



FEBRUARY 2026 Newsletter

East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus

February 21 Gathering

6pm – 8pm(ish)

Uniontown United Methodist Church
13370 Cleveland Avenue NW
Uniontown, OH 44685

Ken Shillingburg will be our speaker. If childcare is needed, please call Deb Rupert by February 14th at 330-685-2419.

Bring a dish, snack, or desert to share (Refreshments starting at 6).
Please watch Facebook/Email for any changes and/or cancellations.

Sponsorship training from 5:00-6:00 before Feb. Gathering!

March Gathering our Speaker will be Sally Maltempi.

Sponsorship training from 5:00-6:00 before March gathering!

Upcoming Walks

Men's Walk #107 – John Shilling – April 9-12, 2026
Women's Walk #107 – Diane Boslett – April 16-19, 2026
Men's Walk #108 – Tom Huggins – October 15-18, 2026
Women's Walk #108 – Stacy Ickes – October 22-25, 2026
Men's Walk #109 – Jack Ritenour – April 8-11, 2027
Women's Walk #109 – Erica Valentine – April 15-18, 2027

COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR

Greetings EOOE 4thDay:

We are in the thick of winter. The cold winds and snow have enveloped all of us and lead us to thoughts of spring and warmer weather. What a bright future we have before us. The Men's and Women's Walk #107 are preparing to begin their respective team formation meetings. As spring is something to look forward to, the Walks are something that the Community can look forward to. God is preparing the team, and he is also prepping a new group of pilgrims. This is an exciting time.

It is important that we as the East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus Community understand our "WHY." All our respective weekends were great, but our 4thdays should be even better.

What is our WHY? Our WHY is renewing Christian Disciples and strengthening local churches. We as a Community, want to partner with local churches. We want to renew our commitment to faith and church leadership. We also want to facilitate our ongoing growth in the Christian life.

We exist for you to live out your 4thDays as growing disciples, serving in your local churches and communities.

How can you, a member of the East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus 4thDay, help to accomplish our WHY? Here are a few ways:

Participation in Community activities. Join us monthly at our gatherings. It is a time of fellowship, food, enrichment, and music.

Support our teams. If asked to serve on a team, diligently consider your participation through prayer and meditation. If not on the team roster, consider providing agape, serving meals, and participating in some of the weekend activities. Help with setting up and tear down of the camp. Sign up for the prayer vigil.

Sponsorship. Seek out prospective pilgrims for the weekends. Complete the sponsorship training and help to bring our next 4thDay into the community.

Lastly, participate in a reunion group. Small groups are the foundation of our faith. Small groups allow for growth in our faith and can provide counsel as we navigate life.

Allow God to use you. Focus on servanthood and get and stay involved.

Continued blessings,

DeColores

Ken Shillingburg, Community Lay Director 2026

Stay Connected

- **Are you on Facebook?** We'd love for you to join our [Facebook group](#) (or search EOEE) and stay connected! Please make sure to answer the prompt questions when joining!
- **A vital part of all our Walks and Gatherings is music.** We need musicians to serve on Walks; to play and sing at Gatherings and to play and sing at Candlelight. However, if the community doesn't know you play and/or sing, you can't be asked to serve in that way! If you play guitar or keyboard or you can sing, or both, please let us know! Contact Frank Ballard at 330-620-3470.
- **Church leaders or administration.** Do you have 4th Day in your church that do not have email? That means they do not get the newsletter. Please consider printing a few copies of the newsletter for your 4th Day church members so they can stay up to date on EOEE news.

Sponsoring a Pilgrim

Please begin in earnest to pray for pilgrim sponsorship.

- Remember that 2 forms must be completed in their entirety, and that a Pastor's signature must be on the pilgrim form along with a deposit toward the **\$215** fee.
- These forms can be printed from our web site eoee.org
 - [Sponsorship Packet](#)
- Applications/Sponsor Forms & Payment in Full, must be received 2 weeks prior to the walk start date
- Pray for these pilgrims in their walk of faith realizing that the purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is to build leaders in their local church.
- Pray for sponsors as they are making a commitment to attend sponsor's hour, candlelight, closing and gather agape for their pilgrim.
- Please note that completed applications need to be submitted in a timely fashion to:

East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus
Wanda Dunn
5688 Lindsey Oval
Medina, Ohio 44256
Email to: wwwsdunn@yahoo.com

Sponsorship for a Chrysalis Flight

- Neochrysalis.com for more details
- Applications/Sponsor Forms must be received 2 weeks prior to the walk start date
- Download the [application](#)

Groups Change Lives

4th Day life includes being part of an accountability (or reunion) group, a small group of Christians (ideally 2-6) who meet regularly to help each other live and grow in a life of grace. There are many ways to meet! Ask your sponsor or a 4th Day friend or any board member for information on how to get connected. Share the journey!

