

Walk to Emmaus—The Upper Room—www.CCWTE.org

**2021 SPRING WALKS**

**Easton Presbyterian Church, Easton**



*Due to current circumstances regarding health and safety concerns and regulations surrounding the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2020 Fall Walks have tentatively been rescheduled for March 2021, and will hopefully be held at Easton Presbyterian Church.*

*The new dates are: March 4-7, 2021 for the men, and March 11-14, 2021 for the women. Team meetings are scheduled for January 9 and February 6, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in Easton.*

*If you submitted a work request for Fall 2020, please check your calendar with these new dates in mind, and re-submit your work request if these dates do work for you.*

*Please continue to pray for our world, our leaders, our churches and pastors, those in hospitals and those out of work.*

**Open Board Position:**  
*Supplies Coordinators*

We are still looking for a couple or two friends, to come alongside are current couple. This is a board position.

Mike and Willo Harris do half the job, but another couple or two friends are needed urgently to work with them.

The Supplies people do inventory and restock all supplies used for the Walks. So if you like to organize, do inventory, and shop, this may be a position for you. Also, if you are able to store the Emmaus trailer, and drive a truck that can pull a trailer, that would be very helpful.



**SPRING 2021 WALKS**

**2021 SPRING WALKS:**

**Easton Presbyterian Church, Easton**

**March 4-7, 2021      Men's Walk**

*Peter Arnold, Lay Director*

Team Meetings: Jan. 9 & Feb. 6

**March 11-14, 2021      Women's Walk**

*Elena Anzoleaga, Lay Director*

Team Meetings: Jan. 9 & Feb. 6

CANDLELIGHT..... Saturday, 7:45 p.m.  
MANANITAS..... Sunday, 5:15 a.m.  
CLOSING ..... Sunday, 2:45 p.m.



## President's Message

by *Toni Ginsburg*  
*CCWTE 2020 President*



***“Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face; and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.”***

Greetings Emmaus Brothers and Sisters!

This has certainly been a different year for us! Because of Covid-19, this has been a challenging and much different year than we are used to for the Emmaus Community. The thing I have learned most this year is that we need to believe God's promise for us and to keep our focus on Jesus! Often I have been reminded of the song we sing as we enter the sanctuary for Candlelight Service, “Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face; and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.” Such simple words, but so powerful! So, I just try to remember what I know about what He has taught us, what I have seen myself on Walks, what I have heard on Walks, at Gatherings, and at the Day of Prayer and Praise. I believe we will have all these things again. The love for our Lord, Jesus Christ, and more importantly, His LOVE for us never changes!

It seems so long ago, but I am so grateful we had the Spring Walks in March. You were not aware, but on Thursday afternoon of the Women's Walk, I was standing in the parking lot at Easton Presbyterian Church, on a conference call with two other members of the Emmaus executive board. We were listening to an update of restrictions being imposed that afternoon by the Governor of California and the Health Officials because of the Coronavirus. At that moment, we were weighing the options for moving forward with the Women's Walk or cancelling the Walk. Thankfully, we continued the Women's Walk with additional safety precautions. It was a blessed weekend!!! Praise be to God that no one got sick from the virus, and many on that Walk, including background teams, pilgrims, and on-site teams, saw Jesus that weekend! “For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

I guess it is because we were not able to have the Fall Walks this year, that I think about our Emmaus Walks so much. There is nothing like being with our community. I have been thinking about when I was a pilgrim, as well as the Walks where I have served. It gives me comfort to think about this ministry that God has blessed us with and all the friends we have made over the years. I was talking to someone in our community recently and said that for me Emmaus is the body of Christ. I love my church family, but you truly are my brothers and sisters in Christ. We are a family who has gatherings once a month and Walks at least twice per year, and a day of Prayer and Praise, except for this year! We would be having the Grand Gathering about now, with a potluck picnic at Woodward Park, and voting on the new slate of officers for 2021. Now, all of that will be done online, just as we have conducted our monthly Emmaus Board meetings. Thankfully, Praising Him for giving us new and creative ways to celebrate Him at Emmaus. Recently, we were able to remember our Candlelight and Communion Services with familiar friends, songs, and liturgy, on YouTube. With our focus on Him, I am looking forward to seeing what glorious things God has planned for us and our Emmaus Community in 2021! Praising Our Father that He has given us this Emmaus community, and past Walks to remember to help us navigate this time with a grateful and hope filled heart to glorify Him.

