



Walk to
Emmaus
 THE UPPER ROOM®

Vol. 26 No. 4

Greater Dayton Community

450 W. Alex-Bell Rd., Centerville, OH 45459

www.daytonemmaus.org

**April
 2015**

2015 WALK SCHEDULE

At Normandy UMC

MW #59 January 15-18
 WW #95 February 19-22
 WW #96 Sept 17-20

At Sulphur Grove UMC

WW #96 July 16-19
 MW #60 August 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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Chairperson's Corner

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow
 Because He lives, all fear is gone.
 Because I know He holds the future –
 And life is worth the living, just because He lives.

I'm always glad to see spring. The days get longer, the weather gets warmer and new life and growth can be seen everywhere. It's a time to bid farewell to the cold, dark days of winter and welcome the rebirth of nature.

And spring brings Easter – the story of the greatest rebirth ever. Jesus conquered death in order to bring us eternal life. This is a love greater than I can fathom. Who are we that He would lay down His life for us?

Because He Lives is one of my favorite hymns. It reminds me of what Jesus did for us on the cross. He lives in each of us, and allows us to live in this world without fear of what the future brings. Ours is in His promises.

We all have lived through trials in this life. As difficult as some of my experiences have been, I have had the presence of Christ to walk with me and guide me through. In my mind, there is nothing harder than to see people without faith face the trials of this life. Our relationship with God does not keep us from going through difficulties, but it gives us the assurance that Christ is with us and will not forsake us.

Easter reminds me of the sacrifice God made for us. Jesus lived among us, died and rose again. His life and death bring us the promise of new life in Him – now and forever.

So now we need to make a decision – will we continue to grow in faith and strive to let others see God alive in us? Remember the words during your cross ceremony: Christ is counting on you. We are His hands and feet to this world. We are blessed to be in relationship with Him. Is there any better way to bring others to Christ than by showing his light in all we do? Not to let Him shine is to keep his love for us and ours for Him hidden.

Christ died for us. Is there any better response than to share His light and love with others?

May you and yours have a blessed Easter!

De Colores,
 Trudi Gilchrist
 Greater Dayton Emmaus Chairperson

Giving our Hearts to Christ

Next Gathering

April 13th Normandy Church:

- Sponsorship Training 6:30, Loggia
- Gathering; 7:15

Be the hands and feet of Jesus



**Give your
best
and
God will do
the rest!**

Sound System Needed

Your Emmaus Community has an immediate need! We find ourselves needing to purchase a sound system for our use in the sanctuary during Gatherings and walk weekends.

We do not have the funds in our budget for this unexpected, but necessary expense. Can you please consider making a contribution toward the purchase?

Additionally, if you have used sound equipment you no longer need, or know someone who does, please contact Jason Hoang at MensWorship@daytonemmaus.org. It is our wish to obtain the needed equipment as reasonably as we can.

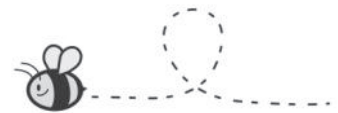
We also welcome your prayers as we undertake this purchase.

Have You ever Wanted to Serve on a Live-in Team?

Be sure your Willing Servant form has been updated and indicate which roles sound interesting to you. These need to be updated every two years. Time flies when you are having fun, so it's probably time to update your Willing Servant Form today.

Please update today at: <http://daytonemmaus.org/deForms.shtml>

If you have questions please contact the Board Member that oversees the area that you are interested in, their emails are listed under the "Board" tab on the website.





From the Spiritual Director



“The Best Thing that Ever Happened to Me”

During March’s Gathering, I was struck how many times I heard “the weekend was the best thing that ever happened to me.” Of course, the new community members from the February Women’s Walk were sharing about their Walk.

We as a community hear similar testimonies all the time. However, this time it seemed so prominent a witness, in spite of the fact that the team had to accommodate a funeral and a whole lot of snow during the weekend.

Was it an exaggeration to say such a thing? I don’t think so. We may look back on a special birthday (maybe our 16th) or our wedding or the day our child was born as great days, and it is well that we should.

