

Welcome Walk 75 & 76 Pilgrims New Emmaus community Members

Walk 75 was everything we hoped it would be, and God was honored through the walk. So far I have received e-mails from half of our new Superiorland Emmaus men. God is good.

The conference personnel were on top of everything, the table and assistance table leaders did their part as did the A.L.D's and the head table personnel, completing their role and honored our God in every way.

The auxiliary was awesome, there were no compilaining or issues, every area was ready well within the time lines never any delays.

I want to say that this team was the best I have worked with. God bless each and every one of them. I will miss not being allowed to work in the Superiorland Emmaus conference room again.

Randy Yelle ********

I couldn't be more delighted to report that Walk #76 was a complete success in every way. You could feel God's presence right from the start!!! It ran so smoothly: auxiliary was always on top of everything, my ALD's were very supportive and worked together as a true team, and the conference room gelled from the beginning. Our Spiritual Leaders inspired us as did each and every one who gave a talk to the glory of God.

I have worked many Walks through the years, but this one stood out as one that went the way they all should go, a cohesive group that put everything else aside to work together in love for God, the pilgrims and each other. It's the best team I have had the privilege to serve with. If I can never be in the conference room again, at least I can say I served with the best!

I want to also thank the Emmaus Community for showing their sacrificial love at candlelight. There wasn't a seat left in the house. It was even overwhelming to me, for sure the pilgrims were blown away!

Charlene DeBets

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Superiorland Emmaus Walk #75 Grace U.M.C. Marquette, MI Conference Room



Back row – Andy Larsen, Randy Yelle, Fred Baij, <u>Chuck Williams</u>, <u>Mike Johnson</u>, Happy Wahmhoff, <u>Tim Trowbridge</u>

Row 4 – Don Schlientz, Steve Rhoades

Row 3 – Joe DeHut, Pete Corkin, Chuck Ryall, <u>John Rautiola</u>, <u>Al Velmer</u>, <u>Jonathan Birdi</u>, <u>Jason Alumbaugh</u>

Row 2 – <u>Nick Raboin</u>, <u>Paul Porter</u>, Don Johnson, <u>Feliz Birdi</u>, <u>John Anderson</u>, Paul Arsenault, Ron Fike, Kip Dollar, Scott Machalk

Front Row – Sam Johnson, <u>Josh Jensen</u>, Mark Frustaglio, <u>Mike Carlson</u>, <u>Andrew Ealey</u>, <u>Rolin York</u>, Mike Deatrick, Chuck Yeager

Underlined names are are our newest community members.



Superiorland Emmaus Walk #75 Grace U.M.C. Marquette, MI Auxiliary Team



Back Row – Carl Crenshaw, Jerry Barnhart, Carl Wick, Larry Lambert Row 3 – Tim Gorman, John Quinn, Pete LeMoine, Dave Mansell Row 2 – Brian Johnson, Dave McCartney, Matt Dunham, Dan Beauchamp, Joe Pelkola Front Row – Gary Lubinski, Marv LaGrew, Mark Plichta, Glenn Troupe

> - Missing from Picture – Dale Eltman Jim Baker



SUPERIORLAND WALK #76 Grace United Methodist Church Marquette, MI April 23-26, 2015



CONFERENCE ROOM

Front row: Georgia Mazurowski, Vicky Prewitt, Carol Geiger, Sally Bradford. **Second row:** Nancy Rife, Stacey Morrison, Heidi Black, Charlene DeBets, Jessica Wright, Eileen Bonetti, Jill Johnson. **Third row:** Pastor Chris Bergquist, Emily Ritsema, Joy Jorgensen, Kelsey Cowen, Judy Toutant, Marlain Birdi,

Sandra Derouin, Marilyn Sandy, Jenny Schwark, Marti Obmann, Pastor Rosemary DeHut. **Fourth row:** Pam Toenneson, Jan Kasten, Ann Christiansen, Terry Sayatovich, Catherine Stephenson, Amanda Melka, Gayle Fike. **Fifth row:** Linda Smith, Julie Sanford, Barb Couveau, Mae Belle Erickson.



AUXILLARY TEAM

Front row: Mary Jo Dollar, Sharon L. Eltman, Jill Paris, Barb Powers, Trina Johnson.

Second row: Shay Rutherford, Elizabeth (Eli) Schut, Cathy Esper, Marcia Waters, Shirley Johnson, Jill Clevland, Sally Wahmhoff, Barb Merlo, Jan Stone, Alice Barnhart. Third row: Bethany Troupe, Jodie Bommarito, Deb Gransinger, Chris Corkin, Paula Ross, Debbie Eckloff. Fourth row: Barbara Mansell, Kathy Jo Doney, Lois Juchemich, Jane Taylor, Sara Wiedenhoefer, Judy Anderson.

