

2023 COMMUNITY RECAP

CIE Community -

As 2023 ends, I wanted to reflect on what we accomplished as a community. Last year, we were contacted by 2 Emmaus communities within IL who had to dissolve their Emmaus Communities in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. We did not know if that would also become the fate of Central Illinois Emmaus. Through your generosity and support, our community is not closing. We are alive and growing!

None of this would have been possible without the support of every one of you! Whether you contributed financially, sponsored a pilgrim, served on a team, served on the board, attended a gathering, or prayed for our community, you helped our community Show Jesus.

De Colores!

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Hosted 4 Gatherings with an average attendance of 15+ each
- Held 2 Walks welcoming 25 new pilgrims to the community
- Held our largest Thanksgiving Gathering since before Covid



Walk to Emmaus

Winter 2024

Inside this issue:

Letter from Amy Haley	2
Upcoming Walks	3
Treasurer Update	4
Walk Reflections	5/6
Walk 276 Photo and Key	7
Walk 277 Photo and Key	8
Agape Update	9
Registrar Update	10
Ministry Manager Info	10
Current Board Members	11
Candidate Application	12
Sponsor Form	13
Service Form	14

[Join Our Private Facebook Group Today!](#)

[Join Our Email List Today!](#)

[Donate Today!](#)

[Register Today for Men's Weekend](#)

[Register Today for Women's Weekend](#)

[Fill Out Sponsor Form \(Men's Weekend\)](#)

[Fill Out Sponsor Form \(Women's Weekend\)](#)

Greetings Emmaus Family!

My name is Amy (Weller) Haley. As we begin a new year, I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself as your new Community Lay Director. My Walk to Emmaus journey began on Bloomington-Normal Walk #39 in March 1998. That experience was the jumping off point for many adventures serving our Lord! I have served on several Emmaus Walks and Chrysalis Flights, served on the SonRise Chrysalis Board, and have been part of the CIE Emmaus board for the last few years.

Walk to Emmaus' mission to develop Christian disciples and leaders has been an integral part of my faith journey. From the moment I told God I would say "Yes!" to anything he called me to... Oh My Goodness! That first step outside my boat of comfort to serve in youth ministry at my church, to leading an Adult Sunday School class, to giving talks on Weekends, to leading my own team as Lay Director, to So Many Adventures. I never would have believed that one experience would be the catalyst for the amazing growth in my faith and service.

So, as I begin this new adventure, I have a few requests:

1. Pray - As you know, the only way to a successful Emmaus event/ community is through prayer. The Spring Lay Directors, Bob Phelan, and Melissa Brookens are currently making calls to form their teams. Pray for them, those being called, and the candidates.
2. Sponsor – Look around your community, church, friends, and family. Is there someone serving that could benefit from three days away from the world to focus on spiritual things?
3. Consider – Where are you being called to serve? Remember how things just seemed to happen on your weekend? You could be a part of that for the new Pilgrims. Are you looking for a new adventure? Is God calling you to use your voice in a new way? There are some open seats on the board.

I look forward to serving with you in this Kingdom adventure!

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

CIE Board Elections

CIE's annual board elections will take place in the fall. The ballot information will be made available later this year.

Potential board members may serve 2 three-year terms before “retiring”.

In addition to those nominated, write-in candidates are eligible to be on the ballot. If you have someone in mind, please check with them first on their willingness and availability to serve on the board.

If you have questions about elections to the board or board responsibilities, contact Amy Haley at amyjo8228@gmail.com.

UPCOMING WALKS

Our Spring Walk Prep will take place on Saturday, February 17th and Saturday, March 2nd. The women's team will be at Harvard Park Church and the men's team will be at Sugar Creek Methodist Church.

Team Orientation will be held on March 23rd, from 9 am to 12 pm at Camp Cilca with team anointing to follow. More details to follow.

Men's Walk #278 will be held Thursday, April 4th through April 7th.

Women's Walk #279 will be held Thursday, April 18th through April 21st.

Bob Phelan has been named as the Lay Director for Walk #278.

Melissa Brookens has been named as the Lay Director for Walk #279.

