

# EMMAUS

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. 16 No. 5

*Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus*

May  
2004

### LAUGHING CHRIST

Have you ever seen a picture of Christ laughing? There is one hanging across from the Agape room at Normandy United Methodist Church. Take an opportunity to look at it sometime.

This is one of my favorite images of Christ. Why? Because it helps to remind me how important it is to have joy and laughter in your life, regardless of the situation you find yourself. In the Bible, the word joy is used 236 times. In John 15:11 Jesus says, "You will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!" And in 1 Peter 1:8, "Though you do not see him, you trust him; and even now you are happy with a glorious, inexpressible joy."

Life should be a joyful journey because we know our life here on earth is not our final destination. As Rick Warren says in the Purpose Driven Life: Christians should carry a spiritual green card to remind them that their citizenship is in heaven. Many believe life is a serious business. They use all their energy on the power of focus to reach a goal. But life is meant to be enjoyed not just lived. There is tremendous power in being joyful. I know, I've done both. Early in my business career I was very focused on my career goals. Often when I reached a goal I was not happy, but actually depressed! I remember wondering like Peggy Lee's song at that time, "Is that all there is?" It took the early death of my brother Jim to make me realize I needed balance in my life. That I didn't have to be so focused on my career. I discovered that balance improved all aspects of my life and that seriousness and joyfulness could co-exist.

I read an article once on five steps to experience more joy in your life.

1. Try to look on and see the lighter side of everything.
2. Ask yourself, will it matter in 100 years?
3. Give yourself a laugh quota. Laugh at least 5 times a day and smile as much as you can.
4. Hang out with people who like and know how to have fun.
5. Rent some funny tapes that make you laugh.

I would add some other possibilities of how to add more joy in your life. That is by studying God's Word, prayer, being in a share group, attending Gatherings and Closings, doing random acts of kindness, being active in your

*(Continued on page 4)*

### HOW TO FIND US!

Greater Dayton Emmaus  
Normandy UMC  
450 W. Alex-Bell Rd.  
Centerville OH 45459  
[www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org)

### UPCOMING WALKS 2004

#### Normandy UMC

Men's Walk #34, May 13-16

Women's Walk #60 Sept. 23-26

#### Christ UMC

Women's Walk #59, July 22-25

Men's Walk #35, August 12-15

### GATHERINGS & BOARD MEETING

Normandy UMC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	7:15
Christ UMC	3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	7:00
Dayton Board	4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	7:00

### CANDLELIGHT AND CLOSING

Candlelight	8:30 PM	Saturday
Closing	4:30 PM	Sunday

Pilgrims for Men's Walk#34 May 13-16

Joe Baylor	Dayton
Dan Baker	Kettering
Steven Beaty	New Carlisle
David Becker	Springboro
Doc Bennett	Springboro
Jeffery Clevenger	Christiansburg
Anthony Crane	Vandalia
Michael Engel	Beavercreek
John Fetters	Tipp City
George Garcia	Dayton
Herbert Green	Medway
Michael Green	Union
James Griffin	Centerville
Ryan Hosner	Beavercreek
Jeff Ivy	Centerville
Greg Justice	Franklin
Jim Lechner	Moraine
Robert Leibecke	Bellbrook
Perry Love	Clayton
Frank McClain	Huber Heights
Dick Moorefield	Centerville
David Murphy	Bellbrook
Allen Payne	Dayton
Rodney Pummell	Kettering
Kevin Rafdal	Beavercreek
Glenn Renyolds	Trenton
Les Renyolds	Bellbrook
John Sackett	Waynesville
Fred Sanders	West Milton
Tim Schubach	Miamisburg
Stuart Snow	Fairborn
Bill Straughen	Dayton
David VanArsdale	Kettering
Duane Ward	Bellbrook
Fritz Wiese	Dayton
Roger Wright	Centerville

(Updated May 2)

Team for MW# 34

James Geesey	ATL	
Rich Hill	ATL	
Jim Horlacher	ATL	
Jim Howe	ATL	
Bob Linhardt	ATL	
Jerry Rodenfels	ATL	
Jeff Snider	ATL	
Don Martin	TL	Discipleship
Larry McSwegin	TL	Fourth days
Mike Prior	TL	Priesthood of Believers
John Petteruti	TL	
Dave Scharff	TL	Life In Piety
Jack Stubbs	TL	Christian Action
Mark Trimble	TL	Body of Christ
Charles Kaiser	PS	
Garry Peck	PS	
Eric Measel	MD	
Jeff Null	AMD	
Jim DuBro	LOG	
Dave Garman	LOG	
Ken Wilson	LOG	
Bob Hewitt	ALD	Changing Our World
Terry Kierce	ALD	Priorities
Mike McIntosh	ALD	Growth Through Study
Joe Amend	LD	Perseverance
Keith Weller	SD	Means of Grace
John Whitaker	ASD	Obstacles to Grace
Jing Chow	ASDL	
Heth Corl	ASD	Sanctifying Grace
Dennis Ditto	ASD	Prevenient Grace
Dave Tackett	ASD	Justifying Grace

**THANK YOU—THANK YOU—THANK YOU**

Normandy UMC would like to thank the Greater Dayton Emmaus community for their generosity.

