



Walk to Emmaus[®] Newsletter

Vol. 21 No. 2

Greater Dayton Community

February
2009

Chairman's Message

During the month of February, most of us have "LOVE" on our minds - whether it's our spouses, children, parents, friends, grandparents or other loved ones. But did you know that God ALWAYS HAS LOVE ON HIS MIND? We are always on HIS mind!

Have you ever felt unlovable or known someone who really felt no one loved them? I've heard it said that you cannot give away something you do not have. Have you looked in the mirror lately, put a smile on your beautiful face and said, "God loves *me* so much?" For many of us, we tell others this all the time, but do we really believe it ourselves? His love for us is unbounded—that is, *without boundaries*. God's word tells us in Romans 8:38-39 that there is "...nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus..."

It is difficult to even fathom a love so great—sometimes I think it's because we *think* we know ourselves better than God does—we know our sin and shortcomings (as if He does not). But just as we can bring and be the words of life and love to others through Christ, we can bring words of doubt and hate into our own lives (Proverbs 18:21 – "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."). Our lives, and the lives of those around us, can be changed (transformed) by the *words* we speak. But how do we do this with mere words?

Matthew 12:34-35 states, "...Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things."

Psalms 119:11 states, "***Thy word*** have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

THE KEY: It is HIS word that transforms our lives and hearts—we must hide His word in our hearts so that when the "abundance of our hearts" (Matt 12:34) comes flowing out of our mouths, our abundance is HIS word of life for ourselves, and the world around us.

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HOW TO FIND US!

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

2009 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 | 2nd Mon | 7:15 PM |
| Dayton Board | 4th Tues | 7:00 PM |

TRAINING & ORIENTATION

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

Date: Feb 9, 2009 / 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*

GOOD SHEPHERD

I am looking for share groups with openings for one or more members. Please contact me via the website: (www.daytonemmaus.org) if your group has openings or if you would like to join a share group. Simply click on 'share groups' and send your contact information. The next share group orientation and networking session will be on Feb 9 at 6:15pm in the small chapel at Normandy UMC, prior to the Gathering. If you sponsored a pilgrim on the January walk, be sure to bring them to the orientation session. Please also review your duties as outlined in your sponsorship letter.
De Colores, Cheri Spencer, Good Shepherd

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 or call 937-429-9931 for more details.
De Colores, Chris Christoff, Worship Chair

LEADERSHIP CHAIR

Please remember to submit your Willing Servant form if you want to be considered to serve on an upcoming team. The team selection process starts about 6 months prior to each walk. Willing Servant forms also ensure that we have the right contact information for you. As Leadership chair, I'm also the chair of the Team Selection Committee (TSC). If you have any questions for me, I am here for you. If I don't have an immediate answer, I'll get one for you. Peace be with you.

De Colores, Stephen Puderbaugh, Leadership Chair

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

This is not a coincidence—I will leave you with one more awesome picture of HIS love for us:

Psalms 139:1-11: O Lord, You have searched me and *known me*. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. *For there is not a word* on my tongue, *But* behold, O Lord, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. *Such* knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot *attain it*. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? *If* I ascend into heaven, You *are* there; *If* I make my bed in hell, behold, You *are there*, *If* I take the wings of the morning, *And* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me, *If* I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me."

God loves YOU and He loves me too!

Chantele Dow

Chairman, Greater Dayton Emmaus



From the Spiritual Director



“duh!”

This past week I celebrated the passing of my eleven year old cell phone. The battery was going and the way the world works today is that it is cheaper to get a brand new phone than to buy a replacement battery for the old one. This makes no sense, but these days what are you gonna do?

The idea of going to the Verizon store by myself was a scary thought (I don't even know the right questions to ask!). So I enlisted the services of my tech-savvy 19 year-old daughter Marisa to go with me. She guided me through the choices and dealt with the sales people with alacrity. I stood deaf and dumb at her side and only had to sign a piece of paper. It was an odd experience for me, but these days what are you gonna do?

We get home, open up the box, and I try to figure how to use this new contraption. Of course I refuse to look at the inch-thick instruction manual, since I have something even better: Marisa!

“Marisa, I can't figure out how to...” If I asked this once, I must have asked it a thousand times. She was pretty patient with me at first but soon grew frustrated with my cell phone stupidity. After I asked her to again explain something “just one more time,” she began to throw up her hands, saying “Duh!, Dad.” (Translation: “Dad, how dumb can you be?") Well dumb dad kept asking. These days, what are you gonna do?

Yet, I have discovered that sometimes it's good to realize that we can easily get dumb when we stop paying attention and stop growing. Sometimes it's good to smack ourselves in the forehead and say “duh!” This is true in functioning in the technical world around us and it is especially true in our spiritual lives!

My faith tradition began in the mid-eighteenth century as a revival movement. Over the years that Spirit-filled movement grew world-wide and evolved into a main line church denomination, which like many similar denominations, has been in decline over the last half-century. So, these days, what are you gonna do?

What we did was to have a “duh!” moment. At a world-wide meeting of church leaders it was decided to change our membership vows. To, “Will you faithfully participate in the church's ministry by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service” was added, “and your **witness.**” Duh! Somehow, we got so busy “doing church” with each other, we forgot to witness the powerful life-changing, life-giving love of God to others outside our churches!

I am now participating in my ninth Emmaus/Kairos team experience. I never cease to be amazed how powerfully God uses our personal witness during the weekends to reveal his love and transform lives. But, how easy it is to get dumb and forget how central our witness is to God's work of saving souls and building up the kingdom.

