



Greater Dayton Community
450 W. Alex-Bell Rd., Centerville, OH 45459

August Newsletter

Vol. 29 No. 8, 2018

AUGUST GATHERING

Monday, August 13
2nd Monday Every Month
7:15 PM, Normandy UMC

Share Group Orientation

@6:15pm in Chapel at
Normandy UMC

Sponsor Training

@ 6:30pm in Loggia at
Normandy UMC

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 28
7PM, Normandy UMC

Inside this Issue:

Good Shepherd	2
Chrysalis/Kairos	2
Mat Donations	2
Spiritual Director	3
Sponsorship 101	4
Agape Worldwide	4

Newsletter published
by: Brenda Donnelly
Communication Chair

Please send content
requests to:
newsletter@daytonemmaus.org

Chairman's Corner

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for calamity, to give you a future and a hope." Jer. 27:11

PLANNING, PREPARATION, EXECUTION.

In our human-ness, this is how we hope to accomplish a job that is well done. We mirror our Abba Father who, before the thought hit our mind, knew us and loved us and breathed His Holy Spirit into us. Any plan, any preparation and any execution will be to His glory that we might accomplish His Will for our lives.

During our Fourth Days as disciples, we are encouraged to enter first into a time of silent meditation, gratefulness, worship and obedience to God and to those who are sent by God to help us. How else will we get plugged into His Will?

And now it's August, and for Emmaus that means we welcome new Fourth Day disciples into our Community from WW #104! So many prayers have been answered by our God that we all are humbled and grateful for His pruning, healing and grace for these strong women of God.

The Walk to Emmaus is an experience that can be shared with others but only if you invite them. There are those longing for something indescribable. Your part of the planning, preparation and execution is to pray first and then ask someone to experience God's love in a special way. God uses our human-ness in His equation for our lives. This is how we lead; as disciples that follow Jesus Christ. He is counting on you!

Peace,

Barbara Courtice
Community Lay Director

Pilgrim Application Forms:

available at www.daytonemmaus.org,
under forms tab, or [CLICK HERE](#).

Women's Registrar, Shelly Crabtree
womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

Men's Registrar, Bill Jones
mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

Jesus— I want to fix everything!

We are transported to an ancient town with cobblestone streets, wheelbarrows full and overturned and people sitting in the street. Jesus turns back to us with a face of peace and says, “Come, walk with Me. Things are not as hard as they appear. Look, everything around appears to be a mess,” says Jesus without an ounce of worry. “I will take care of it all of in My time.”



We follow Him through a large tunnel and we share our worries about all the pain in the world. We turn and climb narrow, broken white stairs. Jesus says, “I go where no one else will go, and look into the deepest places for my people. I’ll help them shed their skin of sin so they will be like Me, unchanging with the tide. When they find themselves on the edge of the cliff, I’ll be there and so will hope. You are obedient, child, and you are growing in faith and wisdom, but don’t mistake your new growth for increased responsibility to change things all by yourself. You only need to look toward me constantly. I need you to bring me your heart and all it sees and lay it at my feet. I will do what I will with it. Your job is to clear from your heart any resistance, darkness, fear, doubt, anxiety, anger and vengeance. When your heart is clear you will see only Me at every turn.”

I stop on the path grasping my chest. He squats in front of me and asks, “What is it, Dear one? One moment you’re obsessed with Me and the next you doubt? You’ll feel your Spiritual strength condition over time; obedience is a learned conditioning and gifts of grace are always there for you.”

Christ is the cornerstone of our lives and share groups are the cornerstone of our fourth day walk in the Emmaus ministry. It not only helps us stay clear with Christ, but it helps maintain a connection vital to honor the gift of your pilgrimage to Emmaus. If you cherish your pilgrimage, then cherish the choice you have to give back to the community through volunteering your time and your gifts by sponsoring and serving new pilgrims. Share groups, volunteering, serving on live-in team are all contingent on the strength of your share group experience.

Join us for a Share group orientation experience, a mini-party for God celebration, on Monday, August 13 at 6:15pm in the chapel at Normandy UMC before the August Gathering. Ask questions and learn how to get involved! Stay tuned for new Share group information.

DeColores!
Michele Cremeans
Good Shepherd



westohiochrysalis.com



kairosOhio.org

Dayton Correctional Institution (DCI) #12

September 20-23, 2018

Glenna Baughman Leader

Lebanon Correctional Institution (LeCI) #54

September 13-16, 2018

Jim Young Leader

Mat Donations

We are still accepting monetary donations to defray the cost of the mats (each mat costs about \$50). Please mark your checks “mats” and drop in the offering basket at the Gathering, or send to the Greater Dayton Emmaus; PO Box 292224; Dayton Ohio 45429-2224.

Rescued!!!

As I write this, the good news today is that all of the young Thai soccer team members have been released from the hospital and are finally going home! Over these many weeks the world has been transfixed by their plight and filled with joy upon hearing of their rescue. Much warranted praise has been given to their intrepid and fearless rescuers who refused to give up their efforts as time was running out in spite of the danger and the tragic sacrifice of one of their comrades.



