

April 2025



A Message from the Chairman:

March is always a month that finds me itching for spring to arrive with green grass, green leaves on the bare trees and new life in God's creation all around us. I am also aware of the newness He provides for each of us. We are a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17), His mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:23), He is doing a new thing and it springs up (Isaiah 43:19) and There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

How exciting that we've started 2025 off with 2 beautiful walks, and I have no doubt we will experience 3 more, filled with the love and grace of Jesus! We have welcomed 38 new sisters and brothers-in-Christ to the Greater Sidney Area Emmaus Community so far this year! Our community is strong, I believe, and blessed because of the love and obedience to our Heavenly Father. There are many ways to be a part of this fabulous ministry:

- Come to monthly Gatherings, 2nd Tuesday of each month with a carry in dinner at 6P, worship service at 7P with music, a 4th Day speaker, a message from our fabulous spiritual directors and communion*
- Walk weekend activities for the "live out" team include serving in the kitchen, providing agape, 72-hour prayer vigil, send-off, Candlelight and Closing ceremonies*
- Sponsoring a pilgrim*

I pray blessings for you and your families, our local churches and our entire Emmaus community. If anyone is struggling or in need of prayer, please reach out to your Sharegroup or another trusted brother or sister-in-Christ to stand in the gap with and for you. Galatians 6:2 commands us - Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. I look forward to seeing everyone as the new seasons appear!

De Colores!

Dawn Heppard, Chairman

Community Information

The Greater Sidney Area Emmaus holds a monthly gathering. Gatherings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Gatherings are open to anyone! We meet at Sidney First Methodist Church, 230 E. Poplar St. Please come join us in the worship and fellowship. Remember, when Emmaus Meets, Emmaus Eats! Bring a dish to share at the Meal which begins at 6 pm with service following and beginning at 7 pm.

2025 dates for gatherings are:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| January 14 th | February 11 th | , March 11 th | April 8 th |
| May 13 th | June 10 th | July 8 th | August 12 th , |
| September 9 th , | October 14 th | November 11 th | , December 9 th |

THANK YOU, TO THE AMAZING MUSIC LEADERS WE HAVE IN EMMAUS! We sure are blessed to have so many amazing voices within our community. If you'd like to be added to the group for music, whether it's instrumental or vocal, let a board member know.

Welcome To the Emmaus Community.

Pilgrims of Women's Walk #92 -

February 20 – 23, 2025

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Anjel Casdorff | Jennifer Conley | Nita Cummings | Kayla Haver | K. Hamm |
| Mandy Hatfield | Alexandria Thomas | Jennifer Hoelscher | Mae Holt | Lie Hooten |
| Robin Kerr | Sharon Leighty | Rachel Lightle | Sandi Powers | Debra Schaffner |
| Mindy Sidle | Chelsea Sotzing | Kristine Stark | Jodi York | Michelle Tidwell |
| Jenni Wendel | Cindy Wilson | Amy Ferguson | Kayla Haver | |

Pilgrims of Men's Walk #84

March 6th – 9th 2025

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Cody Cook | Robert Couser | Keith Elsass | Duane Heath | Nate Lavey |
| Chris Martin | Bob Masson | Tim McVety | Jarrett Monroe | Scott Pulfer |
| Rudy Ruiz | JP Sharp | Jimmy Tober | Thomas Vaughan | |

Message from our Lay Directors:

Women's Lay Director

First of all, a huge thank you for allowing me the opportunity to fill the position of Lay Director for WW#92. This walk was put together by God, our Father, from the team, the pilgrims, to everyone in the community that helped and participated in any way.

Spiritual Director, Pastor Randy Locker, was a true blessing for this walk. The weekend flowed very smoothly, many seeds were planted and lives changed in the pilgrims, and team members as well. Many friendships made, many strengthened. The food was great. The entertainment was great. The music was top-notch. The singing, laughter, crying, seriousness, and silliness, all great. Talks were all spot-on for our walk.

This weekend was truly a blessing for myself, and then some! My heart is full!

Thank you again and De Colores,

Rita Baumer

WW#92

Men's Lay Director

Hello everyone!

God is Great! I know that every Lay Director comes through and say's they had the best Emmaus Walk ever. Well, I had the best walk ever. I want to thank the Board. Everyone here did a superb job. I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to be the Lay Director for walk 84. My life will forever be changed because of this wonderful experience.

The Walk Weekend – There were 14 pilgrims. 1 gave his life to Christ. How wonderful was that. From the very beginning to the end the Pilgrims were engaged. The conversations at the tables were in depth. The pilgrims put a lot of new tools in their toolbox. I could tell when each person received the nail that they could feel a touch from Jesus. Dying moment got us an hour behind schedule. That is because they were able to cut off the dead branches and lay them at the foot of the cross. John 15 1-17. Those holes were filled with the Holy Spirit. The ALD's done a wonderful job and got us back on schedule. Many tears were shed at candlelight when the seen the glimpse of heaven. I thank the community for the wonderful turnout.

