



Message from the Community Lay Director

Hello Everyone,

May the Lord bless you with a good summer! We had a great turnout at the Sparrow's Nest in Sparta, Wisconsin this last Saturday. Filled with many wonderful testimonies, songs of praise and fellowship with new and familiar faces alike. We also had our Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus Board of Directors transitional meeting this last Friday night and Saturday morning. Splitting the meeting up was something new we tried and seemed to work well for allowing some extra time for the Board to transition from last years Board to this years Board.

This year we have Bill Gibson, Scott Donohue, Donna Rimple, Stuart Burdick, Suzie Burdick and Pastor Jim Droste coming off the FVWTE BOD. On behalf of the Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus Board and Community, thank you for serving and your time. It has been a blessing to many. I too will be rolling off the Board. It has been a blessing being able to serve God by serving the FVWTE community as the Community Lay Director.

We now have a new incoming Board, returning Board, and new Executive members as follows:

Stephanie Dutkowski-Registrar,
Lon Jury-Team Selection,
Siggi Eckhardt Communications/Website/Email
Kay Christiansen-Trainer
Mark Runke-Treasurer
Keith Rykken-Secretary

Don Genrich- Community Lay Director
Wendy Cole- Assistant Community Lay Director
Lynn Humphrey-Gatherings
Laurie Graber-Sponsorship
Dave Seelendbinder-Outreach
Dave Rimple-Agape

Pastor Robbie Nowicki will be returning as our
Community Spiritual Director.

The Assistant Spiritual Director, Facilities Chair, and
Sponsors Hour, Candle Light, Closing Chair are yet to
be filled and will be appointed as soon as
replacements volunteer!

May God bless you all as you move forward into the
next Board year.

We also decided on returning to Camp Fairwood for next Spring's set of Walks. They will be on April 18th - 21st for the Men's #37 and April 25th -28th for the Women's #38.

The Lay Directors for these Walks will be Mike Cherry for Men's Walk #37 and Jan Brantingham for the Women's #38.

The Spiritual Directors for Walks #37 and #38 will be Pastor Jim Droste and Pastor Anita Genrich respectively.

May God lead you, as you lead others through these weekends.

We have some new things planned for this year. A great way to hear about them will be at our next Gathering at New London UMC 709 W. Pine St. New London, Wisconsin 54961 on July 8th with potluck starting at noon.

(*A quick note for any campers interested Keith and Cheryl Rykken are opening up their backyard for that weekend to those interested in camping there. Space is limited and it will be on a first come first served basis. Please contact Keith or Cheryl with any questions.)

Hope to see you all at the next Gathering!

Testimony: This last year has made me lean on the Lord for guidance, wisdom and discernment through prayer and study of the Bible. One thing I reflected on was how God chose the disciples that would follow his Son. Such a diverse group. They included a doctor, fishermen and a tax collector. Each had something different to bring to the table. Each helped Jesus meet the needs of those they encountered. Jesus was able to address many different viewpoints through his teaching and answering of their questions. He showed each of them, and by extension us, how to lead by serving others. 'What would Jesus do?'. It's a simple question that many of you have seen on a bracelet, t-shirt or bumper sticker and it was one that I asked myself many, many times this last year. If you find yourself needing guidance, ask yourself this question, because as always Jesus is the answer.

'Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.'
1 st John 2:6

De Colores

Jerry Juve Jr.
Outgoing Community Lay Director
FVWTE #13

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Message from the Assistant Community Lay Director

First, We Give Thanks

We give thanks for Jerry Juve Jr, Bill Gibson, Scott Donohue, Stuart Burdick, Donna Rimple, Susan Burdick, Sarah Thompson and Pastor Jim Droste for their time of service on the Board of Directors of Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus. We pray God's blessing upon them and his guidance in their continued involvement in the Emmaus Community.

We give thanks for Lynn Humphery, Dave Rimple, Cheryl Rykken, Laurie Graber, Don Genrich, Wendy Cole, and David Seelinbinder as continuing members of the Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus Board. We pray that God will strengthen and guide them in the coming year.

We give thanks that Lon Jury, Keith Rykken, Mark Runke, Siggie Eckhardt, Stephanie Dutkowski and Kay Christiansen have agreed to become members of the Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus Board for the next three years. We thank them for their willingness to step-up and serve the Emmaus Community. We pray that God will equip them with the gifts they will need to serve him.

We give thanks that Men's Walk # 37 will be held at Camp Fairwood on April 18 -21, 2024. Mike Cherry will be Lay Leader for the walk and Pastor Jim Droste will be the Spiritual Leader.

We give thanks that Women's Walk # 38 will be held at Camp Fairwood on April 25-28, 2024. Jan Brantingham will be the Lay Leader for the walk and Pastor Anita Genrich will be the Spiritual Leader.

Next, We Ask and Then Receive

We ask that you pray for the upcoming walks. Pray that the Leaders will be able form spirit-led teams. Pray that community members will sponsor pilgrims. We ask for an individual to volunteer to serve as Facilities person on the Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus Board

We ask for individuals to help on the walks with Thursday Night Send-off, Saturday Night Candlelight Service and Sunday Afternoon Closing Ceremony.

We ask for individuals to help with communication to and connection with the Emmaus Community. We need someone to manage the newsletter and other email notices like prayer concerns and community announcements, we need someone to grow our Facebook presence, we need someone to keep the

website current and we need someone to implement text messaging.

We ask for individuals to contact board members and indicate that they are willing to help out so that the work load can be spread out over more people and not overwhelm a few.

We ask for God's guidance and direction in this process.

