



# Walk to Emmaus<sup>®</sup> Newsletter

Vol. 20 No. 9

## Greater Dayton Community

September  
2008

### Chairman's Message

At the recent August Gathering (and most Gatherings I have attended) I was very moved by the songs of praise that we sang. I believe God smiles and laughs and joins with us when we all sing as one in our praise for Him.

The Bible says that God lives in the praises of His people (Psalms 22:3). Praise is not merely a reaction from coming into His presence - Praise and worship is the vehicle which allows us to enter the wonder of His glory. The psalmist writes, "This corresponds with Jesus' teaching, that His presence will inhabit the gathering of believers who congregate in His name: "). A "gathering in His name" means that Jesus is the focus, the center of everything.

Some people think that worship is a response after the Holy Spirit moves upon them. I believe it is the other way around. God's presence responds when we approach Him with worship! Lifting up Jesus Christ through praise and worship causes the Lord's presence and power to flow in our midst.

Praise means "to commend, to applaud or magnify." For the Christian, praise to God is an expression of worship, lifting-up and glorifying the Lord. It is an expression of humbling ourselves and focusing our attention upon the Lord. Praise transports us into a different realm and into the power of God. "

There are many actions involved with praise to God — singing, playing instruments, shouting, dancing, lifting or clapping our hands. But true praise is not "merely" going through these motions. Unpretentious praise and worship pleases the Lord. He delights in the love and devotion of His children. He eagerly awaits our affections, desiring to manifest His presence and power in our midst.

Praise to God needs to be a lifestyle. All too often, praise to our God is something that people leave at church, or do only when they come together with other Christians (like a Gathering). However, praise should be a part of a believer's lifestyle, a part of their daily prayer-life. At work, in the car, at home in bed, or anywhere they may be.

Praise is an expression of faith. Praise is a "sacrifice," something that we offer to God sacrificially, not just because we feel like it, but because we believe in Him and wish to please Him. Praise sends the enemy running. Since praise brings God's presence, we know that praise repels the presence of the enemy. An atmosphere which is filled with sincere worship and praise to God is disgusting to the Devil. He fears the power in the name of Jesus. When God's people begin to praise His name, it sends the enemy running! I challenge you to become a person of praise, and you will experience the release of the power of God! Make praise of Jesus Christ part of your every waking moment.

May God Bless You All

Don Adams

Chairman Greater Dayton Emmaus

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name" (Psalms 100:4)

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name" (Hebrews 13:15)

### HOW TO FIND US!

Greater Dayton Emmaus  
Normandy UMC  
450 W. Alex-Bell Rd  
Centerville OH 45459  
[www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org)

### UPCOMING EMMAUS WALKS

#### Held at Normandy UMC:

Women's Walk #76 - Sep 18-21, 2008

Men's Walk #47 - Jan 22-25, 2009

Women's Walk # 77 - Feb 19-22, 2009

Women's Walk #79 - Sep 24-27, 2009

#### Held at Christ UMC

Women's Walk # 78 - July 16-19, 2009

Men's Walk # 48 - August 13-16, 2009

### CANDLELIGHT AND CLOSING

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

### GATHERING & BOARD MEETING

Normandy UMC	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	7:15 PM
Dayton Board	4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	7:00 PM

### TRAINING & ORIENTATION

#### SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

**Date:** Sep 8, 2008 / 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:** Sep 8, 2008 / 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

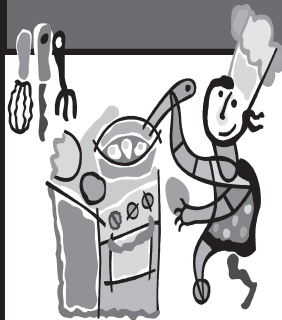
But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things He has done for you. *1 Samuel 12:24*

## HOUSING CHAIR

Please check the housing sign-up sheets at the next Gathering for the next Walk for opportunities to serve. Also, the Housing Chair position will be up for election this year. The housing duties pretty much function as a well-oiled machine and just need an operator. If you feel led to this position, please contact Missy Trumbull (the Nominations Chair) or me. *De Colores, Stephen Puderbaugh, Housing Chair*



## 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.

*De Colores, Virgil Gallagher, Kitchen Chair*

## GOOD SHEPHERD

**Share Group Orientation:** Next session will be **Sep 8th at 6:15pm** in the small chapel at Normandy Church. This session is open to anyone who is not currently in a share group or anyone who wants to expand their existing share group. We will cover the guidelines of how to run your share group and have a networking session. **Outreach:** Just a reminder that I am available for outreach. If you would like an Emmaus presentation during your weekend church service, please contact me (937-312-9033).

