



SPRINGFIELD AREA EMMAUS 08/2025

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

My friend Alice shared a story with me about her grandson, who graduated from high school several years ago. Chris decided that he wanted to spend a year traveling through Europe, hoping to see the world, find himself, and prove he could handle anything on his own. So, he packed his bags and set out, feeling a bit nervous but also excited, and wondering how his journey might unfold. Chris knew how to speak Spanish and had a language translation app on his phone, so he felt very prepared for his journey. But he soon realized he was in over his head. Alice said that Chris got lost many times and he couldn't read the signs, and in many places, he couldn't speak the language. Sadly, Chris found himself relying on his language app to navigate unfamiliar towns and communicate with most of the people he encountered. Another issue Chris had to deal with was that he had not brought enough money along on his trip. He had a charge card, but he didn't want to increase the balance beyond what he had planned. So, he called home frequently, asking his parents and grandparents to send him more money. Alice shared that Chris felt embarrassed and called her often to receive her advice and encouragement. He spoke of failing at his grand adventure that he had dreamed of for many years. Then one night after a particularly long day of getting lost again, Chris sat on a park bench, exhausted and frustrated. But as he sat there, something shifted in his thinking. Chris started to remember how many strangers had helped him along the way. An elderly couple in Italy pointed him in the right direction, a young woman in France shared her meal with him when he looked hungry, and a fellow traveler offered a kind word when he felt alone. Suddenly, Chris realized that these moments weren't failures at all. They were God moments; times when God was working through the people around him, showing him God's grace in small, unexpected ways. Looking back, Chris could see that his journey was never about being perfectly

prepared or having all the answers. It was about learning to trust God's presence amid the mess, relying on others, and accepting one's mistakes. That when he was lost, he was finding his way closer to God's heart, learning that God was always with him, and he didn't have to do anything alone. You know, often we see our setbacks as failures instead of opportunities that draw us closer to God. The key to flipping the script is to do what Paul suggests in Ephesians 5:15-20. "[To] understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph 5:17). And "[to] give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Eph 5:20). While we have had a couple of setbacks with postponing the men's walks this past year, I know in my heart that God isn't finished with Emmaus yet. Springfield Emmaus has been a vital resource for the past thirty-five years for building great Christian leaders in every denomination. So, we must ask ourselves, "What is the cause of the decline in applications? And what am I going to do about it?" My dear friends, we have been entrusted with continuing the kingdom of God and fulfilling the Great Commission in the Springfield Community and beyond! Let's keep pressing on and not only commit to being the hands and feet of Christ but also the ones who invite everyone we meet to come to the banquet of God. Because there's a whole world out there that doesn't know the love of Christ. So, let's be the way that helps others experience God's love. After all, Christ is counting on us! –

De Colores,

Pastor Mary Beth



Destination, Heaven!

FROM OUR COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Greetings brothers and sisters in Christ!

I am very humbled and excited to step into the role of Community Lay Director for this amazing Springfield Emmaus Community. I am looking forward to what God has planned for this community in the coming year, and I hope all of you are as well. I was reminded at the July Gathering how many amazing people are in this community: from Gary Cron who was the Fourth Day speaker, to Ryan Roosen who provided special music, to Greg Bachman who stepped up in place of our Spiritual Directors to deliver a very timely and inspirational message...I truly appreciate this community that God has put together. There is so much talent and so many people with their hearts on fire to serve. I was also reminded how special the opportunity is to spend time together at the monthly Gatherings. The very definition of Gathering: *an assembly or meeting, especially a social or festive one or one held for a specific purpose*, reminds us that our special purpose is to serve God and support each other in our daily walk. I want to encourage all of you, if you haven't been to a Gathering lately, to make time to attend the monthly Gathering. As Hebrews 10:25 reminds us to not forsake the gathering together of believers, it can be expanded to apply to more than gathering for Sunday morning church services but can also be applied to other forms of gathering with fellow believers for mutual support and encouragement.

The August Gathering will be a great time to really socialize and break bread together since we will again be meeting for a cookout at Pastor Ben and Jennifer Webster's home church **at 6:00 p.m. at Emery Chapel located at 3500 Springfield Xenia Road in Springfield.** Emmaus will provide the hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, pizza and drinks.

Members should bring sides to share and lawn chairs for extra seating. It will be a special evening of music and fellowship, and I hope to see you all there...

DeColores!

Carlene Sands



A PRAYER FOR OUR SPRINGFIELD AREA EMMAUS

Father, we thank you that we can be your hands and feet in our community as part of the Springfield Area Emmaus! We thank you that we aren't limited to just the city of Springfield, but all are welcome. Lord, we ask for your wisdom, grace, kindness, and peace as we seek to serve you in this ministry.

We lift up the board and ask that you would lead and guide them as they serve this community. We are trusting You and Your timing for the walks, for Pilgrims and for Sponsors. Father, you know who is ready to experience the joy of a weekend, the messages given, the challenges to a closer walk with you, the great fellowship and making "new best friends", ...the great food... ;) We remember when there were waiting lists... We pray, Father that we would be willing servants, prayed up and ready to ask, sponsor, serve on a walk, praying for this ministry, whatever you would have us do to draw people closer to you and each other in this ministry. For Your Honor and Glory!

In Jesus Name,

Amen



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 (may use back also)

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: _____ State _____ 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