GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS



450 ALEX-BELL RD. CENTERVILLE, OH 45459

JULY 2022



WOMEN'S WALK #108 IS COMING JULY 14-17

A Window into Your Soul

Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

On your Walk weekend you were faced with many challenges, some painful awarenesses and hot fires to walk through. It was courageous of you to stay in the conversation while facing some of the darkest memories that needed healing. During this process you were held by a band of brothers committed to holding you as God waded you through deep, dark waters. God offered deliverance and the kiss of sweet salvation as He healed your wounded heart and cleared your mind. Through this we get a glimpse into our own soul...where we have been, presently are and the soul's dream of who it really Is. God wants you to know the beauty of your own heart. It may feel like a tall order to fill, getting to your our personal promised land here on earth. How do I become the person God means for me to be?

The answer is simple...You are already that person. God equipped you at birth with all the tools you need to fulfill your purpose in Him. On your Walk weekend you may have seen into the window of your Soul and sparked aspiration towards using your Gifts. You shed old stories and agreements of a person you no longer wish to be. Now, how do you move forward tethered to the Truth of your experience this past weekend?

Continued on next page.

A Window into Your Soul, continued.

Anchored in prayer, our community is still praying for you. As we stated at the closing ceremony you will never have to do it alone again.

There are other things you can do to ensure a solid connection as you begin feeling and fully activating the Holy Spirit within you. Do you know the word "inspired" means "in spirit"? Your Emmaus community is holding you as you learn to patch, wax and sail your own boat onto the sea of service to God in the world.

Here are some things that help each of us on our walk with Christ:

Pray without ceasing. Stay in constant communication with your Creator. He wants to hear from you. He knows what's in your heart but it's a journey of your recognizing what is in your heart and discovering your own true desire. God is so pleased when we see our own heart and share it with him.

Talk to your sponsor about everything. Tell them the challenges you're having. Ask all the questions. Maybe tell them you don't know what questions to ask. You learned a lot about yourself over the weekend and it's vital you "stay in the conversation." The process that began over the weekend is only the first step in your journey to awakening.

Explore with whom you would like to be in a SHARE GROUP. Men you personally connected with on your weekend, perhaps someone you feel drawn to, someone you feel complements you or challenges you to see your the truth of who you are. Men who are trusted and able to stand in the fire with you. Your sponsor can't always be around so your share group is on the front line with you. Men to keep you lifted and moving forward.

Come to Gathering each month on the second Monday. Put this on your calendar and check on website and newsletter for location and time. Bring your friends and family. All are welcome. ATTEND Share group orientation before the Gathering on July 11th. Networking with community members helps us grow and stay informed. It is up to each of us to explore the opportunities available for anchoring your position as a vital member of the Emmaus movement.

LEARN ways to stay connected. Gatherings, the newsletter, Facebook and word of mouth are the avenues for you to pursue. We offer a constant stream of information to keep our community updated. Stay tuned and you will be in the know.

Signup to receive the monthly NEWSLETTER on our website www.daytonemmaus.org. It is posted on our website at the beginning of each month and signing up ensures it lands in your inbox as it's posted.

Fill out a WILLING SERVANT FORM on our website and turn it in. Be sure to mark everything you'd ever want to do as a volunteer and you will be called to serve. There is an order to how members are called based on the experience you have so don't worry as you check those boxes! (This form is how you get on the list for a Live-in team.)

VOLUNTEER at any time to help serve and support on a Walk weekend. No forms or training necessary for this step, only a willing heart. Simply find out when and where to show up and we will guide you. There is fun and opportunities in the fellowship of serving together.

Serving in this ministry continues to prove to be a safe place as I learn and grow on my faith walk. I have forged many fruitful relationships and benefit from God working through them to grow us in Christ. God pulls me near, I accept the invitation and find myself nourished beyond anything I could've ever imagined. My cup overflows as I invite you to get involved in this ministry and your home churches.

We love you and wish you nourishment in Christ's love. I pray your heart stays open. You are safe enough to heal and held enough to be vulnerable. We are here.

Michele Cremeans Past Chairwoman WW#95, Table of Rebekah

From the Community Lay Director

Greetings Friends!

As you read this message, the Men's June Walk was just completed, and I pray the walk brought many blessings to the pilgrims, the team, and the hundreds of volunteers, sponsors, family members, and prayer warriors supporting the walk participants.

