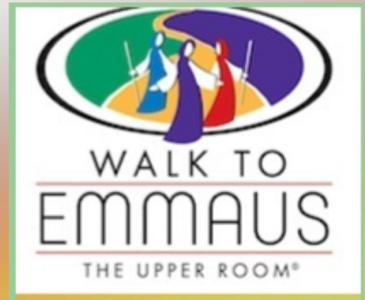


Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community



Community Lay Director

Does anyone think Groundhog Day is a silly tradition? I know I check every year to see if Punxsutawney Phil has seen his shadow or not. I realize Groundhog Day is just a fun tradition, but recently I researched the history of this day and found that it has roots in a pagan tradition turned Christian. Celts celebrated this time of the year between the winter solstice and the spring equinox to worship the sun. They were praising the sun god for the coming of spring. As Christianity spread, Christians were not happy with this tradition. The day was turned into a feast and candle-lit celebration of Jesus' presentation to the temple as a baby. The weather part came into play by how bright the candles were. A sunny day meant six more weeks of winter and a cloudy day, spring would arrive early.

One thing Groundhog Day reminds me of is our need for hope. If you are like me, you are hoping the Groundhog does not see his shadow. We, as followers of Jesus, have hope. We can rest in the hope of God, it never disappoints. We have God's word to remind us of the new life that is waiting for us. Whatever we face, we know at the end of our story, we have hope. We also know that whether the groundhog sees his shadow or not, spring will come. By the way, Punxsutawney Phil did see his shadow.

Community Good Shepherd

My share group's impact on me is why I joyfully accepted the nomination as the 4th Day Chair (aka Good Shepherd). I want to see our share group families grow and impact the lives of our Emmaus Community members by encouraging them in their Christian walk in their 4th days. If you are not part of a share group, please contact me and I will help to either connect you with a current group or help you start a new one (YES! We NEED new groups!). I have created helpful guidelines and tips for success to help. I also publish a list of groups seeking new members for each walk.

DeColores! Melissa Hendrix,

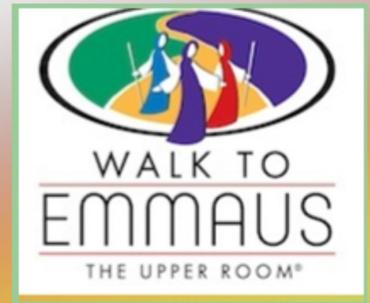
What's inside

Board of Directors.....	3-6
Good Shepherd.....	1
Lay Director.....	1
Spiritual Director.....	2

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 28: Gathering @ 7:00
- May 4-7: Men's Spring Walk #35
- June 1-4: Women's Spring Walk #43
- Sep. 7-10: Men's Fall Walk #36
- Oct. 5-8: Women's Fall Walk #44

Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community



Community Spiritual Director

Do you ever just take a minute to consider all of the opportunities you have had in your past? No doubt there are many of those you are thankful you took advantage of, but probably just as many that you wished you would have capitalized on. For me, I know there are many “opportunities” I wish I would have just let pass me by.

When I think of missed opportunities, I can't help but think of one opportunity that I missed. Several years ago, I came up with a way of removing smell from my hunting clothes. I ran several tests and discovered my idea worked. I even developed several prototypes and shared them with my friends and family who loved to hunt. One of them suggested I should have the idea patented or at least sell it to someone else. I thought they were crazy until about five years ago, when I saw my item or at least a version of it being sold in a local Walmart. Now, that technology is being used everywhere in the hunting industry for scent control. That is one missed opportunity I will always regret.

Wouldn't it be nice to be able to have some “redos” in life? I have heard hindsight is 20/20. I don't necessarily think that is always true, but I know my hindsight is often a lot better than my foresight.

When considering opportunities I have had in the past, one thing is certain, I have never regretted taking advantage of the opportunities God has provided for me. While I do have a long list of regrets for not taking advantage of the opportunities He has offered, I have never been sorry for stepping through any door God has opened for me.

Serving as Community Spiritual Director for our Emmaus Community is one of those opportunities that I am sure that I will not regret. I am so thankful for the opportunity to give back to our community by serving in this capacity. God used my Emmaus experience both on my walk and serving as a team member to shape me into who I am today and to prepare me to be a pastor. While on many occasions my schedule told me I didn't have time, I am so thankful for trusting in Him and taking advantage of each of those opportunities.

It is my prayer, as CSD, that each of you feel the same. I am praying that each of us will see serving in our community as the opportunity that it is and say yes to the next opportunity to serve God opens before us. Rest on this truth, as individuals, we may fail, but GOD IS STILL GOOD and because of His goodness, He still allows us to be a part of letting the love of Christ shine into a dark world.

