



Minnesota Emmaus Community Organized 1991
November 2010 Newsletter
Website www.mnemmaus.org

FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Greetings fellow Mn Emmaus Community members.

I have been privileged to serve as the Community Lay Director this past year. The Minnesota Emmaus Board of Directors has had a productive and meaningful year as we have proceeded to keep our eyes on the goal of Emmaus – Empowering leaders through Emmaus to be the Hands and Feet of Christ - and to keep our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our Faith. (Heb 12:2)

God has indeed blessed us along the way as we have persevered. Please note that we always appreciate your input and welcome your ideas and suggestions. You may contact any member of the board with your ideas and comments.

We have the honor each year of recognizing those who have served on the Emmaus Board of Directors for 3 years and also to welcome those who are beginning their term of service. You will note in the bylaws that our board is comprised of 3 classes of 5 members each.

Wayne Tomlinson has been elected by the Board of Directors to serve as Community Lay Director for 2011. I will remain on the board one additional year as Past Community Lay Director. Those completing their term of service as board members are: Lowery Smith, Michelle Schober, Molly Reko, Rich Hutchison. John and Ann Roberts had to leave the board a bit early for personal reasons. We are grateful to each of them for their service and leadership. We are pleased that several of these persons will continue to be active by serving on board committees.

The board of directors is a “working board” in that each person who serves on the board chairs a committee. The board positions are designed to support the walks and provide Follow-up and Outreach to our community. The positions are based on directives from the Upper Room.

One of our goals as a board this year was to develop committees under each area of responsibility. We are continuing that process. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, we welcome you. The areas needing committee members are Agape, Music/Worship, Facilities, Gathering/4th Day, Team Selection, and Outreach. Serving on one of the committees does not require board attendance and much can be done via email or telephone. Please contact me or one of the board members if you can help or if you have questions.

The Board of Directors has spent considerable time in prayer and conversation regarding a slate of board members for the next class. This class will serve 2011-2013. We now present to you, the Emmaus Community, a slate of persons who meet the qualifications to serve on the board of directors for the next 3 years. If there are additional names you would like to ask the board to consider, please do so as we must have your approval to move forward. Those persons the board is presenting are: Jeanne Jones, Deni Knaeble, Gary Lueck, Matthew Ortwein and Cindy Waldt.

These persons reflect Emmaus involvement from recent pilgrim walks to several years of Emmaus activity. We feel they will provide history as well as fresh perspective to our board. Please review brief bios on each of the persons on the slate

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Welcome New Members of Faith to the Emmaus Community!

Walk #91

Otis Anderson, John Flaa, Mark Grymala, Ken Huffman, George Paddock, Robert Pesola, Marvin Seablom, Chuck Tenlen, Bill Tinsley

Walk #92

Ardyth Corbin, Julene Flaa, Ronda Griser, Linnea Harding, Joanna Howe, Karen Lamont, Margaret Larsen, Judy Lenz, Michelle Livingston, Caryn Oredson, Pam Singletary, Anna Urso, Christine Walters, Barb Wiese

Gathering and Reunion Group News

We are updating information about current gatherings and reunion groups. On the website www.mnemmaus.org under the Gathering/Reunion Group tab (formerly the Monthly Gatherings tab) you will see a current listing divided by gatherings and reunion groups. Please take a look at the information provided there. If there are corrections or additions, please notify us by sending an email to mnemmaus01@gmail.com.

◆ Emmaus Gatherings are usually held monthly on a regular schedule. They are open to all, whether or not one has attended a 4th-day weekend. They usually include music, singing, communion, and a 4th day speaker. Attendees may break briefly into small groups to discuss one of the items from our reunion service sheet. Gatherings may include a pot-luck supper. This is a way to maintain relationships with other Emmaus pilgrims in order to build a vital 4th Day community, as well as support future Walk to Emmaus weekends. Gatherings draw larger attendance, and the attendees can vary from month to month. A directory to MN WTE Gatherings—locations and schedule—can be found on the website www.mnemmaus.org.

◆ Reunion groups meet weekly or bi-weekly. Their members commit to attend regularly. This serves to keep us accountable during our 4th days. Meetings are focused on discussing each of the items listed on the reunion service sheet—a small card you received on the last day of your Walk. Each attendee discusses his or her own “three-legged stool” - spiritual life (piety), study, and action over the immediate past week or two, and his or her plan for the immediate future. There is time set aside for special prayers and for discussing your opportunities for discipleship in the past week or so—both those opportunities where you responded and those opportunities where you failed to respond (discipleship denied). To allow discussion to be completed within an hour, reunion group membership is smaller (2-6 people). Once a group grows beyond this number, it can split into two groups to respect the time limit. The operative word is ACCOUNTABILITY. The people in a reunion group hold each other accountable for maintaining our commitment to Christ. This is a way to be reminded regularly that Christ is counting on you! Note that reunion group members need NOT have attended a 4th day weekend, but they will still follow the discussion as outlined on the service sheet.

