

August 2025



A Message from the Chairman:

Happy summer to our Emmaus family! I pray you are all staying safe and cool in the heat while enjoying summer activities like vacations, baseball games, swimming, camping, a trip to the zoo, amusement parks or local county fairs. Whether you are a seasoned veteran of the Greater Sidney Area Emmaus or a new rookie, please know you are a loved and valued member of our community. We welcomed 16 new sisters-in-Christ from Walk #93 in June, so I wanted to give you some ways to participate in this 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*

We are blessed to have so many willing servants in our community, thank you to each person who lets their light shine with the love of Christ. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16) And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25) Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)

The following positions of the Greater Sidney Area Emmaus Board of Directors have terms that are expiring the end of this year: Vice Chair, Secretary, Women's Good Shepherd, Kitchen, Logistics, Outreach, Social, Women's Registrar, and Sponsorship. (These are all 2-year terms except for vice chair, 3-year term) If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact Dan Elliott, Joe Sutton or myself for further information.

September 9th at 6PM is our next Gathering. Bring a covered dish or dessert to share as we fellowship and share Holy Communion. Worship is at 7pm, everyone welcome! Love, prayers and blessings to each of you.

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.

Remaining 2025 dates for gatherings are:

September 9 th ,	October 14 th	November 11 th	, December 9 th
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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.

ATTENTION ATTENTION!!! - Looking for Musical Talent for the October Gathering. Please contact Dave Rump to share your gift of song during the Gathering.

Welcome To the Emmaus Community.

Pilgrims of Women's Walk #93 -

June , 2025

Roni Baily
Alaina Heath
Stacey Mahan
Becky Vanschoych

Lindsey Clausing
Mandie Holden
Deb Mertz
Macey Zeringer

Caymen Courter
Morgan Horn
Rylee Kay Puthoff

Amy Estep
Billi Husban
Janet Siders

Sheila Gullett
Sheila Kamper
Laura Slife

Message from our Lay Directors:

Women's Lay Director

This walk, as always, was beautiful; just as God intended it to be. Due to some unfortunate circumstances, Susie was unable to be the Lay Director for this walk, and I needed to step in at the last team meeting and become the Lay Director. Not one of us wanted this for Susie, however this was what was needed because she was unable to fulfill her duties. There were several people that also stepped in and helped me behind the scenes to ensure that this walk went off as planned. I can't thank them enough for doing all they did. The team bonded well at team meetings and even though we were also down a LOG at the last minute, they stepped up fabulously. Pilgrims showed up and walls began breaking down already by Friday night. It was a blessing for me to see the first time I saw a pilgrim break down their walls at the Emmaus Road Experience.

Due to a few team members and a pilgrim who have a fear of clowns, we asked the clowns to be carpenters instead. Wow – the love that was felt coming from their eyes without the distraction of the makeup and having your feet feather dusted off was so powerful. This change was so amazing, and no one was uncomfortable; very pivotal moment that was experienced in a truly beautiful way! The next thing that I felt worked out great, a schedule change that was made, because of a funeral on Saturday - we needed to switch two talks around, Christian Action and Means of Grace. This meant we ate lunch at 11:30 and then we did the Means of Grace talk from start to finish without a break at lunch. This was great - we ate on time, which helped the kitchen out, the team/pilgrims didn't get hungry because Dying Moments went too long, and this allowed us to have a small afternoon break around 30 to 45 minutes. Another benefit to this was it allowed us to be hungry for supper and not waste so much food. I'm not sure if this can become a permanent change, however, I feel the board should consider looking into this deeper.

Thank you!

Audra Sutton

WW#93

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

Women's Walk #94, October 16th -19th, 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 will 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).

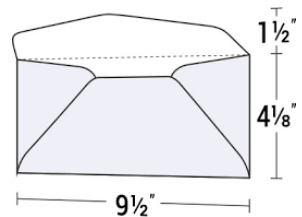
We are hoping the online process gives everyone more opportunities to serve and be part of the kitchen crew during the Walk weekend. If you have any questions, problems, or concerns, feel free to contact Deb Loewer at daloewer@gmail.com.

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.sidsidneyemmaus.org for current board list.

Walk Weekends:

- _____ Serve in Kitchen by Cooking or Serving
- _____ Assist with set-up/teardown for Send Off meal
- _____ Assist with set-up for Candlelight dinner
- _____ Assist with weekend down ministry

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/Asst

Monthly Gatherings (2nd Tuesday each month):

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

Weekend Agape:

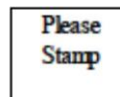
- _____ 72 Hour Prayer Vigil
- _____ Meal Agape
- _____ Bedtime Agape

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 sidsidneyemmaus@gmail.com

Rev 08-17-2013

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.