



Walk to Emmaus[®] Newsletter

Vol. 20 No. 12

Greater Dayton Community

December
2008

Chairman's Message

We are going into one of my most favorite times of the year, Christmas! This has always been a special time in my life, from the time I was a child and through adulthood, being a parent and grandparent. Christmas in the Adams home has always been a time for everyone to get together for a few hours to laugh and eat and exchange gifts. When I was young, growing up in South Dakota, my parents owned a restaurant and worked most of the time. Christmas meant the restaurant was closed and everyone was at home. For the past 41 Christmas's with my wife Ann, we have always had a gathering of our family on Christmas Day. In the beginning our parents would be there to join us. As we had children and then grandchildren, the time we spent together became more special as we looked at the occasion through their eyes. The excitement you would feel in the house as we came closer and closer to the BIG day! Hiding the gifts we purchased for the kids became a game. For me, the most satisfying, exciting thing is that I am surrounded by my family. It is the time of year, because of so many commitments we all have throughout the year that we can come together as a family and celebrate. I hope and pray that all of you have a family tradition that brings joy to you.

I am writing this article in November because of our press deadlines, so I am anticipating (I know, I know, don't anticipate!) another tradition, our Greater Dayton Emmaus December Gathering. Listening to all of the brothers and sisters from our Emmaus community sing and praise our Lord is such an uplifting time. We are so blessed in this community to have so many talented people. I truly hope that all of you will be able to attend.

Shopping for the gifts for your family and friends is an exciting time as well. We are always looking for the perfect gift for everyone on our list. A gift you might consider this year is to sponsor a friend or relative on an Emmaus Walk. Remember how you were blessed by your experience.

But let us not forget the perfect gift for all of us. We do not need to run from store to store looking for it. We do not need to price compare because there is no comparison. God has a gift for each us that is better than anything we can find in any store. And the best thing about it is that it is FREE!! All we have to do is accept it and let the Grace of our Lord flow through us and allow the Holy Spirit to dwell in us. It is a gift that does not wear out or go out of style.

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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 #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	Dec 8	7:15 PM
Dayton Board	Dec 9	7:00 PM

TRAINING & ORIENTATION

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

Date: Dec 8, 2008 / 6:30pm

Place: Normandy UMC, Room #214

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

SHARE GROUP ORIENTATION

Date: Feb 9, 2009 / 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

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

Since this is my last article for the newsletter, I wanted to thank each of you for your friendship and support during this year that I have served as Chairman. It has been a truly blessed, humbling, exciting experience for me. Serving on the board with our current board members has been an awesome experience. The dedication and hard work these individuals have shown is beyond measure. They are all strong in their faith and their desire to serve God and this community. We do not do this for recognition or fame, but the next time you speak with a board member or committee chair, let them know you appreciate what they do. God Bless You ALL and have a wonderful Christmas.

Don Adams
Chairman, Greater Dayton Emmaus

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*Acts 10:36*

You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

*Romans 15:13*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

## 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.

## ELECTION RESULTS

Welcome to the following Willing Servants who were elected to the Greater Dayton Emmaus Board:



|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>CUMC Rep:</b>        | <b>Brian Wood</b>    |
| <b>Men's Registrar:</b> | <b>Keith Simpson</b> |
| <b>Housing:</b>         | <b>Lex Luther</b>    |
| <b>Kitchen:</b>         | <b>Mark Littman</b>  |
| <b>Supply:</b>          | <b>Neal Stout</b>    |

The next Board meeting will be held on **December 9th, 7pm**, at Normandy United Methodist Church.

# From the Spiritual Director

## IT REALLY IS A MERRY CHRISTMAS

We are experiencing the worst economic crisis in decades. Banks are folding, home foreclosures are at phenomenal rates, millions of people are out of work, food prices are soaring, stocks plummeting, retirement accounts...gone, trying to get a loan...almost impossible. "But isn't it Christmas"? The most wonderful time of the year! It's supposed to be joyful. You know... "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire..." "Joy to the world, the Lord has come...", "Peace on earth, good will toward men". Times like these can make you fearful, anxious, uncertain, despondent, hopeless, and filled with despair, these are some bad times.

This reminds me of the story of two Joseph's. One in the Old Testament found in the book of Genesis. Joseph's brothers conspired to kill him. He was thrown into a pit, sold to the Ishmaelites, sold by the Midianites, and falsely imprisoned. I'd say, he experienced some bad times.

Then there was Joseph in the New Testament, found in the book of Matthew. Before he became betrothed to his wife Mary, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Joseph being a just man was minded to put her away secretly but an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. Joseph was encouraged to not be afraid for the child that was conceived in Mary "is of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 1:20b).

In each of these stories, the Lord, our Wonderful God, had seen what was coming and gone ahead of them to ensure provisions were made. In the case of Joseph of the Old Testament he said, "And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance (Genesis 45:7)". In the case of Joseph in the New Testament, the angel of the Lord said to him, "And she will bring forth a Son and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21)."



In both cases it is clear, God knew what was coming and in knowing, He made sure to make provisions for those that were His. He continues to do the same thing today. Soooo, it really is a Merry Christmas. A time to remember this awesome God we serve, that even in a time of want, we have everything we need which is Jesus Christ our Lord.

May you all experience the Joy of Christmas.

Mamie Johnson  
Spiritual Director

# 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*

## MEN'S REGISTRAR

**Attention Greater Dayton Emmaus Sponsors!** The next Men's Walk is scheduled for January 22-25, 2009 at Normandy United Methodist Church. If you know of any Christian men that would be interested in attending this Walk, please ensure they have completed an application and mailed it to Greater Dayton Emmaus mail box to the attention of "Men's Registrar." Currently we have confirmed 2 of the 48 candidates in the men's data base. We normally have 20-30 men per walk, and we need to confirm all who are interested in the Men's Walk #47. The confirmation letters have been sent and we are anticipating a good response. But we need to have everyone solicit their prospective churches to identify potential Emmaus candidates. If you know of anyone and/or you are planning on sponsoring a Pilgrim, please get the application in ASAP so we can make sure they are part of this Wonderful experience.

*De Colores, Keith Simpson, Men's Registrar*

## WORSHIP CHAIR

*Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs....Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. Psalm 100:2,4*



Kandle Lights will continue to be available for purchase at Monthly Gatherings and Candlelight services. We also have AAA batteries at 3 for \$1.00 and free replacement bulbs.

**WANTED!** Musicians for the Greater Dayton Emmaus Praise Team. Interested parties should contact [worship@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:worship@daytonemmaus.org) or call 937-429-9931 for more details.

*De Colores, Chris Christoff, Worship Chair*

## AGAPE CHAIR



Don't forget to start working on your agape! Our first Walk in 2009 will be held on Jan 22-25!

*De Colores, Roiann Ward, Agape 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*




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

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, Everlast-  
 ing Father, Prince of  
 Peace.  
*Isaiah 9:6*



**To renew your newsletter mailing:**

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

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|                          |                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | Three Years \$20.00 |

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