Spiritual Director's Report

I fell into this job (not very competently) in the middle of a Men's Walk in response to an emergency situation several years ago. The Superiorland Community has provided me with wonderful support and kindness from that moment to this as I've often stumbled my way through the various responsibilities of the spiritual director. I've thoroughly enjoyed my time working with the people of our community and have come to see it as critical to the larger Christian community in the Upper Peninsula.

I was struck all over again during the most recent Men's Walk by the way Emmaus facilitates genuine koinonia, evangelism, discipleship and service across the lines of various orthodox Christian traditions. There are circumstances unique to the Upper Peninsula that probably contribute to this, but the larger factor, of course, has to do with Jesus' reign over his church. Personally, I don't believe the good folks at Nashville are able to appreciate the way our subculture interacts with Emmaus. (That's not intended as a criticism. It's just a fact of life.) In my view, the synergy which results is pretty special.

My deepest thanks to all the women and men who have stepped up to responsibilities at my request. You've all done wonderful work! I appreciate your work in preparing talks, providing leadership, and pitching in to help in many ways. I especially want to offer my thanks to Rev. Ron Fike for his able leadership during the last walk. I can't tell you how much I appreciate his spirit and his skill set. His significant experience in another Emmaus Community offers us some (I believe) important "cross-fertilization". I'm also grateful to Rosemary Dehut for her willingness to serve Spiritual Director for the Women's Walk.

The end results of all these labors won't be known until God makes it finally known. In the meantime, to paraphrase the Apostle Paul, some have watered, others have cultivated, but God has made the labors productive. I'm reminded of wonderful sign that hangs over a bush hospital in Kenya where my wife once worked: "We treat. Jesus heals".

God loves you and so do I. Steve Rhoades

Why the Follow-up 4th. Day Gathering is Important:

As a relative newcomer to this community, I was surprised to hear that the 4th. day gatherings were not necessarily being well attended. While I understand the geography issues involved, nonetheless everyone managed to somehow get their pilgrims to the Walk, so it seems reasonable for them to follow through on this for the good of their friend's spiritual growth. After all, wasn't that the reason you sponsored your pilgrim in the first place—so they could grow in Christ? So, it seems like a good idea to discuss this right now, so sponsors will understand just how important the follow up is.

Here is what the Bible has to say: Luke 24:30-36 NIV

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. ³² They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" ³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵ Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread. ³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

Yes, their "eyes were opened." Yes, their hearts were "burning within." Yes, they were changed and greatly motivated by their experience. But then what? Did they simply return home and then fizzle out? No. In the Luke story, they returned to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples what had happened to them. In other words, all of the disciples were together, discussing, telling their personal stories, building each other up in this new idea about the Risen Lord being alive and well in their hearts. You see, they were helping each other to "integrate" what had happened to them. They were testifying. They were sharing. And then...Jesus greeted them with His peace.

This is exactly what can happen at a fourth day gathering. It is not just about having a party. It is not just about the music. It is not just about the food or the training. Rather, the highlight is when people from the community get up to the podium, hold the cross, and share their testimony. Anyone is welcome to speak at this time. Everyone can tell whatever story they wish about their own 4th. day. As a result, the community grows and bonds even further; and people get reenergized to go out and build more disciples back at their home churches. It is a definite building up of the body, growth for the entire community, and the newly-graduated pilgrims will find it to be a huge benefit in their 4th. day, especially if they are encouraged once more to get started in a 4th. day group.

Sponsors, you have another task to perform. Get your new pilgrim to the 4th. day gathering!

God Loves You and So Do I Rev. Ron Fike

SUPERIORLAND EM-MAUS BOARD MEM-BERS – January 2015

Community Spiritual Director

Rev. Steve Rhoades - (2015) serhoades@charter.net

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

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Sam Johnson — **(2011-2015)** buckandfish@chartermi.net

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

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Board Member

Lance Peterson – **(2013-2015)** superiorlandservices@yahoo.com

Board Member

Pastor Ron Fike - (2015-2017) basketlifter@yahoo.com

Board Member

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*Don Johnson - dongayl@tds.net

Walk 75 & 76 Welcoming Gathering

May 9, 2015, 4pm

Gwinn United Methodist Church 251 West Jasper Gwinn, Michigan

There will be a
"welcome new community members"
All Emmaus Community Welcome
A potluck and gathering on Saturday,
May 9th, 4:00 p.m. at the Gwinn United
Methodist Church (corner of Pine and
Jasper). There will be a time of worship
and communion, music, witnessing
and lots of good food!

Potluck/Gatherings

Walk 75 & 76 Welcoming Gathering May 9, 2015, 4pm Gwinn United Methodist Church, Gwinn

July 18, 2015 **1pm-ish** (after noon board meeting) Wesley United Methodist Church, Ishpeming

September 26, 2015 1pm-ish (after noon board meeting) L'Anse United Methodist Church, L'Anse

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:

> > mindseve@up.net

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