

GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS

450 ALEX-BELL RD. CENTERVILLE, OH 45459



AUGUST 2024

Commit
to the Lord
whatever you do and
he will establish your plans.

Proverbs 16:3

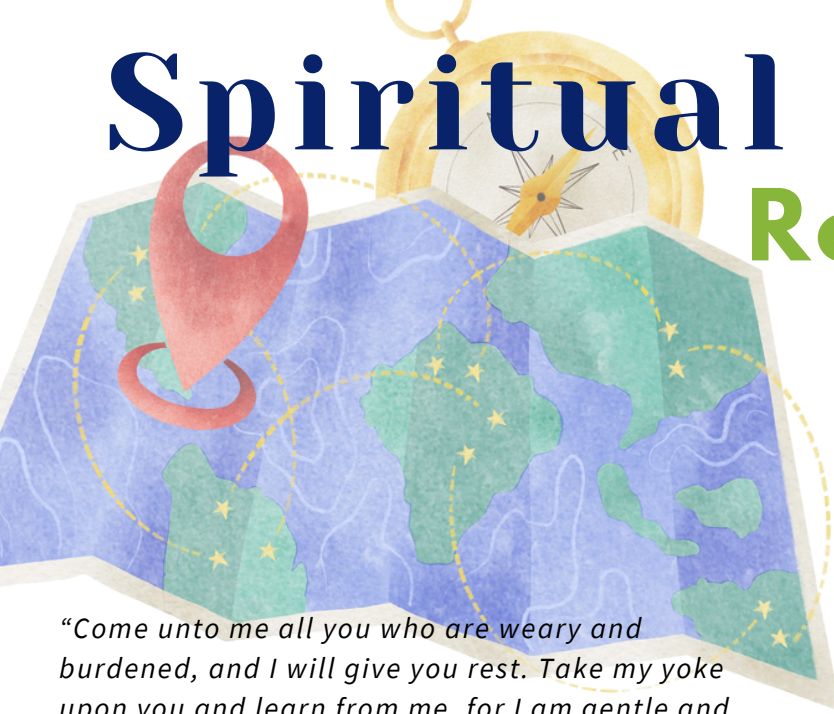
Welcome Men's Walk #71
& Women's Walk #112

Gathering

August 12
Sulphur Grove UMC

Spiritual Director

Rest Stop Ahead



"Come unto me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

Is it me or is time flying? I can't believe it's August already and summer will soon be over. In a few weeks the kids will be going back to school, the pools and amusement parks will be closing for the season and the hours of daylight will soon be shorter. Whatever happened to school starting after Labor Day?

I hope you've had the opportunity to get some rest this summer. When I was growing up, the summer months always signaled family vacation time. My parents were both educators so they had time off in the summer and that always meant—road-trip!

We would jump into our brown panel station wagon and begin our two week adventure across these great United States of America. We played games while on the highways, like "I see something you don't see." We sang, passed occasional roadkill, got truckers to honk their air horns, napped, and played highway bingo—which involved spotting objects on your card like mountains, trains, and, of course, road signs.

One sign my siblings and I always looked closely for and paid attention to was the one that told us where the next gas station was and how far it was to the next rest stop.

There is nothing quite like getting out of the car for a while and stretching your legs, taking a bathroom break and grabbing a treat and/or a souvenir before resuming the journey. As I reflect on my original Walk to Emmaus it was definitely a welcomed rest stop on my faith journey.

God used those 72 hours in sequestered community to bring a needed rest stop into my life. *"Come unto me..."*

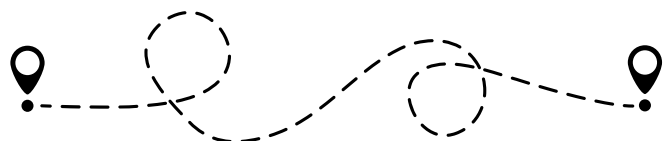
The walk weekend allows us to spend time with Jesus. *"All you who are weary and burdened..."*

The walk weekend created a sacred space for the weary carrying heavy loads to come and be served and loved on and poured into by the body of Christ. *"And I will give you rest."*

The walk weekend, without watches and phones, allowed us to rest-- from our jobs, from our responsibilities, from our troubles and from our self-imposed busyness. The Walk also gave us an opportunity to practice the spiritual disciplines of prayer, meditation, scripture reading, spiritual direction, and small group participation.

