



Walk to Emmaus® Newsletter

Vol. 20 No. 1

Greater Dayton Community

January
2008

Chairman's Corner –

Wow, it is 2008!! Amazing how time seems to speed up the older I get. The celebration of the New Year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. The practice of making New Years Resolutions started around that same time. We often look at ourselves and decide we need to change something in our life, to stop doing something, to start doing something, etc. That made me think, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make?



There is just something about the start of a New Year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. In reality, there is no difference between December 31st and January 1st. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31st. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of a New Year's Resolution. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's Resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make?

Common New Year's Resolutions are: to quit smoking, to quit drinking, to manage money better, and spend more time with family. By far the most common New Year's Resolution is to lose weight, in conjunction with exercising more and eating healthier. These are all good goals to set. However, 1 Timothy 4:8 instructs us to keep exercise in perspective: "For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come." The vast majority of New Year's Resolutions, even among Christians, are in relation to physical things. This should not be.

Many Christians make New Year's Resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, to attend church more regularly, etc. These are fantastic goals!

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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

COMMUNITY CHAIR (cont'd from front)

However, these New Year's Resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions. Why? Because there is no power in a New Year's Resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

Philippians 4:13 tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." John 15:5 declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's Resolution, it has chance for success – depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it. If a resolution is not God honoring and/or is not in agreement in God's Word – we will not receive God's help in fulfilling the resolution.

So, what sort of New Year's Resolution should a Christian make? That is up to you. My advice to you is this: (1) Pray to the Lord for wisdom (James 1:5) in regards to what resolutions, if any, He would have you make; (2) Pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you; (3) Rely on God's strength to help you; (4) Find a share group or accountability partner who will help you and encourage you; (5) Don't become discouraged with occasional failures, instead allow them to motivate you further; (6) Don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. Psalm 37:5-6 tells us to "Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday."

Whether you choose to make a resolution or not is up to you. I think the best thing we can do is to honor God in everything we do and strive to have a closer walk with Him. God Bless you all and I look forward to serving our Greater Dayton Emmaus community with you this year.

YBIC
Don Adams
Chairman GDE
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Proverbs 15:1  
A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

## *FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR*



*God with us...Emmanuel...  
Wow!*

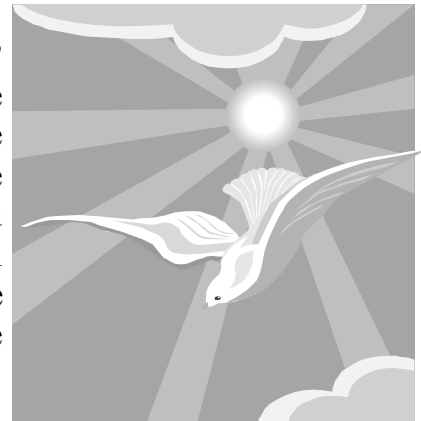


Episcopal priest and Jungian therapist J. Pittman McGehee makes the statement that “God so values the human experience that he decided to have one himself.” This is the essence of the Christmas story: God with us...Emmanuel. For God so loved the world (you and me) that he was willing to experience human existence in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. Wow.

This is the Scandal of the Incarnation. Christianity boldly, and some might say outrageously, claims that the Creator willingly became one with the created...and, even more unbelievably, submitted to abuse, torture, and execution at the hands of the created. All to redeem the very creatures who put him to death. Double wow.

Why would God choose to do this? Max Lucado asks if this whole story doesn't sound a little unbelievable...and yet, he argues, therein lays its power. The very absurdity of the Christmas story makes it compellingly believable. There is power in the mystery of God's ways. And a wondrous attraction for all of us in need of a savior.

How better for God to demonstrate God's love for us? Nobody can claim that God doesn't understand what life in this world is like...Jesus lived it. He experienced the pain, disappointment, betrayal, rejection, and loss that we experience. He also knew joy, laughter, family, good times, and the love of dear friends. God had a full human experience in Christ. And through our acceptance of the salvation offered in Christ, we are invited to experience the divine life with God eternally.



**“The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14**

In this Christmas/Epiphany season, may each of us devote ourselves anew to the living God who calls us in love to experience an abundant life in grace in 2008.