De Colores!  
 Toni Ginsburg, President  
 Central California Walk to Emmaus



# 2020 CCWTE Board of Directors

President.....Toni Ginsburg  
 Past President.....Greg Swan  
 Vice President.....Dan Schwandt  
 Secretary.....Leigh Degiuli  
 Treasurer.....Tracy Swan  
 Women’s Team Selection.....Linda Stephens  
 Men’s Team Selection.....Ralph Chapman  
 Pre-Walk.....Jackie Collins  
 Board Spiritual Advisor.....Dan Horst  
 Fourth Day Coord. ....Norm Baird, Brian MacDougall  
 Valerie Hanneman, Rhonda Morris  
 Newsletter Editor.....Andrea Sweet  
 Music Coordinator.....Kathy Schwamb  
 Supplies.....Mike & Willo Harris  
  
 National Agape & Linen Custodian.....Ilene Luna

## Ex-Officio Members

Database/Historian .....Greg Swan  
 Webmaster.....Robin Button  
 Kitchen Coordinator.....Jaydene Johnson  
 Sound Tech Coordinator.....Chuck Kinney  
 Candlelight Coordinators.....Keith & Toni Edwards  
 Team Trainer.....Maureen Horst  
 Schedule Creators.....Jeff Jones (Men)  
 Toni Ginsburg (Women)



## Welcome New Pilgrims to the CCWTE Emmaus Community!



CCWTE extends a very warm welcome to all those who just completed their Walk this past March. We pray that you will become involved in this blessed ministry — through serving on teams, sponsoring pilgrims, praying, and attending services associated with the Walks (Candlelight, Mananitas, and Closing). Before sponsoring your first pilgrim, it is important that you become fully aware of all that is involved in sponsorship. Sponsorship information is presented at the Gatherings and/or it can be found on-line at [www.ccwte.org](http://www.ccwte.org). You can find an application to serve on a team at the same site also. Just be sure and get your application in as early as possible. As a new pilgrim, you will be serving on either the agape or kitchen team if you desire a live-in position. Serving on either the love team or candlelight team is also an option and does not require you to live on-site the entire weekend. Again, welcome! If you have any question, you may contact any of the board members listed above.

- Ramon & Patricia Amparano
- Elizabeth Hurtado
- Javier & Sylvia Armendariz
- Marty & Debbie Mininger
- Lorraine Camacho
- Michael & Nora Minor
- Russ & Angie Counts
- Sunda Newsome
- Andi Darlow
- Sandy Parks
- Lynell Esquibel
- Rich & Ashley Romberg
- Ken Filbeck
- Alex & Jody Stanners
- Raymond & Sharon Gonzales
- Jeff & Rita Verdugo

*We hope you will come to CCWTE events often so we can get to know you.  
 As wonderful as your Walk most certainly was,  
 working on a team is just as much a blessing!*



# De Colores

# PRAISING THE LORD: NOW & ALWAYS!

**Psalm 136, 100, 37, 145, and 111.** THIS MEDLEY of Psalms stirs the reverent mind. Their words prompt us first to identify God's many blessings, and then to treasure them. Surely God is worthy of intelligent praise. When we bless God we are doing more than praising Him. To "bless" is to praise with affection and gratitude. Having first called upon his own soul, the Psalmist next calls on all men to praise the LORD. His many benefits are not to be forgotten, but people are so forgetful that we are continually exhorted not to.

God's "loving kindness" is better than anything to which we might now compare it; thus it is more to be valued. By "loving kindness" the Psalmist may refer to the spiritual care God exercises over His children. Thus, His loving kindness is of greater worth than even the best of our human experiences. In short, God's loving kindness is "better than life."

We praise Him when we appreciate what God has done for us: His providential assistance, His deliverance from issues and problems. Even when we ourselves initiate actions which result in blessings, we should still praise God. All blessings come through the operation of principles learned from Him.

## GIVING THE GIFT OF EMMAUS

Did you know that each of us has an Emmaus "Family Tree" comprised of those friends and relatives who we have sponsored over the years? It's true! We all know that's how our Community grows, but have you ever taken a moment to consider how many branches are on your own tree? You sponsor someone, then they sponsor someone, and then on and on.

Giving someone the gift of an Emmaus weekend is a treasure of immeasurable worth and one which grows sweeter as friends are made and growth in our Christian walk takes place through serving on teams.

In addition, good, continuous sponsorship ensures that our Community will always enjoy a healthy team base with plenty of people ready to serve — which in turn, hopefully, guarantees a wealth of those who will give the gift of sponsorship. It's a beautiful cycle which has been successful in our Community for a long time.

