

Jackson Area Emmaus Affiliate
Vandercook Missionary Church
511 E. McDevitt
Jackson, MI 49203

Return Service Requested



**COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
Sept./Oct./Nov. 2013**

Community Gatherings

2nd Saturday of the Month - Brookside United Methodist Church (please bring a passing dish)

Board Meetings

4th Tuesday of the Month
Brookside United Methodist Church – 6:30 PM

2013 Emmaus Walks

Women's Walk – October 17-20, 2013

Men's Walk – TBA (Spring)

From Our Community Lay Director

Pass It On

Praise to the God of All Comfort **2 Corinthians 1:3-7**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ. If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort.

The last several years of our lives have been a roller coaster ride with ups and downs. On Saint Patrick's Day this year I got up and preached my first sermon from the pulpit (something I swore I would never do). Eight days later Jean learned the lump she had found in her breast was cancerous and we started into another down on our ride. For the past four and half months we have often discussed that we don't understand the why of it but we feel that God has a plan for us to grow from this experience.

Last night (August 6) Jean and I visited our daughters- in-law. On the ride home we were talking and the conversation turned to a member of our church who had recently been in the hospital. Our pastor had asked Jean to contact her and see if she would like a pastoral visit. She said no, but during the conversation Jean learned she had been in the hospital for a mastectomy. Reminding Jean of how much of a comfort it has been to hear from others who have survived breast cancer, I suggested maybe she needed to visit.

This morning's Upper Room devotional was titled "Pass It On." In it Eleanor Cowles describes passing on a devotional from the Upper Room to a friend who was going through life experiences similar to what she had gone through years ago. Then I found a post by a friend on Facebook telling of an encounter with friends who were inquiring about their daughter who is also going through treatment for breast cancer. They told how they had shared her experience with another friend and how it had touched them, how they had cried together and prayed together.

Eleanor closed her devotional with the following: "God wants to comfort us so that we are then able to pass on God's comfort to another." Our wonderful God works through imperfect people like you and me. Even in our brokenness we can serve God. Even our pain can be a gift when we receive God's comfort and pass it on to another.

Paul told us in 2 Corinthians to share our distress so that others may share God's comfort with us. To all in Emmaus who have been supporting us, thank you. Your sharing of God's comfort has been a true blessing and comfort to us.

Randy and Jean Herrick



Are You



We're getting ready for the Women's Walk, Oct 17 – 20 at Heart of the Lakes in Brooklyn. As you think back to your walk, there were many people that made it special in so many ways. Many you did not see at the time.

Now it's our turn to make this Women's Walk that Special Mountain Top Experience for these ladies.

There are many areas where help is still needed:

- Set Up on Thursday morning
- Luggage Luggers on Thursday
- DISHWASHERS
- Saturday Night Servers
- Housekeeping
- Dining Room
- Tear Down Sunday at 6:00 A.M.
- Kitchen Clean Up & Pack Up starting after lunch on Sunday

We also need everyone to collect books in good condition to be given to the Ladies after the Study Talk. These can be brought to Sept. Gathering or Team Meetings.