Prayer Chain

Do you have a prayer request? Please email any requests to eoeecontact@gmail.com. Please feel free to also add to the EOEE Facebook page.

Manuals

[Emmaus-team-manual](#)

AMAZON WISHLIST

If you feel led to help out with our needs for the Walks, here is the link to the [Amazon Wishlist](#). All items should be mailed to 722 Ironwood Street SW, Canton, OH 44706 or they can be brought to the gatherings.

Blessings,

I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me.

Phil. 4:13

~Andrea DeGraw~

Men's Walk # 107

Greetings Fourth Day,

As I'm writing this today, we are waiting for a winter storm to arrive, that will soon pass and we will be moving on to the hope of spring! Our Heads meeting will be taking place on Sat Jan 31st, followed by our 1st Team meeting on Feb 7th. God has assembled an awesome team to serve Him and minister to the pilgrims of Walk 107. God has blessed me with Jack Ritenour as the assistant lay leader and I look forward to serving with him.

Our walk weekend is April 9th-12th. We ask that you keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we start this time of team formation leading up to the walk. God is good and we can't wait to see what he has planned for us.

Blessings!

John Shilling, Weekend Lay Leader

Jack Ritenour, Weekend Assistant Lay Leader

East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus Men's Walk # 107

April 9 - 12, 2026

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!

Psalm 150:6

	Lay Leader		Kitchen		Chapel		Lay Speakers
1	John Shilling	1	* Neil Fritz	1	* Ronnie Wendell	1	Scott Houmard
	-- Perseverance	2	Jim Rini	2	Kevin Gessling		-- Priesthood of All Believers
		3	William Moore	3	Jacob Collins	2	Dave McIntyre
		4	Tracy Weisel	4	Dave Baird		-- Life of Piety
	Assistant Lay Leader	5	Adam Swinehart			3	Jared Collins
							--Grow Through Study
1	Jack Ritenour				Assistant Table Leaders	4	Ben Andrella
	-- Priority		Agape				--Christian Action
		1	* Herb Huff	1	Tim Gardner	5	John Weaver
		2	Justin Mitchell	2	Steve Slater		--Discipleship
	ALD	3	Shawn Fearon	3	Shad Swinehart	6	Jeff Thomas
1	* Rick Davenport						-- Changing Our World
2	William Adelman					7	Michael Patterson
3	Richard Reese		Music				-- Body of Christ
4	Dustin Mackintosh	1	* Jason Neel				
5	Sam Studer	2	Sean Cristea				
	-- Fourth Day	3	Jonathan Long				
					Board Rep		
	Spiritual Directors				Chris Ickes		* Denotes Head
1	* Ken Kesler		Means of Grace				
2	Ash Welch						
3	Bill Seymour				Utility		
4	Sy Horn				Jim Grafe		
5	Paul Milliken						

Women's Walk # 107

The women of Walk 107 are preparing to serve our precious pilgrims this Spring.

In the banner, the verse, the song, and the devotionals God has given, there is a strong theme of FREEDOM – freedom from fear, from the past, from everything that keeps us from living a full life with Christ at the center.

I believe God is going to bring healing and release in a big way. We so appreciate your prayers as we make this journey together!

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine.” Isaiah 43:1

Song: “Glorious Day” by Passion

In Christ's Love,

Diane Boslett, Weekend Lay Leader

Erica Valentine, Weekend Assistant Lay Leader

East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus Women's Walk # 107

April 16-19, 2026

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine."

