

EMMAUS

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17 No. 3

Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus

March
2005

Chairman's Corner - God's Passion

Easter is only a few weeks away. Recently, Terry and I were talking about the movie "The Passion of the Christ" and wondering how many people would choose to watch it, possibly for the first time, or see it again to be reminded of Jesus' sacrifice for us. As we watched Mel Gibson's portrayal of Jesus' sacrifice for the sins of the human race, we were overwhelmed with the realization that this was God's choice.

1 Peter 1:20 says that God ordained His son to die for the sins of man, before the creation of the world.

Jesus planned his death even before He created Adam and Eve. This was not a random murder of the Son of God. The betrayal, beating, scourging, humiliation, pain and suffering with the tools of torture, were all carefully pre-planned. He knew those He came to save would respond to Satan's prompting and reject him and seek to destroy Him. He chose to go to the Cross and die for us! It was even His choice to give up His Spirit to die as He hung on the cross. God the Father was never more sovereign than in the details of the death of His Son.

The final message Jesus left was chosen very carefully long before He created the very beings who would carry out His plan to crucify Him. He chose the path; He selected the nails. And the message was this: "I did it for you! I did it all for you!" It will take us all of eternity to fully grasp God's passionate love for us.

De Colores
Sherry Kierce



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

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

Emmaus Application:

If you or someone you know has sent in an Emmaus application over four months ago and has not heard back from us, please let us know! It has been brought to our attention that some mail is missing and we want to make sure that no one misses out on the opportunity to take this beautiful walk. Thank you.

Community rosters are available for purchase at monthly gatherings. The cost is \$10.00. The community roster is intended for community use only and is not to be used for business or solicitation purposes.

We welcome those members who were pilgrims this past year. During that time, we've experienced the loss of a few friends who were called home (Charles Hahn, Phyllis Haines, Norman Tuttle). Some address changes too late for publication are Ralph and Karen King, PSC 71, Box 23 APO AE 09715 (no phone number while they are living in Europe). Mark and Donna Idle, 9003 Blaine Road, Spring Hill, FL 34606. Karen Ward, 7942 Beech Run Road, Waynesville, OH 45068, 937-886-9124. Margaret Mallory now lives in Toledo (forwarding address unknown). Email addresses that have changed are too numerous to list individually. Please forward additional corrections or updates to Mary Manvell (mary@manvell.org).

He's
Risen!

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

This is an open invitation for all to come to this 45 minute training session before the next Gathering.

Date: 3/14

Time: 6:30 PM

Come and learn the best methods put forth by the National Emmaus Board.

SHARE GROUUP ORIENTATION

For new members of the community to get connected to a share group.

Date: 3/14

Time: 6:30 PM

WHO WAS THAT GUY ANYWAY?

After completing the Fourth Day talk at last month's Gathering, I returned to my seat only to remember (as I released a big sigh of relief) that I FORGOT TO TELL THEM WHO I WAS! How is it possible that a thing like this can happen after such careful preparation? For a split second, I concluded that the best thing to do was run back up to the microphone, but...oh no, the service had already resumed. I've got it! I can personally introduce myself to each brother and sister as they're leaving. No—not practical. Well, it's over and done with I guess. But then as I sat back and prepared myself for communion with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, it dawned on me that yes, I did let them know who I was. I let them know that I am a new creation, chosen of God, holy and dearly loved. I let them know that I am a son of God and we are one in Christ. I let them know that I am Christ's friend and no longer a slave to sin. I let them know, by the grace of God and through Christ Jesus, who I really am.

DeColores,

Don Trumbull, Greater Dayton Men's Walk to Emmaus #30, Table of Luke





From the SD's Office:

How Long Have You Been In This Condition?

“Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed... One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

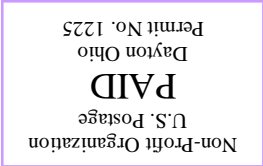
John 5:2-6 NIV

One of the beautiful questions that gets asked during an Emmaus weekend is the question posed by the title of this article. How long have you been in this condition? It's never asked directly in one of the talks or the skits or even during the Chapel services. It's gently asked by the Good Shepherd; in that still small voice that the sheep hear and understand. During those 72 hours we get to spend time with ourselves while being in the company of others. Somehow we all come to realize that regardless of how together everyone appears on the outside, “here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed.” Some suffer from a spiritual blind spot that they've never stopped long enough to see. Some suffer from a lameness of spirit that keeps them from walking in the fullness of the grace of God. Still others are paralyzed by unforgiveness, childhood fears and unconfessed and debilitating sin. Thank God that one day, while we were all gathered at

the pool, hiding in the shadows, underneath the covered colonnades, he sent His Son, Jesus. Jesus walks right up to the pool, surveys the situation and notices *one* “lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time...” Isn't that good news? While we are lost in the crowd waiting for a long shot (the stirring of the water) the Living Water picks us out of the crowd and asked, “Do you want to get well?” Bethesda can be translated as—“place of outpouring” or “house of grace.” So Jesus ignores the man's answer or should I say explanation about why he has not yet been healed of his condition and instead pours out his grace. **“Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”** Immediately the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. What a miracle! After thirty-eight years of being in this condition, suddenly life has a new perspective. I love attending closing services at the end of the walk. There we witness men and women, walking with their mats that they once lay paralyzed on and saying, “it was Jesus who made me whole!”

Oh it is Jesus
 Oh it is Jesus
 It is Jesus, in my soul
 For I have touched the
 Hem of His garment
 And His blood has made me whole!

DeColores!
 Palmer Jason, SD



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Normandy United Methodist Church
GREATER DAYTON EMMANUS
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Dayton OH 45459
www.daytonemmaus.org

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live..."

John 11:25

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