



Walk to  
**Emmaus**  
THE UPPER ROOM<sup>®</sup>

Vol. 26 No. 12

**Greater Dayton Community**

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

**December  
2015**

## 2016 WALK SCHEDULE

### At Normandy UMC

MW #61 January 21-24  
WW #98 February 18-21  
WW #100 September 15-18

### At Sulphur Grove UMC

WW #99 July 21-24  
MW #62 August 18-21

### 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  
(except December)

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## Chairperson's Corner

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11*

Some years ago, I decided to serve God and Emmaus by running for the Newsletter Chairperson position on the Board. Little did I realize what the journey held in store for me!

I served one year of my term as Newsletter Chair, and then felt God nudge me toward the open Agape Chairperson position. I ran for it and served for three more years in that position.

As I neared the end of my tenure as Agape Chair, I asked God what else I could do to serve Him. My desire was to be His servant, wherever He called.

Sometimes you just need to be careful what you pray for, because the answer came quickly and surely; I was supposed to run for the Leadership track on the Board. This track commits you to an additional three years' service on the Board; as Vice Chairperson, Chairperson and then Past Chairperson.

I served in 2014 as the Vice-Chairperson/Leadership Chairperson on the Board, which entailed working with the Team Selection Committee, as well as recruiting Lay Directors and other responsibilities. It was quite a growing experience for me, and I was well out of my comfort zone.

As 2015 comes to an end, I am finishing my year as Community Chairperson. This too has been a challenging year, but it is something I would not trade. I have been blessed by the community, the Board members and our host churches. It is an amazing honor to present the Speaker's Cross to the Lay Director at the end of the walk. I also was privileged to hear the closing testimonies of our pilgrims, and I realized just how many people this Walk to Emmaus touches.

God doesn't speak to everyone the same way. The wonderful thing about the Emmaus Walk, just as in the story told in Luke, is that He meets us exactly where we are. We don't have to be perfect or sinless, He loves us and welcomes us and will lead us into new adventures and service in His name.

So, ask God where you can best serve Him. Don't be surprised by the answer. I did not feel equipped to handle the positions He led me to, but I have tried to serve faithfully. I have learned much and grown in my faith walk during these years.

My friends, I hope this Christmas season brings you blessing upon blessing. Thank you for being part of this amazing community of believers. As we end 2015 and begin 2016, I can't wait to see what our Lord has in store for us. Remember He is faithful, and if you follow where he leads you will be blessed beyond comprehension. Listen to His call, and be prepared to answer, wherever it leads.

De Colores,

Trudi Gilchrist  
Greater Dayton Emmaus Chairperson

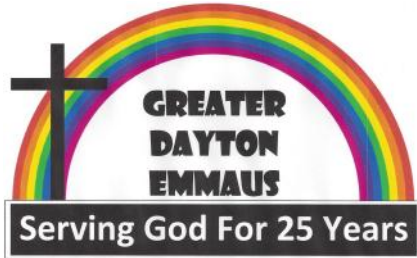


# Giving our Hearts to Christ



## 25th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, November 7th, we held our 25th Anniversary Celebration at Normandy UM Church. It was a fun event and all of our favorite Emmaus celebrities provided outstanding performances. Such as:



1. Hey Delores
2. Little People
3. Sister Act

## Pilgrim Candidates Seeking Sponsors

Christmas is approaching and you'll have plenty of opportunities to see people needing Jesus in their lives. These Pilgrim Candidates are seeking you, but are you seeing them?

Now is the time to talk to them about the Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus. Share your experiences and describe the difference your Emmaus Walk made in your life. Then invite them to participate, and sponsor them for a walk.

### The Next Walks:

1. Men's Walk is January 21-24, 2016
2. Women's Walk February 18-21, 2016

Sponsorship Training: available before every Gathering (except December)

Application Forms: on website, <http://daytonemmaus.org/deForms.shtml> [Registration Tab].

