



Walk to
Emmaus
 THE UPPER ROOM®

Vol. 24 No. 7

Greater Dayton Community

450 W. Alex-Bell Rd Centerville OH 45459 www.daytonemmaus.org

**July
 2013**

Emmaus Walks
 Held at Normandy UMC
 September. 19 - 22 Women's Walk #91

Summer Walks
 Held at Sulphur Grove UMC

July 11-14 - Women's Walk #90
 August 15-18 - Men's Walk #56

CANDLELIGHT
 8:30 PM Saturday of Walk

CLOSING
 4:30 PM Sunday of Walk

GATHERING - Normandy UMC
 2nd Monday every month 7:15

Board Meeting
 4th Tuesday every month 7:00

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Chairman's Corner

If...

"If wishes were horses, beggars would ride." Anonymous

If only the world were fair, then I'd get what I deserve. If only she could see the situation as I see it, then we would be happier. If only I had a little more money, then I could buy that car and all would be well. If I land that big promotion I can finally start on my career. If we have a child, I just know it will save our marriage.

If, God, you grant me this, I promise I'll attend church every Sunday for the rest of my life. If you heal me Jesus, I'll be so thankful I'll do whatever you ask. If the Holy Spirit would fill me just now, then I'd know what to do. If only God would hear my prayer and lift this burden from me. If you just let me win the lottery God, I'll give most of it to charity. If God would only answer me, then I'd just do it. If Jesus would just make my faith stronger, then I'd be a better person and act like a Christian.

If only the people in the Emmaus community would pray more about this, then we would be stronger. If more people in the Emmaus community would volunteer, then this problem would be solved. If we could just get more involved in volunteering to help on Walks, everything would be perfect. If the Emmaus community just had more money, we could increase the number of Walks we offer. If the Emmaus Board would do something about this situation, then everything would be fine. If I could get the Emmaus community to agree with me then this conflict wouldn't exist. If we could just have everyone in the Emmaus community cooperate, then this issue would be resolved.

If only the Emmaus Walks were longer (shorter), then they would be more meaningful. If the Pilgrims just paid more attention to the talks, they would learn more. If only the Team would try harder, we could save all of those Pilgrims.

If only I would stop using "if only" and seek God's grace and guidance, I would discover how to eliminate the "if onlys".

Keep the faith.

De Colores, Brian Wood, Community Lay Director

This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

"I am the LORD your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go. If only you had paid attention to MY commands, your peace would have been like a river, your well-being like the waves of the sea. Your descendants would have been like the sand, your children like its numberless grains; their name would never be blotted out nor destroyed from before me."



From the Spiritual Director



Let Your Light Shine!

The question came up recently, “How many times in the Bible does Jesus command us to love?” I did not know the answer off-hand, so I got out my Bible and got to work!

The answer I found was five times:

Luke 10:25-28 (also Mt19:19 & 22:39) – A legal expert stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to gain eternal life?” Jesus replied, “What is written in the Law? How do you interpret it?” He responded, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.” Jesus said to him, “You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live.”

John 13:34 – A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

John 13:35 – By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

John 15:12 – This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

John 15:17 – These things I command you, that you love one another.

Jesus, I think we get it! You want us to love and live! But... Henri Nouwen in his book, *Bread for the Journey*, asks us to ponder this question: In our lives, “How can we choose love when we have experienced so little of it?”

Huh! If we really think about it, isn't that sadly true? Our culture's narrative is all about self-love or 'loving' those persons we can use for our own benefit. That's not the *agape* self-giving love that God reveals to us in the life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. As members of God's chosen and beloved people we are called and equipped by the Holy Spirit to be the incarnation of Jesus' *agape* love to the world. But how?

Nouwen writes, “We choose love by taking small steps of love every time there is an opportunity. A smile, a handshake, a word of encouragement, a phone call, a card, an embrace, a kind greeting, a gesture of support, a moment of attention, a helping hand, a present, a financial contribution, a visit ... all these are little steps toward love. Each step is like a candle burning in the night. It does not take the darkness away, but it guides us through the darkness. When we look back after many small steps of love, we will discover that we have made a long and beautiful journey.”

If it is nothing else, the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community is a big step opportunity to experience God's *agape* love. We know all about candles burning in the night! By God's grace and the sacrificial service of the community, pilgrims come face to face with love during their three day weekend. The team and serving community also experience God's love in the means of grace in choosing to offer their time, talents, prayers, and gifts.

If you are not already doing so, choose to join us on this long and beautiful journey of God's love we experience in and through Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. Serve. Invite. Give. And be blessed! Are you ready to choose to take a small step or a big step? Let God's love light shine in our loving Emmaus community in and through you. And then, carry the light out and into your church and world!