De Colores,  
David Tackett

# Pray for One Another



**Men's Walk #44**  
**January 24-27, 2008**

| <u>PILGRIM LIST</u> |                 | <u>TEAM ROSTER</u> |                 |                           |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Ryan Adams          | Springboro      | <b>Position</b>    | <b>Name</b>     | <b>Talk</b>               |
| Robert Allen        | Troy            | LD                 | John Wissinger  | <i>Perseverance</i>       |
| Gary Anderson       | Englewood       | ALD                | Ed Kruse        | <i>Grow Through Study</i> |
| Herbie Armstrong    | Tipp City       | ALD                | Marc Littman    | <i>Priority</i>           |
| Wilson Barangliara  | Dayton          | ALD                | Chris Wissinger | <i>Fourth Day</i>         |
| Tom Becker          | Kettering       | BR                 | Chris Morrison  |                           |
| Jonathon Cox        | Bethel          | PS                 | Garry Peck      |                           |
| Michael Davidson    | Lebanon         | PS                 | Daniel Phillips |                           |
| Stephen DeLong      | Bellbrook       | LOG                | Rich Hill       |                           |
| Adam Demetrician    | Dayton          | LOG                | Jeff Hinkley    |                           |
| T.L. Drake          | Beavercreek     | LOG                | Mike Prior      |                           |
| Jeff Ensmen         | Lebanon         | MD                 | Timothy Macy    |                           |
| Darryl Gregg        | Bellbrook       | AMD                | Jeff Null       |                           |
| Nelson Grover       | Centerville     | TL                 | Joe Center      |                           |
| Gregg Hayes         | Dayton          | TL                 | Dan Blair       | <i>Body of Christ</i>     |
| Greg Hurst          | Miamisburg      | TL                 | Howard Creek    | <i>Life in Piety</i>      |
| Ken Korhonen        | Miamisburg      | TL                 | Coley Logan     | <i>Priesthood...</i>      |
| Ryan Kruse          | West Carrollton | TL                 | Doug Puderbaugh | <i>Discipleship</i>       |
| Darrel Lamb         | Kettering       | TL                 | Don Adams       | <i>Changing Our World</i> |
| Charles Lauricella  | Miamisburg      | TL                 | Bud Dean        | <i>Christian Action</i>   |
| Chuck McClure       | Phillipsburg    | ATL                | Andrew Addy     |                           |
| Gary Morris         | Dayton          | ATL                | Kevin Eldridge  |                           |
| Grant Parsons       | Centerville     | ATL                | Adam George     |                           |
| Mike Pratt          | Lewisburg       | ATL                | John Loy        |                           |
| Scott Richard       | Kettering       | ATL                | Chris Marcott   |                           |
| Jan Allan Roll      | Huber Heights   | ATL                | Ernie Slone     |                           |
| Michael Sherer      | Piqua           | ATL                | John Stoddard   |                           |
| Jon Spence          | Bellbrook       | SD                 | John Whitaker   | <i>Means of Grace</i>     |
| Brian Talbott       | Xenia           | ASDL*              | Leroy Chambliss | <i>Sanctifying Grace</i>  |
| Chris Taylor        | Beavercreek     | ASD                | George Brewer   | <i>Obstacles to Grace</i> |
| William Vaughn      | Huber Heights   | ASD                | Dave Cahoon     | <i>Prevenient Grace</i>   |
| Rev Wood            | St. Paris       | ASD                | Dave Evans      | <i>Justifying Grace</i>   |

\*ASDL = Live-in ASD

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.  
 The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. **James 5:16**

# 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*

## 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](mailto: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*

## 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*

## COMMUNITY EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN



If you have prayer concerns or would like to pray for other requests in the Dayton Community, please email me ([bennercl@notes.udayton.edu](mailto:bennercl@notes.udayton.edu)) or call 937-879-2118. Thanks to all who support the prayer ministry.

*De Colores, Charles Benner*

### 2008 DAYTON EMMAUS BOARD

Agape - Roinann Ward  
 Chair - Don Adams  
 Christ UMC Rep - Mark Brown  
 Computer Admin - Mary Manvell  
 Documentation - Beverly Barrett  
 Good Shepherd/Outreach - Cheri Spencer  
 Housing - Stephen Puderbaugh  
 Kitchen - Virgil Gallagher  
 Leadership - Chantele Dow  
 Newsletter - Chris Morrison  
 Normandy UMC Rep/Book Table - Lou Caldwell  
 Past Chair - Missy Trumbull

Spiritual Director - Hazel Burns  
 Spiritual Director - George Brewer  
 Spiritual Director - Dave Evans  
 Spiritual Director - Palmer Jason  
 Spiritual Director - Mamie Johnson  
 Spiritual Director - Dave Tackett  
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 Registrar (Women) - Vicki Engel  
 Secretary - Karen Wissinger  
 Supply - Rich Hill  
 Treasurer - Grant Dunigan  
 Worship - Chris Christoff


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

Arise, Shine;  
 for your light  
 has come, and  
 the glory of the  
 Lord has risen  
 upon you.

*Isaiah 60:1*



**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](http://www.daytonemmaus.org)

This is a:

|                          |                         |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Subscription or renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> | One year \$8.00     |
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|                          |                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | Three Years \$20.00 |

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