

The Walk to

e-mmaus

for the development of Christian leaders

Auckland Community – Aotearoa New Zealand October 2006

Check out our web site.

<http://www.walktoemmaus.org.nz>

Welcome

It is with sadness that we farewell our patient, particular, practically perfect (whoops, thinking of Mary Poppins!!) Prakash!

Actually he's just stepping down from the role as Lay Director to the Community as his 3 years is up!!! Prakash is still on the board for another year to ensure the smooth transition of the role as Lloyd Rigby takes up the challenge.

I love the way that the board works in this rolling over to ensure that we always have new people, those in the midst of learning and experienced people! We are always going to have new and fresh idea's coupled with the wisdom and knowledge of experience. It's a great philosophy for church (in my mind anyway), for parenting, for relationships, for work.

As a board we're really excited at Lloyd's new role and know that he is going to bring into the role a zest for Emmaus and for the continued encouragement of Christians in Aotearoa.

So what about you? Has God been calling you to 'role-over' some of the ways you used to do things and to take on a brand new concept in Him? When have you taken on a new thought, a new idea or a new concept and bought that into your daily lives?

Just a question for you to ponder. Enjoy your moments, they are a part of the joy of life!

Blessings

Cathy (Newsletter Editor)

Registration forms attached for the next walks – start praying for someone that you can sponsor! Or go to the website www.walktoemmaus.org.nz

AGAPE

A quick note from our amazing agape coordinator:

The walks are getting bigger and bigger – Praise God!

So any agape you make, please make 50 items of each so that there is enough for the pilgrims and the team! And remember to contact Lloyd and let him know what you have for the walks so that he can prep up a list for each team. It is a wonderful help for the ALD's when he is able to do this!



Candlelightings & Closings

Candlelightings:

8pm – Crossroads Methodist Church, Papakura

All Emmaus Community and their families are encouraged to attend

October 14th

November 4th

Closings:

4pm – Chosen Valley, Ararimu

October 15th

November 5th

If you were on the last teams (27 & 28), ring your table group and invite them along!! Remember Emmaus is not a closed society so please invite your family and friends along to the gatherings.

Matters of Finance

A reminder to all that when we have a gathering or candle lighting or closing we do have a time for an offering to help us cover the costs of the walks. If you have some coins in the ashtray of the car or behind the sofa cushions, consider bringing them along for the offering.

A few community members are regularly contributing to Emmaus as a part of their tithe, if you would also like to do this, let me know (Cathy Sosoli) and I will organize an AP form for you. (My details are at the

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Thanks to Patricia (See Galatians 5:16-26)

06-29-2006

end of this newsletter.)

Also please pray for Fiji. We would like to help Fiji set up a Walk to Emmaus and would love to bless them financially to do so. Is God calling to your heart in this matter? Prayer and Act!

Prayer Vigil

With the wonders of modern technology the Prayer Vigils are loaded on the following website:

www.3dayol.org

Follow the Prayer Vigil link and it will give you 2 choices. Click on "Check out a list of Prayer Vigils". Ours is under Auckland, New Zealand Emmaus Community which is near the top of the list. Double click on the cell under the 'Weekend Dates' column and it will take you through to the sign up sheet. Then just follow the instructions. You will receive confirmation by email of the times that you have selected. (and I will receive notification that you have sign up and will be sending up prayers that God will bless you). Please if you can fill the 6 am to 10 pm slots first and then I will probably try to get overseas prayers do the slots while we sleep.

One of the notifications I received came from a pray-er in the States. Instead of putting the Country in the 'Country slot' her had written Jude 20. I thought it a bit odd when I first saw it but then realised it was a scripture. Let me share it. "But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit." What an encouraging word from across the world (and God) to us as we pray for these walks.

I have been negotiating a deal with God that if someone goes onto the website and finds that their favourite prayer slot has already been taken they can sign into another slot, pray at the time they wanted too and God will still answer their prayers. It is important that the new pilgrims see that as a community we are committed to see God at work in their lives.

If you do not have access to a computer please call me on (09) 424 2006 and we can talk about a time for you to pray.

Thank you to those who have already signed up.

Blessings
Linda Jamieson
on behalf of the board



Your Say

Do you have a testimony to share?

Do you have a fourth day experience to encourage others with?

Do you have some time to write it down and email it or send to the editor of the newsletter.

