

By the command of God, the God-bearing Apostles everywhere were transported through the skies on clouds. And reaching your all-immaculate body, that origin of Life, they kissed it in grand veneration. The supreme Hosts of heaven arrived with their Master. Seized with awe, they ushered your inviolate body, which had hosted God. High above the earth, they went before you, and invisibly they shouted to the angelic orders above them, "Behold, the Queen of all, the Maid of God, has arrived. Lift up the gates, and give a formal heavenly reception to the Mother of the everlasting Light. For the salvation of all humanity came through her. We are unable to gaze on her, and it is impossible to bestow worthy honor on her. For her excellence surpasses all understanding." Therefore, O immaculate Theotokos, as you now live forever with the life-bearing King who is your Son, intercede unceasingly, that He guard us, your children, and that He save us from every hostile assault, since we are under your protection. And to the ages with splendor we call you blessed.

-- *Dhoxastikon form the Great Vespers of the Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15)*

**Do you have an email address??**

If you still receive a paper version of this newsletter but have an email address...help us protect the environment (and save costs). Email the office ([office@agocwi.org](mailto:office@agocwi.org)) and let us know we can add you to the email list!



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**Looking for Information?**

Flyers, announcements, advertisements are posted on bulletin boards in the Church Hall.

If you see something you like? Make a copy!

Meeting minutes and budget reports are posted monthly following Parish Council meetings. Want more? Please ask! Have a complaint? Be prepared to discuss solutions and volunteer to help!!

## THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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Tom Cameron, Parish Council President [tscameron52@gmail.com](mailto:tscameron52@gmail.com)

**Parish Council Officers:** Georgiana Wilton, Vice President; Bruce Hansen, Secretary, Scott Storck & Niko Papadopoulos, Treasurers. **Members:** Petros Anagnostopoulos, Christy Chappell Belkin, Conn Choles, Dori Hosek, Jim Katsihtis, Mike Smith, Nick Topitzes. **Alternates:** Maria Molzahn, Carol Griskavich.

*An update by the Parish Council President will be in the September 2019 AGOC Monthly Newsletter.*

## GREEK FEST<sup>PLUS</sup> 2019

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Georgiana Wilton, Chairperson, [georgiana.wilton@gmail.com](mailto:georgiana.wilton@gmail.com)

GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup> 2019 is another one for the books. The weather forecasts were wrong and we had a wonderfully hot weekend! We didn't break records...but we came close!

This year I won't try to thank everybody—because there are too many people to thank. That said, a hearty shout out is necessary for two teams.

To the “guys that are there for everything” Mike Smith and John Soloninka, THANK YOU! From planning to souvlaki-making, from sign-making and hanging to set-up, from tear down to Monday clean up...and **everything** in between. I know I couldn't event attempt to chair Greek Fest if they didn't have my back. Figuratively and literally... 'cause there are a lot of things I can't lift 😊

To the “gyro plus team,” THANK YOU!! For those of you that may not know, the **majority** of our profits come from the hard work of the team at Parthenon Gyros. THANK YOU, Erin and Dimitri Vranas! The Parthenon supplies not only 4-6 of their own volunteers and workers but our Gyros, fries and souvlakia as well. In addition, when we run out of supplies (like feta and kalamata olives) they “make it happen”!!! And, when the Greek Fest chair doesn't like to go in front of a camera, all I had to do was introduce the Channel 3 reporter to them and they took over (watch it on Channel3000.com if you haven't seen the interview). I believe they match hour for hour the time Mike, John and I spend on Greek Fest. And we spend a lot of time on Greek Fest. Next time you're in the Parthenon—please thank them for their hard work, dedication and support!!

This year's fest was 2<sup>nd</sup> best ever...although not all accounting is in we are hovering near \$80,000. Stay tuned for final numbers over the next month or so as we finish paying our bills and covering the cost of the extra hired help, security, and insurance requirements this year.

I have enjoyed chairing GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup> for the past 6 festivals. I have learned a lot, and although I have chaired a lot of fundraising events both professionally and as a volunteer, this was very different. It's near and dear to my heart. I grew up around Greek Fest. I watched my parents and their friends haul tables to Hoyt Park, spend days making baklava, kourambiedes, and theples (I started as a theples “counter” when I was younger, counting them as they went into the box...then moved up to dough roller, and finally was promoted to fryer before we started ordering out). I watched them load, set-up, work hard all day, always have pockets of tickets for everybody (because nobody eats free at Greek Fest...we support our Church) and tear down with smiles on their faces (at least I only remember the smiles). I learned by their example. I credit my strong work ethic to all of my mentors.

