

FROM: Pam Hunt, Community Lay Director, Suncoast Emmaus  
TO: Suncoast Emmaus Community  
DATE: July 13, 2020  
RE: Suncoast Board of Directors Positions

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When I assumed the position of Community Lay Director for Suncoast Emmaus in January 2020, I certainly had no idea of what lie ahead of us. To say that it has been a challenge for the Board of Directors would be a gross understatement. I hope that the community realizes the decisions that have been made to cancel the walks and the gatherings were not easy ones, but I am proud that your Board rose to the challenge and prayerfully “did the right thing” for the Community, regardless of personal feelings – not an easy thing to do.

And now I approach you as your Community Lay Director and ask that you read the following and then pray over it and search your heart before you answer the questions.

- Do you remember the moment on your Walk you felt God’s grace and unconditional love?
- Do you remember the power you felt in dying to the thing that stood between you and Christ?
- Do you remember the bonds of friendship that were formed at your table?
- Do you remember when you heard the call to sponsor a Pilgrim for a Walk?
- Do you remember Gatherings when you saw a tablemate across the room and your Walk came flooding back?
- Do you know how you would feel if there was no Suncoast Emmaus?

Your Board of Directors has been asking repeatedly for volunteers to work on committees and aside from a few exceptions, we have not had an abundance of calls offering to help. The Board now has two open positions, will have a third by the end of the year and there will be five members rotating off in 2021. The Board will have 7 people for 15 positions and no ability to establish a quorum. Suncoast Emmaus cannot function without a full Board of Directors. Imagine running a manufacturing company with no workers on the production floor. That is what it’s like for Board members who are committees of one – they can’t run the company all by themselves. These are dedicated men and women who understand sacrificial giving and have a true heart for Emmaus.

Did Christ say to His disciples, “Follow me and I will do all the work and you can watch me make disciples?” No, He said for them to follow Him and He would make them fishers of men. Christ never told His disciples that their lives would be simple and without sacrifice. He did tell them to go into the world and make disciples. That is what The Walk to Emmaus is all about – making strong, revitalized disciples to go back to their home churches and lead others.

Being a Board member is sacrificial serving. You sacrifice time and effort to ensure the walks are meaningful for both the Pilgrims and the Teams. You have a monthly meeting to attend. You need to make as many of the gatherings as you can. You make phone calls and stay on top of your emails. You have committees to coordinate (if you have committee members). If you don’t have any committee members, you do all the work yourself. But those community members who have stepped up to serve on the Board do it because of the commitment made at the Cross Ceremony on Sunday...”**Christ is counting on you.**” It takes a full 15 person Board and committee volunteers to have meaningful walks and a strong community. ***We need community members to step up and ask themselves if they are willing to sacrifice what it takes to serve or will they be satisfied if there is no community because without a Board there will be no Suncoast Emmaus.***

Please call me (941-545-5778) or Margarete Roser (ACLD—205-529-2447) with any questions. Please call us about your willingness to fill a vacant position, serve on a committee and/or fill a position starting in JAN 2021. Suncoast Emmaus needs your hands and feet, as we all are ‘Counting on Christ’. This world needs committed, energized disciples as much as ever. May our hearts burn within us as we walk with Christ into the future He holds for Suncoast Emmaus.

So now I go back to the questions I posed to you. Ask yourselves those questions... remember the talks from your walk...dig into your memories... pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit. And then, make your decision. I am in prayer that your answer will be to serve.

De Colores! Jesus loves you and so do I!

*Pam Hunt*

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Community Lay Director  
Suncoast Emmaus