



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM®

Vol. 25 No. 4

Greater Dayton Community

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

**April
2014**

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 PM

Board Meeting

4th Tuesday every month 7:00 PM

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Chairman's Corner

April

He's Alive!

Every time I reflect on Easter, I am reminded of the song: He's Alive, written by Don Francisco. David Phelps has an inspiring version on youtube.com.

He's alive, He's alive, He's alive and I'm forgiven, Heavens gates are open wide.

In Luke 24, the disciples are behind locked doors, awaiting the sounds of soldier's feet, to take them away. They had just taken the Savior of the world and crucified Him, now he was gone. Mary arrives and tells them of the empty tomb. What is going through their minds?

But Christ isn't finished. He walks up to two men on their way to Emmaus. The men are devastated by the events of the day. After they tell him, He says: "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe that the prophets have spoken! Did not Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?"

He then opens their hearts and minds to the prophets and the Scriptures. He shared dinner with them and their eyes were opened, recognizing He was Christ, and then he disappeared. They asked themselves, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

I asked someone close to me what was the first thing they thought of regarding Easter and He's Alive. Their response was "Interestingly, doubting Thomas." I believe many Christians believe the same as Thomas. Imagine being beside Thomas. Transform yourself to that room. We have seen this Jesus perform miracles beyond imagination, but this one? Can we believe it after we saw him hang on the cross?

Jesus said to them "Peace be with you. Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself. Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

The person who remarked about Thomas then said "We acknowledge the resurrection but do we really live our life like Thomas, doubting it with our actions?" He then reflected, "The fact of the resurrection should enable us to have a bold attitude."

In our Walks to Emmaus, many of us enter in as doubting Thomases. We believe in God, but we have doubts. For many, He reveals himself to them over the weekend. We are walking on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus, right here in the Dayton area. We find a new understanding of His grace and love. "Were not our hearts burning within us during those 3 days?"

Will you allow Him to burn in your heart this Easter Season?

He's alive, He's alive, He's alive and I'm forgiven, Heavens gates are open wide.

DeColores. Keith Crabtree



REJOICE!



Revelation 19: 11-16

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter."^a He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

king of kings and lord of lords.



Invitation to Reflect on Jesus Life, Death and Resurrection

Every year we celebrate Christ's birth in our December Gathering, but if you think about it, Christ was born just for this, His death and resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus changed everything, no other event has impacted the world so much. The resurrection produces six incredible benefits in our lives:

- 1) We can be free and forgiven by Jesus death. (Isa 56:6-10, Romans 4:25)
- 2) Jesus defeated death so we don't have to fear it. (2 Peter 1:16, Acts 1:3, 1 Corinthians 15:3-8)
- 3) We get to have God's spirit inside us. (Acts 1:8, Ephesians 1:19-20)
- 4) God loves us unconditionally. (John 3:16-17, 1 John 13:34-35)
- 5) God has a greater purpose for our lives. (Mark 8:35, Acts 15:26, 2 Corinthians 4:17-18, Philippians 1:21)
- 6) We can be certain of a future in Heaven. (1 Peter 1:4, 1 Corinthians 2:9, John 14:6, Romans 10:9)

This year at our April Gathering, we invite you to join us for a time of remembering, reflection, and rejoicing the one who gave everything to save you and me.

~Jean Jarusiewicz, Woman's Worship Chair



From the Spiritual Director



One Thing Leads to Another

Television commercials often drive me crazy and move my fingers to the mute button. But there are some I must admit that contain great truth. There is a Direct TV commercial out there that goes like this:

[picture] Man sitting on couch with phone to his ear, glares at his TV with a fuzzy picture
 [voice-over] "When the cable company keeps you on hold, you feel trapped."
 [picture] Man rushes out of house to outdoor outfitter store in mall
 [voice-over] "When you feel trapped, you need to feel free."
 [picture] Man on top of cliff attaches himself to the harness of a hang glider
 [voice-over] "When you need to feel free, you try hang gliding."
 [picture] Man in hang glider crashes into high-tension electric lines
 [voice-over] "When you try hang gliding, you crash into things."
 [picture] Picture of a large city at night going completely dark with all the lights going out
 [voice-over] "When you crash into things, the grid goes down."
 [picture] Street scene of rampant looting, people breaking into stores and stealing stuff
 [voice-over] "When the grid goes down, crime goes up."
 [picture] Old man in looted grocery store assaulted by a hooligan who grabs a can from him
 [voice-over] "When crime goes up, your dad gets punched over a can of soup."
 [picture] Forlorn hang glider in tattered clothes walks past looted store and sees his dad
 doubled over and looter escaping down the street
 [voice-over] "Don't let your dad get punched over a can of soup. Get Direct TV!"

