



GREATER SCIOTO VALLEY EMMAUS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

FROM THE CHAIR

BY JOHN MANASCO

America Again.

A recent conversation reminded me of the song that Carmen did on his 1994 “The Standard” album called “America Again”. This song in Carmen’s style is a retelling of recent history going back to the quotes and lifestyle of our founding fathers. Jefferson called the Bible the “Cornerstone of Liberty”. In George Washington’s farewell address, he states “You can’t have national morality apart from religious principle”. The quote from Abraham Lincoln sticks with me, “The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next.” So true. We see things today coming out of our schools and on social media that simply baffle me. The inability to see right from wrong but be guided by existential experience is mind blowing. We see grade school children not understanding what gender they are because they are taught that not even what gender you were born as is absolute. We see respect for human life is devalued and discarded. Recently in our country, one high school student took the life of another simply because he sat in the opposing team’s tent. Who is teaching such hate? How can we wonder why we have slipped so far from God when we kicked him out of our schools and substituted humanistic reasoning for morality. Each day the number of divorces, drug addicts, and discarded unborn children grows, while the church sits idle. How can we change things? How can I have a positive impact on those around me? ...cont:

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We have the answer in 2 Chronicles 7:14.

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

This may not be the answer you expected because it addresses God's people. Why not focus on the ones doing the bad deeds? Well, maybe He is. We have become too self important and need to be humbled and pray. We have turned away from God so we need to seek his face and turn from our wicked ways. Then God will do just as He did so many times in the book of Judges when His people repented and came back to Him. He will hear from heaven, forgive our sin and heal our land. The chorus of Carmen's song sums it all up. "The only hope for America is Jesus. The only hope for our country is Him. If we repent of our ways, stand firm and say, "We need God in America again."

In Christ.

John Manasco



FROM THE BOARD...

BY DAVID COATES



I've been involved in Emmaus since 2016. My wife, Sylvia, took her walk first and when she came home the glow in her face was amazing. I told her that I wanted that too, so she sponsored me on the next men's walk. I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of love, the AGAPE LOVE. I then decided that I was going to be involved in the Emmaus Community and since have served on walk teams, served in the kitchen, and served on the Greater Scioto Valley Emmaus Board. I am currently the Chairman of the Communication/ Outreach Committee and Editor of this newsletter. I will be serving on my first Chrysalis Walk this month.

I would like for each of you to think back to your walk. Think about what you experienced and to all the love and joy showered on you from people you didn't even know. That is AGAPE LOVE. Those people showed their love for you without expecting anything in return. That is the same love God gives you, His faithful, unconditional love.

I challenge you to give AGAPE LOVE to pilgrims, by sponsoring them, working in the kitchen or housekeeping, or praying for them. I encourage you to be involved with the community either by attending the gatherings or serving on a committee. Participate with Chrysalis by doing the same. You will feel so much joy in your heart when you do. Believe me, I sure have.

De Colores/Fly with Christ
David Coates

A Reflection for Independence Day

In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. Ephesians 3:12

Friday is Independence Day in the United States. On this day, commonly called The Fourth of July, we Americans celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration, thus affirming the independence of the United States from Great Britain.

For over two hundred years, citizens of the U.S. have celebrated our independence on The Fourth of July. We fly the flag; put up red, white, and blue decorations; march in parades; and enjoy picnics. Throughout all of our celebrations, we are reminded of the gift of our freedom as a nation. Indeed, we are blessed in the United States with exceptional liberty, for which we ought to thank the Lord. Other countries around the world have similar national celebrations of freedom. July 1 is Canada Day. January 26 is Australia Day. September 16 is Grito de Dolores in Mexico.

Ephesians 3:12 celebrates another kind of freedom, a freedom that is even more amazing than the freedoms guaranteed by the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. This verse reads: "In [Christ] and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence." The Greek word translated here as "freedom" refers specifically to "freedom of speech" (*parresia*, with a literal meaning of "all speech"). The word rendered as "approach" suggests one's authorization to draw near to a king. The Greek original of Ephesians 3:12 says that we can be confident in our "freedom of speech" and "authorization to approach" God.

