

# Northern California Nevada Community



March 2018

## **Men's and Women's Walks Are Almost Here**

Get those Pilgrim applications in NOW!

The next Men's Walk is scheduled for April 26-29 and the Women's Walk is the following weekend, May 3-6, 2018.

The first deadline is April 2 - only a week away!!

We must have at least 12 men and 12 women to continue!

These Walks will be in Fallon, NV and might be the only Walks in 2018.

Don't miss out! Send in applications for Pilgrims and background *today!*

Applications for Pilgrims and background: <http://www.ncnec.org/applications>

Pilgrims to Registrar: Roxanne Moger - email: [walkregistrar@ncnec.org](mailto:walkregistrar@ncnec.org)

Background to Kristi Dorf - Email: [walkservant@ncnec.org](mailto:walkservant@ncnec.org)

Or mail to: Emmaus, c/o Kristi Dorf

1231 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431

## **A Letter from the Community Lay Director**

WOW! The recent Chrysalis Flight was a wonderful success. Twenty-Two Caterpillars got their wings and are flying with Christ. Kudos to the team that blended historically separate boys and girls Flights into a co-ed Flight.

I wonder ... should we consider doing the same for one set of Walks per year? I'm thinking about one separate set of walks and one co-ed walk? That is something to ponder and pray about. After reflection, write your thoughts out and send feedback to [board@ncnec.org](mailto:board@ncnec.org).

Our board has embarked on a path to empower, or make community participation easier, including volunteering. The first initiative is to make the most recent version of the worship booklet (v3) and reunion cards available at Gatherings (a small donation is requested to defray the cost of the booklets). The next initiative will be a web based "sign me up" form that communicates a willingness to help. We've asked the board members to solicit other ideas with those that they interact with. Now, I'm asking you ... What can we do to make participation easier? What can we do to make you feel included? What can we do to share God's love? At a recent gathering, Steve P. suggested that we write all new Butterflies about sharing their experience with their parents and asking them if they are open to going on a walk. Wonderful idea! We'll make it so! Truly, we wish to hear from you, so write [board@ncnec.org](mailto:board@ncnec.org) with your ideas.

I've been praying for the upcoming Men's & Women's walks and the Pilgrims that have applied and those that are still considering it and those that have not been asked. Many of you have sponsored a lot of Pilgrims over the years. Some of you have yet to sponsor someone. Christ's love is what you embody when you support a Pilgrim through the walk. The Pilgrims will come forward in their own time but need the invitation to begin their reflective decision process. We request that you give prayerful reflection to potential Pilgrims that you encounter and extend an invitation. We want to create a way to capture applications in process so we can be sure to avoid cancelling walks that could otherwise have gone forward.

Personally, I want to thank all who launched me on this journey. It is the best thing I've done in my life, (other than getting married and having children). Kenny and Julie Bley (my sponsors) have a special place in my heart, and they were just being conduits of Christ's love. I suspect that I'm not alone and you hold your sponsors (and their channeling of Christ's love) special too.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and we really are looking for your comments and suggestions,

Decolores,

Rob Stackhouse

Special  
Meals

You now have a new resource available to you. Diana Whitten is now helping with special meals for people with food allergies for walks and flights. Kitchen chiefs will be able to talk with Diana about what the needs are and how to accommodate them. Cross contamination and knowing how to prepare individual meals to keep them safe are just a couple of the ways she can help.

Diana can be reached by phone or text at: 530-386-2623 or e-mail at: [dianam.dw@gmail.com](mailto:dianam.dw@gmail.com)

## Grace Alone, which God supplies

Today the sleety rain pours down outside and it seems as if winter might never end. The larger world swirls with talk of change, violence and chaos. And within my own family there is discord, distance and separation. How does one find hope for springtime, healing, harmony and hope? Over the years I have come realize that when I focus on the problems and my own limited resources and understandings I can never see beyond the clouds. When I believe that I must fix or solve or change the world I become lost in despair. I am reminded in today's swirl of chaos of the image of Genesis One where God breathes over the chaos of the primordial sea. Into the darkness God speaks and light and life, order and new possibilities emerge. Every time I am on a Walk to Emmaus I and get to hear all of the talks, I am reminded again of God's faithfulness. God has not, does not, and will not abandon us to the swirl of pain and disarray we find in our lives. There is hope and promise within God's grace. A mighty God of love, forgiveness and new beginnings seeks us out, transforms our hearts and makes us holy (whole). And that process of renewal happens over and over again until we shine for all the world to see. So my friends, as we pass through the darkness and arrive again at the glorious resurrection of Easter morn, take heart and believe that there is resurrection and new life for you, your friends and family and for all the world. And be reminded that you are the light that shines in the darkness and nothing can overcome that promise rooted always in God's amazing Grace.