Please hold them and those who have been called to serve on the team alongside them in your prayers as they prepare. As they are preparing, consider:

- WHO you can sponsor.
- HOW you can serve behind the scenes
 - Agape Chapel
 - Baking desserts or snacks
 - Making agape
 - Showing up for weekend events
 - Setting up / Tearing Down

If you would like to help serve, please contact the Emmaus Board at CIEcontactlist@gmail.com to serve as Christ's hands and feet.

CURRENT SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

- Sponsor Pilgrims! Applications are currently being accepted. **The deadline to receive applications for both walks is March 22nd. Both Sponsor and Pilgrim along with deposit must be in hand to Lyndsay Withey by noon on 3/22.**
- Applications are being accepted electronically this year as well as physically. Please note the link on the first page for digital applications.
- Sign up to serve as background help! Stuffing packets, making agape, speaking to local churches to share about Emmaus.
- Reaching out to CIE Community Members to update contact information.
- Hosting Gatherings and Reunion Groups
- Watch Facebook Group and emails for more opportunities.
 - Join Our New Facebook Group - [Central IL Walk to Emmaus Private Group](#)
 - Join Our Email List – [Central Illinois Emmaus Contact List](#)

From the Treasurer

I hope your 2024 year is off to a hopeful start for you, your family and your church community as the new year has already begun. The Central Illinois Emmaus (CIE) board of directors have begun to look to the future and plan for the year and years to come.

The decision had to, unfortunately, be made to increase the registration fees from \$125.00 to \$150.00 per candidate/pilgrim and team members effective 1/1/2024. This will go into effect for any walk registration occurring in 2024 and beyond. All our costs have gone up.

We realize this is a significant increase for an individual candidate/pilgrim and a team member, and we hope this does not cause an issue for you or your candidate/pilgrim you sponsor. It is stressed that finances should never keep you from being a team member or a candidate/pilgrim from attending a walk. There are scholarships available, but we ask that 20% of the registration fee is paid.

CIE has not raised the registration cost since my walk in 2006 and I am sure further back than that. We also wanted to communicate this with you so you will not be caught off guard when you are asked to be on a team for this Spring or Fall walks.

We appreciate all you do for the Central Illinois Emmaus Community. I would like to encourage any who is able to donate to the scholarship fund. You can send a check to:

CIE,
PO Box 13244
Springfield, IL 62791-3244

Online donations can be made at <https://www.ciemmaus.net/donate>

When giving your donation for the Scholarship Fund, please be sure to note on the memo line or check the box online to indicate its use towards scholarships. You can make this donation in memory or in honor of a family member or friend.

Thank you for your continued support of this Emmaus community and thank you for understanding. Have a year full of blessings.

In gratitude,
Pat Wright, CIE Treasurer

Walk #277 Reflections from Joann Woolums

The first thing that comes to my mind when reflecting on Emmaus Walk #277 is God's faithfulness in providing what was needed. To future lay directors, do not think that you or the team can orchestrate what is needed, you cannot. It is in God's timing and will that the weekend will take place.

I still am amazed at what He provided; from the names of the team members to be called to the pilgrims that were to attend. I also think about the campground and buildings and facilities to be used. Throw into that mix the weather conditions and untold other events that many individuals were dealing with. And don't forget the last-minute changes that had to be made for this walk to happen! Only God could have worked through all that chaos.

I admit that I was truly stressed out with about two weeks to go before Walk #277 was to begin. It is often hard for me to listen and wait and trust that God is in control. But He proves that he is repeatedly. Amen.

The weekend was beautiful! Everyone in the conference room could sense and feel God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the room with us. The talks from laity and clergy alike were sincere, powerful, and full of God's Grace to us, His children. There was fellowship and discussion at the tables during the day, and at night in the bedrooms. There were new friendships formed that will last a lifetime.

Everyone pitched in and did their job to the best of their ability. The clergy team was fantastic both in their talks and caring for the needs of everyone there. I cannot say enough good about the assistant lay directors. They literally worked non-stop! The prayer chapel was powerful and the team of ladies in charge of it were amazing. The table leaders and assistants did a wonderful job keeping the discussion going and relevant to the topic. And the skits and posters and gut bucket were so much fun!

