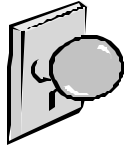


Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus  
Cursillo - Chrysalis - Kairos - Walk to Emmaus  
De Colores!

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

# Thoughts from the Chairman



## God is in the 'small stuff'

The story of Naaman is found in 2 Kings 5:1-15 – He was the Commander of the Army of Aram. He was also a leper. Briefly, the story is as follows: Elisha cures Naaman of leprosy by telling Naaman to bathe 7 times in the Jordan River. Naaman initially balks at bathing in the Jordan River saying he could have bathed in a river in Damascus. His servants offer if Elisha would have asked him to do a difficult thing, he would have readily done it, why can't he do what the prophet said and be cured. Naaman does what Elisha said and is cured, and praises God for the cure.

Like Naaman, how often are we ready and willing to do the 'big stuff' for the Lord, but are reluctant to do the 'small stuff'? Many times in the rush of day-to-day life I know I fail to listen to the 'still small voice of the Lord' (2 Kings 18) and hence miss many opportunities. Part of our walk with the Lord should be to cultivate the ability to look (and do) the 'small stuff'. I realize many of these missed opportunities are not willful disobedience, but rather never getting around to doing them – or even realizing there are things to do. If you want to see what happens when someone deliberately disobeys the Lord, I suggest you read Jonah Chapters 1 & 2.

I recently read an excellent book on the subject: God Is In The Small Stuff – And It All Matters, Bruce Bickel & Stan Jantz, Promise Press, 1998. It is a collection of 40 meditations that can help us realize just how much God is in the 'small stuff'. It has helped me put them into perspective and given me a clearer view of just how important they really are.

After reading the book, I was reminded of a story a close friend told me about 10 years ago. He related the story from his home church about an elderly gentlemen that didn't appear to be able to make much of a contribution to the church. It wasn't until after he went home to be with the Lord that the entire congregation realized he was the person who polished the brass door handles of the church - no one realized he did this until the job didn't get done.

We don't have to look too far around us to see the virtually limitless opportunities to do 'small stuff' for the Lord. And some of these opportunities may come from some surprising / unusual places. We can pray for our pastor through the week as he or she prepares their sermon, a kind word to the checker at the supermarket, giving someone the right-of-way when we are driving – even if they don't 'deserve' it, etc. There are also any number of things we could do for our families, friends and local churches.

In our local Emmaus community there is a lot of 'small stuff' that needs to be done. Things that do not take a lot of effort or time – things that can even be done in the comfort of your own home – for example signing up for the 72 hour prayer vigil on Walk weekends. Wouldn't it be great if we could have at least 2 people constantly praying throughout the Walk weekend?

*(Continued on page 2)*

### 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 Walk #53  
February 20-23, at Normandy UMC
- Greater Dayton Women's Walk #54  
April 24-27, at Normandy UMC
- Greater Dayton Men's Walk #31  
May 15-18, at Normandy UMC

#### Gatherings

Normandy UMC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	7:15
Enon UMC	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon	7:30
Christ UMC	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon	7:00
Wilmington UMC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	7:00
Sidney 1st UMC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	7:00
Dayton Board	4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	7:00

I would like to start a 'small stuff' section on the Greater Dayton Emmaus website (<http://www.daytonemmaus.org/>) and in the newsletter. It is my intent to post the suggestions anonymously - not to praise or glorify the individuals, but rather to encourage each of us to 'expand our territory' (to quote the prayer of Jabez) and our influence. As you all think of things please drop me an e-mail ([joeamen@aol.com](mailto:joeamen@aol.com)) or give me a call (937-879-4595) or pass your suggestions on to any Board member. We can start small and see where we can go.

With the Holy Spirit guiding us – the sky is (literally) the limit! One thing for sure, when I see God in the 'small stuff', it is much easier to see Him in the really, really 'big stuff'.

De Colores!

Joe Amend

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* For me to serve God as a Log was a pure \*  
 \* delight. I felt like a rose that was blooming. \*  
 \* Each day provided a way for a new peddle \*  
 \* to unfold. It was a gift to me from God \*  
 \* when I was asked to serve as a log. \*  
 \* Nola Keeney WW#47 \*  
 \* \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Greater Dayton Emmaus Board Members		
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Worship	Andy Manvell	848-4611