Each walk is a unique experience. Though the overall structure is the same, different pilgrims and the different team members make it unique as each of us is continuing to grow in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ through God's Sanctifying Grace and with our growing and changing relationships with each other.

I pray God's Holy Spirit is moving in mighty ways in your life and is asking you to be in service to His children on this upcoming Women's Walk, again at Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church.

Many of you sponsored one of the pilgrims on the Men's Walk. We ask you to come back with your pilgrim and now serve together and attend in one or more ways.

Many of you are sponsoring a pilgrim on the Women's Walk and we thank you!

Many of you have already signed up to serve one or more meals on the walk and we thank you!

Many of you are planning to come Thursday night from 5 to 7 pm to help carry pilgrim bags and their bedding, and to help them get settled into their "luxurious accommodations" and we thank you!

Many of you are planning to come and help in multiple ways to make this a Holy Spirit-filled and blessed Walk for the pilgrims and the team. We invite you, your Share Group, and your Emmaus friends to rekindle your sense of mission, your sense of serving others, your sense of showing God's love, mercy and grace in real terms by participating in Women's Walk 108.

As you come and bless these pilgrims and team, you will be filled with the Holy Spirit to overflowing and you will be blessed and feel God's love, mercy, and His truly amazing grace. Jesus says: "For where two or three gather in My Name, there I am with them." Matthew 18:2<u>0</u>

He shows up for EVERY Emmaus Walk, and He was in the Men's Walk through each of you and He will be in the Women's Walk because of each of you again. For we know

"I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me...". Galatians 2:20,

"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Romans 12:4-5

Paul say we are better together than we are alone. Together and in small groups we encourage each other, we lift each other up, we pray for each other, we learn from each other, we teach each other, we support each other in our individual calls to discipleship. This is the foundation of Christian community--and of the Emmaus community--our Share Groups.

If you are not in a Share Group, try one. Form one with your original walk pilgrims or your home church Emmaus community. Ask your sponsor to help you or contact our Good Shepherd, Che McGown, at Share Groups. See Share Groups on our website: daytonemmaus.org or call her at 216-857-8109.

Share Groups can help you grow into the person God created you to be, support you in your time of need, and celebrate with joy your special times when you feel closest to Christ.

Please help us ensure this Women's Walk is well supported by getting involved in serving and supporting this walk in every way you are able to.

Sign up to help at our next Gathering at Sulphur Grove UMC on July 11 at 7:15 pm, or via the website under Housing or Kitchen under "Serve Christ", or see page 7 in this newsletter.

Thank you for answering the call of the Holy Spirit. God bless you.

DeColores,

Kirk Lehneis Men's Walk #14, Table of Peter Community Lay Director

Serve on a Live-In Team!

Remember on your pilgrim walk? You were surrounded by your table leaders, music directors, assistant lay directors, prayer servants, Logs, and spiritual director?

These folks prepared weeks in advance to be part of your weekend. If you have a desire or interest in serving on a live-in team, I would like to encourage you to fill out a new Willing Servant Form so we may update our Greater Dayton Emmaus data base with the most recent addresses, emails, phone numbers, and positions you want to do on a live in team.

We would also like to update our list for those who wish to serve behind the scenes with food, housing, agape, worship, documentation, supplies, and share group assistance.

The Greater Dayton Emmaus Walks would not happen without the help of the Dayton Emmaus community. Please consider signing up at the next Gathering at Sulphur Grove UMC.

Please pray for the pilgrims and the live-in team for the Women's Walk this month.

Decolores

Jeff Adams Vice Chairman/TSC Men's Walk #46 Table of Matthew



The Housing Chair Needs Your Help!

Hello Greater Dayton Emmaus Community! I want to thank all the "Hands and Feet" that helped at Men's Walk #68. Whether it was for our Big Move, Wednesday set-up, carrying luggage on Thursday or assisting on Sunday tear down, you showed His love to our newest community members. I couldn't do this without you!

We have another opportunity to show God's love in practical ways. On Wednesday July 13, 2022 at 5:30 pm, we will unload the truck and put things into the appropriate location within Sulphur Grove.

God provides a great time of fellowship as you are working side-by-side with your community brothers and sisters. Many hands make light work and we can use anyone willing to participate.

