



**BRISBANE NORTH COAST
EMMAUS COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER
November 2024**

We are the Body of Christ

Next Gathering

When: *Saturday, 9 November @ 5:30pm*

**Where: *Morayfield Community Uniting Church
12-16 Weier Road
Morayfield QLD 4506***

NOVEMBER GATHERING

Come along and join in a Celebration Dinner

9 November 2024 at 5:30pm

Community Board will organise main meal, asking for \$5/ head.

Please bring Christmas treat or dessert to share.

Please click [here](#) to RSVP for our November gathering

Looking forward to seeing you there.



De Colores
from the
Community Lay Director

Greetings Everyone,

The end of the year is just around the corner, and we have our final gathering for the year on 9 November. For this gathering we are having a time of fellowship and celebration over dinner. This will be at Morayfield Uniting Church commencing at 5:30pm. The board will be catering for the main, asking for \$5/ head for this. As it is almost Christmas, please bring a dessert or Christmas treat to share. Please RSVP so we have numbers for catering, link provided in the gathering details in the newsletter.

Last month we were joined by members of the Brisbane Chrysalis Community and heard about what they are doing and about opportunities to get involved and assist on Chrysalis flights. The flights will be held at Brookfield QCCC from 28 February to 2 March 2025, below is a link to their web site where the registration form is available, please consider sponsoring a young person to attend.

[South East QLD Chrysalis – South East QLD Emmaus Chrysalis Community](#)

<https://www.flywithchrist.org.au/>

For our community, we now have dates for Emmaus walk's next year, an email was sent out announcing the dates of 22 May - 25 May (Men's) and 5 June - 8 June (Women's) year, both at Glendalough Outdoor Education Centre, Peregian Beach. Registration forms are available, attached to this newsletter. You will notice that we are offering a discount for Early registration and payment. The date for early registration is 15 March 2025, this date is also that date that we need to have a minimum of 6 pilgrims registered for the respective walks to proceed. Registrations will be accepted after this date, but we need to have a minimum number to know that the walk is going ahead to train the teams etc. Please pray for these events and ask for God's guidance on who to sponsor and about being on team or supporting the walk in other ways.

We are also looking at possible options for a Face to Face encounter and starting to plan for this to be held in the second half of next year.

As mentioned previously there are opportunities to assist the BNC Community by serving on the Board or in other support roles. If you are interested and feel that you are being called to serve in this area, please speak to myself or of the board members. Roles that are vacant include, secretary and gatherings coordinator. As I mentioned last month, I would encourage you to pray about and consider what role/ position you may be called to God does equip those that he has chosen for the job, we need to step out in faith.

Please pray for the BNC Community and the Emmaus ministries as we focus on 2025. Thank you to everyone for your support and contribution this year.

Looking forward to joining with you as we celebrate the year and Christmas over dinner on 9 November.

De Colores

David Close



De Colores

from the

Community Spiritual Director

The Power of Story

Many years ago when I was being considered by Presbytery if I was called to be a lay preacher, part of the journey was to present to the Presbytery in Session. I arrived at the appointed time when the person guiding me through the process asked if I had my five minute story of my faith journey ready to tell.

I will point out that this was the first time she told me such a task was required, and the empty look in my eyes was shadowed by the panic in hers as she realised she had forgotten to tell me. I then looked at my guide and said relax you're asking an Irishman to tell a story about himself!

And the best bit – I now have a story to tell!

During my time in ministry I have really been captivated by the concept of story and how powerful it is.

When you put the words story and the bible into Google and you get many choices in fact it is quite a long list including things like: Patience, Trusting God, Prayer, Faith, Obedience, Family and Love.

Did you know that the word story only appears in two passages in the Bible, both in the Hebrew Scriptures and both are in 2 Chronicles, neither of which is pretty reading.

As we start to head towards Christmas and the Christmas story that we all know so well (or do we?). I wonder what is the story of the bible. For me it is a story of Patience and Prayer, a story of Faith and Obedience, a story of Trusting God and most of all a story of Love and Grace.

The story of an Emmaus walk is a story about people experiencing incredible love and being told relentlessly how much God loves them and the Grace that is there for them.