As I looked around the festival this year it was gratifying to see the same faces (of different generations) supporting it still...Nico, Telly, Conn, Denise, Nick, Niko, Nancy, Mike, Bill, Kiki, Vicki, Vasil, John,

Dean...representing the families that were here in the beginning...and remain...Fatsis, Choles, Peterson, Christ, Briamis, Margetis, Cappas, Theo, Grapsas, Galanos, Mork, Fotes, and Damon! Every time I see you all...my mind wanders to Hoyt Park. I drove by it on my way home!

I want to thank you all for supporting me and my quirky coordination of GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup>. We changed some things up...we stuck with what worked...we adapted to changing city regulations...we dodged the weather (no rain in 6 years?? How can that be??) and we watched the festival set new records and continue to thrive.

And now...(DRUM ROLL PLEASE)...I'd like to introduce you to the NEW Chair of GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup> 2020: Maria Schirmer Devitt!!! Our team made it clear we will be scaling back to support roles in any future festivals...and as soon as Maria heard there may not be a festival next year she stepped up! Let me say that again...SHE STEPPED UP!!! This not only assures the continuation of our amazing festival, but it is a confirmation of the continuation and growth of our Orthodox community. Maria, I am in awe of your spirit!!

Look for new things coming next year (possibly a new fall date) and watch for planning meetings. Great things are in our future and we are vibrating high!!!

To 2020!!!!

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

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Eleni Giakoumopoulos, President, [lenagiak@gmail.com](mailto:lenagiak@gmail.com) 608-556-8186

Vice President: Maria Molzahn, Secretary: Sue Soloninka, Treasurer: Maria Heide, Asst. Treasurer: Jenny Glatch, Corresponding Secretary: Nancy Briamis, Asst Corresponding Secretary: Kathie Fafalios

### **SUMMER COFFEE HOUR:**

There is a sign-up sheet for the summer coffee hour outside of the kitchen area on the Philoptochos bulletin board. As a reminder, we are doing a summer-lite coffee hour list and don't forget we are on Summer Hours as of June 23. Email Maria Molzahn, VP at [mariaandpatrick@gmail.com](mailto:mariaandpatrick@gmail.com) if you are able to co-host.

### **LOCAL ACTIVITIES:**

**July 30:** Cooking for the homeless at Grace Episcopal Church

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**August 14: Great Vespers of the Dormition With Lamentations and Artoklasia, 6:00 pm**  
**Lenten Reception to Follow**

If you are interested in chairing this event or you are a Mary, Maria or Panayiota or would like to assist with this reception, please contact Lena Giakoumopoulos at [lenagiak@gmail.com](mailto:lenagiak@gmail.com). Thank you in advance!

**September 25-29: Clergy/Laity/Philoptochos Assembly – Minneapolis, MN**

Up to 3 delegates from our chapter can attend. If you are interested, please contact Eleni Giakoumopoulos ([lenagiak@gmail.com](mailto:lenagiak@gmail.com)).

### **2019 Baklava Plus Sale cooking dates**

Mark your calendars for the fall cooking dates for the 2019 Baklava Plus Sale (November 23, 2019). So far we have confirmed:

Spanakopita making: Saturday, October 26 and Saturday, November 2

Kefthedes making: If you are interested in chairing this activity, please contact Lena Giakoumopoulos at [lenagiak@gmail.com](mailto:lenagiak@gmail.com) or Korinna Hansen at [korinna.hansen@wisc.edu](mailto:korinna.hansen@wisc.edu).

**2019-2020 Chapter Meetings:** Look for the chapter meeting schedule in the September newsletter.

## **Local Activities:**

**River Food Pantry:** The church congregation and the Philoptochos Society have generously supported the cost of operating the River Food Pantry's summer MUNCH program, which provides daily lunches for children in 7 north Madison neighborhoods for one week in the summer. The River Food Pantry will advertise our church as sponsors for one week's distribution of lunches. The River Food Pantry would like to know if we would like to volunteer in either the production (making of sandwiches) or the distribution of the lunches during that week. The sandwich making is from 8:30-11:00 a.m. and the distribution of the lunches is from 10:45-2:15. We would need 5 people for each activity. There is an opening for both production and distribution on Saturday, September 21st. I would like to get together 2 groups so we can volunteer for both activities. If you are interested, please contact Nancy Briamis at [nbriamis@gmail.com](mailto:nbriamis@gmail.com) about which activity you would like to volunteer for.