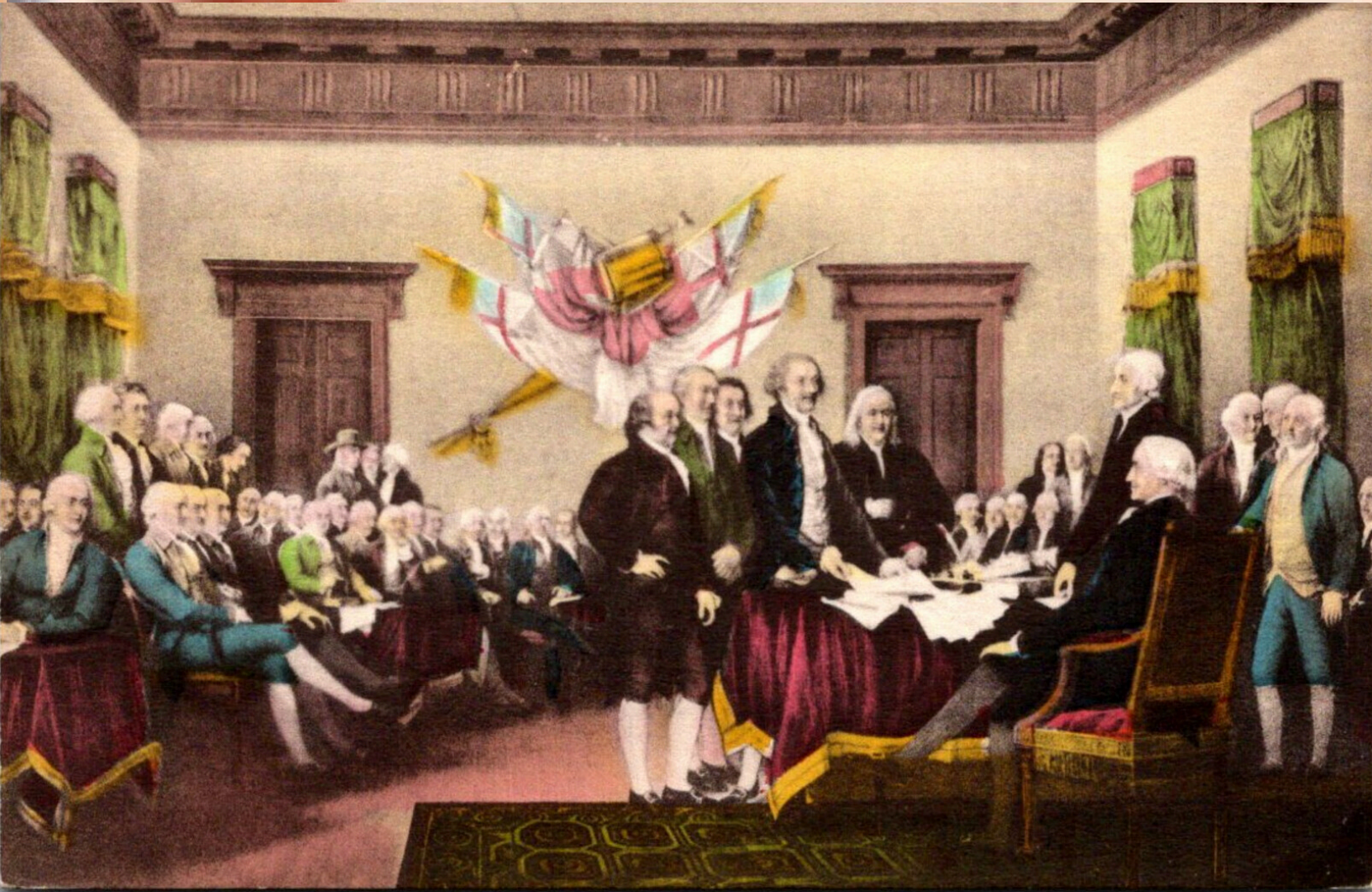
Let me put this plainly. In Christ, you have the freedom to draw near to God, to tell God anything you wish, without holding back. You can express to God not only your joys but also your sorrows, not only your assurance but also your doubt, not only your pleasure but also your anger. This is an amazing freedom.

Of course it's a freedom that we Christians can easily take for granted, even as citizens of various countries can hold their political freedom too lightly. When we're used to praying to God at any time, in any place, with any words, we can forget the stunning nature of our access to God. Think about it. The God who created the universe, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the God of all wisdom and justice, this God invites you to speak your mind, to share with him your thoughts, your feelings, your fears, and your dreams. The more you reflect on this invitation, the more you'll come to realize just how amazing it is.

So, if, like me, you're an American, by all means take time today to thank God for the freedom we have in this country. But, whether you live in the U.S. or not, I encourage you to step back and consider the freedom Christ has given you to approach God with deep confidence. Let's thank God together for this amazing freedom he has given us.

