

GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS

450 ALEX-BELL RD. CENTERVILLE, OH 45459



JUNE 2025

More pilgrims are needed for
Women's Walk #114 in July!

Contact the registrar,

Gail Simpson, for more information -

GDEWomenregistrar@gmail.com



Gathering
JUNE 9, 2025
7:15 P.M.
Sulfur Grove UMC



Notes from the Spiritual Director

Waiting on God

Ever heard the phrase (or maybe you've used it), "I'm waiting on the Lord"? Sounds spiritual, doesn't it? Today I want to challenge the placeholder that phrase has become.

I have a friend of mine who says they're going to ask the Lord what took Him so long in answering some things. I always contend that they will have more pressing questions than those of the time it took to accomplish something. Here is the point I want to bring out...in asking the Lord what took so long what would you do if He posed the same question to you?

He has given us His authority, His name and His Word to navigate our time here on earth. There is so much that could be done with what we have been given, the problem becomes our not recognizing what is given to us as a responsibility as opposed to what only the Lord, Himself, can do. I have a phrase that I use that goes, "It is easier to place blame than it is to take responsibility".

Look at what the Psalmist tells us in Psalm 115 verses 15 and 16. Ye are blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth. 16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD'S: but the earth hath he given to the children of men. We are blessed of the Lord and He has given us the earth. There are those who would have you think that verse applies to the millennial reign of Jesus. And while there may be a future application to this, there is also a very present one as well.

The fundamental problem we face as Christians is one of two extremes – either we do it all and God plays no part or God does it all and we play no part. Both extremes are in error. Scripture reminds us that we are called to partnership with the Lord (1 John 1:3) and in a partnership there are responsibilities. God won't do our part and we can't do His part – so it is best that we stay in our respective lanes and accomplish what we are assigned to do. What does any of this have to do with waiting on God? Everything.

What I want us to do is awaken to the idea that while we may find ourselves "waiting" that we not disqualify ourselves from a blessing of obedience because we haven't done our part. In other words I don't want to be found "waiting on God" when in fact He is waiting on me. Think about this...our definition of waiting is idly occupying time until something (we are expecting) happens. The bible definition of waiting (and it is a lot longer) is to initiate the process of applying faith to a promise or a direction given to us by the Lord and to continue applying whatever is needed to that process while we await the manifestation of the answer we desire from the Lord. (Told you it was a longer definition). In closing, I want to remind you of a promise found in Galatians chapter 6 and verse 9 which says, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Trusting in God is well doing. Standing in faith is well doing. Holding on to the promises of God for our situation is well doing. Praying is well doing. Reading and studying the Word is well doing. Having faith in God is well doing. And the enemy of your soul, satan, will do everything he can to discourage you in every one of those areas. But don't listen to him because he is a liar and the father of lies (according to John chapter 8). We have already been promised by God that we will reap in due season if we don't give up.

DeColores.
Bishop Brian K. Hayes
Spiritual Director



Greater Dayton Emmaus

A WORD FROM THE COMMUNITY CHAIR



Welcome to Summer Community!

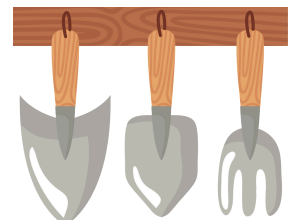
Can you believe we are halfway through the year already. This month I have lots of celebrations – graduation party, birthdays and wedding anniversaries. I also love to see people's gardens growing. Are you a gardener? I have planted all my summer flowers and am looking forward to watching them grow. However, for the plants to grow, I must prune and water the plants. There is a story in the Bible about being pruned (John 15:2).

I believe Greater Dayton Emmaus has entered a growth season where God is pruning what isn't producing fruit. As some of you may know, we had to cancel the June Walk this year. That hurt to do that but without a team, Spiritual Director and Pilgrims, you can't produce a new harvest of community members. Our July Walk is starting to grow because it has the nutrients it needs...a team, Spiritual Directors and now the pilgrim list is beginning to grow.

