



July 2015 Edition of the Greater Scioto Valley Emmaus Community Newsletter

Greetings and Blessings to you all.

This newsletter is to prepare you for the upcoming election in November. You will receive a ballot before October 15th and must return it before November 15th. In order to vote intelligently you must have knowledge of the offices to which you are electing candidates. Even though you elect candidates to the Board, you do not elect them into specific positions on that board. The Board of Directors shall name the board members to the standing committees.

We are planning Walks.

We are planning a Woman's Walk on February 18 – 21st 2016. Because this is on the 3rd weekend, the Gathering will be on the 4th Thursday. ("Emmaus meets of the 3rd Thursday of each month, except when it doesn't.")

We are planning Men's Walks for October 15th – 18th of 2015 and June 23 – 26th of 2016. The June Walk is like the Women's; It moves the Gathering ahead one week.

We would like to have, at least 16 Pilgrims for these walks. (We had to cancel the Spring Men's and Fall Woman's Walks for lack of enthusiasm.) Please start NOW to get your Pilgrims applications in. This is important. Without Pilgrims we cannot have Walks. If we cannot have Walks, we cannot have an Emmaus Community. Remember, Emmaus is formed to develop Christians to return to their church and become leaders. Give thoughtful prayer to the selection of your Pilgrims.

Other Board Actions

The Board has agreed to give Trinity Church the Offering Collections from the March through September Gathering to help with the remodel of the church kitchen. After September, ½ of the offering collections will be set aside in a fund to assist Pilgrims who cannot afford the fee for the Walk. ("Scholarship Fund")

We have joined Kroger's Community Support Program. This means that if you go to their website and register with them, they will send GSVE check for a percentage of the purchases our members make each fiscal quarter.

Communications

We have a Facebook Page. It is Greater-Scioto-Valley-Emmaus. It is probably the quickest way to learn of up-coming events and to keep up with the local "news". There is a place there for you to comment and others to see your thoughts. So link to the page and be up to date. Julie Hill and I keep this page as best we can.

We still have a webpage. On the webpage you can find Pilgrim Applications, sponsorship help, a calendar, this newsletter, links to other communities. It is a place to sign up to help on the Kitchen and Housekeeping teams. Also, please use the form on the webpage to update your information. We have "lost" a lot of people who have changed addresses, phone numbers, even names and we cannot communicate with them. Please, help us find these lost souls and make sure you are not one of them.

FYI

We have a baby sitter available for you at the Gatherings.

You can bring a prospective Pilgrim to a Gathering to give them a taste of the fellowship.

You need to wear your cross and name badge to each Gathering, and other events you attend (Candlelight, Closing, etc.)

The Gatherings are still on the third Thursday of each month. (Except when they conflict with Walks or other functions.) They start at 7:00pm and are followed by refreshments. Usually these are a carry in potluck. Everyone brings their best stuff!

In Christ's Love,

Ed Isenberger, Editor

From the Community Lay Director

Greetings and blessings to you!

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and living the life that God has designed for you.

Your GSVE board is working hard on every aspect of the GSVE community, not just selecting lay directors and teams but planning for walks farther ahead and laying the groundwork for future boards, teams, and Emmaus Walks. We have discovered that a major ingredient to the success of Emmaus Walks is missing. That missing ingredient may be you!

The first talk of your Walk to Emmaus was called "Priorities." I'm asking for each of you to prayerfully review your priorities and search to know God's will for you. You may find that "life" has taken over. You may find that you need to refocus. I often find myself confusing activity with accomplishment. I tend to get so busy that I concentrate on the easy tasks that are quick to accomplish, leaving the larger, more important things to stack up and be neglected. I find that I must re-prioritize often and remember that my priority system is 1) service to God's Kingdom, 2) service to my family, and 3) service to my profession.

When I put God first, things just naturally come together better. When I allow the other needs in life to overpower "service to God," the wheels tend to fall off. When the wheels fall off, Satan wins!

