



Iowa Walk to Emmaus Rooster Tales

January 2022

Winter Walk Announcement

We regret to have to inform our great community that the Winter Walks have to be cancelled.

In light of the rapidly expanding and contagious nature of the virus, the Emmaus Board of Directors made this unanimous decision in the interest of

safety for both teams and pilgrims. We give special thanks to the team members who were willing to serve when the Lay Directors asked, and we hope you will be able to remain on the teams for the Summer Walks in Spencer. Be well, safe and God bless you all!

Announcements . . .

Upcoming Emmaus Walks

Winter - West Des Moines UMC

- Both Men's & Women's Winter Walks Cancelled Due to Covid 19 Concerns

Summer - Spencer UMC

- Men's - July 7-10
Scott Hunt Lay Director
- Women's - July 14-17
Lor Hawbaker Lay Director

Spring Chrysalis Flight

April 1-3, 2022 at Clarion Methodist Church.

Face to Face Encounter

May 20, 23, 25 & 27, 2022 at Belmont Methodist Church. Bud Young is the Lay Director.

Please watch the website for updated details on all events.

Community Spiritual Director

Rev. Dennis Shepherd

If God called us to task, He will then qualify us for the Job. "God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called." To be reading and sharing in this Rooster Tale edition, you are each being called by God to respond to a task.

"With God's help we can overcome any interruptions to Emmaus Gatherings and continue our Emmaus ministry to reach our communities."

God uses each problem before us to help develop our character in Christ. Each time we feel a little breathing room related to our obstacles around Covid-19, it seems new potential barriers arise. With God's help we can overcome any

... continued on p3

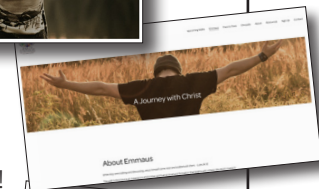
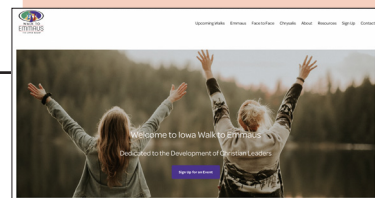
Have you seen it?



Our new website went LIVE the first of the year. Check it out - www.iowawalktoemmaus.org

New Items:

- **Pilgrim & Sponsor Applications** - complete online or download apps
- **Agape Registration/Application** - we want to give the Agape directors & cooks a heads-up who will be coming. Not required but appreciated!
- **Closing Info** - Including words to everyone's favorite song, 'Have You seen Jesus My Lord'.



www.iowawalktoemmaus.org IowaEmmaus@gmail.com

facebook.com/Iowa-Walk-to-Emmaus

Community Lay Directors Dick & Netha Piph

In the spiritual practice of examination, we look back at our day in a prayerful spirit. Find a quiet place, and turn off your phone and any other distractions. Light a candle and invite God to be present with you. Take several deep breaths, settling into your body and into the quiet.

Ask yourself: What brought you the most joy today? Give thanks to God. When did you feel most connected to God? Give thanks to God. Did you feel sad today? Share your raw and unabridged feelings with God. Then sit in silence and listen for God's voice reminding you that you are loved and held in grace.

(Excerpt from *Soul Reset: Breakdown, Breakthrough, and the Journey to Wholeness* by Junius B. Dotson.)

Our passion to build leaders in the church and see others find a more meaningful life in Christ only grows

each year that passes. Because we know, "a child has been born, a son has been given", we boldly share this good news to all we serve. God continues to ask us to take leaps of faith, and through many trials and much perseverance, we see the fruit of His work. Every leap of faith requires us to step out in confidence that God will provide resources for His work.

"We are humbled and grateful to see the outpouring of your support & generosity throughout the year . . . and we pray you will consider joining us in 2022"

We are humbled and grateful to see the outpouring of your support and generosity throughout the year, and we pray that you will consider joining us in walks, flights and encounters, as God leads, in this next year. In the meantime, be sure to check out our new web site at lowaWalktoEmmaus.com for the latest information and upcoming events.

