

GREAT RIVER WALK TO EMMAUS (GRE) COMMUNITY UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2023

WHY WALK TO EMMAUS

IT'S UP TO YOU

Without our community stepping up to serve on the board, volunteer at walks, help with projects throughout the year – Great River Walk to Emmaus won't exist. What can you do? Vote for the Board. Submit your name as a write-in candidate – or find someone who would be a great candidate and support them. Volunteer to help with projects that need to be done throughout the year, or serve behind the scenes at our Walks.

Board member contact information is on the back; and we're waiting for your call, text, or email.

Remember your WHY. May it inspire you to become active in making a difference so people can experience the 3-day walk and serve as Christ's hands and feet, experiencing His real presence through their 4th days.

Luke 24: 13-35



The WHY is actually bigger than the WHAT/(weekend). Our Walk to Emmaus weekend plants & nourishes the seed. The WHY is the transformation taking place in our 4th days – every day following the 3-day weekend.

Our WHYS may change over time, depending on our experiences and battles. As your community lay director, I (Judy Hays) feel compelled to share my WHY. It is definitely very different than two years ago.

In 2021 my husband experienced multiple health issues and passed away. The past two years have been what some might call a “wilderness experience” – a season of wandering and wondering that tested my faith. I wondered who I was at that point, as I realized the future I had planned was definitely not going to transpire. My world was upside-down. I not only grieved the loss of Bob; through the experience I realized I had many open wounds of unresolved grief – stemming from deaths, to poor decisions, to some of life's unexpected & disappointing outcomes. In the wilderness, the only thing I knew for sure I could count on was Christ. My relationship with Him grew to a new level. Jesus walked through the wilderness with me – He never gave up on me. He healed my wounds and blessed me with unexplainable peace and hope. He protected me. Looking back, strange as it sounds, it was as though I was in a cocoon, so to speak, until He was ready for me to emerge a renewed woman – someone different. Still imperfect, of course, but in many ways better than before.

I want other people walking through life's storms to know a Savior who will walk with them. The 3-day weekend helps renew a person's faith and find their identity in Christ – the 4th days to follow build on that foundation and help us develop into the people God created us to be.

What's your WHY? You are a different person than you were before the weekend. What impact has your Walk to Emmaus had during your 4th days? How are you serving as Christ's hands and feet so other lives can be transformed?

How will you help plant & nourish the seed – the WHAT – so people can experience their own version of WHY?

UPCOMING WALK DATES

Quincy University
Men's Walk #35
February 22-25

Women's Walk #36
March 24-17

Applications on
www.greatriveremmaus.org

WEEKEND RATES

Great River Emmaus has never had a rate increase, and must do so now to help cover costs.

Weekend rates increased to \$170.00 for the upcoming walks.

Prep weekend increased to \$85.00.

Volunteer rates to be determined.

GREAT RIVER EMMAUS 2023 BALLOT

Great River Emmaus Board Laity
4 open 3-year terms
1 open 1-year term & 1 open 2-year term

Please vote for the following candidates. Feel free to submit your own name if you are willing to actively serve on the board – and/or vote for someone you know who is willing to serve.

3 Yr Term (4 open positions)

	Brandy Miller
	Dina Spencer

2 Yr Term (1 open position)

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1 Yr Term (1 open position)

	James Abbott
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Great River Emmaus Board Clergy
Vote for 1 open 3-year term

	Eric Anderson
	Mary Jean Sheets

Please PRINT your name _____ and send ballot to Judy Hays – Email hays89@comcast.net – or text to 217-242-0122. Ballots must be received by November 11. Thank you for taking the time to prayerfully consider your decisions.

GRE Board of Directors (by class)

Dennison, Craig	2024	217-242-2157	cdennison09@gmail.com
Hays, Judy (CLD)	2024	217-242-0122	hays89@comcast.net
Jenkins, Connie (C)	2024	217-430-7564	cjenkins@casscomm.com
Malin, Tobey	2024	217-291-5331	tobiasmalin1@gmail.com
Helen McFarland (CSD)	2025	573-231-2391	helenmcf95@yahoo.com
Reid, Ed	2025	573.248.6270	edreid73@icloud.com
Nancy Miller	2025	573-795-3296	roynancy.miller@yahoo.com
Dewey, Jim	2026	573-231-8347	jimbacca74@yahoo.com
Herman, Lisa	2026	252-318-2013	bibosmom63@gmail.com
Lemons, Tom (C)	2026	573-248-4349	jlemons@nemonet.com
Vonderheide, Chris	2026	217-257-0845	kvcv1990@gmail.com