



Walk to Emmaus[®] Newsletter

Vol. 19 No. 12

Greater Dayton Community

December
2007

Chairman's Corner – The Reason for the Season



I know that we have heard the saying “the reason for the season” many times but I pray this year that we all take it to heart. It’s so easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle as we try to figure out what we’re buying for whom and what we’re going to take to this carry-in or that one. Let’s remember to put Christ at the center of the Christmas holiday

whether it’s cutting back on spending for gifts (and not going into debt) and donating that money to help others, having a birthday party for Jesus at our Christmas celebration or just focusing on the birth of our Savior during the many meals and gift exchanges. Let us not forget that He is the “reason for the season” and it’s His birth we celebrate. I pray that you have a safe and blessed Christmas season and that you will feel reminded, renewed, refreshed, and restored after taking time to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

As I complete my tenure as Lay Director of this wonderful community, I’d like to thank each of you and the Board of Directors for your unwavering support this past year. I have felt your prayers and am overwhelmed by the love that you have shown me and that you extend to every member of this community. What a privilege, honor, and blessing it has been to serve with you in this way. May God bless each and every one of you.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Missy Trumbull*

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 Normandy UMC:

Men's Walk # 44: Jan 24-27
Women's Walk # 73: Feb 21-24
Women's Walk # 74: Apr 17-20
Men's Walk # 45: May 15-18

Held at Christ UMC:

Women's Walk # 75 - Jul 17-20
Men's Walk # 46 - Aug 16-19

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

Date: January 14, 2007 / 6:30pm

Place: Normandy UMC, Room #214

This is an open invitation for everyone to attend a 45-minute training session before the Gathering. Come and learn the best methods suggested by the National Emmaus Board.

SHARE GROUP ORIENTATION

Date: January 14, 2007 / 6:15pm

Place: Normandy UMC, Chapel

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

Giving Our Hands to Christ

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*



KITCHEN CHAIR

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

- Thursday, 9:00am - 12:30pm**
- Friday, all shifts**
- Sunday, 6:00am - 9:00am**

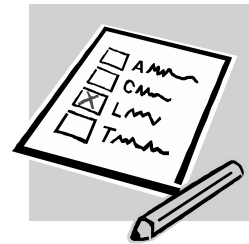
If you would like to volunteer for these needs, please contact Virgil Gallagher (shgaoh@verizon.net) or check the sign-up sheets at the monthly Gatherings.

Remember: If you sign up to serve in the Kitchen, please be sure to show up!
Thank you, Virgil Gallagher, Kitchen Chairperson

LEADERSHIP CHAIR

ELECTION RESULTS! As a result of the election held at the November Gathering, the following members will serve on the Board beginning in January 2008:

- Secretary: Karen Wissinger**
- Documentation: Beverly Barrett**
- Agape: Roiann Ward**
- NUMC/Book Table: Lou Caldwell**
- Worship: Chris Christoff**
- Good Shepherd: Cheri Spencer (appointed to replace Chantele Dow who will be the Leadership Chair in 2008)**



The complete Board roster for 2008 will be published in the January newsletter.

YBIC, Don Adams, Leadership Chairperson
"Don't forget your Willing Servant Form!"

TREASURER



Dear Greater Dayton Emmaus Community: Just as the Community needs your time & talent to successfully complete our Walk weekends, we also need your resources to sustain this ministry. Earlier in 2007, Greater Dayton Emmaus received a letter from the IRS recognizing our Community as a 501(c)(3) public charity. This ruling exempts GDE from federal taxes and enables the Community to receive tax deductible gifts, transfers, or bequests. Thank you for considering GDE for a portion of your charitable giving this season.

Blessings, Grant Dunigan, Treasurer

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

The Glory of Christmas

One thing I love about Christmas is all the lights. Now I didn't say I liked putting up the lights, the unpacking, untangling, climbing up a ladder to string them on a cold winter day...that part of the party is definitely not my thing. But on a dark evening, to drive down a quiet lane alive with decorative colored lights...I love it.

Recently the youth pastor at our church told me about their little two-year-old Haley's reaction to the Christmas lights. When they decorated their tree and turned the lights on, her eyes got big and her face told the story of pure joy and she clapped her hands in glee at what she saw. Interestingly, every day she goes through the same routine when the lights are turned on. She seems to light up, too!

Jesus said, "I am the light of the World." Jesus is the Glory of Christmas, and especially during this season of the year, those who love Him recognize it anew, and they seem to "light up," too.

Do you remember when the shepherds saw his glory on the night of His birth? No sooner had they heard the grand anthem from the heavens than they headed out wide-eyed, cross-country to find the new King.



That night brought light to our planet that no darkness can erase. The glory could no longer be hidden--Christ Jesus was born. Song writers, for centuries, have called Him, "Jesus, the Light of the world." Earth was hushed and heaven stooped to listen to the song, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will toward men." His presence lighted up the world and its radiance still embraces and encourages all who choose to walk in His story.

