



EMMAUS NEWS



Newsletter of the Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community

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A message from our Community Lay Director

Gatherings 2026 @ O'Connor UC

Saturdays 2pm - 5pm

13 Jun: Gathering including After Walk Celebration and Meet the Board

11 Jul: Gathering

8 Aug: Gathering including Commissioning of Going Fourth #20 LD and SD

10 Oct: Country Gathering location tba

14 Nov: Gathering including Board Elections if required

12 Dec: 12.30pm BBQ Gathering

Events @ O'Connor UC

12 Sep: 10am-5pm Going Fourth

(2026 calendar is at the end of the Newsletter)



2026 Mission Statement: 'To be about our Father's business'

Dear Emmaus Family, Welcome to Winter!

Let me begin by welcoming our newest Community members - the 13 fabulous pilgrims from

Walks #99 and #100!

We are blessed to have you join us. Welcome to your first Newsletter. Grab a cuppa and settle in for a read...

News to share...

Walks #99 & #100 are complete!

Isn't it a marvellous privilege to be part of those 72hrs of pressing into God?

Stopping long enough to hear from Him, being loved by Him through countless forms of agape, worshiping Him and being His hands and feet.

We, as Community, pulled together to make this happen. You could say we were diligently about our Father's

business – so a huge shout of appreciation to you all – for being brave in attending, serving, creating and praying.

The Walk Wrap Up

It is well underway but cannot conclude until both Teams get together for their Team Debrief – June 13 from 11am-1pm at O'Connor. I know your Walk Lay Directors will appreciate seeing you there!

😊 Stay and grab lunch together before the 2pm Gathering!

After Walk Gathering – A Celebration!

This Gathering has three important purposes!

1. Our opportunity as Community, to praise God for His guidance and presence across Training and during the Walks.
2. Our celebration and welcome for our new Community members.
3. A chance to meet the Board and hear about opportunities to serve, share your skills and bless others.

Come and join the Worship, gain insight and encouragement from two Fourth Day Talks, share Communion and catch up for a chat over Afternoon Tea. See you there!

National Emmaus Update

The **National Emmaus Conference** was held on 28 March with the **Theme: 'WALKING IN FAITH - JOURNEYING TOGETHER'**. A recording was made so you can jump in and hear from the new Director of Emmaus Ministries worldwide, Brittany Sky and Emmaus Ministries regional leader for Africa, Nigel Warr [Nat Conf Videos - Google Drive](#).

I highly recommend you check out both. We are part of a movement that is world-wide. It is amazing to hear more...

Bless your reading as you catch up on more of our Community news.

De Colores, ...and God Bless

Von

PS: Please reach out if you have questions or ideas about our Community – I'd love to chat with you.

Mobile: 0412 800 266 or email: cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au

Our next Gathering is at 2pm on Saturday 13 June @ O'Connor Uniting Church and includes an After Walk Celebration and an opportunity to meet the Emmaus Board.



A message from our Community Spiritual Director



Hi Emmaus
Community.

With only a short while since the completion of Walks #99 and #100 it made me reflect on when the Canberra Monaro Walks began in 1990 and it is amazing to realise what God has done through this ministry in our

personal lives as well as in our Community.

It reminded me of the Scripture from Psalm 133 which says that it is good and pleasant when brothers [and sisters] dwell in unity and then in verse 3 it says this commands a blessing from the Lord. When one reflects on the Walk preparations, the coming together in serving out at Greenhills, let alone all the getting together to make agape, I am so blessed by this Community that so pulls together to make the Pilgrim's Walk to Emmaus special.

I personally felt, and received, amazing support with my husband becoming very ill during the training and also on the Walk and I wish to sincerely thank those of you for helping me to remain committed to my ASD role on the Women's Walk as well as care for him.

For the message for this Newsletter I wish to recap on the messages I gave as CSD at the Closing of both Walks.

For the Men's Walk the Scripture was from Genesis 18:14, "Is anything too hard [or difficult in some versions] for the Lord?" This Scripture was given to Abraham when the Lord promised him and Sarah offspring, and that he would become a great nation even though they were past child-bearing age. I felt the Lord wanted to stress to the men folk that though they may face challenges in their up and

coming 4th Days that God had plans and purposes for them and those things that they shared would not be too difficult for the Lord to bring to pass. It is a good reminder actually for all of us especially when the challenges start to come, to remember that "Nothing is too difficult for the Lord." This is the time to stand on faith and be willing to wait for the Lord's timing and promises to come to pass.

