



Iowa Walk to Emmaus Rooster Tales

January 2023

Community Lay Directors Brent & Terri Gibbons

Connection is important to spiritually sharpen

Greetings brothers and sisters, from the fingertips of the new community Lay Directors. Of course, you couldn't have new CLDs if we didn't have those who have gone before us in this role.

Terri and I give great thanks for the tremendous efforts exerted by Dick and Netha, plus those that filled this role, prior to them.

Dick and Netha handled the increased struggles of guiding the organization when we were not able to meet due to Covid restraints. In addition to the undo

influence on our leadership team, Covid kept the 4th Day Community from meeting and spiritually sharpening one another.

The walks in Ankeny last fall and many conversations before and since then, have brought to light our need to be kindled together in the holy spirit. Words that have filled my ears near and far center around how coming to Emmaus weekends lifts my spirit and helps to strengthen my spiritual light in my personal life. Emmaus weekends

"The Walks in Ankeny and many conversations have brought to light our need to be kindled together with the holy spirit."

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Announcements . . .

Emmaus Walks

Winter - West Des Moines UMC

- Men's - February 9-12
- Women's - February 16-19

Face to Face Encounter

Spring - New Hope Methodist Church in Des Moines

- April 10, 11, 13 & 14

Chrysalis Flight

Not Yet Scheduled - Watch the Website

THANK YOU Piphos!

The Board would like to thank and acknowledge Dick & Netha Piphos who retired from the Community Lay Director position in December, after faithfully serving God and the Community for 6 years. Your service & dedication are greatly appreciated!



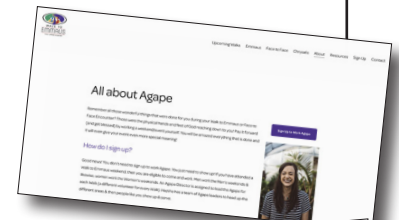
We've missed you . . . Come work Agape!

We'd love to have you join upcoming events by working on the Agape team! We're asking you to register so we can do a little better job planning - for the Agape Directors & Cooks!

Here's what you need to do:

- Go to About>Agape to learn what it's all about
- Then click the 'Sign Up to Work Agape' button to register.
- Complete the online form and click 'Submit'

Many hands are needed! If you don't get signed up, don't let that stop you from showing up. PLUS, you'll have so much fun!



We're now taking online Donations & Event payments on our website. Go to 'IowaWalktoEmmaus.org' and click on the 'Donate/Pay for Event' button at the top right corner. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Women's Winter Emmaus Lay Director

Chrissy Seaholm



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I am so deeply humbled to serve as the Walk #153 Lay Director. God is at work in so many ways preparing all of us to serve this upcoming weekend. I feel Him all over.

For those of you who may or may not know me I am a bit of a control freak on certain things (especially schedules). I plan and replan while planning in my everyday life. I have prayed over letting this go as I know it so important to not get in the way of God's amazing work.

The weekend will be all His. I know He has this and is putting together yet another amazing team all the way around. I am in awe how so many are just immediately saying yes and know it is all Jesus.

I have selected the following scripture for our weekend. Joshua 1:9 *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous, Do not be afraid Do not be discouraged, For the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*

This scripture is special to me for so many reasons. It was the scripture I used it for my first talk, and it is on the walls in the West Des Moines UMC conference room. West Des Moines is where I did my walk, my first talk and

now, due to God's perfect timing, it is where I will be Lay Director.

In this crazy world we live in, we must stop and remember our life has all been worked out and He is always with us. We are commanded to love and offer His grace wherever and whenever and to everyone. Emmaus weekends are

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much love and grace to our Pilgrims they won't have any doubt that it is all Jesus.

I am so incredibly grateful for this Emmaus community. I cannot wait to see what God has in store for this upcoming walk. We are going to have fun, we are going

to be serious, and we are going to show Gods Love and Grace in ways some will never even know; regardless if it is in the conference

room, serving as Agape or part of the 72-hour prayer vigil, it all matters and is so important to the overall message. One side note scrubbing toilets at Emmaus is one of my favorite ways to show God's Love.

all about this. We show His perfect Love through our imperfect selves.