I will need some volunteers to carry the Pilgrims' luggage on Thursday. I will need people to help with teardown on Sunday at 7 am to reset Sunday school rooms as well as later in the afternoon to help reset the conference room and fellowship hall.

On Monday, July 18, we will need help to move the Emmaus equipment back into Normandy at 5:30 pm.

Contact Randy Barty at (937) 602-7003 or e-mail him at housing@daytonemmaus.org.

SEND ME!

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple... Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:1,8

By the time this goes to press, we will have completed our first Emmaus Men's walk after a two and half year pause. If history is any indicator on how things go, we will surely have had a great time. Whether you came reluctantly or willingly to spend this time away, I'm confident that the Holy Spirit met you where you were and ministered to you during the three days.

The goal was not for you to see the team, but rather for you to see the Lord, seated on the throne. When God is high and exalted and the train of his robe fills the temple something profound can happen in the lives of men. We can let go of the burdensome weight that we have carried for years. We can laugh and yes, real men also cry. We can sing and pray and sit quietly in the sanctuary as we feel the love of Jesus deep down in our hearts.

We can learn how to survive on four hours of sleep, and three meals a day. We are grateful for our two table leaders and a hug with our application fee. And most importantly we are thankful for the sacred time away from the cares of the world and clocks and cell phones and work obligations where we can spend time with the resurrected Christ.

And in that quiet space "I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

DeColores, *Palmer Jason* Spiritual Director



IMPORTANT DATES

WOMEN'S WALK #108 JULY 14-17 SULPHUR GROVE UMC, HUBER HEIGHTS, OH

JULY GATHERING JULY 11 @7:15 PM

COMMUNITY PRAYER: MICHELE CREMEANS

4TH DAY SPEAKERS MEN'S WALK #68 PILGRIMS SULPHUR GROVE UMC HUBER HEIGHTS, OH

MOVE BACK TO NORMANDY

JULY 18 @5:30 PM SULPHUR GROVE UMC TO NORMANDY UMC

AUGUST GATHERING: AUGUST 8 @7:15 PM SULPHUR GROVE UMC HUBER HEIGHTS, OH

THANKS! FROM THE MEN'S REGISTRAR

I would like to thank the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community and the churches that support our Emmaus ministry for getting pilgrims signed up for the recent men's walk. We had 23 pilgrims!

Thank you for planting the seed into the pilgrims and asking them to take a leap of faith and be a part of an Emmaus walk weekend. You helped them grow in their spiritual journeys and as leaders in their local church.

Thanks to the Emmaus Board members, to our Men's Walk #68 Lay Director, Steve Holmes, and to the team members for helping make those phone calls to sponsors and pilgrims. We had many applications by mail and email that came in at the last minute.

Having a great team of servants help make our men's and women's walks happen. Thanks to each of you for volunteering this walk weekend.

Let's keep this momentum going! Women's Walk #108 is scheduled for July 14th -17th at Sulphur Grove. We still need willing servants to help make the walk a success.

If you have any pilgrims to sign up for this walk, please contact Lisa Keller, our Women's Registrar, as soon as possible!

Decolores!

Jeff Adams Interim Men's Registrar and Vice Chairman/TSC MW#46, Table of Matthew



Wear It on Your Sleeve!

Visit our 30th Anniversary Emmaus Merchandise Online Store

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-walkto-emmaus.creatorspring.com

find us on Facebook

Women's Walk #108

Pilgrim List Walk #108

Pilgrim Name Jill Basler Barbara Collins Linda Converse Mona Culbreth Sandie Grindel Pamela Griffith Chellie Hartze Jaime Hilling Carla Hughes Ashley Jones **Tessa Judkins** Cassandra Kirkpatrick Sharon Kunselman **Robyn Liffick** Kathy Loveless Julie Moore Jennifer Rankin Tammy Ross Libby Sanders Joan Schiml Sundye Smith Lynn Tiede Linda Thomas Christine Tripp Nancy Weinel April Zimmerman

City Xenia OH Beavercreek OH Dayton OH Dayton OH Dayton OH Dayton OH Beavercreek OH West Milton OH London, OH Covington OH Dayton OH Kettering OH Xenia OH **Tipp City OH** Dayton OH Bellbrook OH Dayton OH Xenia OH Dayton OH Dayton OH Davton OH Springfield OH Dayton OH Davton OH Germantown OH New Carlisle OH