But when you think about all that a Walk to Emmaus brings into the life of a pilgrim: incredible teaching, visible demonstration of the love of God and others, and of course the luxurious accommodations; it is easy to see how pilgrims would feel that their weekend was “the best thing that ever happened to me.”

Hear me on this point: the experience of the Walk to Emmaus is more than the text of the talks and the flow of the Weekend. It is how the Holy Spirit uses each and every team member, behind-the-scenes volunteers, and the community.

When a pilgrim says that their Walk experience was “the best thing that ever happened to me”, every Community member should first thank God, then be encouraged that all the preparation and hard work has made a difference in the life of a pilgrim.

In other words, “the best thing that ever happened to me” is also a “thank you” and an encouragement for faithful service to the Kingdom of God. As Paul begins his letter to the church at Philippi this way:

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.
(Philippians 1:3-6, NLT)

As one of your Spiritual Directors, I too want to say “thank you” for your loving service to our Greater Dayton Emmaus Community. God is continuing His work in our midst.

DeColores,

Pastor Gary Wheeler



Giving Our Hands to Christ



Pilgrim Registration

A new year, a new opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Matthew 28:19 tells us, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations." Applications are always needed to fill the roster for each of the Walks to Emmaus. Pray for our community, pray for the people you know who can become church leaders, pray about who Jesus is calling you to sponsor in 2015.

Women's Registrar: Pam DeHart
womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

Men's Registrar: Bob Downs
mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

Go therefore
and make
disciples
of all the
nations



Not Sure How to Find a Share Group?

Here are a Few Ideas:

- Read the Newsletter to find any new notifications (see below)
- Visit the Good Shepherd table at Gatherings
- Send an email to Pam Rafdal at GoodShepherd@daytonemmaus.org

THE LORD IS
My Shepherd
I SHALL NOT WANT

Have a Potential Pilgrim with a Physical Disability?

If your pilgrim has a mobility issue, Sulphur Grove is handicapped-accessible.

Please make a request on the Pilgrim Application Form.

Need an Announcement in the Newsletter?

If you would like to send a message to the Emmaus Community via the Monthly Newsletter, please send an email to Newsletter@daytonemmaus.org

Sonya Lemmerbrock, Newsletter Chair

Please support our Teens (Chrysalis) and our Prison ministry (Kairos)



<http://westohiochrysalis.no-ip.org/>



http://www.kairosOhio.org/Events_Calendar.html



Giving Our Hands to Christ

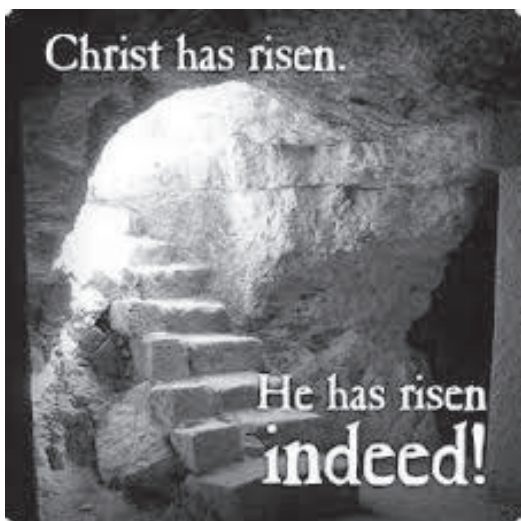


Remember

Next Gathering - April 13th Normandy Church

- Sponsorship Training 6:30, Loggia
- Gathering; 7:15

Update your willing servant form, especially if you wish to be on a live-in team.



Attn: Smokers

Normandy has one smoking area. It is across from the main entrance in the grassy area. There is an ash can provided for your use. If you must smoke on Normandy property, please be respectful

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 email prayer chain? Have an urgent prayer request? Contact Charles Benner at: (937) 879-2118, or email 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 get your newsletter FREE:

- Download the Newsletter online: www.daytonemmaus.org

To renew your mailed newsletter:

- Complete the following form, include a \$12 check
- Mail to the Emmaus address on the first page of this newsletter
(Attention: Computer Chair - Robert Cannata)



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