Laughter is always good for relief when dealing with serious life choices or anytime. And who can help but be impressed with the wonderful food provided both at the snack table and in the kitchen for our meals. And I would be remiss not to mention the good work by the background group. God provided for EVERY need.

In closing, I was a little disappointed in the rainy weather for the last day and a half. However, the closing ceremony was full of hope and sunshine for the days ahead. God's mercies truly are, always have been, and always will be new every morning!

De Colorus!
Joann Woolums

Walk #277 Reflections from Joy Bonczek

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” (Ephesians 6:18)

The Team for Walk #277 was called many months before the actual Walk. Lay Director Joann Woolums prayed and listened to the Holy Spirit and together with many faithful prayer warriors, she called the team that God had purposed for the weekend of Walk #277.

Joann called me in April. There was a fairly determined “NO” at the ready, but I took a few days to pray for the decision. (Not a bad idea, right?!) It was one of those “but God” moments ... My prayer journal states, “Frankly, I do not want to do this ... but God ... we’ll see.” Then followed a huge “YES” after time with God and my Reunion Group, (that’s the “but God” part)! I accepted the position of Prayer Chapel Coordinator/Leader. I said yes to an adventure with God and an opportunity to love God and love people.

Scattered around the state, we were connected by prayer and God’s Holy Spirit. What a precious gift prayer is for us. Email and texting were used as effective tools to connect with the team as well. We had three scheduled times of team preparation which were a blessing. It was important to stay connected and to encourage each other in between our times of Team prep. Prayer bathed the entire process. One of the blessings from the time of preparation was “Threads of Love,” the weekly devotions shared with the Team of Walk #277. It was quiet time with the Lord in prayer and Scripture reading that provided the words that were shared.

Unfamiliar, awkward camp facilities space and grounds and rainy weather did not hamper the process of bathing the weekend in prayer and figuring out how to set up a Prayer Chapel and not burn down the dorm with the speakers’ candles! The Prayer Team was hand picked by God and such a constant blessing throughout the weekend.

So many moving parts and scheduling challenges and logistics only magnified how God was at work through His team! Imagine two “mature” women running through the pouring rain trying to keep precious Agape gifts dry under one umbrella! The grounds were swamped with water, we splashed on, only to find the side door locked! Splashing back to the Prayer Chapel, steps were taken to resolve the hindrance, back out into the rain and the process of “pillow agape” was completed!

Table groups praying in the Prayer Chapel was a beautiful and powerful experience, even with scheduling challenges. It seemed perfectly appropriate to have speakers prayed-up in the bedroom next door while the Table groups finished their prayer time. “On the fly” decisions and adjustments happened with no trauma or drama (mostly, after all it was a women’s walk!) Calls for “change of plans” were handled with apparent ease. How great the prayer cover was of the world-wide Emmaus Community that carried us through these many experiences.

There was prayer on the kneeler in the hall, in the Prayer Chapel on the beds, on the floor, standing up, seated near the crosses or near the candles, with the prepared words of speakers close to our hearts, in the bedroom next door, running through the rain, in the car driving to the Chapel in the Dining Hall to check on the next scheduled set-up. Prayer was everywhere and God blessed, encouraged, answered, provided, heard, saw, healed, helped, poured out comfort and peace, joy, tears, hope, and love as only He can! Thank You, Jesus!

What more to say ... the weekend was wonderful. Love was shared, hearts were softened, lives were touched and changed. God is good – All the time! All the time – God is good!

DeColores!

Joy Bonczek, Prayer Chapel Leader

Walk # 277



Walk #276
Picture Key

Row #1 (right to left): Steve Miller, Chuck Kurfman, Melvin Cox, Jeremiah Miller, Kyle Newnam, Gene Turner, Bruce Campbell, Bob Phelan, David Munday, Colby South, David Swartz, Dan Curry, Tami Wersch - Kessinger.

