

BRISBANE NORTH COAST EMMAUS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

February 2022

We are the Body of Christ

Next Gathering

When: Saturday, 12 February 2022

Gathering @ 5.30pm

Where: Morayfield Uniting Church

12-16 Weier Rd, Morayfield

Bring your MASK

We look forward to seeing you



De Colores

From our Community Lay Director

Well, we have faced another difficult and anxious start to the year. As we face the reality of COVID in our community, I pray that you are staying safe and healthy. We are looking forward to kicking off the year with a gathering on Saturday 12 February at Morayfield Community Church. Hebrews 10: 23-25 reminds us:

So let's do it – full of belief, confident that we're presentable inside and out. Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worship together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching. (The Message)

We would appreciate your prayers for our Emmaus Community, as our board meets to plan and discern God's vision for the year ahead. Also, continue to pray for our National Board and the Upper Room movement, as they explore new ways of delivering Emmaus and Face-to-Face ministries. The Upper Room has been working on a virtual version of the Emmaus Walk, "Virtual Road", which they plan to test this year. If you would like to find out more about this, please contact me.

De Colores Michelle Krosch



From our Community Spiritual Director

It's 12.45 am as I sit down to put some thoughts together after having watched the climax to the final of the Australian Men's Open in Melbourne.



What a match! They both deserved to win! How would you feel after being so close and losing because of a few unforced errors? It could have gone either way. I feel for Daniil Medvedev, but he will have his day! We saw the raw emotions of Raphael as he finally won after winning back in 2009 followed by so many times as runner up in the

This is the second time I have watched Raphael Nadal in a blow-by-blow match in the Australian Open Men's final.¹ The first time we were there in the crowd in 2012 when Nadal lost to Djokovic as they fought for nearly 6 hours set for set, game for game, point for point. It was a history breaking match.

Tonight, after being 2 sets down, Nadal climbed his way back into the game, point by point, game by game and set by set. The last set was similar to the 2012 match but with a different outcome. What a champion. Two wins in the Men's final once in 2009, four matches as runner up, and tonight taking the prize after coming back from surgery. What a fighter! What determination! What an inspiration. He did not focus on the unforced errors or his double faults, but looked to each new point as an opportunity to turn the game around.

¹ In the 2012 Men's final Novak Djokovic beat Nadal in five sets in 5 hours and 53 minutes. This year the match lasted **5** hours and **24 minutes** before Nadal defeated Daniil Medvedev.

The writer to the Hebrews uses the analogy of a race to describe the Christian life rather than a match against a competitor but it seems to me to be more of a long-distance marathon or a long pilgrimage which takes perseverance day by day rather than point by point to win! That the only way to "run the race" or complete the journey.

Jesus is our mentor and our coach. There is some sound advice here in Hebrews 12. The Example of Jesus

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God...

¹² Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

The important thing is reaching the finishing line, persevering against all odds to complete the course. What is it that we need to make it?

Stamina for sure, training that disciplines us to be strong and able to persevere, to keep going and not give up when it gets tough or there are insurmountable hurdles. It takes focus on the goal so that we remember where we are headed and don't get distracted along the way or give up because it's too hard. It takes time to learn lessons that will help up along the way to negotiate difficult parts of the journey.

With the challenges of CoVid, the last few years have taken us along a different path from what we might have imagined back in 2020. We have detoured along new paths different from what we were used to, and we have learned that some things can no longer be taken for granted.

As I saw the intensity of the crowd in Rod Laver arena, their involvement in every point, their encouragement, their elation when their favourite won, I was struck by the importance of having a team of supporters who companion us on our Christian journey. The isolation and restrictions have made it more difficult for us to support one another face-to-face during CoVid but that encouragement is SO important. That is what keeps us on track, helps us keep going when it's tough, and gives us inspiration and the motivation to continue day by day to follow Jesus.

Reunion Groups in Emmaus were designed to do just this – to provide that support and accountability which builds perseverance and resilience.

Pray for our Board as we look for new ways to be an Emmaus Community which provides that ongoing support for all pilgrims.

As we look for the joy and encouragement along the way, we dig deep and grow in our trust in our Coach and in the power of the Holy Spirit our companion who fires us with energy and inspiration. We find resources we did not know we had and learn to walk with others who become our companions along the way.

In this New Year, let's be more intentional in this supporting role which we are called to, and find ways to cheer one another on in the marathon which is our journey of discipleship. God bless you abundantly!

In your Fourth Day walk in 2022, I wish you joy and peace wherever this year takes you, and a growing sense of God's presence within you and alongside you day by day!

De Colores

Jenny Sims

Community Spiritual Director.

Brisbane North Coast Emmaus Community

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 <u>Walk</u> an <u>Encounter</u> or for <u>a gathering</u>.

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

Please contact Leanne



Phone 0414 768 329

Greetings from the Web Coordinator

As you should all know by now, we have a new website up and running but as yet all updates are done by the national website manager. This will be changing in the near future and I will be able to do the update.

You will have noticed that there are short testimonies going across the bottom of the home page. You will also notice there are no testimonies from anyone in Queensland.

If anyone would like to share how doing the "Walk to Emmaus" or "Face To Face" has changed their lives and would like write a short testimony, you can reply to this email or reply to me via the website.

The testimony only needs to be short and a passport size photo of you to put beside the testimony.

De Colores

Paul Fletcher



Emmaus Ministries Australia

The latest Emmaus Ministries Australia Newsletter is now available.

Link to the National Website: Emmaus Ministries - Australia

Active Prayer Vigils: https://vigil.emmaus.org.au/

YOUR BOARD

Board Executive		Phone	Email	
CLD	Michelle Krosch	0401 428 271	cld@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au	
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		3204 4256 (Home)		
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	Janelle Morrison	0410 641 377		
Agape Coordinator	Currently Vacant			
Gatherings Coordinator	Andrew Krosch	0411889955	gatherings@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au	
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Newsletter Editor	Jill Fletcher	0400 687 056	newsletter@brisbanenorthcoast.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 <u>Walk Agape Donations</u> BSB: 334-040

A/c No: 000 0553 890 883 A/c No: 000 0554 465 053

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

Contact our Prayer Co-ordinator - Margaret Niethe

Email: prayer@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au phone: 0416 070 852



Please uphold one another in Prayer as we continue as a community to face the trials of Covid-19

Please pray for those parts of our country and the world who continue to experience the trials of LOCKDOWN.

1 Timothy 2:1-3 (The Message)

"The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation.

This is the way our Saviour God wants us to live."



CALENDAR EVENTS 2022

Date	Time	Place	Comments
12 February	5.30 pm	Morayfield Uniting Church 12-16 Weier Rd, Morayfield	Gathering
12 March	5.30pm	Morayfield Uniting Church 12-16 Weier Rd, Morayfield	Gathering
9 April	5.30pm	Morayfield Uniting Church 12-16 Weier Rd, Morayfield	Gathering

REMEMBER BE COVID SAFE as you ATTEND

all GATHERINGS and EMMAUS EVENTS

Wear your Mask

Maintain Social Distancing

Wash hands

Please stay at home if you are unwell!!!

Let us know and we will pray for you

prayer@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au

Please send Newsletter Items to

newsletter@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au