

# GREAT RIVER Walk to EMMAUS (GRE) 4<sup>th</sup> Day Newsletter

SPRING 2024

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**BE PART OF THE ACTION! SUPPORT THE  
UPCOMING WALKS!**

## Upcoming Gatherings!

**Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
2pm – 4pm**

Union United Methodist  
Church  
1109 State Street, Quincy, IL  
Bring a pilgrim, bring a snack,  
or just bring yourself!

**Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
4pm – 6pm**

1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church  
Fellowship Hall  
220 Worcester Street  
Roodhouse, IL  
Come and join us for snacks,  
music, 4<sup>th</sup> day talks, and  
communion  
Please bring your own drinks!

**June Gathering TBA**

There are plans for a Gathering  
to be scheduled monthly!

**Men's Walk #37  
August 22nd-25th**

Lay Director: Carl Herman  
Spiritual Director: Claudia McCain

**Women's Walk #38  
September 5th-8th**

Lay Director: Tammy Carmen  
Spiritual Director: Mike Alberts

## Ongoing Fundraiser!

**Have you checked out our shirt fundraiser?**

We are raising money for the GRE scholarship fund which provides  
financial assistance (as needed) for pilgrims going on a Walk.

The current fundraising campaign runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 21<sup>st</sup>. If  
this goes well, we will schedule another.

To order go to:

[bonfire.com/great-river-walk-to-emmaus-fundraiser](https://bonfire.com/great-river-walk-to-emmaus-fundraiser)

There are 6 shirt options with five color options each.

## **Luke 24: 13-35**



## **YOUR GRE BOARD:**

Abbott, James	217-430-2137	Herman, Lisa	252-318-2013
Alberts, Mike (CSD)	573-248-7657	McFarland, Helen (C)	573-231-2391
Anderson, Eric (C)	573-822-9701	Miller, Brandy	217-320-1899
Clair, Dan	217-257-9964	Miller, Nancy	573-795-3296
Dennison, Desiree	618-303-5775	Reid, Ed (CLD)	573.248.6270
Dewey, Jim	573-231-8347	Sheets, Mary Jean (C)	217-904-4829
Dougherty, Jen	319-795-7680	Spencer, Dina	217-370-6115
Edwards, Barb	217-779-7974	Vonderheide, Chris	217-257-0845



### Men's Walk #35

Front Row L-R: Jim Dallmeyer, Mike Albers, James Abbott, Rex Link, Rick Bridges (LD), Roy Miller, Mike Coplan, Cathy Crozier, Jeff Haskell

Second Row L-R: Ronald Pettigrew, Travis Bartell, **Steve Eckert**, George Coutre, **Bill Wagner**, Jim Richardson, **Dick Bartell**

Third Row: Brad Cameron, Garry Johnson, **Andy Moore**, **Mark Lawrence**, **Andy Conover**, Allen Vineyard

Back Row: Tom Wemhoener, Will Hatchel, Jim Dewey, Gary Sheets, Mary Jean Sheets, **David McClenning**, **Dewey Frey**

\*Pilgrim denoted in **Bold**

### Filling Someone Else's Shoes

What does it mean to fill someone else's shoes? It means to take over somebody's duties and responsibilities and to fulfil them satisfactorily or in the same way as they would have.

This was my hope as I stepped into the shoes of Elvin Hodges to lead Walk #35 and I had big shoes to fill. I learned quickly that the right team had been selected and assembled. I questioned WHY as I tried to wrap my head around the circumstances of how this all came about but have come to peace knowing that Jesus was in the conference room and filled the building with his presence.

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". This verse came to me quickly on Friday morning and was shared with the room. We don't know the plans God has for us, but when we are called to be a servant, we shouldn't question.

God said that we only needed 8 pilgrims to make this weekend, HIS weekend. These 8 men were very active at their tables. I had one TL tell me that the pilgrims were doing all of the posters, they were that eager. The team and pilgrims were placed at the right tables at the right time. God Said. I was so happy when all 8 pilgrims gave remarks at closing. Hearts and minds were changed.

I want to thank the Board of Directors of Great River Walk to Emmaus to even consider me for this task to lead this team that Elvin worked so hard to put together. I want to thank all who went above and beyond to make this weekend happen and to help me as much as possible, it will never be forgotten. The folks who worked tirelessly behind the scenes with no recognition, I salute you and have prayed for you.

My prayer for those who step in shoes that don't feel comfortable to you, just realize that God put you in those shoes. He is the one who makes our plans to prosper us and not to harm us. I pray for Walk 36 and for all future Walks.

De Colores, Rick Bridges Lay Director Walk #35

## *Online Giving! Coming soon!*

Remembering to bring a checkbook or cash can be difficult in the current world. Online giving will be arriving soon. This will expand the options of supporting Emmaus!

More information coming soon!



### Women's Walk #36

Front Row L-R: Becky Layman, Brandy Miller, Helen McFarland, Joyce Whitaker (LD), Kirsten Hildalh-Dewey, Nancy Miller, Brent Clair

Second Row L-R: Gayle Pope, **Joan Kammerlohr, Tammi Jenkins, Angela Huckstep**, Dina Spencer, **Penny McClenning, Carrie Alexander**

Third Row L-R: Jennifer Hathaway, Donna Clark-Fuller, **Nancy Stice**, Ambria Jones **Jodie Young, Kathy Buckman, Courtney Holst**

Fourth Row L-R: Tafi Lathrop, Susan McCarty, **Judy Wegehenkel**, Mary Gillingham, Becky Henderson, Sue Hartman

Back Row L-R: Eric Anderson, **Carley Sherrill, Mary Turner**, Chris Lawrence, Jean Clow, Jen Dougherty  
(Not Pictured: Mary Jean Sheets)  
\*Pilgrims denoted in **Bold**

We had an amazing weekend. Some of us started as strangers, but we all ended up as friends and family. We got to step out of the world and into a safe place where we all saw the love of God in each other. We laughed, cried, sang, and shared our troubles and triumphs. There were times of worshiping, sharing communion, and renewing our faith. It was a blessing to me and all.

It's amazing to watch the pilgrims come in, not knowing what to expect and leave knowing how much God loves them. I love to hear what the weekend meant to them and their plans of what to do with it.

Oh, and don't forget those posters and skits, poems and songs and posters!!

What fun!!

Thank you thank you to everyone in the room and out that made this such a successful, wonderful weekend. Thank you for all the prayers. God is good all the time and all the time God is good.

Being a lay Director teaches the true meaning of perseverance. It was a wonderful experience. There's joy and sadness both. I will miss being in the conference room, but there are many ways of serving.

De Colores, Joyce Whitaker      Lay Director Walk #36

## Staying Current on Emmaus News

### HAVE YOU JOINED US ON FACEBOOK?

While social media can be a pain, it is also one of the easiest and cheapest ways to get information out to a lot of people. If you haven't already, please join us on the Great River Walk to Emmaus Facebook Page at:

[www.facebook.com/groups/GreatRiverEmmaus](http://www.facebook.com/groups/GreatRiverEmmaus)

Regular updates are posted on Facebook with upcoming Walk dates, how to serve, Gathering information, fundraisers, etc.

### TEXT UPDATES

**Texting updates** – coming soon! I am currently entering in the information into our mass texting program to start sending text updates! Please contact me (Jen Dougherty, [doughertyjen82@gmail.com](mailto:doughertyjen82@gmail.com)) if you would like to help with updating the contact list!