you who attended Walks 259 and 260 are invited to go to <https://ministrymanager.upperroom.org/>. Please create a log in and verify your information. Some of you share an email address. Ministry Manager requires entry of members by email address and each of you must have an individual email address or a default email address is created.

Sponsors: If you attended a Walk or similar weekend elsewhere and you have not created a profile in Ministry Manager, please do so. If you need assistance, please contact azemmauscomm@gmail.com.

July is rapidly approaching. Team members and Pilgrims are needed for Men’s Walk 261 and Women’s Walk 262 to be held at Trinity Heights UMC in Flagstaff. A great place to get away in the heat of the summer!

Team members are needed. If you wish to serve, please send an email to any board member and we will make sure the information gets to Scott Mathe or Julie Vlieg.

Your Registrars are going to be doing some traveling during the month of June which will make registration a crazy crunch time if everyone waits until the last minute to register. Sponsors, please get your Pilgrim applications in as soon as possible. We had a wait list in February and hope to have one for Flagstaff. Teams, please know that we will do our very best to get the lists pulled together the week before the walk. Applications may be emailed to registrar.azwalk2emmaus@gmail.com or mailed to:

AZ Walk to Emmaus
 PO Box 86309
 Phoenix, AZ 85080-6309

De Colores!
 Marsha McClintock and John Campbell
 Co-Registrars, AZ Walk to Emmaus



Upcoming Walks for 2024	
Go to azemmaus.org for new applications and deadlines.	
Next Walks:	
Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff	Location to be determined
Men’s Walk 261 – 7/18/24 Lay Director Scott Mathe	Men’s Walk 263 - 10/10/24 Lay Director Red Hinkley
Women’s Walk 262 - 7/25/24 Lay Director Julie Vlieg	Women’s Walk 264 - 10/17/24 Lay Director Ann Bernal

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2024

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Chrysalis Chair **TBD**



MAY-2024

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