

**December
2023**

Billings
Walk
To
Emmaus

W2E Times

Important Dates!

CHRISTMAS SING

December 14, 2023
7:00 pm

RETREAT

January 13, 2024
9:00 am

MEN's W2E, #82

January 18-21, 2024

WOMEN's W2E, #83

January 25-28, 2024

POTLUCK

February 3, 2024
5:00 pm

Contact us...

WEBSITE:

billingsemmaus.com

EMAIL:

info@billingsemmaus.com

FACEBOOK:

Billings "Walk to
Emmaus"

MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 1975
Billings, MT 59103

PRAYER REQUESTS

jefferyaday@gmail.com



Messages from our Lay Directors

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Jim Birkelo, Men's Lay Director, W2E #82

I love this time of year; Christmas has always been my favorite holiday ever since I was a kid. The reasons for my excitement have certainly changed as I've gotten older. As a young boy, I waited anxiously for Christmas Eve to come, for the Christmas candlelight service at our Lutheran Church, then home to unwrap my new Christmas pajamas that my mother gave us kids each year. Then off to bed anxiously awaiting to see what Santa dropped off for me. Later years it became more about the traditional Scandinavian treats so lovingly prepared by my mother and grandmother. Treats like Julekake (Norwegian Christmas bread), Krumkake (Norwegian cone shaped wafer cookie, dipped in chocolate and stuffed with fresh whipped cream), and of course Swedish meatballs. I also began to truly understand the magnitude of the Gift we were all given by God. The greatest GIFT we've ever received; the GIFT from God of His only Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

One of the great gifts I was given was the experience of a Walk weekend. From Acts 20:35, "the Lord Jesus Himself said: 'it is more blessed to give than to receive'". The Walk to Emmaus has been such a great gift to me, and sponsorship would be a great gift to give to someone you know and love. Please consider the gift of sponsorship for someone who can use a "refresh" in their walk with the Lord. A weekend full of the Love and Grace from our Heavenly Father is a gift that will last a lifetime...and beyond!

Preparations are under way now and have been going on for the past few months. Teams are in place and working on their talks, numerous committees are working on the things necessary to make The Walk such a successful weekend for our pilgrims. It takes a small army of loving volunteers to make the Walks happen; theirs is a true gift of love and generosity that is so appreciated! If you'd like to gift your time by volunteering to either the women's or men's walk, let us know, we would love to put you to work!

Yes, I love this time of the year, the season of celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ our Lord, getting together with families and loved ones, and the anticipation of knowing that right around the corner, we'll celebrate yet another Walk to Emmaus. It truly is the MOST wonderful time of the year!

Blessings and DeColores!

Jim Birkelo

It Only Takes a Spark

Angie Klier, Women's Lay Director, W2E #83

Mid-October this year, our first team meeting was complete, and feelings of excitement filled my soul. The next weekend, Jeff and I headed to the mountains for one final camping trip of the year. The air was cool as snow blanketed the tops of the mountains. In the valley there was a contrasting beauty of Fall revealing God's amazing change of seasons. As we were sitting by the campfire one evening, an old camp song hit my soul ***"it only takes a spark to get a fire going and soon all those around can warm up to its glowing, that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it. You spread his love to everyone, you want to pass it on."*** (Were you singing it with me? 🎵) Just as this campfire was warming me physically, the Walk to Emmaus warms me spiritually!

I think about our walk weekends and how many people have attended them over the years. The legacy of loved ones we've lost and the magnificent love that is poured into these weekends both past and future. The song rang true in my heart... ***"It only takes a spark."*** One person doing something to make a difference in the world for Christ. And so it is with these upcoming walk weekends. There are many team members getting ready with their spark lit to share and pour into the lives of pilgrims. Numerous individuals are already preparing on committees that will work behind the scenes to fan the flames all weekend long. And let's not forget our Great God who will send the Holy Spirit to be present to make sure the sparks and flames become a raging fire! Can you feel the excitement? Can you feel yourself warming up inside with the grace and love of God that you know will be so evident during these weekends? It only takes a spark! Is your spark feeling a little cool? Do you need to step closer to the fire? What better way to reignite your spark than spending time serving during one of the walk weekends! Step closer to the love of God and the love of the Walk community and feel your spark begin to warm.

