Arizona Walk to Emmaus Newsletter
Rooster Tales

Vol. 27 No. 6 November

A New Chapter for Arizona Emmaus

Hello, Arizona Emmaus Family!

I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is **Harry Shaw**, and after much prayer and encouragement, I answered God's call to serve as your **Community Lay Director**.

I'm a longtime member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Tucson. I attended Walk #171 in Tucson in 2006, and it truly changed my life. Through that experience, I felt God calling me into lay ministry and leadership. Looking back, I can see He was preparing me for this opportunity all along.

Many of you may remember when our Arizona Emmaus community was thriving. Lorraine and I certainly do! We looked forward to the quarterly gatherings in Southern Arizona, where more than 100 people would come together to share a meal, worship, laugh, and enjoy incredible Christian fellowship. Those gatherings filled our hearts and strengthened our faith. I was also blessed to serve on numerous walks in Tucson and Yuma, each one a meaningful opportunity to witness God's work.

In 2008, Lorraine's career took us to Texas, where we became active in another wonderful Emmaus community. Then, in 2010, we moved to New Jersey, where we once again found a vibrant Emmaus family. We joined the board, served on many walks, and worshipped alongside dozens of faithful brothers and sisters at regular gatherings. Lorraine and I also lay-pastored a small church for 6 years, further answering the lay ministry call on our lives.

When we returned home to Tucson in 2017, we couldn't wait to reconnect with Arizona Emmaus. Sadly, we discovered a very different picture. Instead of the large, joyful gatherings we remembered, only about 20 people were present. I served on what was likely the last Tucson walk in 2018, and I couldn't help but wonder, *What happened to our amazing community?*

Over the years, I read newsletter after newsletter asking for volunteers to fill leadership positions. Like many of you, I kept thinking, *I'm not sure I'm the right person.* But God has a wonderful way of gently nudging us beyond our comfort zones. With Lorraine's encouragement and faith in me, I finally said, **"Yes"** to serve first as Community Lay Director Elect and now as your Community Lay Director.

Will I have all the answers? **No.**
Will I make mistakes? **Absolutely.**

But I promise to serve this community with humility, dedication, and a servant's heart. I believe God is not finished with Arizona Emmaus. I believe our best days can still be ahead of us—but only if we move forward together.

Now I'm asking you to listen for that same gentle nudge from God.

Perhaps He's calling you to serve on a team, become a board member, sponsor a pilgrim, help organize gatherings in Arizona, or speak with your church about hosting a walk or gathering. Maybe He's simply asking you to share your Emmaus story with someone who needs to experience God's incredible love and grace.
Remember, God doesn't call the equipped—He equips the called.

Think back to your own walk. Remember the joy, the friendships, the worship, and the life-changing moments that strengthened your faith. Those experiences are too precious to keep to ourselves. There are countless people still waiting to experience that same love and transformation.

Together, we can build a vibrant Arizona Emmaus community once again.
I invite you to pray about how God is calling you to serve. Then, when you hear His voice...

Say yes.

I'm excited about what God has in store for Arizona Walk to Emmaus Emmaus, and I look forward to serving alongside each and every one of you as we write the next chapter together.

De Colores!

Harry Shaw
AZ Walk to Emmaus
C0mmunity Law Director

Calling all Caterpillars

We are accepting applications for Males and Females - ages 15-23 for the next Chrysalis Flight on January 15-18, 2027 at Christ Community United Methodist Church in Avondale.

Please go to: **https://azemmaus.org/weekends/chrysalis/**
for more information and to download the application.

Scholarships available. Please inquire with AZ Walk to Emmaus Treasurer, Kat Tracy, **602-919-1863**.

Application deadline: December 31, 2026.

From the Registrar

If you have a pilgrim that you would like to register, rather than mailing to the Post Office box, please send directly to the registrar, Janet Paterson, at 2545 S Peonie Circle, Mesa, AZ 85209. The Post Office Box is about 50 miles from my home, so I don't visit it often. If you would like to help me by mailing directly to my home, I would appreciate it.
This applies to Chrysalis applications also.