If you are not currently in a reunion group, please consider how you might get involved. For advice, contact the board member responsible for gatherings and reunion groups. The contact name and telephone number is listed on the webpage under the tab entitled “Board of Directors”. Team members are particularly encouraged to be active in a reunion group in order to model this behavior for Pilgrims on a Walk.

Twin Cities Gathering News

Since our first Twin Cities Emmaus Gatherings in June we have visited 4 of the 5 churches who originally decided to pool their resources and alternate our monthly Gatherings. Our next Twin Cities Emmaus Gathering will be at Hennepin Avenue UMC on Friday, November 19th. An email to the Emmaus community will be sent about a week before the Gathering.

The last Gathering was held at Blaine UMC on Friday, October 22nd and was attended by 53 of our community from as far away as Menomonie, WI, Rochester, and Hutchinson, as well as many from the Twin Cities area. This 4th Day/Gathering was an opportunity for our local recent pilgrims to give their witness to the community. We also had Cursillo pilgrims, as well as some guests who wanted to learn more about Emmaus and may become pilgrims in the future. This was a time to see friends in our community and to make new friends in the community. There really was a joyful feeling within our Gathering and we thank our Blaine UMC hosts. Besides that, the Blaine pot luck meal was awesome. It was one of the few times I've observed the dessert table was larger than the main dish table!

It's Not Too Early.....

...to consider who God is laying on your heart to sponsor for the upcoming walks at Koinonia, #93 May 12-15 and #94 May 19-22. It may seem like you have months to do this, but time goes so fast, people's calendars fill up, and before you know it, this set of Walks will be upon us. Let's have full Walks this Spring!

...to think about the kind of table agape your reunion group would like to be preparing for the Spring Walks.

...to put the dates on your calendar and plan to come to Candlelight on Saturdays May 14 and May 21 and Closing on Sundays May 15 and 22.

(CLD Message Continued from page 1)

elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please also review the updated bylaws. We, as a board, have the task of reviewing and modifying as necessary, the bylaws every 5 years. Our bylaws are also under the direction of the Upper Room.

We look forward to an exciting year in 2011. Our Spring Walks will be held at Koinonia in South Haven and the Fall Walks will be held at Koronis near Paynesville. Dates are posted on the web site. We will be exploring other areas of the state to hold walks for 2012.

Thank you for your continuing support of Emmaus. May God bless each of you as you continue in service during your fourth days.

Darlene Vandermyde
Community Lay Director
MN Walk to Emmaus

MN Walk To Emmaus, INC - Proposed Bylaws Revision Oct 2010

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this community shall be The Minnesota Walk to Emmaus Community, hereinafter referred to as "the Community".

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of the Community shall be to inspire, challenge, and equip church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, places of work, and the world community through the Emmaus experience.

Section 2. The Community is affiliated with the International Emmaus Program of Upper Room Ministries, Nashville, Tennessee.

Section 3. The Community is organized exclusively for the religious purposes as stated within the meaning of Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service code.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons who have completed a Walk to Emmaus weekend experience sponsored by the Community shall be members of the Community.

Section 2. Persons who have completed a Walk to Emmaus weekend outside the Community, as well as Cursillo, TEC, Unidos en Cristo, Via de Cristo, or other recognized three-day spiritual renewal event may become members of the Community by participating in the activities of the Community. Their names shall be added to the Community's data base and mailing list.

ARTICLE IV. BOARD of DIRECTORS

Section 1. Purpose

The direction of the Community shall be vested in a board of directors

Section 2. Composition

The Board will consist of fifteen (15) elected members lay and/or Clergy plus the Community Spiritual Director, unless he/she is one of the elected Board members. All directors on the board (elected as well as ex-officio) are full voting members.

Section 3. Terms of Office

Board members shall be elected by the Community for three-year staggered terms. The Board will be arranged into three classes, each class having five (5) members. A new class will be elected every year, with the oldest class rotating off. Board members may succeed themselves in one consecutive term (three years), but only with the recommendation of the Community Lay Director and the approval of the current board of directors. Terms of office shall begin following the close of the December board meeting and end after the December board meeting of the subsequent year.

