



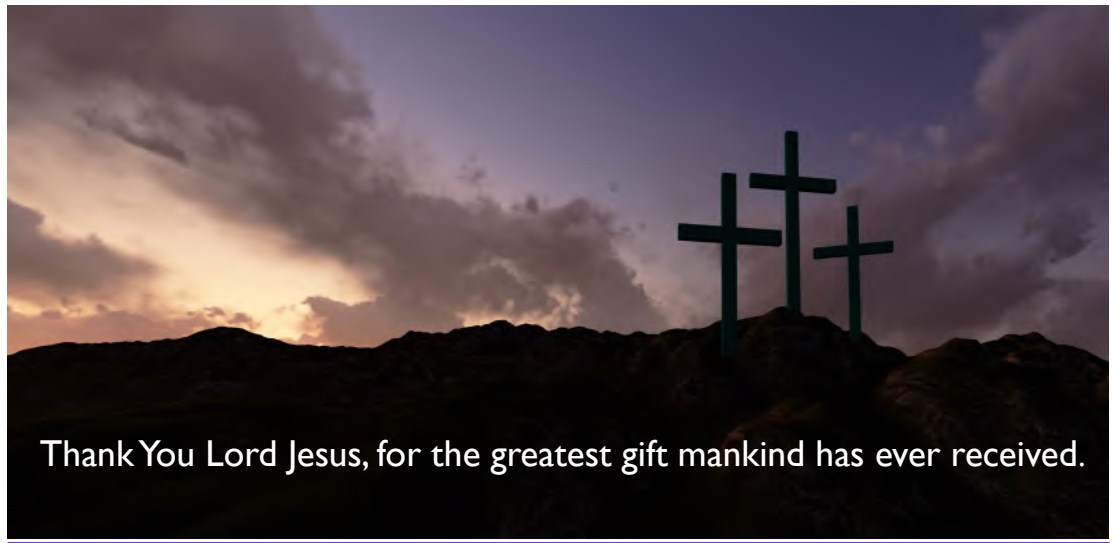
Perseverance Press

Crossroads Emmaus

April 2022

Special points of interest:

- CRE Board Meeting April 19, 7:00 pm JEC, 8925 Hwy 111, Ganado
- April Gathering—FUMC El Campo, April 24, 6:30 pm
- May Gathering—Danevang Lutheran, May 13, 6:30 pm
- Women’s Walk #89, July 14-17, 2022, SRC
- Men’s Walk #90, August 25-28, 2022, SRC



Thank You Lord Jesus, for the greatest gift mankind has ever received.

Growing With Easter

Just as the 22nd Psalm foretold the suffering of Christ long before it’s occurrence, we now look back to the end of Jesus’ earthly ministry and remember the suffering that was endured for our sin. To imagine Jesus receiving 39 lashes in the manner those lashes were delivered, followed by the Creator of the trees having to carry a 100-pound log over a third of a mile to be crucified on, not to mention the crucifixion itself, sobers one’s understanding of how physically invested our Lord and Savior was in our lives.

As an older teenager, then into young adulthood this often haunted me. Sure, I knew the rest of the story, but the love of Easter and the amazing resurrection of the Lord Jesus that had delighted my youth had somehow given way to something else. I could intellectualize it but that did not prevent it from laying heavy on my heart. As I matured a little (...my wife says that never really happened) I slowly started to feel the importance of why this heinous act had to occur.

I am pretty sure that if Jesus had shown up with coiffed hair, bright blue eyes, in a stark white three-piece suit, barefooted of course, and exclaimed, “Hey, your sins are forgiven, I’m gonna’ split now, but I talked with Dad and We are going to send My buddy the Spook here to love you, convict you, and generally help you through life” it may have worked out just fine... but the sacrifice that atoned for our sins would not have occurred and we would have never fully understood the gift that was given us. *(Continued on pg.)*

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“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up”

John 2:19-20

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Growing With Easter *(Continued from page one)*



God foreknew Jesus would be our redemption on the cross. 700 years before the crucifixion, Isaiah 53 details exactly what would happen. Jesus did not die the death of a martyr. He was born to die on the cross willingly, out of love for us, facing great suffering on our behalf.

This became so clear as He prayed to the Father prior to his arrest and crucifixion. And it made the empty tomb what it was. Proof that no structure and no death can hold onto our Lord Jesus. It is

proof that every word he ever said was absolute fact. It is proof that our sins are bleached white in His blood.

And the concerns I had years ago I have learned to make better use of. On my best days, when I think about complaining about some mundane task, or even a big deal, I stop and think about Who suffered for me and how grateful I am to be able to hand those thoughts off to Him.

De Colores, and Happy Easter
Vernon



“Hebrews 4:16 tells us to come boldly before the throne of grace with confidence”

Praying Like a Prophet

Last month we looked at the prophet Elijah. Elijah interacted with God often. What can we learn from him? First, Elijah did not defend himself, no excuses. In this day to many “Christians” seem to try to negotiate with God. (“God if you will just get me out of this, I’ll...”)

Elijah often questioned God, but he never did this publicly. He saved his questions until he was alone with God. God wants a relationship with us. HE is big enough to field your questions, no matter how intense. Hebrews 4:16 tells us to come boldly before the throne of grace with confidence.

Prayer is mentioned in the Bible somewhere between 547 and 700 times depending on the version of the Bible that you are reading. If you equate those mentions to the most common texts you can settle on about 650 mentions of prayer, with over 450 of those prayers being listed in the text as answered. Elijah prayed intensely and persistently. His praying always made a difference. Does God hear your voice on a beautiful, sunny day, or just when there are storm clouds in your life?

