



GREEN COUNTRY WALK TO EMMAUS

SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2014

Dear Community,

Greetings to each of you as we enter into this new year that we've been graciously given! I'm excited to be a part of what the Lord has in store for us as we share this experience called The Walk to Emmaus with our friends, family, co-workers and others.

This Special Edition newsletter contains lots of important information for our community and I ask that you set a few moments aside, grab a cup of your favorite java, and read over what's in the pages that follow.

In this newsletter, you will learn more about:

- a new policy regarding deadline for submitting Pilgrim Applications
- Equipped to Share - January 17, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. – an opportunity to join together and discuss ways in which the Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis can be presented and promoted within your local church
- 2014 Walks
- Sponsorship 101
- Forms you will need

Well, let's get going being the Hands and Feet of Christ in our world in 2014. As a community, we will have times of joy and times of sorrow, times of work and times of rest, times of laughter and times of tears. Most importantly, we will have times together as the family of God, doing life together, and sharing with others the good news of the Risen Christ.

De Colores and blessings to each of you in the New Year,

Brenda Nickels
Community Lay Director

www.greencountryemmaus.com

Find us on Facebook @ Green Country W2E

**** NEW – PILGRIM APPLICATION DEADLINE ****

At the November 2013 meeting of the Board of Directors, the Board approved the recommendation of establishing a policy implementing a deadline by which Pilgrim applications can be received and processed.

The **new policy** is as follows:

Pilgrim Applications must be received by the Registrar via U.S. Mail no later than 10 days prior to the start of the Walk.

To support this recommendation, the Registrar set forth the reasons a deadline is needed:

- 1) to allow sufficient time to process pilgrim applications (collecting applications from PO Box in Tulsa; entering pilgrim and sponsor data/information into the GCWE database);
- 2) to allow sufficient time to mail notification letters (via US Mail) to the pilgrim and sponsor;
- 3) to allow the sponsor sufficient time to collect agape letters for the pilgrim; and
- 4) to allow sufficient time for the name badge vendor to receive the order, engrave the name badges and for the Registrar to arrange for pickup of the name badges.

We ask for the Community's support, acceptance, observance and adherence to this new policy. The Board's desire is not for anyone to miss the opportunity to attend a Walk to Emmaus. However, in order for our Community to be adequately prepared for that pilgrim to attend the Walk, there must be a sufficient time-frame for the Registrar to accomplish the necessary tasks.

The deadlines for the **Spring 2014** Walks are:

<u>Walk Date</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
March 27-30, 2014	Monday, March 17, 2014
April 3-6, 2014	Monday, March 24, 2014

In addition, the Board agreed to follow the guidelines of the Upper Room Emmaus Handbook which recommends a minimum of 20 pilgrims per Walk. Effective with the year 2014, if the minimum number of 20 pilgrims per Walk is not achieved **by the Application Deadline**, the Walk **will be postponed** until the next scheduled Walk date.

EQUIPPED TO SHARE ...

Equipping Local Church Leaders to Share about the Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis Within the Local Church

- ❖ Have you ever had difficulty describing to someone what the Walk to Emmaus is all about?
- ❖ Have you been reluctant to approach someone about the Walk to Emmaus opportunity?
- ❖ Have you wished you had more “tools” to help you share more effectively about the Walk to Emmaus?
- ❖ Have you ever wondered how others share the Walk to Emmaus within their churches?
- ❖ Have you thought about how you can promote the upcoming Spring Walks in your church? With your family? With your friends?

If any of these questions apply, then the “Equipped to Share” event is for you!

“Equipped to Share” will be an opportunity for us to come together, share ideas, brainstorm ways to share Emmaus and Chrysalis, and have fun in the process! Plan to come to **Abiding Harvest UMC** on **Friday evening, January 17, 2014**, at **6:30 p.m.** for dinner, conversation, and laughter. We’ll share with each other what works, what doesn’t, and how we can each be more effective, both individually and collectively, in sharing the Walk to Emmaus with others.

Details are on the next page Please plan to join with friends on the 17th, partake of a meal together, and leave encouraged and Equipped to Share!! We look forward to seeing you then!

Green Country Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis presents ...

EQUIPPED TO SHARE ...

Equipping Local Church Leaders to Share about the
Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis Within the Local Church



SOUNDS INTERESTING ... TELL ME MORE ...

You are invited to come and discuss ways in which the Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis can be presented and promoted within your local church. Best practices will be presented by local church leaders who have successfully reached out to members of their local congregations in sharing about the Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Emmaus and Chrysalis community members and clergy – it's a great partnership!!!