Section 4. Election of Board Members

Board members are elected by the Community. The Board shall submit to the Community for approval a slate of 5 prospective board members. The slate shall be provided to the Community members as part of the newsletter. Names of additional board members may be submitted by the community. Approval may be submitted by e-mail and by regular mail and must be received by the Board no later than the November board meeting of each year. Approval is by simple majority vote of the responses received. The immediate past Community Lay Director shall serve on the board one (1) additional year as an ex-officio officer. The Board may elect persons, upon nomination by the Community Lay Director, to fill a vacant term until the next regular election for that term. Such persons are then eligible for election to a full term by the Community at such regular election.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS of the BOARD

Section 1. Officers

Officers shall be the Community Lay Director, Secretary, and Treasurer. In case of absences, board meetings will be chaired in this particular order. An Assistant Community Lay Director will be identified by the Board mid-year. This person will be confirmed by the Board at year end as Community Lay Director for the following year.

Section 2. Election of Officers

Officers shall be elected annually by the Board of Directors.

The Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected to two-year terms, or the remainder of their regular time to serve on the Board for their respective class, whichever is longer. (If either the Secretary or Treasurer should decide to serve as Community Lay Director, they will be allowed to vacate their current officer position)

The Community Lay Director shall be elected to a one-year term, with the opportunity to serve an additional year upon the recommendation and approval by the other current Board members. If the additional year follows the end of their three-year term on the board, that person will then assume the board position of the ex-officio officer, so as not to disrupt the annual election process of five new board members. Eligible members for this position should be those who have served on the Board for at least one year past or present. The terms of office for all board officers will become effective with the close of the December board meeting.

Section 3. Spiritual Director

The Community Spiritual Director shall be selected annually by the Board of Directors. (The selection process should precede the regular board elections by the Community in case a clergyperson presently on the Board is selected as the Community Spiritual Director).

The term of office shall be one year, with the opportunity to serve an additional consecutive year upon the recommendation and approval by the current Board of Directors. The term of office will become effective with the close of the December board meeting.

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ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. The board shall meet monthly in regular meetings.

Section 2. Quorum

Eight (8) members of the Board of Directors present at a duly called meeting, either in person or by teleconference, shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. Special meetings

Special board meetings may be called by the Community Lay Director or when requested in writing by eight (8) members of the Board.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

Section 1 (a) The Community Lay Director shall name board members to chair the following committees. Each respective committee chair will have a detailed description of their committee responsibilities.

- Agape
- Communications
- Facilities
- Outreach
- Gatherings/Reunion Groups
- Music, Worship & Entertainment/Agape dinner
- Registrar
- Sponsorship/Follow-up/Education
- Team Selection

(b) The Community Lay Director shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

Nominations committee shall be an ad-hoc committee selected by the Community Lay Director.

ARTICLE VIII. WALK to EMMAUS

Section 1. The Community shall follow the guidelines of the Upper Room Walk to Emmaus program in the presentation of the three-day (72 hour) Walk To Emmaus experience.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall have general oversight in all matters relating to the local Walk to Emmaus Community.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall choose a Lay Director for each Community Walk to Emmaus weekend.

Section 4. The Spiritual Director for each Community Walk to Emmaus weekend shall be selected by the Board upon recommendation from the Community Spiritual Director.

Section 5. The Board shall establish a Team Selection committee. The Team Selection committee shall consist of a board member who serves as chair, the Community Spiritual Director, and three or four members of the Emmaus Community who have a broad awareness of the community membership and a solid understanding of team needs. Committee members are appointed by the team selection chair.

Section 6. Bylaws of the Minnesota Emmaus Community are to be reviewed every five (5) years by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Proposed amendments may be presented to the Board by any member of the community one month in advance of consideration by the Board.

Section 2. If the amendments are voted in the affirmative by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the board members present at a duly called meeting, then they will be circulated to the membership through the Community newsletter. If no petitions signed by at least twenty-five (25) community members objecting to the new amendments are received, the amendments will be considered adopted. Any objections must be received within sixty (60) days of the mailing of the notification. If an objection petition is received as stated above, the amendment will be considered void.

ARTICLE X. RATIFICATION

The bylaws take effect immediately upon certification by the Board of Directors, following the 60-day waiting period.

Keeping in touch

We continue to update information for those people who want to remain active with MN Walk to Emmaus, and to stop sending newsletters and emails to those who no longer want to receive them. If you thought you had let us know your status but are still receiving newsletters, we apologize. Please make your wishes known once again to us at mnemmaus01@gmail.com. So that your email is not treated as spam, please include the text Emmaus in the subject line.

At any later date, you may reach us to be activated by sending email to the mnemmaus01@gmail.com. This email account is monitored regularly by the Communication Director named on our website www.mnemmaus.org.

A reminder—our email marketing service Constant Contact offers you the ability to “unsubscribe” from our distribution list. People do unsubscribe—sometimes on purpose, sometimes by accident. If you unsubscribe—you can resubscribe. If you are not receiving our emails, go to <http://mnemmaus.org/subscribe.htm> where you can subscribe or resubscribe to our mailing list. You will be asked to confirm your email address and fill in your first and last name before you save profile changes. Please leave the check mark in the box by Emmaus Community or you will not get mail.

