



EMMAUS MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN 2022



Greetings in the Christ's Name,

It is only a short time until we meet again – virtually!

God's help has been evident during that time.

There will be several changes to the National Board – I will be retiring from the position of National Lay Director and a new National Lay Director will be elected at that meeting. A new National spiritual Director will also take up the reigns, as will a National Treasurer.

The new team will have challenges and opportunities and with your support and prayers they will continue to serve.

I also wish to thank the Upper Room for their support, particularly for Australia. They have had to restructure in many ways to keep the Emmaus Ministries relevant and fresh.

I look forward to meeting you and working through the issues that are before us.



De Colores,

David Nivala

National Lay Director



2022 National Secretariat Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Saturday 2nd April



Meeting information will be provided to registered participants.

BRUCE CORNISH

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

“Reflection”

Greetings everyone in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

This article for the newsletter will be my last as National Spiritual Director of Emmaus. It has certainly been a turbulent and challenging period of time.

I took up the role with enthusiasm 4 years ago while I was in my last year of ministry before retiring. I had anticipated in retirement for the last couple of years of my term (usually 3 years) to have been able to visit some other communities across Australia to hopefully be an encouragement. That did not happen.

As I mentioned the usual term is 3 years but with the Covid journey we have all been on, both the National Lay Director (David Nivala) and myself agreed to serve an extra year in our respective roles. It is with much pleasure and joy that I am able to hand over to Christine Rose as the newly elected National Spiritual Director. She will assume the role from the National Secretariat meeting to be held via Zoom on 2nd April. We will ‘virtually’ commission Christine into the role. My prayer for Christine is that the next 3 years will gradually return to more pre Covid normal operation for Emmaus in Australia.

As some of you will be aware, a number of communities across the world and in Australia have struggled during the last 2 years. One such is my own here in North Queensland. I hope to be able to support our community more into the future and perhaps be a part of reinvigorating us. We continue to uphold all communities in our prayers. It is a joy though to also acknowledge that there are several communities across Australia who

have not only survived but thrived during the last 2 years. A number of Emmaus Walks, Chrysalis Flights and Face to Face Encounters have been able to be held across Australia in recent times. It was fantastic to be a part of the Zoom Mega gathering coordinated so professionally by the Canberra-Monaro Emmaus Community. That community continues to go from strength to strength, as do others.

As I write this reflection a tragedy continues to unfold in the Ukraine. We do not know where this will end or what will be the effect worldwide. We can only pray for peace and wisdom and for the Russian leadership to seek peace not continuing war. By the time this reflection is in the newsletter there will likely be a clearer picture of the situation.

Also, as I write this there is a natural flooding disaster in Southeast Queensland and northern NSW. There have been a number of deaths and many houses and businesses flooded. Once again by the time this is read, the full extent of the flooding will be known and probably forgotten by all but those directly affected. Flooding in Lismore is the worst for 100 years or more.

Sunday 27th February we celebrated Transfiguration Sunday when Jesus took Peter, James and John up onto the mountain where he was transfigured before them. He conversed with Elijah and Moses and God spoke from a cloud, reminding the disciples that Jesus was God’s son and commanding them to listen to him. One of the most important points of that story does not take place on the mountain top at all.



³⁷ *The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him.*

They came **down** the mountain to the world where pain and suffering, hardship and joy, frustrations and encouragement happens, **but Jesus was with them**. They did not stay on the mountain as Peter wanted but Jesus brought them back down to the valley from the mountaintop into a broken world where the first thing he did was heal a boy who was fitting.

The Ukraine, Russia, the flooded regions of Queensland and NSW and many other places where people are suffering are not on the mountain top where all is light and fine but, in the valley, where there is suffering, pain, even death. It is there that **Jesus is with them** (and us).

My prayer as you continue to walk this journey called life, is that you will each experience the joy and encouragement of Jesus walking with you in the valley. Our Emmaus journey has as its focus the Walk to Emmaus where Cleopas and his companion met the risen Jesus.

May the risen Jesus be with you all, now and always in ALL of your life’s circumstances.

Every Blessing, De Colores

Bruce Cornish

PHIL JENNINGS NATIONAL SECRETARY

“Blessings to all”

Welcome to another new year, which we all hope will see a further easing of Covid restrictions and more of our communities being able to hold walks flights and encounters, as well as gatherings and other activities.