Thank you in advance,
Janet Paterson,
AZ Walk to Emmaus Registrar

Emmaus Calendar

Chrysalis Flight (ages 14 - 18):

- Winter 2027 - Avondale - Christ Community UMC
    - #40 January 15-18, 2027

Emmaus Walks:

- Spring 2027 - Sierra Vista - Sierra Vista UMC
    - #275 Men April 8-11, 2027
    - #276 Women April 22-25, 2027
    - 4th day training and gathering - May 8, 2027
- Summer 2027 - Flagstaff - Trinity Heights UMC
    - #277 Men July 15-18, 2027
    - #278 Women July 22-26, 2027
    - 4th day training and gathering - August 17, 2027
- Fall 2027 - Sun City - (TBD)

Christ Is Counting on You! Will You Answer the Call to Serve?

The Arizona Walk to Emmaus Community Needs You!

Have you felt God nudging you to get more involved in the Arizona Walk to Emmaus community? Here is an opportunity to put your faith into action and help strengthen the ministry that has touched so many lives!

We are looking for willing hearts and dedicated servants to fill two open positions on our Board of Directors:

- Secretary
- Southern Arizona Representative

Please prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to serve in one of these important leadership roles. As we were reminded Sunday afternoon at the Cross Service, “Christ is counting on you!” Together, we can continue to support our Emmaus community, encourage spiritual growth, and help future pilgrims experience the love and grace of Christ.

What Does Board Service Look Like?

The Board of Directors provides overall leadership and responsibility for the Arizona Walk to Emmaus movement. Meetings are generally held online via Zoom, with occasional in-person meetings, making it easier to participate while balancing other commitments.

Open Board Positions

Secretary — Three-Year Term
The Secretary ensures that accurate minutes are maintained for Board of Directors, corporate, and committee meetings. This role also includes maintaining corporate records and performing other duties

associated with the office. Our records are maintained using Google Docs.

Gatherings Coordinator -- Three-Year Term (starting January 2027)_
Responsible for organizing regular community Gatherings, including securing a sponsor and location, coordinating music, childcare, and refreshments. This person also assists the sponsor with program planning, provides communion elements, and ensures the facility is cleaned after each event.

Merchandise Coordinator -- Three-Year Term (starting January 2027)
Responsible for organizing and managing the merchandise table at community Gatherings, including setting up, displaying, and selling merchandise, collecting payments, and maintaining an inventory of items.

Southern Arizona Representative — Three-Year Term
The Southern Arizona Representative helps connect, encourage, and support members throughout the region. Responsibilities include:

- Encouraging participation in Gatherings, reunion groups, sponsorship of pilgrims, and service on weekend teams.
- Supporting the growth and involvement of community members.
- Recruiting church representatives and maintaining communication with members throughout Southern Arizona.
- Coordinating with regional leaders to secure locations and dates for Three-Day Weekends.
- Helping establish regional leadership roles that support key areas of the Emmaus ministry, including Gatherings, Three-Day Weekends, and Fourth Day activities.

Board Eligibility Requirements
Individuals interested in serving must:

- Be active in the Emmaus community by attending Gatherings, weekend Candlelight services, and Closing services.
- Have served on at least two Emmaus or Chrysalis weekend teams.
- Be physically and emotionally able to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.
- Pledge to support the Arizona Model of Walk to Emmaus.

Will You Take the Next Step?
You don't have to do everything, but your willingness to serve can make a meaningful difference! Our community depends on faithful volunteers who are willing to share their gifts, offer their time, and help keep this ministry thriving for years to come.
Please prayerfully consider serving and reach out if you would like to learn more about either position.

Contact us today:

- Harry Shaw, Community Lay Director: **cld.azwalk2emmaus@gmail.com**
- Ginni Hoaglan, Secretary: **secretary.azwalk2emmaus@gmail.com**

God has blessed our community through the service of many willing hands. Could yours be the next? Christ is counting on you!



