



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

August Newsletter

Vol. 31 No. 8, 2020

August Gathering
Monday, August 10, 2020
7:15pm in person at
Sulphur Grove UMC
 or
Online YouTube

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 25
 7pm

Inside this Issue:

Comm. Lay Dir., cont'd	2
Spiritual Director	2
Leadership Profiles	3
Registrar Contacts	3
Walk Update	4
August Gathering	4
Gathering Archive	4
Give Online	4
Word from Kitchen	5
Social Media	5
Worship News	6
Emmaus Prayer Chain	6
Committee News	6
30th Anniversary Store	7
Walking with Emmaus	7

Newsletter Published by:

Brenda Donnelly
 Communication Chair
 All newsletter articles must be
 submitted by the 15th of each
 month.

newsletter@daytonemmaus.org



The year 2020 marks the 30th Year Anniversary of The Greater Dayton Emmaus community, and we're going to CELEBRATE! Perhaps not in the "conventional" way but in a "I have faith in God and God lives in me, so we're going to FIND A WAY TO LET GOD MOVE. So, let's joyfully celebrate what this Emmaus ministry means to each of us."

Then, the second question comes. What are we going to DO about it? "I've got the Joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart... where..?!" When we have the Joy of the Lord in our hearts, we must share it with AGAPE, Emmaus Style!

The unique thing about Emmaus Christians is our capacity for a specific thing called Agape (unconditional love). Of course, we don't have the market cornered, although I might argue that point. At a Gathering years ago while I washed my hands, the woman next to me sang sweetly "...once a log always a log..." as she wiped up the sink and countertop. At the time I had no idea she meant "Logistic" (the team who serve in the background on a Walk weekend cleaning, providing snacks, organizing and supporting each segment of the weekend.) This has clearly become a way this member continues to lovingly serve the world.

Before I went on my Walk, I worked with a woman who would always ask each of us at our desks if we needed anything, make pots of coffee, cleaned up after everyone, and always offered a smile and hug. I was baffled because I knew she had her own work to do... why would she exert SO much energy beyond her own work? Because it brings her Joy to give Agape! (Of course she was an Emmaus member!)

And.. there are other generous souls out there that give Agape and I tell them they are Emmaus people and just don't know it yet. 😊

We praise Him in all things, don't we?

Continued on page 2

Continued from front page

We're sitting in our garden surrounded by beauty. We're walking through the fire of a life challenge. We're helping someone else through their "fire" because of Christ, right? Or, we're resting on His oasis in the midst of confusion. No matter our circumstances, we always have a choice to be a Blessing because we know He is always with us comforting, holding, and loving us. What an unfathomable gift. He wants us to have His peace while He does the heavy lifting.

As we embark on each day, we can be encouraged in Christ that we are in it TOGETHER! Keep giving that Agape from your Christ heart. Keep smiling and keep a giggle in your belly because God Loves You! "... My peace I give to you ... do not let your hearts be troubled ..." John 14:27

This scripture from Romans brings me a mountain of comfort:
"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:38-9

AMEN!

Lord, prepare each of us to be a sanctuary, live from Your guidance and under Your care, now and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

DeColores in this Happy Anniversary!

In Christ's Love,
Michele Cremeans, WW#95
Community Lay Director



I've always been stuck by these four simple words, "In the beginning God ..." found in the first verse of the first book of the greatest book ever: the Bible.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1, NLT)

It tells us how it all started. We see the example of this in the life of Jesus. In the beginning of His ministry, Jesus met God as He came out of the water at His baptism (Mark 1:11). In the beginning of His teaching ministry, He met with God on the mountain to pray (Mark 1:35). In the beginning of calling His apostles, Jesus met with God and prayed for the Twelve (Luke 6:12-16). In the beginning of the last few hours of His life, Jesus pleaded with God to "take this cup from

me. Yet not what I will, but what you will" (Mark 14:36, NIV).

