



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM®

Vol. 27 No. 5

Greater Dayton Community

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

www.daytonemmaus.org

May
 2016

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 11-14

CANDLELIGHT
 8:30 PM Saturday of Walk

CLOSING
 4:30 PM Sunday of Walk

GATHERING
 2nd Monday Every Month
 7:15 PM, Normandy UMC

BOARD MEETING
 4th Tuesday Every Month
 7:00 PM, Normandy UMC

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Chairperson's Corner

Covenant

Greater Dayton Emmaus just finished the annual process of renewing our covenant with the Upper Room. This covenant represents a continued commitment of our community to their authority.

A covenant is a binding oath between two people or two parties and is different from a contract. If one party violates the contract it is considered broken. With a covenant both parties agree to hold up their end of the agreement **regardless** of whether the other party violates the agreement. Contracts exist to protect all parties' rights, whereas covenants build upon trust and choice. When a person accepts the call to serve on a live-in team they are committing to fulfill God's calling to that particular Walk. This covenantal commitment before God and His people is solemn and serious. It should not be entered into lightly. Scripture is quite explicit about the seriousness of our commitments as Christians – especially our commitment to build up our local church body.

True selfhood emerges in covenant-faithfulness. By "true" I mean selfhood that finds favor with God and fulfillment in His presence. Psalm 15:1, 4 points the way: "O Lord, who may dwell on your Holy hill? the one who honors his oath even when it hurts." The person who pleases God enters into a covenant knowing that it may hurt to keep it, but he keeps it anyway. He does not break the covenant as a means of reducing pain. He then discovers what it means to be truly fulfilled in God by accepting the hurt and the pain of covenant-faithfulness.

In addition, I have heard members of our Emmaus community say, "We do it this way in Kairos." Kairos is a wonderful ministry and I praise God for those who serve in this ministry. However, Kairos is **not** Emmaus. Kairos' aim is to reach out to people who do not know Jesus; Emmaus' aim is to reach out to Christians to build leaders for our local churches. Kairos is **not** in a covenant with the Upper Room – Emmaus is. Although both ministries change lives, their purpose is completely different. Therefore we must stand firm in our commitment to our covenant with the Upper Room.

I praise God for the covenant that has grown all of us in Christ through this ministry called, "The Walk to Emmaus."

DeColores,
 Jean Jarusiewicz, Chairman



✠ Giving our Hearts to Christ ✠



Emmaus Coming to a Church Near You... How About Your Church?

In an effort to spread the word about the Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus, we'd like to come to your church and provide information.

Please send the name of the person who oversees communication, announcement or outreach and we'll contact with them. We can come in person for a brief message during announcements and/or set-up up a table for people to stop to learn more.

Please send names/contact info to Pam Rafdal at:

GoodSheperd@daytonemmaus.org

Christ is Counting on You to be Active in a Share Group!

Here's the process:

1. Visit the Good Shepherd (book) table at Gatherings. Put your info on the form attached to the clipboard. Note: the email you provide will be printed in this newsletter.
2. Read the newsletter every month at www.daytonemmaus.org/newsletters. If you see that someone in your area is in need of a share group, discuss amongst your group and make contact with the person. Be a friend, make a friend.



Serve on an Emmaus Walk Weekend

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.



From the Spiritual Director



The Tenacious Love of God

Well, spring is bursting out all around us with those hot summer-like temperatures we have been experiencing in late April this year. So, just the other day I wearily ventured into the dark corners of the garage to find my work gloves and garden tools and headed out into the wilderness of our front lawn only to discover new grass growing between the cracks in our front sidewalk. How grass seed found its way there last summer baffles me. I re-seeded the lawn last spring no where close to that sidewalk. But there grass grew anyway. So last summer I killed it off (I thought) with multiple applications of industrial strength Roundup. "Results promised in 12 hours!" the label said. Right there before my eyes, between the cracks, was grass again!

So, like preachers are tempted to do, I thought about this dilemma theologically. I ruminated that all life is a gift from God, whether it be humans, grass, or even dandelions. When we look out at the world we see how tenacious life is. This time of year it is breaking out everywhere. Plants germinate and grow in the unlikeliest of places. And, no matter how hard we try, it's nearly impossible to kill it off. It keeps coming back, over and over again. (Roundup, take note!)

Then I realized a greater truth: how tenacious is God's love for us revealed in the life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus! God's love working in and through Jesus, no matter the cost, never stops seeking us. And no power in heaven and upon earth can thwart the healing and life-saving forgiveness that is always reaching out to us. In the power of His everlasting love even death has been swallowed up in His victory. (Satan, take note!)

Paul writes in Romans 8, these words, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord!"