We show His Grace in meeting people exactly where they are. Let us show so

"In the crazy world we live in, we must stop and remember our life has all been worked out and he is always with us."



I pray everyone stays safe and healthy. I pray for sponsors who are weighing and thinking of people to invite. I pray for pilgrims who are contemplating saying yes and the ones who are saying yes right away. I pray for all of us who are preparing to be God's Hands and Feet. Most of all I praise and thank God for His Love and Grace every day.

DeColores

Community Spiritual Director

Rev. Dennis Shepherd

Returning home from our Practice Weekend in West Des Moines I was so inspired by the passion with which the upcoming speakers delivered their talks. The quality of content and the love of Jesus Christ filled our men's practice room.

At a time when many in our nation, and yes, even Iowa, are stricken by injustice, anger, and hate, I am saddened by the senseless taking of lives and poor decision

making and hurt within our society. I realize that a small percentage of our population carries out such action and lash out in this manner, but its effects are far reaching.

In these times, sharing the love of Jesus Christ may be our only hope. What better resource than by strengthening our Emmaus community. We do that by offering compassionate accountability to our current members and by inviting more people to attend Emmaus weekends.

Our Fourth Day community is a perfect network for centering with the love of Christ and reaching into our world with agape love. We are a strong group of prayer warriors and we can help change our world by expanding our

faith community and reaching out to the hurting souls.

There are hungry souls amongst us that need to be fed with the love of Jesus Christ. Christ said, "Feed My

Sheep!" (John 21:17), and "Bring food to the hungry and water to the thirsty!" (Matthew 25:35-40).

You may think you know the physical and emotional needs of some of your acquaintances, but only God truly knows their spiritual needs.

Help God have a chance to reach out to those in need as you become the link to allow

them the opportunity to get to know Christ more intimately. Ask them to an Emmaus weekend. Don't keep that special experience from someone because you didn't invite them.

Please help others to be a part of and Emmaus adventure that will help feed the hunger missing in their heart. By living life with Christian passion, "others with know we are Christians by our Love."

Blessings in Christ. Rev. Dennis Shepherd

"You may think you know the physical and emotional needs of some of your acquaintances, but only God truly knows their spiritual needs . . . don't keep that special experience from someone because you didn't invite them."



We've Merged Websites!

In order to keep continuity and be 'one community', we've merged the Walk to Emmaus & Chrysalis websites.

**The old Chrysalis address: iowachrysalis.weebly.com
will now be: iowachrysalis.org**

Both iowawalktoemmaus.org and iowachrysalis.org
will now go to the same location

Email bcollins@ncn.net if you have suggestions or see anything that needs to be changed/added

Face to Face Representative

Dawn Parker



Face to Face coming to Des Moines in April

The next Face to Face encounter will be held at the New Hope UMC, 4525 Beaver Avenue in Des Moines on April 10, 11, 13, 14, 9:00am to 3:00pm. Netha Pipho is the Lay Director for this one.

Anyone who has attended an Emmaus, Face to Face or

Chrysalis event can sponsor Pilgrims for this event, which is primarily for those age 60 and over.

This is a daytime 'walk' called an 'encounter' and for these senior Pilgrims, there is no overnight stay involved.

They have most of the same talks, table activities, lunches, candlelight and closing services, as Emmaus does. This will be Encounter #4, and the Pilgrims of the first 3 absolutely loved it.

“Mark your calendars for the Face to Face Encounter . . . April 10, 11, 13 & 13 at the New Hope UMC in Des Moines.”

Please keep Netha in your prayers as the team is

built. If you would like to help, please contact her at nipipho@outlook.com. Remember, many hands make light work and we will have a great time!

Learn more and sign up your Pilgrim at www.iowawalktoemmaus.org/face-to-face



A Word from the Piphos

Dick & Netha Pipho, Retired Community Lay Directors

It is with much joy that Netha and I can welcome your new Community Lay Directors, Brent and Terry Gibbons, to that leadership position and to the responsibility for leading this wonderful Iowa Walk To Emmaus Community into the future.

