



Darke County Emmaus Community Newsletter

From Our Community Lay Director—Gerald Miller

Imagine

Imagine that your life is over, you are heading into heaven, paradise, seeing and experiencing things which before you couldn't begin to imagine. If you were able, would you go back to earth?

Probably not.

But there are things you'll never be able to do again, even in heaven, things you could only have done in the time you had on earth.

Like what? You think...

Faith, you will never be able to live by faith.

But in heaven.....

In heaven you will see what you believe in. but you'll never again be able to stand in faith or choose to believe God. Earth, not heaven, is the place of faith. And in heaven you will never again be able to choose to stand with God in the face of opposition. That, too, can only be done on earth. In heaven you will never again be able to repent or bless God by turning down sin. In heaven you will never again have the chance to share salvation with an unsaved, or bring a life out of darkness and into the light. Everyone will know God there! In heaven you will never again be able to help someone in need or to bless God by doing so because heaven has no needs. In heaven you will never again have the honor of standing with God when it costs you to do so or to share in his reproach. In heaven you will never again be able to sacrifice for God, because there is no loss there. And in heaven you will never again be able to overcome or become victorious. There is nothing to overcome or become victorious over. The place for victory is only on earth. And the time for all these things is now while on earth, not in heaven. You see, earth is a most awesome place and every moment spent here on earth is a most precious gift, one that we will never have again, even in the eternity of heaven.

Are there things still needed to be done? Let's make the most of all opportunities while they are still available. Let's live this day as if it were our last and do now what, in heaven, we can never do again.

In Christ's Love, Gerald

*They asked each other,
"Were not our hearts
burning within us while he
talked with us on the
road and opened the
Scriptures to us?"*

Luke 24:32

Board Members

Pastor Rick Gutheil—Spiritual Director

Community Lay Director—Gerald Miller

Asst. Community Lay Director—Betsy Berger

Leadership—Kevin Judy

Secretary—Chris Matthew

Treasurer—Melissa Werling

Kitchen—Chris Hammaker

*Logistics—

Agape—Deb Gutheil

Men's Good Shepherd—Jeff Feitshans

*Women's Good Shepherd—

Purchasing—Brittany Melton

Registration/Sponsorship—Carla Detling

*Worship—

Music—Todd Matthew

*Kairos Rep—

Chrysalis Rep—Allison Dill

Newsletter—Connie McCabe

*Social—

*FUMC Rep—

Web Servant—Allison Dill

Historian—MaryAnne Furlong

Database—Heather Medve

*paraphrased article taken from Jonathan Cahn's Book of Mysteries

A message from our CSD— Pastor Rick Gutheil

Gift Giving

Greetings Emmaus brothers and sisters! I pray you are all well and ready for an exciting holiday season.

As we draw closer and closer to the Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations the question that we hear asked quite often is “What do you want for Christmas?” My answer to that question, much to the dismay of my wife, family and friends, is usually “I don’t know” or I don’t care.” That doesn’t go over very well but it is an honest answer for me.

I have found that as I grow older it really doesn’t matter what I’m given, or even if I don’t receive any material thing. It really never mattered before I walked with Jesus and it matters even less to me now that I have a loving, intimate relationship with Christ my Lord.

The song “Give Me Jesus” is what comes to my mind as I write this today.

“In the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus. Give me Jesus. Give me Jesus! You can have all this world, but give me Jesus.”

What great lyrics! Simple. Direct. Complete. What else do we really need? If we have Jesus, we have a direct line to everything we truly need! And not just a little, an ABUNDANT supply! Enough for your time of need. Enough for your opportunity to give! Enough always, everyday! From Jehovah Jireh, our Provider an abundant supply of what we need. Not want or desire, but need!

What do you want for Christmas? What do you have that you can give to someone in need? The answer is Jesus. Are you willing to give Him to someone this year? this week? this day?

Let us always remember that Christmas Day can and should be celebrated everyday because Jesus is born anew in someone’s heart every single day!

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus let us remember He is THE greatest gift and we are called to share this gift with the world.

Give Me Jesus!

Rick Gutheil

Community Spiritual Director

Mary Magdalene Longs for the Messiah

My name is Mary & I am from the city of Magdala. My hometown is a large city which is located on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee. We are a very prosperous city because of our location, fertile land & water springs. The Arbel Creek flows through our city & the ancient road leads from here to Cana and on to Nazareth.

I am not married; thus I am known as Mary Magdalene, or Mary from Magdala. I have more than enough wealth for myself. But I am not happy. I am alone except for the spirits of darkness that live inside me. They taunt and torment me constantly. They control my thoughts, my actions, my words. There are times when I feel completely insane. Will it ever stop? Will they only grow in force and in number? How long must this darkness last? I feel as though I am in chains, bound by the darkness. I long to be free. I want to see light, feel light inside me. I long for silence from the voices I hear, rebuilding of the devastation inside me. For years, I have known only darkness and hopelessness as the number of spirits have grown inside me. The darkness and hopelessness grow with every passing year. Days are bad but the nights are worse. I hardly sleep at all. I long for rest. When is the Messiah, the deliverer, coming? He is my only hope.