In the beginning God gives us the pattern for the Christian disciple's life. In the beginning God of your day, seek the Holy Spirit. In the beginning God of your work, ask of the Lord. In the beginning God of your rest, meet with God. In the beginning God of your trial, plead with God.

Let these four simple words be the launching point of whatever you do.

In the beginning God!

Gary Wheeler
Community Spiritual Director

Leadership Profiles

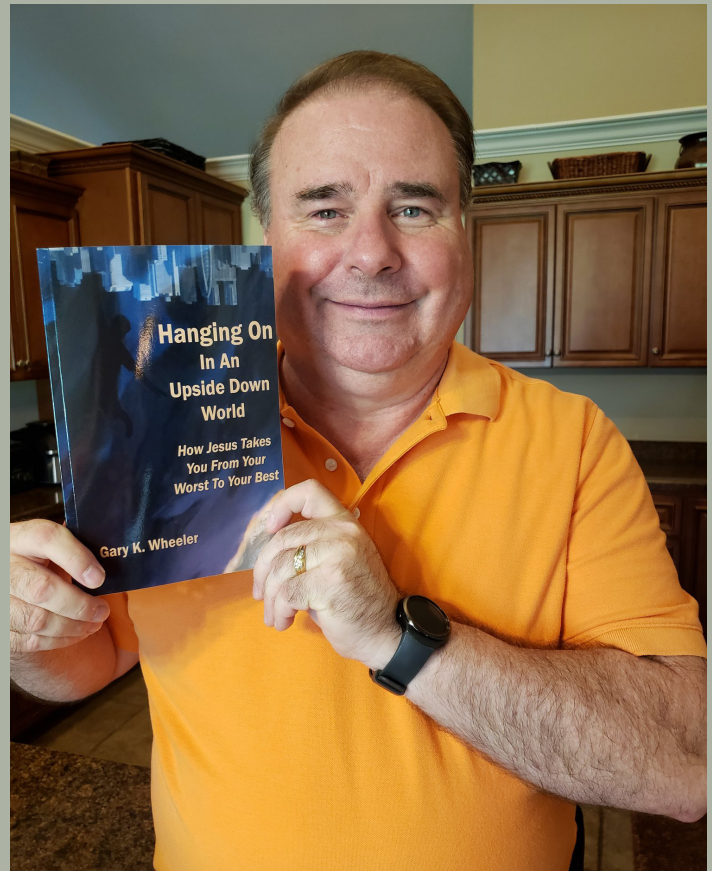
Over the next few newsletter issues, we will bring you leadership profiles. Our goal is to give you insights into how God is using our Spiritual Directors and board members through the Emmaus community and other venues to further the Kingdom of God.

Our Emmaus Community is blessed with four Community Spiritual Directors. One of them is Gary Wheeler. Gary attended the Heart of Georgia Men's Walk #1 in the spring of 1988. "One of my youth counselors insisted I attend this retreat I had never heard of. I remember feeling like most pilgrims: 'Why am I here, and why can't I talk Thursday night?' After Letters of Agape from other communities were explained, I looked over the two dozen or so letters taped to the wall and found one from my hometown. It meant so much to me that people whom I was acquainted with cared enough to send that letter to my Walk."

Being part of local Emmaus communities was hit and miss for Gary in the ensuing years due primarily to raising two young sons, then caring for his first wife in her battle with cancer. "I was occasionally called to do a Walk-In Clergy talk, but it wasn't until Myra and I got married in 2005 and she went on her walk in 2008 that the two of us began to get really involved in the local Northern Lights Community. I became Community Spiritual Director – the only one – while Myra was being Myra: working Walks and, as I like to say, 'wowing them.'"

