

Welcome –there have been some changes for Sydney Emmaus at the end of 2006:

- new board for 2007 – full listing and contact details on page 7
- variety of styles and themes for Community Gatherings – see page 4
- only one set of walks this year, so if you have anyone in mind for the walks start talking to them and praying for them now.

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❖ Upcoming Events

March 10	Coffee Shop Gathering at Turrumurra Uniting Church 6:15pm <i>Tea</i> (please bring savoury food or fruit to share) 7:00pm <i>Coffee Shop</i>
April 14	Gathering at Turrumurra Uniting Church – Changeover of Community Spiritual Director 6:15pm <i>Tea</i> (please bring a plate to share) 7:00pm <i>Worship Service</i>
May 12	Gathering at Turrumurra Uniting Church – Fiji Night 6:15pm <i>Tea</i> (please bring a plate to share) 7:00pm <i>Worship Service</i>
June 9	Gathering at Turrumurra Uniting Church – Barbecue and Commissioning of Teams for Walks #109 & #110 6:15pm <i>Tea</i> (please bring a plate to share) 7:00pm <i>Worship Service</i>
June 28 – July 1	Men’s Walk #109 <i>Candlelighting:</i> June 30 8:00pm at Pittwater Uniting Church <i>Closing Service:</i> July 1 3:45pm at Elanora Conference Centre
July 12 –15	Women’s Walk #110 <i>Candlelighting:</i> July 14 8:00pm at Pittwater Uniting Church <i>Closing Service:</i> July 15 3:45pm at Elanora Conference Centre

(At time of printing these dates and times are correct)

❖ From the Community Lay Director

A big thank you to the retiring Board members who have been a joy to work with and whose commitment, passion and zeal for Sydney Emmaus Community is astounding. I praise God that the incoming Board is just as enthusiastic and trusting God for all that He has planned in the coming year.

It is 16 years since God turned my life around as a pilgrim on my Emmaus Walk and I feel very humbled to be the Community Lay Director for the coming year. Over the years I have come to depend on the fact that when God calls He equips (even though I am not always confident of the tasks He has asked of me) and I trust Him to continue to do this.

As we begin the New Year ‘What are your Priorities?’ is a question we should continue to ask ourselves and I would encourage you to determine to include in your list to:

- be prayerful for Emmaus and particularly our Sydney Community
- attend at least one Gathering this year and plan to bring a friend who perhaps has not been for a long while
- make sure you are in an accountable group
- prayerfully consider sponsoring
- support the upcoming Walks in June/July

It was a decision of the Board that we would hold only one set of Walks in 2007 so I would urge you to begin praying NOW about whom God would want you to sponsor. Prayer is so important in our daily lives and I would ask you all to be upholding Bob Smith and Kay Dannenberg as they prepare their teams for the upcoming Walks #109 and #110, for the Teams, the Pilgrims, the Community and Board as they support them.

Your Board is representing you and I would encourage you to get to know them and to share with them any comments that you might have – we are all desiring to give others the opportunity to allow God to touch their lives as He has ours through the amazing experiences of a Walk and to continue on our Fourth Days with renewed love of God, thankfulness for all that He has done for us and enthusiasm to serve Him.

De Colores

Bev Monk – Community Lay Director

❖ Marketing

LET 2007 BE A YEAR OF GROWTH

Growth in new pilgrims, growth in attendance at gatherings and growth in attendance at reunions.

"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 10: 25

"Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you stood your ground ..."

Hebrews 10: 32

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

Hebrews 12: 2,3

What wonderful appropriate words we find in the bible for all occasions. In faith and loving work we know that as we join in fellowship at gatherings and at reunion groups and take hold of opportunities elsewhere to encourage others to experience an Emmaus walk, more will be led to move forward on the path to glory and the Promised Land. Our calling "Christ is counting on you" reminds us to bring about revival of Christian folk. Let our thoughts, our prayers, our actions and our lives be so focused. De Colores,

Ken Deck – Community Marketing

❖ Reunion Groups

REUNION GROUPS are a great way of building relationships and encouraging both others and self in our walk with God. If you have not found a group that meets regularly and would like to find one please contact Ken Deck.

I hope to attend each reunion group once during the coming twelve months so if you're forming a new group please email me an invitation confirming meeting place date and time.

