

# GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS

450 ALEX-BELL RD. CENTERVILLE, OH 45459



NOVEMBER 2022

## Come and worship! November Gathering!

November 14, 7:15 pm  
at Normandy United Methodist Church  
450 West Alex Bell Road  
Centerville, OH 45459

*Lord,* thank you for walking with us  
through the seasons of our lives.

For the winter, when we are held safe in your  
arms through the darkness.

For the hope of spring, as we are filled with new  
promise and life.

For summer time, full of warmth  
and color.

And for autumn days as  
leaves fall to seed new growth.

You are always with us.

Amen

[lords-prayer-words.com](http://lords-prayer-words.com)



# From the Community Lay Director

## *Greetings Friends!*

As the days grow shorter and the temperatures begin to get cooler, our thoughts soon turn to what we are thankful and grateful for, and what means the most to each of us. Among our first thoughts are those we love including our family and close friends and our country.

We begin with thanking our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for dying for each of us to set us free from sin and to draw each of us closer to Him so that each of us could establish and be in a personal relationship with the creator of the universe! It is amazing and has always overwhelmed me that our God loves each of us so intensely and completely that He desires each of us to know Him, really know Him, and cares what we think and what we do, and has created each of us in His own image "...to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Eph 2:10)

As we pause to give thanks and to be grateful for God, we remember our military men and women who risk their lives to keep us free and to those many who have died before us so that we are free today; to our police, firefighters, and first responders who are willing to sacrifice their lives to save us and to keep us safe.

We are blessed by so many and are thankful and grateful to so many who work hard every day to teach our children, to take care of us when we are sick or hurt, to prepare a meal for us to enjoy, to create jobs and opportunities for each of us to earn a living for our families and to apply a trade or to be a part of a team that is bigger than ourselves and make our society move forward.

We strive to make our nation better than it was, to eliminate injustices and unfairness, to create a better tomorrow for our children and grandchildren. We give thanks for many and for much, but we also are humbled to know that we each have a purpose to love God, to love people, and to become the person God created each of us to be and to make disciples of Jesus Christ so that everyone will know that God loves them.

I am thankful for each of you reading this article, for your inspiration in striving to be the person God created you to be, for your love of God and of others, for your efforts in many ministries of your church to love others, for your support of the Greater Dayton Emmaus ministry that strives to lift up and refresh the leaders in your church so your church can bring the Gospel to those in our community who seek salvation and need Jesus Christ as their Savior!

### **Friends, we need your help in two ways!**

a. First, as we build momentum for the next two Walks to Emmaus in January and February, we need you to continue to invite and talk to friends, your church leaders, and others about the benefits you found on your own Emmaus Walk. Talk about how Christ met you right where you were at the time of your Walk, and how your Walk helped you to further develop your personal call to discipleship, and renewed your personal commitment and active support to your various church or your community's ministries.

Ask your Pastor to let you give your 2-minute testimony to your congregation on an upcoming Sunday and let people know you would be honored to sponsor them.

Some suggested thoughts for you may be found on the [Greater Dayton Emmaus website](#).\*\*

***Continued on next page***



b. Second, we also need your help in expanding the number of Share Groups in the area so pilgrims off future walks will have a better opportunity to find a group near where they live.

If you are also looking for a Share Group, contact your Table Leader, pilgrims from your original walk or from your church to form a new Share Group or possibly join an existing Share Group.

You can also contact our Good Shepherd Che McGowan at 216-857-8109 or [goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org). To see just some of the benefits to you and your church from being in a Share Group, visit our [website](#).\*\*

Our next two Emmaus Walks will be at Normandy UMC, 450 W. Alex Bell Rd, Centerville, OH 45459:

- **Men's Walk # 69, January 19-22, 2023**

Men's Registrar: Steve Holmes, 937-681-1986, or email [mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org)

- **Women's Walk #109, February 16-19, 2023**

Women's Registrar: Lisa Keller, 937-684-3856, or email [womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org)

To sponsor a pilgrim, contact our registrars, consider attending Sponsor's Hour before Gathering at 6:30 pm in the Loggia (near the Small Chapel) at Normandy UMC or [see the website](#). \*\*

Thank you for your willingness to serve and to help and for answering the call of the Holy Spirit. God bless you!

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

**\*\*Learn from the website:**

[www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org)

Click "EXPLORE EMMAUS" on the top navigation, then "[Vision and Strategy](#)" to learn about Emmaus Church Talking Points, Why Join a Share Group, and Recruiting Pilgrims.

