



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM®

Vol. 25 No. 7

## Greater Dayton Community

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

July  
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

You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesian 2:19-22

With all Emmaus walks, the foundation of the walk is prayer. Prayer begins six months before the walk begins, many months before the team has been selected or many of the pilgrims have decided to attend. We see that people from all over the world have stood beside our walks, lifting the team, pilgrims, facilities, speakers, and many other parts of the walk in prayer.

We see the Holy Spirit come and be very present in each walk. Truth be told, he doesn't need the team to reach the pilgrims, but for over 65 years, people have been attending weekend retreats such as the Walk to Emmaus, and in those years God has moved in the hearts and souls of men and women attending the walks. The foundation is prayer.

My contemplation this month has been on the words prayer and foundation. I am like many of you that struggle sometimes with prayer. A problem arises and when I am in tune with Him, He is my first contact. Other times, it may be several days when I get the nudge, "I can help you with this it you will only ask."

In Psalm 17:1, "O Lord, attend unto my cry." What an invitation to bend a knee and speak to our loving Father.

F. B Myer said, "The great tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but unoffered prayer. Mark Littleton said, "Turn your doubts to questions, turn your questions to prayers; turn your prayers to God. John Mason said, "Nothing significant happens until you fervently pray; pray until you pray!"

Ladies & gentlemen of Greater Dayton Emmaus, we are a praying community. We have a gift from our God and Father to ask Him in prayer. With our summer walks upcoming, please join with me in praying daily for God to fill the walks, to move mightily in the team and pilgrims and to shine His light brightly in this community.

Jesus is the cornerstone of the church, the very base of the foundation of our faith.

As the lyrics to the song, Jesus, Firm Foundation:

Jesus, you're my firm foundation, I know I can stand secure  
Jesus, you're my firm foundation, I put my hope in your holy word.

I thank each and every one of you for your continued service to this wonder community of believers. We have a wonderful opportunity to share the love and grace of God with others, through our Walks, our community, our churches and in our actions.

Be intentional in your walk this month,

DeColores,  
Keith Crabtree

# HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY

*Remember His marvelous works which He has done. — Psalm 105:5*



On July 3, 1776, following the signing of the Declaration of Independence, John Adams reflected on that important day:

“The second day of July 1776 will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever.

You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil and blood and treasure that it will cost to maintain this Declaration and support and defend these States. Yet through all the gloom I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory. I can see that the end is worth

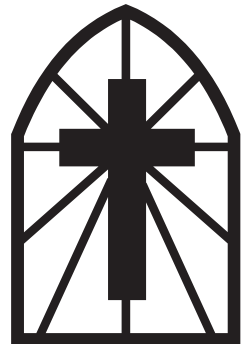
more than all the means; that posterity will triumph in that day's transaction, even though we [may regret] it, which I trust in God we shall not.”

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles. — Psalm 34:17

What we know as Independence day surely was not our first experience at seeking independence but so far it has been the last. When I think about Independence I think about the Exodus from Egypt and Moses telling Pharaoh, “Let My People Go”.

Independence is synonymous with Freedom. Freedom from what? Freedom from Tyranny. But we are taught to be dependent on God. This sounds like a contradiction. How can we go from Dependence to Independence and not achieve freedom until once again we are Dependent?

The difference is that our God is not a Tyrant, he doesn't bind us and control us He gives us wings to fly. He loves us and He allows us the Freedom to accept him or reject Him. There are those who want to control, fight, kill and maim to try to keep their authority but there is always someone bigger and He is the one with the Ultimate Authority He is God and has no need to prove Himself.



<sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

<sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who<sup>l</sup> have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Romans 8:27-29

GRACE



# From the Spiritual Director



## Won't Take "No" for An Answer

I'm Gary Wheeler, pastor of Germantown United Methodist Church. I am a new Spiritual Director for the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community. I attended the Heart of Georgia Walk #1 and sat at the Table of Mark. (Please set down your coffee cup before you clap!)

Back in March, George Brewer called me to say that the Spiritual Directors and the Board wanted me to fulfill Brad Martin's remaining term, as Brad and Sherry would be moving to Liberty Center near Toledo at the end of June. I have been a Spiritual Director for another Emmaus Community before, so George (possibly delusional at the time) thought I might be able to help the Community.

But it was the way the conversation went that struck me. George didn't give me a chance to say, "No." He in essence said, "I want you to do this. The other Spiritual Directors want you to do this. The Board wants you to do this. End of discussion." (Full disclosure here: my wife Myra said the same exact thing, and you know what I said to her: "Yes dear!")

You know, we Americans prefer a life full of liberty, freedom, and personal choice. We want to make the choice: Apple or Android. PC or Mac. Wendy's or McDonalds. Kings Island or Cedar Point. Cincinnati Reds or... is there really another good option here?

But there are many statements from God that are just not open for discussion. He will not take "No" for an answer.

We could list a multitude of them, but let me share one that struck me the day after George called me.

