

Superiorland Emmaus Community

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Nonprofit Organization

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We're on the web
www.superiorlandemmaus.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Next Gathering will be posted in January on the website

Please let us know if:

- ~You are receiving more than 1 newsletter for your household.**
- ~Emmaus/Chrysalis members of your family have a new address.**
- ~Addressee has deceased.**
- ~You'd rather not receive the newsletter in the mail.**
- ~You have a new phone number, email, address or a name change, since your walk.**
- ~You'd like the newsletter e-mailed to you.**

Thank you!!!



The Walk to
Emmaus

*for the development
of Christian leaders*



Volume 11, Issue 4

November 2007

Prospective Pilgrims, Please pray!

Pastor Steve-Crystal Falls, sponsored by Dale
Tim-Houghton, sponsored by Dave
Shanna & Bill, sponsored by Judy & Jim
Sue & Gordon-Ishpeming, sponsored by Judy
& Jim

Ron-St Ignace, sponsored by Dale
Phil & Amanda-L'Anse sponsored by Dave &
Barb

Mark -Harvey, sponsored by Dale
Don & Gwen-Sault Ste Marie sponsored by
Barb

Mark-Ishpeming, sponsored by Dale
Ken, sponsored by Dave & Barb
Kevin & Veronica, sponsored by Cory
Mark & Casey, sponsored by Cory
Rob & Carla, sponsored by Cory
Michelle, sponsored by Cory

Lu-Ishpeming, sponsored by Cookie
Steve, sponsored by Dave & Barb
Nancy & Dave sponsored by Dave & Barb
Alan-Houghton, sponsored by Dave
Bryan & Chris, sponsored by Dave & Barb

Paul-Gwinn, sponsored by Jill
Jeannie-Gwinn, sponsored by Jill
Louie-Gwinn, sponsored by Jill
Pat-Gwinn, sponsored by Jill

Bruce-Gwinn, sponsored by Jill
Kim-Marquette, sponsored by Judy
Carrie-Marquette, sponsored by Judy

ELECTIONS

We will be electing 5 new Emmaus Board members to serve a 3 year term. We are still looking for volunteers, please pray now and consider taking a position on the Emmaus Board. We meet in various locations in the Upper Peninsula approximately 10 times a year. Please let Dale Eltman 906-249-3038 (deltman12@hotmail.com) or Dave Poplawski 906-482-8819 (pop@mtu.edu) know immediately if you are interested in serving your fellow Emmaus Brothers and Sisters as a Board Member.

Spring Walks are coming fast!

The Men's walk will be April 17-20th, 2008. Dave Heidtman Sr. is the Lay Director. Dave Heidtman Sr. 906-249-1675. Men we need you to step up and be the servant for the mens walk!

The Women's Walk will be April 24-27th 2008. Barb Merlo is the Lay Director. Barb Merlo (906) 346-6153 or merlomom@charter.net

Both Walks will be hosted by the Mitchell United Methodist Church in Negaunee, Michigan.

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship: The Most Important Job of All

The quality of sponsorship influences the Pilgrim, the health of the Emmaus movement. And the Church being affected by the Movement.

1. Good sponsorship is the first act of agape before a Walk ever begins; the experience of the Walk for a Pilgrim really begins with how we handle sponsorship.

(Continued on next page)

2. Good sponsorship undergirds the whole weekend with sacrificial love on behalf of each Pilgrim. Sponsors use discernment in recruiting Pilgrims, embody the personal commitment of the community to each Pilgrim, and provide personal acts of agape on the weekend for the Pilgrims. These acts of agape include prayer, agape letters, presence at candlelight and closing, and follow-up.

Good sponsorship is the foundation for a healthy, effective Emmaus Movement that is fulfilling its true purpose—the development of Christian leaders and the renewal of the church in ministry. Bob Wood writes in *Day Four: The Pilgrim's Continued Journey*,

The strength of any Emmaus Community is a direct result of that community's recruiting practices. If the Community is committed to recruiting strong church leaders for the purpose of strengthening the local church, then the community will be a strong vital force in the renewal movement (p 51).

Why do we sponsor? What is our aim?

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.

Whom do we Sponsor?

One's awareness of, and commitment to, the purpose of Emmaus influences who is sponsored and how they are sponsored. 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. Sponsors should be sensitive to these factors. . 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. Persons who decide not to make a walk after being presented the opportunity. A potential sponsor should not feel like a failure if a prospect says no. Perhaps the timing is not right. Perhaps God will renew them in some other way. Remember, the Walk to Emmaus is not the way to renewal for every Christian;
4. Christians whose theology and/or practice is notably different or incompatible with the traditional theology and practice represented by the Walk to Emmaus. For example, Adventists who will want to be faithful to Saturday Sabbath and strict dietary stipulations; members of independent groups who will feel a need to defend the uniqueness of their beliefs throughout the Walk; persons who do not accept other kinds of Christians; or persons who do not share beliefs in traditional doctrines of the faith basic to the major denominations of the church and to Emmaus;
5. “Church hoppers”, members who continually have an ax grind against the church; persons who will use Emmaus as a tool to divide the Body, to further their own theological agendas, or who will create an “Emmaus church;” and
6. Persons who are always looking for another spiritual high or another experience to help them “arrive.”

