

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

Return Service Requested



**COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER  
Sept./Oct./Nov. 2014**

**Community Gatherings**

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month - Brookside United Methodist Church (please bring a passing dish) – 5:00 PM

**Board Meetings**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the Month  
Brookside United Methodist Church – 6:30 PM

**2013 Emmaus Walks**

**Women's Walk – October 2-5, 2014**

**Men's Walk – October 16-19, 2014**

## From Our Community Lay Director

### Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

*“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

Colossians 3:15-17

Anne Lamott, one of my favorite authors, says there are two kinds of prayers: “Help me, Help me, Help me” and “Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.”

It seems like recently most of my prayers have been of the “Help me” variety. But last month at the height of Jean’s battle with the infection, God sent me a blessing that made me stop and say a “Thank you” prayer. I don’t know if it was a case of God sending more blessings my way after that thank you or just a case of saying thank you made me more aware of all the blessings in my life. But it seemed like the more I thanked God for the blessing, the more blessings came my way.

When I look at my prayer life around our Emmaus community it seems likely for the past year my prayers have been focused on the “Help us” variety of prayer, not the “Thank you” variety. But when I look back over the last nine years of my involvement with Emmaus there are so many things to thank God for:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the timing of the walk you sent me on. I know there were opportunities before that walk, but that was the one I needed to be on.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the people you put on my walk. Only you could have put that mix in the conference room with me to get your message through.

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the new friends you have given me through the Emmaus community. Their caring and loving in my times of need and celebration have shown your love.

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the blessings you have sent me whenever I try to pay back for all I received on my walk. The cup is still overflowing.

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the opportunities to grow as a Christian leader and all the mentors you placed beside me to show me the way.

Heavenly Father, thank you for all the men and women who step up to do all the work that needs to be done to put on successful walks.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the Chrysalis flight that led my daughter to the ministry.

Amen.

Randy Herrick  
Community Lay Director



## Calling all Musicians

It’s that time again, when the music director needs to remind people of a few things.

First of all, we need any and all guitarists and other instrumentalists to show up for the walks when they happen to help out with Candlelight. I remind myself every year of how my walk went and how blest I was to hear all the guitars creating a wall of sound with the voices of the community.

Secondly, if there are any pilgrims from the last couple of walks who are interested in helping out with music, please indicate so on your volunteer application, so that we can put you in the database.

Finally, could we please have those of you who put down in the past that you are interested in music, update your contact information so that future lay directors won’t have a hard time finding music people? Many of you do not have current phone numbers in there. I know that for a fact, because I’ve tried calling you in the past and not been able to. The same with Email addresses. Updating the database is as simple as sending an Email to John Williams at [jwilliams@albion.edu](mailto:jwilliams@albion.edu) and having him update the database. He could also Email you back with instructions to do so yourself.

Bea Furman, Community Music director

Music is the only language in which you  
cannot say a mean or sarcastic thing.

– Lord Erskine

## A Word on Sponsorship...

At this writing we find ourselves one month from the cutoff date for the women's walk with only two ladies and four men signed up for the walks. When we get in this situation, we tend to sponsor anyone we can talk into going on the walk. So I'd like to remind you of the guidelines set forth in sponsorship training as to who we should and should not sponsor.

### Purposeful Sponsoring

Church Leaders – both Lay and Clergy  
 Dependable Church members – when there is a need, they step up to do the work  
 Less Active members – to get them interested in doing more  
 Christians Looking for something more – give them a short course in grace  
 Christians who want to grow spiritually – again, give them a short course in grace  
 Christians from all parts of our community – cross ethnic and economic boundaries  
 Respected Laypersons and Clergy – their participation will validate Emmaus for others

### Questionable Sponsoring

Non-Christians – Emmaus is not intended to be a means of conversion to Christianity  
 Persons in Emotional Crisis – Do not use Emmaus to fix a person's problems  
 Christians whose theology or practices are notably different  
 Church Hoppers  
 Persons who are always looking for a spiritual high

### Reminders

The team is very good at meeting the needs of pilgrims that we are aware of; please explain the walk format well enough to the pilgrim so they can communicate any needs that have to be met to make the walk great. Communicate those same needs to the registrar so the team is aware of them prior to the pilgrim's arrival.