Silly, right? Yes, but it does prove a point—a life truth—that one thing CAN lead to another.

The Apostle Paul in the great fifth chapter of his letter to the Romans affirms this great life truth: "When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners... and since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, He will certainly save us from condemnation. For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of His Son, while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of His Son. So now we can rejoice in our wonderful relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends with God." (Ro 5:6-11 NLT)

As we travel with Jesus to Jerusalem toward his suffering, death, and glorious resurrection in the next few weeks, let us give thanks to God that by His grace one thing DOES lead to another; "Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by (the) faith (of Jesus), we have peace with God because of what Jesus has done for us. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory." (Ro 5:1-2 NLT)

By the Grace of God one thing WILL lead to another! In the words of Charles Wesley's great Easter hymn:

Love's redeeming work is done; Fought the fight, the work is done;
 Death in vain forbids Him rise; Christ has opened paradise.
 Lives again our glorious King; Where, O death, is now thy sting?
 Once he died our souls to save; Where's thy victory, boasting grave?

Have a Happy Easter!

Pastor George Brewer

Propose By-Law Change—please send any comments to 450 W. Alex-Bell Rd Centerville OH 45459 Attn: Community Chairperson

Requests for loan of Emmaus property shall be directed to the Community Lay Director (CLD). Loan of Emmaus property may only be granted by the CLD to host churches or other Emmaus/Chrysalis communities. The CLD will approve or disapprove the loan after coordinating with the appropriate Board chairperson having responsibility for the property. The CLD will report this matter at the next Board meeting. The CLD may bring the entire matter to the full board for decision.

We are an Easter People



John 20:1-18

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rab-bo'ni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Mag'dalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.





Giving Our Hands to Christ



Is your share group open to new members?

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.

We have an orientation before the gathering after every walk weekend at 6:15 in the chapel of Normandy UMC, you can attend any scheduled orientation. The next meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2014. Hope to see you there!

Your Good Shepherd, Verna Drake

It is that time again...

Have you filled out a willing servant form lately? Forms are kept for two years and this is how live-in teams are selected. If it has been a year since you have completed your pilgrim walk and you would like to serve, please fill one out. If you have one on file but aren't sure how old it is, go ahead and fill another one out. Willing servant forms can be found at the Greater Dayton Emmaus website: <http://www.daytonemmaus.org/>.

Blessings, Trudi Gilchrist, Leadership Chair

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:25-28

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"*

Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)

LISTEN...GOD MAY BE CALLING YOU!

Has God spoken to you? Has He nudged you toward service on the Greater Dayton Emmaus Board (GDE)? The GDE needs your assistance for Board positions beginning in 2015. Like every aspect of our Emmaus community, the Board needs willing servants to volunteer to be the Chairperson of various committees on the Board (keep reading for more information) or to volunteer to serve on one of the Board's many committees (such as Kitchen or Housing).

You may be asking yourself, "What are the responsibilities of the GDE?" A partial list of these responsibilities would include ensuring that all aspects of Walks (food, housing, registration) are functioning and complete. The Board also determines policy for the Emmaus community and organizes various Emmaus community events, such as the monthly Gatherings.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact any Board member or the following: Coley Logan, Men's Registrar (937 353-6231); Verna Drake, Good Shepherd (937 849-0353); Dennis Leach, Housing (937 414-0305); Steve Uphouse, Kitchen (937 435-0028).

Position descriptions are available for all Board positions and may be obtained by contacting Brian Wood, Nominations Chair, at 937 293-7225 or bjwood68@att.net.

Please understand that service on the Board does require your time, effort and attendance at the monthly meetings. Service on this Board will bring you rewards beyond your every expectation! Hope to talk to you soon!

Remember

- April 8th Normandy Church
Sponsorship Training 6:30, Gathering; 7:15
- 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!

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

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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