

EMMAUS

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17 No. 4

Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus

April
2005

Chairman's Corner:

Spring is here. When you walk outside in the morning the birds are joyfully singing. Flowers are ready to start blooming and beautiful colors will soon fill our yards. I love this time of year when everything is fresh and new. It's as if we each have a new beginning, a fresh start.

Last weekend we had two Baptisms at our church. The precious couple were in their 70's and as each one shared their love and commitment to Jesus it brought tears to my eyes as they shared their desire to live out the rest of their lives serving Him and telling others about the Lord.

Everything looks different when we use our Spiritual eyes to see one another. Judgment disappears, kindness replaces selfishness and our actions reflect love instead of greed. Jesus looks at us with only love and a desire to spend all eternity with us.

Just as Spring brings forth new life in the ground we need to look for new life with each other. We no longer look for their flaws but rather their needs. We'd see each other from the inside out, the pure in heart, the humble, and the meek. **The unlovable become beautiful!**

Our outward appearance doesn't make us who we are. Are your actions, your speech giving off the wrong impression? Does the person God created you to be struggle to be seen or have you given into the worlds opinion of you? Now is the time for a fresh start.

Jesus went to the cross for you and for me. He chose to die for us so we can live an entire eternity with Him. So walk confidently this day, knowing that Jesus will shine through you as you look to Him. It is time for us to blossom and grow in His likeness.

Now, with God's help, I shall become myself.

Soren Kierkegaard

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
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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.

<u>Pilgrims for WW #62</u>	
<u>Pilgrim</u>	<u>City</u>
Elizabeth Allen	Centerville
Sue Alspaugh	Kettering
Deborah Anderson	Englewood
Pam Atkinson	W Carrollton
Nancy Bonfield	Dayton
Charlotte Brady	Fairborn
Nell Brotbeck	Dayton
Amy Brown	West Milton
Anita Carrasco	Miamisburg
Vicki Chaffin	Dayton
Jodi Clapp	Huber Heights
Connie Cook	Kettering
Jane Craig	Beavercreek
Marilyn Dailey	Kettering
Trace Dillman	Beavercreek
Phyllis Dodson	Dayton
Nancy French	Beavercreek
Tracy Glick	Cincinnati
Diana Grabeman	Centerville
Jill Grimes	Troy
Ruth Grubb	Dayton
Yelinda Harrell	Dayton
Charlene Heeter	Kettering
Judy Jobst	Dayton
Lisa Jones	Dayton
Gina Laughlin	Bellbrook
Mary Lemon	Xenia
Cindy Long	Tipp City
Martha Matthews	Miamisburg
Leslie Mittelkamp	Enon
Jennifer Nelson	Kettering
Leanna Rawlins	Carlisle
Jill Reese	Miamisburg
Stephanie Schond	Oakwood
Stacy Shanahan	Kettering
Brenda Smith	Bradford
Pam Timmons	Tipp City
Peggy Whaley	Clayton
Lynn Wood	Dayton

Team for WW #62

Susan Bramel	LOG	
Lillian Chambliss	TL	Life in Piety
Heth Corl	ASD	Obstacles to Grace
Mara Curran	ATL	
Pam Dean	ALD	Changing our World
Chantele Dow	ALD	Priority
Vicki Engel	ATL	
Dave Evans	SD	Means of Grace
JoAnn Floyd	TL	Priesthood of all Believers
Shirley Gallagher	LOG	
Heather Gambrell	TL	Body of Christ
Karen Garvey	TL	Grow Through Study
Karen Hall	TL	Christian Action
Dar Hensley	ASD	Sanctifying Grace
Nola Keeney	PS	
Sherry Kierce	ATL	
Peggy Lakes	ATL	
Susan Lehneis	TL	
Roberta McMahan	LOG	
Bonnie McSwegin	ALD	Fourth Day
Sandy Pappenfus	ASDL	Justifying Grace
Gina Parvani	ATL	
AJ Puderbaugh	ATL	
JoAnne Rohrer	PS	
Maribeth Schierling	TL	Discipleship
Shelia Shade	BR	
Joyce Stare	LD	Perseverance
Pam Wantz	ATL	
John Whitaker	ASD	Prevenient Grace
Kristen Zimmann	MD	

I know on Walk weekends it is so exciting, particularly when we know a pilgrim on the Walk, to get them a special gift to commemorate the occasion. However, Pilgrim Sunday packets are only so big and there is a lot of information that needs to go into those packets. I am asking that you don't bring gifts for Pilgrims to go into the Sunday packets. Instead, please give gifts to them after closing or at a more convenient time.

If you supply Agape for Walk Weekends, please make sure your name, phone number and/or e-mail address is on the bag. Leftover Agape can be picked up at Gatherings. If you don't want leftover agape returned, please indicate on the bag also. Thanks!

Linda Stout,
Agape Chair



From the SD's Office:

The Lesson of the Giraffes and Zebras

If you've never seen a giraffe run, you've missed out on a humorous spectacle! Recently I was at the San Francisco zoo, where, as I waited in line to buy a ticket, I could see the large 3 acre "African Savannah" exhibit. There were a number of spectators lined up along the heavy iron bars separating us from the enclosed animals—zebras, ostriches, dik-dik antelope, and giraffes. The giraffes seemed to be in a rare mood. They would lope as fast as they could straight at the zebras, who galloped off kicking up their heels. Then, as though not quite satisfied, the giraffes charged straight at us humans lined up along the bars! I had the feeling that if the bars weren't there, we would have soon been imitating the zebras and running for our lives! This seemed odd behavior for giraffes, and since I'm no expert on wildlife behavior, I asked a zookeeper what was going on!

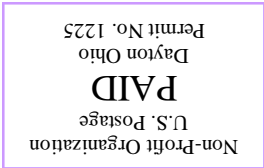
She explained that the zoo had been planning for some time to treat visitors to a more realistic view of the animal's real-life environment in the African Savannah. This was the first day that the animals had been released from their individual pens to live with each other in the same yard. What we were seeing was territorial behavior, where animals were establishing dominance in their territory. The giraffes obviously had the upper hand. Zoo visitors were seen by the giraffes as simply more interlopers like the zebras and other animals. The zookeeper explained that breaking down barriers takes time, and sooner or later, they would all live together in harmony.

It seemed to me that this is exactly what God is up to in the course of creating his family on this earth. We live our earthly existence with various social, political, national, and even religious barriers between us. War, gangs, political struggle, terrorism with religious overtones, and even "the war between the sexes" characterize the lot of humanity without Christ. Christ was sent to this earth to break down these barriers and restore the human family to harmony and peaceful co-existence.

Just like the zookeepers plan, this is a two step process. First, Christ broke down the barrier that existed between us and God. God didn't need this. WE did! "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us". Romans 5:8. Christ broke down the barrier of distrust we put up against God by an act of grace: his death on the cross. Since we have now been saved by this act of grace, God calls upon us to break down the barriers we have towards each other. This is an act of faith. We have faith in God that His plan to restore the human family reaches into our own human relationships. We act on that faith by destroying the barriers of prejudice, pride, bias, and fear that separates humanity into artificial groups. Why?

"Here (in God's family) there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all and in all". Colossians 3:11. Apart from Christ, all we see is our differences. With Christ, we see our similarities. If animals can learn to live in peace and harmony, then through Christ, so can we!

DeColores,
Dave Evans



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

"...A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35

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