Elijah prayed from the place that he met with God regularly. Do you have a special place to meet God?

God will hear you anywhere, but many pray from a place of routine quiet, so that prayer time is not interrupted. Having a designated place helps to reduce distractions and frees us to worship openly and aloud. In 1 John 5:14-15 we learn to be confident and compassionate in our prayer. Many see it as when you are praying you are talking to God. When you listen, meditate, or read God’s Word, He is talking to you.

Page Four of this edition features a set of four postcards or handbills for the Women’s Walk #89. The cards are designed for Avery #3263 postcards, but can be printed on plain cardstock or paper and then cut. Cardstock is required for mailing. A set dated for the Men’s Walk #90 will be available next month.

April 2022

Pilgrim Sponsorship

Editor's Note- This is the second installment in a series of three. The first installment can be found in the March 2022 newsletter.

This month we examine the process of supporting your pilgrim on the walk. Continue to pray for your sponsored pilgrim as well as praying for yourself, that Almighty God, through the Holy Spirit support and inspire you to do the best job possible.

Make certain that the application is COMPLETE prior to forwarding it to the Registrar. It must contain the signatures of the pilgrim, their pastor, and yourself as sponsor. The application will be returned if it is not complete. Remember also that any need for financial assistance follows a specific path and requires partial financial assistance from involved parties, such as the pilgrim, sponsor, home church, etc. This helps to develop a level of commitment by the pilgrim. The Fee Assistance form can be found on the CR Emmaus website (cremmaus.org), under forms/documents. *Do not give the form to the pilgrim for completion.* Submit the form with the walk application to the CRE Registrar. Include the fee or the fee assistance form and partial fee with the application.

Send invitations out to friends and family of the pilgrim. The Crossroads Emmaus Registrar will assist by sending you a 'boilerplate' letter that you may customize if you wish or develop your own letter with the appropriate information included. Once you have the request letter prepared, enlist the support of the pilgrim's pastor and close family to request individuals in the pilgrim's life to write letters, explaining to them that the letters should be sent to you. Collect eight to twelve or more personal agape letters. Please do not ask the team to deliver personal gifts during the weekend. Those are best shared between sponsor and pilgrim after the walk.

Pray for your pilgrim and the Walk team. Remind the pilgrim that you are there for them and offer to support the Pilgrim's family by house sitting, babysitting, watering plants, picking up the mail, feeding pets or just checking in with the spouse to see if any help is needed.

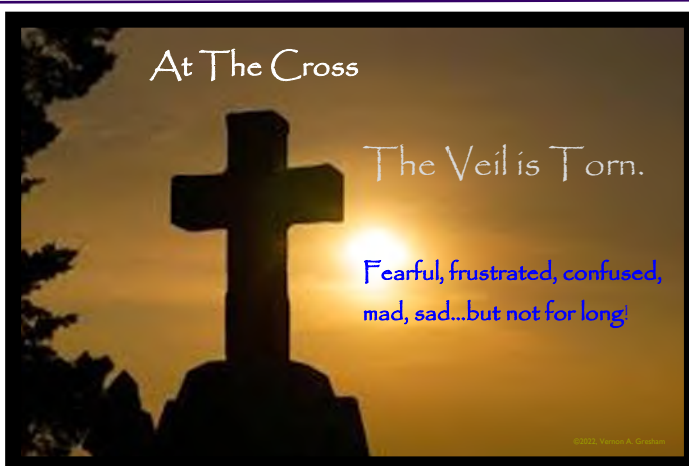
Provide transportation for your pilgrim to the Spiritual Renewal Center. Arrive on time. Support the Walk through your prayers during the 72-hour prayer vigil. Tips on praying the vigil are on the CRE website and listed below. Be present at the send-off, sponsors hour, candlelight, and closing ceremony. After the closing ceremony, deliver your pilgrim back home.

You can email the CRE Registrar at registrar@cremmaus.org if you have any questions about the application process.

http://www.cremmaus.org/images/documents/CRE_Pilgrim_Application.pdf

http://cremmaus.org/images/documents/reg_fee_help.pdf

<http://cremmaus.org/images/documents/Praying-the-Prayer-Vigil.pdf>





Have I got a great idea for you!

Would you enjoy a fun, spiritual weekend in the company of like-minded women? You will experience fellowship, make new friends, and develop a better understanding of God's grace in your life.

I would like to invite you to the Women's Walk to Emmaus which will be held July 14 thru 17, 2022.

The Walk to Emmaus® Program is based on the story in Luke 24:13-35, which provides the central image for the three-day experience.

You will enjoy three days of singing, learning, laughing, worshipping, reflecting, praying and participating in small groups. Please look for my contact info below the return address on the back side of this card.

Even mature Christians face rough water...



... Join us at the Walk to Emmaus

You will discover how grace is real in your life, how you live a life of grace, and bring 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!

The next Women's Walk will occur July 14-17, 2022

Look for my contact information under the return address on the back side of this card.



Remember our little discussion about the Walk to Emmaus?

We talked about how much fun you would have. How much of God's Grace you would absorb. How much love and fellowship you would experience.

Just wanted you to know I am completely committed to sponsoring you on the Walk.

If you are feeling as good about this as I am, just flip this card over and get my info.

Call, Text, or Email me today!

Discover how grace is real in your life, how you live a life of grace, and bring grace to others.



Join us on the Walk to Emmaus

The Walk will occur July 14-17, 2022.

Come experience this weekend based on Luke 24:13-35.

Please prayerfully accept this invitation by calling or emailing me. My info is on the other side of this card.