There are two kinds of Sponsorship:

Qualities of wise sponsorship:

Purposeful, prayerful and discerning;

Results: Eventually strengthens a theologically centered movement of the Holy Spirit integrated and honored by a variety of churches. This movement will effectively convey God's grace, the call to committed discipleship and our unity in Christ.

Qualities of unwise sponsorship:

Haphazard and undiscerning;

Results: Eventually will produce a movement which has become a “religious fringe group” separate from the established churches. Such group benefits the individual but do not impact the relationship with the established churches in the community. This forfeits the purpose of the Emmaus Movement

How do we Sponsor?

1. Pray for the person's openness to God's call to discipleship, not for how to get him or her to go on a Walk.
2. Make an appointment with the person or couple for the purpose of discussing their participation in Emmaus.
3. Extend an invitation. Invite them to attend for the sake of a more vital relationship with Jesus Christ, not just a weekend to go on. Share your faith; explain the basic elements of the Walk, its purpose, and follow-up dimensions which help us live in grace for the rest of our lives. Have the attitude that you are giving them a wonderful gift rather than that need to go.
4. Ask them to make a commitment by filling out the registration form. If the person is married, speak with both partners and encourage an equal commitment by both spouses.
5. Continue to pray, prepare agape letters, enlist the support of their pastor. Collect eight to twelve personal agape letters. Do not ask the team to deliver personal gifts during the weekend.
6. Support the Walk through your prayers during the 72-hour Prayer Vigil and your presence at Send-off, Sponsor's Hour, Candle-light, and Closing. Support the Pilgrims family by house-sitting, babysitting, watering plants, picking up mail, feeding pets, or just checking in with a spouse to see if any help is needed.
7. Encourage the Pilgrim in his or her Fourth Day involvement. Give your friend an opportunity to talk through and appropriate the experience. Help them find a group. Or, be prepared to start a group with him or her for a period of time until they find others to be in the group. Take them to Gatherings as your guest for a couple months.
8. Help the pilgrim re-enter their church and consider ways to act out new commitment and enthusiasm.
9. Inform the Pilgrim of how he or she can serve the Emmaus Community and future walks.

Help the Pilgrim sponsor others.

Sponsorship is an act of love for God, for the Pilgrims, for the Emmaus community, and for the church.

It is a demonstration of agape love. It is making oneself an instrument of prevenient grace.

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SUPERIORLAND EMMAUS COMMUNITY
RESERVATION REQUEST FOR SPRING 2008 'WALK TO EMMAUS' WEEKEND
Applicant's Personal Information: (Please provide all requested information)

Name: _____ (As preferred on name tag): _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Marital Status : ____ 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 _____

(If you do not have a sponsor at this time, please indicate "No 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? _____

Both walks are being held at: **Negaunee Mitchell United Methodist Church**
207 N. Teal Lake Ave
Negaunee, MI
(906) 475-4861

Men's Walk #61, **April 17-20, 2008** _____ Women's Walk #62 ,**April 24-27 , 2008** _____

I understand that the cost for the Emmaus weekend is **\$60.00**, and my preregistration deposit of **\$15.00** is enclosed. If my reservation is accepted, I understand that the preregistration deposit is not refundable, and balance of **\$45.00** must be paid during the week-end registration on Thursday evening.

Dated: _____ Applicant's Signature _____

Send completed reservation request (applicant and sponsor parts) and **\$15.00 deposit** to:

Registrar: Mary Henry (906) 524-7936
227 N. Front Street
L'Anse, MI 49946

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

Revised September 2007

SUPERIORLAND EMMAUS COMMUNITY : Spring 2008 Walks to Emmaus
SPONSOR INFORMATION (To be filled out by sponsor)

Candidate Name: _____ Male _____ Female _____

Sponsor Name: _____

Mailing Address : _____

Home Telephone _____ Work : _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____ Cell: _____

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 so, 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 walk 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 and the candidate have fully completed both pages of this form and all questions are answered before mailing it.

PRAY FOR YOUR CANDIDATE

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: _____
Sponsor

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS TWO (2) WEEKS PRIOR TO THE WALK NO EXCEPTIONS!

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L'Anse, MI 49946