Please start talking with perspective pilgrims and submit applications NOW to insure a place on the next Walk.

Men's Registrar: Bob Downs, [mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org)

Women's Registrar: Shelly Crabtree, [womensregistar@daytonemmaus.org](mailto:womensregistar@daytonemmaus.org)



# From the Spiritual Director



## Box of Love

Beverly White wrote in the Christian Reader about a little girl who asked your mother, “Mommy, what is Christmas?” Her mother carefully explained that Christmas is Jesus’ birthday.

“Then why do we not give gifts to Jesus if it’s His birthday?” The mother explained the tradition of exchanging Christmas gifts as expressions of our love for each other, and that seemed to end the matter.

On Christmas Eve, the mother found her little girl placing a gift for Jesus under the tree as she went to bed, explaining that she was sure Jesus would open it during the night while she slept.

After the girl was asleep, the mother curiously opened the package, but found the box empty.

On Christmas morning the little girl was thrilled to find the package had been opened and her gift was gone. “What was in it?” asked the confused mother.

“It was a box full of love,” came the answer.

In a universe of billions of stars, despite all the life-changing events of human history, of all the ways God could have shown Himself, it was in something as insignificant as a manger that God came as a baby.

To the world, it seemed like an empty box, but it was full of God’s love toward us. “For God so loved the world...”

Merry Christmas.

Gary Wheeler

Spiritual Director





# Giving Our Hands to Christ



## New Board Members Elected

During the 25th Anniversary Celebration we voted on new Board Members that will start their term in January 2016. The terms range from 1-3 years. Plus, we have created a new Social Media Committee reporting to the board. This committee will be lead by Cincy Cultice to help us build our Facebook presence.



Chair Position	Chair Name	Term
Computer	Gregg Hayes	3 years
Documentation	Barbara Courtice	2 years
Newsletter	Sonya Lemmerbrock	3 years
Social Media (not a board position)	Cindy Cultice	1 year
Sulphur Grove Representative	Amy Brooks	2 years
Supply	Mary Ann Schum	3 years
Treasurer	Terry Kierce	3 years
Women's Registrar	Shelly Crabtree	3 years
Women's Worship	Kendra Wilson	3 years

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



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



[http://www.kairosohio.org/Events\\_Calendar.html](http://www.kairosohio.org/Events_Calendar.html)



# Pray for One Another

## GOD REST YE MERRY GENTLEMEN



God rest ye merry, gentlemen  
 Let nothing you dismay  
 Remember, Christ, our Savior  
 Was born on Christmas day  
 To save us all from Satan's power  
 When we were gone astray  
 O tidings of comfort and joy,  
 Comfort and joy  
 O tidings of comfort and joy

From God our Heavenly Father  
 A blessed Angel came;  
 And unto certain Shepherds  
 Brought tidings of the same:  
 How that in Bethlehem was born  
 The Son of God by Name.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy,  
 Comfort and joy  
 O tidings of comfort and joy



And when they came to Bethlehem  
 Where our dear Savior lay,  
 They found Him in a manger,  
 Where oxen feed on hay;  
 His Mother Mary kneeling down,  
 Unto the Lord did pray.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy,  
 Comfort and joy  
 O tidings of comfort and joy

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
 All you within this place,  
 And with true love and brotherhood  
 Each other now embrace;  
 This holy tide of Christmas  
 All other doth deface.  
 O tidings of comfort and joy,  
 Comfort and joy



## Want 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.

Please update today at: <http://daytonemmaus.org> under the "Forms" tab.



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

## **FRIENDLY REMINDERS**

**Next Gathering:** Christmas Celebration, December 14th, 7:15 pm  
Normandy UM Church

**Next Men's Walk:** January 21-24, 2016, Normandy UM Church

**Next Woman's Walk:** February 18-21, 2016, Normandy UM Church



### **Every Walk:**

- Candlelight - Saturday at 8:30 pm
- Closing - Sunday at 4:30 pm