How long do you suppose the radiance remained in the night sky? We don't know of course, but do you think the shepherds ever forgot it? I don't think so. When the angels disappeared, the light faded, and the shades of night again fell on the hills of Bethlehem, we can be sure that a light had dawned in their hearts that would never be extinguished.

Are there times when you have glimpsed the glory of God in His world today? I have. I see His glory often, as this same Jesus who was born in a manger is born anew in the life of a man or woman or young person who finds the object of their search for a Deliverer, a Savior, a King, a Friend.

So as we enjoy the lights and the tinsel during this season, I want to invite you to look past all that and remember that, just as the heavens broke forth in song on that night so long ago, God has a love song He wants to sing to you as well. What better time than the Christmas season to remember when His presence touched our world in a miraculous way, and then ask Him to touch your heart, too? Now that would be truly, The Glory of Christmas.

De Colores, Hazel Burns, SD

Giving Our Hands to Christ

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. *Romans 12:11*

COMPUTER ADMIN

This is a very busy time of year for us all. Not only are we entering the holiday season, there is much going on to prepare for next year. The 2008 GDE Community Directory will be available at the January 2008 Gathering. The cost is \$10 and is intended for official Emmaus use only. However, the Directory will be as accurate as the information provided, so I need your help! Contact information on the Willing Servant form, newsletter subscription renewals, and sponsor information on Pilgrim application are some of the tools used to update the information stored in the community database during the course of the year. As people move into, out of, and within the community, it is easy to lose contact with those we love. Your help is needed to ensure the Community Directory is current.



A draft copy of the Community Directory will be available in the Narthex at the next Gathering. Please take a few moments to verify your information and write in corrections/updates as necessary. If your information is correct, please initial or place a check mark in the margin next to your name. Ladies, if your name has changed recently due to marriage or divorce, please let me know or indicate that in the draft copy. If you are unable to attend any of the Gatherings, I can be reached at 937-848-4611 or email: mary@manvell.org

As a reminder, contact information for each Board member can be found by navigating to the board page on the community website: www.daytonemmaus.org

De Colores, Mary Manvell, Computer Admin

WORSHIP CHAIR

As a reminder, we are planning our traditional Christmas Gathering for December. The program will be approx 2 hours in length. If you would like to do a musical number for the Community, please contact me at (937) 855-3289 or by email: donderojm@hotmail.com. Thank you for sharing your talents during this special season.

De Colores, Jeff Dondero, Worship Chairperson



PLEASE NOTE:

THE SPONSORSHIP TRAINING AND PILGRIM ORIENTATION SESSIONS WILL NOT BE HELD IN DECEMBER.

THESE EVENTS WILL RESUME IN JANUARY, PRIOR TO THE GATHERING. SEE FRONT PAGE FOR EXACT TIMES AND LOCATIONS.



Giving Our Hands to Christ

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. *1 Peter 4:10*

HOUSING CHAIR



Sign-up sheets for shift lists are available at the Gatherings. Shift lists help the Housing Committee get a head start on volunteers for upcoming Walks. See the Housing section on the Greater Dayton Emmaus website (<http://daytonemmaus.org/deHousing.htm>) or a member of the Housing Committee for details.

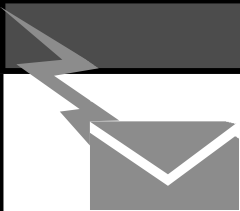
De Colores, Stephen Puderbaugh, Housing Chair

MEN'S REGISTRAR

The letters to prospective Walk #44 participants were mailed at the end of October. If you have an application in and did not receive a request for confirmation letter, please contact me as the Men's registrar. If you did receive a letter and want to ensure you have a confirmed seat on this Emmaus Walk, be sure to return your confirmation letter in the envelope enclosed with your letter. Please return your letter as soon as possible but no later than the end of December. The registrars continually want to better serve the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community and ensure appropriate information is collected and available for the scheduled Walks. To do this, the application information must be received by the registrars two (2) weeks prior to the start of the Walk. Our next Men's Walk, #44, is scheduled for January 23-27, 2008 at Normandy United Methodist Church. The cutoff date for applications for this Walk will be January 10, 2008.

Your Emmaus Brother in Christ, Keith Simpson, Men's Registrar

DAYTON COMMUNITY EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN



If you have prayer concerns or would like to participate in the Community prayer chain, please email me at bennercl@notes.udayton.edu or call 937-879-2118. Thanks to all who participate in the prayer ministry.

De Colores, Charles Benner

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:18-21




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 Dayton OH 45459
 www.daytonemmaus.org

*And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
 Luke 2:10-11*



To renew your newsletter:

- Fill out the following form and address it to Newsletter
- Send to the Emmaus address on the first page of this newsletter (**Attention: Mary Manvell**)
- Available **FREE** at www.daytonemmaus.org

This is a:

<input type="checkbox"/> Subscription or renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> One year \$8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Address change	<input type="checkbox"/> Two Years \$14.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Three Years \$20.00

Total Enclosed \$ _____ (checks payable to "Walk to Emmaus")

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Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____