*De Colores, Cheri Spencer, Good Shepherd*

## SUPPLY CHAIR



A tremendous amount of supplies is required to conduct a Walk weekend. Please consider how you might be able to help with this important task. We need some assistance on Wednesdays (before the Walk weekend) in picking up fresh produce from the supplier and bringing to the church. If you can help, please contact me: (937) 256-4691 or [supply@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:supply@daytonemmaus.org).

*De Colores, Rich Hill, Supply Chair*

## COMMUNITY EMAIL PRAYER CHAIN

If you have prayer concerns or would like to pray for other requests in the Dayton Community, please email ([bennercl@notes.udayton.edu](mailto:bennercl@notes.udayton.edu)) or call 937-879-2118. Please limit your requests to a serious/urgent nature and to the needs of either a member of the Emmaus Community or your immediate family. Also, if you are not receiving prayer chain messages and wish to do so, please call me to confirm/update your email address. Blessings to all who support the prayer ministry.

*De Colores, Charles Benner*



# From the Spiritual Director

## THE TIPPING POINT

(Jesus said) “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

-John 13:34-35 (NIV)

There is a saying, “We are created in the image of God--to love and be loved.” When I was a child, the joy of Christmas was all about receiving. The memories of trying to stay awake on Christmas eve as long as I could in order to hear Santa’s sleigh landing on our roof, stumbling downstairs bleary-eyed to find presents under the tree, and the joyful chaos of unwrapping longed-for gifts will remain with me forever.

But later as I grew older things began to change. The source of my greatest joy gradually shifted from receiving gifts to giving them. Somewhere along the way there was a “tipping point”. Looking back, I think it was the birth of our first child, Christopher. On my faith journey, that moment was an occasion where God broke into my self-absorbed life in a powerful way and allowed me to see the wonders of his grace. At that moment in my life, God gave me a nudge and over I went! From that time on, my Christmas morning joy has come from giving and seeing Christmas joy in the faces of my children.

Serving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through our Emmaus ministry also brings me great joy. Seeing the joy of on the faces of those who receive this love through their weekend experiences is just like seeing my kids rip open those presents on Christmas morning. But those Christmas presents are long gone and forgotten. The gift of God’s love in the good news of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus will last forever.

What about you? Have you reached your “tipping point” yet? As a member of the Greater Dayton Emmaus community, have you made the shift from focusing on “being loved” to “loving?” Remember it’s not one or the other, it’s both. It’s a matter of emphasis. It’s a matter of spiritual growth—getting to your “tipping point” and beyond.

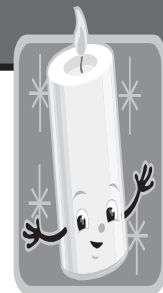
Our community offers multiple ways “to love”. Step up and step out. Sponsor new pilgrims. Volunteer your time and your talents. Discover that giving/loving will bring you the greatest joy of all. And in so doing, “you will be loved.”

De Colores!  
George Brewer

## IMPORTANT CANDLELIGHT NEWS!

Due to the fire hazard, safety risks, and liability concerns associated with burning candles in the church buildings, the Board has approved the use of battery-operated candles for our candlelight services. Beginning with Women’s Walk #75 in July, we will use the new battery-operated candles only. To help minimize storage space at the church, community members may purchase their own battery-operated candle. They will be sold at the Gatherings for \$4 each. Be sure to get your new candle before the next Walk!

