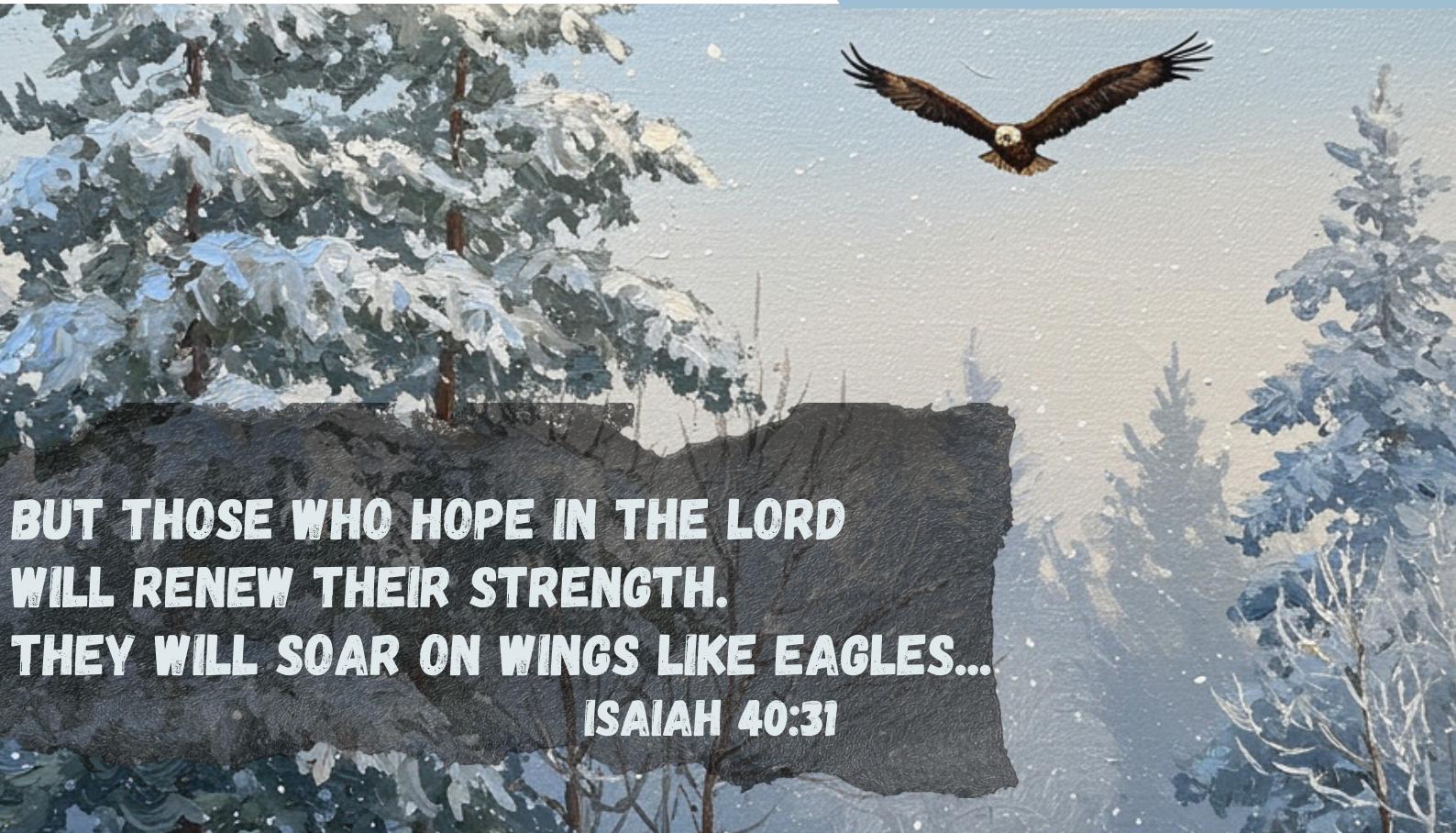


GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS

450 ALEX-BELL RD. CENTERVILLE, OH 45459



JANUARY 2026



**BUT THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD
WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH.
THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES...**

ISAIAH 40:31

Men's Walk #73

January 22-25, 2026

Community volunteers are needed to set up and move pilgrims in, and to help serve meals.

Sign up at **Gathering on January 12** or see **page 4** for info. See the MW #73 pilgrim list on **page 7**!