Isaiah 43:1

	Lay Leader		Kitchen		Chapel		Lay Speakers
1	Diane Boslett	1	* Nicki Myers	1	* Beth Eisenbrei	1	Joy Weaver
	-- Perseverance	2	Laura Geiser	2	Mary Gardner		-- Priesthood of All Believers
		3	Christine Mitchell	3	Nannette Hahn	2	Megan Andrella
		4	Valerie Rado	4	Terri Paul		-- Life of Piety
	Assistant Lay Leader	5	Dawn Collins			3	Tammy Huggins
							--Grow Through Study
1	Erica Valentine				Assistant Table Leaders	4	Carol Pozuc
	-- Priority		Agape				--Christian Action
		1	* Emily Brown	1	Daniela Archer	5	Tracy Bowman
		2	JoAnn Fearon	2	Ashleigh Kuhns		--Discipleship
	ALD	3	Laurie Huff	3	Carla Miner	6	Shirley Swinehart
1	* Cheryl Wendell						-- Changing Our World
2	Judy Horn					7	Deborah Rupert
3	Herminia Lee		Music				-- Body of Christ
4	Val Riedthaler	1	* Colleen Ash				
5	Cathy Tisch	2	Debra Walker				
		3	Allie Carter				
			-- Fourth Day		Board Rep		
	Spiritual Directors				Michele Atkinson		* Denotes Head
1	* Jane Piehl		Means of Grace				
2	Cindy Olson						
3	Darcy Miller				Utility		
4	Amie Price				Lynette Mahaffey		
5	Wilma Robertson						

East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus

2026 Contact List

BOARD				
	Position	Name	Email	Phone
1	Lay Director	Ken Shillingburg	Kenshill5@aol.com	330-620-8232
1	Assistant Lay Director	Jim Grafe	Jim_grafe@netzero.net	234-521-4446
2	Spiritual Director	Head: Vince Maltempi	pastorv.fbc@gmail.com	330-807-6415
1	Ex-Officio	Charlie Brechmacher	cbrech@hotmail.com	330-317-9479
1	Secretary	Mary Nitzsche	marynitz@gmail.com	330-571-6279
1	Treasurer	Mark Boslett	markwboslett@gmail.com	330-416-8146
1	Procurement	Andrea DeGraw	adegraw2713@gmail.com	330-844-8227
3	Pre-Walk	Debbie Breyley Wanda Dunn Pam Ferguson	dabreyley@aol.com wwsdunn@yahoo.com pferg19209@sbcglobal.net	330-606-6840 330-635-8460 330-475-2546
3	Walk	Rachel Kline Laci McIntyre David McIntyre	Racheleric5@gmail.com Laci.l.mcintyre@gmail.com mcintyre79@aol.com	330-357-1590 330-714-2251 330-714-1334
3	Post Walk	Deborah Rupert Deb Ferry Luke Pahanish	drupertmalone@myyahoo.com iamrnlab@gmail.com lukepahanish@sbcglobal.net	330-685-2419 330-212-8144 330-491-6255
3	Technical Support	Sheri Watkins Bill Stevens	sheriwatkins@neo.rr.com billstevens197@gmail.com	330-310-2952 724-866-7838
1	Agape	Kathie Ledsome	snow_flake_purple@sbcglobal.net	330-309-2124
1	At-Large	Laurie Maltempi	lauriemaltempi@gmail.com	330-807-0103
1	Communications	Laura Geiser Bob Geiser Annie Chittock	kadenstay@gmail.com bob.geiser@gmail.com anneeherr@gmail.com	330-234-4924 330-262-4357 330-414-3293
1	Chrysallis	Sally Maltempi	Smaltempi1@gmail.com	330-675-9825
1	Community Trainer	Doug Herr	dherr@zoominternet.net	330-416-5735

LAY LEADERS					
Walk		When	Name	Email	Phone
107	Men's	April 9-12, 2026	John Shilling	jbshilling@neo.rr.com	330-466-1103
	Women's	April 16-19, 2026	Diane Boslett	dianeboslett@gmail.com	330-635-8477
108	Men's	October 15-18, 2026	Tom Huggins	tdhuggins@frontier.com	330-312-3505
	Women's	October 22-25, 2026	Stacy Ickes	csickes18@gmail.com	330-704-8662
109	Men's	April 8-11, 2027	Jack Ritenour	Jsje_4@frontier.com	330-756-2006
	Women's	April 15-18, 2027	Erica Valentine	Missbaer25@yahoo.com	330-958-2466
110	Men's	Oct 14-17, 2027	TBD		
	Women's	Oct 21-24, 2027	TBD		

TEAM SELECTION COMMITTEE/MENTORS		
<i>(Not included on Board, but provided minutes & agendas so that they're continually updated.)</i>		
Name	Email	Phone
Michele Atkinson	Pmatkinson.atkinson@aol.com	330-432-6014
Barb Shilling	jbshilling@neo.rr.com	330-466-2932
Jim Fahey	jgfahey@ameritech.net	330-603-9558
Chris Ickes	chrisickes@yahoo.com	330-704-7525