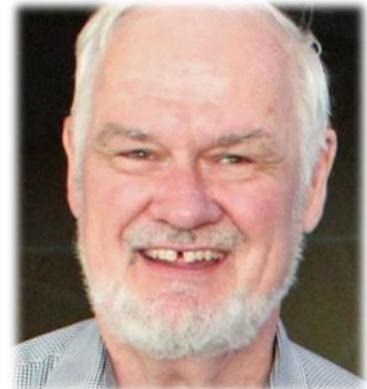
Firstly it was great to join with around 50 other Emmaus people from all over Australia in the National Zoom Gathering, ably hosted by the Canberra Monaro Community on the 26th February. I’m hoping that, even after the worst of the pandemic is behind us, these Zoom gatherings will continue into the future, perhaps 2 or 3 each year.

The National Board and the Darling Downs Community have decided to again postpone the National Conference. This decision was based on restrictions imposed by the boarding school venue, as well as a cautious health approach for the age range of many conference participants.

A Zoom Secretariat Annual General Meeting will be held on the after-

noon of Saturday 2nd April. This is open to all Emmaus members although voting rights are restricted to Community Lay Directors, Community Spiritual Directors and national board members. The agenda will include national portfolio reports and election of a new National Lay Director, Treasurer and Secretary. Nomination forms can be found on the website (link). Further details including the Zoom link will be sent out closer to the meeting date. There will also be a short national Zoom commissioning gathering and holy communion following the meeting.

It was good to receive updated board contacts details from a number of communities and to welcome several new Community Lay Directors, Community Spiritual Directors and other local board members and supporters. Emmaus particularly encourages the raising up of new leaders and helpers (“progressive servanthood”). A few communities advised that they are still to have their elections or are still trying to fill vacancies.



I have also sent out the 2022 Covenant Agreements and signing pages to all Community Secretaries and CLDs. I would appreciate it if you could return the signed pages to me by Friday 25th March.

May God’s richest blessings be upon each of you as you reinvigorate your Fourth Days and seek His will in participating in Emmaus Ministries activities in your local area.

De Colores

Phil Jennings

secretary@emmaus.com.au



MARGARET NIETHE

NATIONAL FACE TO FACE COORDINATOR

Face to Face Encounter Update

God, through the Holy Spirit is certainly in control in the midst of disaster (torrential rain & floods) and the challenge of a defying Covid climate, Brisbane South Community continues to forge ahead with the plans and training for Encounter 2.

The excitement is growing as Brisbane South Emmaus Community leads the way out of our Covid challenge. Stan Dudgeon the Lay Director for Encounter 2 in this 'we will not be moved' community; has a 'Keep on, keeping on attitude', as he encourages the Team to readiness.

It is a joy that I share in this Encounter will take place @ Real Life Christian Church (formerly Logan Uniting). The team called by God will be Commissioned at the community gathering on March 5.

Come be a part of the blessings for participants.

Candlelighting will be held March 21st beginning @ 1.25pm with Worship.

Closing will be held March 28, service begins @ 2.05pm.

Please uphold this community in prayer as they forge the identity of Emmaus Ministries through this Face to Face Encounter.



Please sign up for the Prayer Vigil.

Yours in Christ

Margaret Niethe



Active Prayer Vigils

Please support your Emmaus Communities in Prayer!



Prayer Vigils

Thankyou.



if you don't have time to
pray & read
scriptures,
 you are busier than
God
 ever intended you to be.

National Board Nominations

The Emmaus Australia Secretariat is the governing body of Emmaus Ministries in Australia and consists of two representatives of each community, plus National Board members. It meets once a year, in the national conference normally held in April or May. The Emmaus Australia National Board (EANB) is the executive arm of the Secretariat and handles the month-by-month business of the movement on behalf of the Secretariat. Officers generally serve for a three year period.

The Emmaus National Board is now seeking nominations for the following positions starting April 2022:

- ◆ NLD elect
- ◆ Secretary elect

for a three year term to take office in April 2022, and attend National Board Meetings (Zoom) and understudy the respective roles until a transition is complete.

It is preferable that nominees have held similar positions in an Emmaus Community. They must have given their consent and, nominations must be endorsed by the Board of their own Community.

Nomination Forms have been emailed to community CLDs, CSDs and Secretaries and are also available on the website: [Nomination Forms](#).

For further information please contact:

David Nivala (National Lay Director):

nld@emmaus.org.au or,

Phil Jennings (National Secretary):

secretary@emmaus.org.au



Written nominations should be sent to the Secretary, Phil Jennings, at secretary@emmaus.org.au or post to 29 Ruthven Avenue Glandore SA 5037.

Please prayerfully consider how you may be involved in this important service to Emmaus Ministries in Australia.

Community Connections



<https://emmaus.org.au>



<https://www.facebook.com/AustralianWalkToEmmaus/>