In July 2011, Gary was appointed to Germantown UMC. "We knew we needed to transfer to the Greater Dayton Community because it would be here that people from our church would attend Walks. Quickly, George Brewer recruited me to be his Assistant Spiritual Director for the 2012 Men's Summer Walk. Then when Brad Martin was appointed to a church outside the area, I accepted the invitation to join George, Mamie, and Palmer as a Community Spiritual Director. Since then, I have served as Walk Spiritual Director seven times plus walked-in seven more times."

Gary serves other places as well. He is an approved



Bible Teacher with the United Christian Ashrams, a global Christian ministry that offers a "life-transforming opportunity to experience Jesus in the midst of an inclusive, intergenerational community of people who believe in the hope of God's unshakable kingdom." He is also the Director of the Mountaineer Christian Ashram which meets annually in Ripley, WV.

Of course, spend any time with Gary and you will know he has his Private Pilot License and flies with the Dayton Pilots' Club. And recently, he became a published author of the book [Hanging On In An Upside Down World](#) available through [Amazon](#). This book reveals the twelve things people need when they are hanging on due to a cancer diagnosis, death of a loved one, loss of a job, etc.

"Myra and I love the Walk to Emmaus movement. We believe God is doing wonderful things in this Community, and we want to do what we can, for we know that 'Christ is counting on us.'"

Women's Registrar: Lisa Keller,
womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

Men's Registrar: Jeff Adams,
mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

To download a Pilgrim Application click [HERE](#) or visit <https://tinyurl.com/PilApp>

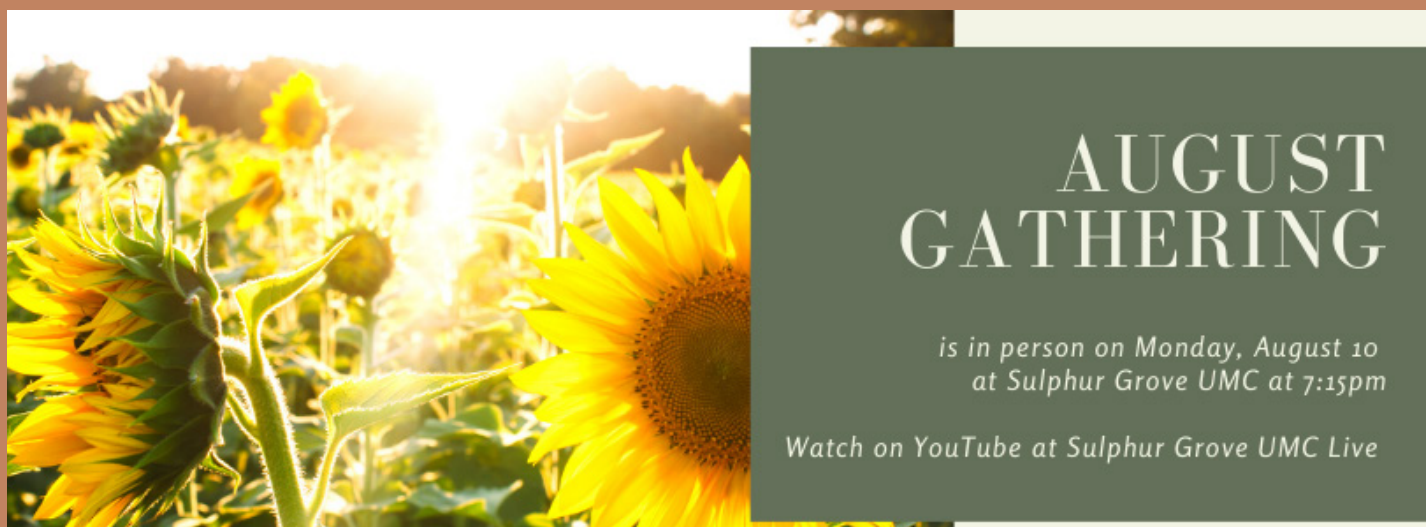
Walk Update

Greetings from the GDE board. We have been on quite a journey over these past few months as we have each dealt with the collateral damage of the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the comforts from Scripture that has made it all endurable is found in Jesus' promise, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." We trust you have also been strengthened by the gift of community as we have stayed connected even while honoring physical distancing.

