



# Greater Dayton Community

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

## December Newsletter

Vol. 27 No. 12

2016

### 2017 WALK SCHEDULE

#### At Normandy UMC

MW #63 January 19-22  
WW #101 February 16-19  
WW #103 September 21-24

#### At Sulphur Grove UMC

WW #102 July 20-23  
MW #64 August 17-20

#### 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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Newsletter Chair

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### Chairman's Corner

#### 'TIS THE SEASON

“The heart of a Christian's life is sacrifice,” Romans 12:1

There is something incredibly sacred, holy and precious about Christmas. It stirs in each of us the desire to serve our Lord more fervently – to sacrifice for Him as He sacrificed for us. As Paul tells us, the heart of a Christian's life *is* sacrifice. Sacrifice is the giving of one self for another. When sacrificing, we give up our own desires, wants and time, to be used for others. The Emmaus movement is built on sacrifice through the sharing of Christ's love.

*Our community is also empowered by willing servants sacrificing their time.*

Serving on a team is a great experience, but it is also an act of sacrifice.

Everyone who serves on a team is vitally important, but no one person is more important than anyone else. If you have not been called to serve on the winter walks, don't despair as there are *more* opportunities to serve through prayer, sponsoring a pilgrim, preparing and serving a meal, setting up and tearing down the facility, and sorting or making agape gifts. We could not accomplish what God has called us to do without **YOU!** Yes **YOU** – Kathy, Barb, Howard, Bob, John, Debbie, Mary, Bruce, etc.

The greatest gift you can give someone is your time. It's also a tremendous sacrifice. Because when you give your time, you are giving a portion of your life that you will never get back. But let's not forget that our faith is strengthened when we serve others, our lives are enriched by the giving of ourselves. Do you remember when you went on your Walk, thinking about those in the community who sacrificed for you? Please consider serving God and the Pilgrims by supporting the winter walks, Men's Walk #63, and Women's Walk #101. The incredible fellowship that takes place through serving is a way to build community and unity among us all.

I pray you experience the joy of this sacred season and while you're celebrating remember that “Jesus is the Reason for the Season!” Then let's step into the New Year with confidence in our Emmaus Community, and a willingness to serve to make our 2017 walks some of the best ever.

Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

De Colores,

Jean Jarusiewicz  
Community Lay Director





# Giving our Hearts to Christ



## KEY DATES/REMINDERS

**Next Gathering:** December 12, 2016, Normandy UMC

- 6:30pm Sponsorship Training in Room 214
- 7:15pm Gathering



**Next Men's Walk:** #63 (Normandy) January 19-22, 2017

**Next Woman's Walk:** #101 (Normandy) February 16-19, 2017

**Every Walk:** Candlelight - Saturday at 8:30 pm



## Introducing New Board Members



At the November Gathering, we elected the following new members to the Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus Board. Please welcome them! We sincerely appreciate their willingness to serve Jesus through the Greater Dayton Walk to Emmaus ministry. The following agreed to serve a three year term.

**Agape Chair: AJ Puderbaugh**

Runs the Agape Room during all walks. Collects, sorts agape, prepares Sunday letter packets.

**Documentation Chair: Shelly Miller**

Keeps all of our paperwork current, including the weekend guidelines used by ALD's and LOG's, provides forms and information for Lay Directors and orders all forms for the work of Emmaus.

**Secretary: Kristina Vogel**

Part of the Executive Committee of the Board. Takes minutes of all Board meetings. Collects and deposits all cash and checks, providing a deposit report to the Treasurer.

**Men's Worship Chair: Open**

Prepares monthly gathering, along with the Women's Worship Chair. Provides the sound system set up at walks

**Normandy Rep/Book Table Chair: Open**

The representative of Emmaus to Normandy Church. This person is the go-to person for either side pertaining to any issues. In addition, this person orders and returns the books at every walk.



# From the Spiritual Director



## Christmas Every Day

When my son Matthew was about 10 years old, he came up to me a few weeks before Christmas and said, “Dad, can I ask you a question?” Now, I knew that phrase can involve a question that extends from the trivial “Can I borrow a dollar?” to the deep and heart moving. You just never knew with Matthew.

He asked, “If it was Christmas every day, would you stay home with us?” I quickly pondered the variety of possible reasons he would asked this question. Had I been away from home too many nights? Had I missed something in his life that he felt was important? In those brief moments as pondered and wondered if I was failing as a parent, Matthew added, “I guess if it was Christmas every day, we would go broke in about... seven days.”

If Christmas is simply about buying presents, having lavish feasts, and staying home from work, it probably would not take Matthew’s seven days to become completely spent, financially and emotionally. “Make every day Christmas Day” is a nice statement, but the way many people look at Christmas, it would be disastrous.

Stuart Briscoe, writing in “Christianity Today”, stated, “The spirit of Christmas needs to be superseded by the Spirit of Christ. The spirit of Christmas is annual; the Spirit of Christ is eternal. The spirit of Christmas is sentimental; the Spirit of Christ is supernatural. The spirit of Christmas is a human product; the Spirit of Christ is a divine person. That makes all the difference in the world.”

The whole purpose of Christmas was to make a difference: in the lives of people throughout history, in the hope of humanity, in the relationship between Creator and creation. Our sole purpose in live and the holidays should be: Christ every day.

De Colores,

Gary Wheeler  
Spiritual Director





# Pray for One Another

## Say "Yes" At Christmas

And Mary said, "Yes" when the angel came,  
 not knowing all it would mean.  
 For "yes" was only the beginning.  
 "Yes" to giving birth in a cold, dark stable,  
 while cows and sheep looked on.  
 "Yes" to a sword that pierced her soul, as her  
 Son died on a cross, while she looked on.  
 And Mary said, "Yes, let it be."  
 But do I? Do I say, "Yes" when God calls to me?  
 Oh, not through an angel who comes in the  
 night,  
 But maybe a pastor  
 who asks if I'll lead Sunday school class;  
 Or a former friend  
 who calls to mend our broken  
 or a stranger  
 who wonders if I might spare some change for food.  
 And for a moment as I ponder what to say,  
 does God's purpose flicker like a flame  
 in a sudden breeze,  
 to be snuffed out by "no,"  
 or to burn even brighter with the power of "yes"?  
 For "yes" is only a beginning.  
 "Yes," I'll give my time to sharing God's Word.  
 "Yes," I'll end a quarrel by forgiving another, and myself.  
 "Yes," I'll share what I have with on in need.  
 For somehow I know that even to the small questions,  
 God needs to hear my "yes"  
 as much as He needed to hear Mary's.





# Giving Our Hands to Christ



## Sponsorship: Seeking Pilgrims for Men's Walk

Please start talking with perspective pilgrims and submit applications NOW to insure a place on the next Walk. We need more men signed up to attend the upcoming walk in January.

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

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

Sponsorship Training: Available before Gatherings at 6:30

Application Forms: On website, under registration tab, or link:  
<http://daytonemmaus.org/deForms.shtml>



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



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



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