

Greater Cincinnati Emmaus and Chrysalis Community News

June, 2016

"As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them."
Luke 24:15

A Message from our Spiritual Director



John 15:1-8 The Vine and the Branches (Our Choice His Promise)

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already made clean by the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. If a man does not abide in me, he is cast forth as a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples."

Christ used the illustration of the branches and the vine to show what it meant to abide in Him. The branch has no life in itself; rather it draws life from the vine. As long as there is an uninterrupted flow of life from the vine, the branch is capable of bearing fruit.

"Abide in Me, and I in you": Jesus emphasized that it is a mutual relationship. We abide in the Christ (our choice); Christ abides us (His promise).

Think of how these words would have impacted the eleven disciples. Jesus told them He would depart; yet they would not be disconnected from Him. How was that possible then or now? Only by the work of the Holy Spirit it is possible to stay connected to Jesus. This connection is only maintained by obedience and prayer. It means a conscious choice to accept the authority of His Word and constant contact with Him through prayer.

"He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit": If we choose to abide in Him, bearing fruit is inevitable. The quality and quantity of the fruit may differ, but the presence of fruit is certain.

"If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered": Jesus warns us that failing to abide in Him means that our spiritual life dwindles. A branch only has life as it is connected to the vine; we can only spiritually live if we stay connected to the Master.

"Every branch of mine that bears no fruit, He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit": God trims away the bad twigs from the branches, i.e. our bad habits and sins. Often this can be uncomfortable or even painful, but He will lead us through these humbling experiences in order that we may be trimmed "clean" by His word so that we may bear even more fruit.

"No one is more miserable than the Christian who for a time hedges in his obedience. He does not love sin enough to enjoy its pleasures, and does not love Christ enough to relish holiness..." D.A. Carson

Rod Fightmaster

Community Spiritual Director

A Message from our Community Lay Director

Summertime!

A time to enjoy warm (and hot!) weather and maybe a different schedule. Perhaps you're out of school for the summer, or enjoying traveling. Summer often means a slower pace and longer evenings as the sun sets later in the day. It seems a good time to break from routine, catch up with people we haven't seen for a while, and be outside more. Personally, I love the changing seasons. Each one has something that I look forward to.



Even though our activities change with the seasons, God does not change. He is always present. Our recent sermon reviewed Psalm 22 and it was a great reminder. It's too long to include here, but I ask that you take a moment to read this Psalm. There is great encouragement and hope here in these verses. And, if possible, take an extra second and move on into Psalm 23 (vs 4: ...you are with me). Always. He is always with you.

As our summer schedules shift, and I hope you are enjoying this time of year, remember that God has not taken a break. He is not apart from you. He is right beside you (even on vacation). He is waiting for you to come and be present with Him. Pull up a chair, your Bible, a cool drink and set a spell. Share your joys and sorrows. And then listen.

And as a reminder of a schedule that changes in the summer, our July 7 Gathering will be a brown bag picnic. Watch for the reminders sent with specifics as the date approaches. I hope to see all of you there. This is a time of fellowship and worship. We also have dedicated groups of people devoting time and energy to the re-launch of Chrysalis and the new Face-2-Face Ministry. Please keep these groups in your prayers. It is an exciting time for our Community.

DeColores,

Lisa Linne

Community Lay Director

Time to think about Sponsoring!!

Fall will be here before we know it, and that means it's time to think/pray about who you may invite to grow in their relationship with Christ by attending a Walk to Emmaus weekend.

The next Men's Walk (#99) will be held October 13-16, 2016.

The next Women's Walk (#117) will be held November 10-13, 2016.

Applications can be found at:

http://www.cincinnatiemmaus.org/walk_info.php

Men's Registrar Address Change

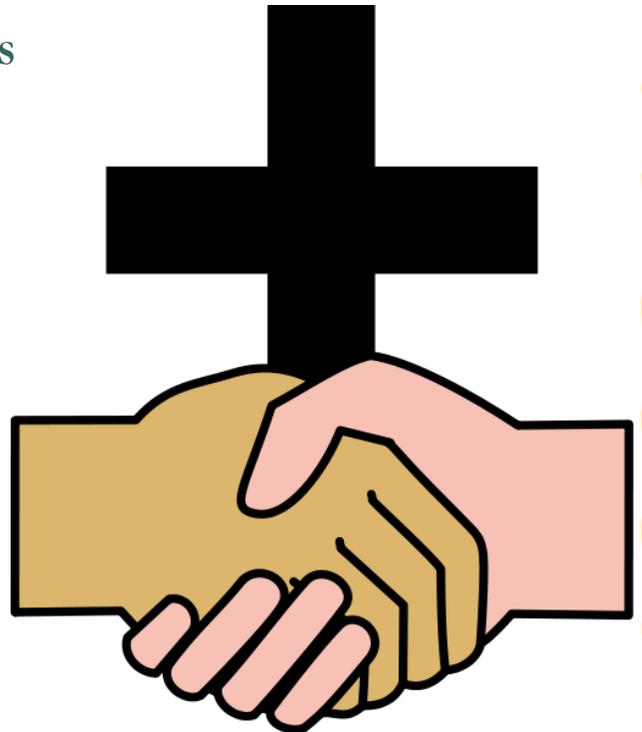
Peggie Hughes will be taking over as the Men's Registrar. Applications for men should be mailed to her at:

[4405 Todd Rose Court, Cincinnati, OH 45244.](mailto:4405ToddRoseCourt,Cincinnati,OH45244)

Jennie Hefflin will continue serving on the Board, as the new Connections chair.

