



GREAT RIVER Walk to EMMAUS (GRE) 4th Day Newsletter

FALL 2024

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BE PART OF THE ACTION! SUPPORT THE UPCOMING WALKS!

Upcoming Gatherings!

October Gathering

October 26, 2024

2pm – 4pm

Loraine Community Church
610 E. Center Street
Loraine, IL

*Bring a snack and a friend
and your pilgrim from the
last Walks!*

You do not have to have
attended a Walk to attend a
Gathering!

The **Winter Gathering** will
likely be held at the
beginning of December
and serve for both Nov/Dec
due to the holidays being
busy times.

Men's Walk #39

Feb 27-28, March 1-2

Lay Director: Jim Dewey

Spiritual Director: Kim Parker

Women's Walk #40

March 27-30

Lay Director: Chris Vonderheide

Spiritual Director: Mike Alberts

Prep Weekend: Feb 7, 8, 9

Quincy University Campus



Design #1



Design #2



Design #3

New Shirt Designs!

All three of these designs can be ordered
now!

Multiple color and style options available

To see all the options and/order go to:

#1: <https://www.bonfire.com/great-river-walk-to-emmaus-fundraiser/>

#2: <https://www.bonfire.com/great-river-walk-to-emmaus/>

#3: <https://www.bonfire.com/great-river-walk-to-emmaus-3/>

Luke 24: 13-35



YOUR GRE BOARD:

James Abbott	(217) 430-2137	Lisa Herman	(252) 318-2013
Mike Alberts (CSD)	(573) 248-7657	Helen McFarland (C)	(573) 231-2391
Eric Anderson (C)	(573) 822-9701	Brandy Miller	(217) 320-1899
Dan Clair	(217) 257-9964	Nancy Miller	(573) 795-3296
Desiree Dennison	(618) 303-5775	Ed Reid (CLD)	(573) 248-6270
Jim Dewey	(573) 231-8347	Mary Jean Sheets	(217) 904-4829
Jen Dougherty	(319) 795-7680	Dina Spencer	(217) 370-6115
Barb Edwards	(217) 779-7974	Chris Vonderheide	(217) 257-0845

Men's Walk to Emmaus #37
LaMoine Christian Service Camp



Row #1: Brad Clair, Kent Vonderheide, Warren Abbott, Carl Herman, Claudia McCain, Gary Sheets, Mary Jean Sheets, Rex Link

Row #2: Rusty Shultz, Andrew Campbell, Justin Knox, Travis Maple, Frank Schmidt, Shane Malin, Russel Glaue, Tom East, Mike Alberts, Shawn Bunch

Row #3: Mike Coplan, Jason Bunch, **Curtis Ketsenburg**, **Karl Carman**, **Colton Foster**, Tyler Moore, Eric Rabe, Corey Holder, Ed Reid, **David Rife** (Pilgrims denoted in **BOLD** print.)

The Weekend started out on a great high for me... 10 Pilgrims and it was ago! We are often reminded; God has a plan. Little did I know that God's plan did not include 10 Pilgrims. The day before the walk was to begin, I received a call, deflating the high that I was on. Eight of the ten pilgrims had dropped out of the Walk in the last two days! "Oh God, what is going on?" We scrambled and were at three pilgrims...until... an Emmaus family member found another pilgrim....at a gas station of all places. He was approached and boldly asked, "How would you like to go on a men's Christian retreat weekend, free of charge?" Pilgrim number four said YES!, on the very night the walk was to start. Promptly leaving, bringing nothing with him, only the items he had with him. Talk about a leap of faith!

As the weekend started Thursday night, it was obvious it was not going to be the usual, organized and structured weekend. We had 3 times as many team members than pilgrims. After some discussion with team and Board members we settled on a different plan. Team members' rolls were slightly altered, some having to pick up a little more of the burden and the weekend was off to a start. From the very beginning of Thursday night, friendships and laughter were seen and heard. As the weekend progressed, that laughter often traded places with raw emotions, trust and tight comradery, among the team as well as the pilgrims. Mutual prayers were often shared inside and outside of the conference room. It became obvious very quickly how strongly the Holy spirit was moving in the conference room. I firmly believe myself as well as the team, needed the weekend as much as the Pilgrims. Remember... Prayers for those who need it the most, and for those who think they need it the least...?

A little numerology for you.... The number 4 was an obvious number for the weekend.... 1) We had **4 pilgrims**... 2) This was my **4th attempt** to act as Lay Director... 3) One of my speakers had been asked to give a talk previously 3 times and was not able, the **4th time, he accepted** and was able to attend. 4) Let not forget there are **4 points on the cross**. The weekend was filled with trust, laughter, tears, and the Holy Spirit! We were a small group, but we were mighty in love and faith! It was a powerful weekend! It has been said that the weekend unconventional.... Who says God doesn't have a plan?!

