

# APRIL 2021 CHATTER



**Our Mission:** *Empowering leaders through Emmaus and Chrysalis to be the hands and feet of Christ!*

**Our Vision:** *Fourth Day Leaders embodying Christ!*

## THE CROSS AND THE PASSOVER

We have plans for Easter - family, holiday outings, church, and more. Do we have room in our busy lives for meditation, listening to His voice, praying for our families?

At the beginning of John's Gospel, John the Baptist introduced Jesus by calling Him the "Lamb of God". This odd phrase might refer to the sacrificial lamb that was killed in the Temple, or to the sacrificial lamb of Isaiah 53:7. However, both of these sacrifices spoke of rescue and forgiveness from sin.

John presented Jesus as the Passover Lamb whose death marks the central event of the Passover season. As a child, Jesus made the journey from Nazareth to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover, and to re read the story of the Exodus. We know how, when Israel was being rescued from Egypt, the blood of the lamb was sprinkled on the doorpost of each Jewish home.

Jesus used His final Passover meal to show that His sacrificial death would give new meaning to the festival. We are surely humbled that our precious Jesus, as the Passover Lamb, exchanged His life for ours. The death of the Son of God on the cross serves to bring salvation to the world. We have indeed been set free to worship a great and mighty God.

Meditate on 1 Peter 2:24,25.

Heather Couchman Community Spiritual Director.





# Gold Coast Emmaus Gathering

**Saturday, 10th April 2021**

**@ Burleigh Church of Christ**

174 West Burleigh Rd, Burleigh QLD 4220

## **Gatherings are for Everyone**

**Bring your Friends! Bring your Family! Bring your Children!**

**Everyone is welcome!**

Come early and share a cuppa and bickies,  
And a time of fellowship & prayer before the Gathering

**Then at 2pm we will Gather for**

Praise and Worship

4th Day Talk

Communion

Prayer

God's Love and Joy

If you have a name badge, book, cross and some bling - bring them along.



COVID restrictions will be in place according to Government requirements

Greetings everyone

**As we move toward our Gathering on Saturday April 10th I am also becoming aware of how close our next Walks are.**

**MEN'S WALK #143 OCT 21—24 &  
WOMEN'S WALK #144 OCT 28—31**

**Yes**, now is the time for every community member to step up and become team members for these upcoming Walks in October. Every person having attended an Emmaus Walk is asked to relive those words spoken on that Sunday afternoon of our Walk to Emmaus -

**Christ is counting on you & I'm counting on Christ**

**Will you step up to pray, to sponsor, to serve?**

Some in our community are already gearing up to pray, to sponsor, to register. Team members also are preparing their schedules to attend training days and some will be preparing their talks.

Come to our Gathering and find out how you can assist the team that will need to grow in numbers to prepare for these 2 Walks in October.

## **A GATHERING ACROSS THE BORDER.**

The Board has agreed to hold another Gathering on the Far North Coast of N.S.W. Over the past couple of years, at least one Gathering was held in N.S.W. Not always at the same church so it is fitting that this time it will be held at the Ballina Uniting Church, Cherry St. Ballina on Saturday June 19th. More information about this Gathering in the May Chatter.

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# What's our Board up to?

Maybe you haven't heard, our Gold Coast Walk to Emmaus community has a new Community Spiritual Director. Heather Couchman has taken over from Rev. Neil Warner. Praise God.

At our March Gathering, a call went out to all those present and the following question was put to the Gathering:

**'Would you raise your hand if you are in favour of continuing to hold our Gatherings on the first Saturday of each month'. (except for April, Easter has the first Saturday)**

From where our observers stood and I stood, it could be clearly seen the response was very much in favour. We thank each of you for your consideration and decision. This decision is a win, win for our Board. Our Board meets between 10 & 12 on the same day as our Gathering which starts at 2pm. This move also reduces our out goings by way of rent for the building.

At our last Board meeting, all members of the Board signed the 2021 Emmaus Covenant Signature page and that document has been forwarded to the Secretary, National Emmaus Board.

## **POSITIONS FILLED**

We as a community are blessed once again with people coming forward to be part of our Board. We welcome Margaret Armstrong as our Dining Room Co-ordinator and we welcome the return to the Board of Tim Chan as our Special Agape co-ordinator. Both Margaret and Tim have been involved with Emmaus over a number of years and we look forward to the contribution each will make to the direction, strength and growth of our Gold Coast community.

## **POSITIONS VACANT.**

YES, we currently do have several positions vacant on our Board. Most roles on the Board are for a 3 year term and for some of our Board members that 3 year term has stretched. Please chat with one of the Board members and find out how you can assist any of the current Board members.

**SECRETARY**, YES, our Board is in need of a Secretary. If you can spare a Saturday each month to attend our Board meetings, please chat to any of our Board members.

