



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

August Newsletter

Vol. 30 No. 8, 2019

2020 WALK SCHEDULE

At Normandy UMC

Men's Walk #67
January 16-19, 2020

Women's Walk #107
February 20-23, 2020

At Sulphur Grove UMC

Men's Walk #68
June 11-14, 2020

Women's Walk #108
July 16-19, 2020

NEXT GATHERING

Monday, August 12
7:15pm at Normandy UMC
(details on pg. 2)

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 27
7pm at Normandy UMC

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Communication Chair

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requests to:

newsletter@daytonemmaus.org

Chairman's Corner



Have you ever thought about the word, "GO?" It's one of the first sight words a child learns when they begin to read. It has been coming up time and time again this July, in my pastor's sermons, music on the radio and in my daily prayers.

"GO, stand and speak to the people in the temple the whole message of this life." Acts 5: 20. Isn't this what the fifteen speakers who give talks on an Emmaus weekend attempt to do because each one is only one part of the message of Emmaus. The team of WW #106 were called to GO and serve in July. As pilgrims become more aware of the power of the unconditional, agape love of Jesus, their hearts are softened to forgive

others and best of all, to forgive themselves. By the GRACE of God, we are healed.

"And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing." Luke 9:2 Jesus has the disciples GO with Him almost everywhere even when He prayed.

Prayer is the foundation of everything happening through Emmaus. Pilgrims learn to make time with the Lord a priority. If we start off our day with Christ, in prayer, devotions or study, things happen for the better. By the LOVE of Jesus, we become more loving of others. We then begin to care for others as we are cared for by Our Father. "The entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:14. Who do you love who would benefit from coming on a Walk to Emmaus? GO, sponsor pilgrims

Continued on pg. 2

August Gathering

Welcome New Emmaus Community Members
from Women's Walk #106

**Monday, August 12, 2019
at Normandy UMC**

Share Group Reunion
@6:15pm in Chapel

Sponsor Training
@ 6:30pm in Loggia

The Gathering
@7:15pm in Sanctuary

Sign up to serve at the August Gathering!
Visit SignUp Genius. Click [HERE](#).



(l-r:) Shaun Gardner, April Tedore and Kevin Reinert. Ready to welcome new community members!

Chairman's Corner Continued from pg. 1

for January and February. Now is the time to begin the sponsoring process.

Jesus and his disciples would go among the people who others ignored. They showed mercy to humans in need. "I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was homeless and you gave me a room, I was shivering and you gave me clothes, I was sick and you stopped to visit, I was in prison and you came to me." Matt 25: 34-36 The Message. With the recovery efforts from tornados in May, there are still many opportunities to serve our neighbors in need. GO.

We are challenged to fulfill the great commission: "Therefore go into the world and make disciples of all nations." Matthew 28:19. In order to change our world, we are encouraged to go and become the hands and feet of Jesus in our service to our families, our churches, our neighborhoods, the workplace and the world. Christ is counting on each of us. GO serve. GO and LOVE. GO and do because of what Christ has done for you.

DeColores.
Pam DeHart, Community Lay Director/ Chairman
Greater Dayton Emmaus

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Download application form: Click [HERE](#)

Men's Registrar, Bill Jones
mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org.

Women's Registrar: Lisa Keller
womensregistar@daytonemmaus.org



Now What?

by George Brewer
Spiritual Director

Eugene Peterson, pastor, biblical scholar, author of *The Message* bible, was also a preacher's kid. His father once shared with him that in his ministry he had preached the same sermon over twenty nine years of Sundays. This was Eugene's father's one message: "God loves you. God is on your side. He's coming after you. He is relentless!" As the saying goes, "That'll preach!"

This week, I've been praying over and meditating on the Martha and Mary story in Luke's gospel:

Now while they were on their way, it occurred that Jesus entered a certain village, and a woman named Martha received and welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister named Mary, who seated herself at the Lord's feet and was listening to His teaching. But Martha, overly occupied and too busy, was distracted with much serving; and she came up to Him and said, Lord, is it nothing to You that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me — to lend a hand and do her part along with me! But the Lord replied to her by saying, Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; there is need of only one or but a few things. Mary has chosen the good portion that which is to her advantage which shall not be taken away from her.
Luke 10:38-42 (AMP)

We, who are members of the Greater Dayton Emmaus community, know how much we are loved by God. Looking back on our lives we all can bear witness to just how relentless God has pursued us through his prevenient grace. Once caught, we have accepted salvation through his justifying grace and responded in our faithful following of the risen Christ

and experiencing God's sanctifying grace, growing day by day in faith, hope and love.