Ken Deck – Reunion Groups Co-ordinator email: ken-deck@bigpond.com

DONATIONS

If you feel that you can help, please complete the enclosed donation form (make cheques payable to **Sydney Emmaus**), and send to:

Ross Swadling
55 Pringle Ave
Belrose NSW 2085

or alternatively, see me at a Gathering. **Ross Swadling** – Treasurer

❖ Report on Board Planning Morning February 2007

Your Board held a very exciting Planning Morning where we concentrated mainly on the Gathering Survey which so many of you completed at the end of last year. Working on all the comments made, we came to the decision that we are faced with the '**Challenge of Change**' and so, using your comments, we have decided to try some different things with the Gatherings in 2007. Let us assure you that the one thing that will not change is the Fourth Day Talk which was unanimously voted as the best part of Gatherings.

Here are our plans:

2007 Gatherings - Mark them in your diaries now!

March 10th	Coffee Shop
April 14th	Changeover of our Community Spiritual Directors
May 12th	Fiji Night
June 9th	Barbecue and Team Commissioning
June 30th	Candlelighting for Men's Walk #109
July 14th	Candlelighting for Women's Walk #110
August 11th	Soup and Rolls
September 8th	Big Band Night
October 13th	Reunion Group Night - Lane Cove Lanterns
November 11th	Looking to Christmas

The Kitchen Roster will remain as listed with the Reunion Groups serving the tea and coffee during the meal, however, the Board will organise the food on the barbecue and soup nights.

Sydney Emmaus Board look forward to meeting you all at these Gatherings and thank you for your helpful comments and trust that you feel you have been listened to.

❖ Upcoming Walks

MEN'S WALK #109

June 28 – July 1, 2007

Candlelighting: 8:00pm Saturday June 30 at Pittwater Uniting Church

Closing: 3:45pm Sunday July 1 at Elanora Conference Centre

Lay Director: Bob Smith

It's coming together very slowly and in God's time; as of today Tuesday 9th January I am still trying to find an ALD and a TL. I'm sure God has them out there somewhere just waiting to be asked.

I have made many phone calls and spoken to some wonderful people of God – bless them all.

Your Brother in Christ

Bob Smith – Lay Director Walk 109

WOMEN'S WALK #110

July 12 – July 15, 2007

Candlelighting: 8:00pm Saturday July 14 at Pittwater Uniting Church

Closing: 3:45pm Sunday July 15 at Elanora Conference Centre

Lay Director: Kay Dannenberg

❖ *A Special Message from Peter Francis*

Dear Friends,

My term as Sydney Emmaus Community Prayer Director came to a close at the end of last year. I felt during the whole of the time that I was enjoying a continuous and progressive walk with you in the Lord's company as we joined together in prayer, not only for our own community but for many others as well, some in Australia and some overseas.

I am passionate about prayer as a means of true communication with God. I believe He hears every prayer and answers each, though not always in the way that we would prefer.

I have seen miraculous answers to prayer during three years on the Emmaus Board, and the key to these wonders has been – YOU. I thank you all sincerely for your enthusiasm for prayer throughout this time.

I have relinquished the portfolio – but our prayer goes on. We are blessed to have Cindy Kingdom as our new Prayer Director. Believe me, Cindy is truly acquainted with the importance – and the power – of prayer. She is well equipped to lead us in this vital ministry.

Once again, I thank you for your wonderful support, and ask that you will be equally willing to offer your prayers as Emmaus goes forward.

God Bless,

Peter Francis

❖ *Overseas and Across Australia Agape*

People Around the World and Across Australia Greet Sydney Pilgrims!

It could be a News Heading, but it probably won't be! How often do you hear that people across the world pray for and send greetings that are eagerly received by a great group of people at Elanora Conference Centre who spend four days being told ... *don't anticipate!!*

Sponsor someone you know so that they can have this great experience of feeling loved and cared for by yet another group of people that they hadn't heard about until they came on this Emmaus Walk.

Elva Harris – Overseas Agape

❖ *Sponsor a Pilgrim*

Remember No Pilgrims No Walk

People are asking for Walk Application Forms and wanting to sponsor people. There are many people out there that we may have spoken to about Emmaus Walks and some are waiting for you and me to just give a little more encouragement or persuasion to actually write the dates of the next Walks in their diary. God's timing is important – we all at times need a little more encouragement to take the step to do something. Someone out there is waiting for you to encourage them and to ask them to come on an Emmaus Walk.

