

Superiorland Emmaus Community Newsletter



Walk to
Emmaus
THE UPPER ROOM

www.superiorlandemmaus.org

Volume - 20
Issue - 3

Welcome New Community Members; Walk #77

Amy Wood, Hancock, *Carmen Schindel*, Gwinn, *Audra Hawkins*, Gladstone, *Crystal Dale*, Skandia,
Megan Sicotte, Gwinn, *Brooke Anderson*, Marquette, *Marge Meyers*, Vulcan,
Belinda Kari, Ishpeming, *Kristy Clay*, Kingsley, *Christina Weir*, South Boardman,
Stephanie Raboin, Marquette, *Maggie Johnson*, Marquette

(Picture unavailable)

NEXT WALKS

Men #78: September 8-11 (Lay Director: Sam Johnson)

Women #79: September 15-18 (Lay Director: Barb Merlo)

Both Walks to be held at Camp Michigamme Overnight: August 19-20



We've got dates and locations for the next Walks, You've signed up to work on the Team. OK, what's missing? Candidates! But there is something else that we need first and this is most important;

We need Sponsors.

Someone who will prayerfully look at their Church family and if they see a potential leader who just needs that little extra push and will first pray for them and then sponsor them on a Walk to Emmaus.

Can't work on the next Walks but I want to help?

See page 4 - [Click here](#)

What can I do?

[Click here](#) - See page 4

Meet your Superiorland Emmaus board

With this newsletter and over the next newsletters we hope to introduce the Superiorland Emmaus Community to their Emmaus Board members and the jobs that they do as Board members. This is important to you because your Emmaus Community is much more than just a Walk or two each year. Once you know your Board members and what they do, you too may want to take a greater part in your Community and maybe even serve on the Board as well. We will also meet and describe several other ongoing jobs and ways to serve, to include, in future issues, brief descriptions of the Jobs that make up an Emmaus Walk Team.

So let get started by going to page 3 or just press this button.



ABIDE IN CHRIST

Community Spiritual Director Reflection

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

John 15:5-8 NRSV.

For every Emmaus Community, the purpose for existence is to “bear fruit.” It is our role to help build up the church by continuously building up new leaders, who will, in turn, bear their own fruit. Fortunately for us, we have the Upper Room’s model for a Walk which shows us exactly what we need to do to be successful at this “leader-building.” We know that it works if we follow its lead, and simply abide in Jesus, and this helps us to go into every Emmaus Walk knowing it will be great!

The question for us to consider is how well are we remaining in the vine? For each one of us as a disciple of Christ, this “remaining” is extremely important. Jesus said that without it, we can do nothing. Sometimes, when I find myself thinking that I have accomplished nothing in any given time frame, I will then have to spiritually “kick-start” myself to get back to abiding in Christ. We humans are constantly trying to do everything for ourselves; in fact self-sufficiency is the American ideal. So we tend to forget the idea that without Jesus we will be spinning our wheels.

To “abide” means we are to engage in all of the spiritual disciplines: Bible Study, Prayer and Devotion, Worship, Fellowship, Giving, Ministry and Mission. A well-rounded disciple will be engaging in all of these to some degree, but there is not a productive follower of Christ on the planet who neglects them all! So, whenever it seems like the tasks involved in preparing for and working a walk are overwhelming...abide in Christ. In the abiding, you will find yourself producing fruit...in spite of yourself!

Let’s begin by praying for the pilgrims who will be attending the fall walks:

Heavenly Father, we understand that we have been called to help your people draw near to you, and to sit at your feet to hear all about your amazing grace. We pray for each one of them now, although many names we do not yet even know. Yet we DO know that they will be hugely blessed, and we thank you for the opportunity to serve in this way. Help us to remain in you, knowing that you will remain in us, and that together we can accomplish marvelous and wonderful things! AMEN

Blessings, Pastor Ron

A new Superiorland Emmaus Board Member

Hello, my name is Jane Taylor. I took my Superiorland Emmaus Walk #70 in 2012 at Memorial UMC in Gladstone, Michigan and I sat at the table of Esther.

I live in Skandia. My husband and I have four daughters, two that live with us and two (started as foster daughters before they worked themselves into our hearts) that now live with their dad. I work at the Holiday Stationstore in Harvey, Michigan. I enjoy a fourth day gathering at Marquette Branch Prison once a month as well as an informal fourth day gathering at Border Grill on Washington Street on Tuesday nights.

I was recently appointed to the position as secretary. I look forward to serving on the board for a term.