As we look ahead with our plans for the community in the coming year we want to lead in step with the latest health and safety guidelines. At this time we feel the most prudent option given current social

distancing guidelines is to **postpone Walks until summer 2021**. Teams generally begin preparing six months in advance of a weekend and with the current phased opening in our state and lack of certainty around a national strategy we needed to let our Lay Directors for the winter walks know our thinking sooner rather than later.

The time will come when we can resume our live-in Walk experiences and show God's agape love with our service to future Pilgrims. In the meantime, let us continue to pray for healing for the Nation, wisdom for our Nation's leaders and a cure for the viruses that plague us.



The August Gathering will be **IN PERSON** on Monday, August 10 at 7:15pm at Sulphur Grove UMC, 7505 Taylorsville Road, Huber Heights, OH 45424 (There will be a live simulcast available on YouTube on the Sulphure Grove UMC Live channel. To visit Sulphur Grove's YouTube Channel click [HERE](#))

Gathering Archive

Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Greater Dayton Emmaus has established an online Gathering Archive on our website. The Gathering Archive started in April 2020 and will be an ongoing benefit for our community. Understanding that Gathering attendance

is not always possible, the Gathering Archive allows community members to stay up to date with community news. We hope you enjoy this new service to the community.

<https://daytonemmaus.org/gatherings>

Gathering Offering

When you support Greater Dayton Emmaus, you are helping to renew Christians as faithful and committed disciples of Jesus Christ. Although our Walks have been postponed until Summer 2021, the administrative costs such as insurance, music licensing and communication expenses continue to serve our community. If you are in a position to make

an offering, your gift is appreciated. [Online giving](#) is available at daytonemmaus.org or you may make checks payable and mail to:

Greater Dayton Emmaus
PO Box 292224
Dayton, OH 45429

Word from the Kitchen

Food is such an important way that we can fellowship with one another. It was also a vessel that Jesus used throughout scripture to reach those who were far from God.

-Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:29-32).

Before Emmaus, my faith life was almost non-existent. I felt so very far from God. I knew that I believed in Him. I did not have a clue that it was possible for me to have a personal relationship with Christ. I think about my very first encounter with Emmaus back in 2003. I realize God has brought me from a sinner searching for Him to a vessel that He uses for His work today. I am a sinner saved by His Amazing Grace!

I am an ordinary person who loves God. I know that I went from sinner at that table long ago, to a person who loves to serve God and "feed" others. I love my Emmaus brothers and sisters. The friends I have made through Emmaus are my family. We are the Body of Christ. To be able to serve and see His glory shine through leaves me speechless when I try to put that into words.

Please enjoy this recipe from The Greater Dayton Emmaus Kitchen, it is a community favorite!

DeColores!

Stephanie Looney,
Kitchen Board Rep.
Greater Sidney Area WW#34



Japanese Salad

(Serves approximately 50-55 people)

Ingredients for (base salad)

- 1 – 5lb of Shredded Lettuce
- 24 - Chicken Breasts –cooked and shredded
- 30 oz. – Slivered Almonds
- 1 -#10 Rice Noodles

Instructions:

- In a large bowl, add lettuce and shredded chicken, toss and mix.
- (Just before serving) Add rice noodles & almonds, stir well.
- Shake salad dressing WELL and toss salad with dressing.
- Divide into two LARGE bowls.
- Serve Immediately

Dressing for Salad:

- 1 ½ Cups Sugar
- 1 ½ Cups White Vinegar
- 1 Tablespoon Salt
- 1 ½ Teaspoon Pepper
- 3 Cups Oil

Mix all dressing ingredients together and SHAKE all dressing ingredients well!