This event brought to mind a verse I'd been praying over this past week from Ephesians 1.7 MSG:

“Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the cross, we’re a rescued and free people—free of penalties and punishments chalked up by our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. Abundantly free!”

Let us not forget that when we declare, “Jesus is our Savior,” the word “Savior” in Greek also means healer and rescuer. Jesus is our rescuer and came to give his life to rescue our sin-sick and sorrow-worn world and offer us the opportunity of new and everlasting life in his love.

So, we get this, you say. But what does this have to do with us Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus people?

In an episode of West Wing, one of the characters tells another this modern-day parable:

A man was walking down a street when he fell into a hole. The walls were so steep he couldn't get out. So, the man in the hole began to cry out for help. Soon, a doctor walked by, and he heard the man's cries for help. The doctor wrote a prescription, tossed it down the hole, and walked away. Before long, a priest walked by and heard the man calling out. “Father, can you help me?” the man asked. The priest wrote a prayer, threw it in the hole, and walked away. Finally, a friend came along. And the man asked the friend for help. The friend then made a brave, bold move—He jumped into the hole. The man who had been trapped was aghast. “Are you stupid? Now we're both stuck down here!” But the friend said, “Yeah, but I've been down here before, and I know the way out.”

I am convinced that God showers each Emmaus Walk weekend with his rescuing grace. Each of the fifteen talks contain an opportunity for the speaker to share a testimony of how he or she found themselves in a dark hole and how Jesus jumped down with them and said, “I've been down here before and I know the way out.” And He did!

Think of all the ways Jesus rescues during the weekend: Table sharing of God rescue stories. Conversations at breaks. During the seventy-two hours how many times do the pilgrims get a chance to hear about God's power to rescue us in/thru Jesus?

When we serve the Community in any capacity, we are Jesus' Spirit-filled rescuing presence to the pilgrims. God rescues us for a purpose—to be rescuers of others.

Still sitting on the side lines watching others do the rescuing? Say, “Yes!” to Jesus and jump in. Fill out a Willing Servant Form. Sign up to help with a weekend meal. Show up for a Big Move. Start attending the monthly Gathering again. Serve on the Board. Don't tarry. The water is rising. Lives are at stake!

DeColores!

Rescued by Jesus I am, Pastor George Brewer

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

—Luke 24:32 (NIV)

Sponsorship 101

Many people assume to know the “how’s” and “why’s” of pilgrim sponsorship. Unfortunately, sponsorship is rarely discussed except in reference to the number of pilgrims assigned to a walk. Yet sponsorship is one of the most important responsibilities of the Emmaus community. It is more than just “signing up people.” The quality of sponsorship influences the pilgrim, the health of the community and the churches affected by the movement.

- First, good sponsorship is the first act of agape before the walk begins; the experience of the Walk for a pilgrim really begins with how we invite a pilgrim and explain the experience of the Walk to Emmaus.
- Second, good sponsorship undergirds the whole weekend with sacrificial love on behalf of each pilgrim. Sponsors use discernment in recruiting pilgrims, embody the personal commitment of the community to each pilgrim, and provide acts of agape during the three days of the Walk to Emmaus. These acts include, but are not limited to: prayer, agape letters, presence at Candle-light, Closing and follow-up.
- Third, good sponsorship is the foundation for a healthy, effective Emmaus community that is fulfilling its true purpose: the development of Christian leaders and the renewal of the church in ministry.
- Fourth, While some sponsors will pay for their pilgrims walk or deposit as an act of agape, it is not a requirement or expected.

Why do we sponsor? What is our aim?

The aim of a sponsor should NOT be “to get my friends to go,” to fill up the three day event, to fix people’s problems, or to reproduce one’s own experience in others. Rather, the aim of the sponsor is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who, in turn, will bring new life and vision to the work of the church in their congregation, home, workplace and community. The aim of sponsorship is to build up the Body of Christ!

DeColores,

Bill Jones

Men’s Registrar

Men’s Registrar Committee Forming

The Men’s Registrar is forming a committee of 3-4 community members to assist in carrying out registrar responsibilities.

- Pilgrim check-in for the walk on Thursday night
- Confirming contact information
- Stuffing envelopes

The Registrars are the second contact the new pilgrims will have with the Emmaus Community after the Sponsors, so we need to make a good impression with our dealings with all pilgrims. If you are interested in serving or have questions, please contact Men’s Registrar, Bill Jones by phone at 513.260.5217 or email at

mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org.

Agape Worldwide

Every weekend there is an Emmaus walk going on somewhere in the world, let’s remember them in prayer on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Below are some upcoming Emmaus Communities who have specifically requested our prayers and Agape:

Heart of Ohio Emmaus

Men’s #58 9/13-16,

Women’s #69 10/18-21

Face to Face Encounter 8/14 , 8/21, 8/28, 9/4

Gulf Coast Walk to Emmaus

Men’s- October 4-7, 2018

Women’s - October 11-14, 2018

New York Annual Conference Emmaus

Women’s 10/18-21

Columbus, Indiana Chrysalis Community

This community has lost its Agape file and is asking for Share Group or Community agape. Please email to Community Lay Director of the Chrysalis Community, Leah Griffin: leahgriffin14@gmail.com