The problems – Not too many problems. There were a few cases where schedule was not lining up with my schedule in the book. Especially on Friday. I was able to calm down the ALD's and we worked through it. They just wanted to make sure they have done everything right and didn't want to disappoint anyone. Believe me they have done a wonderful job and didn't disappoint anyone. I know one thing is the unveiling the book table on Friday and in the Grow through study talk has them unveiling the table.

The other thing is that I might have caused a stir when I said that I might drop the occupation. I didn't want to drop it. It is that on the past couple of walks I was on the personal letters were cut way short and they were only able to read 1 or 2 letters. My ALD's knew of my concerns and got us a little ahead of schedule. So much so that we were early to the cross ceremony. We had to fill a little time. Our Pastors done a wonderful job at that.

I pray that I have given enough good information. Walk 85 will be a great walk.

All in all, it was a fulfilling God experience. I want to thank you again for giving me that opportunity.

De Colores,

Gary Cron JR

LD Walk #84

We are prayerfully planning for the next set of walks!!

Women's Walk #93, June 5th – 8th, 2025

Men's Walk #85, November 6th-9th, 2025



Please check website www.sidneyemmaus.org for list of past team members and pilgrims. Team rosters will be posted well before the walk and pilgrims for upcoming walks will be posted 3 weeks before the walk.

SERVING IN THE KITCHEN

NEW Kitchen Sign Up

We now have an online option to sign up for kitchen crew! This allow everyone the opportunity to sign up to serve and cook in the kitchen during the Walk weekends. Although, there are a couple of ways to sign up.

1. There is a link on the Emmaus Facebook page that will take you to the signup web site.
2. You can click on the link below and that will also take you to the signup web site.
https://www.sidneyemmaus.org/v2_kitchen.htm
3. Don't have Facebook? You can contact Deb Loewer and she can sign you up.
daloewer@gmail.com or 937-570-0798



will

Sidney Emmaus Kitchen Serving Schedule



Some features of the sign-up process:

1. Allows you to sign up yourself and others. Please remember, you must have attended a Chrysalis or Emmaus weekend to help in the kitchen.
2. Provides everyone with a view of the spots that are open and where we still need willing servants. (Note - even if all the spots are filled, you are welcome to join the kitchen crew and lend an extra hand).
3. Allows everyone to remove themselves from a spot if he/she is no longer able to serve.
4. If you enter your email address, you will receive a reminder email 7 days before your time to serve. (Note - their privacy policy states they will NOT sell your email address to other marketers).

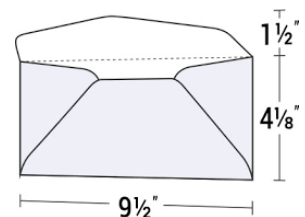
We are hoping the online process gives everyone more opportunities to serve and be part of the kitchen crew during the Walk weekend. If you have any questions, problems, or concerns, feel free to contact Deb Loewer at daloewer@gmail.com.

AGAPE REMINDERS!!



Just a few reminders about Agape for weekends:

1. If you have **bedtime or meal** Agape, there needs to be **60 pieces** if it is for all. If you want it to be just **pilgrim bedtime**, there needs to be at least **30**.
**If you have a preference, please mark accordingly or let us know when dropping off. **
2. **NO MEGA AGAPE!!** What is considered Mega Agape? Anything larger than an envelope is considered mega agape. While we all know it is nice to receive these, please save for after the walk when your pilgrim is picked up on Sunday. We need to make sure that whatever is given to pilgrims fits in their envelope packet on Sunday. (This includes for team also. If you want to make gift bags for team, please deliver them Thursday evening or throughout the weekend on your own. It makes more work for your logs who are passing out the bedtime agape to try to get it all done!
3. **PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL AGAPE IS MARKED WITH FIRST AND LAST Name!!** Also, adding "pilgrim" or "team" helps. Please try to make sure there is no Agape marked, "mom", "dad", "Aunt Sally", "Uncle Joe", etc. as we are not always sure who it belongs to with those markings, and we want to make sure it gets to the right person. (There is a sample of this on the Emmaus Facebook page!) Please remember: **PILGRIMS RECEIVE NO PERSONAL AGAPE EXCEPT IN SUNDAY PACKET!!** Please see Facebook page for "how-to's" if you have questions. If it is for a team member giving a talk, please mark, "Talk Agape" on the envelope or include the name of their talk so they get it at the proper times. Also, team can receive Agape Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening. Please mark which evening if you'd like them to receive it on a specific evening.
4. If you have Agape for the spiritual directors that are not live in, please mark them. If they are not a live in, we have a hard time getting their agape to them after their talk.
5. There are baskets in the Agape room that are labeled. Please make sure to use the baskets or leave them on the table. **PLEASE DO NOT GO BEHIND THE TABLE**. This can confuse things for those working in the agape room as they have their own system.
6. There are cards, bookmarks and writing utensils available in the Agape room if you need to write Agape during the weekend. We ask that if you use these, please drop in the correct basket when you are finished and please put pens and unused things back in basket they were provided in.
7. If you have any questions, please contact Ron/Shari Courter and they will be happy to help you!