*"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* Galatians 6:9



## SPONSORSHIP VIDEO AVAILABLE ON-LINE!

The link is:

<https://youtu.be/oyjBUSTgX4k>

This video may be used instead of attending the Sponsorship Talk at one of the Gatherings. However, it is very important to note that if you choose the on-line version, you carefully follow all the steps leading to GOOD SPONSORSHIP. It is your responsibility to ensure that your selection of pilgrims to sponsor and your sponsorship duties have followed the designated guidelines which have been tried and tested over many years, and is one of the main reasons our Community is so healthy.

## Voting for 2021 CCWTE Board of Directors

This year we will be voting online for our 2021 CCWTE Board of Directors. Normally, by this time of year, we would have had a Grand Gathering at Woodward Park and would have voted for the Board at that time.

This year however, we will be voting online starting November 15 through November 30. You will be receiving a **Constant Contact** message just before November 15 that will give you a link in which to vote.

Thank you for taking the time to vote for these servants of our Emmaus Community.

## Prayers to Pray During This Unprecedented Time

- For the sick and infected: God, heal and help. Sustain bodies and spirits. Contain the spread of infection.
- For our vulnerable populations: God, protect our elderly and those suffering from chronic disease. Provide for the poor, especially the uninsured.
- For the young and the strong: God, give them the necessary caution to keep them from unwittingly spreading this disease. Inspire them to help.
- For our local, state, and federal governments: God, help our elected officials as they allocate the necessary resources for combating this pandemic. Help them to provide more tests.
- For our scientific community, leading the charge to understand the disease and communicate its gravity: God, give them knowledge, wisdom, and a persuasive voice.
- For the media, committed to providing up-to-date information: God, help them to communicate with appropriate seriousness without causing panic.
- For consumers of media, looking to be well-informed: God, help us find the most helpful local information to equip us to be good neighbors. Keep us from anxiety and panic, and enable us to implement the recommended strategies, even at a cost to ourselves.
- For those with mental health challenges who feel isolated, anxious, and helpless: God, provide them every necessary support.
- For the homeless, unable to practice the protocols of social distancing in the shelter system: Protect them from disease, and provide isolation shelters in every city.
- For international travelers stuck in foreign countries: God, help them return home safely and quickly.
- For Christian missionaries throughout the world, especially in areas with high rates of infection: God, provide them with words of hope, and equip them to love and serve those around them.
- For workers in a variety of industries facing layoffs and financial hardship: God, keep them from panic, and inspire your church to generously support them.
- For families with young children at home for the foreseeable future: God, help mothers and fathers to partner together creatively for the care and flourishing of their children. For single mothers and fathers, grow their networks of support.
- For parents who cannot stay home from work but must find care for their children: God, present them with creative solutions.

## The Purpose of Team Meetings: A Reminder

The two team meetings are important for all team members to prepare themselves and one another for their responsibilities on the Walk. It is an opportunity for each person's team experience to be a spiritual exercise and an opportunity for spiritual growth. Each talk's preparation offers an opportunity for growth and understanding and practicing the message of that talk. This is a team of persons becoming a Christian community. This community provides the caring environment in which the pilgrims come to live for three days. The preparation that takes place during team meetings builds the team as a Christian community as well as readies the team functionality for the Emmaus Walk. This preparation is what is meant by 'team formation.' Team formation is one of the primary ways in which people learn what Walk to Emmaus really is and how it is led. Through team meetings, the common wisdom of Walk to Emmaus can be passed on effectively to newer members of the Emmaus community, thereby cultivating potential leaders. Without this cultivation, an Emmaus

community will never develop new leaders who are well grounded in the purpose and procedures of the movement. Team formation is crucial because the purpose of Walk to Emmaus is not simply to 'do' weekends but to develop Christian leaders. Team participation nurtures the practical and spiritual skills for Christian leadership in church and community. Persons exercise their gifts and focus their energies for the service to God. Team members learn to articulate their faith in talks, to pray together for others, to lead a group gently in discussions of deep and sensitive subjects, to maintain the humble attitude of a servant, to work as a team, to listen actively to people, and to attend to God's presence amid human interaction.





The following are suggested guidelines for how you *should* progress through the various positions on an Emmaus team. First of all, submitting a work request EARLY is very important. But remember, even if you are qualified for a certain position and sent in your work request early, a spot on any team is not guaranteed. Each team position is prayerfully considered.

These guidelines are printed in each newsletter as a reminder for those who may have forgotten or those new to the Community.