*De Colores, Chris Christoff, Worship Chair*



**Please remember to pick up a Willing Servant Form** at the next Gathering or online at the Dayton Emmaus Community website: <http://www.daytonemmaus.org/deForms.htm>. If your Willing Servant Form is submitted by July 1, 2008, and you meet the requirements to serve on a live-in team, you will be eligible to serve through June 30, 2010.

# Pray for One Another

**Women's Walk #76**  
**Sep 18-21, 2008**

<u>PILGRIM LIST</u>		<u>TEAM ROSTER</u>		
Alyson Anderson	Centerville	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Talk</b>
Sherry Bain	Centerville	Lisa Adams	TL	<i>Discipleship</i>
Judy Bunck	Troy	Christine Aiello	ATL	
Tina Carsten	Centerville	Diana Applegate	ALD	<i>Grow Through Study</i>
Amy Cerminaro	Beavercreek	Laura Bajus	TL	<i>Changing Our World</i>
Jody Curtis	Dayton	Bev Barrett	ALD	<i>Priority</i>
Susan Dagenkolb	Dayton	Carol Carter	TL	<i>Christian Action</i>
Heather Dyer	Dayton	Heth Corl	ASD	<i>Obstacles to Grace</i>
Cindy Edwards	Dayton	Pam Dean	LD	<i>Perseverance</i>
Jeri Evenden	Dayton	Debbie Deisher	ATL	
Erin Fuller	Dayton	Carol Dondero	ATL	
Cindy Good	Centerville	Karen DuBro	ALD2	<i>Fourth Day</i>
Odie Harvey	Troy	Linda Farley	ASD	<i>Prevenient Grace</i>
Ranae Holdeman	Kettering	Shirley Gallagher	ATL	
Heather Holmes	Springfield	Tracy George	TL	
Tasha Hooten	Kettering	Karen Hall	TL	<i>Priesthood of All Believers</i>
Gloria Iselaiye	Xenia	Marty Heitkamp	ATL	
Roberta Jones	Tipp City	Phyllis Heitz	MD	
Amy Knickel	Bellfontaine	Chris Holmes	TL	<i>Life of Piety</i>
Diane Linebaugh	Wilmington	Ellen Ireland	LOG	
Debbie Marsala	Miamisburg	Sherry Kierce	PS	
Deb Miller	Middletown	Susan Lehneis	LOG	
Kristin Raab	Waynesville	Melanie Morrett	AMD	
Melodi Reno	Centerville	Sandy Pappenfus	SD	<i>Means of Grace</i>
Sherry Salyers	Vandalia	Nancy Phillips	LOG2	
Becky Stegall	Dayton	Susan Pummell	ATL	
Susan Sweeney	West Carrollton	JoAnne Rohrer	PS	
Tammy Taylor	Beavercreek	Cheri Spencer	BR	
Mindy Thomae	Germantown	Joyce Stare	TL	<i>Body of Christ</i>
Kim Ventling	Hamilton	Pam Steele	ATL	
Rose Vernon	Dayton	Dave Tackett	ASD	<i>Sanctifying Grace</i>
		John Whitaker	ASD	<i>Justifying Grace</i>
		ALD – Assistant Lay Director		LD – Lay Director
		AMD – Assistant Music Director		Log - Logistics
		ASD – Assistant Spiritual Director		MD – Music Director
		ASDL – Assistant Spiritual Director Live-in		PS – Prayer Servant
		ATL – Assistant Table Leader		SD – Spiritual Director
		BR – Board Rep		TL – Table Leader

Please note the Team and Pilgrim rosters are subject to change after press-time. Prior to the Walk weekend, the Newsletter is updated with the most current Pilgrim / Team rosters and posted on the Dayton Emmaus website:

<http://www.daytonemmaus.org/deNewsletters.htm>

# 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*



## AGAPE CHAIR

If you have donated Agape, please check with me to see if anything is leftover. You can pickup the remaining items at the Closing or at the Gathering. Thanks very much for your assistance.  
*De Colores, Roiann Ward, Agape Chair*