## **GRACE EPISCOPAL HOMELESS SHELTER**

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David Giffey, [barnowl1941@gmail.com](mailto:barnowl1941@gmail.com)

Assumption volunteers will prepare a hot meal and serve it on Tuesday, July 30, at the homeless shelter at Grace Episcopal Church. Volunteers, known so far, will include Ilektra Kolokouri, Mike Smith, and Scott Spevacek. We thank them for their faithful service.

If you can help prepare the meal in the kitchen at church, please contact Ilektra Kolokouri at [ilektra.kol@gmail.com](mailto:ilektra.kol@gmail.com). If you wish to help serve the meal on July 30, to the homeless men please contact me (David Giffey) at [barnowl1941@gmail.com](mailto:barnowl1941@gmail.com).

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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Jenny Josheff, Director, [agocssdirector@gmail.com](mailto:agocssdirector@gmail.com), Fr. Michael, Spiritual Advisor, [frmichael@agocwi.org](mailto:frmichael@agocwi.org)

Chris and I would like to thank Father Michael, the Parish Council, the Sunday School Teachers/students, and the Assumption community for all of the support that we have received as directors of the Sunday School program. Unfortunately, we are making a decision to not continue as co-directors. If you are interested in running the Sunday School, please contact Father Michael.

We also have made the decision to hang up our teaching hats. Therefore, the Sunday School will also be looking for teachers for the kindergarten/1st-grade class and the 6-8 grade class. If you are interested in teaching either of these classes, please contact Father Michael.

Thank you,  
Chris and Jennifer

## **CHURCH WEBSITE**

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Lainey Skoumbouris, [laney0220@yahoo.com](mailto:laney0220@yahoo.com)

The church website is set-up for private login to access the monthly newsletters and are meant for Church members only, not the public. Church members can read the newsletter on the website, but you must create an account before you can view it. Log onto the website and click on "Newsletter" on the side-bar <http://www.agocwi.org/registration-required/>, or "login" on the main menu <http://www.agocwi.org/login/>; it will direct you to sign up. If you need help, have questions or something isn't working in the registration contact me.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### J and M Home Helpers

AGOC's handymen, John and Mike, will do minor home repairs and maintenance for \$25/hour, with the money for their work being donated to the church.



**Call Mike at (608) 516-9188 and John at (608) 575-1014 today!**

## SACRAMENTS DURING JULY 2019

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Weddings: 0    Chrismations: 0    Baptisms: 0    Funerals: 0



# August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 28 <b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am <b>GREEKFEST PLUS 2019</b>	July 29	July 30 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month 3:00 pm	July 31	1 <b>DORMITION FAST BEGINS</b>	2 Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm	3
4 <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	5	6 <b>Holy Transfiguration</b> Divine Liturgy 9:00 am Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm	7 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	8 Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm	9	10 <i>Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9:00 am</i>
11 <b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	12	13 Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm	14 <b>Dormition of the Theotokos</b> Great Vespers 6:00 pm <i>Reception to Follow</i>	15 <b>Dormition of the Theotokos</b> Divine Liturgy 9:00 am <i>Coffee Hour to Follow</i>	16	17
18 <b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am AGOC Book Club Meeting after Liturgy Baptism in the Afternoon at Church	19	20	21	22	23	24 <i>Weddings in the Morning and Afternoon at Church</i>
25 <b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am Wedding in the Afternoon at Church	26	27 <b>St. Phanourios</b>	28	29 <b>Beheading of the Forerunner St. John the Baptist</b> Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	30	31

