



Walk to
Emmaus[®]
THE UPPER ROOM

Vol. 24 No. 10

Greater Dayton Community

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

October
2013

2014 WALK SCHEDULE

At Normandy UMC

MW# 57 January 23-26
WW#92 February 20-23
WW#94 Sept 18-21

At Sulphur Grove UMC

WW#93 July 17-20
MW #58 Aug 21-24

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

The Walk to Emmaus: Three Aspects – One Primary Goal

You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody. You show that you are a letter from Christ... 2 COR 3:2-3 NIV

If one were to conduct a survey of participants and non-participants regarding the Walk to Emmaus (WTE) program in which people were asked to define this experience, perhaps the majority would describe the 72 hour program (during which infrequent walking occurs) as having repeated opportunities to know Christ and become inspired to serve their church. Perhaps many of us do not comprehend that the WTE is only the most visible aspect of this mission. The WTE has three integrated aspects, all of which are required for Emmaus to complete its' mission. What are these other two aspects and why are they critical to the Emmaus mission?

The initial aspect of any Emmaus program may be described as Sponsorship. Without sponsors the WTE will never occur, and unless the sponsors are trained, pilgrims and the WTE will be compromised. "Yet sponsorship is the most important job in Emmaus" * In fact, the "...aim of the sponsor is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians, who in turn, will bring new life and vision to the work of the church..." * Who should the sponsors be trained and encouraged to recruit? "Emmaus is for active Christians and members of churches whose own renewal will mean new energy, commitment, and vision in the church..." * The Greater Dayton Emmaus (GDE) community offers Sponsorship training prior to monthly Gatherings at 6:30PM at Normandy United Methodist Church. If you yearn to be a Sponsor or seek a greater understanding of what sponsorship involves, we strongly encourage you to attend one of the Sponsorship training sessions at Normandy UMC.

The second aspect is of course, the Walk itself. The WTE is a spiritually complex, labor intensive, short course in Christianity. I continually marvel at how the Spirit is present in each of the Walk's events and components and guides the community members as they lovingly and faithfully assembly each of these pieces in the right place and at the right time, and all with a heart full of light and joy! God bless us, every one! We know, perhaps only after our Walk, that the WTE was but an introduction (a mighty and Spirit-led introduction) to what God desires us to accomplish and be.

Finally, the third aspect of the WTE program is group reunions (accountability groups, share groups) for the maintaining of the WTE. We often describe Share Groups as "the backbone of Emmaus" because these groups are intended to sustain the spirit of our Walk through the renewing of Christian piety, action and study. In order for others to experience the WTE each of us needs to be willing to commit to being part of each Walk.

If physically able, we support the housing needs of the pilgrims and prepare and serve meals, if we are writers, we compose agape for the pilgrims who need agape letters, if we have constraints on our physical strength, we pray for team, pilgrims, the host church the 15 talks and the GDE Board members, to name only a few of the hundreds of needs that each Walk creates and must be filled. Do you recall your thoughts and emotions during your initial Fourth Days? Reawaken them and commit to some act of agape (service) during the next Walk. God will surely bless you for your service and so will the Emmaus community!

O let the Son of God enfold you with His Spirit and His love! (Spirit Song, verse 1).

DeColores, Brian Wood, Community Lay Director

*Source: Bryant, S.P. and Gilmore, R.A. The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus (2nd Ed.). Nashville: Upper Room Books. 2001. Page 14



Giving Our Hands to Christ



REGISTRATION

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you. Phil. 1:3

Who do you know to sponsor for the walks in 2014? Who have you talked to who can become a stronger leader in the church? Who wants to grow in their faith to be more active in the church? Now is the time to flood the Emmaus mailbox with applications in preparation for the new year. It is up to God when people take the walk, it is up to you to sponsor men and women to change our world.

In His service. Pam DeHart, Women's Registrar

Please send in your applications for 2014 for both men's and women's walks. If you could verify your pilgrim's information prior to submission it would be a great help!
Thank you, Coley Logan, Men's Registrar

AGAPE

Thank you for your support of the Emmaus Walks through your generous gifts of Agape! The pilgrims (and team) appreciate the little gifts that are placed along their way during the Walk to Emmaus. This is a tangible expression of God's love for them!

Agape is distributed beginning Friday at dinner. Agape is introduced to the pilgrims during the Justifying Grace talk, and after the introduction they begin receiving their gifts.

