

Wilmington Area  
Walk to Emmaus

Volume 33 Issue 1  
January 2018



Christ  
Offers  
Forgiveness  
For  
Everyone  
Everywhere



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Wilmington  
Emmaus

## Debbie's Devotional Digest

Lamentations 3: 22 – 23 says that it is because of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is His faithfulness.

One year has ended and a new year is just beginning. Although a new calendar year can never erase all of the pain from struggles that you may have faced, God's love and mercy are new each day. When we choose to lean on Him, He will see us through the hard times that we face throughout the year. Take Paul, for example, one day he was persecuting Christians and the next he was preaching the Gospel. Talk about life's twists and turns. Sometimes it can be hard for us to let go of the past and to look to the future, especially the future God has in mind for us.

God doesn't always work the way we want or expect. He does, however, see more than we can see and He knows that today's trials are tomorrow's victories if we will trust in Him.

Do you think Paul may have been just a little hesitant when he began preaching and teaching about Jesus as the Christ? Do we do the same thing? Do we forget God's plan and try to do things on our own? The year 2018 brings new beginnings; it can also bring a new beginning to our trust in God's plan for us.

Give Him your trials, your worries, your cares, and remember His mercy and love for YOU are new each day.

**Welcome, Debbie Bryant**

**as**

**2018 Community Chair**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR to all!**



## Dave's Dispenses

### Forget NOT Our Old Acquaintances

The Hinman's had a very difficult 2017 Christmas season. It was not at all what we planned for. God's grace got us through, but "merry" it was not.

My mother, 86, started her dementia decline on Christmas Day, 2016; My brother and I went to pick Mom up for Christmas dinner that year to find her eating by herself on the couch. Mom and I had texted four hours previously, and she said she was looking forward to seeing everyone. By the time we arrived, she forgot we were coming and didn't even realize it was Christmas anymore. What ensued thereafter was a trip to the ER, a week's stay at Clinton Memorial Hospital, rehab thereafter, and, ultimately, a move from independent housing to assisted living.

Fast forward to this last holiday season, and Mom's decline necessitated another move, this time to skilled nursing care. She can no longer walk, sleeps most of the time, and is prone to falling from her nursing home bed and sliding out of her lift chair. She has a medi-alert to call for nurse assistance but forgets to use it. For a while during Christmas, she required 24-hour supervision to make sure she didn't try to get up on her own, so our family and friends took turns with her. I stayed with Mom most all of Christmas Day, and was blessed with several hours of her lucidity. She was surprisingly conversive and acknowledged that it was the day we celebrate Jesus' birth. This time with Mom was my best Christmas present this year. Praise God!

You know that song we sing once annually at midnight on New Year's? Titled ***Auld Lang Syne***, it is translated "old long since," meaning "days gone by." It begins, "Should auld (old) acquaintance be forgot," and I was touched this year to realize that many literally cannot recall their days gone by though they long to and wish they could once again.

The Bible encourages us to "forget the past." We're instructed in Isaiah 43 to, "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!" and in Philippians 3 we're told, "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me Heavenward in Christ Jesus." Though it is true that we must let go of past hurts and disappointments in order to move forward, we must not forget to care for the people we've encountered along the way.

Over the years, we've lost some wonderfully faithful Emmaus servants who have transitioned from their fellowship with us to their eternal reward in Heaven. I acknowledge that one day I also will be but a memory here when I'm called home. Isn't it encouraging to know that on that other side where there is no more death, tears and pain, that all of us in Christ will be reunited to begin making new memories again? Happy New Year, my friend. Keep looking up!

De Colores! *Dave Hinman*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\*\*PLEASE BRING FINGER FOODS for the January 9 gathering.

\*\*\*Men's Walk will be February 22 – 25. Please keep this time in prayer.

\*\*\*Emmaus Newsletter – Subscription about to run out? Send a \$6 check to Janell Smart % Wilmington Area Emmaus P. O. Box 191 Wilmington, OH 45177 or just hand the money to her at a gathering.



### Wilmington Emmaus E-Mail Blast

Are you currently receiving important updates or announcement from our Emmaus community? If not, would you like to be added to our E-mail Blast? Send a message to [wilmingtonemmaus@gmail.com](mailto:wilmingtonemmaus@gmail.com) with your name and any e-mail addresses you'd like added to our Blast database. You will receive a welcome email within a couple of days of signing up.

### Emmaus Parking Policy

Those parking for gatherings or Emmaus events, be aware as of Oct. 1. 2017, the two parking lots south of the Wilmington Methodist Church are not available for church use per request of the owner. The church now has its office in the basement of the church, not across the alley and the parking lots are off limits per owner request. The church has been unsuccessful in negotiating the matter. Pray about this and park elsewhere.

### Walk Scholarships Available

The cost of sponsoring a pilgrim is \$85.00. The cost helps cover program expenses for food and supplies. If you have not sponsored someone because it was cost prohibitive, the Wilmington Area Emmaus Community has a scholarship fund. This fund is made possible through gifts from previous pilgrims. If you need a scholarship for your pilgrim(s), please contact the 2018 Community Chair Debbie Bryant at [dlh273@hotmail.com](mailto:dlh273@hotmail.com) or Bob Brown at [bbob197@aol.com](mailto:bbob197@aol.com) BEFORE submitting your applications. If you would like to donate to the scholarship fund, please contact treasurer Janell Smart at [Janell-Smart@cinci.rr.com](mailto:Janell-Smart@cinci.rr.com)

### Pilgrim and Sponsor Applications

The Pilgrim & Sponsor Applications are updated to include the 2018 Walk Dates. PLEASE discard any old applications you may have and please use the application dated 1 – 25 – 2017. The line can be found on the website's homepage ([wilmingtonemmaus.org](http://wilmingtonemmaus.org)). If you are seeing older applications, please refresh/reload the page and/or clean out your browse cache and history.

Wilmington Area Walk to Emmaus

Wilmington United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 191  
Wilmington, OH 45177

We're on the web:  
[www.wilmingtonemmaus.org](http://www.wilmingtonemmaus.org)

See you at the GATHERING  
Tuesday, January 9 @ 7 p.m.  
Board mtg. @ 6 p.m.  
Please bring finger food to share  
Child care available

**Thank you for praying for the following:**

Travis  
Iris Wilkinson  
Dawna Jo Kiesling  
Phil Barber  
Pamela Nickell  
Erin Butler  
Braxton Henderson  
Isabella Grace  
the Oscar McKinney family  
Leah Williams  
Joan Hudson  
Marvin Streitenberger  
Amanda Foster  
Jason Wyckoff

Janet Workman  
Lasley Wilkinson  
Danielle Thompson  
Pam Smith  
Val McKinney  
Ralph Bloom  
Liam Williams  
Emma Gusman  
Doug Ford  
Colleen McLaughlin  
Christy Mitchell's church  
the Emmaus community  
relationships with family  
relationship with God

William Williams  
Joe Kessling  
Dave Hinman family  
Tina Knisley  
Anthony Adkins  
Colleen Loveland  
Juli Polstra  
Autumn  
Dora Butler  
Pauline Lyons  
Donald Knisley  
our ministers  
our government  
February Men's Walk