Example:

First Name Last Name -- Pilgrim

First Name - Last Name – Team -
Thursday, Friday or Saturday or Talk Agape

P.S. Only team members can be in teams sleeping quarters!! PLEASE don't take any agape and put on team's beds during the weekend. If a team member needs something, please give to the logs, or leave in Agape room and they will give it to the team member. If you have team agape for your prayer partner, please place on their bed as not to make extra work for LOGS.

Emmaus Etiquette Reminders

- 1) Try to always wear your name tag to Emmaus functions.
- 2) Be considerate that only speaker requested prayer partners listen to talks.
- 3) Keep the holy atmosphere at candlelight.
- 4) **No photographs at any Walk weekend Emmaus activity.** We need to honor the pilgrim's privacy.
- 5) No one other than pilgrims and live in team are allowed in the conference room or sleeping quarters.
- 6) When volunteering during the weekend you should have minimal contact with pilgrims and live in team.
- 7) Working in the kitchen as support of the weekend you should keep your intended contact with the pilgrims within the task or service you are performing. Some examples:
 - This is the pilgrim's weekend and not yours, but that does not mean you should be silent or ignore them in a disrespectful way. Be loving, be a good listener, be flexible, but also understand that in serving the pilgrims as part of the weekend, you need to be genuine and focused on serving the walk. Focusing too much attention on particular team members or pilgrims may pull the focus of the weekend away from moving the pilgrims towards the love Christ has for each of us.
 - Christ is all about relationship and this weekend is about moving the pilgrims to a deeper relationship with Christ. You are Christ's representative as part of the kitchen's support to the weekend. Be of service but also be aware of the bigger picture.
 - If a pilgrim talks to you or initiates a conversation, don't push them away or cut them off. It is not "illegal" or "punishable" to talk to a pilgrim or team member, but we need to be aware that we should not be the ones to pursue it or maintain it longer than a moment or two.
 - The team members are working to a schedule and the pilgrims are also. As kitchen team members, we need to try and not hold up the team members or pilgrims. Breaks or "downtime" are not free time for the kitchen team to simply pull a pilgrim or team member aside for lengthy conversations.
- 8) When to wear your purple cross? It is not against the rules to wear it any other time, but we ask you to make sure you bring it to closing as a showing of community.
- 9) Respect the wishes of Sidney First Methodist. We are their guests.
- 10) If you move something in the church building, please put it back when you are finished.
- 11) Please Leave the church building as clean or cleaner than you found it.
- 12) Wednesday night setup per Sidney First Methodist requirements:
 - a. **Report to 1st floor for setup instructions at 8:30PM**
 - b. **No one allowed on other floors or areas of the church until instructions given**
- 13) No live in team member in the church **before 4 PM on Thursday** afternoon during walk weekends.
- 14) When volunteering please use the "buddy system". Do not go anywhere alone.
- 15) **No children or others that have not attended a weekend may attend Candlelight or Closing.**



Sponsor Responsibility/Etiquette

- 1) Honestly answer all pilgrims question and explain what goes on at weekend. There are no secrets.
- 2) You are responsible to make sure pilgrim *has at least 15 pieces of personal agape letters*. These should be brought to the Agape room at sendoff on Thursday night. We really don't want to have to read off a pilgrim's name at Candlelight.
- 3) Personally bring your pilgrim to Thursday night sendoff. It is your responsibility to bring them and help them settle in.
- 4) If your pilgrim is unable to attend the weekend immediately contact the Registrar or Sponsorship board member so we are not waiting for them to show up.
- 5) Attend Sponsor's Hour Chapel immediately after Thursday night sendoff. It is your responsibility to pray over your pilgrim's cross as part of the extended weekend team.
- 6) Attend Candlelight and greet your pilgrim! **(No pictures and no agape!!)**
- 7) Attend Closing. **(No pictures, No Children and No guests unless they have attended Chrysalis or Emmaus!!!)** Don't forget to grab your pilgrim's Agape packet from the Gathering Place after closing. Anything that is left will be available at gathering or on the next weekend.
- 8) Take your pilgrim home. Be sure to check in on them throughout the week.
- 9) Help your pilgrim get into a share group. If help is needed, contact the Good Shepherd.
- 10) Bring pilgrim to the walk reunion gathering (typically next gathering after walk weekend)