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion-- to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks; foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers; but you shall be called the priests of the LORD; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God; you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory you shall boast. Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy. (Isaiah 61:1-7)

Mary Magdalene longed for the appearance of the Messiah. He came into her life, set her free, and she worshipped Him with her whole life. As we celebrate His arrival to this earth, let's ponder in our hearts the depth of our longing for Him. Also, what do we do when He does appear? For He certainly does appear in every day of our lives. With His every appearance, will I fully accept Him as Mary Magdalene did? Will I follow Him closely, be completely dedicated to Him, His way, His Kingdom work? Am I changed because of His appearance? As we enter this Christmas season, may we worship the Lord Jesus in more purity than we ever have before.

Betsy Berger, Community Assistant Lay Director

Just Some Thoughts—Connie McCabe, Newsletter chair

Remember...remember back to the time when you were a pilgrim on your Emmaus Walk? How did you feel? Excited? Nervous? Scared? Did you think you were actually going to walk somewhere? And do you remember the buzz phrase was "Don't Anticipate"? What a wonderful time we all had on our original walks. Do you remember all the Agape love that was expressed on your walk? For a lot of us that was the first time we had ever heard that term as well. I hear so many times at closings that the pilgrims couldn't believe everyone took time away from their families to spend the weekend doing this. But we did. And we loved it. And we did it over and over again.

For me it made me want to serve when I had no idea what that really meant. I went on my original walk in 1996. My name is Connie McCabe, I went on the Greater Sidney Area Emmaus Walk #6 and sat at the table of Martha *clap* It's crazy how fast time goes by. I can't believe it's been almost 25 years ago.

Darke county Emmaus was in its planning stages when I went on my walk. And the first weekend was held in the summer of 1997. Some of you Darke County Emmaus Veterans may remember I was very pregnant with our now 23-year-old son, but I came out and served as much as I could. I loved serving the meals, I loved coming to the candlelight. I couldn't wait until closing to hear all the testimonies of how God worked in the lives of the pilgrims over the course of the weekend. And I loved talking with the team members after a walk to hear how God also worked in their lives over the course of the time they prepared and served the pilgrims. And we couldn't wait until the monthly gatherings so we could see all our sweet friends again and get those Emmaus hugs. Do you remember?

Our Emmaus Community was a very big part of our spiritual lives at one time. We were so on fire after our walk that we couldn't wait to sponsor our friends and family on the next walk. We were having 3 women's walks and 2 men's walks each year. And we even had a waiting list for pilgrims. And people were so eager to serve that it would take no time to fill a team and get the meetings started. We would make it a priority to support our friends and family members at the candlelights and closings, or to help prep, cook and serve meals.

Remember forming your share group, maybe it was with the other pilgrims at your table or with friends who had gone before you. It was a time to meet together and encourage each other and strengthen your faith. Remember getting together with your share group and coming up with an idea and creating agape gifts for the next walk? I remember helping my sister Deb in the Agape room and there was so much agape that the room was full! We had such a great time checking out what people had come up with.

Remember getting the call to work on your first team? All those feelings came flooding back again – nervousness, excitement, fear...and you finally get to the walk weekend and you have AHA moments all weekend! You get to see what actually goes on 'behind the scenes' of an Emmaus walk. Then you listen to the speakers and think "Oh I could NEVER do a talk' and God says "Wanna bet?" And the next thing you know you're holding your talk in your hand and walk into the conference room on cue and the Holy Spirit just takes over and when you're done you almost don't even remember doing your talk... Remember?

Remember when the candlelights were so full we couldn't fit everyone in the sanctuary? And closings...wanting to get there early so you could get in the front of the line to get a good seat because the sanctuary would fill up then too. I remember laughing until I cried at some of the testimonies and crying so much I was a hot mess! One pilgrim told us his wife had packed for him and had forgotten to pack his underwear! He said you've been hugging a man with no underwear all weekend! Everyone cracked up. I also remember a pilgrim who had had a run in with a Sheriff and she saw him serving on the weekend and she was terrified to face him. But at closing she gave her testimony and the Sheriff got up out of his seat and gave her a huge hug and told her how proud he was of her. There wasn't a dry eye in the room.

Continued....

Do you remember?

Where has that love of Emmaus gone? In the world we are living in today, we need God in our lives more than ever but it seems we aren't making him a priority. Ok, so we go to church every Sunday, but what then? What are we doing to help our friends, family, children, spouse strengthen their faith? Emmaus is a wonderful way to grow your faith, whether you're a pilgrim going for the first time or you've been asked to work on a team.

Now I know there have been a lot of changes in Emmaus over the years and change is difficult to deal with sometimes but one thing I do know for sure is that GOD NEVER CHANGES. He is still present at the Emmaus walks and gatherings and he is still in the midst of what we do through Emmaus.

I also know we are all busy and its hard to fit one more thing into our schedule, but EMMAUS NEEDS YOU! We, the board, are trying to bring back some of the things that were eliminated or changed in the past. Old school candlelights and the fellowship meal after gatherings are a couple of examples.