**Team for Women's  
Walk #53**

**At Normandy UMC  
Feb, 20-23**

Diana Applegate	ATL	Kristi Schnipke	MD
Peggy Arnott	ATL	Karen Doseck	LOG
Melodie Byrd	ATL	Denise Haws	LOG
Kim Cunningham	ATL	Kris Horlacher	LOG
Mary Ann DeVelvis	ATL	Peggy Hewitt	PS
Sharon Morrison	ATL	Nola Keeney	PS
Martha Plunkett	ATL	Pam Kooser	ALD, Changing our World
Carol Dondero	TL, Christian Action	JoAnne Rohrer	ALD, Priorities
JoAnn Floyd	TL	Christy Utz	ALD, Growth through Study
Betty Pickthorn	TL, Body of Christ	Karen Freyvogel	LD, Perseverance
Bev Price	TL, Priesthood of Believers	Christine Paporone	ASD, Prevenient Grace
Carol Spahr	TL, Life in Piety	Keith Weller	SD, Means of Grace
Sue Wilson	TL, Discipleship	Debbie Egloff	ASD, Justifying Grace
Jerralyn Wood	TL, Fourth Days	Mamie Johnson	ASD, Sanctifying Grace
Julia Crowl	AMD	David Tackett	ASD, Obstacles to Grace

“Love is the element by which holiness works itself out to others-the divine fire burns to bring it’s blessedness to all within it’s reach.” The Path to Holiness by Andrew Murray



## From the SD's Study

### Sacred Romance

Christianity, according to John El-dredge and Brent Curtis in their book, *The Sacred Romance*, "is a love affair of the heart. It cannot be lived primarily as a set of principles or ethics. It cannot be managed with steps and programs. It cannot be lived exclusively as a moral code leading to righteousness... The truth of the gospel is intended to free us to love God and others with our whole heart." (p.8)

All of us have discovered; however, that Romance has an enemy: the arrows of affliction. Let me share with you an example of what the authors are talking about. When I was eight or nine years old my parents won a free trip to Miami Beach, Florida. It was a luxurious, all-expenses paid trip to an exotic place I'd never been before. Included in the vacation was a chauffeur driven stretch limousine. For some reason, my parents left my sister and me in the hotel room alone. My sister, who is 2 and half years older than me was supposed to answer the phone when the limousine driver called and she was instructed to tell him to wait. However, when the phone rang, I insisted on answering it. When the driver asked to speak with my parents I told him they weren't there; all this time we're talking my sister is grabbing at the phone. Finally, the driver hung up in frustration and eventually left.

When my parents returned, my sister immediately told them what happened. My Mom grabbed me up in her arms and we ran toward the hotel lobby to try and catch the driver. We didn't. My Mom went into a rage and spanked me right there in front of all those people. An arrow landed in my heart that day. It was an arrow with a message that said I was not competent and that everything bad was my fault.

Unfortunately, we often times feel the message of our arrows, but we don't know their existence has kept us from experiencing intimacy. Each arrow that wounds our heart is like the strands that held Gulliver on the Island of Lilliputian. He could have broken free if it were but one or a few strands, but the myriad of tiny strands bound him as securely as a maximum security jail cell. For most of us, it isn't until we emerge into our early 30s that we realize something is holding us back from experiencing joy and peace in our lives. We have felt something was wrong but we couldn't put our finger on the wound of the arrows that pierced our hearts.

For some of us, it takes a life tragedy like a divorce before we realize how bound and unaware we've been about how we've lost heart by guarding our wounds and hiding from our pain. Some of us choose to ignore our hearts and live out of our heads. We may retreat to the pseudo-solace of religious order, ethics and principles and fail to understand that true religion is about head and heart. Jesus said in John 4:24, "God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

De Colores,  
Randy Daniel

## Pilgrims for WW #53

Shirley Alsup	Liberty Township
Pamela Back	Springboro
Cynthia Bentley	Beavercreek
Beverly Blair	Dayton
Virginia Breckler	Kettering
Angela Brown	Tipp City
Pam Charas	Dayton
Sherry Cole	Vandalia
Cathy DeGeat	Germantown
Dawn Evans	Huber Heights
Jill Evans	Kettering
Melissa Green	Dayton
Carolyn Holland	Farmersville
Trudy Hopkins	Kettering
Chris Hurr	Centerville
Mary Ingraham	Centerville
Jill Johnson	Fairborn
Patty La Roe	Huber Heights
Lauri Leggett	Beavercreek
Pat Malas	Centerville
Susan McAllister	Beavercreek
Pam McCartney	Kettering
Debbie McNeal	Miamisburg
Mary Mikel	Vandalia
Melinda Miller	Miamisburg
Shoniece Mitchell	Dayton
Deb Moore	Franklin
La'Brinda Morgan	Springfield
Melanie Morrett	Centerville
Marcia Morris	Springfield
Maureena Myers	New Carlisle
Alice Pomeroy	Moraine
Connie Puderbaugh	Huber Heights
Lucy Rogers	New Carlisle
Karen Roush	Kettering
Katie Schaefer	Vandalia
Amy Thompson	Beavercreek
Jenia Tolbert	Miamisburg
Bonnie Turner	Centerville
Lisa Wilkes	Troy
Marena Williamson	Troy
Cheryl Wilson	Kettering

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*De Colores!*

**In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.  
John 1:4**

**Let your light  
shine!**



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