



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS!!

SPRINGFIELD AREA EMMAUS DECEMBER 2024

Prayer to the Holy Spirit Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, Grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy your consolations. Amen

FROM OUR CO-SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

About this time every year, I used to spend hours, sometimes days, decorating the house for Christmas. I didn't go as overboard as Clark Griswold did, but I did go pretty far. The entire roof and house had to be lit up to resemble a gingerbread house. All the bushes had to have lights; I even had a runway of Christmas lights going down the driveway. Every year, I dreaded doing it. Mostly because of having to deal with the lights. What worked, what didn't, what could be replaced? Then the work of climbing the ladder, up and down, up and down. But I did all of this just to see the eyes of my children light up with joy. We always loved going for drives to look at the lights, and on a nice night, sometimes, as a family, we would stand outside just to admire them. This made it all worth it to me, seeing the joy that it brought to my kids every December.

I have often wondered what was in the eyes of the shepherds when they saw the light on that Christmas. Luke 2:8-10 reads, "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." The scripture tells us that when the shepherd saw the light, they were terrified. Who can blame them? After all, it's not every day that you see the glory of the Lord shining and angels proclaiming the good news, or is it? The more I think about this, the more I realize that we see God's glory everywhere, especially this time of year. We see God's glory in the joyous eyes of little children when they see a Christmas Tree or see their gifts under the tree. We see God's glory in hearing the laughter of friends and loved ones. We see God's glory in visiting those that can't get out anymore. We witness God's glory when we see a random act of kindness being performed.

We see God's glory shining through all of these people and situations. All because they allow God to shine through them. We see the wonder and beauty everywhere and it is a glorious seen to behold. This month, where do you see God's glory shining through? Have you witnessed it? Better yet, won't you allow God's glory to shine through you so that others can see and experience the joy and splendor that God wants to share with each and every one of us? As the song goes, "Let your light shine before, others so they may know, Our God of love is in this land. Let your light, shine before others so they may know that the Kingdom of God is at Hand."

De Colores,

Pastor Ben



FROM OUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

November was a month to remember – what a special time for the Ladies of Women's Walk #78. The Emmaus Community worked together to serve and show these ladies agape love, and they certainly seemed to feel the Holy Spirit. Thanks to all who came to work in logistics and the kitchen, made agape, and came for Candlelight and Closing. And now - December is here! While thoughts of decorating, cookie baking, gift buying- wrapping- giving, and parties may seem to take up a lot of the space in my head and on the calendar, I always try to remember why we celebrate – JESUS, God's SON! He came to fulfill God's plan, to be the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. (Revelation 1:5). I hope to see many of you at the Praise Gathering on December 8 at 7 pm at High Street UMC. We will be blessed with beautiful music, celebrating this Christmas season.

De Colores,

Kim Bachman

WW#78 REUNION! The second Sunday in December, the 8th, at 5:30 p.m., in the Choir room.

Sponsors, please make sure your Pilgrims know to be there! (maybe bring them!)

Also, let's make sure we get them involved in a share group if they're interested! Check with the Fourth Day Coordinators to find out where to plug them in. Please, remember our newest Emmaus Sisters in prayer.



Remember to bring snacks to the Gathering @ 6:30 to share! Hopefully we will have a lot of folks at fellowship time!



December 8th Sing and Shout Praise Gathering – Carlene Sands

Per Springfield Area Emmaus Community tradition, the December Gathering will once again be a time of praise and worship to celebrate the season. There are several individuals and duos lined up to share their talents...we are blessed to have so many gifted people in our community!

There is still room for more to participate if you have been thinking about it...all talents are welcome. The primary focus, of course, will be Christmas selections to ring in the celebration of Jesus' birth and to kick off the "most wonderful time of the year!" **Please call Carlene Sands @ 937-206-8300 if you would like to get in the line-up for December 8th!**



KNOW YOUR BOARD!



Hello,

My name is Terry Johnson. I attended the Emmaus Men's Walk #28 and sat at the table of Stephen. I am currently the Emmaus chairperson for the Logistics position. I attend Heritage Fellowship Church. I am married to Debbie, and we have a blended family of five children and eight grandchildren. I am retired after 49 years working at Tech II (old body but young spirit). Enough of me though, let's talk about what the Logistics job entails. I, and a LOT of volunteers work in the background doing:

Setting up the church for the Weekend-moving church furniture around the and setting up the bedding for the pilgrims and the team. Provide volunteers to be the first to greet the pilgrims, carry their luggage, and show them to their beds. Clean the bathrooms during the Weekend. Restore the church back to its' original condition early Sunday morning. Restore the conference room back to its' original condition after the closing on Sunday. Come back to the church on Monday morning to finish up any other clean-up. As you may have deduced, there is a lot of work involved, and many volunteers are needed to accomplish this. If you would like to help, please use the sign-up sheets available at the Gatherings or you can text or call me at 937-206-7136.

Hope to see you there! DeColores



SPRINGFIELD AREA WALK TO EMMAUS (Please PRINT and fill in ALL blanks)

Name _____ (as preferred on name tag) Age _____

Sex M _____ F _____

Address _____

Phone _____ City _____

_____ State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____

Email address _____

Church now attending: _____

Pastor: _____

Church Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Married _____ Single _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ Separated _____

Spouse's name _____

Walk spouse attended _____

Sponsor's name _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Walk attended _____

Any Dietary, Medical or Disability concerns _____

Occupation: _____ Company _____

Name: _____

Name of a close friend: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/State _____ Zip: _____

Briefly state why you want to attend a Walk to Emmaus and what you expect. (you may use the back, also)

Would you be able to attend on short notice? Yes _____ No _____ Perhaps _____

I understand that this application does not reserve a position on a particular Walk but does place me on a list for future Walks to Emmaus in Springfield.

Signature _____ Date _____

Enclose a NON-REFUNDABLE, NON-TRANSFERRABLE deposit of \$25.00, which applies to your \$75.00 donation to offset expenses. Make checks payable to Springfield Area Emmaus. Remit to: Registrar, Springfield Area Emmaus, High Street United Methodist Church, 230 E. High St., Springfield, OH 45505.

REGISTRATION ONLY Date received _____ Card sent to: _____

Sponsor _____ Pilgrim _____ Deposit rec'd _____

Cash _____ Check # _____ Rec'd from _____

_____ 1st Invite _____ 2nd Invite _____

_____ 3rd Invite _____ Inactive _____ Revised _____

Sept. 2013

Springfield Area Emmaus Willing Servant Sheet

Please print

name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Ph: _____ Cell Ph: _____

Regularly Attend Share Group? Y / N

Church Attending: _____ Walk # _____ Walk

Location _____

Email: _____

Information is current as of: (Date) _____

===== I Am Willing To Serve In These Areas:=====

Please Check All That Apply

Help serving meals Be a Meal Coordinator Help with Agape for Weekends

Help Registrar (contact pilgrims before walk) Help Set up/Tear Down for Weekends

Help with Sponsorship (help get info to Sponsors) Help get word out about Emmaus

Help on purchasing team for weekend Be on a Live-In Team Lead Music

Play an instrument: _____ Offer special music for Gatherings or Walks

Help with the newsletter Help with social before Gatherings Help set up Worship

Provide secretarial help at Board Meetings Help inventory and organize supplies

Help with cleaning bathrooms during a walk Help get people connected to Share Groups

To learn more about Emmaus by attending the Leadership Development Event (LDE)

Help in other ways:

Please Mail to Springfield Area Emmaus, 230 East High Street,
Springfield OH 45505, or drop off at the back table at any Gathering.