**SET-UP FOR WALKS AND TRAINING DAYS.** Please chat with Michael Ballinger and find out how you can assist him in this role.

**WELCOMERS.** For a while now, 2 people have volunteered to stand at the door to welcome everyone to the Gathering. If you would like to take up this role please speak to any of our Board members.

**APPLICATION FORMS**—Please **DO NOT USE OLD FORMS** as several details have changed. New forms will be available at our April and future Gatherings.

**CHATTER** - Copies of the April Chatter will be available at our April Gathering.

**An over night stay at MTCC** - Our Board has booked Friday, May 15th as a time where interested people can come to view, discuss and decide how and what we will need to do to enable our Walks to Emmaus to happen at MTCC. If you are interested in attending please chat with our Board members. More info to follow.

## From our Spiritual Director

### Emmaus Encouragement

Have you ever thought of looking for Grace in John 5:1-15?

The Living Translation , John 5:1, refers to one of the Jewish holy days "because Jesus returned to Jerusalem" for the celebration. These festivals lasted 1 week.

HISTORICALLY, John 5:2 literally means, in Hebrew, "Place of Outpouring" OR "House of Grace". Whilst the Sheep Gate was NOT a place for washing sheep, the Sheep Gate was used as a place of water supply. It is situated very close to the Pool of Siloam.

These pools are close to the gate called Lions Gate. The Pools of Bethesda contained the healing pools. Jesus visited this area at Shabbat [this is Sabbath when there is rest from labour] during which He healed the bedridden man. John 5:9 ....and the day was the Sabbath. This is true rest for man, this is GRACE. Jesus entered the Pools of Bethesda through the Eastern Gate, or the Gate of Mercy

SABBATH is the REST of Creation

Sunday is a REST which celebrates REDEMPTION

SABBATH REST in our conscious, in our mind

The more we rest the better we walk. We do not rest out of our rest cycle, we live out of God's rest.

John 5:1-16. This passage shows our Father's Grace towards His people.

Unfortunately, the Law wants you to have strength first.

Be uplifted and challenged as you meditate on our Father's Word.

Heather Couchman,

Community Spiritual Director.





**THE GIFT OF SPONSORING** someone on their Emmaus journey is an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ to a fellow disciple. It is never too early to begin prayerfully seeking who God might be calling you to sponsor.

In Luke 24, the resurrected Jesus appears to the disciples. Christ walks with them, listens to their pain, shares scripture, and breaks bread with them. Christ's identity was finally made known to the disciples and they were transformed, eager to tell others about the experience.

Are you eager to share the Emmaus experience with someone?

Pray about your role as a sponsor

Check with your local community about upcoming sponsorship training

Begin sharing about your transformation through the Emmaus family of ministries

Pray about the right time to extend an invitation

Set a time to meet with the potential pilgrim

Keep praying



### **PRAYERS POINTS**

**Please pray for the board as they organise the Walks scheduled for October.**

**Pray for everyone to start thinking about inviting pilgrims for the Walks.**

**Thank you that the Saturday Gathering was successful and suited most of the Community.**

**Please pray about filling the vacant positions on the Board. We particularly need a Secretary.**

**Pray for those in the Community that need healing. Pray for peace and comfort as they heal.**

**Please pray for our friends and family that need healing also. Pray for our friends and family that need salvation.**

**Please ask that the Lord gives us His spiritual armour to withstand the enemy.**

**If you would like to share your prayer requests, please email Rhonda on [rjoys55@bigpond.com](mailto:rjoys55@bigpond.com)**

## Walk 144 – 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters of the Gold Coast Emmaus Community.

It has been quite a while since I have had to share anything with you, as to what is happening with Walk 144 which was originally due to be held in May 2020.

As I write this, we are only 6 months away from the Walks happening, in our new location at Camp Panorama, part of the Mount Tamborine Conference Centre. I have from the time of our last Gathering back at the beginning of March, spoken with all the members of the team we had chosen for the Walk last year. I am humbled to say that the greater majority of the team have remained with us.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Neil Warner onto the team, as our Spiritual Director for the Walk, along with Craig Weir and Reza Salimi, who will be on the tables in the Conference Room.

Currently we are working on when we will be holding the Meet and Greet, and Training Days. I will let the team know as soon as I have those dates and I know the Community will be advised via the Chatter.

I would like to ask you as our faithful Community members, to continue to pray for the teams for this Walk, the Women's Walk and also for the Pilgrims who will be attending both Walks. I would also ask you to pray that as we will be holding the Walks for the first time in the new location, that all will go according to God's plan, and that these will be successful Walks.

I will keep you updated over the coming months as we approach the Walks, because as we have been saying, the next 6 months will fly by and the Walks will be upon us before we know it.

De Colores,

Peter Osborn

Lay Director Walk 144



## THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

**Have I prayed about it?** Ps. 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: Phil. 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.