De Colores

Barb Smith Community Spiritual Director

## BACKGROUND HELP NEEDED!

Hello Easter people, how often do you pull out the beautiful cross you received on Sunday after your Walk and think back to that mountain top experience? Please allow me to remind you what it says in case it has been too long. That cross says, "Christ is counting on you". We are counting on you! It takes a lot of hands and feet to put together an amazing Emmaus weekend to bring people closer to God. We have 2 upcoming Walks at the end of April and first part of May that need your hands and feet to work background. Remember meeting all those wonderful people who joined you during Sunday's lunch who fed you, decorated the dining hall, put agape out on your bed, cleaned your bathrooms and filled your water bottles? That can be you! We need your hands and feet to step forward to give that amazing selfless act of agape for our next pilgrims. The only requirement is that you were on a Walk to Emmaus or a similar retreat. There are no special invitations to be received to work background. This is it!! Grab a friend or your sponsor, recruit your reunion group and come work beside some amazing people like yourself. Connect with your Emmaus community and share the joy and love and memories of your special weekend Walk. All you need is an application which you can find on the Emmaus website at [ncnec.org](http://ncnec.org) and look for walk servant. Print it off, fill it out and mail to the contact person at the bottom of the page which is me or fill it out on line and send it in electronically. Of course, we will feed you so the cost to work is \$55 to help cover food expenses. If you need assistance with that cost, let us know and we'll help cover you. You can mail a check with your application or do it on line with the easy and secure pay pal system. You don't even need an account to send your money electronically. We have a Fantastic time together and we want to share that experience with you! I look forward to meeting you in Fallon. For the more experienced background workers, we need background chiefs to take the reigns and lead. If you are feeling called to do that, please contact Joyce Richards at 530-305-7323 or Warren Schewgel at [schwegel@cwo.com](mailto:schwegel@cwo.com)

DeColores! Kristi Dorf

## Sponsorship is Vital

To my Sisters and Brothers in Christ;

Do you remember that in the Body of Christ talk the speaker tells us that the goal of Emmaus, since its beginning, is to raise up Christian leaders and renew the Church as the Body of Christ in action. Please think and pray about that before you choose to sponsor someone on a Walk. The book on Sponsorship says, "Sponsorship is one of the most important aspects of the Walk to Emmaus and must be taken seriously. Sponsorship requires extensive prayer, diligent thought, careful planning and follow-through. The strength of Emmaus is a direct result of its sponsorship practices." Emmaus is not meant to be a fix-it or fix-all. Emmaus is not for everyone.

Be sure to read the sponsorship information in your 4th Day Packet. When you do sponsor someone, explain everything he or she needs to know. Keep in contact with them as much as can happen in a person's life in a few months. If the timing for the Walk is no longer appropriate, remember God is in charge and he will set the proper time for your Pilgrim to attend a Walk.

Be sure to help the Pilgrim with his or her application, following all the directions for you, them, and their clergy. Besides being one of the most important jobs in Emmaus, sponsorship can also be a hard job. You must be prepared to attend to their family for the entire weekend as necessary.

Sponsorship responsibilities also include:

Letters

Delivering your Pilgrim to the Walk site and staying until they leave with the Walk Lay Director

Attending Sponsor's Hour and praying for your Pilgrim.

Attending Candlelight

Attending Closing

Transporting your Pilgrim home after the Walk

And, you are not done! Take them to Gatherings as well as get them involved in a Reunion Group. If there isn't a Reunion Group in your area, start one! This is one of the real powers of Emmaus and the 4th Day. You can review page five of the Pilgrim's Application packet which shows the Sponsor's Covenant that also "lists the sponsor responsibilities.

If you are unable to do all of this, reconsider being a sponsor, or, consider a co-sponsor. Sponsorship is a serious spiritual responsibility, and each Pilgrim deserves a full-time, committed sponsor working on God's behalf.

And lastly, bask in the spiritual joy that comes from sponsoring someone on a Walk – a gift of Christian action to them and to our risen Lord.

*(The foregoing was adapted for our Community from an article by Judi Kenyon, 2004 Houston North Emmaus Community Lay Director)*

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: You can use Upper Room's "Introduction to Emmaus" video for your possible pilgrims. Go to [Upperroom.org/Community/Emmaus/Resources](http://Upperroom.org/Community/Emmaus/Resources).\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: You can use Upper Room's "Introduction to Emmaus" video for your possible pilgrims. Go to [Upperroom.org/Community/Emmaus/Resources](http://Upperroom.org/Community/Emmaus/Resources).**



Northern California/Nevada  
Emmaus Community

## Upcoming Gatherings in 2018

The Sacramento Gathering Area is having six gatherings in 2018.

May 18 at Woodland UMC located at 620 North Street, Woodland

July 20 at Elverta UMC located at 7861 Elmont Avenue, Elverta

September 21 TBA

November 16 at Woodland UMC located at 620 North Street, Woodland

We are currently looking for a church to host the September 21 gathering. Each gathering will begin with a pot luck at 6:30 followed by singing, updates of upcoming Walks and Flights, a Fourth Day or Next Steps talk and Communion. Our goal is to end all gatherings by 9:00. Each host church is responsible for providing coffee and a cold beverage, a Fourth Day / Next Step speaker and clergy for Communion. All musicians are encouraged bring their instruments and join the fun.

Please contact Ron (916.206.8078) or Joanne West (916.206.8075) for more information.

(916) 925-2621 Home Phone

## NCNEC Board

Community Lay Director: Carolyn Brodt

Assistant Community LD: Bob Stackhouse

Community Spiritual Director: Barbara Smith with Dawn Blundell

Secretary: Helen Sturtevant

Treasurer: Rob Dunning

Emmaus Registrar: Roxanne Moger

Chrysalis Support/Literature: Caree Walker and Ellen Thomas

Newsletter: Mardiece Patrick

Website Coordinator: Clay Brinkman

Emmaus Support/Literature Chair: Dianne Moody

Background Team Coordinator: Kristi Dorf

Dropbox: Becky Stockdale

Feel free to respond to this email with suggestions or comments for the board. Your comments will reach the proper person!