Dates to remember:

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|-----------------------|---|
| August 20, 2015 | Community Gathering @ 7:00 pm |
| September 10-13, 2015 | Women's Emmaus Walk |
| September 17, 2015 | Community Gathering @ 7:00 pm |
| October 15-18, 2015 | Men's Emmaus Walk |
| October 22, 2015 | Community Gathering @ 7:00 pm |
| November 19, 2015 | Community Gathering @ 7:00 pm |
| December 17, 2015 | Community Christmas Gathering @ 7:00 pm |

Now, back to that missing ingredient. Please pray about your priorities. Would you ask God where you should put Emmaus and Chrysalis? We need help at every position--teams, kitchen, housekeeping, agape, 72-hour prayer vigil, community gatherings, and more. I pray that you can move Emmaus and Chrysalis a little higher on your priority list. The future pilgrims and caterpillars need you so that their experience will be as wonderful as yours.

May God bless you all,
Don Newsome

Nominations Committee

Have you ever wondered what keeps our Emmaus Community going? The simple answer to that question is you. Without your prayers, help during walks, sponsorship during walks, attendance at gatherings, and desire to share this great experience with others, GSVE cannot and will not exist. Your involvement and participation keeps us going.

Have you ever wondered if there is more you could do or do you want to be more involved with Emmaus? There are many opportunities for your involvement. One way to be "in the know" is to join the Emmaus Board. Each Emmaus Community is led by a Board of Directors who "oversee the quality of the program." At the end of each year, an election is held to vote on new board members who will be asked to serve a three year term.

The board meets every month before the gathering at 5:30 in the conference room. Board membership requires your prayers, attendance during meetings, gatherings and walks, and working with one of the committees that helps accomplish the tasks involved with a walk or gathering. The time commitment is really kept to a minimum so don't let that discourage you.

We are currently seeking interested candidates to run for election. If elected, you would serve on the Emmaus Board of Directors starting January 2016. We have 5 lay member positions and 2 clergy member positions we will be filling. If you are ready to step up and step out to serve in a new or perhaps even a familiar way (former board members may serve on the board again and are welcome to run), we would like to hear from you. If interested, please contact me at (740)703-2893.

Diana Skinner

Agape Committee

We all remember and cherish the gifts we received on our Walks. It takes quite a bit of time each day to collect and properly distribute these little items. To get the Bedtime Agape distributed correctly and put all the letters and paraphernalia together for the pilgrims as they leave. The Agape director's position on the Emmaus Board is to also correspond with the other Emmaus Communities notifying them of our Walk dates and sending them letters of encouragement for their Pilgrims.

Kimberly Buchanan kbuchanan@adena.org

Community Spiritual Director

We have a new Community Spiritual Director. She is Pastor Carol Davis. She is the Pastor at Mt. Carmel UMC on Egypt Pike, Chillicothe. Thank you, Pastor Carol!

Contact her at cad218@gmail.com

Community Training

The Emmaus Community's traditions and vision, common memory and common mind concerning the weekend model can be shared and passed on at the monthly Gathering. The instructional element should be presented as brief educational efforts to communicate the essentials of the Emmaus Movement, weekend model and Fourth Day. Education can be done at the opening or closing of refreshment time. Topics to be addressed could be keeping reunion groups vital, sponsorship, servant hood and fourth day application within the local church. Community training is to be done annually. Training provides opportunities of greater understanding and appreciation of the Emmaus Movement, the Emmaus Weekend, and the Fourth Day method of living in Grace. Training provides access to everyone to information that may be otherwise appear to be the possession of a few, longtime leaders. Leadership training communicates to the community a common understanding of what is expected on Emmaus Weekends. Training events provide a forum for people to share their learnings about sponsorship, weekend enabling, some aspects of team leadership, or living in the Fourth Day. The annual training event begins on Friday evening and with a meeting of the entire board and continues all day Saturday with training for the entire community. If you have any question or ideas for training please contact me at 740-820-8557 or at philandwanda@hotmail.com

Phil Howard

Good Shepherd Committee

The Good Shepherd position on the Emmaus Board is to collate and co-ordinate the Share Group Ministries. This is the person that should have the lists of small groups available to give to new members upon completion of their Walk. This is also the person to contact if you are in need of a Share Group to attend.