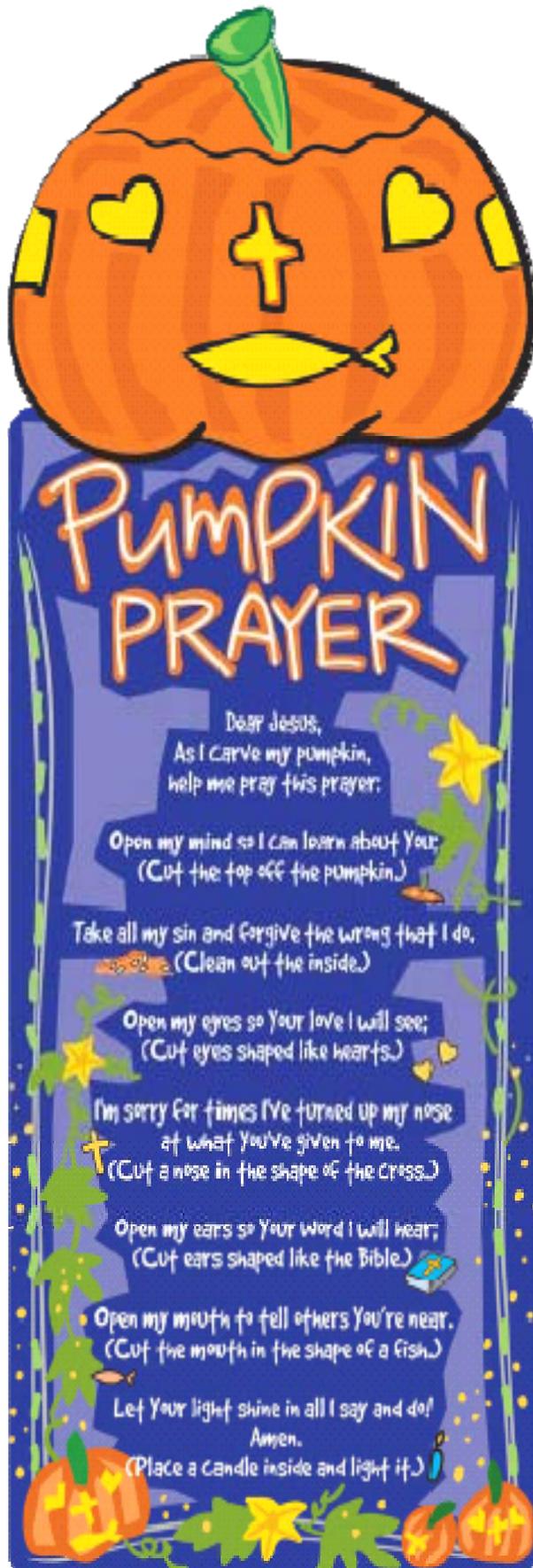
We Also Need Musicians to Help With Candlelight Saturday Night.

It's been said – "the only ability that God cares about is your availability."

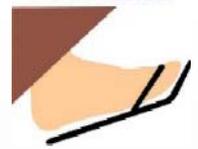
Are you Available?

Please contact me today at 517-937-8773 or...
Frank@goldentouchembroidery.com to sign up.

GLYASDI
Frank Drechnowicz



Upcoming Walks



The fall women's walk has now had two team meetings and things are coming together. There are still lots of opportunities to serve. The walk is October 17-20th at Heart of the Lakes United Brethren Church. We especially need people for setup and teardown. We also need people who do not have to work or, like me, can take vacation on Friday to come help. Please contact Frank D. to let him know where you would like to help.

At the time I am writing this there are eight pilgrims registered for the women's walk. That may be a couple or more than normal 62 days in advance of the walk but it would still be helpful to get to twenty sooner. We do not give the head cook money to start buying the food until we call the walk a go. The closer we are to the start date when we make that decision the less opportunity they have to find good deals and the more the walk costs.

Often I hear there are people looking to send men on walks in the fall. In October there are three men's walks within a two hour drive of us: Kalamazoo, Lansing, and Northwest Ohio. Don't let the lack of a walk in Jackson keep you from getting a pilgrim God is calling you to sponsor on a walk. For that matter, if you have a lady who cannot attend the walk on October 17th, look at the other three communities and see if one of their dates will work.

We are proceeding with setting up the men's walk in the spring. It will likely be in March (since Easter is late next year). Since the church we have selected is open almost all weekends in February and March we are going to wait and let the Lay Director set the exact date.

I have already been told by one person that they want to sponsor a lady but she can't do our fall walk. Good news – Kalamazoo Emmaus is holding their ladies walk at First UMC of Marshall in March (tentatively the second weekend). This will be a joint walk between us and Kalamazoo; lots of details to work out but we are hoping you will support this walk. If you are interested in serving on the team (conference room or auxiliary) please contact me to discuss it.

Randy Herrick

Peace starts with a smile.

? Good Question - How do you start a 4th Day Group?

I should know the answer as I am the 4th day/Gathering Rep.

Hi Community - that question was posed to me and I thought it was good question. After a walk we get a packet of information, some on 4th day groups that are already established in the area and the community wide monthly meetings held at Brookside United Methodist Church, 4000 Francis St. in Jackson. We meet at 5:00 p.m., water and table service is provided.

