Dublin Emmaus Walks-2013

This is the eighth year of the Emmaus walks in Ireland. The first three of the walks were held at the Glencree Reconciliation centre in the Wicklow mountains. The mountain top experience was amazing and the Almighty poured out His blessings on the pilgrims and the team. This year, as with the last four years, the walks are held at the picturesque Dromantine Retreat & Conference centre, Newry, Co Down in Northern Ireland. The Lord is waiting with arms stretched out to welcome all and pour out His blessings. The prayers and preparation that have gone into this will not be in vain.

From the Community Lay Director

I am delighted and thrilled to WELCOME all the new members of walk 17 and 18 to the Emmaus Community Ireland. May you feel and know a sense of belonging to the body of Christ as you continue to journey with Him in your fourth days.

When I went on my Emmaus walk, something about the use of my name spoke very deeply to me, God wanted to affirm who I was in Christ, His daughter, and my sense of belonging to Him. It is difficult to put words to the experience that I had, yet, through the servant leadership and love of others my faith was re-enlivened. I have not been the same since then! There are as many different reactions to the “Walk to Emmaus” as there are pilgrims, each one authentic. God reveals Himself in a way that is unique to each one of us at our point of understanding.

In life, we all have our own difficulties to live with. I would like to invite you to become part of a reunion group where you will be supported and encouraged as you support and encourage others. After my walk I remember feeling where would I find the time for another group. I did, and I am so thankful for the ladies who encourage me and remind me of the love of Christ that I experienced on my walk. There may be a group you already belong to at present, or a Christian friend who are willing to help you grow more in the likeness of Christ. For you, this could be your reunion group.

The Purpose of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge and equip local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and places of work. My prayer for you is that your spiritual life in Christ will continue to expand, your discipleship may deepen and the Holy Spirit will fill your hearts and kindle in you the fire of His love.

St Irenaeus said . "The Glory of God is a human being fully alive!"

May the peace of Christ remain with you.

Dianne Morris

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While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them” Luke 24:15

Chairperson/ Lay Director: Dianne Morris
Spiritual Director: Alan Wardlow
Treasurer: Andrew Pomeroy
Registrar: Stephen Barrington
Secretary: Garry Westby
Reunion Groups: Jill Cosgrave

Communications:
Support: Ken Mutton
Logistics: Dianne Morris
Agape: Graham Hohn
Gatherings: Moyna Leary
Deirdre McGuirk
Maire Quinlan
Pluck

Official News letter of
Walk to Emmaus Ireland
Dublin Community
Number 10,
March 2013
From the Men’s Walk Lay Director

Today more than ever, the world and the church need inspired and equipped disciples. The impact that a loving Christian can have on their church and the world has rarely been as full of possibilities. The purpose of The Walk to Emmaus is to inspire and equip you to be a disciple whose heart burns with the love of God, who will bring new vision to your local church, and who will return from the weekend with renewed commitment to offer Christ to the world in which you live.

My prayer for every pilgrim, on both walks is Ephesians 1 v 18 and 19. “I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.”

As I write this article there are twelve men who have so far registered for the walk. That made me consider the twelve disciples who sought to follow Jesus over 2,000 years ago. Those twelve early followers had an incredible impact on the early church, on individual lives and on the world that has resulted in God’s love being shared with billions. As we travel home may that same great power of the risen Christ be with all of us, our hearts burning with the love of God.

Neil Morris

From the Women’s Walk Lay Director

Dear new friends, my first experience of the Walk to Emmaus was in 2006 when I arrived in Glencree, Co.Wicklow, a very unsure pilgrim, wondering what would happen and if I should be there. Those feelings took a while to disappear and if I had travelled in my own car I might have disappeared too!

I was at a point in my life when I felt I could not go on with God but knew I could not go on without him. My walk was a watershed experience: God did a very deep work of healing in my life and I was freed from a weight of anger, pain and sadness I had been carrying for several years. When I returned home I was like a different person, blessed with a richer understanding and experience of God’s amazing grace and wonderful love. God did not stop there: I have had various opportunities to serve in Emmaus, including the joy and privilege now of serving you as Lay Director, as well as serving in my local church.

This weekend you too received an opportunity to understand more of God’s grace and experience his love afresh. As you set out on your Fourth Day, God will continue the good work he has begun in you. I encourage you to come to the monthly gatherings, especially the next one which is your Fourth Day Meeting, and to join a reunion group, so you can continue sharing and celebrating God’s presence and activity in our lives, and supporting and encouraging one another. Take advantage of the many ways to serve in Emmaus and share the blessings you have received. I am reminded of Jesus’ words to the disciples "You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last..." (John 15:16).

May you continually know God’s blessing and be fruitful in your service.

Alison Gallagher

From the Men’s Walk Spiritual Director

I thank God for the Walk to Emmaus. Every year I am involved with the Walk I leave Dromantine with a strong sense that God has met with us over the weekend; teaching, guiding, comforting, ministering to us, and loving us. I hope and pray that this is your experience of the Walk to Emmaus. And if you’ve had a good experience please tell your friends and family and invite them to come on the Walk next time. Of course not everyone will want to hear about your experience. Even though the Walk may have changed us or encouraged us in some part of our life, the world has not changed and we return to a world that is in dire need of Jesus Christ. I remember after my Walk in 2005 I was keen to share my experience with others but most people were not interested. I can testify however that God met with me on my Walk to Emmaus and showed me that He has a plan for my life. He has a plan for each of our lives. I hope He has revealed that plan to you this weekend and that you go away from this experience knowing where God wants you to serve Him and how.

Welcome to your Emmaus Community and may God bless you as you continue your journey with Him.

