



Greater Dayton Community
450 W. Alex-Bell Rd., Centerville, OH 45459

July Newsletter

Vol. 29 No. 7, 2018

2018 WALK SCHEDULE

At Sulphur Grove UMC
WW #104 July 19-22
MW #66 August 23-26

CANDLELIGHT
8:30PM Saturday of Walk

CLOSING
4:30PM Sunday of Walk

NEXT GATHERING
Monday, July 9
2nd Monday Every Month
7:15 PM, Normandy UMC

BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, July 24
7PM, Normandy UMC

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Communication Chair

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newsletter@daytonemmaus.org

Chairman's Corner

"My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

ARE WE PREPARED?

We, as disciples in our Greater Dayton Emmaus Community, make a choice every day to listen to the whisper and obey the urging of the Holy Spirit within us. In July, we will be welcoming our new sister pilgrims into our midst and we are called to be ready and prepare the way with compassion, generosity, joy, and prayer. Those pilgrims and these team members have chosen the Emmaus model to answer the urging of the Holy Spirit. We have been chosen to prepare the Way. A healthy Emmaus community demonstrates itself in sponsors and pilgrims who are seeking a way to demonstrate their faith; longing for a time of intimacy with Jesus with no outside distractions; investing time and energy into a refreshing renewing of the Spirit of the living God within them. A healthy Emmaus Community shows itself as the hands and feet of Jesus that carry luggage, cook meals, set up and tear down of the luxurious accommodations, preparing table agape, and with sponsor/pilgrim fellowship both pre-walk and post-walk. Are we prepared?

The Greater Dayton Board members have decided that during the month of July, we will engage in focused, intentional prayer and fasting. Will you join us? We are asking for God's guidance and wisdom to yield to His will for our Community. Please tell your friends and spread the word and PRAY! Here are some of our prayer concerns: Sponsors and Pilgrims; Teams and Team Roles; Host and Home Church and their Pastors; Gathering participants. Check this month's newsletter for more information!

Peace,

Barbara Courtice
Community Lay Director

Community Prayer

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” —Matthew 18:20 KJV

The Emmaus community believes that with prayer and fasting, the Holy Spirit will reveal some amazing things to us as we pray for our Emmaus community! Please join us in prayer for the next two weeks.

Week One	Prayer Intention	The Word of the LORD
July 2	Sponsorship	Isaiah 50:4; 1 Corinthians 11:1
July 3	Pilgrims	Deut.4:29; Proverbs 8:17; Matthew 7:7-8
July 4	Team formation	Psalms 4:3; Romans 12:1-2
July 5	Team health and welfare	Philippians 2:4
July 6	NUMC and pastor	Matthew 7:7
Week Two	Prayer Intention	The Word of the LORD
July 9	SGUMC church and pastor	2 Corinthians 9:8
July 10	Pre-Walk/Post-Walk sponsor and pilgrim fellowship	Mark 1:18; John 13:12-17
July 11	Wisdom and Discernment	John 14:26; John 16:13
July 12	Community servant participation and renewed interest in Emmaus and 4th Day activities	Romans 14:7-8; Ephesians 3:16
July 13	GDE Board accountability	Isaiah 41:13

Emmaus Worldwide

Every weekend there is an Emmaus walk going on somewhere in the world, let's remember them in prayer on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Below are some upcoming Emmaus Communities who have specifically requested our prayers and Agape:

Heart of Ohio Emmaus

Men's #58 9/13-16,

Women's #69 10/18-21

Face to Face Encounter 8/14 , 8/21, 8/28, 9/4

Gulf Coast Walk to Emmaus

Men's- October 4-7, 2018

Women's - October 11-14, 2018

New York Annual Conference Emmaus

Women's 10/18-21

Columbus, Indiana Chrysalis Community

This community has lost its Agape file and is asking for Share Group or Community agape. Please email to Community Lay Director of the Chrysalis Community, Leah Griffin: leahgriffin14@gmail.com



www.westohiochrysalis.com

West Ohio Girls Chrysalis #66 - July 6-8, 2018
West Ohio Boys Chrysalis #66 - July 27-29, 2018

www.kairosohio.org



Return Clean Mat Covers

The new sleeping mats have arrived and some of the old covers are being cleaned by community members (thank you!). They can be returned at the Gathering in July. We are particularly blessed to announce that the Sewing group from our home church, Normandy United Methodist are sewing new covers for some of these mats! This is an outstanding blessing and a big thank you to Pastor Riggs, Bob Knell and the sewing group from Normandy UMC!