Outreach News

In an effort to spread the word about the Greater Cincinnati Walk to Emmaus, we'd like to come to your church and provide information. Please send the name of the person who oversees communication, announcement or outreach and we'll contact them. We can come in person for a brief message during announcements and/or set-up a table for people to stop to learn more. Please send names/contact info to Annise Anderson ann3cs@aol.com or Chris Khjawa cmkhawki@aol.com



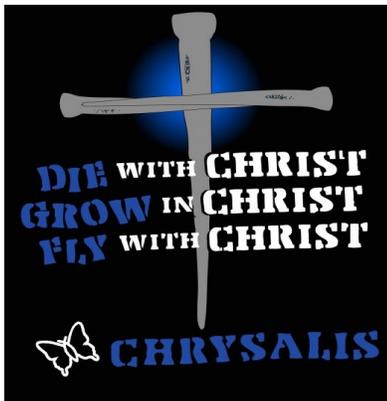
Come Join in the Picnic Fun!

The annual Emmaus picnic will be held on Thursday, July 7th, beginning at 6:30, at New Prospect Baptist church. This year, it will be a “bring your own, brown bag style” picnic, and bring a dessert to share! Food, fellowship, and Spirit-filled fun...good times! For directions to the church, see below.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/1580+Summit+Rd,+Cincinnati,+OH+45237/@39.20325,-84.464173,17z/data>



Chrysalis News and Notes



"Chrysalis" is the name chosen for the youth and young adult version of The Walk to Emmaus, its parent movement, because it symbolizes the spiritual growth that is essential between adolescence and adulthood. That growth is as crucial for youth as the cocoon is for the caterpillar. It is that precious time of nurturing a person's faith for discipleship. Please contact Christi Cheek at 513-284-6222, or email christikidwell@yahoo.com with any questions.

Upcoming Chrysalis Flights:

Young Women: Jan. 14-16, 2017

Young Men: Feb. 18-20, 2017

Milford First United Methodist Church
541 Main Street, Milford, OH 45150

Give a young person the gift of “flying with Christ” on a Chrysalis flight. Be a sponsor!

2016 Board of Directors

Worshipfully Working Together

Position	Name	Phone
Agape Chair	Linda St. Myers	513-874-0514
Chrysalis Lay Director	Christi Cheek	513-284-6222
Community LD	Lisa Linne	513-289-6706
Community LD Emeritus	Jeff Markovic	513-260-4783
Community SD	Rod Fightmaster	513-508-4147 cell
Communications Chair	Brian Pickens	513-484-6059cell
Connections Chair	Jennie Heflin	513-560-5331cell
Education	Debbie Albright	513-375-7534 cell
Good Shepherd	Jack Gillming	513-831-4540
Chrysalis Vice Chair	Jeremiah Campbell	513-807-6706
Leadership Chair	Steve Theobald	513-604-8160
Logistics Chair	Lori Markovic	513-260-4784
Men's Registrar	Peggie Hughes	513-781-8504cell
Newsletter	Bridget Murphy	513-349-8148 cell
Outreach	Annis Anderson	513-961-0621
Outreach	Chris Khwaja	513-304-8201 cell
Secretary	Larry Verdier	513-378-8021
Social Chair	Robin Shehan	513-474-2708 or 513-205-5608
Social	Bev Haun	513-581-5380 cell
Supplies	Sharon Wright	513-404-0456 cell
Treasurer	Lucy Trumbull	513-910-7990
Rep at Large	Ennes Ireton	513-448-5856
Rep at Large	TJ Spencer	513-276-5127
Women's Registrar	Sandy Hauser	513-941-8060
Worship	TBA	
Hyde Park CMUC Liaison	Sharon Michaelson	513-761-5571

2016 CALENDAR

Upcoming Walks/Flights

Men's Walk #99, Oct 13-16, 2016
 Women's Walk #117, Nov 10-13, 2016
 Young Women's Flight Jan 14-16, 2017
 Young Men's Flight Feb 18-20, 2017

Community Picnic July 7, 2016, 6:30 pm
 Gathering, Aug 4, 2016, 7:30 pm
 Board Meeting, Aug 15, 2016, 6:30pm
 Gathering, Sep 1, 2016, 7:30pm
 Board Meeting, Sep 19, 2016, 6:30 pm

Monthly Gatherings, Candlelight and Closings
 take place at
 Hyde Park Community UMC
 1345 Grace Avenue
 Cincinnati, OH

Please make childcare arrangements before
 attending Candlelight and Closing.
 It is inappropriate for
 children to be present at these services.

AGAPE: It's Never too Early!



With the next Walks/Flights just a few months away, this is a perfect time to create some new agape! If you need ideas, just Google "101 Agape Ideas" and you will get links to other Emmaus communities that have shared some of their creativity. Or, you can contact our Agape chairperson, Linda St. Myers, at 513-874-0514 or lstmyers@cinci.rr.com. Please make 60 pieces, to cover all pilgrims and team members. And remember that agape is meant to be anonymous. Please do not include individual names on the items. Group names are okay (e.g., ABC Share Group or XYZ Circle).