

Thoughts from the Chairman

Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus

*Cursillo - Chrysalis - Kairos - Walk to Emmaus
De Colores!*

In Remembrance

My Heart was shattered.
I had never felt such desolation, such complete and utter anguish.
My Son was dead...my firstborn, my angel child was dead.

I reflect now on the events which led up to that horrible day and even though he had forewarned me, forewarned us all, we were still not prepared for the utter brutality and injustice of it all.

I remember screaming in protest to the angry shouts of the people who only a week earlier had exuberantly welcomed my Son to the city. My eyes were riveted to the balcony where He was on display...battered and bleeding, a hawthorn wreath imbedded in his head. And the long agonizing struggle through the crowded streets to the Place of the Skull. I could live a thousand years and not forget the sound of the Roman spikes being pounded into His hands and feet, my Son's scream. A mother is so attuned to the sound of her children's voices and there are sounds that strike terror in her heart. My own lungs collapsed and I sank to the ground in complete despair. John and Mary and the others lifted me, their own faces awash with tears and grief.

And then it was finally over, after He had forgiven them all and looked lovingly into my eyes. Great black clouds formed in the sky and covered the sun, boiling wildly as a fierce wind began to rage and a deep, foreboding rumbling echoed from the earth. Most of the onlookers ran for cover. The guards allowed us to take Him down from the cross. Joseph of Arimathea escorted us to the tomb in his beautiful private gardens, and we wrapped Him in a linen burial cloth and laid Him on a stone bench. The men pushed a massive rock against the opening and we all clung to each other and made our way back to the city.

I remember collapsing on my bed in utter exhaustion...and the cruel images of the past twenty-four hours gave way to the image of His childhood. His birth slightly more than thirty years ago in that barn in Judea. I was but a girl myself and overwhelmed by the reality that I was holding God at mt breast. I remember as a toddler the way His eyes would dance when He laughed, how He'd run across the hills near our home in Nazareth, how even as a young child He would settle

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Gatherings and Other Noteworthy events of the Larger Community

(All times are p.m. unless otherwise noted)

Upcoming Area Walks and Events

- Greater Dayton Women's #50
April 18-21st at Normandy UMC
- Northern Lights Women's #17
April 11-14 Christ UMC - Middletown
- Greater Dayton Men's #28
May 16-19th at Normandy UMC

Gatherings

- Greater Dayton at Normandy UMC
2nd Mon 7:15
- Enon UMC
1st Mon 7:30
- Christ Church
1st Mon 7:00
- Wilmington UMC
2nd Tues 7:00
- Sidney 1st UMC
2nd Tue 7:00
- Dayton Board
4th Tues 7:00

Emmaus
Normandy UMC
450 W. Alex-Bell
Centerville OH 45459

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disputes among his playmates. He was so affectionate. I still have the hinged wooden box He made for me in His father Joseph's shop, the word "Momma" carved in the lid. I remembered the fright He gave us when He was twelve and lost from us as we were returning home from the Passover feast in Jerusalem. There He was in the temple, speaking words far beyond his years, confounding the priests and elders. He was, as He reminded us, "about His Father's business." I remember how He loved His friends, defended and affirmed them, how much He enjoyed spending time with people, laughing and sharing in their joy...and their pain. There were times when I would catch Him standing still, looking into the heavens, and He would appear like a Being composed completely of light. And then, of course, there were the miracles.

When Mary Magdalena pounded at my door that morning and breathlessly told me He was no longer in the tomb but had conquered death and was alive, I could scarcely believe my ears. I had seen Him die! Mag had seen him in the garden! Later on some of the Twelve would see Him too and break bread with Him at the little house in Emmaus. And Peter, poor, sweet Peter would have a chance to redeem himself when my Son would ask him over breakfast by the sea, "Do you love me, Peter?"

I miss Him so, but I know He is always with me...and when I take the cup and bread...or prepare food for my family or tend the animals or work the soil, wipe away a tear, raise my voice in song or softly kiss another's cheek...I do so in remembrance of Him. I Love you, my precious Son, my Jesus.

