

## SPRING WALK DATES

**Mens': April 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>**

**Womens': April 27<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup>**

As the Spring walks are around the corner, it is important to be diligent in contacting potential pilgrims and getting them registered. The sooner they are registered, the smoother the walk will be. If you have been a part of the Emmaus Community for any amount of time, you probably realize that potential pilgrims may not be able to commit the first, second or third time the walks are held. We have found that the walk for each pilgrim is something that will occur in God's time. That is why it is important to keep in touch with that potential pilgrim. As time goes by it is more difficult to keep track of who you have spoken to and what they said. Here are a few suggestions that may help with your pursuit of those potential pilgrims.

- Pray and ask God to lead you to those you should invite.
- Place a blank notecard in your Bible as it is likely that those you invite will be people you encounter in church, Bible study, or other gatherings.
- Write the date, name, and contact information of the person you approach in your note card if they have shown a favorable response. Document their response (Example: has heard about it from friends and always thought it would be interesting to do.) Be sure to answer any questions they may have. Again, write the encounter in your note card. Hopefully, your person will want to commit to registering, but if they can't, just document the reason and tell them you will contact them before the next Walk.
- Follow back up with your pilgrim and give them information. Dates and times.
- Keep that notecard with all the names in your Bible. It serves as an excellent reminder to be in prayer for your pilgrims every time you read the Word.
- Follow back up with the pilgrim. Send texts, emails, or phone calls just to remind them how excited you are for them. Emphasizing the Walk is quality time with Christ and how life changing it can be.

## Replenishing Our Supplies

**Remember to bring Round or Rectangle tablecloths of any color to the March 17th Gathering so that we can restock our Supplies.**



# Love Overcomes Virtually Everything

Sandy Ott

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**34** A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. **35** By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. [John 13:34-35](#)

February has long been considered the “Month of Love”. Some embrace it and go all in on the idea of Valentine’s Day, showering their loved ones with special tokens showing their affection, while others simply do not subscribe to the holiday saying it is a commercial gimmick to sell more stuff that we do not need. Then are yet those who have experienced difficulties on or around the holiday, or at least it seems their hopes for some special someone or experience has been dashed by outside forces and they have been let down yet again so instead of looking forward to being with a loved one they become anxious instead.

Maybe, the concept has been built upon unreasonable expectations that many individuals simply cannot live up to. So, instead of considering this month or even the single day as a celebration of human love for a spouse or significant other, let’s consider it an opportunity to express the Love of God to those around us. Instead of looking forward to a special dinner or gift received, let’s look for something we can do or say to encourage others this month and always.

I like this quote from C.S. Lewis:

Why did God give them free will? Because free will, though it makes evil possible, is also the only thing that makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having. --**C. S. Lewis**

Love is a choice. Love is something that must be given willingly. It cannot be forced. It cannot be ordered or even ordained. True love is only possible through a relationship with God. We cannot give what we have not first received. Our love is how we will be recognized as children of God.

Love is not a fuzzy feeling. It is an action and a choice.

- It is showing kindness to someone who gets on your last nerve.
- It is a smile and an encouraging word to the server, cashier, attendant at the store, the restaurant or business you are at.
- It is a willingness to overlook a perceived slight in favor of forgiveness.
- It is a listening ear when a friend, or even a stranger, needs to talk
- It is prayer, lifting others to the throne of God, even if or especially when you don’t like them.
- It is what allows us to overcome what the world throws at us.

Love is what helps us be overcomers!

No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

1 John 4:12 ESV