Slate of Directors for 2011

We are pleased to present this slate for the 2011 MN Walk to Emmaus Board of Directors. The By-laws call for approval of this slate. An email will be sent to the current email we have for you, asking for your approval or disapproval of this slate and inviting comments. You may also vote by sending a postcard or letter to Molly Reko, 809 Hilltop Road, Mendota Heights, MN 55118. Or, you may call Molly at 651-454-2208 to register your vote. Be sure to include your name so that we will not count your vote more than once. If two of you share the same email address, you may vote twice if you will include the name of the voter in the comment box.

Sometimes, board positions open up during the year when people need to resign from the board. Please send your nominations for these openings or for the year 2012 to the Communications Director via contact information on our website (or email mnemmaus01@gmail.com).

Jeanne Jones

Jeanne and her husband, Maynard, are originally from Connecticut. After college in Kentucky, Jeanne completed her Masters in Arizona and taught elementary education for twenty years. She received a call to ministry, retired from teaching, and came to Iowa for seminary. After completing seminary, she has served in the Wisconsin conference, 6 years in Gays Mills, 10 years in Richland Center. She retired from ministry, but soon decided she did not want to be retired. She is now in her second year as pastor of Colfax UMC. Jeanne is a musician—playing piano and baritone horn. Jeanne was a Pilgrim on a Walk to Emmaus in Arizona in 1985. She has served on Walk to Emmaus Teams in AZ, IA, and Racine, WI. She was ASD on MN Walk to Emmaus #89. Jeanne and Maynard recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Deni Knaeble

Bernadine “Deni” Knaeble was a Pilgrim on MN WTE #54 in Oct, 2002. Since then, she has served on MN WTE teams on agape and as Assistant Table leader. She has given a talk (Priesthood of All Believers). She is the daughter of Mary (#52) and Ron (#87) Bogle. Deni attends Oakdale Wesleyan Church and is very active in facilitating classes at that church. She is employed in the IS Department at 3M. She has expertise in Database—and is willing to share this with us.

Gary Lueck

Gary is a retired UMC Pastor who was a Pilgrim on MN Walk to Emmaus # 11 at Mankato in March, 1995. Since that time, he has served on 8 MN Walks - was Spiritual Director of MN WTE # 24. He has given 4 of the 5 SD talks. He lives in Rochester with wife Piroška (MN Walk to Emmaus #16). He loves to travel. He has family in the Netherlands.

Matthew Ortwein

Matthew was a Pilgrim on MN WTE # 87. Since then, he has served on agape teams for Walks 90 and 91. He attends Blaine UMC and is married to Rosina (MN WTE #78). He prefers to be called “Matt”. Matt is a carpenter and also, with his wife, owns Mr. Ortwein’s Photography (www.mrophoto.com). He is also quite computer literate, for example, in using Photoshop and supporting computers for family members (as well as the agape team!) Besides taking pictures for our MN Emmaus Walks (thank you, Matt), he does weddings, graduations, and other events, portraits, babies, and pets. Matt grew up on the West Coast (Oregon) and moved to Blaine in 1996.

Cynthia Waldt

Cindy went on MN WTE # 90, and served this past fall on the agape team for #92. She is an attorney in Farmington, MN. She serves on the Speaker’s Bureau for the MN Annual Conference—specializing in the social justice topic-Restorative Justice. She attends Epworth UMC in St. Paul. Many of you “oldtimers” may remember her mother, Jean, who went on MN WTE #2 and has served on several teams since then.

Minnesota Walk to Emmaus
Molly Reko, Communications Director
809 Hilltop Road
Mendota Heights, MN 55118

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MN WTE Upcoming Walks

Men's Walk #93
May 12-15, 2011
Koinonia Retreat Center
South Haven, MN

Men's Walk #95
Oct 20—23, 2011
Camp Koronis
Paynesville, MN

Women's Walk #94
May 19-22, 2011
Koinonia Retreat Center
South Haven, MN

Women's Walk #96
Oct 27—30, 2011
Camp Koronis
Paynesville, MN

Board of Directors, names, phone numbers, and email addresses, are listed on the website at www.mnemmaus.org

Communications Corner

Thanks to many of you who have made contact to update your information, switch to receiving newsletters via email, or request to become inactive. It has helped to reduce the cost of getting these newsletters to the active community.

We need to hear from you. If you have not already done so, please contact MN Walk to Emmaus mnemmaus01@gmail.com to remain on our active list, to receive newsletters by email only, or to request to stop the communication by US post or email (become inactive). Please help us in this database clean-up effort. We don't want to cut off communication with you by accident!