But what is your story?

Is it a story that only has laughter and joy in it, maybe it has some chapters that are based on the themes sorrow hardship and pain. I know when I read the scriptures that there are many stories that contain the latter.

So how does your personal story intersect with the bible story and the story of Emmaus? I would dare to suggest that if you are reading this then it must intersect in a meaningful way! What is it about that intersection that is meaningful, and what draws you back to that story.

The story of the Emmaus is also one about sharing, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, and as we head into the busyness of year end how are you going to take time to share your story with others so that they may truly understand what Christmas is all about and maybe take the opportunity to invite them to find out more on a walk next year.

May you have a truly blessed Christmas and an amazing 2025.



Further Information on the face to Face Encounter Program

The highly flexible schedule allows participants the freedom to engage in structured Bible study and prayer in a church setting or other community space. Led by clergy and lay leaders, Face to Face strengthens and renews followers of Christ and bolsters the spiritual life of individuals, families, and congregations everywhere. Face to Face is open to members of any Christian denomination who want to strengthen their spiritual lives, discover answers to their questions about faith, and are open to understanding the responsibility of living a Christian lifestyle.

Face to Face allows participants the opportunity to rediscover Christ's presence in their life, gain fresh understanding of God's transforming grace, and to form friendships that foster faith and support spiritual maturity.

If you desire a deeper, more meaningful walk with the risen Christ; if you would like that relationship to be reflected in every other relationship in your life; if you wish to make a deeper impact on the world around you by living a life centred on Jesus Christ; please join us as we encounter the risen Christ ... Face to Face.

Your community Board is looking at running a Face to face Encounter in 2025; want to know more, would like to volunteer your experience and participate; speak with Margaret Niethe 0416 070 852 to share your interest.

De Colores

Margaret Niethe

Face to Face Coordinator



What is a Village Encounter

Village Encounter is an opportunity for individual, local church, and Emmaus Ministries community renewal.

This virtual offering is designed to enhance the ongoing spiritual formation in adults. Participants in a Village Encounter are inspired, challenged, and equipped for Christian action in their local churches and various life settings. Throughout the six sessions, pilgrims gain a fresh understanding of the meaning of their faith. They re-experience God's gift of love and emerge with a desire to pass this love on to others. Ultimately, their conscious union with Jesus Christ is strengthened, and they can better translate their faith into a practical lifestyle of openness to God's love.

By renewing Christian disciples and providing opportunities to develop participants' leadership skills, Village Encounter also strengthens local churches for their mission to love and serve God's people.

By participating in Village Encounter, Emmaus Ministries communities are equipped to reach members of existing partner churches who, for one reason or another, would never attend an in-person Emmaus Ministries event. This new offering allows Communities to partner with local churches in locations far from any existing Emmaus Ministries community and contribute to the development of borderless groups in which individuals from various countries can grow in grace together.

Upcoming Events

Village Encounter Dates now set for May Next Year

After a very successful opportunity to taste and feel just how the Village Encounter would operate, we now have 36 participants who felt confident to sponsor a pilgrim.

A feedback comment made was: *"I went into the program wondering how you would manage the Dying Moments and Candle-lighting, and I must say I was impressed how it was managed"*

Being a "virtual" Walk, if you can access the internet, you can be connected and participate from the comfort of your own home.

Being a trail blazer, we can help lead the way and enjoy the fruit that can be offered with this new and exciting program. This is an opportunity for all Communities to be involved.

The National Board has endorsed the following VE 2025 dates (times are AEST):

Thurs. 1st May 7 PM to 10 PM Orientation and Introduction including Zoom Protocols

Fri 2nd May 7 PM to 10 PM Session 1

Sat. 3rd May 8 AM to 12:30 PM Session 2

Fri 9th May 7 PM to 10 PM Session 3

Sat. 10th May 8 AM to 12:30 PM Session 4

Fri 16th May 7 PM to 10 PM Session 5

Sat. 17th May 8 AM to 12:30 PM Session 6

Sponsoring Community: Western Sydney

Contact email: sydney.emmaus@gmail.com

Training dates will be decided in consultation with Team Members, but possibly in March.

