

IDAHO WALK TO EMMAUS

El-Gallo Gazette

May 2018



Greetings from the Board President

Dear Emmaus Community,

With the completion of our Winter 2018 IWTE #66 weekends, we are pleased to welcome over 30 new brothers and sisters to our Idaho Emmaus family. Based on graduate comments shared at the respective Men's and Women's Closing events, as well as the 4th Day Gathering held April 7th, Christ was and is clearly at work in the hearts and lives of His faithful. Our deepest thanks go out to our Lay Directors, Lesli McGowan and Lance Schmidt, for shepherding the pilgrims and team members on this set of Walks. Well done, good and faithful servants!

We hope to keep building upon this momentum as we look forward to our Fall 2018 IWTE #67 weekends scheduled for Kimberly United Methodist Church September 27-30 and October 4-7. Calvin Connell (Men's Lay Director) and Malena Rodriguez (Women's Lay Director) would love to hear from prospective team members as soon as possible. And...it's never too early to reach out to potential pilgrims.

As I mentioned in our previous *El Gallo* newsletter, for those of you who are actively involved in IWTE, please know that we recognize how vital your role is in the success of this organization and we are truly grateful for your commitment. **If you haven't sponsored a pilgrim, worked a weekend or helped fund this wonderful ministry in a while, I would like to personally hear from you what it would take to get you re-engaged with Idaho Walk to Emmaus. Please contact me at sh_hamm@msn.com or 208/447-8352.**

Let's continue to rise up and serve as the hands and feet of Christ in 2018!

De Colores!

Steve Hamm
2018 IWTE Board President
sh_hamm@msn.com • Cell Phone (208) 447-8352

Message from Walk #66 Men's Lay Director

Well! Men's Idaho Walk To Emmaus #66 is in the books. Let me tell you, it was AWESOME!!!!!! The Lord did amazing things with ALL involved, and made the walk a success. It was a great time reconnecting with old friends, and making new ones. However, the best part was adding 11 God loving men to our community. I encourage you all to continue your journey in your Fourth Days, and strongly consider working the next men's walk in September. It was a privilege and an honor to serve as the Lay Director for walk #66, and I thank all of you who were a part of making the walk a success. God Bless!!
DE COLORES!!

Lance Schmidt

Message from Walk #66 Women's Lay Director

God is so good!

WTE #66 Women's weekend was a huge success.

I am incredibly humbled and richly blessed, to have served as Lay Director for the weekend. We had 21 Pilgrims who are forever changed and 40+ servants renewed and enriched. God showed up in the most incredible ways. Most of the new Pilgrims are already signed up and excited to work the next set of Walks, happening in Kimberly, Idaho in the fall of 2018.

To our amazing community-Thank you all for coming out for candlelight and closing. It meant so much to the ladies.

Basking In His Glory,

Lesli McGowan

Welcome Walk #66 Pilgrims

Men

Mark Ackley
Dan Bonnes
Matt Brooks
Glenn Everson
Doug Kerner
Dean Martin
Marden Plant
Jack Savoie
Jim VanLooy
Rob Walters
Kim Wardwell

Women

Nikki Ackley
Carla Biersdorff
Nicole Black
Michelle Clifford
Mary Emery
Yvonne Hahn
Kristine Hoffmann
Melissa Martin
Collette Maw
Brenda Mitchell
Lory Nesor
Kymrie Plant
Joy Roberts
Carol Rounds
Laurie Rowen
Trena Savoie
Betty Stokes
Annie Victory
Renee Walters
Annie Wardwell
Linda West

Serving on Future Walks

Team Selection

As a member of the Idaho Walk to Emmaus, I have the privilege to serve on the Idaho Board as the Team Selection Chair. My responsibility is to support the creation of each team for the Walk weekends. In preparing for each IWTE weekend, the team selection supports each lay director in gathering names of members who would like to serve on the walk weekend. The weekend needs members who can service in three areas:

Conference Room-This team is in the conference room to support the pilgrims through the weekend.

- *Lay Director (leader for the week)
- *Spirituals (clergy who support the conference room through spiritual support and giving one of five spiritual talks)
- *Board Representative (IWTE Board of Director member who supports the weekend)
- *Music Team (support the conference room through music)
- *ALDs- Assistant Lay Directors (keep the conference room running smoothly)
- *Speakers (give one of ten talks during the weekend)
- *Table Leaders (keep each table group running smoothly)
- *Assistant Table Leaders (support the table leaders in keeping each table group running smoothly)

Background Support- This team is in the background supporting the conference room through the weekend.

- *Head of Support (HOST) (leads the background team in supporting the conference room)
- *Church Liaison (works as a liaison between the host church and the IWTE team)
- *Kitchen (prepares the meals during the weekend)
- *Dining Room (decorates the dining room for each meal during the weekend)
- *Sacristan (creates the alters for the weekend, provides the communion elements, and supports prayer during the weekend)
- *Quartermaster/Trailer Angel (checks out/in supplies that are used from our trailer during the weekend)
- *Agape (helps set up/clean up the church for the weekend, cleans the bathroom, and varies other jobs throughout the weekend)

Love Team- These team members usually cannot be here for the whole weekend but are able to help in varies activities during the weekend. They may be able to set up before the walk, help on Sunday clean up before church or after Closing, and supports other events during the weekend.