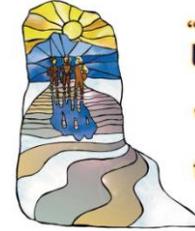
If your pilgrim has medication that needs to be taken at a specific time each day help them fill out a 3x5 card ahead of time to give to the Pilgrim ALD Thursday night. This will save them time and frustration as they are trying to get from "My New Friend" to Chapel or to bed. Also, if they have a med that needs refrigeration, have them put it in a container with their name on it. There will be a refrigerator in the conference room for storing meds in. Show it to them when you arrive on Thursday night.

If your pilgrim uses expendable medical supplies (syringes, oxygen, etc) make sure they have enough to last the whole weekend. Running out on Saturday makes it hard for the pilgrim to enjoy the weekend.

If the team has an issue with a pilgrim that they cannot solve quickly, the team is going to call the sponsor for help.

Remember, when you sign the application you are agreeing to meet all the pilgrim's needs during the weekend.

Randy Herrick



"Wasn't it like a fire burning within us when he talked to us"

### NOTE:

Application/Sponsor forms can be found on the Jackson Emmaus website: <http://jaec.inetmember.com> or on our Facebook page.

## Chrysalis Flight of Hope



Chrysalis is a journey with Christ for young adults. Following the 3-day experience, participants are joined in small groups and participation in the Chrysalis community. The objective of Chrysalis is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Chrysalis lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others. Participants will enjoy three days of singing, learning, laughing, worshiping, reflecting, praying and participating in small groups. Discussions center around fifteen talks given by youth and adult laity and clergy. A promotional video further explaining this weekend can be found at <http://chrysalis.upperroom.org/resources>.

The young men and women Chrysalis flight week-ends have been scheduled and a location selected. Both flights will be held at "Trinity UMC" (7533 W St Joe Hwy, Lansing Charter Township, MI 48917). The young men's flight will be on October 31st 8am – November 2nd 4pm closing and the young women's flight will be November 7th 8am – November 9th 4pm closing.

**For Registration information** contact **Peggy Pirhonen** at phone # 1-989-292-5451. More information can be found on the web address [www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com](http://www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com) and a promo video at <http://Chrysalis.upperroom.org/resources>, click on Chrysalis page link. The Chrysalis Flight weekend is currently for **young men and women age 15-18 years old**. The youth must be sponsored and the sponsor must have had sponsorship training.

Also note:

**R.U.S.H.** dates for Butterflies are **September 20th** and **November 22nd** at **Salem UMC (2307 W. Maple Rapids Rd; Saint Johns, Michigan 48879)** from **4pm to 7pm**.



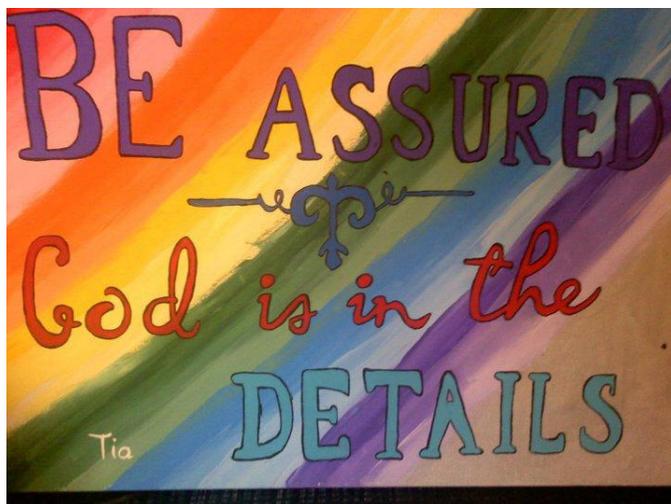


## Music Notes

Recently, I was in the home of some friends after we had enjoyed a wonderful summertime dinner. We had gotten out our guitars and were beginning to play. The husband asked if I knew any Johnny Cash. I found myself singing one song that for most people today would be obscure. Then, I began to play that timed honored classic my friend Jim Niessink had taught me as a young guitar player with stars in her eyes. The song, though not written by Cash reflects my mood as I write this article. The song was "Sunday Mornin Comin Down."

