



# GREATER SCIOTO VALLEY EMMAUS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE CHAIR

BY GARY JORDAN

February already, seems the older we get the faster time passes. I hope all is well with you and your family. As we move along in 2024, let us remember the importance of our family, our friends and gathering together, especially in our home churches.

Winter can be a lonely time, especially for those who aren't able to get out; illness or unable to drive, maybe in hospital or the elderly. We can check on neighbors, maybe a visit, with kind words or prayer. Just letting them know you care. Heb 10:24-25 "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

As we continue preparing to move the Walks to Koinonia Farms, we covet your prayers for the Holy Spirit to guide us, for our decisions, the forming of teams, the scheduling of walks, and for the moving of supplies and setup. We have some new members on the board and a new Community Lay Director. The Lord has put together a group of men and women whose hearts are to serve our Savior and Lord and to serve the Emmaus community. As Lana said before, "we need you to uphold this community with your prayers, presence and gifts, whatever God has blessed you with". Doing so, will allow GSVE to continue to offer the Pilgrims the opportunity to grow closer to our Savior, in a deeper relationship, to become a disciple of Christ. .

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Most importantly to take this back to their church and serve the LORD. I ask all of you to remember your time on your walk, serving in the kitchen, serving on a team, maybe you were on the board. I'm sure it wasn't perfect, but we continued, and God showed up. Help us continue to offer these cherished memories of serving the Lord by serving others. Jesus' words in Mat 23:11 "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant".

I would like to thank those who served on the board for the past 3 years and have moved on and thank those who chose to serve now. It is an incredible privilege to serve with these people who through the Lord's Grace and Mercy enables us to serve the Emmaus Community together with all of you. There is work to be done and with your prayers, by the leading of the Holy Spirit, we can accomplish much. Our next board meeting is February 11th 2:30 at Harvest Center Church 678 Kinnamon Lane Pleasant Valley. ALL ARE WELCOME. OUR next Gathering is February 15th 7pm at Harvest Center Church 678 Kinnamon Lane Pleasant Valley Your Community Lay Director, Gary Jordan, may God Bless you and your family in Christ.

# FROM THE BOARD...

BY AMY BROWN



Hi, my name is Amy Brown, Great Scioto Valley Walk to Emmaus walk # 54 Table of Ruth. I am in my second year on the board, and I have taken over the Kitchen position. I am excited to be able to move to this position from Good Shepard. We have lots of exciting things going on in the community!

We are moving to Koinonia Farms this year, we have some fresh new faces on the board, and we are ready for the move. The first walks are planned for June, so I hope that we get through them with smoothly with the move to a new kitchen area. I hope the community members will come and help at both of the upcoming walks and learn the new kitchen with the rest of us. If you are interested in helping in the new learning experience, please talk to me at any of the gatherings and you also can go to [gsve.org](http://gsve.org) and click on Volunteer to sign up for a time to work. We are going to be working on the ins and outs of menus, what we will need at the new place and how to make it all good. I know that moving to the farm is going to be great and give us room to grow. We also are offering opportunities for Resident Kitchen Helpers. At the camp we have cabins that are available for support ministries to stay the weekend at the camp and provide sleeping quarters for the helpers. So now you can come and help for a meal, several meals (stay the night), or all meals and stay the weekend. We have our spring walks planned, see “Upcoming Events” for the details.

There are more changes on the way. After the February Gathering, we will be changing the frequency of the Gatherings to every other month. This gives the Emmaus Community more opportunities to minister in our home churches and neighborhood. It will also make our Gatherings that much more special. We still plan to take the gatherings to different churches in our community. If you would like us to come to your church, just let us know. Our next Walks will be in June with a June Gathering at Koinonia Farms Camp. So, if you have not visited Koinonia yet, don't miss this Gathering. We will let you know where the April Gathering is to be held. We are also looking at repeating our Gatherings in the Park. Those we such a blast.

I hope to see some old and new faces come and join us as we make these changes and watch the Emmaus Community grow. I am so ready to dive into the deep end and see what He has to offer us as we go forward.

De Colores - Amy Brown (Philippians 4:13)

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT [GSVE.ORG](http://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.

# FROM THE COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

BY DAVE BURRISS

I remember in grade school we would decorate a shoe box for Valentine's Day and get cards from all my classmates. I also remember that my Mom and Dad would always have a card, candy and some sort of small gift for myself and my sisters. It didn't matter what, just that the thought was there.

That gift giving (or card giving) has continued throughout the years. It may not be a pink or red trinket, but it always reminds me and my sisters that we were loved.

Valentine's Day can be a tough day for many. For some people it's a struggle. Singles who wish they weren't, those struggling in their marriages and wish they weren't and those missing a love one who left too early.