I would encourage you to consider serving on IWTE weekends. We need members from our community to work the weekends to support the pilgrims who will be attending. Your support through service and pray is always a blessing to the Idaho Walk to Emmaus.

At the end of this newsletter there is information on the Walk To Emmaus website where you can download a “Request to Serve on a Future Walk” form. Fill it out and send it in!

DeClores,
Dedra Swanstrom

Walk to Emmaus Sponsorship

What is the Best Kept Secret in the Church ?

Sometimes it is the things NOT in the building. Many times, the answer is The Walk to Emmaus (WTE) experience. The real secret for pilgrims is the experience of the weekend through the talks, reflection, discussion, expression, food, laughter, tears, music, and servants.

Every pilgrim in the Idaho WTE received a booklet in their Sunday packets called “Day Four, The Pilgrim’s Continued Journey.” Reference to chapter 8, pages 53-59, “The Next Generation: Being a Good Sponsor” .. *The strength of any Emmaus community is a direct result of the community’s recruiting practices. If the community makes a commitment to recruit strong church leaders for the purpose of strengthening the local church, then the community will be a strong, vital force in the renewal movement.* Please take the time to read these 7 pages that will help you understand the steps involved in being a successful sponsor. If all else fails, go to YOUR sponsor and have them walk alongside you from the beginning of asking a potential pilgrim through acceptance and the weekend and closing.

All churches talk about God’s love. But, people do not always get to experience His unconditional love. What does agape look like and how can more people see this love firsthand? We can be more intentional to share His agape love through us to those God puts in our daily path. Then He will give us the opportunity to share our experience at The Walk to Emmaus. We must be in continual prayer as to how God can use us for His glory and share the Walk to Emmaus experience. Do not be afraid to share your weekend experience with a potential pilgrim.

Tell your pilgrim about the format of the weekend: There will be 15 talks, table group discussions, singing, worship, and fellowship. It’s fine to tell them about the type of food served, communion, and the “luxurious” sleeping accommodations and they will be “showered with the Grace of God”. They will be with people they don’t know, but in a short time they’ll become a close-knit community. This experience will demonstrate the love of God and strong Christian fellowship. Hopefully, this will help to set their minds at ease. Also, tell them about Reunion Groups and how they can help to encourage in further spiritual growth.

God is not interested in our ability, but He is interested in our availability. We encourage all to take that step forward in faith. The Idaho WTE Board (and YOUR sponsors) are here to help you.

Here are the steps for sponsoring in the Idaho WTE:

1. ***Go to training.idahoemmaus.org. Click onto Sponsorship Training Presentation.*** This is for those in the community who have NOT completed the training - and then take the steps to complete the training. If you have completed had the training, please go to step 2.
2. ***Click into IWTE Pilgrim application.*** You can then download this and have your pilgrim fill out every question in full. Make sure the pastor of your pilgrim's church signs this doc.
3. ***Click into IWTE Sponsor Endorsement.*** You can then download this and then fill out every question in full. Make sure you send the Pilgrim Application and the Sponsor Endorsement to Char Boyd, Registrar, along with a \$75 check for the pilgrim.
4. ***Click into IWTE App to Serve on a WTE weekend.*** If you want to work on the next set of walks, please fill out this application and turn it into Dedra Swanstrom ASAP, along with your \$75 for the weekend.

THE NEXT SET OF 2018 WALKS IS AT KIMBERLY United Methodist Church:

September 27-30 for the men and October 4-7 for the women

Please pray for and talk to your potential pilgrims and get the applications in to me ASAP ... we need all applications in for the men AND women no later than AUGUST 15, 2018.

DeColores, and thank you so much !! Char Boyd, Board Registrar/Sponsorship trainer, idahowte@gmail.com

Summer Campout

Join us for our annual Emmaus Campout August 10-12

**NAT SOO PAH
2738 E 2400 N, TWIN FALLS, ID**

**Is located in Southern Twin Falls County, Idaho
16 miles south of Twin Falls
3.5 miles east of Hollister which is off Highway 93**

From the Lay Director's of Fall Walks in Central Idaho #67

We ask for your prayers as we work on forming the teams for the Walks #67 for this coming fall. The team selection committee is starting the process in selecting names for this walk. Those that we feel the nudge of God to serve in this upcoming walk we encourage you to contact them. It is quite a process and an awesome responsibility as we anticipate the making of the team that will be ministering not only our own needs but especially for the needs of the prospective pilgrims. As we pray for the team and the pilgrims that will experience this weekend, every moment spent in prayer and planning has its way of bringing all of us to a greater and deeper sense of humility.

Many of us have worked walks and experienced the blessing of serving Him. A big part of that service is bringing others to the joy of His grace and mercy. We all are involved in Emmaus because someone sponsored us. WHAT A SPECIAL GIFT! We urge you to be in prayer and listen as God places upon your heart the name of someone to sponsor, someone with whom to share that gift.