We really do want to hear from the community, don't wait till later, **do it NOW.**

Send 'YOUR SAY' to: Cathy Sosoli, 62 Motatau Rd, Papatotetoe or email to cathy@pact.org.nz

Situations Vacant

Prayer Vigil Co-ordinator

Are you a person who is passionate about prayer and passionate at encouraging others to pray? Emmaus needs you. We need a community person who is a good organiser and able to motivate the Emmaus Community to pray for the 72 hours of the walks in 2007 (and beyond). It may be that there is a group of you that would like to be a blessing to the community and to the new pilgrims. Contact one of the Board members we would love to hear from you.

Are you a 'sew-er'

Each of you would have received your lovely letters at the end of your walk in a gorgeous envelope. We need people who have that awesome skill of sitting behind a sewing machine to make them. Again contact a board member if this is something that you would love to bless the new pilgrims with by making the envelopes.

Kitchen Co-ordinator - Belinda van Gruting

Dear Emmaus Friends

The Men's and Women's walks are around the corner. Please let me know if you are able and willing to serve meals at the next walks.

The Men's walk: 12-15 October - kitchen duty starts at 7:15am on the 13th
The Women's walk: 2-5 November - kitchen duty starts at 7:15am on the 3rd

Also, if you are able to or know of anybody willing to bake cakes, scones, biscuits, muffins etc. for the walks, please let me know.

I am looking forward to the walks - to serve and to be MAD (Make a Difference)...

De Colores.
Belinda
komani@xtra.co.nz

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Thanks to Brian Pitkaart

12-09-1997

HAVING LOST THE RECIPE, DON TRIES TO
MAKE AN ANGEL FOOD CAKE FROM MEMORY

Greetings from the Reunion Group Coordinator

From the Reunion Group Co-ordinator.

In the last newsletter I shared about my being on a 12 week weight loss programme and I know you are all wondering how it went. I lost about 5 1/2 Kgs and about 30 cms from around my body. Was it hard - you had better believe it. Was it worth it - for sure. Why am I bringing this up? Well when I got to the end of the programme I thought what do I do know. I know how easy it is to fall back into the old patterns. So I signed up at the gym and continue to meet with a personal trainer every week.

You possibly thought after you had finished your walk that you now had the tools to continue to walk with the Lord and go out and change the world. Possibly you started off well but as the weeks, months, years have gone past there has been some 'slippage' in what you really desire in your heart that your relationship would be.

Let me encourage you to start meeting with other Christians who can hold you accountable to walking with God. You may choose to meet with others who have been on Emmaus or it could be with other Christians that you work with or from your church. Please contact me at either lindaj@maxnet.co.nz or Phone (09) 424 2006 if you want to know more about how to go about it.

I would like to share some lovely 'Reunion Group' things that have happened over the last wee while to encourage you to join or start a reunion group.

The first was an email from South Africa asking me if I would follow up on a family that had moved here recently. The Reunion group had undertaken to support this family in prayer in their first few weeks in NZ. I have passed this on to someone closer to them but it was so heart warming to be invited to do so.

Then shortly after another email arrived in my inbox from a lady in Palmerston North who had recently moved to NZ and had been involved with Emmaus in the States. I haven't been quite as successful in connecting her but it was again lovely to be in contact with someone who wanted to keep the accountability and Emmaus experience going.

So then it was my turn. One of the pilgrims on the recent walk had been coming to our group but is now moving to Australia. We are now in the process of connecting her in with a community near to where she is going to be living. It really shows that Emmaus is part of the Body of Christ worldwide.

De Colores
Linda Jamieson
Reunion Group Co-ordinator

Succulence

(A plant that can exist in very dry conditions through the storage of life giving water.)

There is succulence in our lives. We just need to look for it and then celebrate a life that is full and juicy!

Staff only day!

Joy of joys! I have so much work to do and so little time to do it, I don't have the time for a 'staff only' day. What a terrible attitude! Sucked all the joy out of the anticipation of a day for refreshment, relationship building and reaching towards the One for whom I work (Jesus). One good thing about succulence is that you store 'life giving water' for such times as these. So after giving myself a mental telling off, I put my mind towards looking forward to the day.



The positives:

No clients

(I was feeling a little peopled out...)

An opportunity to get organized

(get my priorities set at work so the day off wouldn't hinder my ability to work effectively)

Shorter Day – finishes at 3pm

(I could go for a walk along the beach before going home)

I'm starting to get quite excited by this!!!!

And the day itself, was fantastic. We had great devotions, and a wonderful bible study interwoven into an explanation of one of our residential homes. There was prayer time, a time for creativity around courage, compassion and creativity and of course a fun and eye-opening learning time. I learnt that I'm a beaver with otterish tendencies and lion overtures!! We looked at personality types and how we all work together – heaps of fun without actually boxing anyone into a label.

