



Please Note: Very important Ballot on page 8.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Superiorland Emmaus community for your support that I received while having the opportunity to serve as your chairman for the last five years. At the January 2015 meeting you will be electing a new chairman, I know and pray that God will provide that person along with the guidance and wisdom to move Superiorland Emmaus to bigger and better things. It is time for me to move on, and again I want to thank each of you for your support and allowing me to serve and be a part of the team.

God bless and be with you and yours;
Randy Yelle - Superior Land Emmaus Chairman
(sandszoning@sandstownship.info)

whoever@changedmymindagain.com

Moved? Got a new cell phone? Changed your ISP? If you are feeling lonely and left out and no one ever calls you, this may be the reason.

**DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT
E-MAIL AND PHONE NUMBER?**

The data base file is continually being updated. If you wish to continue receiving this newsletter, a current e-mail address is needed. The Team Selection Committee cannot contact you to work a walk if your home phone number has been disconnected when you went 'Cellular'. Changes to your e-mail address or phone number should be sent to Marti Obmann at:

snowtea48@gmail.com.

Please put "Emmaus address change" in the heading or subject box.

DONATIONS NEEDED

A Walk to Emmaus takes a lot of STUFF! Between both the Men and Woman's Walk we use over 100 notebooks, thousands of napkins, table cloths, cups and paper plates. Not to mention pens, pencils, crayons, markers, poster board, tape, cleaning supplies, candles and reams of paper. And that's just the "Soft Goods". The community is continually upgrading or replacing "Reusable" items like mattresses, display easels, table decorations and storage tubs, to name just a few. The churches and camp that we have used for Walks have always been very generous in letting us use their equipment and facilities but if we break something we have to fix or replace it. Also keep in mind that the single biggest expense for any Walk is the cost of food for meals (at least 10) and snacks (lots of snacks). So donations are always welcome, both material and monetary, especially monetary.

(Editor's Note: I have been a part of the Superiorland Emmaus Community for nearly 20 years and during that time the candidate and team registration fee has only gone up \$10. At \$65 we have one of the lowest fees in the country. Good stewardship by teams and the board have kept and will continue to keep our expenses under control. But we can always use the assistance of material or monetary donations.)

If you are moved to make a donation, checks should be made out to Superiorland Emmaus and mailed to treasurer:

Kreg Kelley
325 West Harris
Hancock MI 49930

or credit card donations can be made on the [Superiorland Emmaus website](#) by clicking the "donation" link.

UPcoming Walks

Time to get your team applications in!

2015 walks

Men: April 16-19, 2015,*
Women: April 23-26, 2015,

Grace United Methodist Church in Marquette.

(*Date for the Men's Walk may be subject to slight change, due to a scheduling conflict. Notice by e-mail and posting on Community Website as soon as a confirmed date is set.)

Team Selection will be meeting on **November 8th** for selecting the Conference Room Team and helping Auxiliary choose their team member. Please get in your Volunteer Forms to Marti Obmann, either by mail or email as soon as possible. The next Walks are in April, with overnight team training in February and March. The Volunteer Form can be found on

SuperiorlandEmmaus.org

Merchandise NewS

Did you miss out on getting a shirt or sweatshirt at the last walk? We have lots of t-shirts, long sleeve shirts, and hoodies available. You don't have to wait for a walk to get one. Just contact me and I will work with you on getting it to you. Our current colors are gold, kiwi, chocolate, paprika, forest green, dark cherry red, antique orange, and antique cherry red. We also have sizes from M-XXXL. If I don't have the size, style and/or color you want I can try to get it ordered and have it made. I currently have a small order that I have to put in and the more I get the better. Also, I am taking suggestions for other types of merchandise that people may want. Please feel free to contact me either through email at suzette498492219@yahoo.com or you can call me at (906) 458-4061.

We are looking at getting the items placed on our website with pictures and using PayPal for even easier access.

DeColores! Trina Johnson

WARNING THE FOLLOWING IS AN EDITORIAL COMMENT

It's about THEOLOGY not therapy!