I was reading in my devotions from Ezekiel (extra jewels in my heavenly crown for that!) In the 34th chapter, God commands Ezekiel to prophesize against the shepherds/leaders of Israel, accusing them of feeding themselves and not their sheep:

"You have not taken care of the weak. You have not tended the sick or bound up the injured. You have not gone looking for those who have wandered away and are lost... So my sheep have been scattered without a shepherd, and they are easy prey for any wild animal." (Ezekiel 34:4,5 NLT)

I could not help but hear the voice of God saying, "Gary, pay attention." I re-read the text, remembering the words of Jesus in the Gospels:

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the LORD's favor has come" (Luke 4:18-19, NLT)

I also remembered the parable of the Sheep and the Goats in Matthew 25, and that the word "pastor" has a sheep-tending etymology.

It was Jesus' mission to reach and care for sheep – in the sheep pen or not. It is my mission as a pastor/shepherd. And I believe that it is everyone's mission to never stop searching, never stop tending, never stop loving, and never stop reaching!

There are persons in our churches, in our families, in our small groups, who need fed and cared for and led, and whom the Walk to Emmaus is God's way to help them grow to the next stage of their faith journey.

God will not take "No" for an answer.



# Pray for One Another

## Women's Walk #93 Normandy UMC July 17-20, 2014

I am the vine, you are the branches ... apart from me you can do nothing.  
John 15:5

**Please keep these Pilgrims and team in your daily prayers.**

### PILGRIM ROSTER

Name	City
Allison, Kristin	Englewood
Busch, Judy	Laura
Carl, Sue	Dayton
Cornett, Judy	Dayton
Ewry, Virginia	Kettering
Fay, Nancy	Centerville
Jennings, Jennifer	Dayton
Kinney, Gloria	Dayton
Lupton, Cynthia	Tipp City
Ochs, Mitzi	Fairborn
Parrott, Tiffany	Medway
Richey, Jolie	Dayton
Ritchie, April	Dayton
Robison, Barb	Kettering
Ryan, Meishawn	Springboro
Shook, Jaclynn	Huber Heights
Victorson, Mary Kay	Dayton
Wagner, Linda	Laura
Wolf, Debbie	Union
Wood, Patricia	Tipp City

### TEAM ROSTER

Name	Position	Talk
Barty, Cindy	Asst Music Director	
Benner, Sue	Asst Table Leader	
Bobst, Pat Knight	Table Leader	Changing Our World
Breisch, Brittney	Asst Table Leader	
Chisholm, Lucretia	Table Leader	Christian Action
Christoff, Heather	Asst Lay Director2	Fourth Day
Crews, Mary	Asst Table Leader	
Cultice, Cindy	Logistics	
Drake, Verna	Board Rep	
Flannery, Michelle	Logistics	
Gilchrist, Trudi	Prayer Servant	
Hall, Karen	Lay Director	Perseverance
Hayes, Debbie	Table Leader	Body of Christ
Jarusiewicz, Jean	Logistics	
Kitchel, Kathy	Table Leader	Priesthood
Kruse, Kathy	Asst Table Leader	
Loschi, Sherry	Table Leader	Life Of Piety
Luken, Suzzi	Music Director	
Matheny, Amber	Asst Table Leader	
McGowan, Che'	Asst Table Leader	
Postell, Kathy	Asst Lay Director	Priority
Rose, Barbie	Asst Lay Director	Grow Thru Study
Slife, Debra	Logistics	
Smith, Brenda	Prayer Servant	
Young, Kikeyia	Table Leader	Discipleship
<b>CLERGY</b>		
Brewer, George	Spiritual Director	Means of Grace
Smith, Tori	Asst Spiritual Director	Prevenient Grace
Hitchcock, Pam	Asst Spiritual Director	Justifying Grace
Holder, Deb	Asst Spiritual Director	Obstacles to Grace
Wantz, Pam	Asst Spiritual Dir - live in	Sanctifying Grace



Would you like to help? Let us know if you could be a volunteer LOG extra hands are always appreciated especially Sunday morning!

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.

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



## 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](mailto: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

## WILLING SERVANT FORMS



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 web-site: <http://www.daytonemmaus.org/>.

Blessings, Trudi Gilchrist, Leadership Chair

## BITTERSWEET



Brad Martin has been transferred out of the area and will no longer be able to serve as one of our beloved Spiritual Directors. We wish you well at your new post and pray that you and your family will be as blessed as we were for having you as part of our lives.

They say the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away.. So he has blessed us with Gary Wheeler who will be replacing Brad as our new Spiritual Director. We look forward to serving with you Gary and know that you will be a blessing to the community.



## 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 the Loggia by the Chapel 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 14th.

## REGISTRATION

Applications needed for upcoming walks. Please get them in ASAP in order to fill all the slots for the July walk. There are a few openings remaining.



In His service. Pam DeHart, registrar

## Remember

- July 14th at 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!

<sup>21</sup> And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

Job 1:21

**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](http://www.daytonemmaus.org)
- Send your email address to [newsletter@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:newsletter@daytonemmaus.org) for electronic delivery

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Address: _____	