

# Dakotas Walk to Emmaus

May 2018

Find us on the web at:  
[www.dakotaswalk.org](http://www.dakotaswalk.org)

Visit the Upper Room website to find more information about the **Walk to Emmaus** at <http://emmaus.upperroom.org>



## From the Community Spiritual Director

It has been several weeks since our Dakotas Walks to Emmaus. Perhaps you are still on a high note from your experience, either as a pilgrim, or someone who worked on this year's walks, or simple because you are part of the community. But I also know that to get a few weeks away it is easy to revert to our former ways, though I don't think we go back totally. In any case, whether we are still excited about our most recent experience of the Walk to Emmaus or a bit burned out by everyday life, I want to remind you to make it a priority to continue to grow in your relationship with God.

Take time to pray on a regular basis. Your home congregation provides an opportunity to pray with others at least once a week, if not more times, to do this. In addition, there are countless opportunities each day: It is good to have a devotional time of ten to thirty minutes, but if that doesn't seem possible, or is difficult, a table grace, or bedtime, or morning, prayer will make a difference in your life. I would encourage you to take a longer time, ten to 30 minutes, on a regular basis to pray. Spend part of that time listening. Read scripture and have silence, if possible. There are many good scripture studies, but I would encourage you to read Luke 24:13-35 on a

regular basis. Read it in different translations.

Review your service card. Pay attention to your study and actions. If you are unable to participate in a group reunion, is there someone you could call to review your prayer, study, and action. Know that we both are being formed as disciples of Jesus and helping form other disciples. Contribute to the life of your congregation. Sometimes we are simply encouraged by the other Christians who show up around us. Are there new ways you can serve Christ through your congregation?

Pray for Dakotas Walk to Emmaus, particularly for the next walks coming up in 2019.

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Pray that we find the team members in a timely manner, that we are not stressed about putting our walks together. As we put the team together, pray for the team members, that they may be ready to lead others to a closer relationship with God through Jesus, and that they too may grow. Pray for pilgrims for the

upcoming walks. Keep your eyes and hearts open to seeing people who are ready to go on a Walk to Emmaus. Pray for the pilgrims, that their lives, family, work, health and study will encourage them in their participation.

This may be a lot of things to do, but not everyone has to do

everything. Set your priorities. Take time to listen to God. Do what God calls you to do. Remember: God loved you first.

De Colores  
R. Karl Watkins



## 60 participate in the Walk to Emmaus



Inspiration Hills retreat center was alive with the sound of approximately 60 pilgrims attending the men's and women's Walk to Emmaus the first two weekends in March. The pilgrims had 72 hours of spiritual enrichment and time for focusing on the Lord calling them into deeper commitment and service.

A significant purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is to make stronger workers and leaders within the church. It is designed for both clergy and laity. Approximately eight different denominations were represented among the pilgrims.

Materials and resources for the Walk to Emmaus are from the Upper Room of The United Methodist Church.

"If your church is fortunate to have one of these persons returning from the pilgrimage please speak with them and encourage them in their service to your community and church," stated Betty Janke, member of the Dakotas Walk to Emmaus Board of Directors.

For more information on registering for next year's walks please go to the website at [www.dakotaswalk.org](http://www.dakotaswalk.org). The dates for 2019 are: Men's Walk on March 21-24, 2019; Women's Walk on March 28-31, 2019.