Don't delay Do it NOW

Elva Harris – Registrar

NEWSLETTER INFO

If you know of anyone in your Reunion Group who does not have an e-mail address, and therefore does not receive the monthly newsletter or prayer requests, please print a copy for them.

Would you please advise us of *anyone* you know in the Community who does not receive either the posted newsletter or the monthly e-mailed newsletter and would like to, we will add their contact details to our database.

To receive the Sydney Emmaus Community Newsletter by e-mail, please contact:

Belinda Cant – Newsletter Representative

mobile: 0414 711 027

e-mail: newsletter@sydneyemmaus.org.au

❖ 2007 Sydney Community Board Contacts

Lay Director	Bev Monk	02 9713 4597	laydirector@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Spiritual Director	Brian Jago	02 9713 9467	spiritualdirector@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Registrar	Elva Harris	02 9636 1381	registrar@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Secretary	Susan Campbell	02 9411 5404	secretary@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Treasurer	Ross Swadling	02 9452 3793	treasurer@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Prayer	Cindy Kingdom	0419 473 132	prayer@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Reunion Groups	Ken Deck	02 9489 2545	journey@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Marketing	Ken Deck	02 9489 2545	marketing@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Kitchen	Tova Swadling	02 9452 3793	kitchen@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Training	Graeme Dodds	02 9651 4214	training@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Bookstall & Entertainment	Robyn Harvey	02 9817 5755	bookstall@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Supplies	Bev Monk	02 9713 4597	supplies@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Equipment	Tony Dowse	02 9451 5538	raine_tonydowse@yahoo.com.au
Agape	Kim McCarthy	02 9899 7383	agape@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Overseas Agape	Elva Harris	02 9636 1381	overseasagape@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Music	Jon Hale	02 9876 3984	music@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Gatherings	TBA		gatherings@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Facilities / Bus Hire	Ray Ricketts	02 9484 4281	facilities@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Newsletter	Belinda Cant	0414 711 027	newsletter@sydneyemmaus.org.au
Webmaster	Phillip Cant	02 9683 4784	webmaster@sydneyemmaus.org.au

❖ How you can help

☞ Agape – gifts of love

Now once again, it is time to remind all the Reunion groups and Emmaus community people of the walks coming up on:

28th June – 1st July 2007 Men's Walk # 109
12th – 15th July 2007 Women's Walk # 110



We need agape, so let's get our fingers busy and overwhelm the pilgrims with God's love. Remember how some of the agape touched you in some way during your walk? Reunion groups please try to make about four different types of agape if you can. At least 50 pieces are needed for each walk, so that no one misses out. All contributions are welcome!

Agape can be delivered to me before the walk or no later than Thursday night of the walk in the Prayer Chapel at the Conference Centre.

For more details, ring (02) 9899 7383 or 0425 285 988.

Mrs *Kim McCarthy* e-mail: agape@sydneyemmaus.org.au

☞ Kitchen

Bless the pilgrims and team as you show agape love by serving in the kitchen. Look up the web, email me or ring me to see where help is needed in the kitchen for the forthcoming walks.



Tova Swadling (02) 9452 3793 e-mail: kitchen@sydneyemmaus.org.au

☞ Music / Technical

If you are a musician or have computer/technical skills, the Emmaus Board would love to hear from you. We need musicians/worship leaders for every Gathering (approx. 10 per year) as well as the walks themselves.

And to make the musos heard and the words seen, we need computer/projector operators and audio operators. Training is available, so increase your skills and help the Emmaus community at the same time. You can contact one of the following:



Music *Jon Hale* (02) 9876 3984 music@sydneyemmaus.org.au

Gatherings *to be advised* gatherings@sydneyemmaus.org.au

Training *Graeme Dodds* (02) 9651 4214 training@sydneyemmaus.org.au

☞ Prayer Vigil

If you would like to be part of the 72-hour Prayer Vigil for any of the walks, please contact *Cindy Kingdom*, Community Prayer Director on 0419 473 132 or e-mail prayer@sydneyemmaus.org.au



For any further information you can go to our website www.sydneyemmaus.org.au