



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

November Newsletter

Vol. 30 No. 11, 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, November 11
7:15pm at Normandy UMC
(details on pg. 2)

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 26
7pm at Normandy UMC

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Newsletter Published by:

Brenda Donnelly
Communication Chair

Please send content
requests to:

newsletter@daytonemmaus.org

Chairman's Corner



Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. Psalm 136:1 Giving thanks is an act of faith in God regardless of the outcome. Imagine the inhabitants of Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621 who had seen half of their friends die, had suffered through failed crops, malnutrition and sickness themselves, yet celebrated the harvest in a Thanksgiving feast with the Wampanoag people. They gave thanks in spite of the hardships they had endured because they trusted in God to provide for them in all circumstances. Will you be thanking God for the trials and tribulations that have come your way this Thanksgiving? What family traditions do you look forward to on the fourth Thursday of November each year?

Autumn brings visual joy as the trees start to change into the glorious colors of the season and for that I am thankful. November brings many celebrations for our family to experience: my brother's birthday, Nana's birthday, my oldest grand daughter's birthday, my nephew's birthday, the reunification anniversary with my high school sweetheart, now my husband of 34 years, and Thanksgiving. For these things I also am thankful.

The worst Thanksgiving in memory was the year my Nana broke her hip after

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November Gathering

BEAR WITNESS TO FAITH IN CHRIST

**Monday, November 11, 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 September Gathering!
Visit SignUp Genius. Click [HERE](#).

2020 Walk Information

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Download application form: Click [HERE](#)

Men's Registrar, Dennis Leach
mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org.

Women's Registrar: Lisa Keller

Chairman's Corner Continued from pg. 1

finishing up washing all those dishes. Yet, out of that break, breast cancer was detected before she was released from the hospital. Nana lived to celebrate nine more birthdays and Thanksgivings. Out of adversity, God gives us hope.

The best and most memorable Thanksgiving occurred in 1980. As residence hall advisors and graduate students at Miami University, many of my classmates lived too far from their homes to go there for Thanksgiving. My mother invited six people who lived in AL, CO, FL, IL, MI and NY, respectively, to spend the holiday with us. The diversity at the table that year provided a warm-hearted experience for all. Family relationships were strengthened because everyone was on their best behavior with "strangers" in the house. After the prayer over the meal, we toasted the beginning of the feast with Manischewitz's concord grape wine, drunk only by my Papa at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Then, we stuffed ourselves with turkey, cornbread stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, which I learned how to make that year, candied yams, corn, green bean casserole,

cranberries, strawberry fluff, candied crab-apples, pecan pie, pumpkin pie loaded with whipped cream, and peppermint stick ice cream. When the meal ended, new friendships had been formed through the loud and frequent laughter, as stories were told about Thanksgivings of the past. From my mother, I learned the meaning of hospitality that day: The friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors and friends. This Thanksgiving, invite someone to the table, try some new recipes, start a new family tradition, remember your past celebrations, and give thanks for those who have gone "home" and had touched your life with their love.

I Corinthians 1:4-5 "I always thank God for you because of the grace given you in Christ Jesus." Happy Thanksgiving, my brothers and sisters in Christ!

DeColores,

Pamela DeHart, WW 59 Table of Rebekah
Greater Dayton Emmaus Community Lay Director

CONFLICTED



As I write this article, I am so conflicted!

As you read this, ten folks from our Greater Dayton Emmaus Community are in the Holy Land. Depending when you read this, we may be in Bethlehem to see where Jesus was born, or Megiddo and the site of the Battle of Armageddon. We may be on the Sea of Galilee and places like Capernaum, His base of ministry, and the Mount of Beatitudes, where He preached the Sermon on the Mount. We may be in Cana, where He turned water into wine, and Nazareth, His boyhood town. Or we may be in Jerusalem visiting the Garden of Gethsemane, the Upper Room, the Via Dolorosa and the empty tomb, or in Emmaus, yes Emmaus, where He broke the bread, and Cleopas and the other disciple recognized Him — exciting to be sure.

But as I write this article, I am also in mourning. I've had three deaths in a matter of a few days. My

stepbrother died in a car accident at the age of 45. I stood before nearly two hundred people, plus my stepmother (who is also on the Holy Land trip), trying to share the message of Christ and His presence when all they could feel was separation.

Then a few hours ago, I stood at a graveside beside a casket just 10 inches long that held twin babies that were born far too soon, sharing with a young couple and their family words of comfort when all they could feel was pain.

I am so conflicted! I should be excited, but I'm so sad. Myra and I and our entire congregation are just so sad for a young couple who tried so hard to conceive, then spent two weeks in the hospital trying to keep the little girl and boy.

