

**December
2022**

Billings
Walk
To
Emmaus

W2E Times

**IMPORTANT
DATES!**

Christmas Sing 7pm
December 8, 2023

Background & Team
Retreat 9:00am
January 14, 2023

MEN's W2E, #80
January 19-22, 2023

WOMEN's W2E, #81
January 26-29, 2023

W2E Potluck, 5:00pm
February 4, 2023

CONTACT US....

WEBSITE:
billingsemmaus.com

EMAIL:
info@billingsemmaus.com

FACEBOOK:
Billings "Walk to
Emmaus"

MAILING
ADDRESS:
P.O. Box 1975
Billings, MT 59103

Christmas Sing – December 8th – 7pm

Billings Walk to Emmaus
invites you to join us for a special evening
of carols, scriptures, inspiring messages,
special music and communion.



You are invited to
attend the annual
WALK TO EMMAUS
“Christmas Sing”

7:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 8, 2022

First United Methodist Church
(Please use the Broadway doors)

All are welcome!
Please join us as we
worship together
and prepare our
hearts for the birth
of our Savior.



SPIRITUAL THOUGHTS

God dries our tears so
that we might do the
same for someone else.

To realize the worth of
the anchor, we need
to feel the stress
of the storm.

In prayer, we can either
choose to magnify the
Lord or our difficulties.

Worry never puts God in
first place in your life.

The will of God will never
lead you where the grace
of God cannot keep you.

I don't need you
to love me
for me to love you.

Our perception of life
changes when we begin
to know the Lord
intimately.

Christians never have to
say, "goodbye."

"My God, my God, why
did you abandon me?"
Christ screamed these
words so you will never
have to.

Worth the Wait

John Felton, Men's Lay Director, W2E #80

I remember as a kid how the exciting things always seemed so far away. The twelve months between one Christmas and the next took years to go by. Baseball season flew by, but the wait for the next one felt like it would never end. And opening day of trout season meant fishing with my dad, but it seemed like April would never arrive!

In the end, though, the experience was worth the wait. The memories I hold of family Christmases, summers on the baseball diamond, and fishing with my dad are among my most distinct and joyous recollections of my childhood.

Looking back, I now realize that the reason the waits seemed so long was that the event was so meaningful. After all, if we had Christmas or baseball or opening day of trout season every day, then at some point these memories would not be so special.

We have waited a LONG time for our 80th and 81st Walk to Emmaus weekends. We are finally going to experience the joy, love, grace, and wonder of the ~~January 2021~~ ~~January 2022~~ ~~April 2022~~ January 2023 weekends! A new group of pilgrims will come in on Thursday night with the same trepidation we all brought with us and leave on Sunday with the same sense of grace, peace, and love we feel to this day.

It has been a long wait, but we all know the weekends will be worth the wait! As teams complete their preparations, talks are wrapped up, and all the love of the background ministries come to fruition, please consider sponsoring one or more pilgrims. They too have waited a long time, not even knowing what they were waiting for. I promise the wait will be worth it for those pilgrims, as we will do all we can to share the love and grace that have meant so much to all of us.

Come, Holy Spirit

Karen Poling, Women's Lay Director, W2E #81

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love..." This familiar prayer dances through my mind as the preparations for the 2023 Walk weekends are moving forward with tremendous excitement and energy. A three-year pandemic pause has not dampened the enthusiasm of our Walk community. The **hearts of the faithful** members of our Walk to Emmaus community are **filled with the fire of God's love!** It is evident that the Holy Spirit is at work as I visit with the many people who are making plans for the upcoming weekends. Invitations are being extended to potential pilgrims, prayer vigil slots are being filled, committees are meeting, Bibles are ordered, Kleenex is purchased 😊, menus are being planned, decorations are being made, talks are being written, applications are being submitted, letters of agape are being requested, the building is being prepared and cleaned. Yes, the Holy Spirit is at work!

I pray for each of you, dear friends, and ask God to **kindle the fire of His love** in your hearts so you will be inspired to be a joyful participant in these glorious weekends. Please consider sponsoring a friend or loved one to attend the Walk this year. It will be the most precious gift you could ever give them. Sign up for the prayer vigils at billingsemmaus.com. Volunteer to help with any of the many tasks that take place before, during and after the weekends. Donate snacks. Attend the candlelight walks, the rise and shine and the closing services. Your presence is a gift that means so much to the pilgrims and it will fill your heart as well. ❤️

My friends, the Walk to Emmaus has been a blessing in each of our lives. May God place his blessing upon all of us as we prepare to share this experience with the Pilgrims that God brings to the 2023 weekends. We are humbled and ready to serve God in this way.

"... Oh 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.

TWO SENTENCE PRAYERS (2)

Jesus, I believe You care about my future. Teach me to love You more and entrust each moment to Your loving hands. Amen.

Jesus, You are my reason to rise up each morning and have hope. Thank You for loving me and leading me to an abundant life. Amen.

Jesus, I know You have a perfect plan, and none of my circumstances surprise You. I will trust You to lead me. Amen.

Jesus, in the mountains and valleys, I follow You step-by-step. I will wait on You and trust You with my future. Amen.

Jesus, thank You for praying for me and leading me in doing God's will! I trust You. Amen.