Spiritual Director Message

REMEMBER?

One of the greatest gifts given to men by God is the power of remembrance. One of the greatest gifts turned against us by the enemy of our souls is remembrance.

True, not all of us had stellar upbringings or the perfect this or that – but if we have made Jesus the Lord of our life, then we have a fresh start.

Where are you going with this, Bishop? Suffice it to say I want you to know that God intends for us to use remembrance as a rear-view mirror for us to glance behind so we are aware of how far we have come.

Do you remember your walk? Remember the first night when you were left alone with your thoughts and you were trying to figure out what you had gotten yourself into? Do you remember a couple of days later as you prepared to start your first Fourth Day and how you wanted to stay within the confines of the previous days?

You've had a lot of Fourth Days since then. I want you to stop and think about the Fourth Day you find yourself in right now. Life may have thrown some curves at you, but one thing is constant – the love of God is still there. The presence of God is still available. He is still walking with you in this Fourth Day.

Remembering can be a powerful force in our lives, because it can make us present in a moment with God where we need to (and can) connect with Him. Sometimes we tend to remember only the struggle or the hard times we are facing.

Can I let you in on something? If you think about it there have been times when there seemed to be no way out, like you were not going to make it and guess what?



God got you through it and you are still here. Maybe a little bruised but wiser and stronger than before.

When David faced Goliath, he recounted how God had delivered him from a bear and a lion (1 Samuel 17) – fights that could've ended without our ever knowing the story of David.

Remember your battle(s), but also remember your God and how He brought you through. He is the same God yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

The great thing about Fourth Days is we get a do-over every day. We get a fresh day where the Master's imprint can show up in our life in the most amazing way.

Remember your Fourth Day and the God who walks with you through it.

DeColores!

Bishop Dr. Brian K. Hayes



A WORD FROM THE COMMUNITY CHAIR

Happy New Year

Welcome to 2026 and what an exciting time it is. We are finally going to have a men's walk this month. Mark your calendar for January 22-25, 2026 and plan to support the men on their walk.

Come to the Gathering on January 12 at 7:15 and get signed up to serve in housing, kitchen, agape, worship or anywhere else we have openings. I am really looking forward to this weekend.

We also have a women's walk coming up in February. Mark your calendar for February 19-22, 2026. They are still accepting pilgrims, but hurry to get your application in...the men's walk filled up fast. You should be able to sign-up to serve on this weekend, at the January Gathering.

This is the month that I am hoping we get all the open board positions filled. Please let me know if you are interested in Secretary, Treasurer, Women's Registrar, or Communications.

We do have a couple people interested, but we will need all positions filled by April.

I also want to share some news from the Upper Room. The next International Gathering will be April 24, 2026 at 8pm Eastern Time. This is an amazing experience. People from all around the world join together for this event. we will have the registration information on our FB page and on our website, so stay tuned on this.

Lastly, did you know there is an Emmaus Ministries University? This is a free eCourse to help you learn the why behind what we do. If you are considering being on team or on the board...I highly encourage your participation. It does not take a lot of time to go through the program. Click [here](#) to take you the courses. The link will also be on our website.

In closing, I wish you all a great 2026. With a new year comes new hopes and dreams. I am hopeful for four full walks this year and teams that are excited to share the love of Jesus with pilgrims.

This seems to be a great scripture to leave with you. "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way." Isaiah 43:18-19.

DeColores,

Brenda Baker
Community Lay Director

Fourth Day Feast
An Emmaus Ministries International Virtual Gathering



April 24, 2026
[Zoom link to the virtual gathering](#)

KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED



Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve food and clean up after meals for MW #73.

Be sure to sign up early and not just show up, so we are assured of a full, but not over-staffed shift.

Thursday, Jan. 22

Weekend Prep	9:00 a.m. to noon
Brownie dropoff	5:00 p.m.
Send off Dinner	5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Friday, Jan 23

Breakfast	6:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Lunch	11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Dinner	3:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 24

Breakfast	6:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Lunch	11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Dinner	3:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Ice Cream Social after candlelight to 10:30 p.m.	

Sunday, Jan 25

Breakfast	6:00 to 10:30 a.m.
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Also needed: Someone to do a load of towels and aprons each of the four days.

