



June, 2019

## Mid-Michigan Emmaus Newsletter

### June Gathering

Join us at Aldersgate Church in Midland for a Picnic Gathering on June 14. It should be fun with food, fellowship, and maybe even some games. Bring a dish to pass and friends.

This is a great opportunity to introduce family and friends to Emmaus.



6:00-8:00 p.m.

## Book Corner

### Book Recommendations

Here is a book you might want to consider:

#### ***The Gospel Comes with a Housekey* by Rosaria Butterfield**

This book talks about bold ways the church can minister to others through hospitality. The author claims we as Christians could do so much more if we were willing to let others invade our space. Is God calling you to open your doors?

### Calling All Gently Used Books

Do you have books on the shelf that are looking for a new home? Please consider donating any Christian-based book to the Emmaus Literature table. Contact Trisha Wiegerink at [junebugslug@hotmail.com](mailto:junebugslug@hotmail.com) for more information.

### Sponsorship/Literature Table

Next time you sponsor a pilgrim for a Walk, you might want to consider leaving \$10-\$20 at the Literature table for your pilgrim to spend on books. It would make a great act of Agape!

## Fall Walks

Location:

Faith UMC  
203 Jefferson St.  
Coleman, MI 48618

**Men's Walk**  
Sept. 26-29,  
2019

**Women's Walk**  
Oct. 3-6, 2019

**Post Walk**  
Oct. 12, 2019

**Chrysalis Events**

Partnering with Southeast Michigan



Dear Mid-Michigan Emmaus Community,

Well, summer has arrived! Hopefully the cold weather is gone by the time you receive this letter. Sure was a slow spring! 😊

Anyway, I was thinking back to my youth, I won't tell you how old I am, but I remember summer being a real slow time, compared to the school year, likewise, the church year. Of course, today, summer is a lot more busy because of sports and other activities. Nonetheless, unlike the church, things do tend to be somewhat inactive. There are no special holidays and often Sunday school is lifted for the summer in many churches.

Nonetheless, we are in our Mid- Michigan Emmaus Community and are entering into a time of preparation. Good news! We are assembling our fall walk teams! Our clergy spiritual directors for the men's and women's Walks are John Kasper, from Clare UMC and Susan Kingsley retired part-time at Midland 1<sup>st</sup> UMC. We have assembled full clergy teams, some from other denominations. Also, our lay directors for the Walks are lined up: Mark Camilleri for the Men's walk and Mary Wheeler for the Women's Walk. The fall Walks will be occurring as follows: Men's Walk September 26-29<sup>th</sup> and the Women's Walk October 3-6, both at the Coleman Faith United Methodist Church. Also, the post walk date is on the calendar to be October 12, 5:56 PM, also at Coleman Faith UMC. Note: deer hunters: The Men's Walk gets done before opening day of bow season! No excuses! Also, it is still

early in the football season! No excuses! 😊

In this last year and a half, it is my observation that our community has been re-gaining momentum. There is a sense of expectancy now occurring at our board meetings. I encourage you too, in light of the fact we now have the dates and places set, to begin your prayerful identification and recruitment of pilgrims to sponsor. Pilgrim application and sponsorship forms are available on our website. Also, if you're feeling any tug to serve on a Walk, please contact either Mary or Mark or our board chair Bob McCormick to see if they still have some team openings.

FYI, we have also put out some feelers about having spring Walks in 2020, somewhere in the vicinity of Sebewaing and Caro, although nothing has yet been set in the matter. The board likes to move

the Walks around geographically. As I inferred above, our board is getting its mojo going! 😊

In closing, the Scripture that comes to my mind is Acts 3:19 where the Apostle Peter makes reference to ".....Times of refreshing....." I believe that we, despite all the turmoil in our world, are in a time of spiritual refreshing and that Emmaus is a big part of that. So. Don't forget about the fall walks, and even spring of 2020. Keep us in your prayers and actions.