Give Before Year's End: Get Your Donation Receipt

As 2026 draws to a close, thank you for the love and generosity you've shown through Arizona Walk to Emmaus. Your gifts, from handmade agape items and supplies to cash, checks, and Zelle payments, help make each Walk possible.

If your donations this year total $250 or more, including in-kind agape items, cash, checks, or Zelle payments, you need a receipt to claim them on your taxes. Please email me at **knbtracy@att.net** with a description of what you donated and approximately when. For cash, checks, or Zelle gifts, include the amount and date. I'll send you an official acknowledgment from our 501(c)(3) organization.

Don't wait until the last minute. Please reach out soon so your receipt is ready before the end of the year, and consider making any additional gifts by **December 31** so they count for 2026.

Good to know before you file:

- For in-kind gifts, our receipt will describe your donated items and the date, but it won't state a dollar value. You are responsible for determining the fair market value.
- For cash, check, and Zelle gifts, our receipt will state the amount and date.
- If your total noncash donations to all charities exceed $500 for the year, the IRS requires additional tax forms with your return.
- Please consult your tax advisor about how these rules apply to your situation. We can't provide tax advice.

Ways to give financially:

Mail a check to:
AZ Walk to Emmaus
P.O. Box 86309
Phoenix, AZ 85080-6309

Or scan the QR code below in your bank's app to give through Zelle:

Thank you for your faithful support. De Colores!

Kat Tracy, EA
AZ WTE Treasurer
602-919-1863
knbtracy@att.net

Zelle®

Arizona Walk to Emmaus Board of Directors

CLD - Harry Shaw: - **cld.azwalk2emmaus@gmail.com**
CLDE - Kristin Forrester - **kforrester92@gmail.com**

CSD - Rev. Carl Petersen - **pastor.carl.peterson@gmail.com**
CSDE - Pastor Robbi Fowler - **rafowleraz@gmail.com**
Treasurer - Kat Tracy - **treasurer.azwalk2emmaus@gmail.com** or **knbtracy@att.net**
Secretary - Ginni Hoaglan - **secretary.azwalk2emmaus@gmail.com**
Gatherings - Nancy Oyler - **Nancynascar@outlook.com**
Pre-Emmaus - Robbin Brooks - **brooks4diversity@gmail.com**
3-day - Vicki Williams - **azangelartist@gmail.com**
Communications - Johnathan Campbell and Lorraine Shaw - **azemmauscomm@gmail.com** or **johnathancampbell@hotmail.com** and **LadyinsuranceAZ@gmail.com**
Agape - Becky Case - **azemmausagapechair@gmail.com** or **bcase567@gmail.com**
Music - Ed Taylor - **bonanzaed3@gmail.com**
4th day – Colleen Centner - **colleenthebean1@gmail.com**
Chrysalis - Kelly Capps and Rachelle Eckert - **kcapps@azadc.gov** & **achelleeckert1@aol.com**
Registrar - Janet Paterson - **registrar.azwalk2emmaus@gmail.com** or **jpaterrus@aol.com**
Northern AZ Rep - Mary Tinholt & George McGuire - **mjtinholt@hotmail.com** and **georgesmcguire@gmail.com**
Southern AZ Rep - (position is open)

Communication: Keeping Our Emmaus Community Connected

Communication is essential to keeping our Arizona Walk to Emmaus community informed, inspired, and connected! Our Communications team is working to share important updates, upcoming Walk weekends, community events, leadership opportunities, and ways to get involved.

We need your help, too! If your Emmaus group has an upcoming event, a special celebration, or a story about how Emmaus is making a difference, please share it with us. Photos, testimonies, and announcements help us celebrate our community and encourage others in their faith journey. Remember, communication is more than sharing information—it's about building relationships, strengthening our community, and growing together in Christ.

Have something to share? Send your news, photos, and announcements to the Communications team so we can spread the word!

Together, let's keep the Arizona Walk to Emmaus community connected and growing in faith.

De Colores!

AZ Walk To Emmaus | PO Box 86309 | Phoenix, AZ 85080 US

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