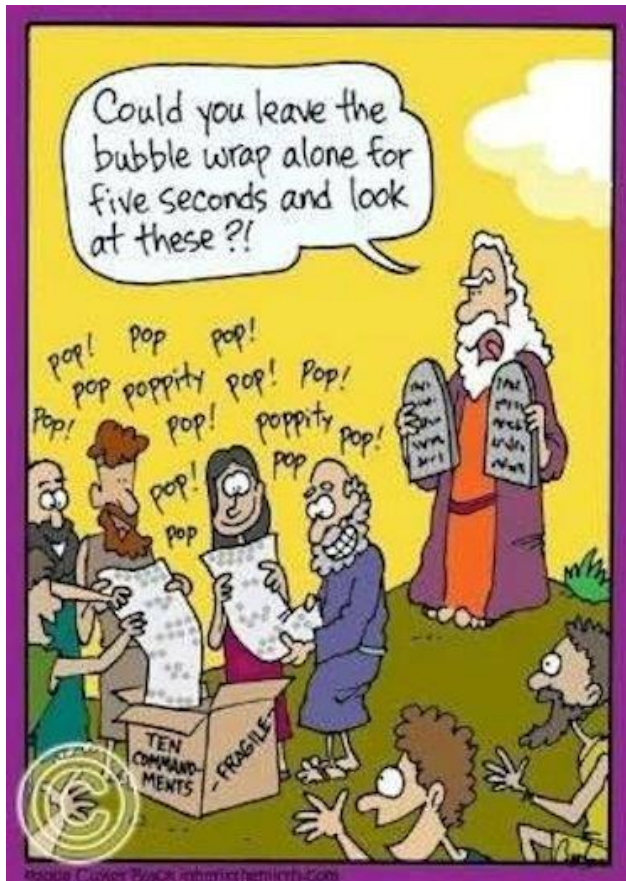




June 2023

Mid-Michigan Emmaus Newsletter

Please share this newsletter with any of your Emmaus friends. We need help to get the word out since our database still has incorrect email addresses for many members. Any new or corrected email addresses can be sent to tkcamill@aol.com. Thank you for your help.



Men's Fall Walk

Sept. 21-24, 2023

Women's Fall Walk

Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2023

Post Walk

Oct. 14, 2023

4:00-6:00 pm.

Location:

Faith UMC
416 N. Second St.
Coleman, MI 48618

Information:

midmichiganemmaus.com
register4mmewalk@gmail.com

Chrysalis Events

www.chrysalis.emsem.org
(Partnering with Southeast Michigan Emmaus)

Find us on Facebook, Mid-Michigan Emmaus!

Words From a Recent Pilgrim

Now that we have taken this big step in our faith and our relationship with Jesus, we are hopefully much better at walking out God's plan for our lives. One thing I hope we never forget as we head back out into the world is to truly stay humble on the journey.

Don't take this the wrong way, these steps we take are worth celebrating, especially overcoming difficult odds; however, it is important that we do not let self-pride overtake our spirits and blind us to our mission in life which is to bring others to Jesus. We must remember that none of us are a self-made person. God is the one who gives us the opportunities, knowledge, and ability to do great things and overcome our obstacles. We should always give him the praise for it.

When we recall what we have been through and then realize we are still sinful, it helps us truly connect with those who have yet to find and discover the faith we found. Making mistakes is what we all have in common with each other. We must use this to show what Christ did on our journey in each of our hearts. I often see people, organizations, and movements with noble causes who become sideswiped by the pride of thinking this glory was somehow achieved by their own efforts; but in fact, it is the opposite, it was his gift to us.

My prayer to all of you is that you would let God use the scars of your past to lead others to him. I pray that you would always remember such grace from God is an undeserved gift and that you would humbly share it.

James Weingartz, Walk #89



Spiritual Director's Corner

Dear Friends in Christ,

I hope this message finds you well. As we move into and through the summer months, I am reminded of the calling of Matthew (Matthew 9: 9-13). In case you are unfamiliar with the scripture, the text reads:

Matthew 9:9-13 - The Calling of Matthew

9 As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

10 While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. 11 When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

12 On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' [a] For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Just think about the situation. Jesus walks up to Matthew and simply says "follow me". Consider the level of courage and faith in Jesus that he had to simply follow him. As we consider our actions as members of the Mid-Michigan Emmaus Community, and as disciples of Christ, we need to remember that as we are seeking to be servant leaders in the Mid-Michigan Emmaus Community and our own local churches, we need to have the courage to be servant leaders and we need to have faith in Jesus to lead us.

In closing I offer you this prayer that was first penned by an unknown author.

