

GREAT RIVER WALK TO EMMAUS (GRE) COMMUNITY UPDATE

August 2021

FACEBOOK UPDATE/ CLARIFICATION

Be a part of your Emmaus community through Facebook! This is a private group. Simply hit "JOIN GROUP" if you do not have full access. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GreatRiverEmmaus/>

In order to join the FB private group, you must have attended a Walk to Emmaus or similar 3-day event, such as Cursillo, Via de Cristo, etc. A few questions will be asked, which must be answered before joining.

STAY UPDATED!

Watch your email for ongoing communications & monthly updates! If you or someone you know is NOT receiving, please contact Jeff Haskell at jeff13haskell@gmail.com

Luke 24: 13-35



WALKS #27 & #28

There has been much discussion among the GRE board and community members regarding the upcoming walks.

COVID rates are rising again, and Walks provide a close-knit community. We've all learned over the past year that COVID is an airborne disease – it's transmitted through aerosols. The only way to mitigate is through masks and social distancing. Masks are intended to protect others from the mask wearer's respiratory droplets. Even people who have been vaccinated can transmit COVID. While masks could be mandated, it is not practical that each person will keep one on.

Walks are intimate. Think back to your own walk – the laughter, the singing, the hugs, the tears. Pilgrims, team members, and volunteers gather together for the weekend, eating together, sleeping in somewhat close quarters, and sharing bathroom space.

The board recognizes and appreciates the work and long hours the logistics team, along with the LaMoine staff, put in to organize safe and meaningful walks. Our community members attending the open house left feeling enthusiastic about the upcoming walks and change of venue. A GRE COVID task force was organized and met several times to make recommendations on conducting a safe walk. In the meantime, lay directors have had a challenging time putting teams together and pilgrims sponsorship forms have not been submitted – largely due to COVID fears.

The July board meeting was the last time the board would gather prior to Prep Weekend. Keeping the safety of the pilgrims, team, and volunteers in mind; your board made the difficult decision to postpone Walks #27 and #28.

At this time it is not known when our next walks will be held.

Watch Facebook and diligently pray for GRE and all Emmaus communities around the world.

STAY INFORMED & INVOLVED!

GRE Website

www.GreatRiverEmmaus.org

Pilgrim, sponsor, Support Team Services Commitment & Clergy Team Service Commitment forms are in the FORMS section. General information and newsletters are also on the site.

GRE Facebook

Participate in the Great River Emmaus private page on Facebook!

BOARD MEETINGS

Our GRE board meetings continue to be through Zoom, which means participants have to be “invited” via a link in order to attend. Because it is not possible for the entire community to sign on electronically, we developed the monthly updates to share information.

The majority of discussion at the July board meeting revolved around the upcoming walks.

The board would like to resume meeting in person.

Watch Facebook for more information.

GRE WEBSITE – PAY PAL ACCOUNT

Work continues to enable the community to donate to GRE through the website. A Pay Pal account has been established and is currently being tested.

More information will follow.

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