Blessings, Dave Stewart, Spiritual Director, Mid-Michigan Emmaus Community

# Community Lay Director

As we enter into a time of building the teams for this fall, I thought I would invite each reader to consider serving on one of the upcoming teams. If you have the availability, the desire, and feel called to serve in some role on the upcoming weekends, please feel free to contact me to volunteer your service. There are many opportunities to serve. Of course there is always sponsorship, Saturday Night candlelight, Sunday closing, Prayer Vigil, as well as setup and tear down of the weekend. But, as we pray for discernment and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in selecting team members there are a few things we need to keep in mind.

If you should receive a call to serve on a team please remember to pray first. It is very important that the decisions of the board, team selection, the lay directors, and your own commitment are bathed in prayer. We must allow the Holy Spirit to guide this process. Each team member brings a broad range of God-given talents and gifts to glorify God, build up the kingdom, and renew the church. Making the right selections and forming solid teams is imperative to successful weekends.

Your participation as part of a team will call for, not only a commitment of time and effort, but also a commitment to spiritual growth and personal discipline.

As each person brings different gifts and talents, it is important to remember that every person who contributes to the Emmaus weekend is equally important. The person who will pray for you and the pilgrims at 3:00 am, the person who will mop the kitchen floor, are just as vital to this ministry as are the individuals that will have direct contact with the pilgrims.

While being asked to serve on a weekend is a great privilege, we serve with great humility. All team members are equally important and all should serve with humbleness, humility, and complete submission to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

For myself, I love this Emmaus community. Each time I serve, I am always amazed at how much I grow spiritually, how many new and wonderful friends I meet, how much closer I grow to those friends I have been blessed with over the years, and how quickly lives are transformed. I have not found any other ministry that has such a dramatic impacted on people's lives in such a short amount of time. It is the richest, most fulfilling form of service I have experienced.

If you would like to volunteer, contact me at the email address below. If you are asked to serve, please do so prayerfully. If you can't make the commitment at this time to serve, then please consider sponsoring a pilgrim or being a part of the 76-hour prayer vigil.

In closing, I would ask all of you to keep our community in prayer as we prepare for the fall weekends. If you are not active in a Fourth Day Reunion group please do so. Reunion groups are the backbone of the Emmaus Community. Strong reunion groups equals a strong community. If you need help connecting with a group or starting your own, contact me at the email address below and I will put you in touch with the right people to make that happen.

In Galatians 5:22-26, Paul lists the characteristics of the Holy Spirit manifested in people's attitudes and behavior, which he calls the "fruit of the Spirit". My prayer for our community is that we all cultivate the fruits of the Spirit, strive to live by these standards and continually grow in God's grace each day.

Remember GLYASDI

Bob McCormick  
Community Lay Director

[mccor1958@gmail.com](mailto:mccor1958@gmail.com)

**God Bless**



## CALLED TO SERVE?

Matthew 25:36 – “I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

Have you donated clothes? Have you prayed for and/or taken care of someone who was sick? Donated to the American Cancer Society? Did you view these Actions as **Christian Action** – following Christ’s example or command?

OK, a harder one? Have you visited someone in prison? Some of us have. Have you visited someone in prison that you did not know? Very few of us have. Have you ever felt called to minister to the incarcerated by participating in prison ministry? I have done so, and it is a blessing.

What’s my story here? I made my weekend in 1991 by living the Episcopal Cursillo Diocese of

Michigan #28 and I sat at the table of Joshua. About 5 years after that, I was reading about the KAIROS prison ministry in a newsletter. I felt that God was calling me to serve men in prison. But I didn’t feel that it was the time God wanted me to do this. I had a wife in ill health and two boys, twelve and eight years old. So I answered God with a prayer. I prayed that I didn’t think it was my time. So I vowed to God that I would serve but I wouldn’t search it out, but that when God thought it was time for me to serve in prison ministry for Him to give me a sign.