Dear Lord,

Give me the courage to face my fears and doubts.

Enable me to see past my weaknesses and challenges so that I may have the confidence to take charge of my life to do your work with courage and faith. Grant me a strong sense of faith in You, knowing that You will always be there with me as I step out into the unknown. Help me to trust in Your guidance and grace so that I can feel secure in every moment of life.

Thank You for Your help and strength. Praise You that if I feel a lack of confidence in my abilities and the path ahead of me, Your Holy Spirit will remind me that I am never alone.

I look to You for guidance and wisdom so that I may understand what lies ahead and have faith to move forward. Help restore and build my confidence and give me the courage to face any obstacle that comes my way.

In Jesus Name, Amen.

Blessings – Pastor Ray

July Gathering

JULY 14, 6:00-8:00 PM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WEST
BRANCH

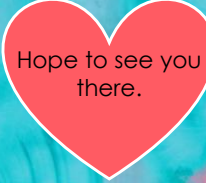
BRING: your nametag, a dish to pass,
your family, a chair

PROVIDED: smoked pulled pork

MUSIC: provided by Sherry Morgan

QUESTIONS? Contact Jill Pollard,

989-751-1137



Hope to see you
there.

Hello Emmaus Family!

We hope you will meet up at our gatherings as they get posted and enjoy the treasure of fun fellowship, good food, and being on fire for Jesus as we worship too! Here is a quick overview of MME* events for our New Members:

- The monthly gatherings are for all Emmaus Community Members and their families. You can bring a friend. These move to different areas each month and they are held on the **second Friday of each month.**
- Board Meetings are for Emmaus Community Members who have been on a walk and are interested in the board meetings. The board meets at Aldersgate Church in Midland on the **2nd Thursday of each month.** Feel free to join us.
- The Walk Trainings are for the Community members serving on the teams (part-time or full-time team members should attend them).
- The Saturday Candlelight services are for Emmaus Community Members who have been on a walk (not for those who haven't taken a walk yet, or children, as it can be confusing to them and spur mixed emotions when they see their parent but cannot take them home that night)
- The Post-Walk Gatherings are for all community members, and they can bring spouses, children, and friends. Carpooling adds to the fellowship! These are held **after each set of walks in the spring and fall.**

See you at the Emmaus events!!! And remember to wear your nametag!
GLYASDI, Pati Weingartz (Agape/Secretary)

*MME stands for Mid-Michigan Emmaus



Sponsorship – The Backbone of Our Community

Dear Community,

As summer gets into full swing, I would like to keep our thoughts focused on the fall walks. They will be here before we know it. Our Fall Lay directors are busy putting together their teams for fall. Soon trainings will be starting. With all the preparation going into the teams we need to get moving on sponsorship and pilgrim registrations as well. At the last gathering we did some sponsorship training. Many asked if I could include “The Ten Key Points of Sponsorship” in this month’s newsletter. So here they are:

1. Begin with prayer – Good quality sponsorship is critical to the success of the walks. It is important to seek God’s guidance in who he would have you sponsor. Remember it is not in our timing but God’s timing as to when someone should go on a walk.
2. Meet with the candidate and their spouse – Emmaus encourages couples to go on the same set of walks, but it is not essential that they do. However, it is vital that both the pilgrim and their spouse are both on board and both understand how long the weekend is, what will be presented at the weekend, and when they will return home. Husband and wife attending the same set of walks can really add new strength to a marriage.
3. Always be open and honest about what happens on a weekend. There is no need to hide anything from them, nothing is secret. It is always better to be open and honest.
4. Help them fill out the forms – The Pilgrim forms can be a little intimidating, so sit down with your pilgrim and help them fill out the form and answer any questions that may arise. Try to get couples to go together or at least commit to the next set of walks. Paying the fee for your pilgrim is a really nice agape gift for your pilgrim and is a great way to pay it forward. Never let finances stand in the way of someone wanting to go on a weekend. If someone does not have the funds to go and you are not able to help them, contact your church or reach out to the Emmaus Board and we will make sure they can attend.
5. Agape letters - Pray and prepare 8 to 12 Agape letters from friends and family. Once your forms are received by the registrar, they will send the sponsor a letter with the details you need to accomplish this task.
6. Support your pilgrim – You can support your pilgrim by signing up for the prayer vigil, bringing them to the weekend, attending sponsors hour after send off, attending Saturday night candlelight, and of course attend closing and give your pilgrim a ride home.
7. Communication – Allow time for your pilgrim to talk about their weekend and help them get connected with a 4th day group in your area or consider helping them start a new 4th day group.
8. Growth – Encourage your pilgrims spiritual growth and development by helping them with a daily reading plan, or daily devotional, or help them find a bible study group.
9. Connect - Help your pilgrim get engaged in the Emmaus community by taking them to the post walk gathering as well as other gatherings. Encourage them to sign up to serve on future walks.
10. Sponsor – Finally help your pilgrim to find someone to sponsor for the next set of walks. This is a great way to stay connected and active in the Emmaus community.