De Colores

Donald Genrich

Incoming Community Lay Director for 2023-2024

FVWTE #7

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Message from the Community Spiritual Director

Faith and Works


In the movie, *The Iron Lady*, Meryl Streep plays the role of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Although the following quote cannot be attributed to the Prime Minister Thatcher, in the movie Streep's Thatcher says the following, "Watch your thoughts for they become words. Watch your words for they become actions. Watch your actions for they become habits. Watch your habits, for they become your character. And watch your character, for it becomes your destiny! What we think we become."

It starts with the small decisions. The things we say and don't say. It is those small things that will ultimately define who we are.

I want to share a small portion of John Wesley's sermon *The Character of a Methodist*: "As he [a Methodist] has time, he 'does good unto all men;' unto neighbors and strangers, friends and enemies: And that in every possible kind; not only to their bodies, by 'feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting those that are sick or in prison;' ... but much more does he labour to do good to their souls, as to the ability with God giveth."

Part of being a Christian is doing something. We do good works and we make the world a better place because the Holy Spirit works in us and through the

Holy Spirit we bear the Fruit of the Spirit. Wesley firmly believed that if someone had Christ dwelling within them, a personal transformation would follow. Works of love and service would come forth. Wesley would call this social holiness...living a holy life within the community.

I know this is review for you, but it's worth reading again . And as a Methodist pastor, I can't help but offer that Methodist perspective.

Let's look at one of the Articles of Religion for the Methodist church. This is one of our founding documents. In reference to the article on Good Works it is written, "Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away sins, and endure the severity of God's judgment; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and living faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit."

What kind of fruit are we bearing in our lives? in our church? in our support of the Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus community?

Please reflect on these questions!

De Colores,

Pastor Jim Droste
Community Spiritual Director

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A Parting Message from the Outgoing Community Communication/Website/Database/Email Chair

My name is Scott Donohue, FVWTE #19 where I sat at the table of Luke! Where has the time gone?

I was first appointed to the Agape Chair on the Board of Directors in the Spring of 2017 for three years. I have been the Database Chair for the last three years and [Communications/Website/Email Chair](#) for the past two years.

The success, and continued success, of the FVWTE [Community](#) depends upon [communication](#) within the [community](#).

Ministry Manager is the [communication](#) application as directed by the Upper Room. The Upper Room provides the model and direction for our Emmaus walks.

Upper Room launched Ministry Manager Database application 3 years ago. I updated the legacy data from the 14 years of history for the FVWTE members

and walks (970 and 36). Ministry Manager has automated many of the processes in our walks. I.E. Personal Profile Updates, Pilgrim payments, the Covenant Letter, Team Selection, Board of Director and Walk history, Mass Messaging emails to name a few.

If you would like to learn more about Board of Directors and are interested in joining please view the Ministry Manager training videos at the bottom of your Ministry Manager dashboard page in the "FAQ" link.

The most important aspect of Ministry Manager is the individual member's capability to update and maintain their personal data for [community communication](#) purposes. I.E. name, address, phone numbers, email address, etc. This is a powerful application that allows for the [community to communicate](#) securely successfully!

As I step away from the board and "pass the baton" to Siggie Eckhardt I echo the sentiments of Pastor Jim Droste,
"What kind of fruit are we bearing in our lives? in our church? in our support of the Fox Valley Walk to Emmaus [community](#)?"

Bless You & Be Love,
YBIC

Scott

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Prayer Corner for June 2023

June 20 – 23, 2023

Oceanside Emmaus, Men's Walk Florida

June 22 – 25, 2023

Brush Country Emmaus Community, Women's Walk
Texas

Malaysia Sarawak Emmaus, Women's Walk Malaysia

Houston Bay Area Emmaus, Women's Walk Texas

Greater Dayton Emmaus Community, Men's Walk
Ohio

Northwest Ohio Emmaus Community, Men's Walk
Ohio

Sunrise Emmaus Community Inc., Men's Walk Texas

High Plains Emmaus, Clovis, Women's Walk New
Mexico

June 23 – 26, 2023

Ohio's New Covenant Emmaus, Women's Walk Ohio

June 29 – July 2, 2023

Dallas Emmaus Community, Men's Walk Texas

July 13 – 16, 2023

Northwest Ohio Emmaus Community, Women's Walk
Ohio

Houston North Emmaus, Women's Walk Texas

New Horizon Emmaus, Women's Walk Texas

July 20 – 23, 2023

High Plains Emmaus, Clovis, Men's Walk New
Mexico

Concho Country Emmaus, Women's Walk Texas

Greater Sidney Area Emmaus, Women's Walk Ohio

De Colores

Dave Rimple

Agape Chair

FVWTE #19

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Up Coming Gatherings:

July Gathering

Saturday July 8th, 2023

New London UMC
709 W Pine St,
New London, WI 54961

Gathering will be from 12pm to 4pm.

Please join us for an afternoon of fellowship and worship and welcoming new pilgrims.

Please bring a dish to pass.
Tableware, coffee, & water will be furnished.

Be a Friend, Bring a Friend
We would love to see you!

If you or your reunion group would like to host a Gathering at your Church. Please contact me at lahumphrey06@gmail.com or call me at 608-343-7015 and leave a message.

De Colores

Lynn Humphrey

Gathering Chair

FVWTE #20

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We do hope you have found this Newsletter both helpful and informative. If it's important to you, then it's important to us. Please let us know how you are doing with your Fourth Day, in your local congregation, or in your reunion group by clicking the link below. We will be glad to include your announcement or article in the next edition.

As The Rooster Crows

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Upcoming Events

Use this link for our Website <https://www.foxvalleyemmaus.com/>