- Having the hose on the dish washer replaced
- For taking down and putting away over a dozen storm windows into storage
- Offer to pay to have the toilet repaired in room 214 and getting it on the plumber's schedule

Margaret Tuttle  
Normandy Representative

Dear Christian brothers and sisters,

Thank you does not seem adequate to express our sincere gratitude for your many prayers, visits, calls, and cards. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 "Two are better than one....if one falls down, his friend can help him up." Your words and actions show us Christ's love. You are one of the ways God is blessing us during this difficult time.

Love in Christ,  
Steve and Roxie Hiatt



## From the SD's Office

### A Time to Grow

Spring is here at last—we see evidence of it everywhere we look and feel a freshness in the air that beckons us outdoors. There is a recognition of God's grace as we notice all of nature experiencing a burst of energy bringing new life.

I, too, sense a new burst of energy and a joy deep within me, welling up. I feel like singing and praising God for the blessings of spring.

I have been reading in Colossians recently, and I saw how Paul's desire for the church was for them to be "encouraged in heart and united in love" in order that they may have the blessing of understanding the mystery of God, which is Christ in you.

Paul started his letter with, "Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (1:2). Grace explains God's nature and attitude towards us, and peace is what happens in us when we accept His love and forgiveness through His Son.

This is a good reminder of what we all experience on an *Emmaus* walk. In sharing your testimonies, you make it possible for many of us to experience, perhaps for the first time, God's grace.

Our Christian life must always begin with an experience of grace. If the Christian life does not begin with grace, it has no real meaning at all. But if it begins with grace, there is no end to its growth and adventure. The grace of God melts our cold hearts and astounds us with the realization that we are loved in spite of what we have been or done.

Some of you may say, "But I don't feel the same way as I did when I finished my walk." It is possible that that is true for all of us. But our faith is not dependent on our feelings. Rather, it is dependent on what God has done in Christ. The good news of Christ's life and death for us is the constant source and substance of our freedom and joy.

The seed of the gospel has been planted in you, and we see it springing up in the quality of changed lives. Even in difficult times, we will be strengthened by the Holy Spirit who gives us an inner grace. And the outward manifestation of this inner grace is joy—a love that grows in the soil of difficulties and suffering rather than a gushy, flippant exuberance, a joy that is the ecstasy of being loved by God and shines in our countenance and sparkles in our character.

Yours for more growth.

De Colores,  
*Hazel Burns*

## Good sponsorship is the backbone of the Emmaus movement

### Sponsorship Tips

Whether it's been two months or 10 years, we all remember how enthusiastic we felt when we came off our walk weekend and began our Fourth Days. We wanted to share that experience with everyone we knew.

Sponsoring pilgrims for a walk weekend is the way the Emmaus movement grows and flourishes. We all need to be aware of people we know who could benefit from the weekend experience and who would be a blessing to the community and to their local churches as a result of the Walk to Emmaus. As we encounter people who are interested in experiencing a Walk for themselves there are a few things we need to keep in mind.

The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus tells us the **primary purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is to "build up the body of Christ."** "Emmaus is for active Christians and members of churches whose own renewal will mean new energy, commitment, and vision in the church and everyday environments for Christ's sake." The Walk to Emmaus is a wonderful discipleship tool, but it isn't for everyone at every stage of their life.

**Before you sponsor your next pilgrim,** take a few minutes to acquaint yourself with the chapter "The Next Generation: Sponsorship" from the book *Day Four: The Pilgrim's Journey*. When you have carefully considered sponsoring someone, and they agree to fill out the application, take the following steps:

- Make sure the application is filled out correctly and completely.
- Keep in touch with your pilgrim. If their contact information changes, make sure the appropriate registrar is made aware of the changes.
- Keep your own contact information up-to-date.

Good sponsorship is the backbone of the Emmaus Movement. Watch for more information on this topic in months to come.

De Colores  
*Carol Spahr*

Women's Registrar/Sponsorship chair

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 GREATER DAYTON EMMAUS  
 450 West Alex-Bell Rd.  
 Dayton OH 45459  
 www.daytonemmaus.org

*De Colores!*

*Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. Psalm 115:1*

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 church, to name just a few.

De Colores  
**Bob Hewitt**

- To renew your newsletter:
- Fill out the following form
  - Address it to Newsletter
  - Send to the Emmaus address on the first page of this newsletter

✂

This is a:	<input type="checkbox"/> One year \$8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Subscription or renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Two Years \$14.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Address change	<input type="checkbox"/> Three Years \$20.00
Total Enclosed \$ _____ (checks payable to "Walk to Emmaus")	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	