Lovingly, YSIC,
Mary Pat Peck

From the SD's Study

Dear Members and Friends of the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community:

I am having a wonderful time going through a small group experience on *Experiencing God*. It is a 12 week experience in which not only find out about God. We actually enter into a process in which we can experience God.

Jesus said: "I am the Vine, you are the branches; if a man remains in Me, and I in Him, He shall bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5). This verse points out the importance of experience - but, more than that, continuing experience. It is one thing to experience God on an Emmaus Walk (and, of course, that is a wonderful thing!). But it is quite another to experience God ongoingly.

How are your Fourth Days going? Is the warmth and bright luster of your Emmaus Walk Experience been cold and dimmed? If so, is it God's fault? God stands ready to take us back into fellowship with Him.

Do you just know about God or are you Experiencing God?

Decolores!
Ricci Arthur



Guitar Instructor Wanted!

We're looking for a willing servant to teach other willing servants (with musical talent and desire) how to play the guitar for Walks! Our list of guitar players who can play music during Walk weekends is limited, and we'd like to expand the list. If you feel prayerfully led to serve the Lord in this capacity, please contact Pam Walker @ 434-7981.

Important Reminders

- ⇒ Sponsors, please remember that pilgrims are not to receive any large packages during the Walks; save the special gift for the drive home.
- ⇒ Check at the Gatherings for "lost and found" articles as well as leftover agape from your or your share groups gifts to the Walks
- ⇒ Candlelight and closing are Walk activities which are meant for the exclusive participation of Emmaus, Chrysalis, Cursillo community members.

SHORT TERM MEMORY HELPS

At Normandy UMC
Candlelight - Saturdays - 8:30 p.m.
Closing services - Sundays - 4:30 p.m.

Pilgrims for Women's Walk #50

At Normandy United Methodist Church
April 18th—21st

Nancy Achor	Centerville	Kim Martin	Hilliard
Dair Arnold	Dayton	Peg Martin	Centerville
Cindy Batie	Springfield	Judith Mathes	Dayton
Sheila Borton	Dayton	Betty Matson	Centerville
Kim Brooks	Farmersville	Kathy Murchland	Centerville
Barb Brown	Troy	Marcy Nangle	Centerville
Kim Buinicky	Dayton	Mary Perryman	Moraine
Amy Clymer	Kettering	Darlene Ramey	Columbus
Kit Coble	Beavercreek	Diora Randolph	West Carrollton
Roseann Costantino	Dayton	Cheryl Russell	Kettering
Marilyn Cromer	Dayton	Kay Schaeffer	Vandalia
Mara Curran	Dayton	Diane Scharff	Centerville
Pam Dafler	Englewood	Maribeth Schierling	Bellbrook
Erin Dues	Miamisburg	Pinkie Schoelwer	Bellbrook
Sarah Evans	West Alexandria	Sue Schroyer	Marysville, MI
Vicki Gunlock	Springboro	Melissa Soloman	Troy
Kathy Hagemeyer	Tipp City	Christine Spohn	Toledo
Carol Homan	Englewood	Andrea Stiles	Mason
Diane Howard	Huber Heights	Linda Stout	Cincinnati
Terrie Krumal	Huber Heights	Kate Sullivan	Troy
Nancy Lees	Dayton	Jan Young	Kettering

Normandy United Methodist Church
GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS
450 West Alex -Bell Rd.
Dayton OH 45459
<http://www.daytonemmaus.org>

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De Colores!

The LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.

1 Samuel 16:7 (NRSV)

Need a Speaker for your Church Group?

Would you like your Church members to learn more about the Walk to Emmaus? Does your Sunday School Class men's or women's group ever use guest speakers? The Outreach Committee has speakers, complete with professional videotape, who would enjoy the opportunity. To schedule a speaker call Jean Jarusiewicz at 252-9627

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