DeColores, Pastor George Brewer



Pray for One Another

Women's Walk #90 Sulphur Grove UMC July 11-14, 2013

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. **Isa 45:1-6**

Please keep these Pilgrims and team in your daily prayers.

PILGRIM LIST		TEAM ROSTER		
		Name	Position	Talk
Maria Balint	Dayton, OH	Emily Adams	LOG	
Holly Bidwell	Dayton, OH	Lori Ammon	TL	Discipleship
Debbie Bowling	Franklin, OH	Pat Knight Bobst	TL	Priesthood of All Believers
Lucretia Cole	Dayton, OH	Jacqueline Bunke	ATL	
Brenda Domineck	Xenia, OH	Carol Carter	LOG2	
Jessica Eaton	Dayton, OH	Cheryl Carter	AMD	
Sheila Freeman	Dayton, OH	Heather Christoff	PS	
Elizabeth Frye	Dayton, OH	Cindy Cultice	ATL	
Kathy Gillespie	Fairborn, OH	Pamela DeHart	LD	Perseverance
Lisa Hannah	Farmersville, OH	Michelle Flannery	LOG	
Laurel Hemmelgarn	Kettering, OH	Debbie Hayes	ALD	Grow through Study
Kara Hitchens	Kettering, OH	Sandy Hedge	ALD2	Fourth Day
Connie Howard	Beavercreek, OH	Char Hinkley	PS	
Marina Joyce	West Carrollton, OH	Heidi Jones	ALD	Priority
Kristin Jumer	Centerville, OH	Janie Kear	MD	
Amberly Kendrick	Union, OH	Kathy Kitchel	ATL	
Sherri Koehler	Kettering, OH	Cathy Kooser	LOG	
Nicole Land	Tipp City, OH	Alix Litton	TL	Christian Action
Amy Lawson	Bellbrook, OH	Sherry Loschi	ATL	
Amber Matheny	Dayton, OH	Amy McCarty	TL	Life of Piety
Christine McDaniel	Miamisburg, OH	Claire Merkes	ATL	
Joy Moore	Miamisburg, OH	Kathy Postell	BR	
Carla Murphy	New Carlisle, OH	Pamela Shively	TL	Body of Christ
Sue Rupp	City Unknown, OH	Anitra Spinelli-Davidson	ATL	
Nancy Teague	Troy, OH	Kimmy Wilmoth	TL	Changing Our World
Helen Combs	Dayton, OH	CLERGY		
Jodi Oakes	City Unknown, OH	Tom Hanover	ASD	Justifying Grace
		Pam Weaver	ASD	Obstacles to Grace
		Brad Martin	SD	Means of Grace
		Tori Smith	ASD-L	Sanctifying Grace
		Aaron Chivington	ASD	Prevenient Grace

PLEASE REMEMBER,
Pilgrim fees are \$85.00 . As the cost of food and supplies increases, this fee increase will make certain our Pilgrims will be served abundantly.

Ladies, would you like to help? Let us know if you could be a volunteer LOG

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

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:

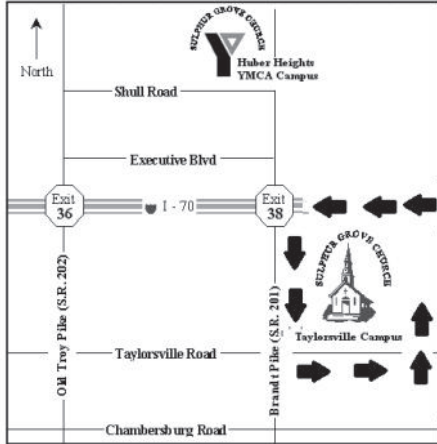
<http://www.daytonemmaus.org/deNewsletters.htm>



SUPPORT OUR SUMMER WALKS AT
SULPHUR GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 7505 Taylorsville Rd.
 Huber Heights



DIRECTIONS

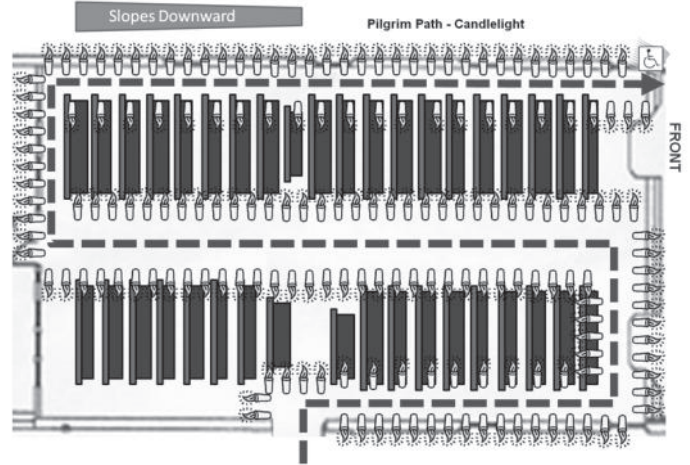


From I-675 Take I-70 West To exit 38 Left on SR 201 [Brandt Pike]