What seeds have you planted at your church? Have you asked the Pastor if they have been on a walk? Remember, I would like to sponsor all Pastors who have not been on a weekend. What about the office staff, have you dropped off applications and shared what your Emmaus Walk meant to you? Your church staff are looking for opportunities to improve their leadership skills and Emmaus is a great tool for them, but they must know about it. Be sure you go back and water the seed you planted. We really need a Good Shephard to do this work but until this person steps up, we must tend the garden. I really want to encourage you to attend the June Gathering at Sulphur Grove because there, I will be unveiling a new plan called Reclaiming Our Mission. You won't want to miss it. Save the date for September 26-27, 2026. This event will take place at the Bergamo Center in Beavercreek. We only have room for 75 people to attend. It is preferred that you attend the entire time, this is not a situation where we come and go as we want. I believe the lack of commitment to fully commit to team meetings, attend the full Emmaus weekend, and regular attendance at Gatherings is what is causing our garden to die. I will share more details at the Gathering so don't miss it.

Greater Dayton Emmaus Community has had a very long growing season where many people have met Jesus in new ways, have strengthened their walk with Christ, and have been given opportunities to grow in Leadership. Let's get in our garden, plant our seeds, water the seeds and be ready for new growth as we begin to "Reclaim our Mission".

DeColores,
Brenda Baker
Community Lay Director





Help Us Pack for the Women's Walk!

Pack-Up Day, when we make the move from Normandy UMC to Sulfur Grove UMC for summer walks, is Wednesday, July 9th, starting at 6pm.

We need lots of community members to come and pack the pod!

Contact Tom Donaldson with any questions—937-470-9114.



IT'S HERE!!

**ONLINE
GIVING!**

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website!**

www.daytonemmaus.org

Mark your Calendar

UPCOMING GATHERINGS AND EVENTS

- *DATE:** JUNE 9
- *TIME:** 7:15 PM
- *LOCATION:** SULPHUR GROVE UMC

- ## THE BIG PACK-UP DAY!
- *DATE:**JULY 9
- TIME: 6:00 PM
- *FROM:** NORMANDY UMC TO SULPHUR GROVE UMC

- *STATUS:** MEN'S WALK #73 CANCELED

- ##JULY GATHERING
- DATE: JULY 14
- TIME: 7:15 PM
- *LOCATION:**SULFUR GROVE UMC

- ## WOMEN'S WALK #114
- *DATE:** JULY 17-20
- *LOCATION:** SULPHUR GROVE UMC

- ## AUGUST GATHERING
- *DATE:** AUGUST 11
- *TIME:** 7:15 PM
- *LOCATION:** SULPHUR GROVE UMC



BOARD MEMBERS URGENTLY NEEDED

If you have a gift for talking to people, here's your chance to put that spiritual gift to use.

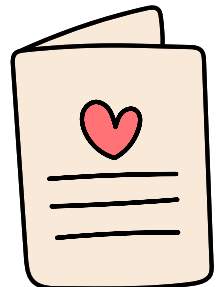
If you like to talk to people, the GDE Community can use that talent! The **Men's Registrar** talks to every single (male) pilgrim and sponsor and helps them get ready for upcoming walks. The **Good Shepherd** aids Emmaus graduates in finding 4th Day Share Groups and helps to get the word out about Emmaus to local churches. If this sounds like you, **PRAY ON IT** and call Brenda Baker, Community Lay Director at 937-216-2592 with any questions. **If you have a friend who fits the description, talk to them!!**



Men's Walk #73
has been cancelled!

Next Men's Walk =
January 2026.

Agape
Love



It's not too soon to start working on AGAPE for the summer walks. Pilgrims love to see your little gifts of love on the tables at meals. It's a great activity to do with your share group!

FEATURED REUNION OF THE MONTH... WOMEN'S WALK #102

As mentioned at last Gathering, we are going to begin featuring past walks. June Gathering will feature Women's Walk #102, Lay Director was Brenda Baker. If you were on team or a pilgrim from that weekend, there will be a reunion for you at Sulphur Grove. Please arrive at 6:30 and you will be directed to the area for meet. Women's Walk will be featured at Gathering with their photo and a once in a lifetime opportunity. We look forward to welcoming you.

Reunion OF Souls