May 2022 be a year of blessings for all of you.

Dick & Netha Piph
Community Lay Directors

Have You Seen Jesus My Lord

Chorus: Have you seen Jesus my Lord? He's here in plain view. Take a look, open your eyes, He'll show life to you.

1. Have you ever stood at the ocean with the white foam at your feet; Felt the endless thundering motion? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.
2. Have you ever stood at the sunset with the sky mellowing red; Seen the cloud suspended like feathers? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.
3. Have you ever stood at the cross with the man hanging in pain; Seen the look of love in His eyes? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.
4. Have you ever stood in the family with the Lord there in your midst; Seen the face of Christ in your brother? Then I say you've seen Jesus my Lord.

Face to Face Representative Dawn Parker

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

I feel that it has been awhile since we have been able to hold an Encounter, so we should have a review.

Face to Face is for pilgrims and team, both men and women, who are 60 years old and older. It is held over 4

days, for approximately 6 hours each day (no overnights).

While the conference room team is made up of people 60 and over, the Agape team is for all 4th Dayers. Obviously, since the days are spread out, it is easier to reside closer to the venue. Face to Face pilgrims do not need an official sponsor.

The Board is looking forward to having our third encounter in Belmond the end of May, with Bud Young as Lay Director. Thank you, Bud, Toni and Jeff for hanging in there during Covid!

Hope to see you in February for the winter Emmaus Walks and in May for the Face to Face Encounter.



FACE to FACE
THE UPPER ROOM®

“Sponsorship is the most important job in Emmaus . . . the quality influences the pilgrim; the health of the Emmaus movement.”

Community Trainers Jeff & Toni Anderson

Good sponsorship is vital to the integrity of Emmaus. Many communities take sponsorship for granted; they assume that everyone knows the how and why of sponsorship. Yet sponsorship is the most important job in Emmaus. It is more than just “signing up people”. The quality of sponsorship influences the pilgrim; the health of the Emmaus Movement, and the church affected by the movement.

First, good sponsorship is your first act of agape before a Walk ever begins; the experience of the Walk for a pilgrim really starts 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, and presence at Send off, 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.

The strength of any Emmaus community is a direct result of its 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.

If, on the other hand, the Walk to Emmaus is looked upon as a hospital where every human ill can be cured,

it will have a weakening effect on the entire community.

The aim of a sponsor should not be to “get all my friends to go”, to fill up the weekend, to fix people’s problems, or to reproduce one’s own religious experience in others. Rather, the aim of the sponsor is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who, in turn, will bring new life and vision to the work of the church in the congregation, home, workplace, and community. The aim of sponsorship is to build up the Body of Christ.

If you’d like to sponsor someone go to the Emmaus website (www.iowawalktoemmaus.org), then to Sign Up>Candidates & Sponsors. Here you will find forms to download or online forms to complete. If you still have questions, please feel free to contact us at andersons@jeffandtoni.com.

Rev Shepherd. . . continued from p1 interruptions to Emmaus gatherings and continue our Emmaus ministry to reach our communities.

God can help us face problems of any size and solve any seemingly impossible situation. With our Faith in God’s strength we can overcome anything.

Through the Walk to Emmaus God has given us the tools to help others find a way to face their issues in life. As you are each well aware the Emmaus community is blessed with a source of tools to strengthen one’s relationship with God.

One of the greatest acts of kindness we can offer to a friend is to invite them to a Walk weekend, a Chrysalis Flight, or to a Face to Face Journey. But it does not end with an invitation and an acceptance, it continues as we remain a part of an accountability group for that special guest.

Christian friendship does not stop with the invite and life is not life without God by our side. We must continue to walk by the side of all Fourth Day folks. Continue to do your part to be prayer warriors and strong advocates of the energy Christ has instilled in us through

our own personal experience with the Walk to Emmaus.

To all your families I wish a very Happy New Year. Count your blessings and may God always be present in your coming days.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Dennis Shepherd