Team Member

Emily Adams Barry Baughman Sandra Bench Donna Courtney Julia Crowl Verna Drake Debbie Hayes Dawn Hedrick Pam Hitchcock Lisa Keller Jennifer Ketring Kathy Kitchel Elaine Kitchin Cathy Kooser Alix Litton Wendy Lybarger Tanya McDougle **Claire Merkes** Melanie Morrett AJ Puderbaugh **Robbie Scott** Torie Smith Dona Speakman Lin Tranter Kristina Vogel Myra Wheeler Laura Wofford **Kikeyia Young**

Team Roster Walk #108 **Team Position** Assistant Table Leader Asst Spiritual Dir. Live-In Assistant Table Leader Andrianna Bustamante Assistant Table Leader Assistant Lay Director Lav Director Assistant Table Leader Logistics Table Leader Assistant Spiritual Director **Board Representative** Music Director Assistant Lay Director 2 Table Leader Table Leader Logistics Spiritual Director Assistant Table Leader

> **Prayer Servant** Assistant Spiritual Director Assistant Spiritual Director Logistics Assistant Table Leader Table Leader **Prayer Servant** Assistant Lay Director Table Leader

Assistant Music Director

Table Leader

Please pray for the team and pilgrims on the walk.

Sign up here to volunteer! **HOUSING: KITCHEN:**

HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS .COM/GO/70A0A45A8AC2BA0F A7-KITCHEN

HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS .COM/GO/70A0A45A8AC2BA0F **A7-HOUSING**



HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS. COM/GO/70A0A45A8AC2BA0FA 7-EMMAUS



WHAT DID MY EMMAUS WALK MEAN TO ME? WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

If I were to map a timeline of my spiritual growth and journey, I am sure it would look similar to many of yours even though we all start at a different place and make different choices that interrupt the trajectory of that growth.

Many years ago, I gave a Community Fourth Day talk and this time I have several more years of Fourth Days in back of me. I want to thank God for His pursuit of me all this time. He has not left me alone but given me many challenges to mourn, grow, love, teach, and serve. My Life in the Spirit has been more vital and gives me a reason to get up in the morning, my prayer time with Jesus!

My journey started with a good, foundational Christian knowledge of the Trinity and particularly in the Power and omnipotence of God the Father. As a laboratory scientist, I understood that He created and engineered every cell in the human body and not just the human cell but the all the bits and pieces in each cell that tells it how to specialize into nerves, muscles, brain, skin, lungs, liver. Who or what tweaks these cells to do this? And the "messengers" in each cell, like "messenger RNA"; or the energy within a cell, like the mitochondria; I am amazed, like you are, but even if I knew nothing of the story of Genesis, it was clear to me in the fine details of the cell construction, that an infinitely supreme being was and is at work creating magnificence and mystery.

Before my Emmaus Walk in 2005, I also had experienced the pull of the Grace of God. In the late 1970's, I noticed that there was a profound silence within me. My first husband and I had moved to a country overseas and I was in a place where I was free of all family obligations and connections. But I did not feel "free." My conscience was waiting for and expecting something. The silence within me was like a long pause in a conversation that becomes awkward, uncomfortable and you want to shout "Somebody, say something!" There was only silence. While in this foreign country, I found a book, placed before me in an exploration of a book store, called How To Be Born Again published by Billy Graham in 1979. Reading this book resulted in a questioning of my religion as I knew it and gave me a glimpse of what life, a born-anew life could be.

Then less than two years later, another book was sent to me by a friend, Hinds Feet on High Places by Hannah Hurnard. This book quite literally showed me what the "mountain top" of God must look like to those willing to make the climb!

Another book was sent to me by yet another person, and this one was Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis who was an atheist who converted to Catholic Christianity.

Trapped with this silence within me the impact of these extraordinary books that spoke to my soul can't be compared to anything I had experienced before! It was unique and just for me, delivered by friends, from a God who pursues, knows where to find me and knows just what to reveal at the perfect time. I am amazed at the variety and to what extent the Holy Spirit will go to encourage growth and exploration into a relationship of joy!

