



GREAT RIVER Walk to EMMAUS (GRE) Winter Newsletter

WINTER 2025

Edited by: Jen Dougherty
Email: doughertyjen82@gmail.com

BE PART OF THE ACTION! SUPPORT THE UPCOMING WALKS!

Upcoming Gatherings!

Upcoming Gatherings will be announced after the new Board meets in January.

There will definitely be a Gathering after the Spring Walks as usual. Stay tuned to the Facebook page for more info!

Gather Together

Luke 24: 13-35



YOUR 2025 GRE BOARD:

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**

Welcome New Board Members!

Walk to Emmaus is grateful anytime someone is willing to say "Yes" to helping out with one of the many, many background activities that keep Great River Walk to Emmaus moving forward. We struggled to find enough people and are grateful that God has provided these new members who felt called to say yes to being on the Walk to Emmaus Board for the 2025-2028 cycle. It is intimidating to step into the unknown, and we thank these individuals who were willing to step up. If they call **you** for help on future Walks, please be likewise willing to say "Yes!"

Lisa Dalton, Tom Lemons, Shane Malin, Lori Salisbury, and Jessica Phelps will be joining the Board starting in January 2025.

Gary Sheets will also be joining the Board as a non-voting member to serve as the Assistant Community Spiritual Director. We also appreciate Barb Edwards remaining on the Board for a full-term after she previously filled in for a member who had to leave.

Board meetings are open to the Emmaus community and occur the 4th Monday of every month at 6:30pm. The next Board Meeting is January 27th @6:30pm at the Madison Park Commons building off 48th Street in Quincy, IL.

Mike Alberts (CSD)	(573) 248-7657	Lisa Herman (CLD)	(252) 318-2013
Eric Anderson (C)	(573) 822-9701	Tom Lemons (C)	(573) 248-4349
Dan Clair	(217) 257-9964	Shane Malin	(502) 716-4028
Lisa Dalton	(217) 491-3409	Jessica Phelps	(309) 333-6347
Desiree Dennison	(618) 303-5775	Lori Salisbury	(217) 257-6894
Jim Dewey	(573) 231-8347	Gary Sheets (ACSD)	(217) 971-6401
Jen Dougherty	(319) 795-7680	Mary Jean Sheets (C)	(217) 904-4829
Emmaus Email	contactus@greatriveremmaus.org	Dina Spencer	(217) 370-6115
Barb Edwards	(217) 779-7974	Chris Vonderheide	(217) 257-0845

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Want to serve Great River Emmaus but are unsure where to start? Are you new to the community? Here are some ideas to get involved with varying levels of commitment (not an exhaustive list, don't be afraid to ask!) Schedules for activities can be found on the Facebook page. I also try to email them at the beginning of Walk weekends.

Most important service: **Sponsoring pilgrims!**

Without new pilgrims, Walk to Emmaus will not be able to continue spreading the news of Jesus' love. **Please sponsor frequently.** If you need help or have questions about sponsoring, please contact a Board Member. We would love to help increase the number of pilgrims on Walks!

Serve during Prep Weekend:

- Help in the kitchen with serving, cleaning etc.
- Help in the workroom with sorting agape, organizing needed materials, make copies etc.
- Bring snacks/drinks for the conference room teams (!!!)
- Attend the anointing and prayer for friends/family
- Help where ever needed!

Serving during Walks:

- **Set-up:** Help carrying luggage for pilgrims, help get out tables and chairs, assist ALDs with getting conference room set-up, help get kitchen set up to serve, help
- **Kitchen:** Helping in the kitchen with serving, clean-up, serving pilgrims/team, running errands as needed, special dinner on Saturday night, decorating etc.
- **Workroom:** Helping in the workroom with sorting agape, sorting/organizing letters, writing letters, typing needed documents, delivering agape, changing trashcans, running errands, moving decorations for services, decorating etc.
- **Agape Chapel:** Help in the Agape Chapel by covering a long stretch of hours (or just one), write letters to pilgrims, pray up/down speakers, pray over prayer concerns, pray over crosses, help the Agape Chapel director contact the community about signing up for time in the chapel, etc.
- **Sponsors Hour:** Help pass out/pick up music books, play/sing music, etc.
- **Gut Bucket:** Put on a funny costume (we have plenty), sing some songs, tell some jokes, give the pilgrims/team a great time after the special dinner on Saturday
- **Apostolic Hour/Candlelight:** Help pass out candles and music books, be the face of Jesus for pilgrims, play/sing music for the service, help collect offering, etc.
- **Closing:** Help pass out/collect music books, help collect offering, greet new pilgrims, etc.

There are many more ways you can serve. There are just the most obvious ones that always need help. Please ask if you want to help!! Did I mention SPONSOR!?!?

Shirt Fundraising Information

You can order a shirt any time! Bonfire still makes them in cycles and will ship out every 15 days. There are four design options with multiple color and shirt style (long sleeve, t-shirt, etc.) options for each design.

Approximately \$5 dollars is donated to Great River Emmaus for each shirt bought. Additional donations can also be made to GRE when checking out.



#1



#2



#3



#4 front



#4 back

To see all the shirt 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/>

#4: <https://www.bonfire.com/greatriveremmaus4/>

Please note: Price differences are due to style and design (2-sided design is more expensive). Each style/design donates approximate \$5 to GRE.

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!

A Change is Coming!

GiveButter.org has changed policies regarding not charging a fee for texting services. GRE will be changing services at some point this year. We will likely also be changing online donation services to have our own Venmo and PayPal accounts. I will keep you posted as I work out this change. For now, all information above is correct.

Any questions, please contact me: Jen Dougherty (319) 795-7680