Call, text or email Samantha Hoang

Cell phone/Text:

937-287-5850

Email: samantha.hoang82@gmail.com

Or click

[Kitchen Signup - Men's Walk #73](#)

SAVE THE
date

JANUARY GATHERING:

JANUARY 12 @7:15 PM
NORMANDY UMC; CENTERVILLE, OH

MEN'S WALK #73

JANUARY 22-25
SULPHUR GROVE UMC
HUBER HEIGHTS, OH

SEND-OFF
JANUARY 22 - 5PM

CANDLELIGHT
JANUARY 24 - 8PM

FEBRUARY GATHERING:

FEBRUARY 9 @7:15 PM
NORMANDY UMC; CENTERVILLE, OH

WOMEN'S WALK #114

FEBRUARY 19-22
SULPHUR GROVE UMC
HUBER HEIGHTS, OH

SEND-OFF
FEBRUARY 19 - 5PM

CANDLELIGHT
FEBRUARY 21 - 8PM

MARCH GATHERING:

MARCH 9 @7:15 PM;
NORMANDY UMC, CENTERVILLE, OH

APRIL GATHERING:

APRIL 13 @7:15 PM
NORMANDY UMC; CENTERVILLE, OH



Agape

Remember back on your walk? What did you think when you went to the dining room and found all of the agape on your table? Did you realize how much love was put into making all those things for you?

Agape love. We want to continue to shower our pilgrims with that same love.

Please remember that if you are doing table agape, you need to have 60 pieces, enough for team and pilgrims. If you want to make bedtime agape for team, you will need to make 30.

Pinterest is full of ideas if you don't know what to make.

We ask that you don't put names on your agape -- this is about love, not recognition.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Shelly Crabtree,
kidnurse75@gmail.com



**SPONSORS!
DON'T FORGET
THE AIR
MATTRESS!**

The bulky, sometimes hard-to-handle, and difficult-to-store sleeping mats are a thing of the past!

Sponsors/pilgrims and team now provide their own cot or air mattress.



FIND THE INFO YOU NEED:
[.DAYTONEMMAUS.ORG](http://DAYTONEMMAUS.ORG)

**WOMEN 'S WALK #114
PILGRIM REGISTRATION
DEADLINE IS
January 11!**

Contact the registrar -Gail Simpson
GDEWomenregistrar@gmail.com

Dear Emmaus Community,

As we step into a new year, we are filled with gratitude and hope for what God continues to do through the Emmaus ministry. January brings with it a special opportunity as we prepare for the upcoming Emmaus Men's Walk #73. We invite you to walk alongside us in prayer, service, and love.

This walk is a sacred journey for our pilgrims and team—an intentional time to encounter Christ, grow in faith, and experience the power of Christian community. As they embark on this journey, we ask for your continued prayers and encouragement. Your spiritual support is a vital part of what makes Emmaus so meaningful and transformative.

Emmaus walks do not happen without the help of the community. Each act of service, seen or unseen, plays an important role. At this time, we are especially in need of assistance in several areas:

- Housing support for team members and pilgrims
- Kitchen support to help nourish both body and spirit
- Send-off volunteers to surround our pilgrims with prayer and love as they begin, make a bed, carry a suitcase, and welcome them in Christian love.
- Candlelight, one of the most powerful moments of the walk, when the community gathers to share the love of Christ in a tangible way. **Please remember that we are at Sulphur Grove in Huber Heights for our walks this winter.**
- Closing, when we gather once again to show our love for God and each other, a special time to hear the impact of the walk first hand from our new Emmaus members who are pilgrims no more.

Many of us remember the impact of those moments—when we stood together, when love was freely given, and when Christ felt so very near. Those moments matter. They change lives.

We recommit ourselves this year to our mission: to grow our Emmaus—walks, welcoming new pilgrims, and just as importantly, staying connected with those who have already walked. Emmaus is not just a weekend—it is a lifelong journey of faith lived out in community.

There are spots available for the Women's Walk in February, but the deadline is quickly approaching. Please prayerfully consider reaching out to women you know who need to feel the love of Christ. Sponsorship training is held prior to the Gathering in the Loggia at Normandy starting at 6:30pm.

Thank you for being part of this ministry, for answering the call to serve, and for continuing to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please consider how you might support this upcoming Men's Walk, and keep our pilgrims and team in your prayers.