## MEN'S REGISTRAR

The Greater Dayton Emmaus Community had another successful year with 3 mens' walks and 76 pilgrims experiencing the love of Jesus Christ. Over the past couple of years, our total number of interested pilgrims has declined. Currently we have 49 potential pilgrims in the database who have not attended a Men's walk. Some of these applications are 3-4 years old. Because of our declining numbers, we will conduct only 2 men's walks in 2009 (January and August). Our hope and prayer is that the database will grow and we will be able to return to 3 walks per year. If anyone would like to sponsor a family member, friend, or co-worker, please have them complete an application and forward to me.  
*De Colores, Keith Simpson, Men's Registrar*

## EMMAUS AROUND THE WORLD


Greetings from Swaziland, I just wanted to share with those of you who have been on a walk to Emmaus my experience this past weekend here in Swaziland. I went to a closing ceremony for Swaziland's 26th Walk to Emmaus. It was a men's walk of about 10 men. I was blessed --so blessed. We got there in time to hear the pilgrims give their answer to the questions what did the walk mean to them and what were they going to do about it. I laughed as they told their stories of trying to get out of coming, the shock of giving up cell phones and watches, and my heart soared when they told of how God had changed their life over the weekend. The ceremony was done in English. I felt like I belonged to this group, even though most of the people in the room I had never met. They followed the Emmaus guidelines to the letter--probably better than Central Texas Conference does! To know that I was a part of a Christian movement that was happening in the same way on the other side of the world from where my home is was the most powerful thing I have felt so far. Tears of joy, love, and thanksgiving streamed down my cheeks during most of the ceremony. I knew that I belonged to the body of Christ and physically felt his presence for the second time that day. God knew what I needed. He knew it was time to remind me that I am not alone in a strange country trying to figure out what he would have me do by myself. I have brothers and sisters in Christ around me and I have Christ to sustain me. The ceremony was so familiar to me. It was as if I was home only sweeter because of my current situation. I was also acutely aware that if it hadn't been for my walk to Emmaus, I most likely wouldn't be sitting in a closing ceremony in Swaziland! I praise God for my sponsor, Diane Simmons, and for all of those who supported me on my Walk and my fourth day experiences. The Bishop gave the sermon during communion and again his words filled my soul --his directness, his gentleness, his love of Christ that shine through his very being. I felt honored to hear him speak twice in the same day. (Check out my blog for more on this: [chrisinswaziland.blogspot.com](http://chrisinswaziland.blogspot.com)) He advised the pilgrims to find fellow Emmaus community members or people that will encourage and support them to act on the feelings and convictions they had at that moment. He talked about how the disciples didn't always get it right; for example, when they tried to stop the children from coming to him or when they told Jesus that no one had touched him in the crowd of people, that someone must have bumped him accidentally (referring to the woman who reached out to touch the back of Jesus and was told that she was healed because of her faith.) so he advised them not to be discouraged, but to turn to the people and lessons of Emmaus. He told them the outcome of their 4th day is their choice. What good advice for any Christian. We followed the same service for the Lord's Supper out of the same book. We sang "Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary" during communion. The Bishop blessed the pilgrims saying "The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and give you peace." Do you know how precious those words were to me, especially spoken in English? And when it was all over, we all sang "DeColores!" What a joy it was to hear them struggle and laugh during the song the same as we do in Texas! But that song was never dearer to my heart than it was at that moment. Next weekend is the women's walk, number 27. You can be sure that I will help serve in any way that I can and I look forward to candlelight and the closing ceremony. Please pray for the pilgrims from this walk, for next week's walk, and for the Swaziland Emmaus community. And please relay how wonderful it is to go to an Emmaus gathering on the other side of the world. Knowing there was that connection with home through Christ is something that I can't find the words to describe. DeColores! Chris  
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 Dayton OH 45459  
 www.daytonemmaus.org

O taste and see  
 that the Lord is  
 good; How  
 blessed is the  
 man who takes  
 refuge in Him!  
*Psalm 34:8*



**To renew your newsletter mailing:**

- Complete the following form and address it to Newsletter
- Send to the Emmaus address on the first page of this newsletter (**Attention: Mark Flannery**)
- Get the Newsletter **FREE** online: [www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org)

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