We are still accepting monetary donations to defray the cost of the mats (each mat costs about \$50). Please mark your checks "mats" and drop in the offering basket at the Gathering, or send to the Greater Dayton Emmaus; PO Box 292224; Dayton Ohio 45429-2224.

Frustrated!!!

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."
—Acts 20:35b

I usually write any Emmaus newsletter article two weeks before the end of the month. Brenda Donnelly does such an outstanding job with our Greater Dayton Emmaus newsletter that I want to be sure to submit my article as soon as possible so that she doesn't have to wait for me.

But the notification from my To-Do list to write this article was honestly not a happy little reminder.

You see, today, I'm just about whipped, and it's only 10 AM! Myra and I are so tired that sometimes, it's all we can do to encourage one another to keep going.

We still own a home in Fairfield, Ohio that we bought just before the bubble burst in 2007. It has been underwater ever since. We were able to find renters to live in it for the past 6½ years when we moved to Germantown.

Now that the real estate market is hot in the area, and we have a chance to at least break even, we decided to have the renters move out and sell it. Unfortunately, the house was trashed when we got inside. So for the past 32 days, we have been hauling out trash, replacing toilets and faucets (yes, they took the ones they put in), scrubbing walls stained with the smoke of cigarettes and some other illegal smokes, replacing filthy carpet and painting from top to bottom. We replaced 25 dead light bulbs and repaired 15 out of 20 screen windows. Every time we go and fix some things, we add 4 or 5 more things to do. This week, I will spend one day in the office and three days at the house in the hopes of finishing everything to get it on the market. We are not rehabbers and are ready for this to be finished.

Plus today, I need to work on eleven talks that I will be giving next week at church camp. I will be the Pastor of the Week at Camp Wesley in Bellefontaine. This is my third year to do this because I believe so much in Christian Camping. But eleven talks are a lot to get ready.

Then I was asked to give the Justifying Grace talk at the July Women's Walk, and I need to preview it this week!

Right now, I affirm the sentiment one of my parishioners had once when she said, "I know God never gives me more than I can handle, but I sometimes wonder if He has mistaken me for someone else!"

Often when we find ourselves taxed to the breaking point, we can get frustrated. Why did this have to happen? Why can't I fix it? Why did I let myself get into this mess?

Too many things on one's plate can lead to frustration, but the Holy Spirit whispers into my ear asking, "On whose strength are you relying?" And I know that if I utilize my own strength, I will fail, falter and get frustrated.

Isaiah wrote, "Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Are you frustrated with circumstances in life, whether it be a person, a situation, or maybe a potential?

In whose strength are you resting?

Gary Wheeler
Spiritual Director

Women's Walk #104 at Sulphur Grove UMC

July 19 - 22, 2018 Roster

PILGRIM	CITY
Teresa Abrams	Trotwood
Tynese Anderson	Bellefontaine
Jodi Blacklidge	New Carlisle
Karen Farmer	Speedwell, TN
Anise Germain	Union
Michelle Hayes	Kettering
Carolyn Hickman	Middletown
Victoria Hubbard	Dayton
Rebecca Kistner	Dayton
Karri Lewis	Dayton
Rebecca Lewis	Dayton
Tonya McDougale	Trotwood
Patricia Miller	Vandalia
Patricia Newton	New Carlisle
Kathy Paice	Xenia
Ciara Reffitt	Jamestown
Tracy Rutherford	New Carlisle
Kristen Scolastico	Dayton
Karen Shapiro	Beavercreek
Amy St John	West Alexandria
Susan Stouffer	Beavercreek
Brandis Stump	Fairborn

