



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

## June Newsletter

Vol. 29 No. 6, 2018

### 2018 WALK SCHEDULE

At Sulphur Grove UMC  
WW #104 July 19-22  
MW #66 August 23-26

CANDLELIGHT  
8:30PM Saturday of Walk

CLOSING  
4:30PM Sunday of Walk

NEXT GATHERING  
Monday, June 11  
2nd Monday Every Month  
7:15 PM, Normandy UMC

BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, June 26  
7PM, Normandy UMC

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### Chairman's Corner

#### Am I immovable in my devotion to God?

In April, your Emmaus board members had a day of training and fellowship around our common mission. We learned that our Community Spiritual Directors (CSDs) and our Walk Spiritual Directors partner with the Lay Directors to provide leadership for the Walk to Emmaus. Each board member has a passion for the position they have been invited to accept, but this requires a sacrifice of time, resources and intention. And we all appreciate helping hands! Our community can look forward to hearing from our board members at the Gatherings as they share their vision. I encourage you to make friends with each other and lend a hand in the preparations for the July and August walks at Sulphur Grove UMC.

We invite you to join us in "community prayer," formerly called corporate prayer. Now more than ever, we are called to intercede for others through the power of the Holy Spirit. Please come and join us in prayer for our national and international leaders, city officials, first responders, law enforcement officers, pastors and community in which we live. There is no better place to take your anxiety, worry and concerns than to lay them at the feet of our Lord God.

What is your story with Jesus in your life? Are you growing in your life in grace and what are you doing about it? If you had your own reality TV show with a camera following you around, would it be obvious to the audience that you are a disciple of Jesus and that, as St. Paul was, you are immovable in your devotion to Jesus? Every day is our "fourth day" and at the Gathering we will be hearing of how the Walk to Emmaus has opened our eyes to the grace of God. Why not hook up with other Emmaus grads and declare the joy in a share group?

This is an open invitation to invite someone to come with you to this time of worship, remembrance and communion.

DeColores!  
Barbara Courtice  
Community Lay Director

# Sponsorship

*“Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”*

—Matthew 9:35-38 New International Version (NIV)

## The Workers Are Few

The recent problem we have experienced with low attendance for our Walks to Emmaus is not due to lack of candidates. The churches are rich with candidates for the Emmaus experience. But alas, we have fallen short on the harvest. Remember the saying for your walk, “Christ is counting on you!” In addition, we are to be the hands and feet of Jesus on earth. Remember the burning fire of sharing what our encounter on the road to Emmaus meant to us when we just started our fourth days?

The first step is always to pray, asking God to lead you to the person in your life that is ready to deepen their commitment to Christ. I have been told several times by people I have approached after feeling strongly God was directing me to them, that I was the answer to their prayers. They were just waiting for someone to sponsor them. Another shared at her first gathering that several people had talked to her about going on the Emmaus Walk, but I was the first person that handed her an application to complete.

You never know where He is leading you, but you know He has a plan that involves you. Every month before the gathering, either Shelly Crabtree or I will lead sponsorship training. Even if you have already completed the training, it won't hurt to do a refresher course. DeColores!

In his service,  
Bill Jones

## Key Dates and Reminders

**Next Gathering:** Monday, June 11, 2018

- Sponsorship training: 6:30pm in Loggia
- Gathering: 7:15pm in Sanctuary

**Women's Walk #104:** (Sulphur Grove) July 19-22

**Men's Walk #66:** (Sulphur Grove) August 23-26

**Every Walk:**

- Candlelight - Saturday at 8:30pm
- Closing - Sunday at 4:30pm

## Wash Mat Covers

If you are planning to attend the June AND July Gathering, Housing can use your help. We have 19 mat covers that need to be laundered. They will be in the narthex at the June Gathering. If you can help, then just take a few of them home, launder them, bring them to the July Gathering and drop them off in the narthex. They will be used for the next Women's Walk in July, so don't forget to bring them to the July Gathering!

DeColores,  
Steve Uphouse, Housing Chair

## Pray for Walks:

God uses the Walk to Emmaus to develop Christian leaders. Please pray that every available spot on the upcoming Walks will be filled.

**Men's Registrar:**

Bill Jones, [mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org)

**Women's Registrar:**

Shelly Crabtree, [womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org)

**Sponsorship Training:** Available before Gatherings at 6:30pm in Loggia at Normandy UMC

**Application Forms:** available at

[www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org), under registration tab, or link:

<http://daytonemmaus.org/deForms.shtm>

# Give It Away

*"It is more blessed to give than to receive."*  
—Acts 20:35b



Don't look now but I'm willing to bet you have more stuff than you need. Do you have cars in your garage or stuff? How about your basement, or your attic? Are they overflowing with items? Look in your kitchen cabinets, the pantry, your hall closet, the laundry room closet, the spare bedroom closet. What's in there? Have you used it or even thought about it this last year? What about that closet under the steps? When was the last time you looked in there? Okay, what about that shed out back? Or that storage unit that you keep paying for monthly? It's time to make a decision on all that clutter. You can't debate with yourself, because the mind left to itself can rationalize anything. You can't over think it and you have already procrastinated long enough. You just have to stop making excuses and ... Give It Away!

And when you do, not only will the receiver be blessed, but so too will the giver. Think about your walk to Emmaus. I'll bet you came to the weekend with a lot more stuff than you went home with. That emotional baggage, guilt, un-forgiveness, resentment, fear, anxiety, and the list goes on and on. You probably didn't even remember what closet you had stuffed all that stuff into. Once you cleared out all that old stuff, you had room for some new items. Items like-- new habits and disciplines, new found freedom in Christ, new friendships and healthy relationships, new clarity and focus on your priorities.