The Question we need to ask ourselves is: Do you ever marvel at the freedom God has given you to approach him? Do you take advantage of this freedom? Do you take it for granted?

Blessings Pastor Dave



Volunteer to help at a Gathering

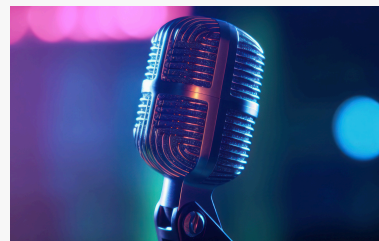
Lead Worship

email: Music@gsve.org

or

Share your 4th Day Story

email: Info@gsve.org



JULY 2025

2025 GSVE BOARD

Executive Committee

Community Lay Director - John Manasco.....communityld@gsve.org
Vice Chair - Joe McQuiniffvicechair@gsve.org
Secretary - Bill Leesecretary@gsve.org
Treasurer - Michele Routtreasurer@gsve.org

Clergy

Community Spiritual Director - Bruce Hines communitysd@gsve.org
Clergy - Jamie Darling
Clergy - TBD

Registrar - Rusty Staten.....registrar@gsve.org
Purchasing - Aaron Grandpurchasing@gsve.org
Team Selection - Joe McQuiniffteamselection@gsve.org
Music - Michele Rout.....music@gsve.org
Agape - Amy Brown....agape@gsve.org
Housekeeping - Danny Sturgillhousekeeping@gsve.org
Kitchen - Amy Grandkitchen@gsve.org
Sponsorship - Jerry Kunzsponsorship@gsve.org
Social - Bill Jonesoutreach@gsve.org
Leadership - Gary Jordan.....leadership@gsve.org
Community Trainer - Lana McGrath...communitytrainer@gsve.org
Good Shepherd - Jerry Kunz....goodshepherd@gsve.org
Communication/Outreach - Dave Coates.....outreach@gsve.org

Chrysalis Reps - Kris Liles, Rochelle Barney.....chrysalis@gsve.org

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT GSVE.ORG

The website has been recently updated and reorganized. Events and walk information are now on the home page, right where you want it.
Check it out and stay in touch and join us as we follow Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chrysalis Flights

Girls July 19-21

Boys July 12-14

Information at

southernohiochrysalisweb@gmail.com

Board Meeting

JULY 6th @ 2:30 PM

Harvest Center Church

11986 Pleasant Valley Rd, Chillicothe,

OH 45601

All are welcome to attend.

Next Gathering

July 13th 2:30 pm

First Wesleyan Church

89 S. Mulberry Street

Chillicothe Ohio 45601

Next Walks

Oct 2-5 Women's Walk 64

Oct 9-12 Men's Walk 47

Check gsve.org to stay informed.



WHO ARE YOU SPONSORING? TIME IS NOW TO BE PRAYING AND TALKING UP YOUR EMMAUS EXPERIENCE WITH THOSE THAT GOD HAS PUT ON YOUR MIND AND IN YOUR PATH. BOTH PILGRIM AND SPONSOR FORMS ARE ONLINE AT GSVE.ORG. WHAT'S KEEPING YOU? GET IT DONE. IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO REGISTER FOR FUTURE WALKS.

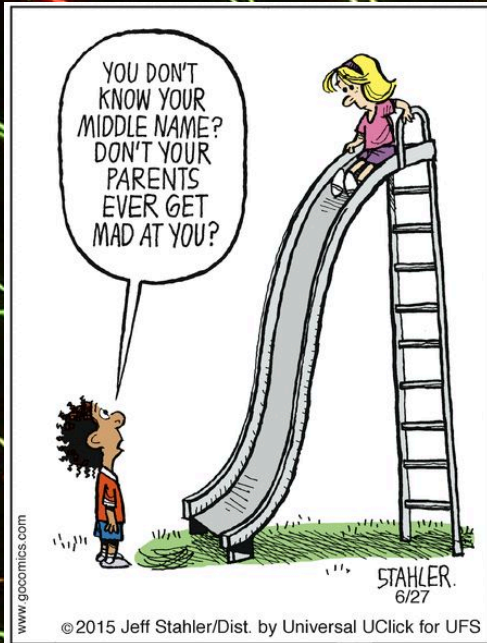
Volunteer opportunities for each walk will be available online. Check out GSVE.org

JUST FOR LAUGHS...



FOLLOW

<https://facebook.com/GreaterSciotoValleyEmmaus>



VISIT GSVE.ORG to sign up TODAY!

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