Do you know someone who needs help tending their spark? Think about being a sponsor for them. Pass on the opportunity for them to rekindle their spark as they bask in God's love for the weekend. After all, we want to spread God's love to everyone!

Let's all walk away from these weekends singing ***"I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found. You can depend on Him, it matters not where you're bound, I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know, The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on"*** (I hope you sang this verse too, or shouted it from the mountain top! 🎵)

DeColores, dear brothers and sisters in Christ! ❤️

Angie Klier

**NAME ABOVE
ALL NAMES**
(cont. from last month)

In PHILEMON
He is a Friend that
sticks closer than a
brother

In HEBREWS
He is the Blood
of the everlasting
covenant

In JAMES it is the
Lord that heals the sick

In 1st & 2nd PETER
He is the
Chief Shepherd

In 1ST, 2ND & 3rd JOHN
It is Jesus who has the
tenderness of love

In JUDE He is the
Lord coming with
10,000 saints

In REVELATION
Lift up your eyes,
Church, for your
redemption draweth
nigh-- He is the King of
kings and Lord of lords

SPONSORSHIP is the most important role in the Emmaus community. God passes His love from person to person and as a sponsor you will underline that fact by passing on your Emmaus experience to another. Your aim in sponsorship should not be to get all your friends to go or to fix everyone's problems, but to build up the Body of Christ. Emmaus' purpose is to bring renewal to Christians so that they will go home and bring renewal to their homes, churches and communities.



APPLICATIONS for Walk to Emmaus pilgrims and sponsors
must be completed online. Go to our website billingsemmaus.com
and click on these tabs...



Complete the required information and click on "SUBMIT".
If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Becky at
WTE1982@outlook.com or (406) 672-1194.



Have you signed up to participate in the 96-hour **PRAYER VIGIL**
during our Walk to Emmaus weekends? Your prayers will be a
wonderful blessing to all of the participants. Go to our website,
billingsemmaus.com and click on these tabs...



You can sign up for ½ hour slots. Be sure to scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "I AM NOT A ROBOT" and "SUBMIT" in order to save your selections. You can pray in the privacy of your home or wherever you go about your day. Call Carol & Dennis (406) 860-5252 if you need assistance.

God bless our 2024 team members.

MEN'S TEAM	POSITION	WOMEN'S TEAM
Jim Birkelo	Lay Director	Angie Klier
Glenn Paulson	Vice Lay Director	Sherry Dompier
John Goodheart	Assistant Vice Lay Director	Becky Muller
Tim Guenthner	Board Liaison	Nancy Barbula
Rev. Tim Hathaway	Spiritual Director	Rev. Tim Hathaway
Rev. Angie Dornisch	Spiritual Director	Rev. Angie Dornisch
Larry Adkins	Table Leader	Beth Ayers
Dave Bergeson	Table Leader	Julie Berve
Jim Berve	Table Leader	Jan Brost
Gabe Blomquist	Table Leader	Angie Buckley
Mike Brown	Table Leader	Paula Coram
Jeff Day	Table Leader	Heather Gaitonde
Jeff Hert	Table Leader	Karen Graf
Jeff Klier	Table Leader	Tabitha Kroll
Josh Kroll	Table Leader	Michelle McCoy
Greg Pedersen	Table Leader	Kris McFadyean
Joe Steiner	Table Leader	Norma Salinas
Mike Weber	Table Leader	Laurie Swartz
Darrell Williams	Table Leader	Bunnie Weickum
Bryan Wilson	Table Leader	Kayla Weigler
Ryan Wittman	Table Leader	

END-OF-YEAR GIVING

As you plan your year-end giving, we ask that you consider a contribution to the Billings Walk to Emmaus so potential Pilgrims can share in the same life changing weekend that you enjoyed. Since we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all contributions are tax deductible. Donations can be mailed to: Billings Walk to Emmaus, PO Box 1975, Billings, Mt. 59103.

Merry Christmas!