



WALK TO
EMMAUS
THE UPPER ROOM®



June-August 2016

Jackson Area Emmaus Community

Annual Emmaus Picnic - August 13



Fill that picnic basket with a dish or two to pass and bring it to Ella Sharp Park in Jackson on August 13th from 1:00-4:00 p.m.!

You may also bring lawn games, lawn chairs, and your whole family!

The park is located at 2800 4th St. Look for the rectangular pavilion across from the golf course.

Nominations needed

It is once again time for nominations for the Jackson Area Emmaus Board. The following positions need to be filled: Auxiliary Head, Prayer Vigil, Fourth Day Gatherings, Sponsors Hour/Candlelight, Site Selection and Kitchen.

In addition, Bea Furman would like someone to work with her as a music director in training.

If you would like to volunteer to serve on the board or would like to nominate someone, please email jeffsweet83@yahoo.com or

cdl@jacksonemmaus.org by August 19th. Jeff may also be reached by calling (517) 565-3259.

The board will begin working on a ballot at the August 23rd board meeting.

The Emmaus by-laws call for positions to be filled after the board members are elected, so those who are nominated may not necessarily assume a specific pre-determined role. Positions are filled by vote of the board.

Ballots will be distributed no later than Oct. 15th and there will be a limited window of time for voting.

Tom Norton to Serve as 2017 Men's Walk Lay Director

After much careful prayer and consideration, Tom Norton has agreed to serve as the Lay Director for the 2017 Men's Walk to Emmaus. The Walk is scheduled for March 30-April 2 at First Presbyterian Church on Michigan Ave. in Jackson.

Please be in prayer for Tom and for those whom he will be contacting to serve in the conference room at this walk.

Emmaus...by Deb Spicer



*When I first heard about Emmaus;
From a friend and sister in Christ.
I must say that I was reluctant;
It would take a lot to entice.*

*My hesitation was being a Catholic;
Never encouraged to read the Bible.
Only taught that it wasn't necessary;
The priests and nuns are most reliable.*

*Looked down on I thought for sure;
By those who read and studied.
There was no way I would fit in;
So different from everybody.*

*My friend, she finally convinced me;
There will be singing and food galore.
I'm not quite sure of my decision;
But something was calling me-was it you
Lord?*

*And then I finally got there;
One of the first things asked to do.
Put away your watch and be silent;
Uncomfortable, my nightmare coming true.*

*Patience is what they told us;
To just let go and let God.
Ok I thought, I'd wait and see;
If this doesn't work, it's back to my job.*

*The next day wasn't that bad;
My friend was right about the singing.
The food and snacks were plenty;
But something seemed to be missing.*

*Did I need more time or patience?
Was 72 hours even enough?
To change over 30 years of teaching;
I thought, this is going to be tough.*

*If you've ever been to Emmaus;
Then you know what happened next.
Not just singing and eating, but crying;
I should have taken stock in Kleenex!*

*More and more it became evident;
Jesus was definitely in this place.
Speaking through the speakers;
Everywhere, a smiling face.*

*We received gifts of Agape;
Small things given and made with love.
Then dying moments left me speechless;
Broken hearts being mended from above.*

*I felt as though I'd been broken;
Was I ready to let Him in?
A mending process was starting;
Yes Jesus, I'm ready to begin!*

*Leaving my heart wide open;
Understanding why I was here.
The something that seemed to be missing;
Little by little was becoming clear.*

*The weekend was half over;
Always told never to anticipate.
Inches were our timeline;
This much time to take a break.*

*Then came Saturday's dinner;
Distinguished men, candlelight and flowers.
Twinkling lights and a special meal;
Why didn't I take that shower!*

*Tears, excitement and speechless;
Unsure of what to expect.
Serenaded and then the bill came;
"Paid in full by Jesus" it said!*

*We all thought, they can't top this;
Back to the conference room we went.
Another speaker and then posters;
Drained, tired, our energy was spent.*