Blessings, Jane

Superiorland Emmaus Board Member since 2015

Hello my name is Ron Fike, I took Walk #128 in Southeast Michigan Emmaus, held in Flushing, MI. Sat at table of Thomas.

Pastor since 2010. Was ordained as an elder in full connection in July of 2016. Pastor of Gwinn UMC. I am presently the Spiritual Director of the Superiorland Emmaus Community. One of my hopes for the future is to get every church in the district to send pilgrims to the walks. We have 48 churches in the district, so If each church sent only 1 male and 1 female member a year to us, we would be busy for every walk! And this is not even counting all the pilgrims that will come from other denominations and non-denominational pilgrims. I am hoping everyone will get the word out, and encourage their pastors to support the program!

Love and Blessings, Pastor Ron

Another new Superiorland Emmaus Board Member

Hello, my name is Marcia Waters. I took my Superiorland Emmaus Walk #72 in 2013 at Camp Michigamme and I sat at the table of Joanna.

I live in Negaunee Township and worship at Lake Superior Christian Church. I have two children, two step-children, eight grandchildren and one cat "Toro". For the last 23 years, I have been working full-time at the Negaunee Housing Commission as the Executive Director. When not at work I enjoy spending time with my children, grandchildren, Toro and my extended family – my brothers and sisters in Christ. I am thankful to be part of Emmaus. I pray I serve well to the glory of our Lord.

Blessings, Marcia

[\(For a complete list of the Superiorland Emmaus Board click here\)](#)

THIS IS WHAT IS NEEDED

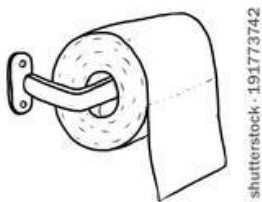
#1 - PILGRIMS AND PRAYERS

As always we need you to prayerfully become a [sponsor](#), it's not for everyone, but can be done by anyone. If you haven't already read Pastor Ron Fike's Reflection on page two, do yourself a favor and do so right now.....Ok, now that you are inspired, please think about being a [sponsor](#). If you sponsoring a Pilgrim is not in God's plan right now than prayer is the other thing we are always in need of. Pray now for the up-coming Walks then go and sign up to be a part of the 72 hour vigil. ([Men's Vigil](#)) ([Woman's Vigil](#))

#2 - SUPPLIES, SNACKS AND DONATIONS

We need supplies such as: spiral notebooks, large easel paper for posters, paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, etc.), plastic drinking cups, small paper bathroom cups, aspirin products, toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, shampoo, mouth wash, etc. If you plan to purchase any of the items, please call Randy Yelle (346-4423 or cell 362-5058) so that arrangements can be made for pickup/delivery.

Monetary donations are always appreciated and can be sent to Chuck Yeager, Treasurer (565 Cooper Lake Rd., Ishpeming 49849) or donated on line at www.superiorlandemmaus.org. Food donations for the men's snack table are always appreciated. Women prefer monetary donations.



SPECIAL EDITORS NOTE: This newsletter is for the use of the Superiorland Emmaus Community. It is not just place for dates, times & places, the website does a good job of that (www.superiorlandemmaus.org). It is hoped that this newsletter will be published at least quarterly. If you have a story or any information, or announcements for the Community please send them to me, Jim Baker, at (mindseye@up.net) well in advance of the next quarter. The next tentative publication of the newsletter will be the first week of October 2016. Any submissions to the newsletter are subject to editing by newsletter editor and the Community Board of Directors for content, timeliness, appropriateness and available space.

SUPERIORLAND EMMAUS COMMUNITY

Spring 2016 EMMAUS WALK RESERVATION REQUEST

Applicant's Personal Information: (Please provide all requested information)

Name _____ (first name, as preferred on name tag) _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (home): _____ (work): _____ (cell): _____ Email: _____

Gender (circle one): Male Female Marital Status (circle one): Single Married Widowed Divorced Separated

If married, has your spouse completed a "Walk"? _____ Where and When? _____

Do you have children? _____ If so, how many _____ Ages _____

Occupation: _____ Employer: _____

Church you are now attending

Name _____ Denomination _____ Pastor _____

Address of church: _____

Religious or community organizations in which you are active: _____

Do you have a health condition or physical handicap that may affect your attendance at an Emmaus Walk? _____

Are you on a special diet or required medication: _____. If yes to either, please specify _____

Contact person in case of emergency (other than spouse)