About twenty years later, Jeff Long, my neighbor from a few doors down the street, came to my house. I was

outside, working in my vegetable garden. Jeff asked me if I had ever heard of the Keryx prison ministry. [What had been KAIROS prison ministry in this area is now known as Keryx prison ministry.] I said yes. He asked me if I would pray about serving on a Keryx team. Ring, Ring! God was calling me. I agreed to serve on the team. Since then I have served on several teams and I am serving on the “council,” the Keryx equivalent of the Emmaus Board.

What about you? Is God calling you to serve those in prison? Do you have an ache in your heart for the unsaved? {Trust me, many of the men incarcerated in prison are not unsaved. Some of the strongest Christians I have ever met are serving Jesus as they serve time here on earth.} If you hear God’s quiet soft voice urging you to serve in this way, don’t deny Jesus. If you want more information, please contact me, Bruce Pynnonen at 989-430-4291 or [pynnonen26@yahoo.com](mailto:pynnonen26@yahoo.com). God has called us to be fishers of men. And the prison pond is crowded with fish waiting for God’s harvest.

Keryx weekends are similar to Emmaus Walks, but there are a few talks with a different focus. This is because an Emmaus Walk is specifically designed for turning believers into more effective disciples of Jesus. The Keryx weekend is designed for everyone, whether a believer or not. We share Christ’s message of the Kingdom of God and his offer of the gift of forgiveness and salvation. Some men repent and turn back to an active faith in Jesus. Some have never heard of Jesus and are overwhelmed by the love God has for them. Some men on the weekend are actively opposed to God and experience a life-changing experience as Paul did on the road to Damascus.

A team is forming for the fall Keryx weekend at Central Michigan Correctional Facility in St. Louis, Michigan. I pray you will seriously pray about serving God in this way. (Esther 4:14)

*“A smile is a curve that sets everything straight.” –Phyllis Diller*

# MME Board

## Contact Us

Position	Name	Phone	Email
<b>Past Lay Director</b>	Sandi Moe	989-430-3130	treetoad999@yahoo.com
<b>Community Lay Director</b>	Bob McCormick	810-357-5617	mccor1958@gmail.com
<b>Community Spiritual Director</b>	Pastor Dave Stewart	734-904-7218	pastordave@pigeonsalemumc.com
<b>Agape Chair</b>	Pati Weingartz	989-835-6594	weingartz4jesus@charter.net
<b>Board Secretary</b>	Annette Sobolewski	989-488-7440	annastas@msn.com
<b>Board Treasurer</b>	Bruce Pynonen	989-430-4291	pynnonen26@yahoo.com
<b>Candlelight/Sponsor's Hour Chair</b>	Robin Taylor	989-326-3797	taylorrobin5@yahoo.com
<b>Database Chair</b>	Dawn Banning	989-798-3459	dbanning@chs-mi.com
<b>Facilities Chair</b>	Dave Stewart	734-904-7218	pastordave@pigeonsalemumc.com
<b>Gatherings Chair</b>	<i>vacant</i>	---	---
<b>Group Reunion Chair</b>	Robin Taylor	989-326-3797	taylorrobin5@yahoo.com
<b>Kitchen Chair</b>	Dennis Kunding	989-737-0212	d.kunding55@gmail.com
<b>Literature Chair</b>	Trisha Wiegerink	989-312-0686	junebugslug@hotmail.com
<b>Music/Entertainment Chair</b>	Jeff Bader	989-550-8336	jeffbader@hotmail.com
<b>Newsletter Chair</b>	Mary Wheeler	989-274-6722	mwheelie@gmail.com
<b>Prayer Vigil Chair</b>	<i>vacant</i>	---	---
<b>Registrar</b>	Lisa Lagalo	989-780-1339	lisalagalo@gmail.com
<b>Team Selection Chair</b>	Bob McCormick	810-357-5617	mccor1958@gmail.com
<b>Trailer/Supplies Chair</b>	Board shared	---	---

God Loves You and So Do We,  
the Mid-Michigan Emmaus Community