We pray that God will bless their work and impart as many blessings on them as He has for us over the last 6 years. We, as a community, can be grateful for them and their willingness to accept this

very demanding, but rewarding role. At the same time we have to remember and be so thankful for all of you who filled various roles with us over the past years. Those of you who were Walk Directors, Agape Directors, Table Leaders, and every walk volunteer, were a joy to work with and you are very much appreciated.

Scripture teaches us “Do all things as if you were working for The Lord”,...and

you did! A special note of gratitude for the wonderful Board of Directors who help keep the ship afloat, and those of you who took on special initiatives with registrations, database, newsletter, web site, etc., you're simply the best. God loves you and so do we!

We continually encourage everyone to participate in any way you can and to sponsor all those you can also. We look forward to working with you all often in the future.

God Bless, Dick & Netha Pipho

Community Trainers

Jeff & Toni Anderson

Live among believers: don't walk on a 'broken' spirit

A cowboy was driving down a dirt road late at night in his pickup truck with his horse riding in the trailer behind. He failed to negotiate a curve and his truck tipped over and landed in a ditch knocking the cowboy unconscious.

Several minutes later, he awoke to the flashing lights of a highway patrol officer. The officer walked up to the horse, saw his leg was broken, and did what only he could do. He pulled out his service revolver and put the horse out of his misery.

The cowboy heard everything and felt terrible about his horse. But more painful was what he felt from his own leg, which was surely broken. The officer walked up to the cowboy and asked, "Are you okay?" The cowboy took a look at the smoking revolver in the trooper's hand and quickly replied, "Never felt better!"

That story is a picture of a stark reality for many Christians. They walk around broken and yet when asked by a fellow believer how they're doing, they put on their best Sunday School smile and say, "Never felt better!"

The Christian life is meant to be lived among believers who are open and honest about what's really going on. Don't ever feel like you have to put on a happy face.

The giant sequoia tree is an amazing example of strength that comes from surrounding support. These giants of the forest can grow to around 300 feet tall with a diameter that exceeds 20 feet.

The incredible thing about these trees is that they can grow in just three feet of soil and withstand high winds. Their strength lies in the fact that their roots intertwine with other sequoias, providing mutual strength and shared resources.

God's plan for us is like that. Our ability to stand tall in spite of the storming winds of life is related to the love and support we receive from God and one another.

Did you know there are 59 "one anothers" in the New Testament? Love one another, encourage one another, pray for one another, serve one another, honor one another, and so on. There is great power in the entwining gifts of words of encouragement, prayers of intercession, worshiping together, and sometimes just sitting with one another sharing the presence of our support and love with one another.

Find someone you can trust, share what's really going on, and you'll build an authentic community of faith around you. Isn't that what our "Walk



To Emmaus" is all about? Let's all step up and "one another" each other by sponsoring someone or volunteering

"Our ability to stand tall in spite of the storming winds of life is relative to the love and support we receive from God and one another."

to help with the upcoming Walks. It takes a community. We are counting on God and God is counting on you!

Gibbons . . . continued from p1

are one of the greatest examples many of us have of agape service.

I share the following words with you from the letter to the Hebrews chapter 10 verses 24 and 25. *And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*

These words are a stirring reminder of how we can help propel one another to greater and more fervent works in the example of Jesus. They also bring to light that we are to meet, one with another. Last, but certainly not least, is the “but encouraging one another”.

Let me ask this question of each of us; if we are to stir and encourage one another at these weekends but we have not reached out to remind, talk to, or encourage a fresh, first-time 4th dayer to come join us in the service of pilgrims, how likely is it to happen?

This question is even more desperate if the 4th dayer lives in a community with little or no contact within an Emmaus reunion group. So.....they had the mountain top experience, and they, just like we warned, go back to the grind of the world, maybe soon discouraged. Hopefully they are serving their church and local members of the body of Christ with increased stamina.

I have seen two things to be true concerning getting connected to the Emmaus community. First, people that come back two or three times become connected to both those that served them and also those they served, forming lifelong bounds. Without this bond of accountability and love, each and every one of us is more susceptible to falling away.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up.