The tenacious love of God in Jesus. Let it germinate and grow anew this spring in your life, in your church, and in your participation in the ministries of the Greater Dayton Emmaus community. Claim it. Live it. Proclaim it to the world!

De Colores,
Pastor George Brewer





Giving Our Hands to Christ



Pilgrim Sponsorship

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

The Next Walks:

1. Women's Walk #99 (Sulphur Grove) July 21-24, 2016
2. Men's Walk #62 (Sulphur Grove) August 11-14, 2016
3. Women's Walk #100 (Normandy) September 15-18, 2016



Sponsorship Training: available before Gathering at 6:30

Application Forms: on website, <http://daytonemmaus.org/deForms.shtm> [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

Women's Registrar: Shelly Crabtree, womensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

Serve on an Upcoming Walk



Kitchen - Housing - Music/Worship - Agape

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



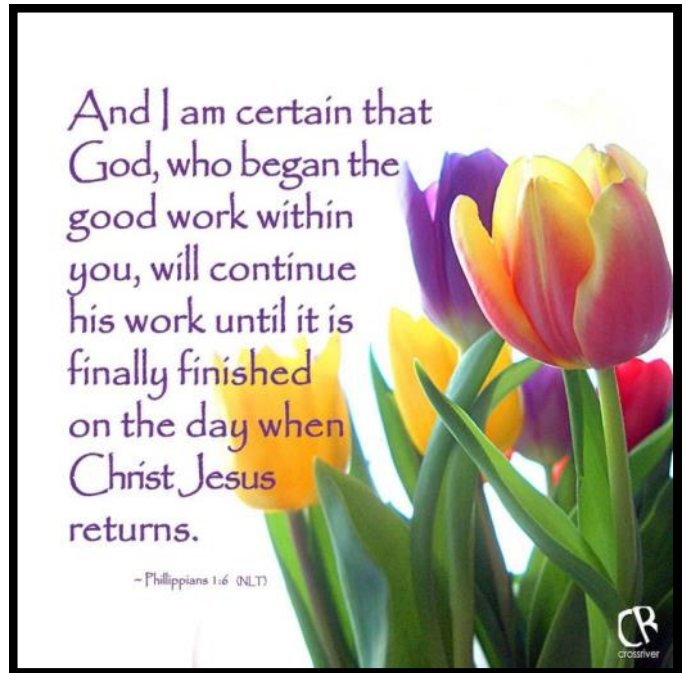
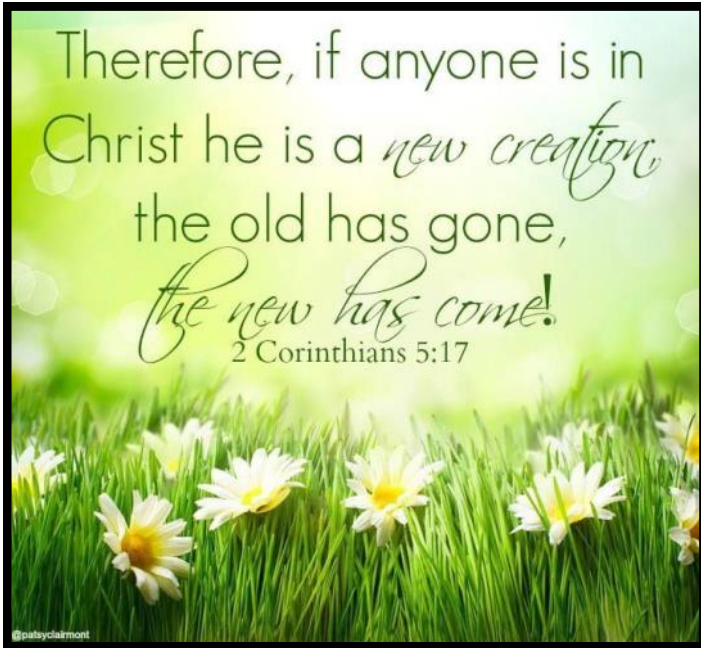
<http://westohiochrysalis.no-ip.org/>



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



Pray for One Another



New To the Upper Room Welcome "Journey" to the Emmaus/Chrysalis Community

The Upper Room has been working on a new program that offers young adults (18-35) opportunities to explore their faith through authentic teaching and open discussion, to build relationships with a community of their peers, and to create spaces of Christian action in the world.

To learn more about "Journey to the Table" visit Upper Room website: journey.upperroom.org



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

REMINDERS

Next Gathering: **May 9, 2016, Normandy UMC**

- 6:30pm Sponsorship Training in Room 200
- 7:15pm Gathering

Next Woman's Walk: **Women's Walk #99 (Sulphur Grove) July 21-24, 2016**

Next Men's Walk: **Men's Walk #62 (Sulphur Grove) August 11-14, 2016**

Every Walk:

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

