



Walk to Emmaus Newsletter

Vol. 19 No. 6

Greater Dayton Community

June
2007

Chairman's Corner - Happy Father's Day

As I write this article, I am in Florida with my parents as my Dad recovers from cancer surgery. Needless to say, I have been thinking quite a bit about how vital our relationships are with our parents if we are fortunate enough to still have them with us. My only sibling has unfortunately decided that this relationship is not important to him or necessary in his life. I am so sad for him that he is choosing to miss out on this wonderful privilege of loving and being loved and caring for each other. Obviously, that makes me realize how fortunate we are to be in relationship with our Heavenly Father and how sad it is that there are still many who have decided that it is not important to them or necessary in their lives.

As we celebrate Father's Day, let us not only rejoice in our relationships with our Heavenly Father and Earthly Fathers, but continue to reach out to those who may not yet realize the importance of those relationships. The great thing is that we can and should celebrate our relationship with the greatest Dad of all every day. Thank you to all of you who are Christian Dads out there and may you be blessed and be a blessing.

De Colores,
Missy Trumbull

Luke 15:18-24

18 I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants." 20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; 23 and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; 24 for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

HOW TO FIND US!

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

UPCOMING EMMAUS WALKS

Held at Christ UMC:

Women's Walk #71: Jul 19-22

Men's Walk #43: Aug 16-19

Held at Normandy UMC:

Women's Walk #72: Sep 20-23

Men's Walk # 44: Jan 24-27

Women's Walk # 73: Feb 21-24

Women's Walk # 74: Apr 17-20

GATHERING & BOARD MEETING

Normandy UMC 2nd Mon 7:15 PM
Dayton Board 4th Tues 7:00 PM

CANDLELIGHT AND CLOSING

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

TRAINING & ORIENTATION

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

This is an open invitation for all to come to a 45-minute training session before Gathering.

Date: June 11, 2007 / 6:30pm

Place: Normandy UMC, Room #214

Come and learn the best methods suggested by the National Emmaus Board.

SHARE GROUP ORIENTATION

This is a great opportunity for new members of the Community to get connected with a Share Group.

Date: June 11, 2007 / 6:15pm

Place: Normandy UMC, Chapel

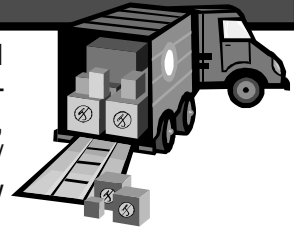
Time: 6:30 PM

Seeds & Needs

But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things He has done for you. 1 Samuel 12:24

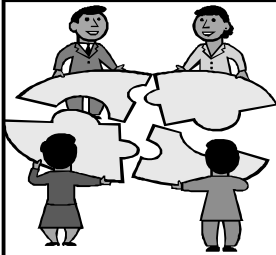
HOUSING

The **BIG MOVE** from Normandy to Christ UMC is coming up! **We will need about 20 people for this task.** It will be taking place on Wednesday, July 18th. We will be meeting at Normandy UMC at 5pm. Also, check out the housing section on the Dayton Emmaus website: (<http://daytonemmaus.org/deHousing.htm>). There is information about how housing works and the best ways to get involved.



De Colores, Stephen Puderbaugh, Housing Chair

GOOD SHEPHERD



SHARE GROUP CONNECTIONS! If you need a share group, or have openings in your share group, please join us at the upcoming **Networking Fellowship**. It will be held on **Aug 18th, at Normandy UMC from 1-3 pm**. We will have some light refreshments, get to know each other and prayerfully connect folks in share groups. For questions, please e-mail cdow@woh.rr.com or call (937) 431-8282.

Blessings, Chantele Dow, Good Shepherd

LEADERSHIP CHAIR

We have started a series in the newsletter to list the different job descriptions of the Board positions which will come available this year. We have done this to give you a better understanding of these positions and the requirements. Board positions are held for a 3-year period and each year we have 6 Board positions to be filled. This is done to keep continuity and experience on the Board. This month we will be highlighting the Worship Chair. This position is a very important position for the Emmaus Community. May God bless you and may you be a blessing to others. *YBIC, Don Adams*