For the Women's Closing, the Scripture the Lord laid on my heart was from Matthew 1:21-23, a Scripture usually read at Christmas time. It was the last part of that reading that I emphasised: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel." Now 'Immanuel, 'means 'God with us.' which I wanted the Ladies to grasp as they were heading into their 4th Days. To emphasise this point that 'God is with us' I had come across a picture of Charlie Brown on Facebook a while ago which I included in the pilgrims letter bags which said:

"God never sends you into a situation alone.

He goes before you.

He walks behind you'

Whatever situation you are in right now, be confident.

HE IS WITH YOU. Amen"

I did remind everyone that though I mentioned this as from Charlie Brown we needed to remember it first came from the precious Word of God.

So the two key things coming from the Closings is not just for the Pilgrims of Walks #99 and #100, but for all of us as we live out our daily lives with its ups and downs: we all need to remember that, "Nothing is too difficult for the Lord," and "God is with us".

De Colores

Joy Waldron

Walk #99 and #100 News

Report from Jill Pearson, WLD of Walk #100

Thank you, Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community for pouring out your love and prayers on the Team and Pilgrims of Walk #100.



Many on the Team had to deal with challenging health and personal issues throughout the training period, but by the time of the Walk, those concerns were covered by your prayers. What a blessing!



I found this photo of Parliament House adorned by a rainbow, and it reminded me of

God's faithfulness throughout the Team formation, training, and on the Walk. When I think about who ended up being part of walk #100 - (both Team and Pilgrims), I feel so encouraged. When it felt as though I was floundering in the dark, God's hand was still on it, as He knew the bigger picture.

I can't downplay the work put in by each Team member, but it really did feel like a gentle Walk. Everyone seemed to be pulling together for the betterment of the whole Team, focusing on the finish line, and the outcome was good.

God touched each of us individually and collectively.

There were times on the Walk where the music seemed to be like a download from heaven itself. Such a privilege to be a part of it.

My earnest prayer is that God continues to work in each of us into our "Fourth Days".

De Colores

Jill (Emmaus Walk #100 LD)

Report from Andrew Johnson, WLD of Walk #99

Andrew is currently overseas and will provide a report for the next Newsletter.



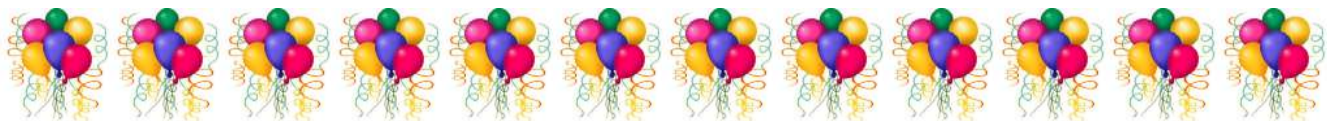
Parish Notices

Floriade is coming to O'Connor Uniting Church

Exciting news! O'Connor Uniting Church will be participating in the Floriade Community program this year.

Their gardener, Ross, is looking for volunteers to help plant the bulbs on Saturday 13 June at 10.00am.

This coincides with our June Gathering and Post-Walk celebration, so come along a little earlier and help plant a bulb or two!



Do you listen to 1WayFM?

It's important to have a Christian voice on our local airwaves as yet another way for God to reach His people. Another way that God can prompt us through our days.

1WayFM has relaunched and is changing things up.

Did you know it's mostly run by volunteers? Did you know that if ongoing financial support isn't available, the station may have to close.

Can you help? Find out more: [Homepage - 1WAY FM](#)



Emmaus Board Members - contact details

Emmaus Role	Name	Email
Community Lay Director (CLD)	Von Chenery	cld@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au
Community Spiritual Director (CSD)	Joy Waldron	csd@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au
Secretary	Andy Visser	secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au
Treasurer	Andrew Chenery	treasurer@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au
Registrar	Michelle Southwell	registrar@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au
Gathering Coordinator	Andrew Carroll	
Music Coordinator	Michael Young	
Training and Education Coordinator	Kat Santosuosso	
Community Member	Jane Barr	
Non-Board Member Roles		
Web Administrator	Neil Glassford	webadmin@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au
Agape Coordinator	Vacant	



Noticeboard

Direct donations

Have you thought that instead of making a one-off donation at a Gathering, you could make a regular weekly, fortnightly or monthly donation? By doing this, you will help ensure that we can keep supporting Pilgrims and meet the running costs of Emmaus. To make a direct deposit use the following details:

Name of bank account: Canberra Monaro Emmaus Community

Bsb: 634634, Account Number: 100021977

Reference: your name

Credit card payments

Our Community utilises a Square Card – tap and go service.

