

# **GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS**



450 ALEX-BELL RD. CENTERVILLE, OH 45459

APRIL 2022



## **GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS COMMUNITY JOIN US AT THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**April 30, 1-5 p.m.**

Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church

Food, fun, fellowship,  
song, historical  
information for each walk!

Don't miss  
Pharoah, Pharoah at 2 pm  
and Sister Act at 3 pm

**SPREAD THE WORD TO YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND  
EMMAUS BROTHERS AND SISTERS!**

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED! PLEASE CONTACT KIRK LEHNEIS AT  
KLEHNEIS@SBCGLOBAL.NET OR 937-426-6255 (PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE)

# Greetings Friends in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

**“GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH, AN EVER PRESENT  
HELP IN TROUBLE.” PSALM 46:1**

These last two years have been a horrific struggle for the entire world with the COVID pandemic raging. Many in our community and country have endured many hardships with loss of loved ones, severe illnesses, loss of jobs, loss of homes, separations from family, especially those in nursing homes.

But, as COVID cases have nosedived, we now feel renewed energy and excitement as we see real signs that we are finally emerging from this dark period in our time. Jesus says in Matthew 5:14 and 16, “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden...let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Our Community has been blessed these last two years under the leadership of Michele Cremeans and the Board of Directors who have striven to keep the fire going in our Community, reminding us all from Proverbs 3:5-6 to “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight”. It is time to blossom again and as Philipians 4:4 urges us, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!”

I am very honored and humbled to be your new Community Lay Director starting this month, and am also excited to invite you, your family, your friends, your church, your share group, your neighbors, your co-workers as we celebrate on April 30, the 30th Anniversary of the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community!



Please come and join us in this day of renewal-- as a nation, as a Community, as faithful disciples following our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I hope and pray this resurgence of enthusiasm for life and fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ will renew your spirit, your joy and your zeal for the Holy Spirit in your life and that you will want that same spirit for your spouse, your friends, your church, your neighbors and your co-workers to also experience as we once again offer in-person Men's and Women's Walks THIS SUMMER at Sulphur Grove UMC, 7505 Taylorsville Rd, Huber Heights 45424:

**Men's Walk #68** – June 23-26, 2022

Acting Men's Registrar: Jeff Adams, (937) 269-6023, mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

**Women's Walk #108** – July 14-17, 2022

Women's Registrar: Lisa Keller, (937) 684-3856, womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

Please help us ensure these walks will happen by stepping up, inviting, and sponsoring those the Holy Spirit has called you to bring to these Walks. Thank you for your help and for answering the call of the Holy Spirit. God bless you!

DeColores,

**Kirk Lehneis**

**Community Lay Director**

MW#14, Table of Peter



# Well of Living Water

*"LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." MATTHEW 22:37*

*What does it mean to love God?*

This one question keeps me questioning myself each day. I question my actions, words and deeds and strive to walk in tandem with His will for my life. If I'm being honest I will admit it is a challenge to keep my heart pure of corruption. It seems to surround me and if I don't watch it can seep through the cracks and take hold. It lulls us to sleep until it has a stranglehold on our hearts.

*Each of us has been transformed by God through our trials.*

The Greater Dayton Emmaus ministry has been challenged by trials and has persevered together through faith by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are called to be new and to be renewed. We cannot put new wine in old wine skins, thus we cannot allow God to make us anew if we revert to old habits and beliefs. I ask you to reflect on how He has made you new and cultivate new habits to match. I pray, Lord, you safeguard us from being overtaken by the corruption of old ways and open to His new plan for us. I pray we use our new eyes and hearts to see a new way. May we walk with Your strength in us as we build new habits as a community.

*"DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWAL OF YOUR MIND, THAT BY TESTING YOU MAY DISCERN WHAT IS THE WILL OF GOD, WHAT IS GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE AND PERFECT."*  
**ROMANS 12:2**



We walk together to...  
Recognize the new way God has made for us.

Watch how He leads us to new words, deeper understanding and an increased open heart.

He is calling us to be strong in Him and tender with one another as we move as the hands and feet Christ.

God is asking us to display how we have grown in our walk with Him. He wants to see if we can be obedient to Love. He wants to see if we can operate from Love more than stubbornness, kind more than proud... and keep our hearts open to one another as we emerge as a renewed Emmaus community.

If He is the Living water does that make us a well? A well purified and kept clean so God's love can flow even as we do the hard things we are called to do.

