

Thoughts from the Chairman

Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus
Cursillo - Chrysalis - Kairos - Walk to Emmaus
De Colores!

I am pumped!

We've all been hearing how urgently America needs "a spiritual revival" if there is to be any shred of morality, justice, character or Godliness in our culture to offer our children and grandchildren in future decades. I have good reason to believe that revival is going on even as I write this. Let us put aside the scandal in the Catholic Church, the astronomically high statistics on crime, corruption at every level of government and business, the breakdown of the family, the destruction of the collective trust of the American people for those in authority, and look at just two indicators that God is hard at work in this minefield we call our world.

1. Thirty-seven radically transformed Pilgrims completed the Greater Dayton Emmaus Men's Walk #28 on Sunday, May 19. Twenty-seven team members were revitalized as well. The Holy Spirit was absolutely palpable during those 72 hours! One could see Jesus shining in their faces, hear Him in their powerful music, taste and feel Him in the laughter and tears and dialogue that flowed freely, fearlessly. During the closing ceremony nearly every Pilgrim testified to a life-changing experience that had caused him to be convicted to carry back to his family, his church and his place of work the grace, the agape love, the good news of freedom and salvation through Jesus Christ. As one Pilgrim so eloquently put it, "We remember what Jesus was able to do with twelve followers in the few short years of His ministry. Just think what forty men could do!" Just think, indeed! Approximately 78,000 Pilgrims complete a Walk to Emmaus each year in twenty-three countries and over 370 communities world wide! If even half of those Pilgrims are as on-fire for the Lord as were the men of MW #28, then families, places of businesses, churches, governments, communities are changing for the better, for Christ!, all over the world! Praise God! That's revival on a grand scale!

2. Although I have occasionally been known to make a less than positive observation about the nature of modern theological education, I am greatly encouraged by the return to Biblical truths and an emphasis on authentic pastoral leadership based on Jesus Christ's example as I see it carried out at United Theological Seminary here in Dayton. Recently my husband and I attended the 128th annual commencement of U.T.S. where the keynote address was delivered by, not a bishop or a noted theologian or a celebrity famous for his or her altruism

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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 #51
July 18th-21 at Christ UMC
- Wilmington Area Women's Walk
June 27th-30th at Wilmington UMC
- Northern Lights Boys Chrysalis
July 28th-28th Monroe 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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but a grassroots pastor, the Rev. Dr. Kirk Mariner, minister of Williamsburg United Methodist Church in Williamsburg, Virginia. This self-professed "nobody" who claimed to have served as a pastor under the ecclesiastical leadership of "the Virgin Mary, Henry VIII and Attila the Hun," spoke to the 54 masters and doctoral candidates whose careers in the ordained ministry and specialized ministerial fields beyond the church are in their infancy.

With apologies to Dr. Mariner for some paraphrasing, I share with you part of the essence of his address: "There is nothing more important you have to do than to lead people to the worship experience, to make Christ real in their lives," Mariner said. "Look at your congregations on Sunday morning; they don't need to be here. They could get their weekly dose of religion while drinking coffee in their jammies watching a t.v. evangelist. But they chose to be in church with you. What an opportunity to preach the Gospel and make it relevant! Forget striving for the high political positions in the corporate church, for the glitzy glamour of the high profile churches. There is no greater calling than that of men and women to Jesus Christ." Amen!

So, friends, I am really encouraged about the powerful movement of the Holy Spirit in the Christian church, and isn't it wonderful to be a tiny part of that revival? We are an Easter people and we serve a great and living God! "Carry your candle! Run to the darkness!"

Lovingly, ysic,
Mary Pat Peck

Note: Hearty congratulations to Sandra Lynn Pappenfus, GDEWW# 30, who was part of the May 2002 graduating class of United Theological Seminary. We are very proud of you, Sister, and pray for God's richest blessings to rest on you and yours always. De Colores!

From the SD's Study

Dear Members and Friends of the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community:

I am writing this letter the day after an awesome Men's Walk! The pilgrims and team were spiritually blessed and challenged by everything! The Holy Spirit walked through the halls, corridors, sanctuary, fellowship hall, and, of course, the Ship Room! Our God is so good!

Two verses are impressed on my heart to share with you. Each speaker shared their joy in their walk with the Lord and also the pain that brought them closer to Christ. The one verse is: "The Joy of the Lord is my Strength." We saw the strength of the Lord this past weekend! The other verse is: "Blessed Be the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all of our afflictions, that we may in turn comfort others." Through the pain in our lives, God creates a blessing to others! I was truly humbled as I observed God working through the pain of the Team Members!

May the Lord bless each of the pilgrims as they embark on their Fourth Days!

Yours in Christ,

Ricci Arthur

New Songbooks!



You may have noticed the new songbooks that the community has been using for the last few gatherings. This is the result of a lot of hard work done by

Peggy Cromer, Kristi Schnipke, Linda Haller, Glenn Sweigart, and Bob Warner.

They put in countless hours selecting music and putting together the new songbooks, piano music books, guitar music books, and overhead slides for use on walks and at gatherings. Speaking for the community I would like to publicly say "THANK YOU" to these humble servants of our most gracious Lord.

Andy Manvell,
Worship Chair

Spiritual Center For Retreats

Have you ever longed for an inexpensive location for a personal spiritual retreat? How about an ideal location for a church retreat for women, men, youth or couples? Discover one of our area's best kept secrets - The Retreat Center at Maria Stein. Located in a quiet country setting just 90 minutes north of Dayton, this wonderful Christian center is a haven for tired, overworked souls. Offering 87 beautifully landscaped acres, 65 guest rooms with double beds and private showers, a private walking trail and delicious meals, you won't believe the reasonable prices. Single rates: \$25/weekdays; \$35/weekends. Couples' rates: \$40/weekdays; \$50/weekends. Meals are available for only \$5.00.

Visit their website @ www.spiritualcenter.net or call 1-877-925-7625. Brochures will be available at the Gathering. *Highly recommended by Dayton Emmaus community members!*

Guitar Students Wanted!



Would you like to learn how to play the guitar? We have our instructor

(Jeff Vaflor), and now we're looking for willing servants to serve as future guitar players on Walk weekends.

Women are especially needed! Group lessons will start in June. Please call Pam Walker @ 434-7981 if you're interested in serving the Lord in this capacity.

Greater Dayton Emmaus Board Members

Agape	Phyllis Heitz	866-5390
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Worship	Andy Manvell	848-4611



Look for the list of the July Team and Pilgrims in the July Edition of the Newsletter

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GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS
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Dayton OH 45459
<http://www.daytonemmaus.org>

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De Colores!

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

- Hebrews 13:8 (NIV)

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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