I do not desire or wish to offend but I feel that something must be said about what I feel has been a misunderstanding recently about what the Walk to Emmaus is, who should attend and what sponsorship means.

Some have called The Walk to Emmaus (and similar programs such as Cursillo and Via-de-Cristo) a 72 hour crash course in Christianity. And that is not a bad description but if that was the purpose, then we should be using Emmaus as an orientation class for new members and converts to our churches. The Walk to Emmaus is not meant to fix a troubled marriage or relationship, cure substance abuse, cure depression or prevent suicide. Nor is it something you do just because your spouse or everyone else is doing it.

The Walk to Emmaus IS a Journey with Christ

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and walked with them. - Luke 24:15

The Walk to Emmaus experience begins with the prayerful discernment and invitation from a sponsor.

The next step on the Walk to Emmaus is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation with a three-day short course in Christianity. An opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.

Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ. Through the formational process of accountable discipleship in small groups and participation in the Emmaus community, each participant's individual gifts and servant-leadership skills are developed for use in their local church and its mission. Participants are encouraged to find ways to live out their individual call to discipleship in their home, church, and community.

The objective of Emmaus is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action and leadership in their homes, churches, communities and workplaces. Emmaus lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

WHO should attend a Walk to Emmaus?

(The following bold type is taken directly from the Official International Emmaus website, italics added for emphasis.)

Mission: Empowering Leaders through Emmaus & Chrysalis to be the hands and feet of Christ

Vision: Fourth Day Leaders Embodying Jesus Christ

Who should go to Emmaus?

Emmaus is open to members of any Christian denomination. Emmaus is for the *development of Christian leaders who:*

- 1. Are members of a local church**
- 2. Have a desire to strengthen their spiritual lives**
- 3, May have unanswered questions about their faith**
- 4. Understand that being a Christian involves responsibility**
- 5. Are willing to dedicate their everyday lives to God in an ongoing manner**

SPONSORSHIP is a privilege and a responsibility *not* an obligation

Sponsorship is probably the scariest thing that I have ever done (that may surprise some of you who know my military background). But even though I have sponsored a few in the past and hopefully others in the future, I expect no kudos, thanks or points on my "Get out of hell free" card. Sponsorship is a privilege; it is a time when you are truly being the hands and doing the work of Christ. Sponsorship is a responsibility because when you ask or agree to be a sponsor you are telling that candidate you think that they fit the criteria listed above. That takes discernment and leading from the Holy Spirit. Because when you become a sponsor you are inviting that candidate into *your fourth day* as well. Even if that candidate, now a new community brother or sister, does not even go to your church or live in your community you still have the continued responsibility to pray for them and encourage them in their fourth day too. Sponsorship is scary, time consuming, hard work and one of the best things you will ever do.

Check out the [Superiorland Emmaus website](#) where there is information on what to do as a sponsor.

God Loves You & So Do I

Jim Baker, Superiorland Emmaus Walk #17, at Marquette First UMC, in 1994, and I sat at the Table of Luke.
Superiorland Emmaus Community Newsletter Editor

Walk #73 Reflection

I took my walk at Michigamme (walk #62) which makes me a “Johnny-come-lately” by any measure. My frame of reference is admittedly rather small. Still, I was deeply impressed by almost every aspect of the men’s walk just completed. To begin with, it was a God-thing it even happened. We were three pilgrims short when the cut-off day arrived. By the end of the day, we were good to go with pilgrims to spare. Eighteen pilgrims finally made the walk.

I thought the talks previewed in the weeks leading up to the walk were especially strong. My perceptions didn’t change as these men gave their talks during our three days together. But that’s not the most memorable time about activities in the conference room. It was the pilgrims who impressed. From the very first talk, they were clearly engaged. You could see it in the way they listened intently and took notes. Table sessions were lively. And the reviews at day’s end revealed thoughtful, cogent, creative and gifted presentations. Clearly, this group of pilgrims had been prepared by the Holy Spirit.