Agape is sorted by the Chairperson in an effort to keep it evenly distributed throughout the weekend. Pilgrim or team only Agape is only delivered at bedtime. Sometimes the donor of the Agape requests a certain time period for it to be delivered and every effort is made to honor those requests, however we do reserve the right to alter the request if it is deemed necessary to keep an even flow of Agape.

Once Agape is placed in the bins for distribution, please DO NOT redistribute it. It is prayerfully placed with an effort to honor the flow of the weekend. Only the Agape Chairperson should change the distribution time once it has been established.

Agape gifts are appreciated. We go with whatever is provided for the weekend – whether it is abundant or just enough. We count on God to know what is needed for each walk and to place the desire to donate on the hearts of the community. As always, should you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me.

Trudi Gilchrist, Agape Chairperson

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING

Do you want to give your pilgrims the most out of their Emmaus journey? If so, then please attend one of our sponsorship training classes. The sessions are held at 6:30pm before each 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 October 14th.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A SHARE GROUP? IS YOUR SHARE GROUP OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS?

Some may think that the purpose of a share group is to keep you ingrained in the Emmaus philosophy. This is not it at all. The purpose of a share group is to keep you ingrained in the philosophy of Jesus Christ.

Okay, so you ask, why do we call this an accountability group, just to whom am I being accountable? Is it to Emmaus, to another person, who??? Your only accountability is to our Lord Jesus Christ in how you treat his children and how you use his resources.

So why a share group? A share group is a sounding board or shall we say a mirror? It gives you a place to be able to look at yourself through the eyes of others, it is not a place of judgment, because typically we are the ones who judge ourselves the hardest. It can be a place of insight and sharing of ideas, it can be a place of learning and Bible study, but most of it is living life together as Jesus would have us do.

Do you have a share group? Is your share group open to new members? If so, please let me know so that I can help those without share groups get connected. If your contact information has changed updates would be appreciated. I can be reached via email at Goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org or by phone at (937) 849-0353. It would be my pleasure to help bring the children of God together.

If you want to know more about share groups we have an orientation before the gathering after every walk weekend at 6:15 in the chapel of Normandy UMC. The next meeting is scheduled for October 14th, but if you miss the one after your walk it doesn't mean you have missed the boat, you can attend any scheduled orientation. Hope to see you there!

Your Good Shepherd, Verna Drake

³¹ Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord."³¹
1 Corinthians 1:31



From the Spiritual Director



72 Hours

³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (New International Version)

Three days, seventy two hours is the amount of time Jonah dwelled in the belly of a big fish (Matthew 12:40). It was seventy two hours (the third day) when God separated the waters from the dry land (Genesis 1:10). Abraham after a three day journey to Mt. Moriah lifted up his eyes to the place he was commanded to sacrifice His son Isaac (Genesis 22:3-6). Jesus prophesied that He would rise from the dead on the third day, seventy two hours (Luke 24:7). Saul was blinded for three days after seeing a bright blinding light and heard the voice of Jesus calling out to him (Acts 9:9).

What do all of these things have in common? God was in all of them. In seventy two hours God changed a reluctant servant, separated water and dry land, provided a suitable sacrifice, conquered death, and opened blinded eyes. What manner of man is this? He is the Savior of the world who came to loose sins grasp, remove the chains of guilt, and to bring sight to those who are blind. Seventy two hours doesn't seem like a lot of time but it was enough time for Jesus to fulfill scripture, conquer death, and rise again. What a blessed hope we have in Him!

Mamie Johnson
Spiritual Director

2014 Summer Walks: REJOICE!

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." NRSV Acts 9:10

We have answered His call to conduct our Summer Walks in the northern part of this county. In a recent Post Walk meeting with the senior pastor and administrator of Sulphur Grove United Methodist church, the Emmaus community was invited to return to this church, who will again serve as the host for the 2014 Summer Walks.

So rejoice! I say again, Rejoice!

Owing to the significant and sustained efforts of so many in our GDE community, led by Lord Jesus Who infused the Emmaus community with His Spirit, the transition to Walks at Sulphur Grove church was generally smooth. The Emmaus community is especially grateful to the leaders and congregation of Sulphur Grove church for their gracious hospitality and assistance during the recent two Walks this summer.