You may wonder where I'm going with this. In the song there's a line that comes to mind every time I think of how it is I've differed from my predecessors as music directors. The line "And it took me back to something that I lost somehow somewhere along the way" causes me to reflect on what it is we've lost in music as the church has progressed to where it is now. While there are many new praise songs that do reflect the love of Jesus, there are many old hymns that I find myself longing for. For that matter, so do many of the artists of today. Singers like David Crowder, Michael Card, Michael W. Smith and Amy Grant have all gone back to the church and re-recorded several beloved favorites of the hymnal. I know there are those of you who wonder why it is I don't fall back on many of the newer songs and instead focus on the older hymns. It is because I for one don't want to see the legacy of the church disappear. I hope that those of you who have heard me lead music at gatherings haven't minded the combination of old and new music I've done, with an emphasis on the older music

Bea Furman  
Community Music Director.



## Just Push

- Author Unknown



A man was sleeping at night in his cabin when suddenly his room filled with light and the Savior appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do, and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained that the man was to push against the rock with all his might. This the man did, day after day. For many years he toiled from sun up to sun down, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all his might.

Each night the man returned to his cabin sore, and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain. Seeing that the man was showing signs of discouragement, the Adversary decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the man's weary mind: "You have been pushing against that rock for a long time, and it hasn't budged. Why kill yourself over this? You are never going to move it." Thus giving the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure, these thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man.

"Why kill myself over this?" he thought. "I'll just put in my time, giving just the minimum effort and that will be good enough." And that is what he planned to do until one day he decided to make it a matter of prayer and take his troubled thoughts to the Lord. "Lord," he said, "I have labored long and hard in your service, putting all my strength to do that which you have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter. What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

The Lord responded compassionately, "My child, when I asked you to serve me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all your strength, which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to me, with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back sinew and brown, your hands are callused from constant pressure, and your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. Yet you haven't moved the rock. But your calling was to be obedient and to push and to exercise your faith and trust in My wisdom. This you have done. I, my friend, will now move the rock."

At times, when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is just simple obedience and faith in Him. By all means, exercise the faith that moves mountains, but know that it is still God who moves the mountains.

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believes. -- Romans 1:16*



## In the Potter's Hands

Over the summer months, I have seen a lot of people hurting due to the loss of a loved one, financial problems, marriage problems, issues at work, feeling alone, or health issues. It just seems to be an ongoing thing with just about everyone around us. It doesn't even matter if you are rich or poor, famous or not, there are trials and tribulations everywhere.

I have faced my own trials this summer and in the months prior, and as I would lie in pain knowing how much I need to get done for this or for that, I asked, Why Lord? Something that we should never ask!! He gave me this devotion one day and it showed me that even though I didn't feel beautiful because of all the brokenness and ugliness around me, that I was beautiful because when we allow ourselves to be melted by trial, we can be fully molded by the Potter.

Sea glass or beach glass is glass that has been thrown out because it was longer wanted. Originally the glass had a purpose, but then it was casually thrown away and became broken. If the discarded glass ends up in the ocean, its journey is just beginning. As it is relentlessly tossed about by currents and tides, its jagged edges are ground down by the sand and waves and eventually are smoothed away and rounded off. The result is something beautiful. The jewel like sea glass has found new life and is treasured by collectors and artists.

In a similar way, a broken life can be renewed when it is touched by God's love and grace. We need to remember that we are never too badly broken for God to reshape. He loves us in spite of our imperfections and past mistakes, and He desires to make us beautiful. We just have to allow the transformation.