When I think about what I could have missed out on because of my dry and stale thought processing, I am very grateful to the God who gives us new thoughts, new mercies and new beginnings each and every day.

'Because of the Lords great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him".'

Lamentations 3:22-24

*Yours in Hope and Wonder
Cathy Sosoli*

Emmaus Calender 2006 is here

Make sure you jot these dates in your diary, on your calendar, under your pillow.....

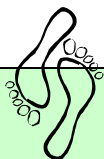
WALK TO EMMAUS - 2006

DATE	DAY	EVENT	TIME
12 October	Thursday	Men's Walk 29	7.00 p.m.
14 October	Saturday	Candle-lighting	7.45 p.m
15 October	Sunday	Closing	4.00 p.m.
24 October	Tuesday	Board meeting	7.00 p.m
2 November	Thursday	Women's walk - 30	7.00 p.m.
4 November	Saturday	Candle-lighting	7.45 p.m
5 November	Sunday	Closing	4.00 p.m
18 November	Saturday	Fourth day Gathering	6.00 p.m.
5 December	Tuesday	Christmas Party	6.00 p.m

Walks are coming up, what can I do!

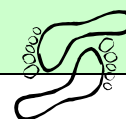
- ✓ Create agape with your reunion group or sponsor.
- ✓ Sponsor someone you know who would benefit from being at the walk
- ✓ Check out the Emmaus website – **www.walktoemmaus.org.nz**
- ✓ Send a copy of your experience of the Walk to the newsletter editor for input into the next issues of the newsletter
- ✓ Be available for serving meals
- ✓ Be available for the prayer vigil **www.3dayol.org**
- ✓ Go along to the candle lightings and closings. It's a great time to catch up with people you've met on your walk and new friends who have shared the Emmaus experience with you.

Your families are most welcome at these events.



Jesus asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?"

Luke 24:17a



Lay Directors Dialogue

Greetings to you all in the name of Jesus Christ.

This is my first communication to you all in my new role as Community Lay Director. I feel privileged and honoured to have been appointed to this position and look forward to continuing my fourth day experience by working with you all in allowing new pilgrims to experience the privilege of experiencing The Walk to Emmaus.

I am grateful to Prakash for the work that he has put in over the last 3 years in his role as Community Lay Director and I am sure that you will agree with me that it has been Prakash's enthusiasm that has been responsible for the renewed enthusiasm that is apparent in the community. Thank you Prakash for the work you have done and we look forward to yours and Sylvie's continued contributions on the Board.

Before the AGM I was privileged to attend the Australian Secretariat in Brisbane where I was able to see a wider perspective of the Walk to Emmaus. While many communities have problems which are not dissimilar to ours, lack of pilgrims, to few clergy for Spiritual Director roles etc. It was quite apparent that the Walk to Emmaus is alive and well across the Tasman. Attending the conference was an uplifting experience with some very encouraging talks and thought provoking discussions.

The Walk to Emmaus would never happen unless we had the commitment of the community and to all those newly elected Board members I look forward to working with you and moving the Walk to Emmaus community expanding in New Zealand.

Training is well underway for the next 2 walks #29 and #30 and as always the Lay Directors are doing a wonderful job of moulding their teams in preparation for the upcoming walks. When you receive this newsletter both Men's and Women's teams will have had their final training days and will have been commissioned to bring the Walk to Emmaus to a new group of Pilgrims. We pray that God will richly bless The Teams and pilgrims as they prepare for the upcoming weekends.

Men 12 -15 October

Women 2 - 5 November

If you think back to your own Walk what were the highlights, I can hear some of you say Candle lighting and closing ceremonies, I urge as many of the community make the effort to attend either or both of these events as it really lifts the Pilgrims' and supports the Teams as well. There are many ways that we can support the Walks and I urge you to support the upcoming walk not only by attending the events but consider other options as well. 72 hr Prayer Vigil, Gifts of agape for the tables and conference room.

I has been my privilege to be the Agape Chairperson for the last 3 years or so and it is so amazing the expressions of love that come through the internet from the World Wide Emmaus Community.

Perhaps the challenge for us as a community is to support some specific Communities in the form of their Prayer Vigil and sending Agape. Perhaps some Reunion groups may like to take up this challenge.