Easter is a very important time in our lives as believers. May we always be grateful for the ultimate gift given to us on the cross and may we continue to share that gift with others.

We also pray that God will lead many of you in the community to answer his call to seek out prospective pilgrims. This also can be an awesome moment for you as God lays upon your heart to speak to that person that would benefit from the weekend by your asking them to come as you serve as their sponsor for not only the weekend, but throughout the days following the weekend itself.

May God bless all of us during the planning and those of you that serve as sponsors that we all may experience His leading in our lives.

Malena Rodriguez, Calvin Connell, Fall Lay Directors

Mrod1957@icloud.com ---(208)-420-8076

cconnell@tailoredliving.com-- (208) 280-0880

Fourth Day Reunion Groups

Are you in a 4th day reunion group? Reunion groups are designed to help keep our connection to each other, keep our fires lit for Jesus. The group reunion itself is one of the chief values of the Emmaus movement one of the greatest treasures the Walk to Emmaus contains.

It is a way of persevering in the life of grace so that those things that are valuable to you during the weekend will not be lost when you return to your life in the world. The group reunion serves the life of the Emmaus community. We will have sign-up sheets at our gatherings if you want to be part of a reunion group.

Women's Fourth Day Groups

Meridan Fourth Day

Meridan United Methodist Church
235 Pine Ave, Meridian, ID
2nd & 4th Thursdays 6:30-8:00pm
Contact Connie Pile (208-888-1490) or
Cathy Peterson (208-514-8697)

Four Rivers Fourth Day (Fruitland/ Ontario/Payette)

Meets fourth Saturday each month 6:30pm
Potluck, singing, agape Holy Communion
Contact: Letha Essinger (208-452-5447)

Idaho Falls 4th Day

Sunday afternoon 3-5pm
We meet in each other's homes
Contact: Nancy Copp

Twin Falls Men's & Women's 4th Day Group

Amazing Grace Fellowship-Twin Falls
Every other Thursday at 7pm
Contact: Sassy Connell (208-731-0540)
Calvin Connell (208-280-0880)

Men's Fourth Day Groups

Gooding Men's Fourth Day

Gooding United Methodist Church
Tuesdays at 7am, potluck breakfast
Contact: Steve Waugh email or 208-934-4689

Boise 4th Day

The Sunshine Rest on State Street
Tuesday mornings 7:30 to about 8
Contact: Keith Gabriel 863-9474.
(Call first to make sure we are meeting
because some are snowbirds and travel so
we don't meet when we only have one or
two)

Pocatello 4th Day

Paul DeLong's house, 366 so 19th Ave,
Pocatello Tuesdays at 4-5pm
Contact: Paul DeLong 208-244-4609

Idaho Falls 4th Day

1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm
We meet in each other's homes Contact:
Rick Demmer 208-589-4858

Calendar Events 2018

July 28	Board of Directors
August 10-12	Summer Campout
August 24	Grand Gathering
September 27-30	Men's WTE #67 (Kimberly, ID)
October 4-7	Women's WTE #67 (Kimberly, ID)

Board of Director Contact Information

President: Steve Hamm, (208) 447-8352, sh_hamm@msn.com

President Elect: OPEN - Are you called to serve in this position?

Vice President: Brandon O'Meara, (208)-867-1949 omeara_brandon@hotmail.com

Past President: Jim Dobbins, (208) 520-8561, dobbins.jim.connie@gmail.com

Head Clergy: John Mars, (208) 888-2245, pastorjohn@meridianumc.com

Sponsor's Hour/Candlelight: Malena Rodriguez, (208) 420-8076, mrod1957@icloud.com

Secretary: Bill London, (208) 939-0398, blondon777@gmail.com

Prewalk Coordinator: Char Boyd, (303) 204-1059, cbpianomom@gmail.com

Treasurer: Carl Christensen, (208) 407-7011, carl@cpaforyou.net

Newsletter: Barbra Young, (208) 466-3857, tbyoung@cableone.net

Operations Chair: Mike Kroenke, (208) 861-3306, mkroenke774@gmail.com

Team Selection Chair: Dedra Swanstrom, (208) 283-4033, dedra@swanstrom.net

Music Chair: Lesli McGowan, (208) 284-4585, leslimcgowan@gmail.com

Kitchen Chair: Eric Shaner, (208) 631-4819, eshaner1@msn.com

Database Update

The Board of Directors (BOD) agreed that the IWTE database is in need of at least updating and possibly upgrading or changing.

Bill London (BOD secretary) has contacted WTE in Nashville and inquired as to their direction and time line with the same issue. Bill and Sam Pile (Past Pres) have discussed a couple options, their advantages and pitfalls. After WTE Nashville responds then Bill and Sam will explore database options.

Check out the Walk to Emmaus Website

www.idahoemmaus.org

Go to the Idaho Emmaus Website to find: dates and directions to the gatherings, maps and directions to the church holding the next Walk, contact information of a board member or Walk Director, forms to serve on or attend a Walk. **Download forms at www.idahoemmaus.org/forms.htm.**