Lord, You know how my heart longs to see You in my situation. Open my spiritual eyes and remove what blocks my view. Amen.

Jesus, I trust You. I will wait on Your perfect timing with expectancy and hope. Amen.

END-OF-YEAR GIVING

As you consider your year-end giving, we ask that you consider a contribution to the Billings Walk to Emmaus so potential Pilgrims can share in the same life changing weekend that you enjoyed. Since we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all contributions are tax deductible. Donations can be mailed to:

Billings Walk to Emmaus, PO Box 1975, Billings, Mt. 59103

BROCHURES AND APPLICATIONS

If you are in need of our sponsorship brochures and applications contact Ryan Wittman at 406-670-0607 or rkjrwittman@gmail.com. The brochures are a great resource when you are visiting with a potential pilgrim. They tell the history of the Walk and provide meaningful testimonies of 4th dayers.



The Face of Mount Rushmore

"American history shall march along that skyline," announced Gutzon Borglum in 1924 as he gazed at the Black Hills of South Dakota. It was three years later that he began sculpting the images of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, and Theodore Roosevelt on the face of Mount Rushmore.

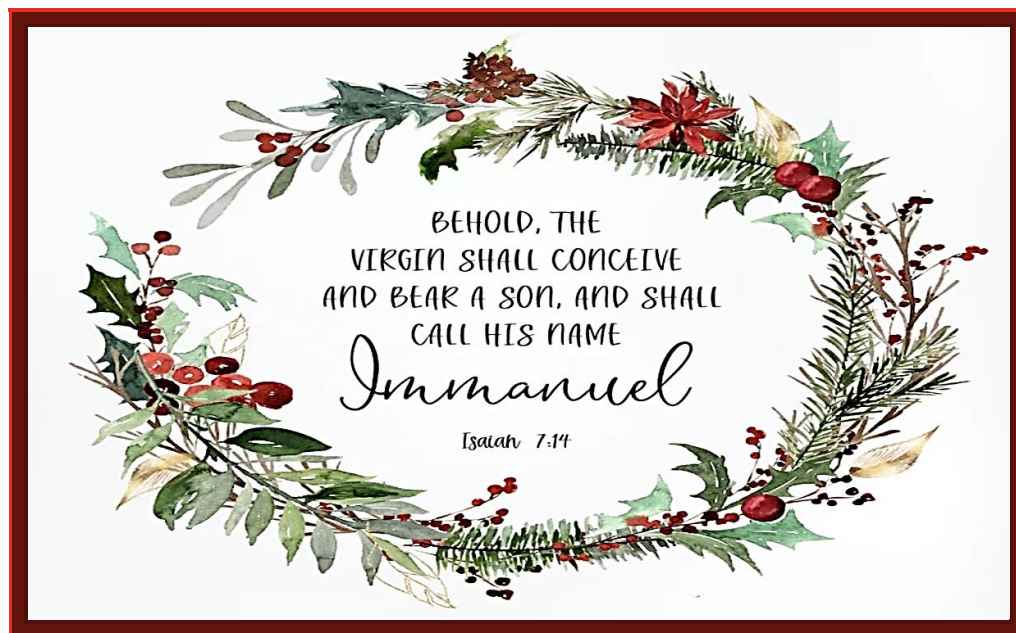
Working with jackhammers and dynamite, Borglum's team removed around 400,000 tons of outer rock, working to within three inches of the final surface. Sadly, Borglum died in March of 1941. His masterpiece was finally finished years later.

It's been said, "The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit." Some of the greatest visionaries who have ever lived never got to see their visions take shape. Instead, they had a vision so big that just achieving it took longer than the remainder of their lives.

If you want to leave an impact on this world, do something that will outlive you. That doesn't mean you have to carve a mountain. But you can invest in others' lives and lead them to a more meaningful relationship with Christ. When you live beyond yourself, there's no limit to what God can accomplish through you. **Who are you going to invite to the Walk to Emmaus in January?**

God bless our 2023 team members.

MEN'S TEAM	POSITION	WOMEN'S TEAM
John Felton	Lay Director	Karen Poling
Jim Birkelo	Vice Lay Director	Angie Klier
Glenn Paulson	Assistant Vice Lay Director	Sherry Dompier
Fred Gunville	Board Liaison	Robin Felton
Rev. Tim Hathaway	Spiritual Director	Rev. Tim Hathaway
Rev. Angie Dornisch	Assistant Spiritual Director	Rev. Angie Dornisch
Dave Bergeson	Table Leader	Nancy Barbula
Jim Berve	Table Leader	Sally Birkelo
Gabe Bloomquist	Table Leader	Dana Donovan
John Goodheart	Table Leader	Carol Heath
Bernie Hedrick	Table Leader	Debbie Hedrick
Jeff Hert	Table Leader	Nadeen Kovanda
Jim Huskey	Table Leader	Kim Lewis
Dave Legare	Table Leader	Terri McMillan
Dave Mosdal	Table Leader	Kim Mork
Greg Petersen	Table Leader	Tracy Neary
Mark Sorlie	Table Leader	Vida Poling
Joe Steiner	Table Leader	Wendy Samson
Paul Strosky	Table Leader	Mary Strauss
Ryan Wittman	Table Leader	Mamie Wilson



Merry Christmas!