**DeColores!**

All my Love,  
**Michele Cremeans**  
**Past Chairwoman**  
WW95, Table of Rebekah

## *Day Four Restore*

Day Four Restore is a one-day retreat model designed to refresh the spirit and renew the commitment of those who have attended any Fourth Day movement event. Please share this opportunity with your Emmaus Community, or others who have participated in a 4th day movement event. The link to register is:  
<https://upperroom.org/dayfourrestore>

## **SAVE THE DATE**

### **Gathering:**

April 11 @ 7:15 p.m.  
Normandy UMW,  
Centerville, OH

### **Men's Walk:**

June 23-26, 2022  
Sulphur Grove UMC,  
Huber Heights, OH

### **Women's Walk:**

July 14-17, 2022  
Sulphur Grove UMC,  
Huber Heights, OH

### *Reminder*

June, July and August gatherings are held at Sulphur Grove UMC.

# THE LORD IS NEAR

“THE LORD IS NEAR. DO NOT BE ANXIOUS ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT IN EVERY SITUATION, BY PRAYER AND PETITION, WITH THANKSGIVING, PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD. AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH TRANSCENDS ALL UNDERSTANDING, WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS.” **PHILIPPIANS 4:5-7**

One of the byproducts of navigating through the pandemic has been the rise in the level of individual stress and anxiety. Oxford defines anxiety as “a feeling of worry, nervousness, or unease, typically about an imminent event or something with an uncertain outcome.”

With each new wave of the variant and the rise in the number of cases we could also feel the level of individual anxiety rise. The only thing that seemed certain was uncertainty. As a community we had to make the hard decision to postpone our live-in walks based on the limited data we had at hand. I am so excited that we are now at a point where we can again plan our first live-in walks.

As we gear up for this summer’s Men’s and Women’s Walk in June and July, I am reminded of how God so profoundly uses the 72-hour weekend schedule to move the Pilgrims from a feeling of anxiousness to that of being at ease. The love of God shown through the live-in team and the community’s servant leadership brings the scripture to life.

The LORD is near. And one thing is certain, when the Lord is in the house, so too is a sense of peace and comfort in knowing that He is in charge. As Paul exhorts the Philippians, “Do not be anxious about anything.”

Do you recall our admonition to the Pilgrims? We are constantly saying, “don’t anticipate...but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

I love watching how God works through every detail of the Walk Weekend--from planning where Pilgrims sit to giving the speakers just the right examples and stories to share from their lives, to the special music and special events where the community comes to show the love of Christ up close and personal, to the quiet moments of reflection and daily examinations of conscience. He has it all planned, down to the last detail. And when we all trust the process, “the peace of God, which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Even though I am not anticipating, I am looking forward to our summer walks! Aren’t you?

DeColores,  
**Palmer Jason, Spiritual Director**



## Looking for a way to serve?

### BOARD POSITIONS

The following board positions are open and training is available:

- Worship Committee Volunteers
- Normandy UMC Point of contact
- Computer Administrator

If you are interested in learning more about what the jobs entail or reading a job description, contact Michele Cremeans or Kirk Lehneis.

### WILLING SERVANT UPDATE

If you are still interested in serving on an Emmaus live-in team or in any other volunteer position (kitchen, housing, etc) please take the time to update your WILLING SERVANT FORM on the website so we have your most current email and telephone number.

# HELLO! GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS FAMILY!

Back in December of 2021 I got a call from Vice Chairman Kirk Lehneis asking me to consider moving up in leadership on our Greater Dayton Emmaus Board as the Vice Chairman/Team Selection Chair (and leave the Men's Registrar position). He said to think about it, pray about it, and get back to him as soon as I could.

I would say I was surprised to get this phone call, but Kirk, Michele Cremeans, and Pastor Palmer Jason felt I would do a good job filling this role. I also reached out to others in our Emmaus Community for advice and their thoughts. So, over the last few months I have been working with Michele, Kirk and the board to form a plan to help our community come back from the Covid pandemic and grow as a community. I look forward to growing through leadership and working with all of you to help our community grow.

We will need your help to get folks back at gatherings and to invite pilgrims to the summer walks.

Speaking as the men's registrar, we need men for the Emmaus Men's walk coming up soon. That walk will be held at Sulphur Grove UMC in Huber Heights from June 23rd - 26th. If you have someone in mind, please reach out to them. Talk to folks in your church, at work, family members, neighbors, share groups, and Bible studies. Please pray about a person you think would benefit from the Emmaus experience.

If you need sponsorship training, please reach out to me or Lisa Keller, our Women's Registrar. Training will be held at 6:30p.m. before the next gathering at Normandy. We are happy to answer any questions.

Invite a friend to come with you to a gathering to understand what Emmaus is all about. We look forward to seeing you on April 11th at 7:15pm.

YBIC,

**Jeff Adams**  
**Vice Chairman/TSC**  
MW#46 Table of Matthew



## Wear It on Your Sleeve!

*Visit our 30th Anniversary  
Emmaus Merchandise Online 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. Visit the link below:**

**[https://greater-dayton-walk-  
to-emmaus.creator-  
spring.com/?](https://greater-dayton-walk-to-emmaus.creator-spring.com/?)**