We would love to see our walks full again and our friends and family increasing their faith and growing servant hearts. And we would love to see our gatherings fill up with our Emmaus brothers and sisters and visitors!

Our next gathering is on December 13th at 6:00 pm at Radiant Lighthouse Church on Sebring Warner Rd. We would love to see you there. Wear a mask or don't wear a mask. We just want to see as much of your face as we can see! And bring a dish to share because when Emmaus meets, Emmaus eats!

DeColores,

Connie McCabe - Newsletter



A Note from Registrar/Sponsorship—Carla Detling

PILGRIMS WANTED!

Even though we are currently not having walk weekends because of what is happening in our world, you can still invite your friends and loved ones to attend a future walk to Emmaus. When we are all clear to again hold walk weekends we will have pilgrims waiting to come and spend an entire weekend feeling and seeing the love of Jesus! How amazing would it be to have a waiting list again?

Please pray about who you would like to ask to be on an upcoming walk and pray for that person.

Application deadline is 2 weeks before the walk. Dates TBD

Sponsors please make sure applications are completed in full before they are mailed in.

Thank You.

Carla Detling, Registrar/Sponsorship

A Note from Men's Good Shepherd—Jeff Feitshans

Community. These 9 letters form a word that carries significant meaning, particularly in relationship to the context in which it is found. An easier way to put this would be to say that the word “community” points to an important part of what it means to be human. Two words form this one term – common and unity. A group of people gather in one place to share common interests in the spirit of unity. The Emmaus community is a community of faith. We share Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. We are united by the Spirit's indwelling. The Father makes this possible. By his divine power we have everything we need to live godly lives. Through his very great and precious promises we share in his divine nature and have escaped the corruption that is in the world through human desires (see 2 Peter 1:3-4).

The Gathering on September 20th was rich, warm and meaningful. The depth of love for one another grows as we encounter each other on such occasions. Our sense of community thrives as we share food and conversation. It may seem like merely an opportunity for Christians to hang out and eat plenty of good food, but the truth of the matter is this: God's plan of redemption from the beginning of time was designed to produce moments where our hearts unite as we fellowship with the Son, and the Father, and the Spirit.

The next opportunity to experience the profound mystery of being in Christ with brothers and sisters occurs October 11th. Additional opportunities occur in November and December. If you are unable to make it on one day, be sure to plan on the next. This is your chance to both experience God's breathtaking presence and participate in His glorious body – the church.

De Colores,

Jeff Feitshans



If you have a Facebook account, go like the Emmaus page and keep an eye out for updates. The newsletter will be posted on it and any news about when gatherings will start again or updates about the Women's Walk scheduled for this fall will be posted.

We are all ready to get back together and start meeting in person and fellowship with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Also, check out our website at www.dcaec.org it will also have updated information as well as the newsletter.

Servant Opportunities:

Are you looking for a way to serve in our Emmaus Community?

We have a few board positions open that need a servant heart to fill. (A board position is a 3 year term)

We need:

*Women's Good Shepherd *Kairos representative *Logistics *Worship *1st UMC Board Rep *Social

Or you could.....

*Fill out a Willing Servant form and be a team member

*Come and serve in the kitchen prepping and serving meals.

*Help the LOGS clean the church—this is a big place!

*Come on Wednesday for set-up, Thursday for send off (help carry luggage and get pilgrims settled), or Monday for tear down.

If you are interested in being on a team please fill out a willing servant form and turn it in to a current board member or mail it to: Darke County Area Emmaus Community P.O. Box 482 Greenville, OH 45331 so the selection committee will have an updated list of who has been on teams and what position they have filled. You can also email it to Chris Matthew at secretary@dcaec.org and she will forward it on. You can download one from the website www.dcaec.org

Thank You

A Few Reminders:

We are now holding our Weekends and Gatherings at:

*Temporary change of venue:

We will be holding monthly gatherings at:

Radiant Lighthouse Church
5256 Sebring Warner Rd.
Greenville, OH 45331

The next Gathering will be: December 13, 2020

Gatherings begin at 6:00 pm with fellowship afterward.

We would love for you to bring a dish to share and get to know your Emmaus community.

We are bringing back the meal and fellowship after the gathering!

WHEN EMMAUS MEETS, EMMAUS EATS!

Family and friends are always welcome at Praise Gatherings

No child care is provided for the Community during Praise Gathering .

Walk Weekend activities are open to Emmaus and Chrysalis members only.

Please No Children.



*If you would like to receive our newsletter, please send your email address to: dcaecnewsletter@gmail.com

Darke County Area Emmaus
Community P.O. Box 482
Greenville, OH 45331



A PROGRAM OF THE UPPER ROOM

Darke County Area Emmaus Community
P.O. Box 482
Greenville, OH 45331

DeColores In The Darke

www.dcaec.org

Change of Mailing Address? New Email Address?

Please contact Connie McCabe at:
dcaecnewsletter@gmail.com

Reminder:

***The Thursday potluck dinner,
Candlelight and Closing Service
are for members of the Emmaus
Community only.***

Childcare is not provided