It’s always fun to watch the kinds of diversity God brings to these events. Some of our pilgrims had been walking with Jesus for many years. Others were clearly “newbies”. Some of them were seniors. Others were young men. No matter, the cohesiveness of the group seemed to gel especially quickly and only improved as the weekend progressed.

I’m very excited about the new things God did in the lives of participants (pilgrims and team members) on walk #73. I expect to see great things from our newest members. De Colores.

Steve Rhoades, Spiritual Director

The Women’s Walk #74 was a renewing and wonderful experience for the pilgrims. There was, however, some disruptive behavior and two pilgrims chose to go home before candlelight, which lays heavy on my heart. The conference room team is not trained as counselors to handle deep-rooted problems which were witnessed at this walk. I offer the following guidelines from the Emmaus Handbook for sponsors to pray about and to consider when sponsoring a candidate. Pray, pray, pray and take sponsorship seriously!

God loves you and so do I.

Barb Merlo, Women’s Board Rep/Walk #74

Why do we Sponsor? What Is our Aim? Who do we Sponsor?

These are very important questions!

The aim of a sponsor should not be “to get all my friends to go,” to fill up the weekend, to fix people’s problems, or to reproduce one’s own religious experience in others. Rather, the aim of the sponsor is to bring spiritual revitalization to Christians who will, in turn, bring new life and vision to the work of the church in the congregation, home, workplace and community. **The aim of sponsorship is to build up the body of Christ.**

Emmaus is for active Christians and members of churches whose own renewal will mean new energy, commitment, and vision in the church and everyday environments, for Christ’s sake.

Emmaus is right for many people, but not for everyone! In some cases, Emmaus can be wrong for a person because of his or her religious background or emotional condition. In other cases, a person can be wrong for Emmaus because of the negative effect he or she will have on an Emmaus Weekend or because of the divisive influence they will bring to the church.

Some examples of **questionable** sponsorship are:

1. Non-Christians and persons with no relationship to the Church of Jesus Christ.
2. Persons undergoing an emotional crisis (family break-up or severe grief) or who are psychologically unstable.
3. Christians whose theology and/or practice are notably different or incompatible with the traditional theology and practice represented by the Walk to Emmaus. For example, those who want to be faithful to Saturday Sabbath and strict dietary stipulations. Persons who do not accept other kinds of Christians.
4. “Church hoppers”, members who continually have an ax to grind against the church.
5. Persons who are always looking for another spiritual high or another experience to help them “arrive.”



Superiorland Emmaus Walk #73

Row 5: Scott Ritsema, Randy Yelle, Dale Eltman
 Row 4: Doug Mater, Gary Lubinski, Greg Vargo, Larry Cleveland, Carl Wick,
 Happy Wahmhoff, Dan Crandall, Steve Rhoades, Bryan Laurila
 Row 3: Joe DeHut, Scott Mull, Brian Johnson, Seamus Collins, Rick Fila,
 Carl Crenshaw, Don Loutzenhiser, Mark Wilcox, Sam Johnson
 Row 2: Mark Plichta, Ivan Darling, Alan St. Aubin, John Jarvi, Mike Moore,
 Paul Raboin, Jason Alumbaugh, Larry Lambert
 Row 1: Gene Austin, Steven Parris, John Dedo, Mark Frustaglio, Jerry Barnhart, Dale St. Andre



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Back row: Scott Lofstrom, Jim Baker, Lance Perterson, Dave Poplawski, Pete Lemoine, Mike Deatrick, Joe Pelkola
 Middle row: Chuck Ryall, David McCartney, David Mansell, John Maloney, Paul Arsenault, Curtis Grondine
 Front row: Alan Larsen, Marvin LaGrew, Pete Corkin, Matt Dunham, Don Miller, Tim Gorman

