



Walk to
Emmaus
 THE UPPER ROOM®

Vol. 25 No. 12

Greater Dayton Community

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

**December
 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 13-16

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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2014 – The Year That Flew By

To all of the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community, I want to say a huge Thank You to all who have made this past year a wonderful year to be associated with our Emmaus Community. To all of the Board Members, Volunteers, Team Members, Visitors, Guests and Suppliers, I express my deep gratitude and thanks. It takes many hands to put on 5 Emmaus Walks and we are blessed with a very active community.

It has been my honor and privilege to lead the Community through 2014. 2015 will be a big year for the Greater Dayton Community as we will celebrate our 25th year of existence. Stay tuned to see what events will be held in 2015 to commemorate the years of service, faith, love and grace to the members of this wonderful family.

It is impossible to thank everyone individually, so I will not try. Please know that we have a great group of people on the Emmaus Board and an excellent leader stepping up to take the helm in 2015 in Trudi Gilchrist. Please grant her the same grace and love that you have given to me over the past year.

As we enter into this time of year, when we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, let us reflect on how Jesus came to this world, not as a King or Warrior, not as a leader or ruler, but as a baby. I believe that to be one of the most revered of events in history. He could have become the ruler of the world, but His love for us, moved him to become one of us and dwell in the towns and cities. Can you imagine the Kings of those days saying, “He came as a baby? Really? Don’t kid me now, you know it is not pleasant to kid the King?”

As we head to our many events of this month, let us spend time with Him, reflecting on His birth, and giving thanks to God for giving his only son to save us.

Merry Christmas

DeColores.

Keith Crabtree

Join us in January for a very special Gathering, when the Spiritual Directors will be leading us in Worship.



From the Spiritual Director



“What’s This Christmas Thing All About?”

Have you ever been asked this question? As the world around us becomes increasingly more secular and spiritually “diverse,” it just might come up. How would you answer people who don’t have a clue understanding the sorrowful plight of our human condition, what is God’s design to save us, why Jesus was born, and what’s his place in that plan? The answer, of course, can be found in God’s Holy Word! A ministry colleague recently posted the following on Face Book. I made some minor changes. It is the best short explanation of our sin and God’s saving love for us that I have ever seen.

GENESIS

God: All right, you two, don’t do the one thing. Other than that, have fun!

Adam & Eve: Okay.

Snake: You should do the thing.

Adam & Eve: Okay.

God: What happened!?

Adam & Eve: We did the thing.

God: Guys...

THE REST OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

God: You are my people, and you should not do the things.

People: We won’t do the things.

God: Good.

People: We did the things.

God: Guys...

THE GOSPELS

Jesus: I am the Son of God, and even though you have done the things, the Father and I still love you and want you to live. Don’t do those things any more. Do these things instead: Love God and everyone else with all you’ve got!

Healed people: Okay! Thank you!

Other people: We’ve never seen him do those things, but he probably does those things when nobody is looking.

Jesus: I have never done those things.

Other people: We’re going to put you on trial for doing those things.

Pilate: Did you do those things?

Jesus: No.

Pilate: He didn’t do those things.

Other people: Kill him anyway.

Pilate: Okay.

Jesus: Guys...

PAUL’S LETTERS

People: We did those things.

Paul: Jesus still loves you, and because you love Him, you have to stop doing those things. The Holy Spirit is here to help!

People: Okay.

PAUL’S LETTERS PART 2

People: We did those things again.

Paul: Guys...

REVELATION

John: When Jesus comes back, there will be no more people who do those things. In the meantime STOP doing THOSE THINGS! Do Jesus’ THINGS!!

THE END! (Or is it?)

So, what’s this Christmas thing all about? Here it is: When we needed it the most, God’s never-ending love came down to earth in Jesus, who gave himself for all—so that all may experience the peace and joy of eternal life, now and in the age to come!

DeColores & Merry Christmas! Pastor George Brewer



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 2015. Hope to see you there!

Your Good Shepherd, Verna Drake

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:8-12

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

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

REGISTRATION—Attention Emmaus community, when emailing the women's registrar, please use this address: womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org. My old email address has been changed. Invitations have gone out for WW 92 in February. If an application for a woman is not yet in, names received/postmarked after Nov. 1st will go on the waiting list. Invitations are sent out in order of postmark date. What a joy it has been serving this community for the past year. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me with questions anytime.

In His service. Pam DeHart

Remember

- January 12-Normandy Church
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!

Merry Christmas!

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

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