

EMMAUS

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 16 No. 11

Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus

November
2004

CHANGING OUR WORLD

Have you ever wondered about what is your purpose in life? Micah 6:8 provides a helpful framework for what is required of us. "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice" (this applies to our roles in society) "love kindness" (our relationship with others), "and to walk humbly with our God" (this applies to ourselves and our personal relationship with God).

The last two months I have focused on the third part of this scripture about walking humbly with our God and building a closer personal relationship with Him. I have written about changing ourselves through prayer, meditation, bible study, and share groups. This month I want to reflect on how to go about changing others and our world, by making it more Christ-centered, just and loving.

In the past when someone would talk about changing the world, my first thought was how I can have any influence at all in such a big job. But through Emmaus I've learned that to change the world you need to not get overwhelmed with the big picture but to start by changing ourselves first and then try to influence those around you by "loving kindness". Your most immediate opportunity for changing our world is through sharing God's love in your relationships with other persons. Like a pebble dropped in a quiet pond we should start with our family members and move out in ever widening circles to fellow workers, friends, acquaintances and others. There is no right or wrong way to share your faith, only authentic and inauthentic ways. One of the most authentic ways of sharing Christ is example. Showing others God's love through your actions. Practice having an affirming, non judgmental attitude. Use Jesus as a model and see people for what they can become, not judge them by their past. Finally, when hearts are won, be a mentor to them and provide opportunities for spiritual support, growth and service.

The third part of Micah 6:8 is to "do justice". Our world does not consist of one-on-one relationships only. We are part of a society, a culture, families, organizations, institutions, work places and governments. We need to become aware of situations of need and suffering and work to correct these situations. How are you called to act in Christ's name? After having the opportunity to take part in a "Purpose Driven Life" study group I felt I was being called to join a work team our church was sending to Mexico. Normally I would have just given a cash donation but I couldn't shake the feeling that God wanted me on this mission trip. Over the course of the experience I discovered why I was on this Team. The purpose of this story is that when you feel God nudging you to do something there is a reason. Remember the saying, "God doesn't call the equipped, he equips the called"?

Jesus issues this invitation: "Come, follow me...and we can change the world."

De Colores,
Bob Hewitt

HOW TO FIND US!

Greater Dayton Emmaus
Normandy UMC
450 W. Alex-Bell Rd.
Centerville OH 45459
www.daytonemmaus.org

UPCOMING WALKS

Normandy UMC 2005

Men's Walk #36, Jan. 27-30

Woman's Walk #61, Feb, 17-20

Woman's Walk #62, April 14-17

Men's Walk #37, May 12-15

Christ UMC 2005

Woman's Walk #63, July 21-24

Men's Walk #38, Aug 18-21

Normandy UMC 2005

Woman's Walk #64, Sept 22-25

GATHERINGS & BOARD MEETING

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

CANDLELIGHT AND CLOSING

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



From the SD's Office:

*O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!*

*Let Thy goodness like a fetter
bind my wandering heart to Thee:*

*Prone to wander, Lord I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love;*

*Here's my heart, O take and seal it;
seal it for Thy courts above."*

I am a work in progress. So are you. God is not finished with us yet! We continue to grow, mature, and gain new insights into His love for us...and His call for us to live out that love on a daily basis. Some days are better than others. We are tuned in to the Holy Spirit and bask in the presence of the Lord. Everything clicks! Life is good, people are kind, and the sun shines brightly. Sometimes.

Other days we struggle, we doubt, and maybe even actively resist God's grace. I do. This beautiful old hymn of the Church gives me hope on those particular days. The author, Robert Robinson, wrote these words at the age of 23 in 1758 after an early life steeped in sin. His powerful conversion at the age of 19 led him to become a dynamic preacher in London who introduced thousands to Christ.

I appreciate the painful honesty of this verse as it describes my spiritual condition so often. I love Jesus...yet I'm prone to wander from His grace, seduced by "things" or "busy-ness" or

"my agenda." Fortunately, He never lets me drift too far before I get jerked up short and realize the emptiness of my day without Christ...and I return to the throne of grace for repentance and renewal. I'm gradually getting better at not wandering quite so often... Sanctifying Grace is indeed at work (praise God)! I pray it is for you as well.

De Colores!

Dave Tackett
Community SD

Take Time



Take time to think – it is the source of power.
Take time to play – it is the secret of perpetual youth.
Take time to read – it is the fountain of wisdom.
Take time to pray – it is the greatest power on earth.
Take time to love and be loved – it is a God-given privilege.
Take time to be friendly – it is the road to happiness.
Take time to laugh – it is the music of the soul.
Take time to give – it is too short a day to be selfish.
Take time to work – it is the price of success.



Elections!

List of candidates:

Kitchen--Lori Gentry
Secretary--Shirley Schryver, Karen Rousch
Agape---Susan Caylor, Linda Stout
Worship--Jeff Dondero
Normandy Rep---Duane Ward

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

“The strength of any Emmaus Community is a direct result of that community’s recruiting practices. If the community is committed to recruiting strong church leaders for the purpose of strengthening the local church, then the community will be a strong vital force in the renewal movement.” (Day Four Book)

In an effort to strengthen our sponsoring practices we are having regular sponsorship training sessions. These sessions are being held each month (except December) before the Gathering, beginning at 6:30 and ending in time to go to Gathering.

Whether you are new in the community or have sponsored many pilgrims in the past, we feel that you will benefit from this session. Some of the things covered are:

- who are the candidates that would benefit the most from this week end and ones that might be questionable
- some steps to follow during the recruiting process
- the responsibilities of being a sponsor, etc.

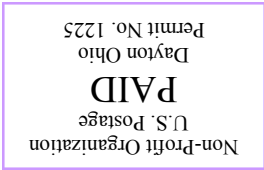
We urge everyone to try to attend one of these sessions so that we may be strong sponsors in an effort to make each pilgrim’s Emmaus experience an enjoyable one.

Again these sessions are:

- **Time:** 6:30 PM
- **Date:** Second Monday of the month (prior to the Gathering)
- **Location:** Ship room at Normandy Church

Sharyl Tinnel





ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Normandy United Methodist Church
GREATER DAYTON EMMANUS
450 West Alex-Bell Rd.
Dayton OH 45459
www.daytonemmaus.org

Come to Me, all you who
are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you
and learn from Me, for I
am gentle and humble in
heart, and you will find
rest for your souls.
Mathew 11:28,29.

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• Fill out the following form
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• Send to the Emmaus address on the first page of this newsletter

Form with fields for: This is a: (Subscription or renewal, Address change), One year \$8.00, Two Years \$14.00, Three Years \$20.00, Total Enclosed \$, Name, Address, City, State, Zip.