



GREATER SCIOTO VALLEY EMMAUS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

FROM THE CHAIR

BY JOHN MANASCO

Choose Your Hard

You may be familiar with the inspirational poem
Choose Your Hard. It goes...

Marriage is hard. Divorce is hard. Choose your hard.
Obesity is hard. Being fit is hard. Choose your hard.
Being in debt is hard. Being financially disciplined is
hard. Choose your hard.

Life will never be easy. It will often be hard.
But we can choose our hard. Choose wisely.

In a nutshell, this reminds us that if we do the hard
things, we can benefit from the rewards. If we do the
easy things, it quickly becomes difficult. In most
cases, it becomes much harder to correct or
unfortunately gets to a point that it can't be.

The same can be said about the Christian life.
Living within your own understanding is hard.

INSPIRING READS IN THIS ISSUE:

FROM THE BOARD - 2

FROM THE CSD - 3

GSVE BOARD - 4

UPCOMING EVENTS - 5

JUST FOR LAUGHS - 6

Following Christ is hard. Choose your hard.
Denying yourself and taking up the cross is hard.
Living without the hope of Heaven is hard. Choose
your hard.

Being held accountable for our own sin is hard.
Surrendering our life to the Lord is hard. Choose your
hard.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may
have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But
take heart! I have overcome the world" John 16:33
Choose your hard. Choose wisely.

In the words of Joshua, "But if serving the Lord seems
undesirable to, then choose for yourselves this day
whom you will serve... but as for me and my
household, we will serve the Lord."

In Christ,
John Manasco

FROM THE BOARD...

BY JERRY KUNZ



Greetings from the Chair of the Sponsorship Committee. It is fast approaching the next Emmaus Walks for GSVE! Time for Sponsors to get moving! So, what's up with Sponsorship?

According to the dictionary, a sponsor is one who takes responsibility for another. The suffix -ship refers to the skill involved in the activity. Sponsorship is the skill of taking responsibility for another. It is the heart of the Walk to Emmaus Movement. Sponsorship is one of the MOST IMPORTANT aspects of the Walk to Emmaus! The authors of Day Four: the Pilgrim's Continued Journey wrote, "The strength of any Emmaus community is a direct result of that community's recruiting practices." Remember, the primary focus of the Emmaus is the local church where ministry takes place. The object of the Walk to Emmaus is to inspire, motivate, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action in their home, church, work, and community. Now you may have heard that the Walk to Emmaus is NOT for everyone. Be certain that those you invite are right for Emmaus and that Emmaus is right for that individual. I like to say that over 500 people saw the Risen Christ before he ascended to heaven, BUT only two saw him on the Road to Emmaus! Therefore, when considering whom to sponsor, you will need to be in a spirit of prayer and ask the Holy Spirit first!

The first step to sponsorship is PRAYER. Through prayer, we commit the process to God and ask for His direction. We release to God our control, our desires, and our expectations. We need to be open to God's leading and timing when considering whom to sponsor. This will allow us to be God's instruments in furthering His kingdom. He knows what is best for His ultimate plan and will guide us. Be open to His instruction, even if it does not conform to your expectations! Then finally, when He has revealed a name to you, it is your time to act. Call the person by name. Scripture is clear that God calls us individually by name.

Lastly, consider WISE SPONSORSHIP. The walk to Emmaus is not a hospital to fix those who are spiritually broken. It is not a place for a church to send a problem member to "straighten them out." The Walk to Emmaus cannot do everything; instead, it has a narrowed focus of spiritual renewal of church leaders. That way, the Walk to Emmaus can accomplish its mission of strengthening the local congregations. Start now and get those applications in, ASAP! If you have questions or concerns, just drop me an email! Sponsorship@GSVE.org