In Jeremiah 18, it states in the Women of Faith Bible that just as a potter turns the wheel and shapes the clay into a useful vessel, so God uses the turning of events to shape His people.

In light of the new covenant God has established with us through Jesus Christ, we can trust the Master Potter to work out our imperfections and gently mold us into the likeness of His son.

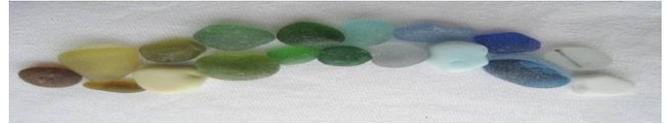
I turn this to Emmaus as well. Even though we may be a bit broken, God is using all of us in different ways to mold and reshape the community for future walks. If you would like to use your talents and gifts on upcoming walks, please contact a board member. We need updated information in our records due to phone numbers and e-mails changing all of the time. If you want to serve, please let someone know, because even though we call many people, we are coming up short. Thank you to those who have already come forward to serve on the women's walk. Team meetings are starting, so come on out and worship and praise the Lord with us, make agape with us, fellowship and laugh with us!! Allow God to use you to reshape and mold Emmaus in order to reach others, and grow

our church leaders, so that our churches can be stronger and grow as well.

Much love to you all.

Remember...you may be broken but you are beautiful and able to be reshaped!!

Sue Miller, Supply Trailer  
Women's Walk Auxiliary Head



## Emmaus Prayer Chain



**FYI:** We have an Emmaus Email Prayer Chain. If you have a prayer concern, send it to:  
[jackson.emmaus.prayer.chain@gmail.com](mailto:jackson.emmaus.prayer.chain@gmail.com)

If you wish to become an Emmaus Prayer Warrior, let us know and we will add you to our group. We believe in the power of prayer.

Don and Jo Jensen

## WANT TO WORK ON A WALK?

Contact: Sue Miller (Women's Walk) – 358-8752  
[m1lrl1me@hotmail.com](mailto:m1lrl1me@hotmail.com)  
Rick Denig (Men's Walk) - 750-4001  
[Rickydenig@aol.com](mailto:Rickydenig@aol.com)

Don't be totally worried  
about everything that's  
going around you.  
It's my job.

Signed,  
Jesus

## 2014 Jackson Area Emmaus Board of Directors

### Community Lay Director:

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

### Asst. Community Lay Director:

Jeff Sweet (517) 565-3259  
jeffsweet83@yahoo.com

### Community Spiritual Director:

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

### Asst. Spiritual Director:

Pastor Al Henson (517) 568-4684  
ahenson1798@yahoo.com

### Secretary:

Deb Spicer (517) 688-9604  
(517) 250-4868  
spicerdebbie@hotmail.com

### Treasurer:

Dean Page (517) 768-1362  
[Dean.page@ATT.net](mailto:Dean.page@ATT.net)

### Auxiliary Head:

Deb Spicer (517) 688-9604  
(517) 250-4868  
spicerdebbie@hotmail.com

### Computer Records/Data Manager:

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

### Fourth Day/Gatherings

Joyce Norman (517) 914-5167  
joyce\_norman@sbcglobal.net

### Kitchen:

Andy Crisenberry (517) 990-0870  
(517) 746-6696  
shipexpress@gmail.com

### Mailroom/Agape:

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

### Music:

Bea & Bert Furman (517) 789-6061

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

### Newsletter:

Nancy Gage (517) 536-8164  
k\_gage25@comcast.net

### Prayer Vigil:

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

### Registrar:

Rick Danks (517) 536-4273  
rcdanks@comcast.net

### Site Selections/Building/Tear Down:

Butch Walker (517) 416-6058

### Sponsor's Hour/Candlelight/Closing:

Chuck Tuckey (734) 426-5248  
CRTuckey@charter.net

### Supplies/Trailer Coordinator:

Sue Miller (517) 358-8752  
m1lrl1me@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**