Now back to 4th day meetings. This is how you basically start and conduct 4th day meetings generally speaking and per the Emmaus manual:

1. People who have been on a walk decide to form a 4th day group. There should be a chairperson and/or 2 people working together.
2. Decide where the meeting will be held and at what time. (at a church, a restaurant, or someone's house)
3. The purpose of the meeting is not to talk about Emmaus but to share faith and live Christ. Fourth day groups/gatherings are spiritual support groups for any Christian who is on the journey of faith. So do not limit those who can be in groups to Emmaus pilgrims. Sometimes a person's participation in a group precedes his or her participation on a walk.
4. Decide how you will implement the above.
5. Let the community know of your meeting by e-mailing me or Nancy Gage.

Below are the groups I am aware of. Please update me with any changes or corrections.

Albion Area – Thursdays from 6:45-7:45 a.m. at Phil and Sharon Hostetler's, 312 Irwin Ave., Albion (517-629-5185)

Homer Area – 1st & 3rd Fridays, 2:00 p.m. at Brent and Ruth Ann Boyd's (517-5683662)

Jackson Area – Thursdays, 7 a.m. at Trinity Wesleyan Church, 620 Robinson Rd - \$2.00 breakfast. Contact Chuck Tobias at 764-2065 or 740-9659

Jackson Area, Men's Bible Study – Wednesday at 6:00 am (yes, morning), Steve's Ranch, order breakfast off the menu. Contact Randy Herrick for more information.

1st Sunday of the month – 5:00 p.m., Sandstone Congregational – contact Sherry VanNuys

Leslie Area – Women's Bible Study – date and time varies, meets once a month at Leslie First Baptist church – contact Shelly Teague at 517-589-8056

Reading Area – Fourth Sunday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at Reading United Methodist Church

Thank you Jennifer Jue for your question. It inspired this article and thank you community for all your help at the Emmaus monthly gatherings – you are so appreciated!

God Bless you,
Jan Austin



Annual Elections

Per the bylaws, the board is supposed to host annual elections. To do this we need volunteers to serve on the board. There are positions available for all skill sets. Please consider if God is calling you to serve the Emmaus Community as a member of the board.

Clergy – this goes double for you. We have been getting by with one clergy for a number of years which puts a lot of burden on the Community Spiritual Director. With three clergy the work could be divided and put less burden on each person.

Please contact Randy Herrick or Tom Fierro about serving on the board.



Just a friendly reminder that we have an Emmaus Email Prayer Chain:

jackson.emmaus.prayer.chain@gmail.com

For over 15 years we have seen the power of prayer within many lives. Prayer not only changes things but people.

Go to a closing and you will witness this. Having an Emmaus Walk bathed in prayer makes it not only unique but life changing.

God Loves You and So Do We,
Don and Jo Jensen

jackson.emmaus.prayer.chain@gmail.com

OPTIMIST VS. PESSIMIST

A family had twin boys whose only resemblance to each other was their looks. If one felt it was too hot, the other thought it was too cold. If one said the TV was too loud, the other claimed the volume needed to be turned up. Opposite in every way, one was an eternal optimist, the other a doom and gloom pessimist.

Just to see what would happen, on Christmas day their father loaded the pessimist's room with every imaginable toy and game. The optimist's room he loaded with horse manure.

That night the father passed by the pessimist's room and found him sitting amid his new gifts crying bitterly.

"Why are you crying?" the father asked.

"Because my friends will be jealous, I'll have to read all these instructions before I can do anything with this stuff, I'll constantly need batteries, and my toys will eventually get broken." answered the pessimist twin.

Passing the optimist twin's room, the father found him dancing for joy in the pile of manure. "What are you so happy about?" he asked.

To which his optimist twin replied, "There's got to be a pony in here somewhere!"

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN -



MusicNotes

It's amazing to think that I've served in the capacity of music director for the community for nearly two years. In that time, I've learned a very important lesson; however, I only learned it recently at a worship workshop at my church. The presenter, Gary Trobee, pointed out over and over that we need to maximize the potential of everyone we can.

Over the past eleven years, I've noticed that is especially true with music. If you look at the musicians who say that they're interested in serving in music in the database, you will see a lot of people's names who have never been used. So, starting this fall, I want to do something different. For the months of September and October, I would like people to step forward and offer to do music for the gatherings. You don't have to play an instrument to lead music. All you have to have is the desire to lead by singing. It doesn't take much time and effort to put together a song sheet and bring it to gatherings. If anyone would like to lead music in September or October, please feel free to Email me at healingsongcmt@gmail.com and I'll sign you up. I'll even help you in whatever way I can from putting together the song sheet you want or accompaniment to the songs you pick.