THE COMMANDMENTS OF A SPONSOR



1. Thou shalt pray, pray, pray! Pray for discernment as to whom you shalt invite, pray for your pilgrim and their family, pray for the weekend, the community, the team and other pilgrims attending the walk weekend.
2. Thou shalt make an appointment to meet with prospective pilgrim to tell them of your Emmaus experience and invite them to attend. Thou shalt discuss the importance of Reunion Groups.
3. Thou shalt provide them with an application to complete (or, in the NIV, show them the online application form on www.GSVE.org)
4. Thou shalt gather letters of Agape for your pilgrim; as a sponsor you are receiving information prior to the walk which will be helpful in your Agape letter quest for your pilgrim. (Thou art allowed to give special gifts following the closing ceremony after departing the church.)
5. Thou shalt call your pilgrim a few days before the start of the walk to remind them of what to pack for the weekend.
6. Thou shalt bring your pilgrim to the weekend, make their bed, carry their luggage and tend to their family needs during the walk.
7. Thou shalt attend sponsor's hour held in the chapel immediately following the pilgrim send-off (singing, "This Is the Day," as the pilgrims and team head for the conference room). During sponsor's hour, you will hold your pilgrim's cross, pray for them and their weekend and celebrate Holy Communion together with the other sponsors on behalf of the pilgrims and the team.
8. Thou shalt have as little contact as possible with your pilgrim during the weekend.
9. Thou shalt attend candlelight services, which are held Saturday evening at 8:30 p.m.
10. Thou shalt attend closing on Sunday at 4:30 p.m.
11. Thou shalt take your pilgrim home after the weekend events are completed.
12. Thou shalt help your pilgrim find a reunion (share) group or create a new one
13. Thou shalt love and serve your pilgrim to the best of your ability and continue to encourage them in their Fourth Days
14. Thou shalt love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength that the other thirteen commandments may be fulfilled!

PASTOR DAVE'S THOUGHT

BY DAVE BURRIS

As a pastor, I want everyone to understand the powerful message and meaning of Easter. To be able to communicate this life changing event—I have needed to understand this incredible reality:

Jesus Christ died for my sins, physically rose from the dead, and has given me new life!

“(He) died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.” (2 Corinthians 5:15 ESV)

Easter Sunday celebrates the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The events that occurred approximately 2000 years ago in Jerusalem permanently changed the world. Every time we write a date, we are using the resurrection of Jesus Christ as the focal point. More importantly, Christ defeated the enemy, atoned for our sins, and opened the door for us to talk personally to God.

I love this day and frankly, celebrate it every day. Easter Sunday reminds me that Jesus really was who he claimed to be. God in the flesh. He came to earth to redeem me and change me. I am a child of God.

On the evening before Jesus was crucified, he had a private meeting with his disciples and explained what was going to happen the next day and how his death and resurrection would change everything.

The disciples loved Jesus and followed him for years. They must have thought, “I don’t get it. Where in the world is he going? I’m not going to see him anymore? I’m already alive—what does, ‘You also will live,’ mean?”

The real meaning of Easter impacted me in ways I can’t explain. When I made my decision to serve Jesus, I began experiencing real life. You and I have a life with real meaning, not emptiness or the feeling of being lost. Everyone wants to discover truth, meaning, and a deep sense of peace.

One of the greatest weapons that the enemy uses against us is discouragement. He will continually bombard us and tell us, “Give up. You don’t have an abundant life.” The enemy created lying. His natural way of communicating is lying. What do we do? Go back to resurrection day, and remind yourself that you have the meaning of life—NEW LIFE through Jesus Christ. We were not made to live for ourselves. We were made to live for Jesus Christ. I have known Jesus for decades and have sensed something that I didn’t sense before giving my life to Jesus—meaning, contentment and peace.

Another truth we discover is that the sense of bondage has dissipated. We are free from the continual bondage of sin. Oh, we have our temptations, and we stumble occasionally, but we’re free to live a new life in the freedom of God. God gave us a second chance, and he will give us a third, fourth. He will never give up on us.

Thirdly, there is a new energy that we have as God supplies the energy of Christ. He will give us rest and joy—even when we suffer. Wow, do we need His energy.

Celebrating the resurrection day (Easter) and understanding how we are absolutely changed when we believe that he died, rose physically from the dead and is praying for us right now is something we can remind ourselves daily.