Denis Maguire.
Walk to Emmaus Ireland 2013 Walks

Walk #17 Men’s Walk
7th—10th March 2013

Men’s Team
Neil Morris
Denis Maguire
Chris Mathison
Ken Wilson
Mervyn Ewing
Paul Maxwell
Elton Dinesh
Graham Hohn
Michael Redmond
Eamon Kelly
John Brady
Colin Rohu
Bruce Alwood
Brian Hughes
Mick Kelly
Alan Shiel
Joerg Heim
Simon Maxwell
Michael Greig
David Doran
Raymond Kerr
Derek Cottney
Joseph Bockarie
Garry Westby

Men’s Pilgrim’s
Leslie Finlay
Andrew Lee
Ken Gillator
John Wonnacott
Dennis Quinn
Paul Williams
Neville Hohn
Dara Westby
Sammy Stanfield
Derek Good
Trevor Bristow
Tom McCombe
James Brookes

Walk #18 Women’s Walk
21st - 24th March 2013

Women’s Team
Alison Gallagher
Clodagh Yambasu
Lilian Burrell
Rosemary Lindsay
Fiona McCrea
Ken Todd
Harold Agnew
Wendy Johnston
Liz Kelly
Carol Maguire
Val Galloway
Yinka Parm
Ruth Gyves
Marion Smith
Arlene Rone
Grace Krueger
Trina Hanlon
Grace Percy
Joyce Lee
Winfred Graham
Sonja Guenther
Karen Doyle
Crystal Wheeldon
Joy Brookes
Ruth Jermy
Pam Rooney
Ruth Wilson
Ruth Watt
Deirdre Mcguirk
Maire Quinlan-Pluck
Caroline Stewart

Women’s Pilgrims
Greta McIlveen
Lorna Burrowes
Leesa Beal
Elaine Hanlon
Anne Gillanders
Marian Quinn
Mary Sorohan
Collette Lomax
Yvonne Hills
Hazel Kerr
Heather Simpson
Marion Dunn
Marie Wilson
Carin Hopkins
Jenny Clegg
Penny Dewar

My Reunion Group...
GOREY BEACHCOMBERS 2013

There are 6 girls in the Gorey Beachcombers reunion group and sometimes we have the odd welcome visitor. We aim to meet once a month and do this even if we only have three. We rotate around the houses but the shortbread in Zeta’s is the best!

It’s a time for us to take time out and think about things that God is doing in our lives. We talk about how, when and why we might be denying Him, or our plans for upcoming spirituality, study or action. We might talk about when we felt closest to God since we last met and at Christmas we generally have a full attendance and make this our Agape night. To close we ask for prayer. The hostess starts by praying for the person on her right and it goes from there as we uplift, support, encourage, hug, cry and laugh with and for each other all over again. Just like your Walk.

The friendship and understanding that grows from being on a Walk and then in a Re-union group is different from other friendships. It’s a time to be open and honest with ourselves and each other. It is a blessing and it gives you that warm feeling in your tummy when you know you are doing something you really want to. It makes you happy and you go home content in the re-affirmation of His love for you and with a whole lot of new things to pray about and to give thanks for.

De colores

Caroline Stewart
From the Community Spiritual Director

Today my car registered 12 degrees and the sun was shining. It was a good thing to see spring bursting forth and things hotting up after a cold drab winter.

It was also a reminder the Emmaus walks beckon again and the prayer we offer in the communion service always holds true for us all, “Kindle in us the fire of your love”.

Please pray that the weekends will have known the fire fall. The Holy Spirit moving among all who have shared in the weekend, especially the pilgrims now joining the Emmaus community.

We desperately need an outpouring on our own lives, churches, and country.

When I attended Cliff College a Jamaican student used to pray we need an overdose of the Holy Ghost...

May our hearts be strangely warmed and may we, and those on the walks have been richly blessed.

Lenten blessings

Alan Wardlow.

Fourth Day Gathering

Men's Walk #17 & Women's Walk #18
Tallaght Methodist Church
Saturday 20th April 2013 @ 4:30pm
ALL ARE INVITED - bring your family too!

Community Gatherings: Saturday 25th May, Saturday 22nd June @ 4:30pm.
Venue: Tallaght Methodist Church
For an update on the gathering dates, visit www.emmauswalks.ie.

From the Women’s Walk Spiritual Director

Very well done!!!

Not everyone would set aside 72 hours and organise that they could set aside 72 hours in order to learn more about Jesus and the grace of God.

But you have done so and as a result you will never quite be the same again.

You have learnt lots – but better still – you have experienced the grace of God in a new way so you know and understand Him better. Your relationship with Him will deepen as time passes.

You have made new friends and gained a massive Christian support system. You will come to realise the genuineness of the love and practical concern of your new friends as you get to know them better.

You have a clearer sense of purpose for your life now because you understand better than before that God wants you to impact others for Him through serving them...

And now you are ready for the Fourth Day – the rest of your life!

But first have a rest or take things as easily as you can for a couple of days. That will give you a chance to relax, to process and absorb what you have learnt and experienced.

Do attend the Emmaus gathering on April 20th in Tallaght Methodist Church – you’ll be sent the details. There you will very likely meet people you know already who have already done the Walk. That and the other gatherings will encourage you.

Join a weekly Reunion Group – and ask Diane Morris or anyone if you need help to find one near you.

And try praying this very old prayer:

"Make it my chief joy to study Thee,
Meditate on Thee,
Gaze on Thee,
Sit like Mary at Thy feet,
Lean like John on Thy breast....
Ride forth in me, Thou King of kings and Lord of lords,
That I might live victoriously and in victory attain my end."

Clodagh Yambasu.