You don't have to pay with cash. Pay with credit or debit card at any Gathering - a Board member can help!

Emmaus Newsletters

You can opt in to receive Newsletters from both the Australian Emmaus Community and the Upper Room.

News from the Australian Emmaus Community

[News \(emmaus.org.au\)](http://emmaus.org.au)

News from the International Emmaus Community

The Upper Room Newsletter can be accessed through their website [here](#)

Reunion groups can use zoom

Emmaus has a Zoom license that is available for all the Emmaus Community. If you would like to use it to hold a Reunion Group Meeting, Bible Study, Team Meeting or to have a chat with friends over coffee, then please use it, that is why we have it.

Just contact Andy Visser at secretary@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au to book in your meeting

Lost your Emmaus Name Badge??

You can order a new Emmaus name badge by sending your name (first and last name) to our Registrar Michelle Southwell at

registrar@canberramonaro.emmaus.org.au



Canberra Monaro Emmaus Calendar 2026_{v7}

MAY	Sat	2	Men's Walk #99 Candlelighting Service - Community	8pm	Weston Creek UC
	Sun	3	Closing Ceremony – Greenhills	3.45pm	Greenhills
	Mon	4	Board Meeting	7.30pm – 9.30pm	Zoom
	Thurs	14	Women's Walk #100 – Team 3pm onwards	7pm Pilgrims	Greenhills
	Sat	16	Candlelighting Service – Community	8pm	Weston Creek UC
	Sun	17	Closing Ceremony - Greenhills	3.45pm	Greenhills
	Sun	31	Newsletter		Email to Community
JUN		1	ACT – Reconciliation Day		
		8	King's Birthday		
	Sat	13	Walks #99 and #100 Teams Debrief	11am – 1pm	O'Connor UC
		13	Gathering – After Walk Celebration Meet the Board	2pm – 5pm	O'Connor UC
	Mon	15	Board Meeting	7.30pm – 9.30pm	Zoom
JUL	Sat	11	Board Meeting	11am – 1pm	O'Connor UC
	Sat	11	Gathering	2pm – 5pm	O'Connor UC
	Thurs	31	Newsletter		Email to Community
AUG	Sat	8	Team Selection Walks #101 & #102 (2027)	11am – 1pm	O'Connor UC
		8	Gathering + Commissioning GFLDs and GFSD #20	2pm – 5pm	O'Connor UC
	Mon	10	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Sat	22	Going Fourth Team Training	10am – 5pm	O'Connor UC
SEP	Mon	7	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
	Sat	12	Going Fourth #20	10am – 5pm	O'Connor UC
	Wed	30	Newsletter		Email to Community
OCT	Mon	5	Labour Day		
	Sat	10	Country Gathering	2pm – 5pm	TBC
	Mon	12	Board Meeting	7.30pm	Zoom
NOV	Sat	14	Board Meeting	11am – 1pm	O'Connor UC
		14	Gathering (Board Elections if required)	2pm – 5pm	O'Connor UC
	Mon	30	Newsletter		Email to Community
DEC	Sat	12	BBQ Gathering	12.30pm	O'Connor UC

2026 Going Fourth #20 | 12 September 2026

2026 Public Holidays

ACT		NSW	
Reconciliation Day	Monday 1 June	King's Birthday	Monday 8 June
King's Birthday	Monday 8 June	Bank Holiday	Monday 3 August
Labour Day	Monday 5 October	Labour Day	Monday 5 October
Christmas Day	Friday 25 December	Christmas Day	Friday 25 December
Boxing Day	Saturday 26 December	Boxing Day	Saturday 26 December
Additional Day	Monday 28 December	Additional Day	Monday 28 December

2026 School Terms

School Terms	NSW 2026	ACT 2026
Term 2	Mon 22 Apr – Fri 3 July	Tue 21 Apr – Fri 3 July
Term 3	Tue 21 July – Fri 25 Sep	Tue 21 July – Fri 25 Sept
Term 4	Tue 13 Oct – Thur 17 Dec	Tue 13 Oct – Fri 18 Dec