

Emmaus Monthly

May 2008 Newsletter

Gathering

When: Saturday 10th May, 2008

Where: Turramurra Uniting Church

Time: As this is the first gathering after the Men's and Women's Walks in March and April, we will be having the Pre-Gathering of pilgrims and team at **5:45pm** where they will catch up with each other and relive some of the great moments of the Walks.

Dinner at **6:15pm** - everyone to please bring a plate of food

Worship Service commences at **7pm**

Spiritual Director: We will have Victor Perez - International Spiritual Director - visiting us tonight and talking to us about Emmaus "Internationally".

The service will be led by our own Spiritual Director - Peter Thomas

Fourth Day Talk will be given by Jan Reeve - Jan was a 'spiro' on the women's walk.

We look forward to welcoming our new pilgrims to Sydney Emmaus and catching up with some close friends.

De Colores,

Robyn Harvey - Gatherings Representative

Thank you to the following:

Thank you to all who participated in making the Men's and Women's walks so successful. Fun was had by all, and God blessed every one of our Pilgrims and team members over the weekend.

Prayer

Our Men's and Ladies walks are now over and I would like to thank those who took their time out of their daily lives to pray for our men and women.

Prayer can move mountains, your prayer can change lives!

De Colores,

Cindy Kingdom - Prayer Director

Kitchen

"Thank you to all who helped in the kitchen during the last two walks. The team and pilgrims were blessed as you served them so well."

Tova Swadling - Kitchen Co-ordinator

AGAPE - Gifts of Love

Once again, what wonderful, blessed weekends we have had. And in no small measure were they due to the abundance of Agape everyone received. The pilgrims were nonplussed and awestruck that so many people made so many gifts of love for them.

Bubble and Squeak; D Y Doves; Hills Sunbeams; Inner West Warriors; Lane Cove Lanterns; Living Waters; Helen Meillon; Pennant Pilgrims; Rainbow Ryders; Riverside Rosellas; Ross and Tova Swadling; Vicki Harding; Wahroonga Weavers; Warriewood Wonders - thank you one and all. And many thanks also to those who do not belong to a Reunion Group but still found the time to create gifts of love. I can assure everyone the effort was worth it to see the amazement and thanks in the eyes of the pilgrims. Thank you and bless you one and all!

Narelle Murray Ph: 9651 7437 Email: agape@sydneyemmaus.org.au

Helpers Needed for Walks 113 and 114 in Fiji

If you feel able to be a helper on the upcoming Walks to be held in Fiji:

- Men's Walk 113 ...17-20 July
- Women's Walk 114 ... 24-27 July

then an opportunity exists for you to do so.

In recent times, a number of Fijian residents have come to Sydney and participated in an Emmaus Walk. Of these, some will be on team for Walks 113 and 114. The number of Fijian residents qualified to help on the Walks is limited.

We will need helpers to assist with:

- facilities setup and clear up
- photographer and preparation of photos
- letters/pilgrim packs co-ordinator
- agape co-ordinator
- Women's Walk kitchen co-ordinator
- Transport
- Shopping trips
- Servers on the roster for meals
- Participants in the candle lighting and closing services

If you feel able to help, visit our website at <http://www.sydneyemmaus.org.au/Fiji> and register your intent. Alternatively, you may ring Ross Swadling on (02) 9452 3793 or email him at treasurer@sydneyemmaus.org.au. Ross will forward you details of our Nadi accommodation deal, transport arrangements, travel insurance available and other personal details we will require from you. Registered helpers will be able to avail themselves of travel insurance under the Uniting Church in Australia's travel policy at no cost. Unfortunately, we cannot offer free air fares! However, there are some reasonable deals available.

There will be a limit on the number of helpers required. However, this is a significant opportunity to play a role in the establishment of Emmaus in Fiji. Please give it your prayerful consideration.

PLEASE REGISTER BY 15 JUNE

AGAPE

Now we begin to think of Men's Walk #113 and Women's Walk #114 - in Fiji. We are most probably only going to give Agape to the pilgrims on these Walks, but we believe we may have 36 pilgrims on each Walk. I'm not sure of my Maths, but I think that works out at almost 1850 pieces of Agape if we just give each Pilgrim two pieces on each occasion we normally distribute Agape!

Please don't be alarmed; Groups from all over Australia are contributing and on first calculations it would seem we would only need one piece for the men and one piece for the women from each Reunion Group. I have made inquiries and, similar to Australia, **we cannot take any items made of wood, plant or seed matter. It would be preferable not to make items from wool or felt (which both disintegrate quickly). Articles should be light in weight and sealed in a cliplock plastic bag. Also, because we will probably need to carry everything with us, the lighter in weight the better.**

Please...if you have ideas of what you would like to contribute, could you please let me know by the Gathering on 10th May so that I can ensure we don't double up with offerings from other Communities.

Narelle Murray Ph: 9651 7437 Email: agape@sydneyemmaus.org.au

EMMAUS ACROSS THE SEAS

Overseas and letter Agape across the seas and around Australia.

Brightly colored and some in quieter pastel shades make up the wonderful selection of posters greetings received from Emmaus and Chrysalis communities across the world and around Australia. The poster I send on behalf of ALL in the Sydney Community reminds these communities that we receive from, that we are remembering Pilgrims and Team at the time of their Walks. Our prayerful greeting is embraced by pictures of Koala, Kangaroo, Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House. Very Sydney, and on the other side of the World they love to hear from "down under" as they call us.

And now with our first **Walks in Fiji** its exciting to receive posters especially for Fiji and emails wishing Gods rich blessings for the Walks in Fiji.

Elva Harris Ph: 9636 1381 or 0407 197 990 Email: overseasagape@sydneyemmaus.org.au

REGISTRAR

Sydney Walks in Fiji - Men - 17 to 20 July Women 24 to 27 July

Next Sydney Walks at Elanora Conference Centre are in July 2009

It's a privilege to meet Pilgrims and Sponsors when they arrive on the Thursday night for the beginning of a Walk weekend. A person I had worked with some years ago was a pilgrim on the recent Walk. We hadn't kept in touch and we were both blessed to just meet up again and share that we had meant something to each other at that time. One of God's nice surprises!

Walks in Fiji - you can sponsor a friend or family member for the Walks in Fiji. It would be great if you can be there in Fiji for Candelighting and the Closing but maybe not possible. Elsewhere in this Newsletter there will be News of the Walks in Fiji. I am working with Rev Saki Vakacautadra the Registrar in Fiji to help him in this exciting venture.

If you are looking to SPONSOR for Fiji or in the future you can go to that page on our website or ring or email me for information. I can also send **Pilgrim Application Forms** and **Walk to Emmaus Information** brochure.

If you have a very keen intending Pilgrim - **Western Sydney** and **Sydney South Illawarra** Emmaus Communities have Walks later in this year - Contact me for Dates.

Elva Harris Ph: 9636 1381 or 0407 197 990 Email: registrar@sydneyemmaus.org.au