DeColores! Jonathan King, Community Spiritual Director



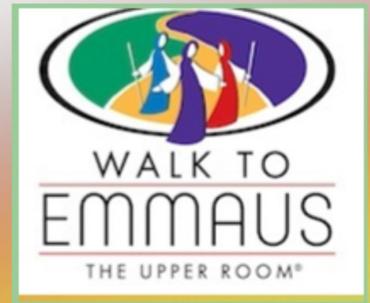
www.lovememmaus.org

[101 Agape Ideas](#)

[The Upper Room: Emmaus Website](#)

[Click here for an application!](#)

Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community



2023 Community Board of Directors

Lay Director: [Kim Myers](#)

Assistant Lay Director: [Elizabeth Jones](#)

Spiritual Director: [Jonathan King](#)

Secretary: [Michelle Benjamin](#)

Treasurer: [Amy Farrell](#)

LEAD Chairman: [Nikki Chandler](#)

Hospitality: [Aaron & Tiffany Atkins](#)

Volunteer Coordinator: [Cheri McClanahan](#)

Newsletter: [Amanda Jones](#)

Registrar/Sponsorship: [Samantha](#) and [Lucas Hiler](#)

Logistics Coordinator: [John Hendrix](#)

Worship: [David Benjamin](#)

Music: [Kenny](#) and [Michelle Lawrence](#)

Kitchen: [Susan Huff](#)

Agape Chairperson: [Lana Chandler](#)

Ruggles Liaison: [Bill Henry](#)

Good Shepherd: [Melissa Hendrix](#)

Chrysalis Representative: [Sydney Gibson](#)

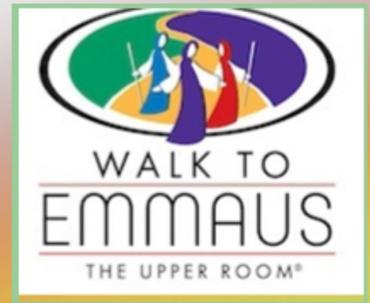
Webmaster: [Lauren Doyle](#)

Historian: Mike Burke



The Spring walks are fast approaching. Please start praying today for the Lord to place on your heart who you need to sponsor for a Walk to Emmaus.

Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community



A new year has brought some new faces—and kept some well-loved, old ones—to the Board of Directors for our community. Meet some of them below!



My name is Kim Myers and I am serving as the Community Lay Director this year. I attended Women's Walk #28. I lost my husband to illness in 2011, we had one child, Ryan. Ryan has blessed me with four amazing grandsons. I am also the mama of two dogs, Welda and Chief. Recently, I took a cat into my home, a female named Burley.

Emmaus has changed my life. Not only has it brought me into a closer relationship with our Lord and Savior, but it has put some amazing people in my life. I am grateful for each of my Emmaus brothers and sisters.

Something random, I may be left handed but I am in my right mind.



My name is Cheri McClanahan. I reside in West Union, OH with my husband, David and daughters Braxlynn and Bristynn. I have been a part of the Emmaus community since 2012, when I attended



Women's Walk #24. I have since served on many walks both in and out of the conference room. As we know, our walk experience is often indescribable. I have cherished the experience since beginning my 4th Days. I am most thankful for the Godly Emmaus Family that

have made such an impact on my life and continue to do so.

To sum it up, I am a coffee loving, Christ following school teacher hoping to make a difference in the lives around me!

My name is Amy Farrell and I went on Walk #25. I have a husband Troy, four boys, 10th grandbaby due in May and 1st great grand baby due in July

What is there to not love about Emmaus?! Genuine, loving community full of Jesus loving people that want to further God's Kingdom!!



Bertha loves chocolate, Bear-cats and Bengals :) On a side note my great grandmother's (in West Va) name was Bertha! Because I looked a lot like her I was called a "Young Bertha" when growing up!



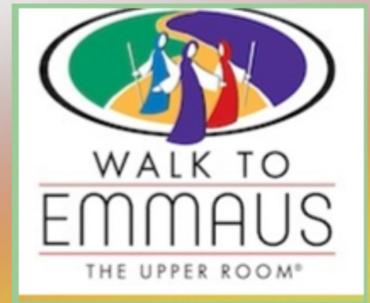
My name is Melissa Hendrix, LOVE Community Women's Walk to Emmaus #36, Table of Naomi. I'm married to John, have 2 sons, Raymond and Nicholas, and 3 step-daughters, Hannah, Audra, and Coryn. I have furbabies Mosely (dog) and Mama Kitty, Bella, and Me-owse (all cats).

My walk to Emmaus was the start of a deeper and more renewed relationship with my Savior. My walls came down. I now also have THE MOST AMAZING Emmaus family! I have had a lot of acquaintances in my life and very few female friends historically. Through Emmaus I gained 6 sisters from my share group who have become my Heart-Sisters and a constant encouragement and support in my Christian walk. If we had been sisters by birth, I could not love these ladies more!