Together, we walk on—into a new year, guided by faith, love, and the grace of God. De Colores,

Emily Adams
The Good Shepherd for GDE



GDE MEN'S WALK #73

Pilgrim	Home Town	Team Member - Position
TOM ANGST	Somerville	Jeff Adams - Lay Director
ANDY CRINER, Jr	Englewood	Scott Anspach - Asst Lay Dir
BRETT BAKER	Kettering	Jason Hoang - Asst Lay Dir
STANLEY BENNETT	Fairborn	Steven Nichols - Asst Lay Dir
TIMOTHY BURKES	Dayton	Brian Hayes - Spiritual Director
STEPHAN COOPER	Englewood	George Brewer - Asst SD Live In
ROBERT DINSMORE	Dayton	John Whitaker - Asst SD
RAMON FIGUEROA	Dayton	Palmer Jason - Asst SD
ROBERT GAINOR	Dayton	Mamie Johnson - Asst SD
MATT GERBERICK	Dayton	Brian Wood - Board Rep
BILLY HAWK	Fairborn	Jeff Null - Music Director
STEPHEN HOBBS	Tipp City	Tom Updike - Asst MD
JACOB JOHNS	Troy	James Anderson - Table Leader
CHRISTOPHER JONES	Dayton	Randy Barty - Table Leader
CHRISTOPER KASH	Dayton	Mike Berberich - Table Leader
JOHN MILLER	Dayton	Travis Hutchinson - Table Leader
GARY MOLEN	Dayton	Shawn Morgan - Table Leader
MAXWELL MORLEY	Dayton	Mike Raines - Table Leader
TRENT MORRIS	Beavercreek Township	Clay Fensler - Asst TL
JOE PAESSUN	Kettering	Mike Baughman - Asst TL
ALEX PETERS	Troy	Kirk Lehneis - Asst TL
MICHAEL PHIPPS, Jr	Dayton	Chris Parsons - Asst TL
JONMARSHALL REAVES	Kettering	Greg Spicer - Asst TL
DERRICK ROBERTSON	Dayton	Mario Ybarbo - Asst TL
JOSH ROE	Germantown	Rod Pummell - Prayer Servant
CALEB STEMLEY	West Milton	Shane Compton - LOG
MICHAEL TREADWAY	Vandalia	Mike Hodgins - LOG
MICHAEL WATERS	Centerville	

Time To write agape!!!



A NOTE FROM MEN'S WALK

#73 LAY DIRECTOR:

Dear community,

The Greater Dayton Emmaus Men's Walk #73 has 28 pilgrim! I have been preparing and planning and making phone calls in order to have a great group of men to serve on the team for the walk to be held at Sulphur Grove UMC in Huber Heights, Ohio. The Team will complete seven preparatory meetings to train, preview talks and bond.

We are thankful for the pastor and staff of Sulphur Grove Church for hosting team meetings and the walk itself—working around their church schedule and helping us any way necessary.

I am thankful for the Emmaus Community and team members, Share Groups, friends and family who worked hard to forward names of potential pilgrims so this walk could finally come to fruition.

To the Emmaus Community: we can not make this Men's Walk #73 happen without you! Please consider coming out to set up the church on Wednesday and Thursday evenings; prepare and serve meals on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday; attend candlelight on Saturday and closing on Sunday; and help with tear down and clean up before closing.

We also need folks to help pray through out the weekend. I encourage you to come sign up at Gathering on January 12 at 7:15 pm at Normandy UMC.

I hope to see many of you on the walk weekend!

Sincerely
Jeff Adams
Men's Walk #73 Lay Director



What is Emmaus?

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all."

The Walk to Emmaus experience begins with a 72-hour short course in Christianity, comprised of fifteen talks by lay and clergy on the themes of God's grace, disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church. The course is wrapped in prayer and meditation, special times of worship and daily celebration of Holy Communion.

The "Emmaus community," made up of those who have attended an Emmaus weekend, support the 72-hour experience with a prayer vigil, by preparing and serving meals, and other acts of love and self-giving. The Emmaus Walk begins Thursday evening and concludes Sunday evening.

Men and women attend separate weekends. During and after the three days, Emmaus leaders encourage participants to meet regularly in small groups. The members of the small groups challenge and support one another in faithful living.

— from What Is Emmaus?
Copyright The Upper Room.

Need to speak to a board member?
[Click here.](#)