Greater Dayton Emmaus is on
Facebook AND Instagram!
@daytonemmaus





Music is such a powerful part of worship. Each month during the Gathering, we enjoy listening and participating with the music. God's messages can speak loudly through words in the songs we sing. For some, music is a way for them to express His Words and to hear His Word.

Another way we are enlightened during Gatherings is through the 4th Day Speaker talk. To hear how God has moved in the lives of our community is inspiring and renews our spirits.

Finally, we all know that prayer is a powerful tool that the enemy doesn't like. Jesus prayed even when He knew His death was near. We need prayer now more than ever.

Currently, we need help recruiting Musicians for gatherings, Fourth day speakers, and praying the Corporate prayer. Please contact:

Julia Crowl womensworship@daytonemmaus.org
Jonathan Taulbee mensworship@daytonemmaus.org
if you are interested in helping the worship team.

Emmaus Prayer Chain

Prayer Warriors for the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community — Want to participate in our e-mail prayer chain? Have an urgent prayer request?

To send a prayer request to the prayer chain, please visit our website <https://daytonemmaus.org/prayer> and complete the online form.

We ask that you limit your requests to a serious, urgent nature and to the needs of either a member of the Emmaus Community or your immediate family.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." —Philippians 4:6



Committee News

GOOD SHEPHERD: Contact [Ché McGowan](#)

Good Shepherd is currently running the **Agape Love Movement** and needs God to send members willing to send cards and make calls.

KITCHEN: Contact [Stephanie Looney](#)

Currently organizing the kitchen manual of recipes and instruction. Stephanie is seeking partnership for this project.

HOUSING: Contact [Stephen Uphouse](#)

The focus until my term is up will be primarily to work

on the instructions / diagrams for setup and teardown of Walk weekends at Sulphur Grove, as well as instructions / diagrams for the "big move" of Emmaus items from Normandy to Sulphur Grove and back to Normandy.

AGAPE: Contact [Linda Haller](#)

Agape chair is currently enlisting members to rebuild our Walk weekend Agape inventory. Seeking members who have extra or duplicate agape they can donate for future use.

Visit our 30th Anniversary Emmaus Merchandise Store

[Online GDE Store](#)

To celebrate the Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus 30-year anniversary, we have partnered with Teespring, Inc. to bring you a GDE Merchandise Store. All items are produced on-demand, so there is no stockpile of products. All proceeds are used to further God's mission through the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community. Be a walking testimony for GDE! It's quick and easy, so order what you like when you want.



- GDWTE 30th Comfort Tee - \$18.17 USD Comes in 7 colors
- GDWE-Disciple Comfort Tee - \$21.29 USD This shirt has the Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus logo on the front left breast as well as the disciple definition on the back. Comes in 9 colors
- Christ Tee Classic Tee - \$15.57 USD Comes in 6 colors
- Disciple Classic Tee - \$15.57 USD Comes in 9 colors
- GDWE-Blanket Fleece Blanket - \$43.75 USD Comes in 16 colors
- Tree of Life Fleece Blanket - \$43.75 USD Comes in 12 colors
- Disciple Towel - \$25.99 USD Comes in 14 colors
- Disciple Cloth Face Mask - \$10.00 USD Comes in 3 colors
- GDE Cloth Face Mask - \$10.00 USD Comes in 4 colors
- GDE Organic Tote Bag - \$22.97 USD
- GDE 2-sided Tote Bag - \$20.37 USD

Walking with Emmaus

Share groups are an extension of the Walk to Emmaus weekend experience. Join us for a monthly walking share group! All are welcome. Our next walk will be 10:00 AM Saturday, August 15, 2020. Pets, family and friends are welcome to join. Cedar Cliff Falls at Indian Mound Reserve 2750 US Rt. 42 E. Cedarville, OH 45314. For more information email Shelly Miller.

<https://www.gcparkstrails.com/parks/indian-mound-reserve>