Also, I want to make sure all of you know that when you come to the walk and you play an instrument other than guitar, we can still use you at Candlelight. I remember there were a couple of times we had flute players at candlelight. I'd like to see that again. Just show up with your instrument! We'd love to get you to play for Emmaus!!!

Bea and Bert Furman,
Community Music directors.



EMMAUS TRAILER

For the past several years we have been borrowing a trailer from outside the Emmaus community to haul the kitchen supplies from storage to the walk. That trailer is no longer available. The trailer we were borrowing was approximately 6'x12' and was enclosed. If you have a similar trailer we could borrow, please contact a member of the board. Or if you have a suggestion for an alternative we are willing to listen.

Walk News

We have a good start on our pilgrims for the Women's Emmaus Walk, October 17-20, 2013, at Heart 'O The Lakes United Brethren Church, 7031 Jefferson Road, Brooklyn, MI 49230. So far we have eight pilgrims registered. Please keep the pilgrims, team, auxiliary and everyone involved in the walk in your prayers. Also, be praying for those yet unknown pilgrims who will be on the walk. - Sue Keene

The Master needs what you have to offer,
No matter if you think it's small;
His work on earth is done through His children,
So give Him your best, give your all.—Hess



Clothing Order Form



A portion of all proceeds benefit
Jackson Area Emmaus

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ITEM DESCRIPTION	COLOR (Circle One)	SIZE (Circle One)	QUANTITY	PRICE EACH	TOTAL
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	Banana	2 XL		\$20.00	
	Black	3 XL		\$22.00	
	Light Blue	4 XL		\$23.00	
 <p>Men's Polo Shirt Material is 65/35</p>	Red	S M L XL		\$19.00	
	Black	2 XL		\$20.00	
	Banana	3 XL		\$22.00	
	Light Blue	4 XL		\$23.00	
 <p>Crewneck Sweatshirt Material is 50/50</p>	Ash Grey	S M L XL		\$18.00	
	Black	2 XL		\$20.00	
	Maroon	3 XL		\$21.00	
	Light Blue	4 XL		\$21.00	
 <p>Hoodies Material is 50/50</p>	Ash Grey	S M L XL		\$21.00	
	Gold	2 XL		\$24.00	
	Black	3 XL		\$25.00	
	Purple	4 XL		\$26.00	
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2013 Jackson Area Emmaus Board of Directors

Community Lay Director:

Randy Herrick (517) 262-3332
cld@jacksonemmaus.org

Asst. Community Lay Director:

Tom Fiero (517) 395-5674
tefiero@rocketmail.com

Community Spiritual Director:

Pastor Jim Hegedus 517-740-2240
jimh@jacksonfirstpres.com

Asst. Spiritual Director:

Open

Secretary:

Shiela McEldowney
smfowler65@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Dean Page (517) 768-1362
Dean.page@ATT.net

Auxiliary Head:

Shiela McEldowney
smfowler65@comcast.net

Computer Records/Data Manager:

John Williams (517) 629-6768
jwilliams@albion.edu

Fourth Day/Gatherings

Jan Austin (517) 782-1167
janaustin49@yahoo.com

Kitchen:

Andy Crisenberry (517) 857-3461

Mailroom/Agape:

Jennifer Whitford (517) 745-1056
jene@jacksonfirstpres.com

Music:

Bea & Bert Furman
healingsongcmt@gmail.com

Newsletter:

Nancy Gage (517) 536-8164
k_gage25@comcast.net

Prayer Vigil:

Kathryn Ames 517-262-1014
nurseames@hotmail.com

Registrar:

Sue Keene (517) 536-4684
srcek@comcast.net

Site Selections/Building/Tear Down:

Butch Walker (517) 914-0536

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Hour/Candlelight/Closing:

Chuck Tuckey
CRTuckey@aol.com

Supplies/Trailer Coordinator:

Sue Miller
ml1rt1me@hotmail.com

Please use your Board. We are here to serve you. If you are unable to contact a Board member, feel free to email, write, or call me. I'll be glad to help in any way I can. Randy Herrick, Community Lay Director