*Let's go for a walk and follow me;
Singing "Jesus, Jesus Can I Tell you How I Feel
You have given me your spirit
I love you soooooo!"*

*The sanctuary it seemed we were going;
Was that voices coming from inside?
Two by two we started filing in;
Stunned, speechless, of course tears in our eyes.*

*Faces and lights, smiles and more;
They came from near and from far.
Just for this moment is why they had come;
Then sing us a song and back to their cars.*

*Smiling faces and love filled the room;
That is when it happened for me!!!
Everything seemed to fall in place;
It is only Jesus' face that I see!!!*

*There were no words to explain it;
The feeling that entered into my heart.
For it was no longer broken;
My life, He will always be a part.*

*No way was sleep even possible;
Wound tight, exhausted, amazed.
Laying on my thin matt trying to digest;
Staring at the ceiling in a daze.*

*Tomorrow will be our last day;
To think that I didn't want to come.
No longer feeling life a misfit;
What else to expect, I'm getting numb.*

*Another lunch and then more snacks;
The end was approaching fast.
Cherishing all that has happened;
Making precious memories that will
forever last.*

*Oh, NO, now what's happening?
I'm not sure that I can take much more.
Small bags containing envelopes;
What's this, letters from home?*

*Touching words and notes of
encouragement;
Tears thought dry coming again.
I give up, I can't take anymore;
Jesus my heart is yours, you win!*

*The day is almost over;
One more ceremony to attend.
Receiving crosses tenderly prayed over;
This experience is coming to an end.*

*We are asked to give a testimony;
Of what this time here has meant.
My life, my heart is changed forever;
Dear friend, Thank you, I'm glad I went!!!*

For some, change is a dirty word. For others, change is something that enables us to grow and make improvements.

The Board has been laboring over this past fall's budget shortfall, and examining ways that we can be better stewards, offer fantastic Emmaus weekends, and still be financially solvent in an economy where prices continue to skyrocket.

For this reason, beginning with the 2017 walks, the following changes will be implemented:

- 1) The fee for attending an Emmaus weekend will be raised from \$90 to \$100.
- 2) The fee for those who serve on the auxiliary or conference room team will be raised by about \$1 per meal.

Deb Spicer has served in the Jackson Area Emmaus Community in many capacities since her Emmaus Walk—both as an auxiliary team member and conference room leader. She currently serves as Secretary of the Board and Auxiliary Head. Deb has recently become involved with Cursillo weekends. Cursillo is the forerunner of the Emmaus movement, and is sponsored by the Roman Catholic church.

We'd like to thank Deb for this vivid word picture of her Emmaus Weekend experience!



Those experiencing hardship may request scholarship funding to help defray the cost. We do not want to inhibit anyone from serving or attending an Emmaus Weekend for financial reasons.

- 3) The start time for the Emmaus Walk will be changed to 7:00 p.m., and dinner will NOT be included on Thursday evening. A snack will be provided instead. This is in keeping with the way that most Emmaus communities operate.

Picnic Offering to help Scholarship Fund

Donations collected at the August 13th picnic will be put into the scholarship fund. The scholarship account currently has \$378.00.

Scholarships are awarded to those who are unable to pay for their Emmaus weekend. Those applying for scholarship help are encouraged to pay for at least their own registration fee if at all possible.

If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, but are unable to attend the August picnic, you may send checks payable to: Jackson Area Emmaus, c/o Jim Justin, 5295 Timbercrest Trail, Jackson, MI 49201.

Sponsors are encouraged to take their pilgrim for a bite to eat on the way to the Walk.

Not serving a Thursday evening dinner will enable the kitchen crew to concentrate on meals for just Friday through Sunday, giving them more prep time on Thursday.

It will save money in the food budget, and not require a donation box to be set out on Thursday evening, causing confusion among the pilgrims.

A later start time will also enable a later start time for the Prayer walk-through, allowing the team more time to get to the Walk after their workday.

While this change will disappoint some, it will actually make things easier for others.