Blessings Pastor Dave

Volunteer to help at a Gathering

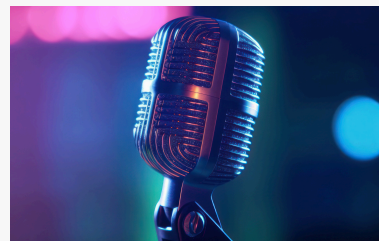
Lead Worship

email: Music@gsve.org

or

Share your 4th Day Story

email: Info@gsve.org



APRIL 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
April 6th @ 2:30 PM
Harvest Center Church
678 Kinnamon Lane
Chillicothe Ohio 45601
All are welcome to attend.**

**Next Gathering
April 13th 2:30 pm
First Wesleyan Church
89 S. Mulberry Street
Chillicothe Ohio 45601**

**Next Walks
April 24-27 Women's Walk 63
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

Come Join the Emmaus Men's Choir



Opened to all men in all Emmaus communities



Thursday May 1, 2025

First Baptist Church

250 Lafayette St

Greenfield, OH 45123

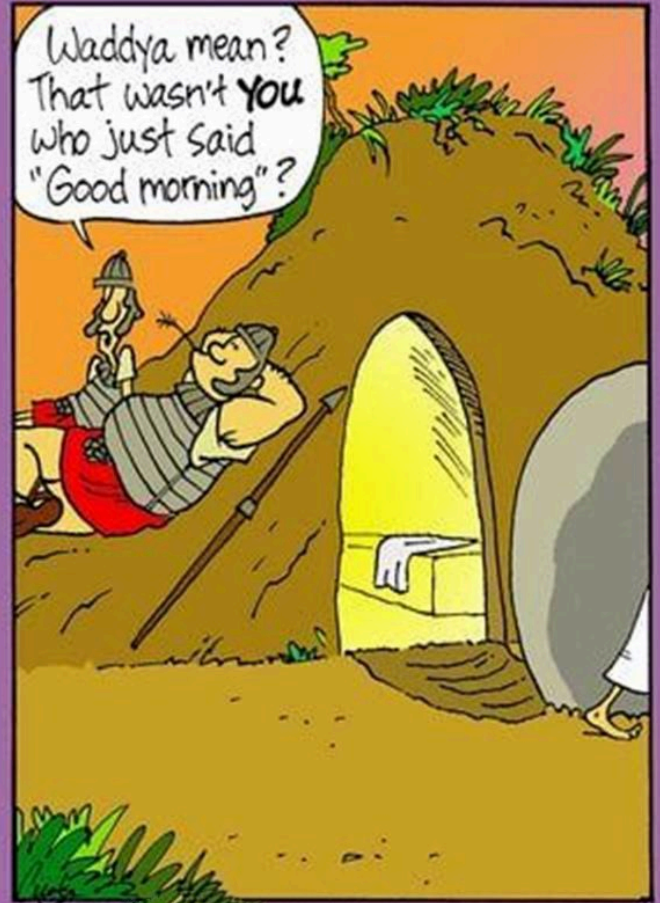
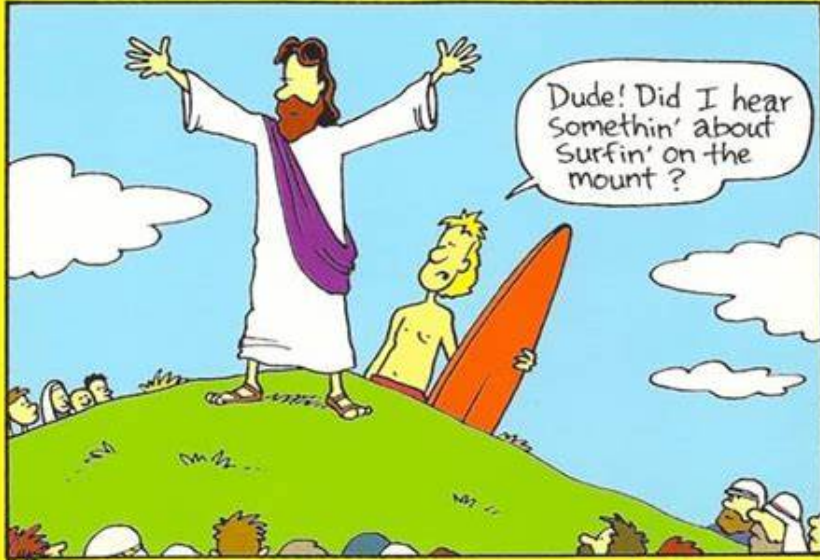
For more information contact Rusty Staten: 937-403-6642

JUST FOR LAUGHS...



FOLLOW

<https://facebook.com/GreaterSciotoValleyEmmaus>



VISIT GSVE.ORG to sign up TODAY!

APRIL 2025