

GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS



450 ALEX-BELL RD. CENTERVILLE, OH 45459

WWW.DAYTONEMMAUS.ORG

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APRIL 2026

Reconnect at the Gathering

MONDAY, APRIL 13 @ 7:15pm
Normandy UMC, Centerville

Worship together with your fellow pilgrims the second Monday of each month. The Gathering is open to all whether you have been on an Emmaus walk or not, so bring your family and friends. Meet up with your table group or share group. Take the time afterward to check out service opportunities. Please remember to wear your nametags.



Praise God together

Break bread together

Serve together

Share together

Follow Christ together

**I want to know Christ--
YES, to know the power
of His resurrection
and participation in His sufferings,
becoming like Him in His death,
and so, somehow,
attaining to the resurrection
from the dead.
Philippians 3:10-11**



A Season of Refreshing

“He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Revelation 21:5 NIV



Spring symbolizes a time of renewal, during which the vitality of preaching is reignited. No words are needed as we observe winter’s dormancy and begin to notice renewal. The ground, once frozen and barren, now opens, signaling the approach of beauty.

For Christians, this moment holds even greater significance than a seasonal change: the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. From a sealed tomb to victory, sin has been conquered and a new era has begun. Death has been defeated, and hope remains rooted in a living Savior.

During the winter dry season, many of us look for renewal and revitalization. Spring offers a wonderful chance for us to share our light with others, showing our good deeds and inspiring them to give glory to the Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16). This season is a wonderful opportunity for renewal, growth, and finding new motivation. It’s a perfect

time to set fresh goals and let go of past unmet ones.

Here at Emmaus, we’ve seen pilgrims finish their journey full of renewed passion, eager for what’s next, and carrying a sense of optimism mixed with humility and gratitude for their walk weekend experience. So, how can we keep this enthusiasm alive? By nurturing the same spirit—the spirit of love, gratitude, and appreciation—that shines through in service.

It’s such a beautiful moment to turn the page and start a new chapter in life, guided by God’s truth. With His loving presence, He softly turns sorrow into comfort and changes despair into pure joy.

Look at this! He’s bringing a fresh start to everything. It truly feels like a beautiful season of renewal.

Mamie Johnson
Spiritual Director

Envelop everything in prayer

Be in prayer for the Women’s Walk #115 coming August 20-23, our Walk Leader AJ Puderbaugh, the team God is forming and the pilgrims God is calling.

*Who is God laying on your heart to invite for a deeper walk with Him?
How can you help serve?*

Help others hear the Word clearly

URGENT NEED FOR THE GATHERINGS:

Willing Servants to run the sound board & Strong Willing Servants who can set up and tear down our sound equipment

Contact Linda Haller ASAP by emailing Lmusicteach@aol.com or call her at 937-430-1721

DO NOT JUST BE HEARERS OF THE WORD, BUT DOERS OF THE WORD. JAMES 1:22



Walking with Christ together



As the chill of winter gives way to the warmth of spring, we are reminded that renewal is woven into the very fabric of our faith journey. The earth awakens with new life, flowers bloom where there once was barrenness, and hope rises gently but persistently in our hearts. This season invites us to pause and remember that even after the longest winters—both in nature and in our lives—God brings restoration and new beginnings.

In the Gospel story of the walk to Emmaus, we encounter two friends traveling together in deep sorrow and confusion after the loss of Jesus. Their hearts were heavy with grief, their hopes seemingly buried. Yet it was along that very road, in the midst of their mourning, that they encountered the risen Christ. Though they did not recognize Him at first, He walked beside them, listened to them, and revealed Himself in time. Their despair was transformed into joy, their weariness into renewed purpose.

This story reminds us of the power of companionship on our journey. Life brings both mountaintop moments of joy and valley seasons of struggle. We were never meant to walk those paths alone. Strong, faithful friendships can sustain us, encourage us, and even help us recognize Christ when we cannot see Him clearly ourselves.

Within the Emmaus community, we are blessed with the opportunity to build these kinds of

spiritual friendships. Share groups are one of the most meaningful ways we live this out—small circles of trust where we can be honest about our walk, celebrate joys, and support one another through challenges. In these groups, we often discover that Christ is present in the voices, prayers, and care of our brothers and sisters.