Luke tells us Martha "received and welcomed" Jesus into her home. We too, have received and welcomed Jesus into our homes, into our hearts, and into our lives. We too, have encountered Jesus, the definitive revelation of who God is and who God calls each one of us to be. We too, have come to a place where we ponder, "Now What?" What does faithful following look like?

The Martha and Mary story, I believe, gives us an important clue as to who we are called "to be" as faithful followers of Christ. We are called to be a blending and balancing of the two—"to live lives worthy of the Lord and pleasing to him in every way." Like Martha, we are called to "serve the Lord, producing good fruit" while not getting caught up with and being distracted by the over busy-ness of trying to please him and earn brownie points with our good works. And like Mary, we are called to sit at his feet "being filled with the knowledge of God and God's will, with all wisdom and spiritual knowledge" and being "strengthened by his glorious might."
(see Colossians 1:9-11)

Jesus was teaching Martha and us an important lesson that day. The Walk to Emmaus weekend teaches us this same lesson. We experience God's healing, strengthening, restoring, liberating, new life-giving and sanctifying grace by living a blended and balanced life of piety, study and service. Like they say, "that'll preach!"

How are you doing on your Martha and Mary journey today? I know I'm still working on getting mine right, relying on God's grace every step on the Way.

We are Greater Dayton Emmaus

Connect and Share at
"SHARE GROUP ORIENTATION":

Monday, August 12 at 6:15pm in the Chapel at Normandy UMC. Monthly Gathering immediately following.

We are Christian leaders,

We are guides; The lighthouse to Jesus,

We are helpers,

We are sentinels; standing watch,

We are warriors, in prayer, in life,

We are Greater Dayton Emmaus.

Something I often hear is, "I don't know what I'd do without my Share group." It's the first and the last line of defense in our everyday walk with Christ, for Christ intends us to walk together.

When I have a joy, a call to celebrate — it is amplified by sharing with my sisters. When I have a sorrow, a time of desperate need — I am comforted, and sorrow is quelled by my sisters. People who commit to Christ every day are ready for life's joys and sorrows that will inevitably come. They have feathered their nest and expanded their faith, so when you show up on their doorstep there will be provisions enough for two. Whatever your ability may be to actively serve in this community, do your soul a service by creating and maintaining the nourishment of your Share group.

There are many active Share groups, but you'll need to find the one that feels right for you. Perhaps you connect with your Good Shepherd and gather names. Perhaps you'll hit it off with a kindred spirit while serving during a Walk weekend. You can contact your

sponsor and community members who "make you think" — possibly someone who intrigues you. However you arrive at a Share group, it will likely be with people who you feel are supportive, people who make you think, go "deeper" or challenge you in some way.

Christ intends us to GROW and most times such growth will initially feel UNcomfortable. But, in our individual dedication to the Lord's teachings, we become wise in Him ... wise enough and strong enough to be partners in our walks. Strong enough to use our fruits of the spirit to pull ourselves together and help hold each other together as well.

We represent Greater Dayton Emmaus to our communities and churches. Share groups are satellites of the bigger group. Strengthening our world in a million small ways through sharing Christ's love. At work, during relief service, in our homes — we mobilize and become a vehicle for the manifestation of God's will in the world. Connect with other members where you can. There's so much love and wisdom to be gleaned from one another.

Currently, we have information on Mens' and Womens' share groups seeking new members. In addition, please Share your location and time of New Share group formation so we may share that with others who are seeking. Stop by the Good Shepherd table at the next gathering to get more details.

Welcome Womens' Walk #106, New members of our community!

DeColores!
Michele Cremeans
Good Shepherd/Outreach



(l-r): Victoria Hubbard, Pam DeHart, Teresa Moore, Lori Gentry, Athena Johnson, Karri Lewis, Tanya McDougale, Pam Wantz, Amanda DerSarkisian, Jodi Blacklidge and Melanie Morrett.

WW #104 Reunion

My calling to be the Lay Director for WW #104 was a blessing. Cliché, I know. However, I was blessed to get to personally know the pilgrims, several one on one — not typically encouraged, however, it did happen. The ladies, team and pilgrims were meant to be a God-raised-up unit of love, growth, perseverance and now a stronger community because of them! Love you all!

DeColores!
Lori Gentry
Lay Director WW #104



A New Lock

Life is happening; we ebb and we flow. Our days and weeks seem like they're being guided by auto-pilot.