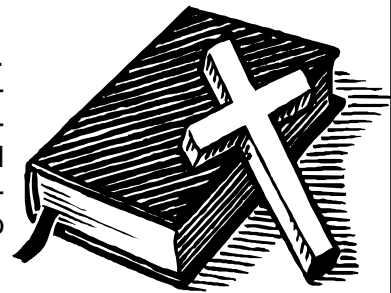
WORSHIP CHAIR JOB DESCRIPTION

The Worship Chair attends all Board meetings unless excused. The Worship Chair is also very instrumental in the successful conducting of Gatherings and Walks. Worship Chair schedules the Gatherings (always held on the 2nd Monday of each month) and the Worship Chair publishes the evening's agenda. The agenda needs to be sent to the community LD for inspection/approval. Scheduling includes arranging people to lead community music, special music, run the soundboard, schedule individuals to do the corporate community prayer, and provide the 4th Day Talk. The Worship Chair is also responsible for many things during the Walk weekends. From setting up the conference room A/V system on Wednesday, to working with Music Directors to arrange sound checks, to helping with special music, to the agenda on Saturday night, to tear down on Sunday afternoons. Worship Chair is responsible for worship items such as song books and communion cloths, plates, and chalices as well as the Communion elements for these activities. To meet these needs, Worship maintains the board meeting chapel box and its contents. The Worship Chair is a very integral part of our Emmaus Community and helps make the activities we do much more enjoyable. We have a very comprehensive check list to make this position manageable.

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

"The 'PFC' Kind of Grace"

I almost missed a free meal at an 'upscale' Chinese Restaurant. "PFC" (otherwise known as PF Chang's) is fast becoming a cultural icon for eating establishments across the American landscape--great food (the lettuce wraps are to die for), wonderful ambiance, huge servings of food, excellent service, and reasonable prices. No, this is not a paid advertisement, but I do want to willingly spread the gospel of a 'PFC Kind of Grace'.



I was in Arlington, Texas recently visiting my family who lived there. We found a PF Chang's restaurant, which was so new we hadn't seen it before. I wondered if it was open for business yet.

It was open, but only to family and friends of the serving staff, who were practicing how to serve customers the PF Chang way. I told my family we should go elsewhere, but the maitre'd got the "high" sign from a manager, who told us we were welcome to come in anyway. That was nice enough as it was, but the real bargain came when he told us "since this is a training day, all your food is free." I couldn't believe my ears. "FREE!" And this wasn't a fast food joint, either, where 'free' is a somewhat debatable concept.

We not only had our choice of meals from the menu, but they kept bringing us other little unanticipated "tidbits"—barbequed sea bass (not on the menu), dumplings, and a HUGE piece of 5-layer chocolate cake which the 5 of us couldn't finish off. We left PF Chang's with full stomachs and very pleased egos (who wouldn't like free food???) But there was something else, a quality that rose above the free food and tidbits. It was the joyful exuberance with which the staff served us, fully knowing the food was free, knowing we were not family or friends of the serving staff or cooks, and certainly with no knowledge that we would come back. It reminded me of the movie "Babbett's Feast", that wonderful illustration of grace that every Christian must see. People are changed when they encounter that kind of grace. People are changed because God is seen as a God of Grace, perhaps for the first time, because of the demonstrations of this kind of grace by caring Christians.

God is so into a PFC kind of grace. God, like the father in the story of the prodigal son, is far more "prodigal" than the Prodigal Son. Prodigal is defined as "recklessly extravagant, giving or yielding profusely, lavishly abundant". God doesn't have to, need to, or should have to give his grace in such a way; He does it willingly. He "gets" to be gracious. It's who He is. It's what defines His essence. He invited PFC grace.

Emmaus is not a program. Emmaus is the community of people who have each eaten their joyful fill at God's lavish table of grace and are committed to putting on Babbett's Feasts by building an environment of grace for people who have not yet experienced grace in its pure form. Here's to being PFC grace givers all the time, "getting" to be grace givers wherever we go, whether at Emmaus Gatherings and Walks, at home, at work, on the street, and yes, even in restaurants like PF Chang's.

De Colores,
Dave Evans

EMMAUS TESTIMONY: FOURTH DAY

The three days of participation at the Walk to Emmaus Weekend has prepared the pilgrims to go back into the society and begin the fourth day. While the three day journey has been a unique opportunity to reflect on one's faith journey and make a deeper commitment to Christ, the fourth days lived in the three disciplines of piety, study, and action helps one to continue to grow in relationship with Christ and live as faithful disciples in life.

"The whole reason for The Walk to Emmaus is to make you a more faithful disciple and active member in your church." (Bob Wood, *Day Four*). Thus, the Fourth Day is central to the Emmaus experience, as it extends each individual's experience beyond the weekend and into life in the world.

An important and necessary foundation for faithful Christian living is a vital connection to the Christian community for support, guidance, and challenge. This is most available through local church communities, reunion groups, and the Emmaus Celebrations.

