



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

Vol. 23 No. 12

## Greater Dayton Community

December  
2011

### Chairman's Corner

As I reflect on this past year, I realize what a year of change this has been within our Community: new Walk Weekend Lay Directors, team members and Spiritual Directors; new or existing Board members taking on new roles; new summer Walk location; new facility changes at Normandy; new temperature challenges within the church to work out; new sleeping areas to try out; new Pilgrim drop-off and pick-up areas; new challenges of a blizzard in February and heat wave in July/August. All these changes and many more made for a very interesting year to say the least.

But at the same time I also reflect on what *real* change is. That happened some 2000 years ago when God became man in a little baby born in Bethlehem who was named Jesus and became our Lord and Savior. What happened that night and the many days and nights since that time is what I call CHANGE!

How about us? Have we allowed the birth of Christ to really change us? In Philippians 2:7 we read, *"He gave up his place with God and made himself nothing. He was born to be a man and become like a servant."* Max Lucado said it this way in his book *Just Like You*, *"God is in the business of changing the face of the world. Our goal is simply to stand before God with a prepared and willing heart and then let God do his work."* Taking on the servant's role is at the very core of what we do on an Emmaus Walk. Serving during the Walk weekend, no matter the role is like Christ "becoming like a servant". We love the Christmas story and festivities that come with it. As we prepare for the New Year with five more "new" Walks we need to stand before God with a prepared and willing heart and then let God do his work through us his willing servants.

I wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,  
Your Brother in Christ, Lou Caldwell, Community Chairman

### HOW TO FIND US!

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

### 2012 EMMAUS WALKS

#### Held at Normandy UMC:

Men's Walk #53 Jan. 19—22  
Women's Walk #86 Feb. 16—19  
Women's Walk #87 July 19—22  
Men's Walk #54 Aug. 16—19  
Women's Walk #88 Sept. 20—23

### 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:** January 9, 2012

**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:** February 13, 2012 /6:15

**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**

## SPONSORSHIP TRAINING



**Sponsorship Training - Why you need it!** As a sponsor, it's important to understand your role and responsibilities, which enhance your pilgrim's experience. Before sponsoring someone for a Walk, you are required to attend the sponsorship training. The sessions are held at 6:30pm before Gathering in Room 214 at Normandy Church. This is a short time of discussion, questions, and answers. Also, from The Emmaus Library, we have the Sponsorship booklet, which guides individuals through the process of sponsoring fellow pilgrims on the Walk to Emmaus. The authors explore the range of possibilities in the role of the sponsor for the renewal of church leaders, Emmaus communities, and the church. The booklet is available at Gatherings, and the cost is \$5.

## SHARE GROUPS

Anyone looking for a share group may apply on line at [www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org) . Use the drop down menu for share groups and send me as much information as you can. I will do my best to get you connected with an accountability partner or two. The next share group orientation and networking session will be in February just prior to the Gathering.

De Colores, Cheri Spencer, Good Shepherd Chair

## WILLING SERVANTS

Please remember to either update, or submit for the first time, your willing servant form. This is especially important for those of you who desire to serve on a live-in team (and hopefully, that is all of you!). The willing servant forms provide the basis for team candidate lists that are prayed over by the lay director for guidance from the Holy Spirit before forming the team. You can submit a willing servant form online at [www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org), print a copy from the website and submit via the US mail service, or fill one out at Gathering. Please make sure your contact information is correct! If you have any questions about this process, please contact Neal Stout, Leadership Chair, at [leadership@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:leadership@daytonemmaus.org).

## 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

## **I'm a Day Late and ...**

I don't know why, but this year I've been about a holiday behind. I couldn't believe it was Easter; psychologically, I was ready for Ash Wednesday. How did Memorial Day come so quickly? Shouldn't it have been time for Mother's Day? Fourth of July snuck up on me. Then I couldn't believe it was Labor Day. Now it's Thanksgiving. How can that be? I'm just getting into the mood for Halloween. (Arrrgh! I remember outside dressing as a pirate, but inside I was ready for Labor Day.) And before long, it will be Christmas.

I don't know how my internal clock gets messed up. I'm not sure how to correct it. I somehow need to spring forward into Bradlight SavingsTime.

## **I guess I'm just a day late ...**

... And I find Jesus is here with me just in time ... always. No matter what my internal clock says, Jesus is present.

God created a beautiful world, put people in it and deemed it "very good." Sin came into the hearts of the people, and they were separated from God. God used different ventures to bring people back to himself—patriarchs, Moses, prophets; none of them worked.

"When the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law." - Galatians4:4-5.