Please pray over this program and your possible involvement as a Team member, Sponsor, Prayer Support, Agape etc. **Let us know where the Lord may be leading you.**

Michael Edwards

CLD, Western Sydney

Emmaus Community



Next Chrysalis Flight – 28 February 28 –2 March 2025

Link to Registration form: [caterpillar-rego-form-2025.pdf \(flywithchrist.org.au\)](#)

or contact

Leanne Close

National Chrysalis Coordinator

Music

Music is vital to Emmaus Walks, Face to Face Encounters as well as our Gatherings

Always looking for people who can play music and lead worship! Please let me know if you like to lead singing, play the piano or other accompanying instrument; this could be for a Walk an Encounter or for a Gathering.

Do you now a person who might like to be a part of this ministry?

Please contact Leanne



Leanne Close Music Co-ordinator

Phone 0414 768 329

Email: music@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au



Emmaus Ministries Australia and International Newsletters

The latest Emmaus Ministries Australia and international Newsletters are available using the following links.

National Website: [Emmaus Ministries Australia \(campaign-archive.com\)](http://campaign-archive.com)

International Website: [The Upper Room \(campaign-archive.com\)](http://campaign-archive.com)

72 Hour Prayer Vigils

Check out the Walks or Encounters being held by other communities. You could join in upholding them in prayer on <https://vigil.emmaus.org.au/>



Don't forget



The bank details for General Donations just in case you missed the Gathering and would like to contribute.

Bank details for donations to provide Agape gifts of– flowers, rainbow cake, Ice-cream & toppings, Communion Elements etc.

General Donations

BSB: 334-040

Walk Agape Donations

BSB: 334-040

A/c No: 553 890 883

A/c No: 554 465 053

For any prayer needs that you would like to share with the Emmaus Community,

Contact our Prayer Co-ordinator – Jenny Sims

Email: prayer@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au

Phone: 0406 477 547



This is the last newsletter for this year. Our next newsletter will be in February to keep you up to date for next year. We pray that you will have a happy and holy Christmas celebration and may we experience the joy and wonder that the shepherds did on that first Christmas night.

“And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

Luke 2:9-15

CALENDAR EVENTS 2024- 2025

Date	Time	Place	Comments
9 November 2024	5.30pm	Morayfield Uniting Church 12-16 Weier Rd Morayfield	Gathering
8 February 2025	5.30pm	Morayfield Uniting Church 12-16 Weier Rd Morayfield	Gathering
22-25 May 2025		Glendalough Outdoor Education Centre Peregian	Men’s Walk
5-8 June 2025		Glendalough Outdoor Education Centre Peregian	Women’s Walk

Please send Newsletter Items to

newsletter@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au

WEBSITE ISSUES

The BNC website is again working & all newsletters are available to be accessed on the website.

De Colores - Paul Fletcher - BNCEM Website Coordinator

YOUR BOARD

Board Executive

		<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>
Community Lay Director	David Close	0478 636 326	clld@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Community Spiritual Director	Neil Storey	0413 781 951	csd@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Secretary	Currently Vacant		secretary@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Treasurer	Gary Nicholls	0491 160 321 3886 5242 (Home)	treasurer@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Registrar	Rebecca Fletcher	0418 742 931	registrar@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Past CLD	Michelle Krosch	0401 428 271	am@krosch.com.au
Walk Co-ordinator	David Close	0419 021 308	cldelect@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Face To Face Coordinator	Margaret Niethé	0416 070 852	facetoface@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au

Co-ordinators

Prayer Coordinator	Jenny Sims	0406 477 547	prayer@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Supplies Coordinator	David Close	0419 021 308	supplies@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Music Coordinator	Leanne Close	0414 768 329	music@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Dining Room Coordinator	Wayne Morrison	0400 474 122	diningroom@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
	Janelle Morrison	0410 641 377	
Agape Coordinator	Currently Vacant		
Gatherings Coordinator	Andrew Krosch	0411889955	gatherings@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Website Coordinator	Paul Fletcher	0438 747 287	webadmin@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au
Newsletter Editor	Jill Fletcher	0400 687 056	newsletter@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au