

BRISBANE NORTH COAST EMMAUS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

March 2023

We are the Body of Christ

Next Gathering

When: Saturday, 13 May

Gathering @ 5.30pm

(No April Gathering due to Easter)

Where: Morayfield Uniting Church

12-16 Weier Rd, Morayfield

We look forward to seeing you



De Colores from the Community Lay Director

Hello everyone,

What a joy it was to run our first Emmaus Ministry event since COVID restrictions forced us to cancel planned Emmaus Walks in 2020. We were blessed to have 10 Women pilgrims journey on Walk #105. We extend a very warm welcome to these new members of our Emmaus Community. It was a pleasure to serve as part of the team of Walk #105 and witness the Holy Spirit working through the pilgrims and the team. There is so much power in sharing our stories and testifying to what God has done in our lives.

We will be running the Men's Walk #106 from Thursday 23 March to Sunday 26 March at Glendalough Outdoor Education Centre, Peregian. Please continue to pray for the Lay Director, Paul Smith and the team as they prepare for this event. Please also pray for the pilgrims and if you haven't already, sign up for the 72 hour prayer vigil.

Finally, Emmaus National Secretariat will be gathering in Toowoomba from Friday 31 March to 2 April. It will be exciting to share with other members of the greater Emmaus community and hear their stories.

De Colores
Michelle Krosch



De Colores

from the Community Spiritual Director (Elect)

(Neil is the one on the right)

Originally from Belfast in Northern Ireland my faith was grounded very firmly in the Presbyterian Church. When I moved to Australia (Latrobe Valley - Victoria) with my family in 1980 I looked for a new spiritual home and quickly found the UCA.

Australia, I discovered, was a very different place to the bombs and bullets I was brought up with. I moved to Queensland in 2003, and was fortunate enough to marry the most wonderful lady in the world, Tracey. We have been blessed or is that challenged with five children with the youngest now in high school.

My Journey to ordination started in 2011 after I was a pilgrim on Walk #77. I was challenged at the end of the walk by the question "What will I do about it?". My response was to intentionally seek out where God had called me to, and that I discovered was a call to Ordination.

I believe worship happens every day and everywhere, but when we gather for worship it is a gathering where we can seek together to explore what Christianity means for us. It is an opportunity to be renewed and challenged in our faith. A chance to see how the bible and more importantly how relevant Christianity is in our modern world. To use the words attributed to St Francis - "we should preach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ at all times and if necessary, use words."

Why do I continue to be involved in the Emmaus Community, the answer is quite simple – IT CHANGES LIVES.

As we look to the future, my challenge to you would be to look around your community and ask the questions whose life would you like to see changed, then think about sponsoring them on an Emmaus experience.

De Colores

Neil Storey

Reflections - Emmaus Walk #105

From the Lay Director of Walk #105, Val Handreck

It is an absolute privilege and honour to report on the recent Women's Walk #105 as Lay Director. After five months of planning it all came together in a wonderful, positive, spiritual, grace filled experience for all. Praise be to God!

We had the best time despite various sources of precipitation, as expected. My gratitude to all involved. The conference room team worked very well together: the Assistant Lay Directors, Spiritual Directors, Table Leaders and Music Team. The diligent team members who selflessly served, including the dining room and prayer directors, are involved in fifteen different worship locations representing eight denominations and affiliated groups. What a fabulous ecumenical organisation!

I am so grateful for the ten beautiful pilgrims, aged between 25 and 80 from seven different churches, who walked with us making it very special. They were blessed beyond measure in so many ways and we also were blessed through them.

A special thanks to Rev Neil Storey as Spiritual Director and his skill in bringing a lighter touch, when appropriate, to the weekend. A new venue for the candle lighting had some initial challenges, but it was inevitably a special evening. What a blessing to be part of such a positive weekend to help enthuse the Emmaus community into the future.

I pray that Walk #106 for the men will be equally successful.

Thank you everyone and God bless you all as you continue to bless so many through your loving service and witness.

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ....and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes from knowing Him. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are.....around us." 2 Corinthians 2:14-15a

The Team of Walk #105

Lay Director- Val Handreck
Spiritual Director - Neil Storey
ASDs - Jenny Sims, Margaret Niethe, Lyn Richardson
SALD -Jill Fletcher
ALDs -Jennie Feldmeier, Lidie Gravett
Table Leaders - Gaye McDonald, Hilary Goodman, Barbara Richardson
Assistant table Leaders - Jean Maricich, Charlene Wall, Beck Dahm
Prayer Directors - Kathy Cooper, Bob Pattison
Music Team/Board Reps - Leanne Close, Michelle Krosch
Dining Room/Support - Beck Fletcher, Lizzie Fletcher

Update - Emmaus Walk #106

Welcome everyone to my latest update for the Men's Walk #106

With preparations now almost complete, we wait in anticipation of the Walk to begin. With only one week left, we have 9 men registered ready to go. Please be praying protection over these men and their loved ones.

There have been enemy plans to disrupt the team that God has brought together, but our faithful Prayer Directors have interceded for us amazingly to petition God to make a way. And He has.

In all the chaos and busyness of life right now, I sit with peace knowing this is God's Walk and He is in control of the outcome (whatever that will look like). It's such a privilege to be a part of such an amazing team to represent Him through the vehicle of Emmaus.

Thank you (our BNC Emmaus community) for your continued support to make this (and the wonderfully successful Women's Walk #105) a success. May God be continually glorified through His faithful servants.

Hope to see you all at the Candle-Lighting on Saturday night.

De Colores

Paul Smith

Lay Director Walk #106

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 a <u>Gathering</u>.

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

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/



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: 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



Please uphold one another in Prayer

Please pray for our Lay Director and their teams as they prepare for walk #106 on 23-26 March and pray that they will gel as a team and work together to serve our pilgrims so their experience of Emmaus will be life changing.

Don't forget so sign up for 72hour Prayer vigil

As we head towards Easter may we be like the apostles.

Acts 4:33

"With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all."

CALENDAR EVENTS 2022-2023

Date	Time	Place	Comments
23-26 March 2023		Glendalough Outdoor Education Centre Lakewood Drive Peregian Beach	Men's Walk #106
Saturday 25 March 2023	7.30pm	Candlelighting - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 115 Eumundi Road Noosaville.	Men's Walk #106 (Neil Storey will be commissioned as Community Spiritual Director at this event.)
Sunday 26 March 2023	4.00pm	Glendalough Outdoor Education Centre Lakewood Drive Peregian Beach	Men's Walk #106
Saturday 13 May 2023	5.30pm	Morayfield Uniting Church Weiers Road Morayfield.	Gathering Reunion of walks 105 & 106

Let us know if you have any prayer requests and we will pray for you

prayer@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au

Please send Newsletter Items to

<u>newsletter@brisbanenorthcoast.emmaus.org.au</u>

YOUR BOARD

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