WHEN AND WHERE? Friday, January 17, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m to 8'ish
Abiding Harvest UMC, 4407 S. Olive Avenue, Broken Arrow

THAT'S DINNER TIME ... SHOULD I EAT BEFORE I COME?

NO – we've got you covered!!!! There will be Beans, Cornbread, Salad and Dessert awaiting you! Bring your appetites and your Emmaus friends!!!

SOUNDS YUMMY!!!! I'M IN!!!! WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Please RSVP to Brenda Nickels @ bknickels@cox.net or by text (include your name) to 918-231-0338.

"God Does Not Call the Equipped – He equips the Called!"

2014 WALK TO EMMAUS DATES



**WALK # 161
(Men)**

MARCH 27-30, 2014

**ASBURY UMC
(Tulsa)**

**WALK #162
(Women)**

APRIL 3-6, 2014

**ASBURY UMC
(Tulsa)**

**WALK #163
(Men)**

SEPT. 25-28, 2014

**CHRIST UMC
(Tulsa)**

**WALK #164
(Women)**

OCT. 9-12, 2014

**CHRIST UMC
(Tulsa)**

Sponsorship 101

Sponsorship is committing to invite, guide and support Pilgrims through their Walk to Emmaus and Fourth Days.

1. **Who can be a sponsor in the Green Country Walk to Emmaus community?**

- anyone who has attended Emmaus, Chrysalis or other recognized Fourth Day communities (i.e., Tres Diaz, Cursillo, Journey)

2. **Who should you invite to participate in the Walk to Emmaus?**

- church leaders – both laity and clergy
- members of diverse congregations, denominations, and ethnic groups
- those seeking a deeper relationship with Christ
- new Christians who may have questions about their faith; who are hungry for something more and want to grow spiritually
- long-time believers who may be stagnant in their walk with Christ; who need a rekindling of grace and an opportunity to renew their commitment to Christ
- Christians, who through personal renewal, will bring new energy, commitment and vision to their home church

3. **Who should you not invite to participate in the Walk to Emmaus?**

- persons who are experiencing ill health (i.e., would the physical demands of the Walk weekend be a hardship that would hinder their Walk experience?)
- persons undergoing an emotional crisis (i.e., is there extreme stress evident, or a recent divorce, death, or illness, that might hinder their Walk experience?)
- persons whose theology or practice is notably different or incompatible with the theology or practice represented by the Walk to Emmaus
- persons who continually find fault with the church and may want to create an “Emmaus Church”
- persons who are continually looking for another spiritual high
- non-Christians with no relationship with the church or our Lord

4. How do you sponsor a candidate?

- pray for the person's openness to God's call to discipleship
- meet with your potential candidate(s); invite them to attend a Walk to Emmaus weekend for the sake of a more vital relationship with Jesus Christ; tell them how your walk has blessed your life
- discuss with your potential candidate the (1) basics of the weekend, (2) the ecumenical environment, (3) the mixed gender clergy teams, (4) the need for no contact or electronics during the weekend, (5) the registration fee (if appropriate), (6) Fourth Day. Answer all questions – remember there are NO secrets about the Walk to Emmaus.
- extend the invitation
- seek a commitment by asking your candidate to fill out the application form
- continue to pray and request agape letters (but no gifts) from the candidate's friends and family
- bring the pilgrim to send-off, attend Saturday night candlelight and Sunday afternoon closing; return the pilgrim to their home

5. When does sponsorship end?

- sponsorship does not end following a weekend ...
 - a committed sponsor continues to assist the new 4th day pilgrim in their faith journey and walks alongside the pilgrim in their 4th day
 - a committed sponsor help the new pilgrim find ways to act out their new commitment and enthusiasm in their home church
 - a committed sponsor informs the pilgrim how she or she can serve the Emmaus community and future walks; and
 - a committed sponsor helps the pilgrim sponsor others

Remember, Emmaus is open to Christians of any denomination. Be intentionally inclusive of the different denominations as you extend your invitations to individuals. The love and call of Christ is for everyone!

Sponsorship is:

- Committing to invite, guide and support
- Representing God working person to person
- Recruiting strong church leaders
- Creating a healthy Emmaus/Chrysalis community
- An act of love for God, for the candidates, for the Emmaus community, and for the local church.
- A demonstration of agape love. It is making one's self an instrument of God's prevenient grace.