The second observation is that brothers and sisters who come back to participate (SERVE) in Emmaus weekends are oft, very spiritually enriched. This enrichment leads to other good fruits of the spirit, namely that sharing of Emmaus (sponsorship) and growth in answering God’s call to service in our lives.

Make no mistake, the filling of the pipeline for all the Emmaus ministries (The Walk, Face to Face, and Chrysalis) all starts with pilgrims coming through the door, and then coming through again and again as 4th dayers.

I leave you with one last question. Is there anyone from your years of the walk, that you haven’t seen or heard in months or years. Ministry manager has a lot of numbers if needed.

EARN all
SAVE you
GIVE can



Donations & Event Payments can now be done online!

Go to iowawalktoemmaus.org and click on

DONATE/PAY FOR EVENT

in the top righthand corner of the website.

Thank you for your contribution & participation!



Come Holy Spirit . . . fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy your consolations. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Emmaus Feb '23 Teams

Men's Weekend - February 9-12
Women's Weekend - February 16-19
West Des Moines UMC, 720 Grand Ave, West Des Moines

Conference Room

Lay Director, Perseverance (14)
ALD 1, Priorities (1)
ALD 2, 4th Day (15)
ALD 3
Spiritual Director, Means of Grace (7)
ASD, Prevenient Grace (2)
ADS, Justifying Grace (4)
ASD, Obstacles to Grace (9)
ASD, Sanctifying Grace (12)
TL, Priesthood of All Believers (3)
TL, Life of Piety (5)
TL, Growth thru Study (6)
TL, Christian Action (8)
TL, Discipleship (10)
TL, Changing Our World (11)
TL, Body of Christ (13)
Assistant Table Leaders

Men's

Scott Knudtson
Travis Garrett
Bud Young
John Rose
Dennis Shepherd
Doug Amis
Steve Goodenough
Michael Currier
Kevin Gingrich
Gary Paglia
Mark Willson
Shane Foote
John Lizer
Jim Clavin
Josh Gonzales
John Stokka

Women's

Chrissy Seaholm
Kathy Van Pelt
Diana Weesner
Alice Erb
Karen Currier
Shannon Pascual
Jane Shepherd
Melinda Stonebraker
Christy Ehrle
Mary Patterson
Jackie Black
Korey Averill
Nikki Rose
Rhonda Giebelstein
Danielle Shelley
Sadie Groves
Daphne Rose

Conference Room Music
Board Representative

Jeff Patterson

Rosie Wurpts

Agape

Agape Lay Director
Assistant Lay Director
Spiritual Director
Kitchen/Cook

Darin Woodward
Terry Pollard
Dave Thompson
Jerry Giebelstein
Bob Howard
DeWayne Mercer

Amanda Sandahl
Dawn Parker
Teresa Wilkinson
Jeri Goodell
Ruth Tomlinson
Peggy Krieg

Dining Room Leader
Dining Room Assistant
Agape Chapel Leader
Chapel Assistant

Brandon Ballard

LuAnn Gafford
Marcy Stone

72 Hour Prayer Vigil
Agape Music Leader
Housekeeping Leader
Housekeeping Assistant
Mail Room/Computer

Chuck Yanders
Jerry Slagter

Shellee Wright
Jennie Gervais
Karen Collins &
Jeanette Landstrum
Hannah Elliott

Snacks
Supply/Runner
Facilities & Unloading

2023 Board of Directors

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Brent & Terri Gibbons, Minburn

Community Spiritual Director

Pastor Dennis Shepherd, Panora

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Brian & Dawn Parker, Perry
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Rev Shannon Pascual, Ruthven

Dick & Netha Piphon, Grimes

Jason & Angie Renner, Adel
Chrysalis Committee Chairs

Sarah Strohmman, Emmetsburg
Registrar

Rosie Wurpts, Ogden

*"If anyone is in
Christ . . . you are
a new creation."*



2 Corinthians 5:17

See website for latest Team & Pilgrim Lists