TEAM MEMBER	POSITION	TALK
Rita Anspach	LOG	
Melodie Byrd	PS	
Leroy Chambliss	ASD	Means of Grace
Julia Crawl	ALD	4th Days
Pam DeHart	PS	
Amanda DerSarkisian	TL	Life of Piety
Brenda Donnelly	TL	Changing Our World
Michelle Flannery	LOG	
Andie Girard	ATL	
Lori Gentry	LD	Perseverance
Karen Hall	ASD	Obstacles to Grace
Xenia Jean-Louis	ATL	
Athena Johnson	ATL	
Jennifer Ketring	AMD	
Kathy Kitchel	TL	Body of Christ
Juanita Krisher	TL	Christian Action
Jill Marra	TL	Priesthood of all Believers
Fritz Merkes	ASD	Prevenient Grace
Shelly Miller	ALD	Grow Through Study
Teresa Moore	LOG	
Melanie Morrett	MD	
Mary Morrow	ALD	Priority
AJ Puderbaugh	BR	
Allyn Richied	ATL	
Samantha Smith	TL	Discipleship
Dona Speakman	ATL	
Pam Wantz	SD	Sanctifying Grace
Joyce Woodall	ATL	
Gary Wheeler	ASD	Justifying Grace

Attention Sponsors:

On Sunday, please arrive around 4 - 4:15pm for the closing at Sulphur Grove UMC and please:

1. Park in the back/rear lot to load your pilgrim's luggage.
2. Enter through back door to eating area to go to Closing as a group.

How Many Pilgrims Make for a Healthy Walk?

The minimum number of Pilgrims for a healthy and dynamic Emmaus Walk is twenty (20). The minimum has been met for the Women's Walk in July; the Men's Walk has not met the minimum yet! There is still time! The summer Walks are coming soon and there is room at the tables for more Pilgrims who are ready to experience a more deeply lived "Life in Grace".

Sponsorship Training: Available before Gatherings at 6:30pm in Loggia at Normandy UMC

Application Forms: available at www.daytonemmaus.org, under forms tab, or [CLICK HERE](#).

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

Men's Registrar, Bill Jones at mensregistrar@daytonemmaus.org

The Big Move

Help load up summer walk supplies at Normandy UMC on Saturday, July 14 at 9am and then, unload at Sulphur Grove UMC on Wednesday, July 18 at 6pm — bring your friends, spouse or share group partners. Questions? Call Steve Uphouse (937) 435-0028.

Bring me in, Dear Lord, help me grow!

"You're my cave to hide in, my cliff to climb. Be my safe leader, be my true mountain guide. Free me from hidden traps; I want to hide in you. I've put my life in your hands. You won't drop me, you'll never let me down." —Ps. 31:3-5

Let us feel safe in the cave of the Lord, to rest and rejuvenate. So much of our lives are spent acquiring, moving, sharing and digging into our daily work. With so much expenditure externally, it seems life hardly offers time necessary process what's happening to us. We're on to the next thing before we snap a finger.

Our Emmaus community, share groups, church groups and activities act as our sacred cave where we meet with grace and love; a worthy retreat from the bustle of life. We convene in praise of our good Father and receive vital nourishment. We must be aware of what we, directly or indirectly, deposit in the cave.

Stalactites and stalagmites are the icicle-like structures that hang in caves. The stalactites drip water to the matching stalagmites below, forming calcium deposits. Their growth is painstakingly slow at the rate of 13mm a year. After thousands of years, the two structures finally meet as one. Thankfully, our spiritual growth is usually a bit quicker to evolve, especially when nurtured by a great church family and our Emmaus community.

The interesting thing about the stalactites and stalagmites is that they continue to grow in the cave for thousands of years until they are complete; but touched by human hands just once retards their growth forever. Sealed by the oils of human touch, the structures remain suspended without further growth. This is reflective of how we can easily affect our communities either positively or negatively with our thoughts, actions and deeds. We honor each other's individuality with a respectful and protective quality when we use right action, right speech and good judgement. May we be fully unified in Christ as we invite new pilgrims and new members under His wing.