And now that you are on a roll and have given away some stuff, let's keep it rolling and head on up to Sulphur Grove this summer and give of your time. The women's walk is in July and the men's walk is in August. Get plugged in and get blessed. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

DeColores,  
Palmer Jason, Spiritual Director

## Sewing Volunteers

Our sewing volunteers are in need of heavy cotton material for the new mat covers. More sewing volunteers are welcome. If you want to donate fabric, money to purchase fabric, or your skills as a seamstress, please contact Normandy UMC representative Bob Knell at 937.479.3924.



[www.westohiochrysalis.com](http://www.westohiochrysalis.com)

West Ohio Girls Chrysalis #66 - July 6-8, 2018  
West Ohio Boys Chrysalis #66 - July 27-29,



[www.kairosOhio.org](http://www.kairosOhio.org)

## Endless Ripples

Our Emmaus community is built on endless ripples of goodness created by acts of kindness, done not for ourselves, but for the love of God. So much has been on our hearts lately and many of our Emmaus community are in need of kindness, prayers, and support. To those who suffer, we love you, and will work hard in your absence awaiting your return.

There is never a shortage of members ready to pray, sending God ahead where he is greatly needed. To those who pray, serve and stand up in times of need ... thank you. Thank You for holding things together; thank you for your faith, integrity, dedication, steadfastness, understanding and patience. When we hold our posts, we honor our brothers and sisters who are not able to serve—ones who would be there if they could.

Sometimes people who give the most peace and grace are the easiest to overlook. To be snail-slow to judge another's actions and embody peace and grace—to you I say, thank you. Thank you for using your own suffering to recognize the pain in another; warming them by the hearth of our collective Christ heart—This is Emmaus.

A great big hug of thank you's to all of you who participate in Emmaus and continue with obedience to His will. And to those who can't make it to Gathering, or those who cannot serve often, you are loved and we look forward to seeing your Light once again. Forever united in Christ, we reap the joys and blessings of our great Father in heaven. Praise God!

*"Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God."*

—2 Corinthians 4:1-2

Peace! DeColores! Love!  
Michele Cremeans  
Good Shepherd, Outreach

## In Search of Share Group Partners?

Please connect with these members to create a new share group or invite them into yours:

**Alyssa Miller** of Pickerington  
[adspeechpath@gmail.com](mailto:adspeechpath@gmail.com) /Will travel

**Karen Heydinger** of Dayton  
[heydinger.829@gmail.com](mailto:heydinger.829@gmail.com) /Will travel  
as far south as Franklin

**David Brooks** of Union  
937-204-0596 /Will travel

**Maryann Schum** of Kettering  
[Dennisandmaryann@gmail.com](mailto:Dennisandmaryann@gmail.com) /Will travel

## Share Group Mentors

Perhaps you already have a share group established and can afford to offer some time to meet a few times to support a newly budding share group as they get comfortable with the process.

If you'd like your information published in the monthly Emmaus newsletter to:

- Find a share group
- Become a share group mentor

For general questions or guidance, please contact Michele Cremeans at [goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org)

## 40 Year Anniversary Cruise

Join us as we celebrate “40 years of the Walk to Emmaus Ministry” by joining us on a Caribbean cruise!

Experience a time of fellowship, music, worship and fun with fellow Emmaus pilgrims! Each morning you will have the opportunity to share in worship together. When we are at sea, you will have the opportunity to hear speakers talk about their Emmaus experiences and how it affected their Christian lives:



Rev. Stephen Bryant currently serves and Publisher of The Upper Room and Associate General Secretary at Discipleship Ministries. From 1986-1992, he served as Director of Spiritual Formation for The Upper Room and as the International Spiritual Director of The Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis. Steve is an author and launched Discipleship Resources International, a resourcing initiative for Central Conferences.

Pat Luna is an international consultant/instructor in stewardship, board member of the General Board of Church and Society and a recipient of the Denman Award for Evangelism. She has been a retreat leader for the Academy for Spiritual Formation and is deeply involved with the Emmaus ministry since her Walk in 1985.

Jacob and Rachel Armstrong founded Providence Church near Nashville TN in 2008 to see those who are disconnected from God and the church find hope, healing and wholeness in Jesus Christ. They co-authored the book *The Connected Life: Small Groups that Build Community*. Jacob attended Chrysalis in 1998 where he felt called to the ministry. Rachel attended the Walk to Emmaus in 2002.

Emmaus Ministries staff will share about newer ministries like Discovery Weekend, Chrysalis, Journey to the Table, and Face to Face in a question and answer period. When we are in port you will have an entire day to discover Cozumel, Mexico.

The link to download a brochure, get more information and to register is: <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/cc19032819y#.WsTpEFI5Dcs>

You are welcome to share this with your community through your newsletters or email.

Registration is now open!

## Time to Sign Up

Recently, a friend of mine went to the Holy Land. His pictures on Facebook reminded me of the trip Myra and I were on last November, and got me excited about the trip scheduled for 2019.

You can now sign up for the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community trip to the Holy Land October 28—November 7, 2019. We will see the places of Scripture, deepen your understanding of the Bible, and walk in the footsteps of Jesus, plus share Communion at Emmaus. There will be optional extensions afterwards, either retracing the Exodus to Mt. Sinai, Cairo, and the pyramids, or go to Jordan, Mt. Nebo, and Petra. The trip will be organized through Educational Opportunities, a travel company that has specialized in Christian trips since 1974.



*Church at the Shepherds' Field in Bethlehem.*

To register, visit [germantownchurch.com/grow/holy-land-trip-2019/](http://germantownchurch.com/grow/holy-land-trip-2019/) or contact Gary Wheeler at 937.204.4400.