John 1:43-46 (NRSV): The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

This past year our community has had to reduce the number of walks because fewer pilgrims are being sponsored. Also, its getting harder to fill the teams with volunteers. Many LD's comment that when they call to ask folks if they will serve on a team, many of us don't even return their phone call. Perhaps, this is a “duh!” moment for us.

(Continued on Page 5)

Pray for One Another

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

| <u>PILGRIM LIST</u> | | <u>TEAM ROSTER</u> | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Jenny Bear | Miamisburg | Name | Position | Talk |
| Vivian Bennalack | Kettering | Rita Anspach | ALD | <i>Priority</i> |
| Carla Bryant | Germantown | Beverly Barrett | BR | |
| Gwen Buchanan | Dayton | George Brewer | ASDL | <i>Obstacles to Grace</i> |
| Lucretia Chisholm | Springfield | Cheryl Carter | LD | <i>Perseverance</i> |
| Barb Clark | Centerville | Leroy Chambliss | ASD | <i>Justifying Grace</i> |
| Jennifer Cloud-Buckner | Beavercreek | Leslie Clevenger | TL | |
| Deanna Cummins | Springboro | Lori Coulton | ATL | |
| Amanda Dersarkisian | Medway | Peggy Cromer | ASD | <i>Prevenient Grace</i> |
| Becky Eschbach | Centerville | Pamela Davis | ATL | |
| Pam Ganka | Dayton | Karen Doseck | LOG | |
| Blanca Geisert | Centerville | Chantele Dow | AMD | |
| Erica Hayes | Centerville | Verna Drake | TL | <i>Life in Piety</i> |
| Toni Helfrich | Springfield | Shirley Gallagher | ATL | |
| Pam Hess | Dayton | Trudi Gilchrist | TL | <i>Body of Christ</i> |
| Cheryl Houser | Fairborn | Linda Haller | MD | |
| Gail Hurst | Dayton | Char Hinkley | ALD2 | <i>Grow Through Study</i> |
| Barb Keelor | Dayton | Linda Holmes | ATL | |
| Cathy Koch | Miamisburg | Mamie Johnson | SD | <i>Means of Grace</i> |
| Judy Maynard | Springfield | Wendy Kline | LOG | |
| Cynthia Miller | Franklin | Cathy Kooser | LOG | |
| Cheryl Molitor | Vandalia | Susan Lehneis | ALD2 | <i>Fourth Day</i> |
| Maggie Mundhenk | Piqua | Nancy Loy | TL | <i>Priesthood of all Believers</i> |
| Donna Queen | Beavercreek | Pam Rafdal | TL | <i>Changing Our World</i> |
| Joellen Ray | Dayton | Barbie Rose | TL | <i>Discipleship</i> |
| Wendy Rhoads | Dayton | Denise Shaw | ATL | |
| Sallie Schoettmer | Troy | Cathy Shilt | ATL | |
| Sara Swansbro | Playfield, IL | Pam Shively | ATL | |
| Brenda Uphouse | West Carrollton | Brenda Smith | TL | <i>Christian Action</i> |
| Cindy Wagner | Dayton | Dave Tackett | ASD | <i>Sanctifying Grace</i> |
| Sally Wantz | New Carlisle | Missy Trumbull | PS | |
| Bonnie Watson | Miamisburg | Dene Wells | PS | |
| Kim Willis | Trotwood | | | |

| | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 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*

FROM THE SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR (Cont'd)

"We have found him! Come and see!"

This new year, do we need a "duh!"? May Philip's joy and excitement inspire us in our witness of what God in Jesus has done, is doing, and will do in our lives and in our world!

At your Closing, you answered two questions. First, "What has this weekend meant to me?" and second, "What am I gonna do about it?" How are you living out your answer to the second? Are you still as excited about Jesus as Philip is?

By God's grace, may we reclaim the powerful gift of our Christian witness this year! In our churches. In our homes. At our work. In the marketplace. And, most importantly, in Emmaus.

Look around! There's an awful lot of Nathanaels out there who need to be found anew by Jesus and experience God's love for them in a special way through Emmaus. Witness your faith with them! Sponsor them! Jump at the opportunity to be on a team and then let God use your witness to bring a lost soul closer to his or her Savior!

De Colores, Pastor George Brewer

MEN'S REGISTRAR

Men's Walk #47 again you could see and feel GOD working in the hearts of the Team and participants alike. We serve such an AWESOME GOD! It's not too soon to begin thinking of the next Men's Walk. Men's Walk #48 will be held at Christ United Methodist Church on August 13-16, 2009. Currently we have a total of 46 applications in the men's database. We pray and hope that these numbers will grow over the next few months. So if you know of any Christian men from your church, family, or workplace who may be interested, please have them complete an application and send it to the Greater Dayton Emmaus address or have their sponsor submit to the Men's Registrar. Remember numbers for the Walks are limited so it is important to return the letter as soon as possible. May God continue to bless and keep you. Your Emmaus Brother in Christ.

De Colores, Keith Simpson, Men's Registrar

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) 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



West Ohio Chrysalis has a weekend (similar to Emmaus) for boys and young men beginning Saturday, February 14-16. We are asking you to prayerfully consider sponsoring someone for the weekend. Our registration is very low at this point. Applications may be obtained from the website: <http://www.westohiochrysalis.com>.


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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16



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

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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