**Women's Walk to Emmaus #38
LaMoine Christian Service Camp**



Row 1: Kathy Crozier, Heidi, Gayle Pope, Jessica Phelps, Tori Cameron, Tammy Carman, Mike Alberts, Chris Vonderheide, Mary Jean Sheets, Claudia McCain

Row 2: Barb Edwards, **Michelle Landwehr**, Lori Salibury, **Janice Shupe**, **Tammy Matthews**, **Jodie Knight**, Amanda Barlow, Millie Kirkpatrick, **Wynne Penn**, **Cheryl Titsworth**, **Cathy Sullivan**, **Rhonda Autery**, **Robyn Williams**, **Michele Ware**

Row 3: **Lee Lindsay**, Cheyenne Pence Holder, Chenoa Butler, Debbie Powell, Lisa Dalton, **Anna Phillips**, **Mindi Gronewold**, Leann Walters, Kathy Bridges, Amanda Moore

Row 4: **Lauren Yates**, Dana Knox, Chris Lawrence, Desiree Dennison, **Susan Gibson**, **Tiffany Rife**

(not pictured: Dana Reid, Donna Reid, Kathy Torrance) (Pilgrims denoted in **BOLD** print.)

Such a beautiful September weekend! Fresh Air, Campfires, Nature, actually doing some walking on the sacred grounds of LaMoine Christian Service Camp. God built an amazing team for Walk #38. I only made the phone calls and asked the question, would you be willing to serve on Women's Walk #38? The answer I received back from the majority of my calls was an excited YES! Bonding with the men's team #37 on Prep Weekend, during worship, meals and dying moments around the fire led to a connection between the teams. The support was shown by the volunteering of the opposite team on the weekends. Prep Weekend was also a wonderful bonding experience for our woman's team. The personal testimony, tears, and laughter brought us closer together and prepared us for our walk weekend. I think I can speak for the entire team when I say, we were excited and ready be the hands and feet of Jesus!

God sent us sixteen (16) pilgrims to complete our walk #38 family. It's amazing how he puts us all together! Satan was working overtime starting that Thursday and threw obstacles at us all weekend, but he did NOT succeed! We know that he only works this hard when God's church is moving and **we met every challenge with joy in our hearts and a NOT TODAY SATAN attitude!**

The pilgrims and team faced struggles, joy, anxiousness, kindness, tears, determination, frustration, laughter, confusion and love. Together!!! That's what the Emmaus family does! Welcome to the Great River Emmaus family new 4th day members of Walk #38!

I cannot say enough about the amazing leadership, kindness and love displayed by the Laity and Clergy on this walk. **One Team with One Mission!** Putting God and the pilgrims first to move the kingdom forward.

What a privilege it was to be able to have a front row seat at the back table, to see the Holy Spirit at work! God is Good!

Your Sister in Christ!

Tammy Carman, Lay Director, Walk 38

More Emmaus News and Updates!

Great River Emmaus Board of Directors

Have you ever thought about being on the Great River Walk to Emmaus Board?

Board Applications can be found on the GRE website under “Get Involved”: www.greatriveremmaus.org

We need new members to serve as we will be losing several lay and clergy members who will cycle off the Board next year. We meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 6:30pm, usually in Quincy, IL. We are a working Board and each member chairs and/or co-chairs a committee (for example: Agape Chapel, Fundraising, 4th Day etc.). But you don't do it alone! You have both the support of the rest of the Board and the Emmaus Community! If you would like to visit a Board meeting to see how it works; they are open to the community.

Our next meeting is on October 28th @ 6:30pm at the Madison Park Church Commons building (behind the church next to the Bank on 48th Street)

Who can volunteer on Walk Weekends?

There has been some confusion as to who can serve as a volunteer Walk Weekends.

For Conference Room Team: You must have been on a Walk to Emmaus 3-Day Weekend as a pilgrim prior to serving on the conference room team. (Does not have to be at Great River)

For all other service teams: You need to have been on a **4th Day-type 3-Day Weekend** in order to serve on the service teams (ex. kitchen, Agape Chapel, Work Room, etc.)

For example: If you have been on Cursillo, Via de Cristo and similar events, you can help serve!!

Please be welcoming and encouraging to all servants of Christ on the Weekends!

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

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

EMAIL UPDATES

Emails are being sent through the mass messaging system. If you need information sent out to the Emmaus community, please email contactus@greatriveremmaus.org

Please do not respond to the mass email as it will not go through.

TEXT UPDATES

Text updates are coming from (217) 375-2611 – please save this number as a contact in your phone as Great River Emmaus. Otherwise, it may go to your spam folder.

If you are not getting texts and would like to, please email contactus@greatriveremmaus.org with your name and cell phone number. If you are getting texts and do not want to, please respond to the text with the word “Stop” and it will unsubscribe you.

Please DO NOT respond to the text otherwise – it is not monitored!