Valentine's Day is supposed to be about love, right? It seems like for many, it is a reminder that the love we want is indeed lacking. As a follower of Jesus Christ, I am reminded of how much I am loved – and how much you are loved.

This love is more than a trinket, more than a card, more than a day on the calendar. This love may be much more than the love we want and all the more about the love we need. This love changes everything.

John 3:16 reads, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." God shows us our value and wants to be in relationship with us, because he loves us. When we say yes to Jesus, we truly experience true love. As we move toward Valentine's Day, I hope we will all see that we are loved.

If you are a follower of Christ, I hope you will take this special date to remind those around you of just how much they are loved – today, tomorrow and every day.

Happy Valentine's Day and God bless.

Pastor Dave

## Volunteer to help at a Gathering

### Lead Worship

email: [Music@gave.org](mailto:Music@gave.org)

or

### Share your 4th Day Story

email: [Info@gsve.org](mailto:Info@gsve.org)



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## 2024 GATHERINGS

Feb 15th at:

Harvest Center Church

678 Kinnamon Lane

Chillicothe OH, 45601

(Located in the Pleasant Valley area)

## BOYS CHRYSALIS

Feb 17th - 19th.



Cabins at Koinonia

## 2024 WALKS AT KOINONIA

Men's Walk #45

June 6th-9th, 2024

Women's Walk #61

June 13th-16th, 2024



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](http://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](http://GSVE.org)

# 2023 GSVE BOARD

## Executive Committee

Community Lay Director - Gary Jordan .....communityld@gsve.org  
Vice Chair - John Manasco .....vicechair@gsve.org  
Secretary - Bill Lee .....secretary@gsve.org  
Treasurer - Michele Rout .....treasurer@gsve.org

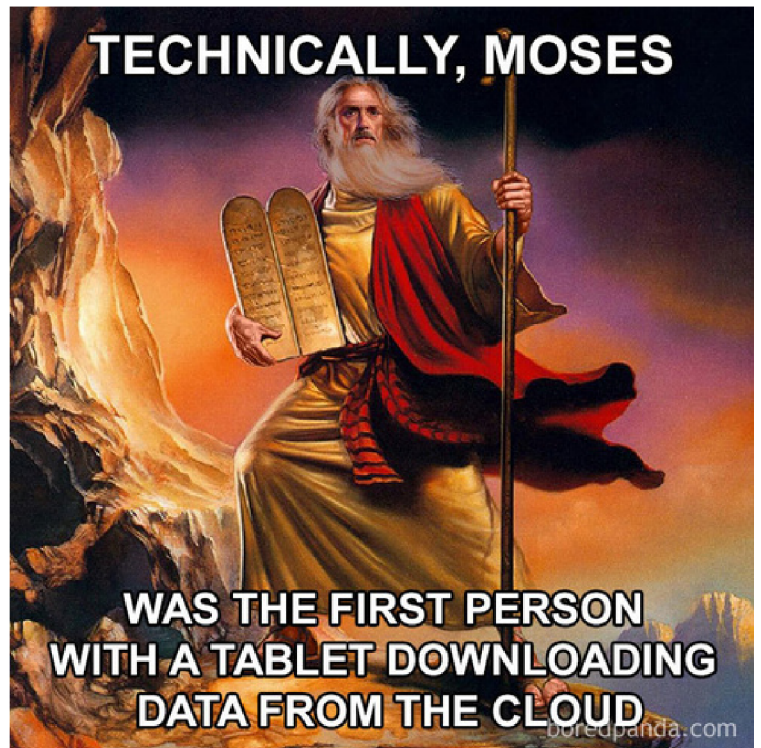
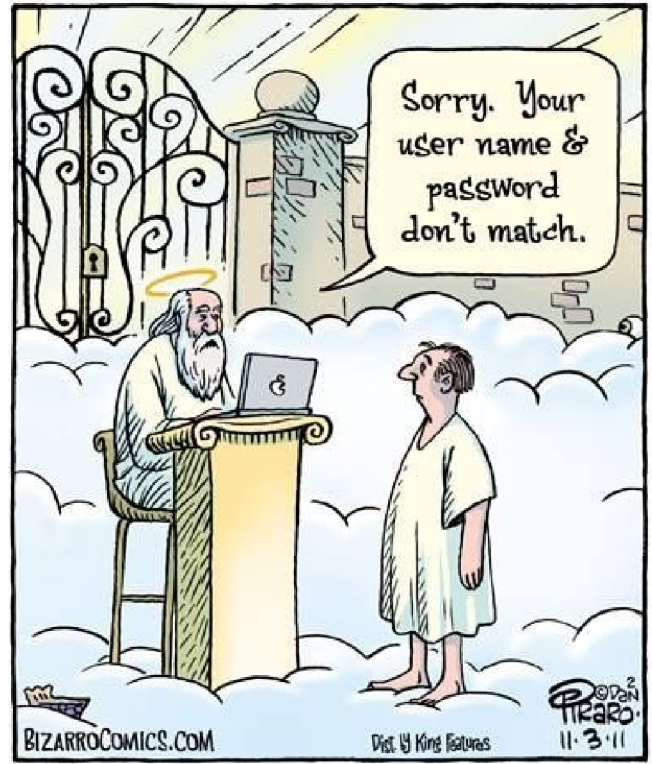
## Clergy