In the years following, after two relocations, and two children, I became a member of Christian charismatic churches in Cleveland and Florida, where I learned of the vibrant life of experiencing the Holy Spirit through great "Jesus Music," prayer and healing sessions, retreats, and workshops.

My Emmaus experience added another depth and dimension to my spiritual journey encouraging me to study the Bible as I heard in the Grow through Study talk. This seemed to be the key to achieving personal contact with Jesus, know him through His Word. I grew broadly and deeply again, through serving on Walks and through team experiences, both behind the scenes as a Prayer Servant or LOG, or at the Table, guiding Pilgrims, writing and giving a talk, and experiencing the Emmaus road.

My response to the question, "What am I doing about it" resulted in abiding with Jesus everyday through prayer time and study time in the Bible, worship here at the Gathering and at my local church, and serving wherever God places me. A good book for exploring what God the Father is like is The Holiness of God by RC Sproul.

Continued on next page.

Oswald Chambers, in My Utmost for His Highest, says our response to Jesus saying, 'Come and See' is "where our self-interest sleeps and the real interest is awakened." I believe my Emmaus Walk did this for me.

My real interest has been awakened through attending Bible Study Fellowship. This allows a deeper understanding into God's Word to humankind and about His Son and Holy Spirit. I have grown confident in Jesus Christ, who prayed aloud and silently. To follow his example, while I was in the work force, I formed prayer groups during lunch hour, shared devotions with my neighbors, and learned how to pray with them and for them. While working in retail, I sometimes would conclude my interaction with my customers by asking if I could pray with them, addressing individual concerns. This became less awkward the more I did it.

Many opportunities have been opened for me to "follow Him." I only had to say "yes" even before I thought I was prepared to take on the position. When asked, I agreed to serve on the Emmaus Board. I served a full term as Documentation Chair and finished two terms when the Board members moved into Leadership. After these terms, I was chosen for Leadership/Vice Chair, and then the next year, I served as Community Lay Director, then Past Community Lay Director.

I have served on many teams both inside and outside the conference room. I am grateful that the Lord helped me fulfill positions I was not altogether sure about. As Prayer Servant, I was not prepared to be an eloquent intercessor for others. However, once I said "yes" the Lord equipped me for this position. For me, extra grace is required to be able to sit outside of the conference room and trust Jesus Christ to be revealed in His own time, to the pilgrims and team. I learned to trust the Holy Spirit in these sacred moments. As I learned to pray for others, so I asked for and accepted prayer from my Emmaus share group members. My share group has changed members through the years, however; I have continually been in a Share group for 17 years. We have walked through many stages of life together, being Jesus with skin on, encouraging each other. We create halos for the women's walk and table and bedtime agape for both men's and women's walks.

During and after my original walk, I have experienced many challenges, and sadness's in my family: deaths of my mother, and infant granddaughter; death of my toddler great-nephew; family addiction and struggles with recovery, cancer, and mental health challenges. Through all this, the Lord has been faithful to His promise to "never leave me or forsake me". I look for the joys of His care for me and because I know Jesus, I sometimes recognize His movement and blessings in my life.

As a sponsor for ladies who were interested in growing their faith, I learned a deeper sense of how to pray for them and that sometimes only God knows what I am to pray for. Because of my experience outside of the Emmaus conference room, whether as the kitchen team, housing team, or as a Log or prayer servant I learned to step back as an intercessor and pray for God's will be done.

I did not need to be well-informed in order to pray for someone else. Coming before the Lord with an open agenda allows the healing to begin in His time.

In my own life, since my Emmaus Walk, I have sought the help and influence of spiritual leaders and Christ centered programs. In the case of Celebrate Recovery, a 12-Step program that is based on the beatitudes of Jesus, I spent 4 years working through the Steps, as a circle leader and sponsor to others. I learned that sometimes the presence of a listening ear bridges the gap between being in a pit of despair and God's love and plan for healing.

I am active in my church and participate in Women's conferences, and in fund-raising activities. Staying active and not isolated helps me and the Body of Christ stay healthy.

For me, all ministries have their season. I have faith that as the Lord guides me through this spiritual growth trajectory, he has the end result in mind. I don't know what it is, but I pray that I can abide with alertness for his movement and direction in my life.

DECOLORES!

Barbara Courtice GDE WW #61; Table of Elizabeth