During our recent move, I found myself in the busyness midst of the day-to-day; ebbing and flowing. After countless trips back-and-forth with boxes in tow, I made one last stop to our soon-to-be former residence. Physically and mentally exhausted, I reached for the keys to unlock the door; struggling and confused as to why my key wouldn't unlock the door ... when I hear the Holy Spirit gently whisper, "You can't put a new key in an old lock." I was taken back; stopped in my tracks.

Are we so involved in our busyness that we are unknowingly missing the promptings of the Holy Spirit? When we become burdened by the routines of this world, are we preventing the stillness and rest that God desires for us?

When we have a heart condition that's been diagnosed by a medical professional, sometimes the recommendation made is for rest and to make

healthier choices for ourselves. If this is the recommendation from the world, why wouldn't it be the recommendation by the One who designed our heart? When we have a heart condition do we seek things of this world for healing, or do we seek the gentle touch of Christ to do what only He can do?

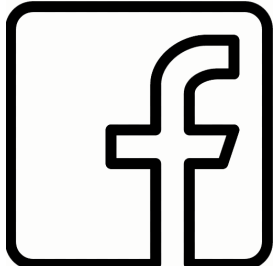
Christ Jesus is our trusted source who is more than able to repair and replace the hardened heart, and turn it into a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 36:26).

How is Jesus speaking to you today about the condition of your heart? He is asking that we put our auto-pilot to rest and allow Him to do what only He can do. We surrender; we ask the power of the Holy Spirit to reveal the hardness of our hearts. We wait with expectation for the new lock to accommodate the new key.

DeColores!
Karri Lewis
WW#104 - Table of Ruth



Emmaus Website
It's the place to go for info about Gatherings, Walks, Share Groups, Serving and much more. Be sure to bookmark www.daytonemmaus.org and visit often!



Emmaus Facebook
Be sure to "LIKE" our Facebook page. Whether you're looking for inspiration or information, you'll want Dayton Emmaus in your newsfeed!
facebook.com/daytonemmaus/

40 for Emmaus

For 40 years, people have been experiencing life-changing spiritual growth on The Walk to Emmaus. Over one million pilgrims have gone on The Walk, and Emmaus Ministries has grown to include Chrysalis, Journey to the Table, Face to Face and Discovery Weekend.

Join us in celebrating the 40th anniversary of Emmaus Ministries! In honor of 40 meaningful years, we are inviting people to commit to give \$40 a year for five years to the Emmaus Ministries operating fund, the financial backbone of the ministry.

Your commitment will ensure that the ministry remains viable. By giving an anniversary gift, you will be helping to support updates to the Emmaus core materials; the network of Communicators, Consultants, and Trainers working with staff and communities; and the development of Ministry Manager, the new community management system.

Can we count on you to give?

Three Ways to Give:

ONLINE:

emmaus.upperroom.org/gives

BY MAIL:

The Upper Room
P.O. Box 305150
Nashville, TN 37230-9891
Make checks payable to The Upper Room,
and memo Emmaus Operating Fund.

BY PHONE:

(toll-free) 877-899-2781 ext. 7288
615-340-7288

Emmaus Ministries Regional Gathering

Greetings from the Emmaus Ministries International Office in Nashville Tennessee! It is with great joy that we want to share with you Emmaus Ministries Fall Gathering. This year, the semi-annual event* will be held in Columbus, Ohio at the Stoneybrook United Methodist Church, 485 Cherry Bottom Drive, Gahanna, Ohio on **October 24-26, 2019**. This Gathering will be a way for The Upper Room's Emmaus Ministries communities to celebrate, worship and learn. No matter whether you attended Walk to Emmaus, Chrysalis, Face to Face, Journey to the Table or Discovery, there will be activities for you.

This will be an opportunity to celebrate and affirm persons involved in Emmaus Ministries across the United States. We will participate in worship and conversations and we will build relationships and networks as brothers and sisters in Christ.

There is no cost for the event, but each person will be responsible for their own transportation and housing. Please visit daytonemmaus.org/regional-gathering-1 for hotel information and to download a registration form. So that the host Emmaus Ministries community and Stoneybrook UMC can make arrangements, the registration deadline is **SEPTEMBER 30, 2019**.

*Each year, Emmaus Ministries will sponsor two Regional Gatherings in areas across the United States.



Joyce Foster

Our Emmaus sister, Joyce Foster, has gone to be with her Heavenly Father. Joyce served on WW #106 as Sunday Kitchen Manager with her long-time partner, Jerry. Please keep Joyce's family and friends in your prayers.