

Western Sydney Emmaus Community

WesternSydneyEmmaus.org.au

IT IS TIME TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

During the past few months, comments have been made to me that perhaps Emmaus has had its day. Since then we held a moderately successful Chrysalis Flight well supported by a very passionate Chrysalis Team and a poorly supported Going Fourth day by our Western Sydney Emmaus Community.

Our monthly Gatherings have been very poorly attended this year, with an average of 35 people attending per Gathering, overall an extremely disappointing result when you consider the thousands of pilgrims we have sponsored.

This week I received an email from one of the Board suggesting it was time close Western Sydney Emmaus. The rationale for this is the fact the Board consists of only nine members (down six on previous Board numbers) and the fact that five of these are finishing their term at the end of this year.

To put things in perspective I asked these five Board members to give me one more years' service than their elected term so we could establish some degree of continuity, and without question all of them did.

Now it is true that we have elections due in the next four months but based on the fact that only one person nominated last year, the Board is not confident we can maintain our existing numbers.

The health of some of the Board members has also been raised as yet another reason why our time may have come to an end.

After a lot of thought and prayer I have come to the conclusion that I will continue to play a role for Western Sydney Emmaus as long as we gain enough interest in the upcoming elections.



Upcoming Gatherings

July 2

Gathering with a Difference

1st Century Church Meeting
Theme – [read Page 3 for more details](#)

Starting at 6pm

Christ Church Anglican
Blacktown

August 6

Gathering

Christ Church Anglican
Blacktown, begins at 7pm.

September 3

Gathering

Christ Church Anglican
Blacktown, begins at 7pm.



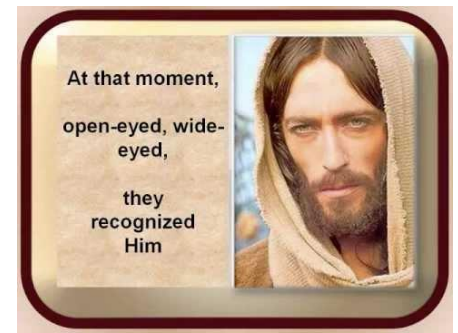
In the event we are unable to replace four of the outgoing five board members we will have no choice but to close Western Sydney Emmaus down and pass control over to the National body.

Western Sydney Emmaus Needs Your Help.

If you would like to discuss this with me further, I am happy to take your call on 0421 656 062 or email, robertmcanderson@gmail.com/

De Colores

Robert McAnderson
Community Lay Director



On the Road to Emmaus

¹³ Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles^[a] from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. ¹⁵ As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; ¹⁶ but they were kept from recognizing him.

¹⁷ He asked them, **"What are you discussing together as you walk along?"**

They stood still, their faces downcast. ¹⁸ One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

¹⁹ **"What things?"** he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. ²⁰ The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; ²¹ but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. ²² In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning ²³ but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. ²⁴ Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

²⁵ He said to them, **"How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken!**

²⁶ Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

²⁸ As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.

³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

**Western Sydney Emmaus
Nomination Form
Board Elections 2016**

BOARD MEMBERS ARE ELECTED FOR A THREE YEAR TERM AND ARE EXPECTED TO:

- Accept a task as arranged between the Board Chairman and the Board Member
- Attend Board meetings regularly (generally the Thursday evening immediately preceding the first Saturday of each month – excluding December and January.
- Attend Community functions – Gatherings, Closings, Candle-lightings, Reunion groups.
- Actively promote the spirit of Emmaus.

NOMINEE	Name: (print)	
	Phone:	Mobile:
	Email:	
	Address	
	Signature	Date:

NOMINATOR	Name: (print)	
	Phone:	Mobile:
	Email:	
	Address	
	Signature	Date:

***Please return nomination forms by hand by Friday 1st September 2016, or mail to: Community Secretary,
Western Sydney Emmaus Community, PO Box 423 St Marys 1790.
secretary@westernsydneyemmaus.org.au***

Key Dates:

Nominations open: Gathering – 2nd July 2016
Nominations close: Friday– 1st September 2016
Voting will commence: Gathering – 3rd September, 2016
Voting will conclude: Friday 7th October 2016

Successful nominees will be advised personally and must attend the Board Meeting on 3rd November 2016 for handover of portfolios.

Results announced: Gathering – 6th November 2016, by the Community Lay Director
Effective date of appointment: 1st January 2017
First Board Meeting: Thursday 2nd February 2017.

Note: An election will only be held if nominations exceed the number of Board vacancies available.

Now is time to Sponsor

Who can you offer the gift of Spiritual Transformation?

Many of the community has attested to the role Emmaus played in their spiritual growth and/or transformation. This is a wonderful gift and possibly the most significant you can give a brother or sister in Christ.



If the thought of sponsorship is overwhelming, then why not get together with your Community Group and do it together?

As has been reinforced **all Walks go ahead regardless of numbers.**

However, we also know that a walk with at least 10 pilgrims has more energy than those with less numbers. So please, take a moment to prayerfully write down three names and give them the gift of an Emmaus Walk.

- Walk (Men's) October 20, 2016
- Walk (Women's) October 27, 2016

If you have any questions email Peter Smith at registrar@westernsydneyemmaus.org.au or go to westernsydneyemmaus.org.au to register on-line.

July 2nd Gathering - Starting at 6pm!

1st Century Church Meeting Theme

For the next Gathering, there is some homework:

1. Bring along a potluck dinner. If you forget to bring your own potluck, you may just be OUT OF LUCK.
2. Bring with you an example of how God has worked in your life!

The following verses may help put things into perspective.

Acts 2:42-46 New International Version (NIV)

Prayer Points

Helen and Keith and their teams as they prepare for training in July.

Sustenance and health for the Teams and their families as they begin the journey to October.

Thankfulness for those who have committed to being on team.

God to provide Assistant Spiritual Directors for the Walks.

Pilgrims for you to sponsor for the Walks.

Pilgrims who will be on the Walk.

For God to raise up new members for Western Sydney Emmaus Board.

The future of Western Sydney Emmaus as we struggle to find people to support Walks and to get Pilgrims involved past the Walks.

Those who are sick or in difficult circumstances particularly Phil Grebert.

Strength and unity within the Community

Reunion Groups within our Community

The Fellowship of the Believers

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

1 Corinthians 14:26 New International Version (NIV)

Good Order in Worship

26 What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.

De Colores

Western Sydney Emmaus Board



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Peter McAndrew

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Jacqui McAnderson

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Gatherings

Gary Morris

Chrysalis

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Sandra Smith

To contact anyone on the Board, please email

board@westernsydneyemmaus.org.au