Name, address, phone: _____

Name of your sponsor: _____

Have the following been explained to you? The Walk To Emmaus: _____ The activities of the Emmaus Community through Emmaus groups and Post-Emmaus meetings? _____ Have you participated in a similar 3-day encounter with Christ (Cursilo, Via de Christo, de Colores, etc.): _____ State briefly why you wish to be involved in the Emmaus Community and what you expect to get from your Emmaus experience? _____

Please accept this reservation for the Emmaus week-end at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Harvey. I understand that the cost for the Emmaus weekend is **\$75.00**, and my pre-registration deposit of **\$25.00** is enclosed. If my reservation is accepted, I understand that the pre-registration deposit is not refundable, and that the balance of **\$50.00** can be paid now or during the week-end registration on Thursday evening.

Dated: _____ Applicant's Signature _____

Please give this completed reservation request and your deposit **to your sponsor**.

Make checks payable to: **Superiorland Emmaus Community**. (Please do not send cash.)

SUPERIORLAND EMMAUS COMMUNITY

Spring 2016 WALKS AT

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Harvey

SPONSOR INFORMATION

(To be filled out by sponsor and returned with the candidate's application and deposit)

Candidate Name: _____

Sponsor Name: _____

Sponsor's Mailing Address : _____
(City) (State) (Zip)

Sponsor's phone (home): _____ (work): _____ (cell): _____ E-Mail: _____

Sponsor's Place of Worship : _____

Where did you make your walk to Emmaus? _____

Are you praying for your candidate? _____

Why do you feel this person would be a good candidate? _____

_____.

Does your candidate have any special needs? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please contact the Lay Director. Thank You!

If your Candidate is married, have you discussed the Walk to Emmaus with his/her spouse? _____ Have you encouraged the spouse to attend the corresponding weekend? _____ Will you assist your Candidate in joining an Emmaus Group? _____ Will you bring your Candidate to the weekend site? _____ Can you care for the needs of the Candidate's family over the weekend? _____ Are you aware of the importance of minimal contact with your Candidate during the weekend, especially if the Candidate is your spouse? _____

Sponsor: Please make sure that you have fully completed this form and all questions are answered before mailing it, along with the completed candidate application and deposit, to the registrar.

As a sponsor, I understand ALL of MY responsibilities and will prayerfully work to comply with them prior to, during and following the Walk.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS TWO (2) WEEKS PRIOR TO THE WALK

**Registrar: Barb Merlo
165 North Marshall Drive
Gwinn, MI 49841**

**(906) 346-6153
merlomom@charter.net**

PRAY FOR YOUR CANDIDATE!

SUPERIORLAND EMMAUS BOARD

Community Spiritual Director

Rev. Ron Fike - (Continuing)
Basketlifter@yahoo.com

Community Lay Director

Gary Lubinski - (2015-2017)
gary@franklinsquarehotel.com

Vice-Chair

Communications Co-Chair

Randy Yelle - (2015-2017)
randyyelle44@gmail.com

Treasurer

Chuck Yeager - (2014-2016)
yeagerc@charter.net

Secretary

Jane Taylor - (2016-2018)
taylortrio3@gmail.com

Facility Setup/teardown

Co-Chair

Marvin LaGrew - (2015-2017)
marv46@up.net

Agape Chair

Trina Johnson - (2011-2016)
suzette498492219@yahoo.com

Kitchen Chair

Jill Paris - (2014-2016)
Jillparis20@gmail.com

Facility Setup/teardown

Co-Chair

Happy Wahmhoff - (2014-2016)
happywahmhoff@gmail.com

Registration Chair

Marcia Waters - (2016-2018)
mmwaters@chartermi.net

Candlelight, Sponsor's Hour, Prayer Vigil Chair

Mike Deatrick - (2016-2018)
up_rentals@yahoo.com

Team Selection Chair, Communications So-Chair

Barb Merlo - (2015 - 2017)
merlomom@charter.net

Board Member

Emily Ritsema - (2016 - 2018)
eritsema@kingsford.org

Board Member

Jane Rombach - (2016 - 2018)

Board Member

Paula Ross - (2014 - 2016)
puppetministry2002@yahoo.com

Board Member

Jan Stone - (2016 - 2017)

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*Martha Obmann
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Read - Matthew 17:22-27

Meditation: Who likes to pay taxes, especially when you think they might be unreasonable or unjust? Jesus and his disciples were confronted by tax collectors on the issue of tax evasion. When questioned about paying the temple tax, Jesus replied to his disciples: We must pay so as not to cause bad example. In fact, we must go beyond our duty in order that we may show others what they ought to do. The scriptural expression to give no offense doesn't refer to insult or annoyance - rather it means to put no stumbling block in the way of another that would cause them to trip or fall. Jesus would not allow himself anything which might possibly be a bad example to someone else. Do you evade unpleasant responsibilities or obligations?