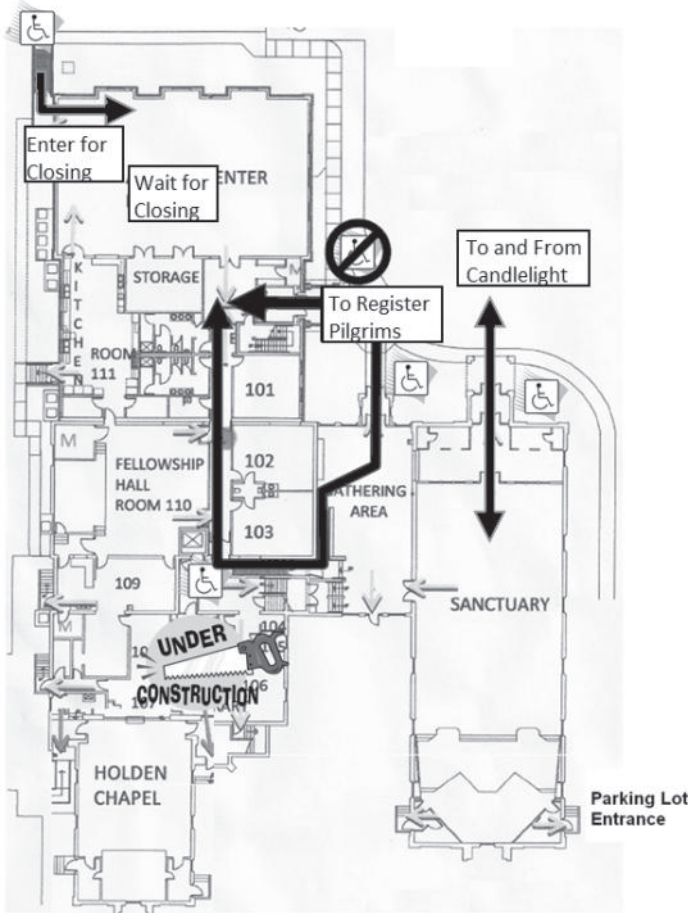
From I-75 Take I-70 East to exit 38 Right on SR 201 [Brandt Pike]

Left on Taylorsville Rd. Church is on the Left. Overflow parking at school across from church.

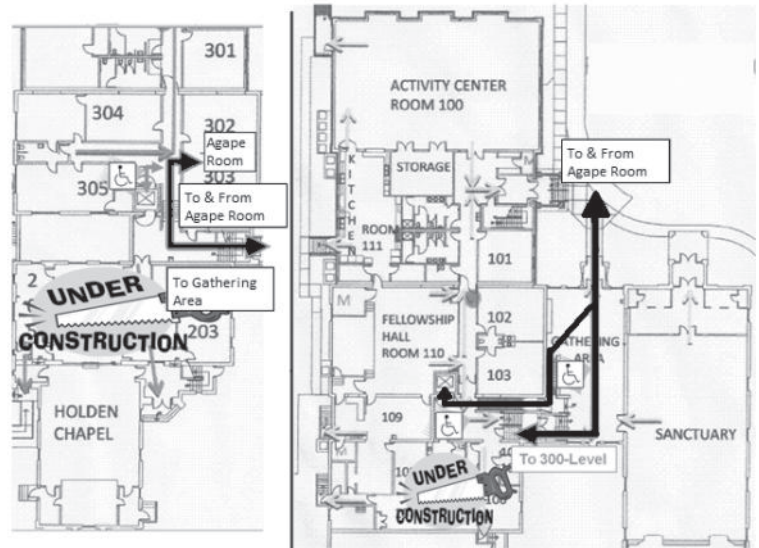
CANDLELIGHT LOGISTICS



ACTIVITY PATHS - REGISTRATION, CANDLELIGHT AND CLOSING



AGAPE ROOM



A few Agape reminders

- First and last name on all agape!
- No gifts will be distributed in Sunday packets.
- All pilgrims may receive identical agape during the weekend. In order to distribute anything to the pilgrims, please provide enough for everyone.
- Sponsors, please make sure your pilgrims have at least 15 pieces of agape to open in their Sunday packet.
- Team-only agape = 27 pieces; Pilgrim-only agape = 30 pieces; Since this type of agape does not go to everyone on the walk, it is only distributed as bedtime agape. If you are providing agape for pilgrims and team, please provide 57 identical pieces.