So, yeah, summer is almost over. But, it's not too late to get your rest on. *"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."* Rest stop ahead.

DeColores,
Palmer Jason, SD





FROM THE COMMUNITY CHAIR

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

We have officially completed our summer walks for the year. Welcome new pilgrims.

Community, please remember, they have a red ribbon on their name badge, so please give them a hearty welcome and invite them to serve with you.

Speaking of name badges, please remember to wear your name badge to all Emmaus functions. It helps us to get to know each other by name and sometimes, we see folks from our walks. This happened to me during Closing. It was so exciting to see a woman with the same name badge from my original walk.

Another reminder that you are going to be hearing a lot about is Sponsor Training. Did you know that before you can sponsor a pilgrim, you must have attended a Sponsor Training? We will begin to take attendance at the training, to ensure that when we receive the pilgrim application, the Sponsor has attended the training. If you have not attended a training in the last year, you need a refresher so please plan to attend at 6:15, next Gathering. If you do not attend the training, your pilgrim will not be accepted on the walk. This has been a requirement for many, many years. You will soon be learning the importance of the training over the next couple months. One of the biggest criteria's the pilgrim must meet is attending church, not attending a program at your church but attending regular weekly church services. This sets the foundation for them to be able to build on when they attend their walk. Stay tuned for more news on this.

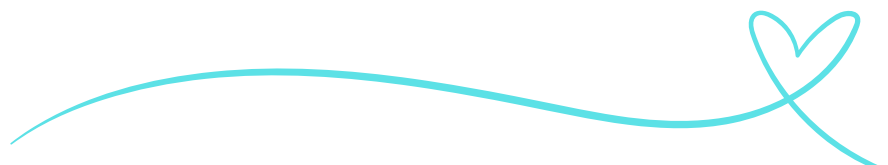
Another important training session will be coming up for potential Lay Directors. You must attend Lay Director training in order to be considered for a weekend. September 28, 9A-12N, Normandy UMC, Music Room.

I hope you all are having a great summer, enjoying gatherings with family and friends. Let us not forget that when two or three are gathered in his name, there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:19-20.

We will see you at Gathering on August 12, 7:15pm at Sulphur Grove, UMC.

Christ is Counting on you!

Brenda Baker
Community Lay Director



Agape



Thank you all so much for the wonderful table agape for the pilgrims on the last two walks. I know they were appreciated by everyone. We do have quite a bit of leftover agape that I would like to get back to you, so I will have a table set up in the lobby of the church for the next Gathering. You will be able to pick it up there.

It's not too early to start thinking about the next walks in January and February. We can always use more table agape. There are many ideas online, Pinterest etc.

Get your share group together and come up with a couple of ideas for ways to bless the pilgrims. Remember, for table agape you need to have 60 pieces.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Decolores,
Shelly Crabtree, Agape Chair

Worship & Gathering Help

There is a need for help at Gatherings to serve communion, take up the offering, give a Fourth Day talk, pass out and distribute prayer cards, provide music, and set up and clean up communion.

If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact the Worship Chair Linda Haller or for offering, contact Tonya McDougle.



AUGUST GATHERING:

AUGUST 12 @7:15 PM
SULPHUR GROVE UMC
HUBER HEIGHTS, OH

REGIONAL GATHERING
AUGUST 30-31
BUFFALO, NY

[HTTPS://WWW.UPPERROOM.ORG/EMMAUS/EVENTS/REGIONAL-GATHERING](https://www.upperroom.org/emmaus/events/regional-gathering)

SEPTEMBER GATHERING:

AUGUST 9 @7:15 PM
NORMANDY UMC
CENTERVILLE, OH

LAY DIRECTOR TRAINING

SEPTEMBER 28
TIME & LOCATION TBA

SHARE GROUPS

If your share group is looking for new members, please reach out to the Good Shepherd,
Stephen Cultice at 937-823-9262 or
scultice424@gmail.com