That story is our story. We were separated from God by sin. God used different methods. When the time was right, Jesus touched us with his grace, we invited Jesus into our hearts, and we were never the same.

Jesus is coming again physically. I don't know when. He's coming back.

Jesus is coming again spiritually - that's what we celebrate during the Christmas season. Jesus is coming daily into each of our lives. No matter what your internal clock is like, no matter your interior condition, no matter your pain and fear, no matter whatever, Jesus is coming!

Open your heart and let him in (again). And maybe you'll agree with me, "I'm a day late ... and Jesus is just in time."

de Colores Brad Martin

# 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*

## NOMINATIONS

Thank you to all the candidates for answering the call to serve on the Board of Directors. The newly elected chairpersons are as follows:

**Good Shepherd - Verna Drake**  
**Housing - Dennis Leach**  
**Kitchen - Steve Uphouse**  
**Men's Registrar - Coley Logan**

## CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Do you have a favorite Christmas Carol?

One that has become a new favorite in our family is "Breath of Heaven". This newer carol was written by Chis Eaton and released by Amy Grant in her 1992 Christmas album. Little is written about Mary but this Christmas carol attempts to view her perspective of this most wonderful event in her life. This carol is not based on a Biblical account, but it is a creative attempt to view what Mary might have been thinking and feeling, realizing she was to be the mother of Christ, God's Son. In the song Mary is questioning was she the right person for this great responsibility portraying her range of emotions, but ultimately cries out for God to be with her.

## MEN'S REGISTRAR

There are openings for the January 2012 Men's Walk. This walk will be held at Normandy UMC. Please encourage those interested in participating in the Emmaus experience to fill out an application as soon as possible. We encourage sponsors to take the Sponsorship Training session offered by our board members. Please see the front of this newsletter for information on the next session. Please send your pilgrim's *fully completed* application to: Men's Registrar, Greater Dayton Emmaus, P.O. Box 292224, Dayton, Ohio 45429 OR contact: [mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org)

## KITCHEN HELP ALWAYS NEEDED

For those unable to attend Gatherings, you can now sign up to help in the kitchen online, anytime. Just go to the Emmaus Home Page at [www.daytonemmaus.org](http://www.daytonemmaus.org), click on the "Kitchen" tab, then click on the link to sign up and put in the time and day you want to serve. You should receive a confirmation within two days. Or for those not online, call me at 854-7583 and please leave a message with time and day, if no answer. Keep an eye out a week before the walks for a "help wanted" sign posted on the web page if we need more help.

Thank you for serving to help make our Pilgrims see God's great love.

*De Colores, Marc Littman, Kitchen Chair*

# Giving Our Hands to Christ

## DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know the model for Sponsorship for Emmaus is found in the Book of Luke?

Read Luke 24:13-35 and you will find why we encourage friends to join us in this Walk to Emmaus.

1. Re-explain faith: Jesus walked with two people who were believers. What better place to share this sacred time with our friends.
2. Re-experienced faith: AGAPE— These are unplanned sacred moments, communion. What better place to experience this and show your Christian love than through these moments.
3. Disciples returned to their faith community. The Emmaus community encourages all of us to return to our faith communities. We can continue our Walk with those we sponsor as we mentor them as they invite others to share this experience.

## FROM THE WORSHIP CHAIRS

If you have borrowed a Kandle Light and took it home for awhile, would you please return it to the next Gathering. REMINDER, please bring your Kandle Lights to Candlelight on Saturdays. We do not have a large supply. THANK YOU for supporting each walk with your attendance. Thank you also for assisting the Worship Chairs at Gatherings this year. You help our community celebrate. Do you like to sing, play piano or guitar?? We are still in need of willing servants to help lead music at Gatherings.

De Colores Linda Haller and Tim Macy

## FROM THE WOMEN'S REGISTRAR

Invitations to Women's Walk #86, February 16-19, have been mailed to pilgrims. Sponsors, please encourage your pilgrim to return her RSVP card immediately to secure her spot or release a spot for another pilgrim! If your pilgrim has not received an invitation from me, please notify me immediately at [womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org), or call 937-681-3361.. Pam Shively, Women's Registrar

## CHRISTMAS IS.....

...the birth of our Savior bringing new beginnings and hope to our lives.

....a gift of love surpassing all other gifts.

..... heaven breaking through to the earth.

..... my PaPa wrapping me in His love by giving me His most special gift, His Son.

I REMEMBER... my dad barricading the hallway to the bedrooms so we kids couldn't get to the tree and the presents until they woke up. Boy did we tear into the presents when the barricade went down. Breakfast was pancakes and sausage! YUM!


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

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**“...and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.”**

**Luke 2:7 NIV**



**To renew your newsletter mailing:**

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