Don Schwager (www.dailyscripture.net)

Sponsorship

Suggestions and Checklist for Sponsors

Here are a few suggestions for recruitment that should increase your effectiveness, and help you properly interpret Emmaus, and sharing God's grace as a sponsor.

1. When you are talking to a married person, we suggest you talk with both husband and wife. We want both husband and wife to make the decision together. Their applications should be turned in together.
2. Remember, the Walk to Emmaus is not for everyone. These three days cannot rectify every problem marriage, enthrall every disenchanted church member, cure disturbed person, or make saints of sinners. The Walk to Emmaus is designed to change environments through Christian leaders. Pilgrims should at least know where the path is, if they are not already walking it. We don't need just any candidates, we need the best.
3. Feel free to share with a potential applicant what Emmaus meant for you as fully as will help, realizing that all explanations will fall short. It's not that we are not allowed to tell what went on, but that it is difficult to explain. We want their experience to be fresh, especially for candlelight and agape letters, which will hopefully be surprises.
4. Don't assume the person you are sponsoring will experience the same things you did. Each of us is at a different place on our spiritual journey. For some, the Emmaus experience will be a mountaintop, a new beginning. For others, it will be strengthening for the journey they are already on. We must not pre-judge our candidates or set them up with unhelpful expectations.
5. To assure the applicant you are personally interested in their attending, make plans to bring them to the Emmaus site for send-off. Your bringing them, helping them with suitcases and registration, and sharing in the send-off and sponsor's hour is a form of prayer and sacrifice.
6. During the weekend, you and your family become a substitute for the pilgrim. Leave your phone number with their spouse. Do something special for them during the weekend, like giving them a few hours during the day for personal time. Share a meal with them. Let the pilgrim's spouse know that you love and care for them.
7. You have responsibilities to the pilgrim. Pray for him/her during the weekend. Write him/her letters of prayer and sacrifice and make sure others do likewise, especially those closest to them. Support your pilgrim with your presence at candlelight and closing.
8. After the Walk, stay in contact and support the pilgrim you sponsor during their Fourth Day. Be responsible for getting them to the Fourth Day meeting following their Walk. Take them to at least their first gathering. Help them become involved in a group reunion as soon as possible.

Checklist for Sponsor Responsibilities

Before the Walk

- Spend concentrated time in prayer in an effort to discern whom God wants you to sponsor. Continue to pray for both you and the pilgrim God has laid on your heart.
- Make an appointment to meet the potential pilgrim. (Couples are encouraged to attend the same set of walks. The registrar can assist in filling this request.)
- Give the potential pilgrim an application and be prepared to explain everything on it.
- Obtain the application, assuring the information is complete.
- Submit the application along with the sponsor's form and partial fee to the registrar.
- Pray for your pilgrim and their family.
- Begin preparations to request the personal agape letters for your pilgrim.
- Meet with your pilgrim in an informal setting and discuss further the Walk to Emmaus and the weekend. Offer guidance about what to pack, provide positive encouragement and reassurance, and encourage the discussion of any fears or apprehension the pilgrim may be experiencing.

During the Walk

- Take your pilgrim to the Walk site and assist with check-in.
- If possible, bring a snack to be used during the weekend. Perhaps one you know your pilgrim would enjoy.
- Spend as much time as possible in prayer for your pilgrim. Be part of the 72-hour prayer vigil. When your pilgrim sees your name on the 72-hour prayer vigil chart it provides a special lift.
- Attend sponsor's hour and have a brief prayer prepared to share for your pilgrim.
- Have 8-14 pieces of agape from family members and close friends to the agape room by Saturday night.

- Check on your pilgrim's family and/or household to provide necessary assistance.
- Attend Saturday candlelight service and Communion.
- Attend the closing and take your pilgrim home. They will appreciate someone who understands their excitement and/or silence.

After the Walk

- Pray for your pilgrim. Allow them time to digest as well as discuss what they discovered on the weekend.
- Take your pilgrim to the Post-Walk Fourth Day Gathering.
- Invite and take them to their first gathering.
- Assist your pilgrim in joining a reunion group.
- Inform your pilgrim of upcoming candlelight, closing and training meetings.
- Teach the new Emmaus member how to be a good sponsor.