The Emmaus group reunion is a small **accountability** group of two to six persons who have usually participated in the three-day Walk to Emmaus experience and who want to continue their pursuit of a life lived wholly in the grace of God. These small follow-up groups help pilgrims translate the message conveyed on the Walk to Emmaus weekend into a daily walk with Christ. With the regular support of a few faithful friends, the gift of God's love in Jesus Christ becomes a lifestyle of Christian discipleship.

Members listen to one another, celebrate the grace of God in each person's life, and reinforce each one's core commitment to living in union with Christ in all facets of daily life. Members express that reinforcement through gentle accountability, encouragement, and support of one's stated discipline and plans. Reunion groups provide a natural launching pad for mission in the community. Reunion groups are also a support base for acts of agape for Emmaus weekends. Shared engagement in service to others deepens friendships and opens up avenues for Christian action.

Always make time for the primary work of the group—reviewing the service sheet and reflecting on Christ's presence and call.

REUNION GROUPS

I belong to a group of four men that meet regularly. Yes, it is sometimes challenging to get together during holidays or other times, but I personally miss the lads when we are not together. This is truly a time where we support each other through prayer and a good old chat. During the Walk to Emmaus Weekend one will get a glimpse of living a life filled with grace. One way we can continue the Christian ideal of a grace-filled life is to join or form a Reunion Group. Two or more people meet on a regular basis to support each other. There are currently more than twelve groups in our Emmaus Community that meet on a regular basis. I would like to encourage everyone not in a Reunion Group at present to seriously consider forming or joining an existing group. Membership is open to any Christian living in faith and who desires to live a life of accountable discipleship.

SOME TIPS IN STARTING OUT:

- Perseverance for the first few weeks, it is habit forming!
- Limit the gatherings to one hour to keep it focused
- Prepare before the meeting, have something to share
- Focus on the service card
- Respect confidentiality

De Colores,
Ettienne People
Dublin, Ireland

(From 'The Walk to Emmaus Newsletter', Vol 13, Issue 41, by permission)

Seeds & Needs

MENS' REGISTRAR

Men's Walk #42 was another Great Success! You could feel the Love and Grace of Jesus Christ working in the hearts of the men who attended during the weekend. The next Men's walk will be held on August 16-19, 2007 at Christ United Methodist Church. We already have 14 confirmed pilgrims for the August walk. If you're interested in attending the Men's walk #43 at Christ Church please send in your confirmation card or contact me as soon as possible. The Walks held at Christ Church normally fill up fast because the Church has air-conditioning and an elevator, which are major benefits in the summertime. Please remember that applications will remain on file for 3 years and then destroyed unless the application has been updated.

De Colores, Keith Simpson

KITCHEN CHAIR

The Kitchen staff continues to need help during the following shifts on Walk weekends:

- Thursday, 9:00am-12:30pm - Sunday, 6:00am-9:00am

We also need volunteers who are willing to do a basket of laundry (towels, washcloths, aprons) from the Kitchen on Walk weekends. Volunteers can simply pickup a basket on any day of the weekend, take home, wash and fold, and return by noon on Monday. If you would like to volunteer for these needs, please contact Virgil Gallagher (shgaoh@aol.com) or check the sign-up sheets at the monthly Gatherings. **If you sign up to serve in the Kitchen, please be sure to show up!**

Thank you, Virgil Gallagher, Kitchen Chair



SUPPLY CHAIR

I still need help (2 people) on Wednesday mornings before the Walks to receive deliveries and stock refrigerators and bins. Also, help is needed (3-4 people) on Mondays after the Walks to do inventory. If you are interested, please call me at 937-256-4691 or 937-623-2828 (cell).

De Colores, Rich Hill, Supply Chair

TREASURER

The Greater Dayton Emmaus organization recently received a letter from the IRS recognizing the community as a 501(c)(3) public charity. This exempts GDE from federal taxes and enables the community to receive tax deductible gifts, transfers, or bequests. Thank you for supporting the Greater Dayton Emmaus community with your time, talents, and gifts. If you would like additional information, please contact one of the GDE board members.

De Colores, Grant Dunigan, Treasurer



Would you please announce in your 4th day community newsletter that a Kairos Prison Ministry weekend is in the process of being organized (Kairos Ohio Reformatory for Women #27) for Nov. 8-11, 2007. Lady members of your community who might wish to serve on this weekend can contact the weekend leader, Diane Harper, at the following email address: granydi@copper.net. Thank you and God bless you for helping recruit members for this weekend.


David Dickinson, Kairos State Outreach and Recruitment Coordinator

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

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.
Jeremiah 29:11



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- Send to the Emmaus address on the first page of this newsletter (**Attention: Mary Manvell**)
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