

EMMAUS

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 16 No. 12

Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus

December
2004

PERFECT GIFT

In the Message, Acts 20:35 states: ...”You’ll not likely go wrong here if you keep remembering that our Master said, ‘You’re far happier giving than getting.’”

At this time of year our thoughts turn to gifts. We ask our loved ones what they would like for Christmas. We ask for ideas from their wish lists. Sometimes we spend an enormous amount of time and energy searching for that “one of a kind” or “special” item that will bring great joy on Christmas morning to those so important in our lives.

At Christmas we celebrate God’s PERFECT GIFT to us over 2000 years ago when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Then at Easter we celebrate Jesus’ life, death and resurrection and the great gift of eternal life given to those who believe. “God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God.” Ephesians 2:8 (NLT)

We can give the gift of Jesus to our family and friends today! Do you remember how loved and accepted you felt on your Emmaus Walk? Why not share God’s love with others by giving them the gift of sponsorship on an Emmaus weekend this Christmas and in the New Year. There are seven upcoming Walks in the next nine months and the dates for these can be found elsewhere on this page. As we faithfully share this gift of an Emmaus Walk with others, we are in return blessed as we watch the Holy Spirit work in their lives.

I want to take this time to express my humble appreciation for the opportunity and privilege to serve as your Community LD this year. It has been a totally AWESOME spiritual growth experience for me. Throughout the year I continually felt the love and support of the Community and Board and will continue to serve any way I can.

Dear God,

We thank you for Jesus, your “PERFECT GIFT” to us, and for filling our lives with love, joy, peace and hope.

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

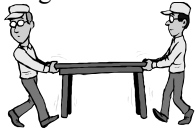
Woman’s Walk #64, Sept 22-25

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



Questions?

Answers at the Information Table

As part of the Good Shepherd's ministry in the Greater Dayton Emmaus community, an Information & Literature table is provided during the Gatherings held monthly at Normandy United Methodist Church. Located in the church Narthex, the table is your one-stop source for a variety of forms and booklets pertaining to the Emmaus program. Some of the free material includes:

- Walk to Emmaus brochures
- Pilgrim nomination forms
- Willing Servant forms
- Monthly newsletter
- Newsletter subscription forms
- Chrysalis information
- Kairos information
- Other flyers and brochures

Additionally, we offer the following publications from The Upper Room. These booklets are sold at cost (\$4 each) and are designed to enhance your Emmaus experience. They also make excellent follow-up items if you have recently sponsored a Pilgrim.

- Walking Side by Side
- What is Emmaus?
- The Group Reunion
- Fourth Day
- Coming Down from the Mountain

Finally, we offer the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community Roster, which is a comprehensive listing of our membership. The rosters are sold for \$10 each. So the next time you attend a Gathering, please take a moment to stop by the Information & Literature table and check out the resources available. If you have questions or need additional information, feel free to speak with any member of the Good Shepherd's committee (Debbie Beres, Chris Morrison, and Stefan Ries). They will be delighted to help you get more acquainted with your Emmaus community.

Chris Morrison

COMMUNITY SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

The By-Laws state that the Board is to elect Community Spiritual Directors each year. The Spiritual Directors elected to serve in 2005 are:

- Hazel Burns
- Dave Evans
- Palmer Jason
- Dave Tackett

All have graciously agreed to serve.

A big thank you goes to Randy Daniel and Keith Weller who have faithfully served us as Spiritual Directors these past two years.

BOARD REPLACEMENTS

Recently Ellen McIntosh has agreed to fulfill the term of Women's Registrar and Missy Trumbull will be taking over as Newsletter Editor. Mary Manvell will be completing the Computer Chair term for John Wissinger as he steps into the Leadership Chair.

The Board extends thanks and appreciation to Carol Spahr, Christy and Steve Utz and John Wissinger for a job well done.



Kitchen Managers Needed

Thursday Send-off	5:30-9:00 P.M.
Friday Lunch	11:00-3:00 P.M.
Sunday Breakfast	6:00-10:00 A.M.

Interested?

Contact: **Ken Wilson @436-7835**
or, **Lori Gentry @698-0008**



2005 Emmaus Board of Directors Election Results

The following people have been elected to the Board effective January 1, 2005 and will serve a term of three years.

Kitchen	-	Lori Gentry
Secretary	-	Shirley Schryver
Agape	-	Linda Stout
Worship	-	Jeff Dondero
Normandy Rep	-	Duane Ward

Please join me in welcoming these new Board Representatives, as well as extending them our prayers.

De Colores,
Sherry Kierce



From the SD's Office:

I have always loved the story of Jesus' first miracle. At the wedding feast when they ran out of wine, Jesus' mother said to Him, "They have no more wine."

Jesus said, "Dear woman, why do you involve Me? My time has not yet come."

His mother, I believe, was hoping that He would make an announcement of who He was—the long-awaited Messiah. But even though Jesus wasn't ready to make the time of His coming known, Mary must have known in her mother heart that Jesus would do something to help, so she said to the servants, "Do whatever He tells you."

It's when we do whatever Jesus tells us that we recognize the "God gifts." Jesus asked the servants to fill the jars with water. So they did as He said, and they filled the jars to the brim. Then He said "Draw some out and take to the Master of the banquet." When the Master tasted it (not knowing where the wine had come from) he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and the cheaper wine after the guests have had much to drink. But you have saved the best for last."

That is not unlike the world in that it bring out the "best" first—the party, friends, fun, the best it can offer. But the world stops short there, not telling us that when the "wine" runs out,

it has nothing more to offer. The world cannot make new wine—the wine that Jesus made by filling jars of clay with living water. This kind of "wine" brings hope, encouragement, and a joy deep within us that never runs out.

With every fresh revelation of His love He speaks to hearts that listen," If you can believe, you will see greater things than these."

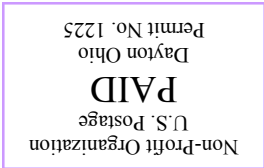
What a great gift Jesus gave the bride and groom and all of the guests that day! He filled their immediate need to the brim and with the best wine that anyone had ever tasted. And what a great gift He gave His mother as she witnessed His first miracle! Her heart must have leapt for joy, remembering the promise the angel gave her: "His name would be Jesus, and He will be called the Son of the Most High, and His kingdom will never end." Mary was blessed with the gift of affirmation and assurance.

The gifts that Jesus gives are ever fresh and ever new. The feast that He provides for the soul gives satisfaction and joy—abundantly, without limit, and without fail.

If we abide in Him, we will receive a rich gift today, ensured of the reception of a richer gift tomorrow.

So look for His gifts—the many gifts that He has given you this past year—and give something back to Him in a tangible way this Christmas Season.

Hazel Burns



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

May your whole spirit,
soul and body be kept
blameless at the coming of
our Lord Jesus Christ.
The One who calls you is
faithfull, and He will do
it.
1 Thessalonians 5:23,24

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

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