Row #2: Paul Wiseman, Brent Mathews, Greg Matthews, Randy Mathews, Ed Bowen, Jim Fitzpatrick, Paul Gorden, Paul Dinges, Ray Curry, Keith Stewart, Michael Balog, Dan Withey, Mary Brady

Row #3: Bob Hays, Dennis Lyles, John Swinford, Brian Abshire, John Weller, Tom Brookens, Brad Clair, Brent Wren



Walk #277

Picture Key

Row #1 (right to left): Molly Spence Hawk, Marie Aziable, Jo Weller, Trish Swartz, Janet Ealey, Mary Jean Sheets, Joann Woolums, Bruce Swartz, Pat Wright, Melissa Brookens, Christy Weller

Row #2: Ellen Dixon, Keesha Kahn, Carol Swettman, Heather Groves, Emily Mathews, Sandy Curless, Jastina Washington, Roxanne Thomson, Modelia Washington, Cheryl Warren, Triena Mason, Breanna Kelley, Hayley Grider, Deb Carpenter, Lori Evans, Nadia Hampton, Susan Magers

Row #3: Joy Bonczek, Darla Cruppernick, Dana Byers, Kathryn Woodcock, Lynsay Withey, Becky Jayne, Chelsea Bushnell, Lynn Thompson, Linda Swartz, Cathy Apel, Judi Weaver, Martha Blankenship, Teresa Watson.

From the Agape Coordinator

Hello CIE Community

My name is Paul Wiseman, and I am the Agape Chair Coordinator.

We have had a busy year this year. In September we had Men's Walk 276. The weather was fantastic, and the walk was a success minus a little thing we call COVID. I truly believe that the enemy was angry because the Spirit of God was on this group in a mighty way.

I am thankful for the people who came out to help with Agape. Some stayed and some came to help for a day or two. It takes all of us to give the Pilgrims the experience they need and are looking for and the community did a good job of that. As always, we are a little low on pillow agape for the men and I encourage you to bring agape for the men to the next set of walks in April 2024.

The Women's Walk 277 was in October. These ladies had to deal with the rainy and cold conditions. Despite the weather they had a very good walk as well. No COVID... I hope the enemy learned that he can't dampen the Spirit of God and that the face of Jesus was present with these Pilgrims.

I want to thank the CIE Community for responding to our request for pillow agape. You are the best. It is good to know that all we need to do is ask and you respond so positively. We had many helpers for the Women's Walk, not only for agape but also for all the background. I think it may have been the best Walk for background help that I have ever witnessed in my short time of working in the background.

Thank you all for your help. You are the ones that keep holding up these walks and without you we could not be the hands and feet of Jesus on these walks. I look forward to seeing each one of you in the future and if you would like to be a part of this effort in any way all you need to do is let someone know. We have many opportunities for you to serve if you are so led.

May God bless and keep you all in His loving arms.

Paul Wiseman

Agape Coordinator

FROM THE REGISTRAR

De Colores Central Illinois Emmaus Community!

My name is Lyndsay Withey, and I am the Registrar for the Central Illinois Emmaus Board. For those who are unaware what this role is, I am the person who receives all the applications and registrations for all upcoming Walk to Emmaus Walks. I have recently taken on the role of Database Manager for our community. I am excited to serve the board and our community in each of these roles.

Upper Room has launched a new program for communities to utilize in maintaining their rosters. This program is called Ministry Manager. Every new pilgrim will be added, and an invite will be sent out to confirm contact details. This program will be used to help build team service as well as send out communication to our community members. I have included more details on how to verify your information is correct at the end of this newsletter. If you have any questions or need help verifying your contact information, do not hesitate to send me an email.

In addition to Ministry Manager, we have an email mailing list. If you are interested in being added to our email mailing list, please email me at CIEcontactlist@gmail.com. Our email mailing list is utilized not just for newsletters but for prayer requests, our weekend prayer vigils, monthly gathering information and other up to date information. It is the quickest way for us as your board to get you the information you need.

If you are interested in serving on a weekend, we have a team service form where you can list exactly how you want to serve. We have multiple opportunities to serve from background to the conference room to candlelight service. I have attached a copy of this form that can be mailed directly to me or sent electronically.