# August - October 2019 Liturgies and Services

## August 2

Small Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## August 4

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** Romans 15:1-7

**Gospel:** Matthew 9:27-35

**Prosforo:** Tom C

**Coffee Hour:** Summer Coffee Hour  
Sign-Up

## August 6

### Holy Transfiguration

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Peter 1:10-19

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9

**Prosforo:** Georgia M

## August 8

Great Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## August 11

### 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

**Gospel:** Matthew 14:14-22

**Prosforo:** Georgia M

**Coffee Hour:** Summer Coffee Hour  
Sign-Up

## August 13

Great Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## August 14

Great Vespers of the Dormition  
With Lamentations and Artoklasia  
6:00 pm

*Lenten Reception to Follow*

## August 15

### Dormition of the Theotokos

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** Philippians 2:5-11

**Gospel:** Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

**Prosforo:** Anna F

## August 18

### 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

## August 18, con't.

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

**Gospel:** Matthew 14:22-34

**Prosforo:** Anna F

**Coffee Hour:** Summer Coffee Hour  
Sign-Up

## August 25

### 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:14-23

**Prosforo:** Jane S

**Coffee Hour:** Summer Coffee Hour  
Sign-Up

## August 29

### Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Acts 13:25-33

**Gospel:** Mark 6:14-30

**Prosforo:** ?

## September 1

### Beginning of the Ecclesiastical Year

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 1 Timothy 2:1-7

**Gospel:** Luke 4:16-22

**Prosforo:** Korinna H

**Coffee Hour:** Summer Coffee Hour  
Sign-Up

## September 8

### Nativity of the Theotokos / Sunday Before the Holy Cross

### REGULAR HOURS RESUME

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** Galatians 6:11-18

**Gospel:** John 3:13-17

**Prosforo:** Kathie F

**Coffee Hour:** (Group ?)

## September 14

### Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

**Gospel:** John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30

## September 14, con't.

**Prosforo:** Michelle B

## September 15

### Sunday After the Holy Cross

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** Galatians 2:16-20

**Gospel:** Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

**Prosforo:** Michelle B

**Coffee Hour:** (?)

## September 17

### Saints Sophia, Faith, Hope and Love

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 12:20-21; 13:1-2

**Gospel:** Luke 3:32-38; 4:1

**Prosforo:** Jane S

## September 22

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Luke

Orthros 9:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 1:21-24; 2:1-4

**Gospel:** Luke 5:1-11

**Prosforo:** Jane S

**Coffee Hour:** (Group ?)

## September 26

### Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** 1 John 4:12-19

**Gospel:** John 19:25-27; 21:24-25

**Prosforo:** ?

## September 29

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Luke

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

**Gospel:** Luke 6:31-36

**Prosforo:** Jenny G

**Coffee Hour:** (Group ?)

## October 6

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke / St. Thomas / Church Musicians Sunday