If you are not currently part of a share group, or are seeking to reconnect, we encourage you to take that first step. Reach out and allow others to walk alongside you. And if you need help finding a group, please don't hesitate to contact me at daytonemmausgoodshepherd@gmail.com. I would be honored to help you connect.

As members of the Emmaus community, we hold onto this truth: you are never alone. Whether you find yourself on a mountaintop or in a valley, Christ walks with you—and so do we.

May this spring season fill your heart with hope, renewal, and the assurance of God's abiding presence.

Emily Adams

Good Shepherd/Outreach




Need a spiritual uplift?

Want encouragement to keep going, fellow pilgrims to lean on when the going is rough and to rejoice with on the mountaintop?

Whether you are a new Emmaus pilgrim or attended a walk years ago, join an Emmaus Share Group today.

A WORD FROM THE COMMUNITY CHAIR

Dear Emmaus Friends,

My name is Mike Baughman. I attended the Greater Dayton Men's Emmaus Walk #54 and sat at the table of Matthew. 

It is my honor and my privilege to serve as your new Community Lay Director. I thank Brenda Baker and the other Board members for coaching me the past few years and putting me in a position to take on this opportunity.

It has been 13 years since I attended my walk. In those years, I served in the kitchen along with my wife Glenna, mostly for the Thursday Send Off Dinner. I also carried bedding and suitcases for pilgrims, helped set up tables and chairs, shoveled snow from the walks when needed, and attended many amazing Candlelight Ceremonies.

Three years ago, I joined the Board as the Kitchen Manager and enjoyed serving hundreds of servants and pilgrims, recruiting volunteers, adjusting menus, and laughing and praying with fellow workers. I have also been involved in the Kairos Prison Ministry for 13 years at Warren Correctional, serving on many teams in every position, working my way to Weekend leader and Advisory Council Chairman.

I take pride in my organizational skills and get hassled for being a little too intense at times. But at this point in my life, I am dedicated to continuing my spiritual journey being fully committed to the Emmaus program.

Since Covid, our community has struggled with the loss of volunteers and momentum in team building and recruiting pilgrims. Now we are recovering quickly and have just completed two very successful weekends with full teams walking on water, a boatload of pilgrims and plenty of enthusiastic servants.

We have the right to get excited about the future of Greater Dayton Emmaus! Get ready to call your friends, recruit some new pilgrims and serve on the upcoming teams. The next Women's Walk is August 20-23 at Sulphur Grove, and both Men's and Women's walks are scheduled for next January and February. The Holy Spirit is with all of us and I can't wait to get started.

Blessings,
Mike Baughman
Community Lay Director

UPCOMING

EASTER SUNDAY April 5

APRIL GATHERING

April 13 @ 7:15pm,
Normandy UMC, Centerville

4th Day FEAST International Gathering

April 24 @ 8pm on Zoom

MAY GATHERING

May 11 @ 7:15pm, Normandy UMC

JUNE GATHERING

June 8 @ 7:15pm, Normandy UMC

JULY GATHERING

July 13 @ 7:15pm, Normandy UMC

THE BIG MOVE

August - Date TBD

From STORAGE to Sulphur Grove

AUGUST GATHERING

August 10 @ 7:15pm, Normandy UMC

WOMEN'S WALK #115

August 20-23

Sulphur Grove UMC

WELCOME YOUR NEW 2026-27 BOARD

- *Chairman: Mike Baughman
- *Vice Chair: Jean Keillor
- Past Chair: Brenda Baker
- Secretary: *Tanya McDougale* **OPEN**
- Treasurer: *Alix Argabright* **OPEN**
- Spiritual Director: Palmer Jason
- Agape – **OPEN**
- *Communications – Amy Fitzwater
- *Documentation – Debbie Hayes
- Good Shepherd/Outreach – Emily Adams
- Housing – Tom Donaldson
- Kitchen – Samatha Hoang
- Men's Registrar – Gary Stanforth
- *Supply Chair – Xenia Jean-Louis
- *Women's Registrar – Julia Crowl
- Worship – Linda Haller

***Denotes incoming members
or new positions**