We appreciate the support you continually give our team and pilgrims through your gifts of agape! Trudi Gilchrist, Agape Chairperson



Giving Our Hands to Christ



SHARE GROUPS

Share groups are the backbone of the Emmaus Community! There is a need to place a few ladies and gentlemen in share groups. If your share group is willing to consider new members, please contact me either at goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org or by phone at 937 849-0353 or at the next Gathering. Verna Drake, Good Shepherd. The next meeting is scheduled for August 12th at 6:15 in the chapel at Normandy UMC.

"Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other."
John 13:34-35 (MSG)

NOMINATIONS

The nominations committee is looking for people to run for board positions that will be up for election. The board positions that will be up for election in November are Agape, Book Table/Normandy Rep, Documentation, Men's Worship and Secretary. Each of these is for a three year term that will begin January 1, 2014. Please see me or a current board member for details on the positions. Mentoring is available on all positions. The nominations for the board positions are due by September 15. If you are interested in serving the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community in any of these positions, or would like to nominate someone else, please contact me (pastchairman@daytonemmaus.org.)

Your Brother in Christ, Neal Stout, Nominations Chair

NOTE: The contact information for persons interested in the Secretary position was left off the last newsletter. If you are interested please contact Cindy Pierson at Secretary@DaytonEmmaus.org, thank you!

HIGHLIGHT AGAPE CHAIR – UP FOR ELECTION

It has been my honor to have served the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community as Agape Chairperson for the past three years. My term is up in December and it's time for someone else to take the reins.

Through this service, I have discovered that this is a community of generous and loving people. You all have continually blessed the pilgrims and team with your many acts of agape – whether as a small gift, a letter, or a gift of service. I have been so blessed by getting to know so many of you through the agape room.

There is a great core of volunteers who are always ready and able to serve, and should you decide you would like to take the chairpersonship of agape, you will not be in it alone! We have worked as a team and we are able to get the job done.

WALK REGISTRATION

We have openings for the September walk at Normandy UMC. Please get your easy to read, completely filled out applications in as soon as possible. Sponsors are key to the growth of our community. Thank you for prayers for the upcoming women's walk at our new summer location. Pam DeHart, Women's Registrar

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING – REQUIRED

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, [\$5] 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 next session is July 8th.

AGAPE (PLEASE SEE CENTER INSERT FOR MORE THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN PREPARING AGAPE)

The agape room volunteers are ready and excited to serve the community at our summer home of Sulphur Grove! What an awesome God we serve, one who answers prayers and continually provides for our needs. In this facility, the writing room will be on the 3rd floor, Rooms 302 and 303. There is elevator access, so if you cannot climb stairs, you will still be able to access the agape room. This is also where we will store the team and pilgrim letters that go out nightly and on Sunday. There will be baskets for you to drop your letters in – please DO NOT sort them yourselves or move any of the agape materials around in the room. There will be a table with writing materials and team and pilgrim lists on it for your use, as usual.

We appreciate the support you continually give our team and pilgrims through your gifts of agape!

Remember

- July 8th at Normandy Church
Gathering; 7:15 Sponsorship training 6:30 in room 214, second floor.
- July 13th Candlelight at Sulphur Grove UMC - Kandle lights are on sale before the Candlelight services and at Gatherings
- Update your willing servant form, especially if you wish to be on a live-in team
- Get your pilgrim applications in to either the men's or women's registrar.
- Sign up to serve NOW in preparation for the Summer Walks, many hands make for a light load.
- Pray for the upcoming walks July WW#90, August MW #56 and September WW#91
- Jesus loves you

Prayer is an awesome form of agape!

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come; 'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far and Grace will lead me home.

Prayer Warriors

Do you want to participate in our e-mail prayer chain? Have an Urgent prayer request? Contact Charles Benner at: (937) 879-2118 or e-mail bennercl@notes.udayton.edu to become a member of the prayer chain or to submit your prayer request. We ask that you limit your requests to a serious, urgent nature and to the needs of either a member of the Emmaus Community or your Family ~ Thanks

Do not be anxious about anything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. ~ Philippians 4:6

To renew your newsletter mailing:

- Complete the following form
- Send to the Emmaus address on the first page of this newsletter (*Attention: Computer Chair - Bob Cannata*)
- Download the Newsletter **FREE** online: www.daytonemmaus.org
- Send your email address to newsletter@daytonemmaus.org for electronic delivery

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