If you have served with a different Walk to Emmaus community, we would love to know about it so we can update our records.

De Colores!
Lyndsay Withey

MINISTRY MANAGER FOR FIRST TIMERS

Ministry Manager is not only a database of CIE members, but also a tool available to all Emmaus communities to assist our ministries. This information is provided to help you with logging in.

To Log In: Go to ministrymanager.upperroom.org.

Select Log In

Use the email address you provided during your most recent weekend (If you did not provide an email address, contact our Data Administrator, Lyndsay Withey, at Lyndsay.withey@gmail.com)

Enter Password.

If this is your first time logging in or you do not remember your password, click “forgot password”.

Account Information: Once you’ve logged in, you can update your contact details by selecting the “My Account” icon. Make sure to “Save” any changes you have made.

Email Preferences: While in “My Account” you can set, change, or update your email preferences by scrolling across the menu that appears under your name and follow the prompts.

Explore Ministry Manager: We are still learning as a community how to utilize all the different offerings from the site. We will list upcoming weekends and hopefully soon, gathering information.

Central Illinois Emmaus Board (2024)

Class of 2024:

Mary Jean Sheets, Past Community Lay Director, Gatherings - Springfield, IL.
Phone: 217-904-4829 Email: mjr101155@gmail.com

Janet Ealey, Secretary - Springfield, IL
Phone: 217-638-0968 Email: janet.ealey.55@gmail.com

Kyle Newnam, Decatur Rep - Clinton, IL
Phone: 217-413-7623 Email: kylefnewnam@gmail.com

Paul Wiseman, Agape Chair, Bylaws Chair, Music committee - Springfield, IL
Phone: 217-899-2908 Email: pwise6831@hotmail.com

Sarah Wiseman, Food Service Chair, Agape committee - Springfield, IL
Phone: 217-553-0553 Email: slw71747@gmail.com

Class of 2025:

Rich Marek, Facilities Chair, Agape Committee - Dawson, IL
Phone: 217-718-7336 Email: lincolnshome04@yahoo.com

Lyndsay Withey, Registrar, Communication Coordinator, Co-Team Selection Chair, Newsletter, Database Administrator, Facebook Administrator - Bloomington, IL
Phone: 309-750-0048 Email: lyndsay.withey@gmail.com

Bob Phelan, Outreach Chair - Buffalo, IL
Phone: 217-816-3192 Email: robertl.phelan1947@yahoo.com

Pat Theobald, Music Chair - Mahomet, IL
Phone: 217-299-0049 Email: pdt31602@gmail.com

Class of 2026

Greg Long, Member at Large – Springfield, IL
Phone: 217-891-4746 Email: gregsquirt98@gmail.com

Amy Haley, Community Lay Director, Training, Orientation - Jacksonville, IL
Phone: 217-719-5130 Email: amyjo8228@gmail.com

Pat Wright, Treasurer, Website Administrator, Co-Team Selection Chair, Music committee - Springfield, IL
Phone: 217-416-1306 Email: patwright2@att.net

Spiritual Director:



Date of Walk _____
 Men or Ladies _____
 Deposit Received: _____
\$50 deposit required with application.

Mail to :
 Lyndsay Withey CIE Registrar
 8 Rutherford Ct
 Bloomington, IL 61705
Lyndsay.withey@gmail.com
 309-750-0048

Circle Bold Answers Below Where Applicable (All information is required)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: (must have to email confirmation letter) _____
 Name Preferred on Name Tag: _____
 Birthdate: _____
 Your Sponsor's name: _____

Single Married Divorce Widowed Separated If Married, Spouse's name: _____

Will They go on an Emmaus Walk? **Yes No** Has Spouse ever attended: **Emmaus Chrysalis Cursillo**

Name of Contact: _____ Emergency Phone# _____

Church now attending: _____ Pastor's Name: _____

In what religious or community organizations are you active: _____

Has the Walk to Emmaus been explained to you? **Yes No**

Have weekly reunions and other Emmaus follow-up meetings been explained? **Yes No**