I come back several times a day to Jesus' words from Matthew 11:

Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. (Matthew 11:28-29, NLT2)

If you are weary like me, if you are carrying a heavy burden like me, come to Jesus. If you have no direction, come to Jesus. If you don't know what to do or what to think or where to turn, come to Jesus. He is humble and gentle at heart. You and I can find rest for our souls.

Gary Wheeler
Community Spiritual Director

Greater Dayton Emmaus Holy Land Group





EMMAUS BOARD ELECTION

Elections for the Greater Dayton Emmaus board positions below will be held at the November 11th Gathering. In addition to those listed below, nominations will be accepted from the floor, however the nominee must be present at the Gathering to accept the nomination.

POSITION	NOMINEE(S)
Men's Worship	Jonathan Taulbee
Secretary	Kirk Lehneis
Agape	Julia Crowl; Linda Haller
Normandy Rep	
Documentation	Karen Heydinger

To be placed on the ballot or to find out more information about the position of ministry, please email: pastchairman@daytonemmaus.org.

Greater Dayton Emmaus Community By-Laws and Procedures 3-Year Review

Every three years, the Greater Dayton Emmaus bi-Laws and procedures are reviewed by the board of directors and those changes are published in the newsletter for the community to read.

By-laws and procedures are the rules needed to follow as a Greater Dayton Emmaus Community member and board member. If new process are put into place, the community is given a chance to comment when this is published in the newsletter.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Barbara Courtice at pastchairman@daytonemmaus.org

BI-LAWS AMMENDMENT:

ARTICLE V; SECTION 4:

Section 4. The community lay director may appoint, with the approval of the board, person(s) to serve on a committee to address specific or one time needs of the Emmaus community, as defined by the community lay director or the board. The term of the appointment shall at the discretion of the board. In the case of a specific, ongoing need, a volunteer may be invited to serve, if that volunteer is willing and is effective.

a) Computer administrator Emmaus board—Beginning in March 2019, the computer board position changes to a computer admin volunteer position and will serve as a functional support position reporting directly to board leadership. The person in this position will be appointed by the community lay director.

OPERATING PROCEDURES AMMENDMENT

PROCEDURE (to be added)

Leadership training will be offered by a community trainer under the guidance of the Upper Room. This volunteer team will provide an in-depth look at how an Emmaus Walk is run. The training is open to any community member and is required for those who will serve as Walk lay director within 15 months of completion. However, training requirement for Walk lay director within 15 months of completion may be waived at the discretion of the GDE executive committee.

THE EMMAUS WAY



As Good Shepherd of the Greater Dayton Emmaus community I have the pleasure of visiting the different churches of our members. I love to see the way they worship by singing and praying together, how they care for each other-and I always feel welcome. Diversity in Christ is one of my favorite things because I feel how others express their love for God.

There are two ways of spreading light; to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it. — Edith Warton

I knew a woman named Beverly who was always dressed beautifully, her clothes well-fitted and kept, her hair in place, and jewelry appropriate. When one would compliment her she would always say with an inviting smile, “Merely a reflection.” I believe she carried herself in this special way to reveal to each person a clear view of themselves through her “clear mirror.” For, what are we but each an image of Christ himself? Beverly is Christ-like by being intentional with the way she dresses, behaves, speaks, receives others, and reflects His perfect love. We are reminded each day WHO WE ARE by the reflection cast by one another.

Beverly is an island after having been adrift. Beverly is an oasis to quench my spirit.
Beverly is love; steadfast & consistent.
This is also Spirit of Greater Dayton Emmaus. A spirit of inclusivity and unconditionality. The gift we give each other by loving Christ.

I love to meet new people because I know I’ll see God in a form like never before. In this way, I get to enjoy Christ in a new way every day. When I visit our Churches of Emmaus, I get to FEEL the Holy Spirit

through their loving kindness. It is revealing and very fulfilling!

I was explaining our GDE community to a man a I heard myself say “We take care of each other.” I didn’t say “we care about each other” although I know we do that too. But I said “take care of each other.” Slight difference there; it feels more involved, right? We put the caring into action. We make that call, send that text, take that trip, welcome each other into our homes and churches, we ask “what time” when they need prayer. Doing unto others as we would have them do to us-Matthew 7:12

Please pray for our community and specifically the formation and strength of our Share groups. It takes time to get connected to a Share group that suits our individual criteria and needs. Pray for persevering hearts in all things. Share groups are the backbone of the Greater Dayton Emmaus family in staying connected and up to date on each other.

Your Good Shepherd is still seeking Share groups accepting new members. Specifically Centerville/ Waynesville daytime meeting, Franklin area evenings, Dayton area evenings, and any other groups willing to mentor new members. We can all remember a time when we needed this kind of support. Christ needs us to go after the “1’s” out here and pull them into the flock. Luke 15:4

Reflecting Christ TO YOU,

Michele Cremeans
GDE Good Shepherd/Outreach