

Dear Blue Lake Emmaus Community,

It has been 5 months since my last update to you, and I have a great deal to share about our Emmaus ministry plans for this year. We are planning to host the following 3 Emmaus Walks at Blue Lake in 2021.

Walk #	Dates	Lay Director	Spiritual Director	Support Coordinator
272 Women	12-15 Aug	Shevewan Cooper	Dr. Bob McKibben	Becky Rogers
273 Men	9-12 Sept	Trimble Perry	Rev. Bob Bailey	TBD
274 Women	11-14 Nov	Dawn Hall	Rev. John Webb	TBD

The Blue Lake Emmaus ministry is going to operate quite differently than what many of us have experienced in the past. The Emmaus Governing Board appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to rewrite the weekend procedures using a framework of common COVID-19 practices such as wearing masks and physical distancing.

Let me give you a couple examples of the changes we are implementing for 2021. The pilgrims and conference room team will be housed on the first and second floors in the Linwood building. Pilgrim registration on Thursday night will be in the foyer of the gym; and the “meet and greet”, send-off, and sponsor’s hour will also take place in the gym. Additional events throughout the walk experience may take place in alternate locations to allow for social distancing.

The Ad Hoc Committee will work closely with the Blue Lake Staff to ensure the safest practices and procedures possible are put in place. Meanwhile, I strongly encourage everyone to get vaccinated against the Coronavirus. Sponsors please encourage your pilgrims to get vaccinated as well.

I want to encourage the entire Emmaus Community to support the pilgrims that have yet to commit to this Emmaus weekend experience. Please know that the Holy Spirit is already at work in these men and women to prepare them for His purpose. Therefore, please support these pilgrims with your prayers, your presence at Candlelight service, and your gifts of Agape. Mark your calendars now and plan to set aside these weekends to share in our Lord’s unconditional love.

In closing I want to ask each of you to prayerfully consider sponsoring someone on an Emmaus Walk. You can find the current Emmaus Application on the bluelake.us website. Our current waiting lists will be exhausted in 2021. The Emmaus ministry will only continue with your sponsorship. Please don’t let money, Coronavirus, or anything at all be an obstacle to God’s grace that He pours out on all of us during the Walk to Emmaus.

De Colores!

Larry Bates

Chairman, Blue Lake Emmaus Governing Board
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