



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

March Newsletter

Vol. 31 No. 3, 2020

2020 WALK SCHEDULE

At Sulphur Grove UMC

Men's Walk #68

June 11-14, 2020

Women's Walk #108

July 16-19, 2020

Candlelight

8:30PM Saturday of Walk

Closing

4:30PM Sunday of Walk

MARCH GATHERING

Monday, March 9

7:15pm at Normandy UMC

(details on pg. 2)

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 24

7pm at Normandy UMC

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Communication Chair

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From the Community Lay Director



"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." Proverbs 3:5-6

John Stott, in *Sermon on the Mount, a Life Guide Bible Study* (p.41), states: "The Christian community ought to be a supportive family where members are helping each other to higher degrees of righteousness, where relationships with God are renewed and where unbelievers are being drawn to Christ. Unfortunately, it can also be a place where people feel condemned, manipulated and uncared for."

The beauty of attending a Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus is that pilgrims come into an environment where grace, love and mercy are shown by team members and by all who volunteer to serve during the weekend. Some of us come to Emmaus feeling these things described by Mr. Stott upon entering the church to begin our Walk weekend. Many come with open hearts and minds, seeking a new focus. Others arrive with fear and trepidation because they were pressured to attend, or the sponsor did not share much about the experience with them prior to their arrival. Christ counts on each Emmaus Fourth Day completer/volunteer to serve anonymously and with joy in their hearts while giving of themselves during these 72 hours. Changes in lives are evident by Sunday, at the closing service by the testimonies given.

The Greater Dayton Emmaus community of believers was established 30 years ago, to renew the Christian faithful, and to raise up leaders for the church in various neighborhoods in the area. By the power of the Holy Spirit, burdens are lifted, forgiveness abounds and love for one another grows exponentially as pilgrims return to their families as changed beings.

Many enter their Fourth Day, seeking a higher degree of righteousness with a renewed spirit and a willingness to take the next steps to serve

All In with Jesus Continued from Page 1

in leadership positions, no matter what. When the Lord has given you a mission, He also gives you a burden that requires you to lead. Godly leaders make a commitment of time, a commitment of sacrifice, and commitment of compassion, and a commitment of humility. Our focus must be on God rather than on people or the mission.

“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.” Proverbs 3:5-6. In other words, we need to be “all in” with Jesus. The disciple, Barnabas, was able to go all in because he understood Jesus went all in for him and all of the followers of Christ. Jesus held nothing back. He gave His life for you and me. We were worth His

sacrifice and in God’s eyes, we are flawless because we are His.

Thank you for your diligent service to others from April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020. This board of directors has felt your prayers and seen all the grace and love you share at Gatherings and at all the activities that take place each walk weekend. It has been an honor and privilege to be the Community Lay Director for Greater Dayton Emmaus this past year. The next year will provide numerous opportunities for us to serve together. I look forward to seeing where God takes our community in the year ahead.

May God richly bless you my beloved,
Pamela C. DeHart
Women’s Walk #59, Table of Rebekah



Are you creative? Do you like photography? Or maybe enjoy social media? How about writing? Ever wanted to be a reporter? Enjoy learning how to use new apps?

If you said “yes” to any of these questions, will you pray about joining the Emmaus Communications Team — FORMING NOW. This team is responsible for sharing all-things Emmaus with our community and the world. All you need is a willing heart. Training is provided!

Team members will learn how to create graphics, manage a website, develop fresh content for social media, build an online newsletter and glorify God through communications. Many of the skills you learn

on the Communications Team can be transferred to your own church or ministry.

Jesus gave us the Great Commission: **“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”** — Matthew 28: 19-20.

Now more than ever, communication strategies can help us in our mission to reach others for Christ. If you’re interested in being part of the Emmaus Communications Team, contact Brenda Donnelly at brendadonnelly26@gmail.com.



“Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them;” —Luke 24:13-15

I remember the conversation with my sponsor as if it were yesterday. It went something like this: “I went on the Walk to Emmaus and it changed my spiritual life. I think you should go. You would love it.” It wasn’t the words that she said that got my attention. It was the fact that she was getting goose bumps as she said them. I asked, “So, when did you go on this walk?” She said, “oh, about six years ago.” I said, “six years ago, and you still get goose bumps when you talk about it? Sign me up!”

That conversation took place over 20 years ago and I still get as excited as she did when I get the opportunity to sponsor someone or to serve in some way on a walk weekend. Emmaus really is the gift that keeps on giving. I was new to pastoral ministry when my sponsor extended the invitation. I had just recently graduated from seminary and planted a new church. I had spent the last 52 weeks pouring out into the lives

of others. I was serving a motley crew of Jesus followers that were willing to give me the honor of being called pastor. I desperately needed a weekend off, a retreat, a sacred space to be ministered to. And boy did I find just what the doctor ordered.

One of the things I enjoyed the most was the anonymity-- we were not allowed to share our profession or our church affiliation. I was able to just be one of the guys. I laughed and cried and sang and ate and prayed and listened to that still small voice of the Holy Spirit as He spoke to me. He comforted me and prepared me for the journey that lie ahead. I remember the early morning chapels and the late evening examination of consciences in the sanctuary. I remember the prayers we offered up “for those of us who need this weekend the most...”

All these years later I am still involved with our community, giving back for all that was given to me those 23 years ago. I still serve on live-in teams and behind the scenes. And I still love to sponsor new pilgrims, (especially pastors, “...the ones who think they need it the least”).

DeColores,
Palmer Jason, SD



March Leadership Training

Leadership training will be offered on Saturday, March 21, 2020 from 9am-4pm at Sulphur Grove UMC. If you are interested in serving as a Lay Director (LD) on an Emmaus Walk, leadership training is recommended within 15 months of serving. Additionally, leadership training provides an in depth look at the workings of Emmaus. The training explains the “why” behind how Emmaus does the things it does. It is not only beneficial to LDs but helps all Emmaus community members gain a deeper understanding of Emmaus. Those interested in Leadership Training may contact Jean Jarusiewicz-Keillor by email: jjarusiewicz@yahoo.com at 937.681.7468.



Life can be painstakingly hard and heartbreakingly beautiful. My heart has been broken for so many things, so many times. Our hearts break so we can each time be reborn in Christ. A million times to be conformed in His image! I am currently healing my “chosen last” little girl wound I place at about First grade, where I was always chosen last. Amidst current heartache and pain, He presents a golden nugget, an opportunity to open up and revisit places inside which need His love.

In Emmaus, we each have a voice and a heart for Jesus. We learn to speak as “one” from “The One” and stand unified in His love. We understand we are all Chosen by Him as his beautiful cherished children, who He promises never to forsake. “I went looking for Jesus and found you” sums up Emmaus. Yet, we know none of us can ever truly measure up to Him. The point is that we never stop trying.

We exert good effort to be good, kind, and give generously of grace. Humbling ourselves before Him, doing the work it takes to heal, and in turn receive the full bounty of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Out of love, we are Chosen by Christ. We don’t have to worry about not being a priority of man, because we know we are God’s TOP PRIORITY. The moment

we choose God is the moment our growth became the most important thing to Him.

In *Les Misérables* Jean Valjean pleads to God to preserve the life of another man:

“God on high hear my prayer,
In my need, you have always been there;
He is young, he is afraid,
let him rest, heaven blessed;
Bring him home, bring him home, bring him home.”

In Emmaus, we choose each other because He first chose us. We love each other because He first loved us. We are able to love and serve the world (each other) better because of our commitment to Christ. We are awake and empowered to move mountains for one another because Christ is in us!

Welcome new members of Women’s Walk #107! We are all Chosen by Christ and collectively elevated in Christ! Make time to serve, God will be pleased.

“We work with our hands what is good.”

— Ephesians 4:28

DeColores!