If you ever see me running, KILL THE SPIDER!

Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community



A new year has brought some new faces—and kept some well-loved, old ones—to the Board of Directors for our community. Meet some of them below!

Hello, I'm Susan Huff, I supervise the Kitchen for the walks. I was a pilgrim on Women's Walk 30. I live in Ohio and am an assistant Program Director for a nonprofit Community Action Organization. I attend the Decatur Community Church. In summer I like to garden and in winter I piece quilts.

The Love Emmaus community means so much to me. It has become family and it's always a pleasure to serve pilgrims alongside Emmaus family members.



We are Lucas and Samantha Hiler. Lucas went on Love Community men's walk #31 and Samantha went on Love Community women's walk #38.



A fun fact about us is that we actually met on Emmaus walk #32 while Lucas was serving in the kitchen. We have been married for almost two years and have three cats, Arnold, Rosie, and Cheeto.

For fun we like to try new restaurants, putt-putt, and travel. We are excited to serve the community as the registrars and sponsorship support.

My name is Lana Chandler. I went on walk #35 the fall of 2017! Wow did that ever change my life!! God loves me! I was surrounded by His love on my walk.

I have continued to be involved with my community, Love Emmaus family!! I am on the board as Agape chair person. I will continue to serve my Lord Jesus until He calls me home.

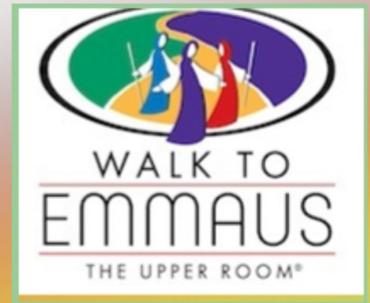


My name is Elizabeth Jones and I went on walk #24. I teach middle school science and love nature and plants. I've got a windowsill garden in my classroom that threatens to take over.

I love Emmaus because I love to be surrounded by other Christians. They are always there when I need them, no questions asked.



Limestone Ohio Valley Emmaus Community



A new year has brought some new faces—and kept some well-loved, old ones—to the Board of Directors for our community. Meet some of them below!

We are Kenny Lawrence of Greater Cincinnati Young Men's Chrysalis Flight #33 and Michelle Lawrence of LOVE Community Women's Walk to Emmaus #32. We have been married for 4 years and have 3 beautiful kiddos and 1 on the way due on Mothers' Day this year. Ashlyn is 12, Brenson is 9, and Kaia is 6. We're all excited to meet our newest family member!

There is a side of Kenny that no one else sees, his multi-personality of voices which brings out the snort and laughter in Michelle. Michelle is fully fluent in goat tongues which is also her spiritual gift that she did NOT learn but was blessed with. If you would like to see proof of this, you may ask them to watch the video they have.

This community not only changed our walk with God but we have seen, time and time again, just how much God has used it to impact the lives of others, and to be able to serve and continue to be a part of that is truly priceless.



We humbly ask that you would pray for us and our family as we devote ourselves to this commitment. Pray that God will bless us with wisdom in our decision making, trust and patience when things don't go according to plan, and above all else, that we would have love in everything that we strive to do for the people in this community.



My name is Amanda Jones and I attended Emmaus Walk #34. I've got a sister, Elizabeth, and live in the Bluegrass State. I'm a first grade teacher and believe that my firsties are the best, every year. And they'll tell you I'm a self-proclaimed nerd and proud of it!

I love Emmaus because it gave me a family that loves me for me, and sees me as God sees me. The brothers and sisters in this community have been a lifeline for me over and over again.

My name is Jonathan King LOVE Community Men's Walk to Emmaus #8, Table of Mordecai. I am a bi-vocational pastor. I have served as the pastor of Hills Chapel for well over a decade. While it seems like yesterday to me, some of my congregation may say otherwise. :) I am thankful for this opportunity to give back to a community and a ministry God used to shape so many different aspects of my life and the work I do in the Kingdom.

I have been married to my wife Amanda (Women's Walk #8) for over 25 years. Together we have two children Zach and Abby. This year we were blessed with the opportunity to host a student from Italy, Bianca. Amanda and I both agree that our times at Ruggles changed our lives. Since our walks we have been blessed to serve in not only the LOVE community, but also GSVE and Southern Ohio Chrysalis. We have witnessed the impact Chrysalis made in the life of our son and we are looking forward to sponsoring our daughter as soon as she is old enough.

It is our prayer that we will be able to reconnect to many of those who made such a great impact on our lives as Pilgrims and to do our part in seeing our community thrive for the cause of Christ.