Chrysalis News

Chrysalis is the weekend event for teens that is sponsored by The Upper Room. It is similar to the Walk to Emmaus, but it is geared for teenagers.

Girls Chrysalis Flight

July 15-17

Mason UMC

201 E. Ash

Mason, MI

Boys Chrysalis Flight

July 28-31

Mason UMC

Application deadline 7/14

2016 Leadership Development

(for adults interested in working at a Chrysalis event)

Plymouth First UMC

45201 North Territorial

Plymouth, MI

Aug. 26—clergy

Aug 27—leadership development

Lunch will be served on both days



We have an Emmaus Email Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer concern, send it to:

Jackson.emmaus.prayer.chain@gmail.com

If you wish to join the Emmaus Prayer Warrior team, let us know and we will add you to our group.

- Don and Jo Jensen

Jackson Area Emmaus Shirts

are available in a variety of styles and sizes. Each item bears the Jackson Area Emmaus logo:



You can order your shirt at the monthly gatherings, or you can receive an order form by contacting Frank Drechnowicz at frank@goldentouchembroidery.com

A portion of the proceeds go to Jackson Area Emmaus.





From our Community Spiritual Director - Pastor Dave Goolsby

Greetings Friends,

The first thing I want to do is introduce myself to you. I'm Pastor David Goolsby of Christ's Kingdom Ministries located in Jackson Michigan and I'm the new Emmaus Community Spiritual Director for the Jackson Chapter. My wife and I were ordained as pastors in November of 2000 by our parent church—Embassies of Christ, located in Gary, Indiana.

What a blessing it is to serve in such a caring, and thoughtful community. I took my walk in the fall of 2004 and my wife just finished her walk this year in a full women's walk. We are still both excited.

Being new, I'm bound to make a few mistakes, but please blame them on my head, and not on my heart.

If you have been attending the gatherings and I haven't met you, please introduce yourself to me and my wife, if we don't get to you first. If you haven't been attending the gatherings, please come back. We need you. Paul writes how we, as the body of Christ need each other and that in Christ we enable each other to build each other up in love.

Eph. 4:16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Just a quick question—How many of you remember eating Kellogg's Corn Flakes back in the day? With all of the popularity and attention being gained by other brands of 'sugar-frosted zombies cereals', they came out with a new slogan. That slogan was, "Taste them again, for the very first time." I actually did that, and didn't realize how delicious they were. I did that also with the Emmaus community--and I couldn't be more pleased.

That's my invitation to you if you haven't been in a while. Come back to the Emmaus gatherings for the very first time.



This newsletter finds me writing a heartfelt thanks to all of you who participated in the walks, whether you cleaned the bathroom, worked in the kitchens, encouraged people before their talks in the prayer room and most importantly music!

Music encompasses so much. Whether you were a member of one of the music teams or you were the lowly singer who doesn't think his/her voice mattered during candlelight, closing or gathering, you've done your part to lend your skills to the worship of our Lord and Savior.

That's why it is with a thankful heart I can say thank you to all of you who stretched me as music director of the community for the past five years. While I probably should have gone on the different websites that people talked about, I've found that most of them that are geared towards worship are rather hard for me to navigate, and not just because I'm blind. I'll admit to not being the best person technologically for the job. That being said, if anyone is interested in considering the position of music director on the board, please feel free to drop me a line at healing-songcmt@gmail.com, so I can present your name for nomination. I'm willing to assist whoever is interested. So, I promise, I won't leave you in the lurch.

Sponsorship Training follows July 9th Gathering

If you would like to sponsor a pilgrim at one of next year's Emmaus Walks and have not yet had sponsorship training, you may do so immediately following the July 9th Gathering, which will take place at Brookside United Methodist Church, 4000 Francis St., Jackson MI.

The gathering starts at 5:00 p.m. with a potluck supper and then a time of praise, worship, and communion. At the conclusion of the gathering, those wishing to receive training to be a sponsor are encouraged to stay for an extra few minutes.