Learn how to be a better sponsor by clicking "SERVE CHRIST" on top navigation and then "[How to be a great sponsor!](#)"

# Are you called to serve?

## Board Positions for 2023

Several positions for the Emmaus Board will be vacated April 1, 2023. If you are interested in serving for a 3-year term, you can still contact Michele Cremeans at 937-671-5036 to be added to the ballot.

**Please note:**  
**There are NO CANDIDATES YET FOR KITCHEN CHAIR**

**Please pray on this opportunity!**

Other nominees are as follows:  
Women's Registrar - Myra Wheeler  
Documentation - Kathy Kitchel  
Treasurer - Dick Kooser  
Secretary - Tanya McDougale

Election will be held at the November Gathering.

Feel free to contact current board members for more information. Training with current members will be available for the next two walks.

*Qualifications:* You must have been on at least one live-in team and be active in a Share Group and in your local church. (*that's it!*)

# Thanksgiving is coming

*“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name” Psalm 100:4*

I’m so looking forward to Thanksgiving this year. It will be the first time in three years that we will get the opportunity to host our family celebration following the pull back from the pandemic. I can’t wait to smell those familiar smells as the turkey slow cooks for hours in the oven and the yeast rolls send the scent of fresh baked bread through the house. The turkey will not debut alone; if tradition holds, there will also be a ham and duck. There will be dressing and gravy, and collard greens and sweet potatoes and macaroni and cheese, green beans with hammocks, and cranberry sauce. This will be followed by a dessert medley of Texas sheet cake, German chocolate cake, cheese cake, peach cobbler, sweet potato pie, pound cake and ice cream.

*“O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.” Psalm 107:1*

Hopefully your table will include all of your family’s favorite holiday dishes. There is something about eating together that brings a bond and an intimacy that makes the heart glad. God too will one day have a banquet that we are all invited too—the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

I am also looking forward to that day when we will join those who have put on their wedding clothes as we sit down at the table in His kingdom. Until then our job is to: *“Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.” 1 Chron 16:8*

Do you recall how you were first taught to say “thank you”? I’m sure every adult has that childhood memory of a parent or teacher or grandparent or family friend handing you a treat of some type (cookie, gum, Popsicle, etc.) and just before they let it go, they ask you the question, “Now what do you say...?”

And of course the right answer was Thank You!



Do you ever wonder why God doesn’t hold onto the stuff he so freely gives us with one hand until we utter those words? What we were taught in childhood still holds true today; we need to say thank you, not only to one another, but more importantly to our God. This Thanksgiving and always make it a habit to:

*“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name” Psalm 100:4*

See if you can add to this list that I started of things to be thankful for. Thank You for:

- Sunshine
- Shelter
- The Gift of Memory
- Spontaneity
- Youth
- Wisdom
- Sobriety
- Weight Gain
- Hunger
- Dis(ease)
- Scattering.
- Light
- Winter
- Heat.
- Tears
- Sorrow
- Receiving
- Death
- The love of family and friends
- Intoxication in the Spirit
- Rain
- The Great Outdoors
- The Ability to Forget
- Time to Plan
- Old Age
- Foolishness
- Weight loss
- Food
- Healing
- Gathering
- Darkness
- Summer
- Cold
- Laughter
- Joy
- Giving
- Life

*In all things, give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”  
1 Thess. 5:18*

*Thanksgiving is coming, let’s get ready for it now!*

**DeColores,  
Palmer Jason, Spiritual Director**

## Greetings from the community agape chair

It is time to start thinking about making agape for the upcoming men's and women's walks in January and February. They will be here before we know it.

We were blessed with an overflowing amount of agape gifts for the pilgrims and teams of our last walks. Let's do it again!

This is your time to be creative in showing the pilgrims how much God loves them. If you are looking for ideas, look through the agape you received, that may help you.

Remember your name does not go on the agape gift. However, you can put the name of the church where your group is from on the agape. Our gifts are to be given in love not for recognition.

This is also the time for sponsors to start getting the agape letters together for their pilgrims. Remember: there are only to be 15 letters in the Sunday packet!

This is done for two reasons.

1. So that the pilgrims can read all the letters in the time they are given on Sunday afternoon.
2. So that each pilgrim is treated the same and no ones feels left out.

Letter agape is to be completed and brought by candle light on Saturday night so they can be put into packets if needed. If the pilgrims have all 15 letters before candle light, the sponsor will be asked to save the extra letters to give to their pilgrim as 4th day gifts on the ride home.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Enjoy your time with the Lord as you create agape for the pilgrims and team on our upcoming walks!

**De Colores,  
Linda Haller  
Agape Chair**

BE THANKFUL  
BE GRATEFUL  
BE BLESSED



Find us on **Greater Dayton Facebook: Emmaus**