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

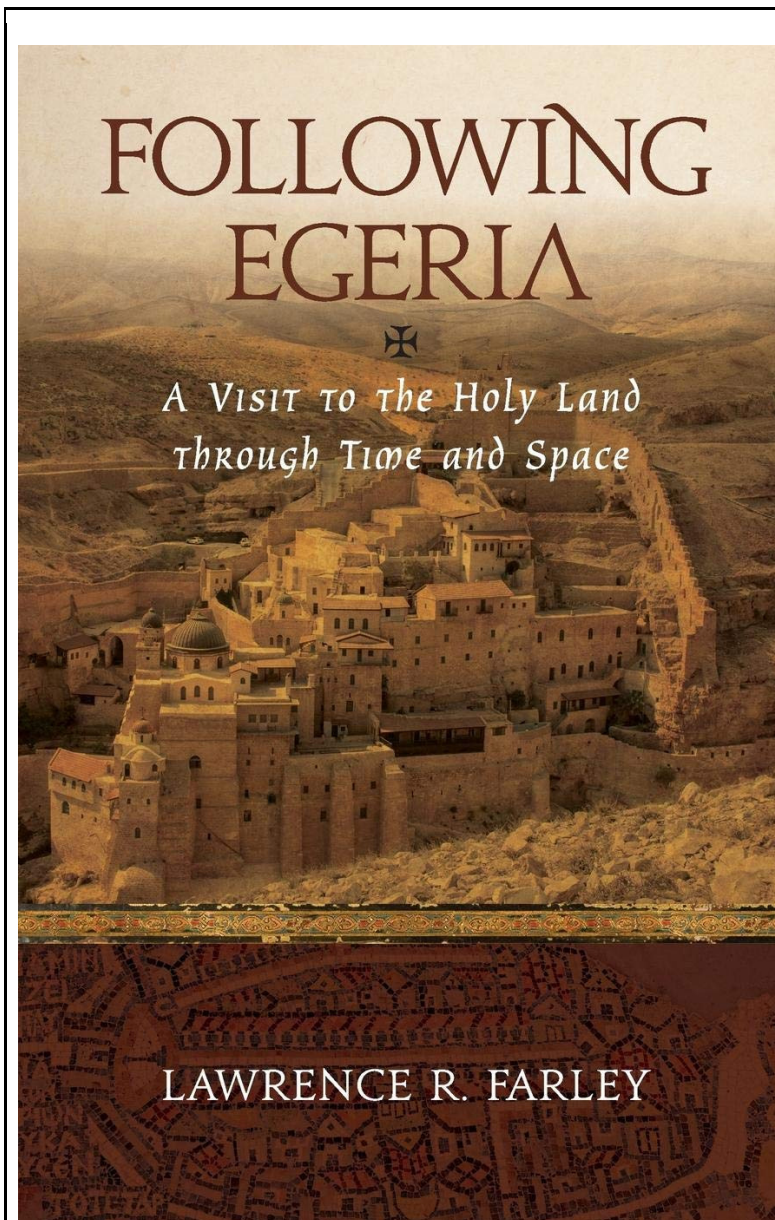
**Gospel:** Luke 7:11-16

# Join Us for A Book Club!

First Meeting, August 18, 2019, After Church!

*For more information contact*

Maria Molzahn at [mariaandpatrick@gmail.com](mailto:mariaandpatrick@gmail.com), 608-835-0184  
or Father Michael [frmichael@agocwi.org](mailto:frmichael@agocwi.org)



**Following Egeria** - A Visit to the Holy Land Through Time and Space - In the fourth century, a nun named **Egeria** traveled through the Holy Land and wrote an account of her experiences. In the twenty-first century, Fr. Lawrence Farley **followed** partially in her footsteps and wrote his own account of how he experienced the holy sites as they are today.

***The book is available through Ancient Faith Book Store and Amazon!***



# Labor Day Weekend Family Retreat

FEATURING: FR. JOSIAH TRENHAM

## Spiritual Athleticism in Family Life

Fr. Josiah is a priest, father of 10 children, author, podcaster, and engaging speaker, dedicated to teaching the inspired theology of the Church Fathers.

**Friday, Aug 30, 2019 7 p.m. –  
Sunday, Sept 1, 2019 3 p.m.**

**St. Iakovos Retreat Center**  
Kansasville, WI • [www.gosirc.org](http://www.gosirc.org) • 262-864-9090

This weekend retreat for Orthodox Christians will include worship, workshops and discussion groups for both adults and children, fun outdoor activities including nature walks, hayride, farm animals, athletics, and fellowship with other families.

# REGISTER NOW!

@ [www.gocfamilysynaxis.org](http://www.gocfamilysynaxis.org)

**Aug 14** Last day for early-bird registration price

**Aug 21** Last day to register


*Can't stay all weekend?*

**SPECIAL DAY-RATE FOR SATURDAY ONLY** (workshops+lunch+dinner)

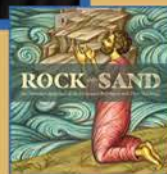
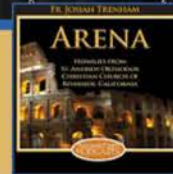
Visit the website for workshop details, weekend schedule, cost-structure, accommodations, and for a link to register!

**Questions?** [chicago.family.synaxis@gmail.com](mailto:chicago.family.synaxis@gmail.com)

or Toni Milak 630.341.2013

 Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Family Synaxis

*A perfect way to reconnect with your family  
... and for your family to reconnect with God*



# Chicago: 13th Annual 5K Walk/Run for IOCC 2019

**Date:** Saturday, September 21, 2019

**Time:** 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Location:** St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church

5649 N. Sheridan Rd.

Chicago, IL 60660

United States

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019 • 13TH ANNUAL Walk The Walk for IOCC

St. Andrew Greek Orthodox Church

5649 N. Sheridan Rd. • Chicago, IL 60660

Registration: 8:00 AM • Walk/Run Begins: 9:00 AM • Breakfast following the race



Elios Photography

Register Now

<https://support.iocc.org/site/Ticketing?view=Tickets&id=101021>