Green Country Walk to Emmaus
Pilgrim Application

Pilgrim Applicant: Please print & provide all information requested. (Spouse completes a separate application)

Print Name: _____ Male _____ Female _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address *: _____

(*For Green Country Walk to Emmaus use only & to receive GCWE Newsletter)

Name preferred for Name Tag (full name) _____ DOB _____ Age _____

Vocation _____ Company _____

Marital Status: Single _____ Married _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ Separated _____

Spouses Name: _____ Will your spouse attend the same set of walks? _____

Do you have health or physical limitations that may affect your participation during the Emmaus Walk? _____ If yes, specify:

(If necessary, use other side of application for further explanation.)

Do you have medically required dietary restrictions? _____ If yes, specify:

Do you use tobacco products? Yes _____ No _____

State briefly why you wish to attend a Walk to Emmaus weekend and what you expect from the experience:

Name & denomination of the church you are now attending: _____

Minister's Name _____ Minister's Signature _____

Has the following been explained to you about the Walk to Emmaus? (Check all that apply)

72 Hour Walk to Emmaus weekend _____ Items to bring _____ Items not to bring _____

Fourth Day Meeting (Tuesday evening after your walk) _____ Reunion Groups _____ Monthly Gatherings _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Relationship _____ Emergency Contact Phone _____

I intend to participate in the Walk to Emmaus (Thursday evening through Sunday evening & Fourth Day meeting).

Pilgrims Signature: _____ Date _____

Sponsor's Name _____

Please enclose your non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 per pilgrim. This will be applied toward your contribution of \$100.00 which partially offsets the expenses of your weekend. Make checks payable to Green Country Walk to Emmaus (GCWE).

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Walk Number _____ Date _____ to _____ Paid Deposit _____ Amount _____ Ck # _____

Acceptance Letter Mailed _____ Sponsor's Letter mailed _____ Confirmation received _____

Sponsor's Sheet

To be filled out by the SPONSOR. IF PILGRIM IS MARRIED, SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TOGETHER. Please Print Clearly:



(PRINT) Sponsor's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Name/Denomination of the church you are now attending _____

Do you attend regularly? _____ Where did you attend Emmaus/Cursillo? _____

When? _____ Emmaus/Cursillo Walk # _____ Are you in a reunion/share group? _____

Is this your first time to sponsor? _____ How many pilgrims have you sponsored in the last year? _____

Your pilgrim's name _____ How long have you known the pilgrim? _____

Why do you feel this person is ready to attend the walk?

Is your pilgrim active or showing interest in being active in church activities? YES _____ NO _____

Does the pilgrim have any physical or mental limitations to participate in an Emmaus Weekend? YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please explain: _____

Is the pilgrim in any transition stage that might indicate his/her weekend should be postponed? YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please explain: _____

If the pilgrim is a married person, have you discussed Walk to Emmaus with his/her spouse? YES _____ NO _____

Are you praying and sacrificing for your pilgrim? YES _____ NO _____

Have you discussed the kinds of toiletries, clothing and bedding they should take on the weekend? YES _____ NO _____

Will you attend Send-off, Sponsors' Hour, Candlelight, Closing and Fourth Day? YES _____ NO _____

Have you explained Fourth Day to your pilgrim? YES _____ NO _____

Will you bring the pilgrim to the Fourth Day meeting? YES _____ NO _____

Are you aware of the importance of minimal contact with the pilgrim during the weekend? YES _____ NO _____

Can you care for the needs of the pilgrim's spouse/family over the weekend? YES _____ NO _____

Are you able and willing to assist the pilgrim to get into a reunion group following the Walk? YES _____ NO _____

Note: As a sponsor, you are expected to attend: Send-Off, Sponsors' Hour, Candlelight, Closing & Fourth Day activities. If you are unable to fulfill your obligation in any of these activities you should consider a co-sponsor that would be available for support at these activities.

Sponsor's Signature _____ Date _____

Co-Sponsor's Signature _____ Date _____



Mail completed Pilgrim Application (s), non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 per pilgrim, (which will be applied toward the total contribution of \$100.00 which partially offsets the expenses of the weekend) and Sponsor's Sheet to:

Green Country Walk to Emmaus, Director of Registration, PO Box 14041, Tulsa, OK 74159

Upon acceptance, you and your pilgrim will be notified in writing.

GREEN COUNTRY EMMAUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your GCWE Board Members are always willing to assist you with questions or concerns. Please feel free to contact them at any time.

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