This year and the coming year promise to be exciting and we look forward to working with Our neighbours in Australia in taking the Walk to Emmaus to Fiji. We also are looking at the possibility of venturing into Chrysalis Flights possibly by combining with Australian Communities.

I look forward to meeting with you at upcoming events.
God Bless

Yours in Christ
Lloyd Rigby
Community Lay Director

Reflections from the Community Spiritual Director
Rev. Marion Peterson.

Greetings from Marion,

- the pressure is on - the next walks are almost upon us and the numbers are still small! Help God!
- the pressure is on - exams are looming! Help God.
- the pressure is on - 12 weeks till Christmas! Help God.
- the pressure is on - deadlines looming! Help God.
- the pressure is on - EMMAUS newsletter deadline has passed and I have not sent in my contribution! Help God!

Too much work, too many demands, not enough time, not enough energy,..... do any of these fit your situation? How often do you wish that the world would stop and you could step off for a while and catch your breath? Even if this is not where you are at this moment I think that most of us experience these types of pressures at one time or another.



Proverbs 18:10 says -" *The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous run to it and are safe.*" 2 Samuel 22:2-3 "*The Lord is.... my high tower and my Refuge.*"

In Biblical times the High Tower was the place people retreated to when they were under attack - it was a place of safety and security. It was also used as a "lookout" - a vantage place to see the surrounding area and the approaching enemy - being raised up it gave a different perspective of the landscape.

For us, Jesus is that High Tower, that place of refuge and safety. In the peace of his presence we can rest and be renewed in mind and spirit. From the high vantage point we can view the "Goliaths" that have beset us and see them from a different perspective. He is our strength and our defense.

When "the pressure is on" for you remember - ***run*** to the Lord!

Go well with God
Marion

Keep an eye out for our next Newsletter – YOUR story could be in there!

From the Newsletter Editor



—

Name : _____

We would like / would not like to continue to receive the Auckland Emmaus Community Newsletter.

Address and Phone details (please also complete if these have changed)

Address: _____

Phone _____

Please email my copy to _____ @ _____

I enclose a donation towards the cost of the newsletter. \$ _____

Please return to Auckland Emmaus Newsletter Editor,

C/- C Sosoli, 62 Motatau Rd, Papatoetoe.

email address: cathy@pact.org.nz

“In living their Fourth Days, participants are encouraged to continue to grow in relationship with Christ and live as faithful disciples in all of life. An important and necessary foundation for faithful Christian living is a vital connection to the Christian community for support, guidance, and challenge. This is most available through local church communities, reunion groups, and the Emmaus/Chrysalis Celebrations. Another way to be connected to the support of the Christian community is through studying the writings of our brothers and sisters in Christ. “<http://www.upperroom.org/emmaus/>”



Emmaus

for the development of Christian Disciples

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT (Please print clearly to ensure correct name tag spelling)

Name: _____ Phone: () _____
(Mr Mrs Ms Rev Pas Dr)

Fax: _____ Email: _____ Mob: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Name desired on Name Tag: _____ Age: 20-29 : 30-39 : 40-49 : 50 + (Circle)

Occupation: _____

Church: _____ (Location): _____

Pastor/Minister's Name: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Has the Walk to Emmaus been explained to you? **Yes/No** (please circle one)

Are you on any **medication or special diet**, or do you have any health situation that should be known by the leaders? **Yes/No**

If Yes, please detail: _____

State briefly why you wish to attend:

Please indicate your date for attendance:

☛ MEN Walk 29: Thursday 12 – 15 October 2006

☛ WOMEN Walk 30: Thursday 2 – 5 November @006

Venue: Chosen Valley Christian Camp, Turner Rd, Ararimu

We will acknowledge by mail the date of your Walk and request you to send a **deposit of \$65-00** as confirmation that you will attend that Walk. **The full fee is \$130-00. Please pay the remaining \$65-00 on the Thursday night when you register at camp.**

FOLLOWING SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSOR

Your Name: _____ **Phone:** () _____
(Mr Mrs Ms Rev Pas Dr)

Address: _____ **Postcode:** _____

Email: _____

Reunion Group: . _____ **Church(Denom):** _____

Your Walk # & Location: _____ **Church(Location):** _____

Marital Status of Applicant: _____ **Is spouse also being sponsored?** Yes/No

If No, please state reason: _____

Will you pray for and support the applicant (and family)? Yes/No

Why do you commend this application? _____

PLEASE RETURN TO: THE REGISTRAR, Janet Huddleston, 23 Ashdown Place, Papakura.

email: registrar@walktoemmaus.org.nz