Community Spiritual Director - Dave Burris ..... communitysd@gsve.org  
Clergy - Jamie Darling.....  
Clergy - TBD

Registrar - Aaron Grand, Linda Jones .....registrar@gsve.org  
Purchasing - Aaron Grand .....purchasing@gsve.org  
Team Selection - Joe McQuiniff .....teamselection@gsve.org  
Music - Michele Rout, John Manasco .....music@gsve.org  
Agape - Cindy Moody .....agape@gsve.org  
Housekeeping - Jeff Brammer .....housekeeping@gsve.org  
Kitchen - Amy Brown .....kitchen@gsve.org  
Sponsorship - Linda Jones .....sponsorship@gsve.org  
Social/Outreach - OPEN .....outreach@gsve.org  
Leadership - Lana McGrath .....leadership@gsve.org  
Community Trainer - Mike Matheney .....communitytrainer@gsve.org  
Good Shepherd - Jody Wilson .....goodshepherd@gsve.org

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

# JUST FOR LAUGHS... TECH EDITION



FOLLOW US

<https://facebook.com/GreaterSciotoValleyEmmaus>

**VISIT GSVE.ORG to sign up TODAY!**

# QUESTIONS ???

## **IS GSVE LEAVING CHILLICOTHE?**

No. GSVE is based in and will continue to be focused on the ministry of the Chillicothe and surrounding communities. Holding our Walk Weekends at a nearby facility with cabins and conference accommodations is what we are considering. Monthly Gatherings will be held at various churches in the Chillicothe area.

## **WHERE DO YOU WANT TO HOLD THE WALKS?**

Koinonia Farms is located east of Laurelville, OH. This beautiful location in the Hocking Hill area is the ministry built by a local christian family with strong ties to Chillicothe. It was built during the Covid pandemic shutdown and they continue to build new accommodations and features. They want to offer the use of their facilities as a ministry gift to GSVE. They are excited to offer a partnership with us to share the gospel and promote christian discipleship.

## **WHY CHANGE VENUES FOR THE WALKS?**

There are a number of ongoing reasons, the most pressing being that our numbers continue to decline, both in service and pilgrim participation. We've been given an opportunity to revitalize and grow by pivoting the experience to a camp environment which allows for communion with God's beautiful creation, without distractions from the outside world.

Additionally, Trinity UMC is growing their ministries and much of the space we have been accustomed to using is no longer available particularly to accommodate the growth we pray and hope for in GSVE.

## **WHY SO FAR AWAY? I'M CONCERNED ABOUT COMMUNITY SERVING**

This venue will come with the need for a commitment to intentional service. We anticipate that there would be a "live-in" logistics/kitchen team. The camp has ample space to house additional servants. We would encourage car-pooling when coming to serve for just a few hours. Both the Love Community and Southern Ohio Emmaus currently hold their walks at camps, so it is definitely not impossible. Also, locally we have found no other affordable facility that has the needed accommodations.

## **WHY CHANGE NOW?**

The future of GSVE has been prayerfully poured over by many people for a long time, even before Covid brought us to a screeching halt. While some Emmaus and Chrysalis communities are thriving, many, like GSVE, are struggling. The evidence of the need for a ministry like ours is evident in those communities that are doing well. In Matthew 9:37-38 Jesus tells the disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." The purpose of Emmaus is to support the spiritual formation of Christians seeking to know and experience God more fully. As laborers we must continue to pray and go into the "harvest" of believers so that they may continue to grow in their faith and walk with the Lord.

## **WHAT ABOUT GATHERINGS?**

Gatherings will be held in churches in the Chillicothe area so that we can reach others with the ministries of Emmaus and Chrysalis. The Board is evaluating elements of Gatherings, such as day of the week and time of day and would love to have input from the community on this topic. The two Gatherings in the park were well attended and we definitely have multiple outdoor resources for better weather. GSVE is an ecumenical organization and we need to show our support in strengthening disciples within all area churches, not just inviting them on the Walks.

We encourage you to send additional questions by email to [communityld@gsve.org](mailto:communityld@gsve.org).