Those who have previously undergone training are encouraged to stay as well, as things change from time to time and it is easy to forget things if you haven't sponsored in a while.

Anyone wishing to become a trainer is also encouraged to be at the training.

Sponsorship Trainers needed

We currently have one person, Randy Herrick, who conducts sponsorship training. While we love and appreciate Randy's service, there is a need to have additional trainers to fill in when Randy can't be there. We would also like to be able to offer sponsorship training in outlying areas, such as Hillsdale, Marshall, and eastward toward Ann Arbor.

If you would like to serve in this capacity, please contact Jeff Sweet at 517-565-3259. Email: jeffsweet83@yahoo.com or cdl@jacksonemmaus.org

ARE WE SELLING JESUS ?

By Frank Drechnowicz

As we think ahead to sponsoring a Pilgrim that God has put on our heart.....

Are we Selling JESUS ?

While it's Great to be excited about Emmaus & want others to go.....

I ask again Are we Selling JESUS ?

➤ Please Do **SHARE** what your Emmaus Walk meant to you.

➤ Please Do **SHARE** how your life is different with your Family, Church, Job. etc.

➤ Please Do **SHARE** how it turned you from a Fan to a Follower of Jesus.

➤ Please Do **SHARE** that you have seen others grow in their Faith Walk through Emmaus

☒ Please Do **SHARE** that you have met some great Brothers & Sisters in Christ at Emmaus

☒ Please Do answer any questions, without giving away too many surprises

BUT PLEASE DON'T

➤ **MAKE IT A SALES JOB**, just for the sake of getting numbers.....

➤ **Sell the excitement level** (not everyone reacts the same to any given event)

➤ **Make promises of what they will get out of the weekend** (again – everyone is different)

➤ **Try to be secretive about what they can expect**

**PLEASE JUST SHARE JESUS,
and the potential of giving up
72 Hours devoted to HIM !!**

DeColores

DATES TO REMEMBER...

Emmaus Board Meetings

Tuesday—July 26, 6:30 p.m.
 Tuesday—Aug. 23rd, 6:30 p.m.
 Tuesday—Sept. 27th, 6:30 p.m.
 Brookside United Methodist
 4000 Francis St. Jackson, MI

Annual Picnic

Saturday—Aug. 13 1:00 p.m.
 Ella Sharp Park
 Jackson, MI

Community Gatherings -

Saturday—July 9 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday—Sept. 10, 5:00 p.m.
 Brookside United Methodist



Sponsorship Training

Saturday—July 9—following
 monthly gathering

Chrysalis Leadership Development

Aug 26-27 Plymouth UMC
 Plymouth

Spring 2017 Men's Walk

March 3-6
 First Presbyterian Church
 Michigan Ave., Jackson, MI

Fall 2017 Women's Walk

Sept. 21-24
 First Presbyterian Church
 Michigan Ave., Jackson, MI

JAE Board of Directors 2015 –2016

Community Lay Director:

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 jeffsweet83@yahoo.com

Asst. Community Lay Director

Sue Miller (517) 358-8752
 ml1rtlme@hotmail.com

Community Spiritual Director:

Rev. Dave Goolsby (517)788-7114 day
goolsb19@acd.net (517) 768-0877 eve

Acting Auxiliary Head &

Secretary: Deb Spicer
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Comp Records/Data Manager:

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Prayer Vigil:

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nurseames@hotmail.com

Registrar:

Jean Herrick (517) 262-3333
goldberry@herrickmi.us

Site Selection/Bldg/Tear Down:

Butch Walker (517) 416-6058

Sponsor

Hour/Candlelight/Closing:

Chuck Tuckey (734) 426-5248
CRTuckey@charter.net

Fourth Day/Gatherings:

Joyce Huntington (517) 914-5167
joyce_norman@sbcglobal.net

Kitchen:

Andy Crisenbery (517) 990-0870
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shipexpress@gmail.com

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