We eagerly look forward to our return to Sulphur Grove church and the excitement of the men's and women's Walks in the summer of 2014!

De Colores, Brian Wood, Community Lay Director



Giving Our Hands to Christ



Thank You, Jesus, for all these willing servants in Emmaus who You involved with Yourself in this work:

*Those who prayed, Those who signed up on the prayer vigil,
 Those who sponsored the pilgrims, Those who wrote the agape letters,
 Those who gave the many agape gifts, Those speakers who gave the 15 talks,
 Those speaker prayer partners who prayed during each talk,
 Those who kept the bathrooms clean, Those who carried in the luggage,
 Those who served in the kitchen,
 Those who set up the sanctuary, the chapel, the sleeping rooms, the conference room,
 the break room, the agape room, the kitchen, and the dining hall throughout the
 Walk weekend-*

*And for those who cleaned them up after the Walk,
 Those who prepared the Friday evening service, Those who prepared the Saturday Candlelight,
 Those who attended the Candlelight, Those who attended the Closing,
 Those who served on the live-in team: the assistant table leaders, the table leaders, the assistant music director, the music director, the assistant lay directors, the assistant spiritual director, the lay director, and the spiritual director,
 Those on the Emmaus Board and their committees who planned and prepared for the Walk,
 Those at the host church who freed up the church schedule for the Walk weekend,
 And again, for those who prayed.*

Colossians 3:23-24
 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

Amen. ~ Steve Uphouse

Remember

- October 14th at Normandy Church
 Gathering: 7:15 Sponsorship training 6:30 in room 214, second floor. Share group orientation 6:15 Chapel
- 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, it is never too early!
- Jesus loves you!



2 Corinthians 9:13-14

Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. (NIV)



Giving Our Hands to Christ



Ambassadors for Christ...

.. And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, [d] so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

As an Emmaus member you have been called to be an ambassador for Christ. The dictionary defines ambassador in two ways. The first is a messenger and we are surely called to be messengers of the "Good News", but ambassador is also defined as a diplomatic agent of the highest rank and this is the status we are given through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. We are set apart not to think ourselves better than anyone else but in the form of joint heirs of Christ and therefore held to a greater degree of accountability.

In the earthly kingdom some ambassadors take on a prideful air due to the status that has been bestowed upon them and some of them use their diplomatic immunity as a "get out of jail free card", or so to speak a license to sin. In the Heavenly kingdom the job of ambassador is a place of service, service to man and above all service to God. As an ambassador it is our privilege to share the love of Jesus so that others may not perish. It is a kind of freedom from sin. Not a freedom where we can avoid the consequences of our actions, but a freedom where we can be forgiven and not have to spend eternity apart from God.

Our earthly selves want to know "What's in this for me" our Christ-like selves want to know "What can I do for you!" When Christ died on the cross he had already made the offer of eternal life to all through forgiveness of sins. He made the ultimate sacrifice for you and for me. We read that there is no greater love than for one man to lay down his life for a friend. Does this mean a physical death or would giving your life to Christ by dying to self and sharing the love of Jesus with others be an equivalent sacrifice? Who can you offer the gift of His "Good News?"

Lord, help us to be humble concerning our own lives, but BOLD when it comes to professing your glory! Thank you so much for the precious gift of eternal life and for caring for us each and every day as we walk with your children. Help us be an example of your love in all we do. Amen

Kathy Postell, Newsletter Chair

AND THE NOMINEES ARE...

The elections for open 2014 Board Positions will be taking place at the November 2012 Gathering. In addition to the votes that will be taken at that time, we will also be accepting absentee ballots. Please use the form below to vote for candidates if you are unable to attend the November 2013 Gathering.

Absentee ballots must be received by 11:59 PM on November 10, 2013 and can be mailed to:

Keith Crabtree, Greater Dayton Emmaus Leadership Chairperson
Normandy United Methodist Church
450 W. Alex-Bell Rd Centerville OH 45459

Or emailed to: vicechairman@daytonemmaus.org

Agape	Book Table/Normandy Rep
____ Alix Litton	____ Mike Cornelius
____	____
Men's Worship	Documentation
____	____ Howard Creek
____	____
Secretary	Nominations can be accepted until the vote is taken at the November Gathering. Updates will be posted in the November newsletter. Write-in votes welcomed.
____ Barbie Rose	

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Lord has promised good to me. His word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.

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

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- 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
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