



Merry Christmas!

November / December 2016

Reflections by Betty Janke

Thanksgiving Thoughts

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name. (Psalm 100:4)

We have received much mercy and grace from our loving Heavenly Father. How can we live without giving thanks and praise to Him. His mercy invites us to enter into his gates with praise and thankfulness. We honor God as we praise him.

Thanks be to God for his great love and mercy and grace. As we praise Him in our heart as well as with our voices He takes joy and He blesses us.

He has blessed us abundantly. May we in return praise him. May we praise his holy name.

In this season of Thanksgiving may we look past our concerns and problems. May we give honor and praise to God, our Heavenly Father, to Jesus our Savior, and to the Holy Spirit who is worthy of all thanks and praise.

As we give thanks let us remember the blessings that have been ours as we took our walk as Pilgrims during our Walk to Emmaus and even more recently as we have shared in community happenings.

Christmas is a time of sharing gifts.

A wonderful gift is available to give to others as we share the information about the upcoming walks to be held for men: March 23-26, 2017 and women: March 30-April 2, 2017 at Inspiration Hills.

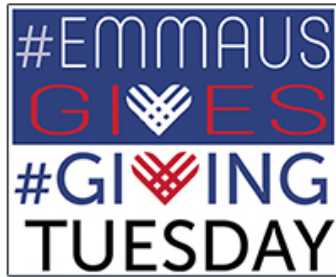
You can obtain information and application forms to share by going to the website:

DakotasWalk.org. Please consider giving a registration or full payment for a walk to your adult children or other friends or family members. Next Thanksgiving Day you will all have special memories to give thanks over as you gather and count your blessings!

A blessed Thanksgiving to you and your loved ones.

Love and Prayers,
Betty Janke,
DWTE Board Secretary

WE ARE PRAYING FOR YOU



What is
#EmmausGives on #GivingTuesday?
[CLICK HERE.](#)

GIVE TODAY

THE GIFT is a love offering for emerging Emmaus communities around the world. The fundraising initiative is led by the International Office of Emmaus of The Upper Room.

When you contribute to The Gift, you help others respond to their call to Christian leadership. Your financial support assists emerging communities with start-up needs such as leadership training, program resources, and more.

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in us the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.
O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit
we may be truly wise
and ever enjoy your consolations.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Your GIFT Funds at Work This Year:

As groups like Boko Haram and ISIS threaten to spread violence across the continent of Africa, church leaders in Central Africa are organizing to form a line of prayer that reaches from the east to the west coast. Nigel Warr, the regional leader of The Walk to Emmaus in Africa explains:

“Church leaders in this region had a vision to develop a barrier to stop ISIS from spreading further south, and they identified The Walk to Emmaus as a leadership development program to create leaders in Central Africa and to encourage people to get more involved and spread the word of Christ in this region.”

Your donations to “The Gift” provide scholarship funds and help cover travel and lodging expenses for emerging communities like the one launching in Kenya by 2017.

Who should go to Emmaus?

Emmaus is open to members of any Christian denomination. Emmaus is for the development of Christian leaders who:

- Are members of a local church
- Have a desire to strengthen their spiritual lives
- May have unanswered questions about their faith
- Understand that being a Christian involves responsibility

Are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner

What happens on the Emmaus Weekend?

You will enjoy three days of singing, learning, laughing, worshiping, reflecting, praying and participating in small groups. Discussions center around fifteen talks given by laity and clergy. These talks present the theme of God's grace, how that grace comes alive in the Christian community and how it is expressed in the world. You'll also discover how grace is real in your life, how you live a life of grace, and how you bring that grace to others.

You will have the opportunity to participate in the daily celebration of Holy Communion and to understand more fully the body of Christ. You will experience God's grace through the prayers and acts of anonymous service offered by the Emmaus community. You will leave with an experience of Christian love in action that will equip you for new levels of grace-filled service and leadership.

What Happens After the Emmaus Weekend?

You are invited to have a closer walk with Christ for the rest of your life; this is called the Fourth Day. Those who attend a Walk to Emmaus are encouraged to:

- Expand their own spiritual lives through worship, study and active participation in their local church
- Become more active disciples of Christ in service to the world

To nurture this process of discipleship, the Emmaus movement offers specific opportunities. First, groups of four to six people meet weekly to reflect on their spiritual journey and encourage one another in accountable discipleship. Second, there are monthly community gatherings where Emmaus participants meet for fellowship, worship and instruction. Third, community members are regularly informed of the support needs of upcoming Walk to Emmaus weekends, and other opportunities for servant leadership.

A Journey with Christ

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. – Luke 24:15

Mission:

Empowering Leaders to be the hands and feet of Christ

Vision:

Fourth Day Leaders
Embodying Jesus Christ

“I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth in mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfill God's creational intentions.”

-- Unknown



Consider a GIFT of *The Walk to Emmaus* for an individual you know would benefit from The Walk to Emmaus.

There are two wonderful videos available for review.

One is *An Introduction to Walk to Emmaus*. It can be found at this link:
<https://player.vimeo.com/video/8697255?byline=0&portrait=0&color=ff4529>

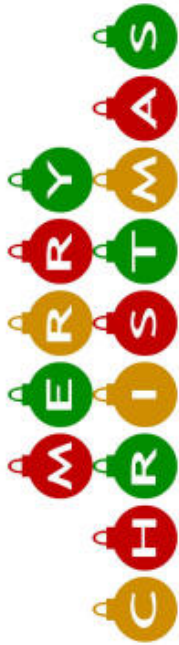
The other is *What's Your Emmaus Story: Pete's Story*. It can be found at this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SeO0vfq9Gm0&feature=youtu.be>

Information about our Dakotas Walk to Emmaus is available at this link:
<http://dakotaswalk.org>

JUST FOR FUN

W V E G U K U Z L M V H S N T
 E T A C I F I T R E C A O H N
 T N Y P P A H L Y G M S A B O
 F T O K F L I P D T A N I L I
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APRIL
 BLESSING
 CELEBRATION
 CERTIFICATE
 CHRISTMAS
 DAKOTAS
 DECEMBER
 EMMAUS
 GIFT
 GIVING
 GRACE
 GRATITUDE
 HAPPY
 HILLS
 INSPIRATION
 LOVE
 MARCH
 MERRY
 PRIORITY
 SEASON
 SHOPPING
 THANKFUL
 THANKSGIVING
 WALK
 WISHES



How many smaller words can you make from the letters above?

Blank lines for writing answers.