This ministry cannot function without the input of Share Group leaders as to the meeting times and locations, and current members. Please, send me the name of your share group, the members names, the day you meet, and if you are allowing anyone new in group.

Please send info to me at laurabeth73@frontier.com.

Thanks,

Laura Miller

Housekeeping Committee

Housekeeping!

Sounds like fun, or maybe not so much. Housekeeping is another big part of each Emmaus weekend. It is a huge part of the Agape that the Emmaus community contributes to each pilgrim to show God's unconditional Love.

It really is a great way to take 30 to 45 minutes in the morning or evening (8:30AM or 6:00PM Thursday thru Saturday) and clean the restrooms as they were clean for you on your walk. We also set up on Wednesday evening at 5:00PM and tear down on Sunday morning at 6:30AM. Instructions are posted at the servants entrance by the Kitchen at Trinity UMC during the weekends.

It is a great way to come as an individual or with a friend or the whole share group and fellowship as you serve the Lord, doing his work.

If you are interested you can sign up on the GSVEmmaus.org or you can contact me at 740-998-2881 or email jrharper@horizonview.net.

God Bless

Rick Harper

Kitchen Committee

The Kitchen Committee's first focus is to have and to share Christ's love with everyone who enters our central hub. Our second focus is to serve each other, sharing the duties of chopping, stirring, reading recipes, cleaning, serving pilgrims, and the occasional "whatever" would come our way. We enjoy catering to comfort of pilgrims as they embark on a weekend of solely being on God's time. We must also plan the weekend's meals and purchase the needed supplies.

Inez Ruth, Inez.ruth@yahoo.com

Music Committee

Music is an integral part of the Emmaus experience. It can set the mood for our functions. It can give praise to God. It can provide our entertainment. Music IS important to Emmaus. We need musicians. Not only for the Walks; but for the Gatherings as well. Please contact me if you could help us fill this area of our ministry.

Jerry Kunz, jkunz@kunzmedical.com

Outreach and Social Committee

This is a very important ministry in our community. We take it for granted that there will be beverages for the Gatherings, that the tables will be arranged properly. That the area will be cleaned up and everything put in its proper place afterwards. We know there will be Communion Elements, when needed. This is all under the auspices of the Outreach/Social Committee.

When we have a Walk, on Saturday night, these people make certain the candles work, pass them out and collect them . They set up the lighting for the stairways. They take care of the audio systems at the Walks and Gatherings.

These people never fail to get the job done and we never see them.

Michelle Duncan, michelleduncan02@hotmail.com.

Purchasing Committee

This is the committee that makes sure you have all the materials needed for the Walk; with the exception of the kitchen committee's needs. They keep all the supplies updated and stocked. Sound simple? Want to help? Drop Mike Matheney a line @ matheney2003@yahoo.com .

Registration Committee

This is the Committee that handles the registration, collects the fees, gets the name badges ready and provides the information needed by all the other people to make a Walk happen. This committee's work is the basis of a member's files for the duration of their membership.

Julie Hill, Julie.hill.trinity.@gmail.com

Sponsorship Committee

This is one of the most important positions on the Emmaus Board. For without Pilgrims we will, eventually, cease to exist. Contact Don Mundy for more information, tylerpastor@horizonview.net .

Team Selection Committee

This committee is made up of the Vice Chair of the Board, the Community Spiritual Director, and a few members of the community selected by the board. Currently these folks are Jamie Rout, dinadon@horizonview.net , Pastor Carol Davis, cad218@gmail.com, Gretchen Deck, gdeck154@gmail.com, Doug Scott, rdscott1234@gmail.com and Louann Drummond, drummond.louann05@gmail.com. These people are responsible for selecting the team for the upcoming Walks. They look at each candidate's church activities, their participation in our Community their membership in a Share Group and experience to select those who qualify.

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