# November 2024

## Billings Walk To Emmaus

# W2E Times

### APPLICATIONS

Applications for Walk to Emmaus pilgrims and sponsors must be completed online. Go to our website billingsemmaus.com and click on these tabs...



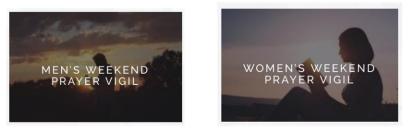


Complete the required information and click on "SUBMIT". If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Becky at WTE1982@outlook.com or (406) 672-1194.



#### **PRAYER VIGIL**

Have you signed up to participate in the 96-hour prayer vigils during our Walk to Emmaus weekends? Your prayers will be a wonderful blessing to all the participants. You can sign up for ½ hour slots on our website billingsemmaus.com. Click on these tabs and enter your name in your preferred time slots.



Be sure to **scroll to the bottom of the page and click "SUBMIT"** to save your selections. You can pray in the privacy of your home or wherever you go about your day.



#### SING AT THE WOMEN'S PRISON

**HOMEWARD BOUND** is a prison ministry that conducts a weekend much like the Walk to Emmaus. This blessed weekend is taking place at the Women's Prison this weekend. Please gather with your 4<sup>th</sup> day friends at the fence on the south side of the prison on South 27<sup>th</sup> Street (near the Post Office). **Saturday, November 2nd at 5:45 pm** where we will sing to the candidates. It is a very touching experience for the pilgrims as well as the singers.

#### Important Dates!

CHRISTMAS SING December 12, 2024 7:00 pm

TEAM RETREAT January 11, 2025 9:00 am

MEN's W2E, #84 January 16-19, 2025

WOMEN's W2E, #85 January 23-26, 2025

POTLUCK February 1, 2025 5:00 pm

Contact us... WEBSITE: billingsemmaus.com

EMAIL: info@billingsemmaus.com

> FACEBOOK: Billings "Walk to Emmaus"

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

PRAYER REQUESTS jefferyaday@gmail.com



#### This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it! Psalm 118:24

I get to see some of the most amazing sunrises at our house. I have several beautiful pictures, but this one seems to stand out from the rest. The sunrises remind me to appreciate God's incredible creation and to make the very most of the day I have been given.

It didn't take long to find a scripture that fit the picture. (Someone should make a song about it...)

As all the preparations, plans, team meetings, board meetings, table meetings start to fall into place there are a couple parts that I feel are critical to keeping the Walk a viable event... **sponsorship** of pilgrims and keeping a knowledgeable base of **volunteers**.

Something I have thought about, a lot, is that close to 3000 people have attended the Walk since the beginning. You would think that with all the ways to communicate these days, there would be a waiting list to sign up for the next one. We 4<sup>th</sup> dayers have had the experience of a lifetime and the greatest thanks we can give for that experience is to share it with someone else. If you have asked potential pilgrims and have been met with "We're not ready", "I'm too busy", "I'm nervous about spending 3 nights away from home with a bunch of strangers" and on and on. Ask again. We were asked by our church folks for 3 years before saying yes to receive a most incredible gift. Go to the Emmaus website, <u>billingsemmaus.com</u>, and find the sponsor and pilgrim applications, both should be filled out online. Sponsorship takes a little time and effort but the joy and grace of the closing ceremony with your pilgrim is a gift that keeps on giving.

Volunteers are always needed in all phases of the Walk. Many people and pieces need to fall into place to make a Walk weekend happen.

Just the chore of putting together food, menus, kitchen help and preparing 8 great meals for up to 50 plus people is no small challenge. Managing and arranging the church for the Walk and then putting it all back to normal on Sunday afternoon is not for the faint of heart either. Any questions? Go to <u>billingsemmaus.com</u>. and click on Community then Volunteering for more info.

If volunteering isn't your bag of donuts, consider attending the candlelight walks, the rise and shine and closing ceremonies to reignite your faith and energy while giving support at the same time. Prayer vigil signup sheets are always making the rounds and there is also a prayer vigil signup form on the website. Praying is a quiet, powerful way to stay connected to the Walk to Emmaus!

VIVA! VIVA! Viva Christo Rey!



#### The Lord is my light and my salvation, so why should I be afraid? Psalm 27:1

The theme that has emerged for this Walk to Emmaus weekend, is that of God's immense and beautiful light, His power and grace lighting our way through this world we are currently living in. I would like to thank Geri Rowe for painting such a lovely work of art for this weekend, she has truly captured the light and Glory of our magnificent God! The Scripture for this weekend is... Psalm 27:1 NLT The Lord is my light and my salvation, so why should I be afraid?

I have been praying Psalm 27 for a long time now, and the whole of Psalm 27 guides us always closer to our Lord, seeking with confidence, His love and care. Verse one states that God is our light and there is no need to be afraid. Any light can be used to remind us of His grace and protection. From a tiny night light shining in the darkness within our home, or street lights guiding us through the city, to the mighty sun, moon and stars our creator placed in the sky, light brings us comfort and calms us. When we can see the road in front of us or see what lies behind us, our fear lessons.

God's Holy Spirit is the light, that shines through us, within us and all around us. The Lord is our beacon to safety, shining through the darkness. The lighthouse signifies to me God's power and protection, guiding me home and reminding me to focus on Him. So often I start my day focused on God, and then as the day progresses God is pushed further and further back, until I no longer remember or feel His comfort and peace. I may start to feel anxious and stressed, then the fear and uncertainty creep back in. Psalm 27:1 calls us to remember that it is God who truly lights our way, that as long as we have our eyes and minds on Him we have nothing to fear.

The Lighthouse also stands as a reminder that we are called to let the light of the Holy Spirit shine through us, lighting the way to salvation for all those we meet on this journey through life. We can be that light in the darkness for others, our Lord's hands and feet here on earth.

As we prepare for these upcoming Walk to Emmaus weekends, invite that person who has been on your mind and in your heart to make the weekend, let them know what a gift it is that you are offering. Take a moment to reflect on your weekend, let the Spirit revive that joy and exhilaration you felt and then share that with them!

Sherry Dompier, Women's Lay Director 2025

DeColores!



**O**, heavenly Father:

We thank thee for food and remember the hungry. We thank thee for health and remember the sick. We thank thee for friends and remember the lonely. We thank thee for freedom and remember the enslaved. May these remembrances stir us to service, that thy gifts to us may be used for others.

Amen

## **REMINDER:**

Be sure to put the annual Walk to Emmaus <u>CHRISTMAS SING</u> on your calendars. We will gather at First United Methodist Church, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm for a special evening of carols, scriptures, inspiring messages, special music and communion. Come and prepare your heart for the birth of our Savior.