Are you on a special diet? **Yes No** If so, what? _____

Do you have any health problem or physical handicap which may affect your participation on an Emmaus Weekend?
Yes No If yes please specify:

State briefly why you wish to be involved in an Emmaus Community and what you expect from it.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

All the above information is necessary for your proper placement in a Walk to Emmaus. Please fill in all the blanks. Please enclose a pre-registration deposit of **\$50.00**. This deposit is not refundable. A **\$100.00** donation at registration (\$150 total) is suggested to partially offset the expenses of the weekend. Make your check payable to: **Central Illinois Emmaus Community**



TO BE COMPLETED BY SPONSOR: (Duplicate this form as needed)

Mail to :
Lyndsay Withey CIE Registrar
8 Rutherford Ct
Bloomington, IL 61705
Lyndsay.withey@gmail.com
309-750-0048

Circle Bold Answers Where Applicable (All Information Required)

Sponsor's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Sponsor's Email: _____

Candidate Name: _____

Name and denomination of church you are now attending: _____

You attend regularly? **Yes No** When did you make your Cursillo/Emmaus/Chrysalis Walk? _____

Where? _____ Are you now in a weekly Reunion Group? **Yes No**

Are you praying and sacrificing for your candidate? **Yes No**

How long have you known your candidate? _____ years _____ months

Why do you feel that this person would be a good candidate?

Does the candidate have the physical and mental health needed for an Emmaus Walk? **Yes No**

Is your candidate under any temporary emotional strain which might indicate their weekend should be postponed? **Yes No**

If your candidate is married, do they both plan on attending the Walk to Emmaus? **Yes No**

If not, explain: _____

Are you willing to attend: Sponsor's Hour? **Yes No** Apostolic Hour? **Yes No** The Closing? **Yes No**

Assist your Candidate to get into a weekly Reunion Group? **Yes No**

Are you aware of the importance of minimal contact with the candidate during the weekend, especially if the candidate is your spouse? **Yes No**

Does your candidate need a scholarship from the Central Illinois Emmaus Community? **Yes No**

Husband and wife applications should be submitted at the same time. Any exceptions will be at the discretion of the Spiritual Director and Executive Committee.

Sponsor's Signature: _____



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

Emmaus Weekend Service Application

Mail to:
Central Illinois Emmaus
Team Service Committee
PO Box 13244
Springfield, IL 62791-3244

I would like to serve on an upcoming Central Illinois Emmaus Walks in the areas marked.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone _____ E-mail: _____

Emmaus Walk # _____; Location: _____

Music

I play (name of instrument) _____

I can serve as a musician at:

_____ Sponsors Hour _____ Gut Bucket _____ Apostolic Hour _____ Conference Room

Behind the Scenes

I can serve on:

_____ Facilities Team—Assist with setting up facilities for the walk; set up for sponsors hour; set up for and take down after Apostolic Hour and Candlelight; help clean facility on Sunday; set up for closing and take down and clean up after closing; inventory supplies and pack trailer.

_____ Registration Team—Register pilgrims and team on Thursday and assist with Pilgrim's luggage upon arrival and on departure.

_____ Agape Outpost Team—Assist with Sponsors Hour; distribute Agape during weekend; make up Pilgrim Agape and information packets; assist with conducting Apostolic and Candlelight (hand out and collect candles).

_____ Kitchen Team—Assist in preparation and cooking of food under the supervision of a certified food handler; keep kitchen clean between meals; help serve meals—put food out, set up drink stations, clean-up after meal, assist pilgrims and team by carrying trays, etc.; inventory meal supplies and pack kitchen supplies to be stored in trailer.

_____ Prayer Team—Assist in the Prayer Chapel to ensure the Prayer Chapel has someone present the entire 72 hours of the walk. Participate in the 72-Hour Prayer Vigil

_____ Technology Observer—Assist with technological issues in the conference room.

On a Team

I would like to serve on the Conference Room Team as:

_____ Ordained Clergy _____ Assistant Table Leader _____ Speaker

Have you ever been convicted of any crime, including sex-related or child abuse related offenses?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain (an affirmative response will not automatically bar volunteer service):