Superiorland Emmaus Walk #74



Front Row L-R: Kathy Barr, Amy Garrow, Mary Zanoni, Diane Pabst, Elizabeth Preston, Shirley Johnson, Patty Grenfell, Norma Raboin, Nichole Jarvi, Tracy McIntyre **Second Row L-R:** Francine Cerne, Jan Stone, Sarah Newman, Mary Erva, Mary Penny Olson, Alice Barnhart, Pam Austin, Trina Johnson, Danelle Krovikercko, Shanna Cherubini, Linda Hale, Emily Ritsema, Jana Alambaugh, Diane Taylor, Deb Jezek **Third Row L-R:** Beverly Clave, Nichole St. Aubin, Cyndi Wilkins, Peggy Noha, Carmen Vincent, Lauren Cleveland, Mickey Hakala, Barbara Mansell, Cindi Tucker, Pastor Chris Bergquist, Mary Ann Jarvi, Pat Lowney, Ruth Morris, Barb Merlo **Fourth Row L-R:** Pastor Irene White, Lois Juchemich, Sue Johnson



Front Row L-R: Anita Quinn, Heidi Peterson, Shay Rutherford, Eva Goodreau, Marcia Waters, Kathy Korpi, Marlene Deatrick, Kathy Hart **Middle Row L-R:** Karen Kelley, Deb Gransinger, Gayle Maloney, Paula Ross, Nancy Larsen, Georgia Mazurowski, Marty Obman, Jill Paris, Marilyn Phillips **Back Row L-R:** Gail Robert, Geriann Bialkowski, Nancy Langley, Carol Tembreull, Patti Steinberg, Myrna Schon, Charlene Currence, Sally Wahmhoff, Diana Hunt (Not Pictured: Marla Jensen, Jean Bradford)

Photographer: Bethany Troupe

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*Notes: non-Board Members

VERY IMPORTANT BALLOT

There are five (5) Board position openings beginning January 1, 2015. Provided below is a ballot for your vote. If you have been considering joining the Board of Directors, there are two (3) lines provided to write in a name. Please vote for no more than five (5) people and send your ballot to: Barb Merlo, 165 N. Marshall Dr., Gwinn MI 49841. You can also duplicate ballot and email to Barb (merlomom@charter.net) or place your vote by telephone 346-6153.

- Gary Lubinski
- Marvin LaGrew
- Pastor Bruce Steinberg
- Pastor Ron Fike
- Glen Troupe
- _____
- _____
- _____

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR BALLOT NO LATER THAN SATURDAY OCTOBER 25, 2014

**Superiorland Emmaus Board Meeting November 1, 2014, 9:00am at the
Country Grill in Ishpeming
Next Meeting and Gathering will be on January 10, 2015, at Gwinn UMC,
Board meeting at noon with Gathering to follow. At 1:00pm**

Superiorland Emmaus Policy 2013-01

Adopted by Superiorland Emmaus Board of Directors October 2013.

•All persons who wish to work an Emmaus weekend, whether in the Conference Room or the Auxiliary shall embrace a lifestyle compatible with biblical teaching. Since the Christian community is made up entirely of sinners saved by grace, all Emmaus team members will be able to point to past sinful lifestyles, but we have been called to “put off” the practice of the old life and “put on” the new life offered by Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:17-24). As an example, team members will be expected to practice a lifestyle of fidelity in marriage as defined by scripture (Genesis 2:18-25; Matthew 19:4-6 et.al.) or else to live in celibacy as single persons. We also celebrate the God who offers forgiving and restoring grace to Christian believers even when they’ve fallen into open sin. Full restoration to participation/leadership teams may require a period of discipline/spiritual formation as determined by the Superiorland Board.

•Superiorland Emmaus understands that some pilgrims arrive for a weekend without having ever encountered Jesus. Consequently, the expectations of pilgrims are very different than the expectations for team members. There are no pre-conditions for pilgrims except to treat others with respect and to cooperate with team leaders. We pray the Holy Spirit will use each weekend to help pilgrims experience God’s love in deeper ways and to hear God’s call to repentance and faith through Holy Scripture, the talks of lay people and clergy people and through the relationships pilgrims develop with team members and each other.

***This newsletter is the official newsletter of the Superiorland Emmaus Community
Any Community member may submit
articles or items to this newsletter.
Please submit them to:***

mindseye@up.net

***All articles or items submitted are subject to editing for space and content
and
final approval by the Board of Directors.***