"What a stack of blessings you have piled up for those who worship you, Ready and waiting for all who run to You to escape an unkind world. You hide them safely away from the opposition as you slam the door on those oily, mocking faces. Blessed God!" —Ps. 31:19

Let us take refuge in our Emmaus community as we share His message with the world; inviting new pilgrims and members knowing each person is recognizing and receiving God in their unique way.

Praise Jesus!

Michele Cremeans
Good Shepherd/Outreach

Share Group Partners

Please connect with these members to create a new share group or invite them into yours:

Alyssa Miller of Pickerington adspeechpath@gmail.com /Will travel

Chris Miller of Pickerington Cmilleractual@gmail.com/Will travel

Karen Heydinger of Dayton heydinger.829@gmail.com /Will travel as far south as Franklin

David Brooks of Union 937-204-0596 /Will travel

If you'd like your information published in the monthly Emmaus newsletter to find a share group, please contact Michele Cremeans at goodshepherd@daytonemmaus.org

Share Group Mentor

Maryann Schum of Kettering (will travel) Dennisandmaryann@gmail.com is available to meet with new and budding share groups a few times to help them become comfortable with the process.

40 Year Anniversary Cruise

Join us as we celebrate “40 years of the Walk to Emmaus Ministry” by joining us on a Caribbean cruise!

Experience a time of fellowship, music, worship and fun with fellow Emmaus pilgrims! Each morning you will have the opportunity to share in worship together. When we are at sea, you will have the opportunity to hear speakers talk about their Emmaus experiences and how it affected their Christian lives:



Rev. Stephen Bryant currently serves and Publisher of The Upper Room and Associate General Secretary at Discipleship Ministries. From 1986-1992, he served as Director of Spiritual Formation for The Upper Room and as the International Spiritual Director of The Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis. Steve is an author and launched Discipleship Resources International, a resourcing initiative for Central Conferences.

Pat Luna is an international consultant/instructor in stewardship, board member of the General Board of Church and Society and a recipient of the Denman Award for Evangelism. She has been a retreat leader for the Academy for Spiritual Formation and is deeply involved with the Emmaus ministry since her Walk in 1985.

Jacob and Rachel Armstrong founded Providence Church near Nashville TN in 2008 to see those who are disconnected from God and the church find hope, healing and wholeness in Jesus Christ. They co-authored the book *The Connected Life: Small Groups that Build Community*. Jacob attended Chrysalis in 1998 where he felt called to the ministry. Rachel attended the Walk to Emmaus in 2002.

Emmaus Ministries staff will share about newer ministries like Discovery Weekend, Chrysalis, Journey to the Table, and Face to Face in a question and answer period. When we are in port you will have an entire day to discover Cozumel, Mexico.

The link to download a brochure, get more information and to register is: <http://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/cc19032819y#.WsTpEFI5Dcs>

You are welcome to share this with your community through your newsletters or email.

Registration is now open!

Time to Sign Up

Recently, a friend of mine went to the Holy Land. His pictures on Facebook reminded me of the trip Myra and I were on last November, and got me excited about the trip scheduled for 2019.

You can now sign up for the Greater Dayton Emmaus Community trip to the Holy Land October 28—November 7, 2019. We will see the places of Scripture, deepen your understanding of the Bible, and walk in the footsteps of Jesus, plus share Communion at Emmaus. There will be optional extensions afterwards, either retracing the Exodus to Mt. Sinai, Cairo, and the pyramids, or go to Jordan, Mt. Nebo, and Petra. The trip will be organized through Educational Opportunities, a travel company that has specialized in Christian trips since 1974.



Church at the Shepherds' Field in Bethlehem.

To register, visit germantownchurch.com/grow/holy-land-trip-2019/ or contact Gary Wheeler at 937.204.4400.