****Please make sure there are no phones at candlelight or closing!! Photography or videos are not permitted at gatherings, candlelight or at closing! We also ask that there be no children at Candlelight or Closing as these events are also only open to those that have attended a walk or Chrysalis flight! Gatherings and Sendoff are open to anyone!!****



Other Updates

Team Fee Updates:

- *Due to increasing cost of food and various items, Team Fees are now \$70*

Sunday Kitchen Servers – Parking Update:

- *In respect and honor of attendees to church services, please park on the street when serving in the kitchen on Sunday.*

Board Meetings

Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month, meet in Chapel at 6:45 pm. If you would like to be added to the agenda, please contact Dawn Heppard or Dan Elliott.

PLEASE NOTE:

We can now accept credit card payments for the weekend and for book table!! If you have any questions, please see Deb Loewer or any board member!

WILLING SERVANT / SHARE GROUP FORMS

Forms are available on our Emmaus Website : www.sidneyemmaus.org, under forms or on the Facebook Page. You can mail it to Sidney First Methodist at the attached address or send to princess_lumc@yahoo.com.

Or bring it to a Gathering and put it in the collection plate. We need this information, so we can contact you to serve on future teams, and to keep you updated on events.

Board of Directors

Leadership-Dan Elliott

Treasurer - Deb Loewer

Men's Registrar-Jaysen Rump

Men's Good Shepherd-Monte Heppard

Logistics- Tim Mikolajewski

Worship—Audra Sutton

Newsletter – Trena Hershberger

Database/Tech Team-Corinne Olson/Scott Newcomer/Rhonda Wildermuth/Gary Cron/Pam Wagner

Chairman-Dawn Heppard

Secretary- Michelle Rudasill

Women's Registrar- Rachel Hale

Women's Good Shepherd-Theresa Mikolajewski

Literature-Fran Miller/Christy Akers

Music-Dave Rump

Kitchen - Lisa Viers /Rick and Sam Brubaker

Vice Chairman-Joe Sutton

Sponsorship- Sarah Steenrod

Agape-Ron/Shari Courter

Supplies Kelly Swarts

Social- Katie Richmond

Outreach-Rita Thurman

Spiritual Director- Pastor Eileen Hix

De Colores!



WILLING SERVANT FORM

Date: _____

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. - 2 Corinthians 9:12-13

Name _____ Birth Year _____

Mailing Address _____

City State Zip code _____

Email address _____ Church _____

Phone Number: Home _____ Mobile _____

When and where of original walk _____

Interested in serving on Live in team? _____

Are you in a share group? _____ Women _____ Men _____ Both

Name of share group _____ Are you accepting new members _____ Yes _____ No

Members of Share Group (First and Last Name) _____

When (Day/time) and where (City) you meet _____

**We ask you to PRAY about your commitment and to serve in any way you can.
Remember that it should be done in God's timing and not your own. Christ is counting on you!**

*The following are ways that you can serve during the year and walk weekends. Please mark the areas you are willing to serve.
You can also contact your Emmaus Board to see where you can help. Visit www.sidneyemmaus.org for current board list.*

Walk Weekends:

- ____ Serve in Kitchen by Cooking or Serving
- ____ Assist with set-up or teardown for Send Off meal
- ____ Assist with set-up for Candlelight dinner

Weekend Agape:

- ____ 72 Hour Prayer Vigil
- ____ Meal Agape
- ____ Bedtime Agape

Music:

- ____ Sing / play guitar / piano / other instrument
- ____ Special Music at Gatherings
- ____ Dinner music for Candlelight dinner
- ____ Saturday night entertainment
- ____ Serve on live in team as Music Director/Assistant

Monthly Gatherings (2nd Tuesday each month):

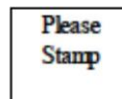
- ____ Assist with Meal set-up or clean-up
- ____ Give a Fourth Day Talk
- ____ Special Music at Gatherings

*Please help us to update these records so we can contact you for future walks.
Make copies and pass them out to others in your share group or church that have attended the walk to Emmaus.
You can mail this form to the church as addressed on the other side or email to chairman@sidneyemmaus.org*

Rev 12-01-21

GREATER SIDNEY AREA EMMAUS WALK WILLING SERVANT FORM 2015

The Sidney Area Emmaus Community
Sidney First Church
230 E. Poplar Street
Sidney, Ohio 45365



Leadership Chairman
The Greater Sidney Area Emmaus Community
Sidney First Methodist Church
230 E. Poplar Street
Sidney, Ohio 45365

Emmaus

The focus of Emmaus is God as Known in Jesus Christ and how that finds expression in the local church. The object of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, empower, and equip local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, and places of work. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled life to be lived and shared with others.