Michele Cremeans
Good Shepherd/Outreach

Good Shepherd News

Good Shepherd is inquiring about information on Share groups seeking new members. Your Good Shepherd is available if you need help presenting Emmaus to your church, your Shepherd can visit and present to your church. Please contact: goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org with information or questions.

- Laurawofford19@gmail.com is open to starting a share group in the Dayton area (near Children’s hospital)
- Contact Dave Brooks to join a men’s share group.
- Female seeking a group in the Beavercreek area.



INVITE A FRIEND TO
OUR GREATER DAYTON
EMMAUS

SUMMER WALKS

MEN'S WALK #68
JUNE 11-14, 2020

WOMEN'S WALK #108
JULY 16-19, 2020



Summer Walks

Our Greater Dayton 2020 Summer Walks are just around the corner. These walks are hosted at Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church in North Dayton. The church building is air conditioned and equipped with an elevator. If you would like to sponsor a pilgrim please contact:

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

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

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




Save the Dates!
The Gathering will be at
Sulphur Grove UMC
July 13 and August 10

Mark your calendar and save the summer Gathering dates of Monday, July 13, 2020 and Monday, August 10, 2020 to be hosted at Sulphur Grove UMC, 7505 Taylorsville Road, Huber Heights, OH 45424. This change in venue is only for the these two summer months so the pilgrims who complete their summer walks can come back and reconnect with sponsors and friends where they took their walk.

Emmaus Board Retreat

Please be in prayer for your Greater Dayton Emmaus board of directors as they attend their annual retreat on Saturday, March 28. The board retreat helps members focus on God's vision, direction and plans for the Emmaus community in the upcoming year. If you are interested in serving or helping to prepare a meal for the retreat, please contact Stephanie Looney, Kitchen Chair at kitchen@daytonemmaus.org.

Kairos Prison Ministry

Women's Kairos:

Dayton Correctional Institution
March 19-22, 2020 and September 17-20, 2020

Contact Pam Shively at pjshively@yahoo.com for more information.

Men's Kairos:

Lebanon Correctional Institution Kairos Inside #60
Mar 12-15, 2020

Contact Ron Herre herre@earthlink.net for more information.

WALKING WITH EMMAUS

A NEW EMMAUS SHARE GROUP

A new share group option is just around the corner! And we know how Emmaus people like to come from “just around the corner” to pray and be a light in this world.

Do you like walking in nature with friends while sharing life experiences and how God is present and walking this path with you?

Our share group name is Walking with Emmaus. We will meet once a month at different parks and times and is open to everyone, not just Emmaus alumni.

Our first Walking with Emmaus share group event will be:

Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 1pm.
Charleston Falls
2535 Ross Road Tipp City, OH 45371

Please bring your name badge and share group reunion card, a spirit of cooperation, clean sheet of paper, and pen in hand...oh no, that's the wrong thing. So maybe you won't need the clean sheet of paper and a pen, but bring your name badge and share group reunion card.

For event weather updates and future Walking with Emmaus share group reunion times and locations, visit www.ThirdDayDevotions.com and click on the Walking with Emmaus tab in the menu.

I hope to see you there!

Shelly Miller
Greater Dayton Women's Walk to Emmaus #84
Table of Esther

Old Neck Ties Needed

Do you have old neck ties to donate to an Emmaus Share Group? The neck ties are used as agape on the Men's Walks. Additionally, if you have served on team and have multiple neck ties from previous Walks, would you please return the extras, so they may be recycled for future Walks? To donate neck ties, please contact Karen Hall at kghall22@att.net.



THE GATHERING

MONDAY, March 9, 2020
NORMANDY UMC

Greater Dayton Emmaus
The Gathering @7:15pm
Normandy United Methodist Church
450 W Alex Bell Rd, Dayton, OH

Share Group Reunion
@6:15pm in Chapel

Sponsor Training
@6:30pm in Loggia

Click [HERE](#) to download the March Gathering poster and hang it up at your church, workplace or wherever!