

Near the Cross Emmaus



September 2012
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WORK APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILLED OUT TO SERVE

Remember your experience when you went on your walk? Do you want to relive that experience? You only have one walk as a pilgrim, but you can spend a lifetime as a servant for Christ. Opening the eyes and hearts of others by showing his love.

As a growing community we have had several growing pains in the infancy of our community. If you have ever filled out an application to work and were never called to serve, we greatly apologize for the oversight on our part. Our goal as a community is to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. We can only do this by having several different people in the NEAR the Cross community serving on walks. Anyone who is interested in working walks in 2013, will

need to fill out new work applications by October 31 and submit to our Registrar Bob Rogers. Applications will be kept for one year and used during the team selection process. Please indicate on work application if you are interested in Spring or Fall walks in 2013 and in what area of the walk you would like to serve. Here are some ways in which you can serve.

If you have never worked a walk, it is suggested for you to start on the outside team. As an outside team member you will be present for the entire weekend. Although you are not involved with activities inside the conference room, you are directly impacting the Pilgrim's Walk to Emmaus experience.

The Pilgrim notices that everything just appears. The coffee is made, the rooms are

tidy, the meals are hot, the drinks are cold. However, they rarely ever see who does all this preparation. As far as they know everyone involved in the weekend is inside the conference room.

Ask anyone who has ever served on an inside team and they will say it is almost like being on a walk again for the first time, only better. Why? While they know what is going on, they get to experience the same love of Christ at the same time as the pilgrims. They get to see changes, opened eyes, the fire beginning to burn in pilgrim's hearts.

Work applications can be found on our website www.nearthecrossemmaus. All team members also pay the same fee as pilgrims while working a walk.

SPONSORSHIP IS VITAL TO PROGRESSION OF WALKS

While most church related functions take a "y'all come!" approach to participation, Emmaus relies on a method that is more consistent with the message of the Walk: sponsorship. The personal character of sponsorship underlines God's personal care and commitment to each pilgrim. The fact that Emmaus experience passes from person to person reflects the relational nature of God and the

manner in which God reaches out to people through people. Sponsorship is integral to some of the unique features and strengths of the Emmaus experience—a discerning approach to recruitment, personal agape and prayer for the pilgrims, sponsors' presence at Candlelight and Closing, and follow-up.

Sponsorship is an important reason that communities rarely cancel Emmaus

Walks for lack of participants. Emmaus pilgrims want to share the gift of the Emmaus experience with others. God's gift of grace continues to be passed on through the Emmaus movement.

There are still several spaces available for pilgrims for Walks #25 & #26. Please be in prayer for someone you could sponsor for upcoming walks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

***A gathering will not be held in September due to upcoming Walks.**

September 13-16

Walk #25

LD: Jim Markley

Send Off: 9/13
Cornerstone UMC

Candlelight: 9/15
Mt. Zion Baptist

Closing: 9/16
Cornerstone UMC

September 20-23

Walk #26

LD: Shelly Fulks

Send Off: 9/20
Cornerstone UMC

Candlelight: 9/22
Mt. Zion Baptist

Closing: 9/23
Cornerstone UMC

October 6

Follow-Up for Pilgrims
of Walks #25 & #26

Potluck & Gathering
FUMC-Jonesboro

REUNION GROUPS

Reunion Groups are one of the chief values of the Emmaus movement-one of the greatest treasures the Walk to Emmaus contains. It is a way of persevering in the life of grace so that those things that are valuable to you during the weekend are not lost when you return to life in the world-the group reunion serves the life of the Emmaus Community.

If you are not currently active in a Reunion Group, you are encouraged to consider joining one. The NEAR the Cross website includes information on what groups are currently meeting. If you have questions, please contact Tom McDonald at tommcdonald@gmail.com.

CHECK IT OUT!

The International Upper Room website www.upperroom.org has a wealth of information and resources under "Programs" you can view "Emmaus" and "Chrysallis" videos, which can be downloaded or purchased for \$10.00. These would be great to show your church or small group, encouraging others to attend a "Walk".

Also, under "Programs" there is a "Living Prayer Center." Here you can submit a prayer request via email or call for prayers. Prayer partners are on call 24/7 to provide intercessory prayer. You can even sign up to be one of the prayer warrior volunteers. Wouldn't it be an awesome thing for someone hundreds or thousands of miles away to call you for prayer!

AGAPE NEEDED

Dining Table and Bed Agape are needed for both Walks. These are small items for everyone which usually include a Bible verse or saying designed to encourage the pilgrims or team members. These items are presented by churches, reunion groups or individuals. Churches and reunion groups may have the name of the group and town of the agape; however, individuals should give their agape anonymously, in love. The number of pieces needed are 31 for bed agape, 54 for dining table agape or 75 for the entire team.

In order to eliminate food waste on walks, snack table sponsorships have been set up. If you or your reunion group would like to sponsor a table, please send a check for \$35 to:
NTC Treasurer -Sherri Slaven
1189 Hwy 91
Bono, AR 72416

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www.nearthecrossemmaus.org

Sign up for Prayer Vigils for Fall Walks

www.nearthecrossemmaus.org

On left side, click Walk Dates/Prayer Vigils

Men's Walk #25 Sept 13-16

Women's Walk #26 Sept 20-23