A good sponsor will also help find a way to take away roadblocks so the pilgrim can attend the weekend. Things like taking care of a pet. Picking up the pilgrim's mail or even picking up or dropping off their children for sporting events or school. Anything that will calm their minds and help them focus on the weekend.

Finally, don't force anyone to go on a weekend. Many times, we are ready for them to go and they are not. Don't badger someone, when the time is right, God will open their hearts and the doors for them to attend.

The Sponsor / Pilgrim form is on the Mid Michigan Emmaus website. Please register early. Still have questions? Feel free to contact me at 810-357-5617 or email me at mccormickrj@hotmail.com.

May God richly bless you and always remember, GLYASDI

Bob McCormick

Community Lay Director

Mid Michigan Emmaus



BOOKSHELF

Tricia Wiegerink, Literature Chairperson

Lisa Robbins, the Growth Through Study speaker for the recent Spring Walk #90, had many recommendations as to ways to grow closer to Christ through what we read and listen to. Here are some of the book recommendations from her Talk.

- *One Year Love Language Minute Devotional* by Gary Chapman. This can be your daily guide to how to express heartfelt love to your loved one.
- *Off My Rocker and On My Knees* by Vicki Kuyper. This devotional will inspire and encourage readers as they celebrate the unparalleled blessings that being a grandmother brings.
- *Just Enough Light for the Step I'm On* by Stormie Omartian. Chronicle your journey of faith with this unique journal. Interactive questions lead to even deeper insights, and help form a permanent record of God's work in your life.
- *Jesus Lives* by Sarah Young. This bestselling author shares how knowing Jesus on a deeper, more personal level not only means seeing Him at work in your life, but also sharing your heart with the Savior.
- *The Story* Condensed into 31 chapters, this version of the Bible sweeps you into the unfolding progression of events from Genesis to Revelation.



FALL EMMAUS WALKS!

Men #91 **Sept. 21 – 24** (Lay Director Steve Boyer)

Women #92 **Sept. 28 - Oct. 1** (Lay Director Lisa Robbins)

Post Walk Gathering **October 14th**

Send Registrations to Register4MMEwalk@gmail.com

MME Board

Contact Us

Position	Name	Phone	Email
Community Lay Director	Bob McCormick	810-357-5617	mccor1958@gmail.com
Community Spiritual Director	Pastor Ray Francis	989-330-9135	drrayfrancis@yahoo.com
Agape Chair	Pati Weingartz	989-835-6594	weingartz4jesus@gmail.com
Board Secretary	Pati Weingartz	989-835-6594	weingartz4jesus@gmail.com
Board Support	Lisa McCormick	810-531-1258	
Board Treasurer	Matt Pollard	989-254-2057	recclubmap@yahoo.com
Candlelight/Sponsor's Hour Chair	Wendy Orzel	989-450-4450	worzel64@yahoo.com
Communications	Jane Francis	989-330-9136	jnfrancis14@gmail.com
Database Chair	Teresa Camilleri	989-859-4799	tkcamill@aol.com
Facilities Chair	<i>vacant</i>		
Gatherings Chair	Jill Pollard	989-751-1137	Jlp610@gmail.com
Group Reunion Chair	Jill Pollard	989-751-1137	Jlp610@gmail.com
Kitchen Chair	Ed Orzel	989-450-4450	ed_orzel@yahoo.com
Literature Chair	Trisha Wiegierink	989-312-0686	junebugslug@hotmail.com
Music/Entertainment Chair	<i>vacant</i>	---	---
Newsletter Chair	Mary Wheeler	989-274-6722	mwheelie@gmail.com
Prayer Vigil	Kris Middaugh	810-404-9653	tkmiddaugh@yahoo.com
Registrar	Sue Montei	989-550-2986	Register4MMEWalk@gmail.com
Team Selection Chair	Bob McCormick	810-357-5617	mccor1958@gmail.com
Trailer/Supplies Chair	Board shared	---	---
Website	Teresa Camilleri	989-859-4799	tkcamill@aol.com

Do you have any ideas for change that you would like the board to consider? Please email or call any of the board members and let us know. We welcome your input. Together, we are the hands and feet of God.

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