

Lansing Emmaus Community

Footprints



Number 5 2006

<http://www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com>

Sept - Oct 2006

As I begin to write this message I am (im)patiently waiting for the arrival of our 8th grandchild. She was predicted by the doctor, with his best informed guess, to arrive on August 19th. Much to this grandma's dismay, she hasn't arrived yet. I want to see her beautiful little face, will she look like her daddy (my middle son) or like her mommy? I want to hold her warm little body in my arms, exam her tiny little fingers and toes, and smell the wonderful sweet smell of newborn babies. But I am reminded again, that it is not **my** timing but **God's** timing that determines the arrival of new life.

It was not the determination of her father and mother, they tried for more than two years to conceive. It was not the determination of the doctor, who when "natural" methods were not successful, gave my daughter-in-law some medications to help stimulate egg production without success. It wasn't the will or determination of either of the grandmothers (we both think these two will be wonderful parents). But it was the will of God, the timing of God, to have this little one come into this world at just the right time. I'm looking forward to finding out what plans God has for her life.

So it is with so many things in our lives, we plan for what we want, and how and when we want it to happen. Many times those plans don't come out "right", that is, the way **we** wanted. God has a plan for each of us, and when we wait for His plan to be revealed we find that it is the "**right**" plan after all. Recently a friend commented about coming to understand that God has an "**A' Plan**" for each of us. He said that when his plan, or the one he thinks is the plan, doesn't come through, he remembers to pray for God's "**A' Plan**" for him or the situation. He doesn't want the "**B' Plan**", something he might have settled for, he wants God's best for himself. I have many experiences of seeing how my plan didn't work out and how, when giving the situation up

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FALL 2006 MEN'S WALK HAS BEEN POSTPONED

It is with great sadness that the Lansing Area Emmaus Board of Directors announce the postponement of the Fall Men's Walk scheduled for September 21-24. There were only 7 Pilgrims registered, and our minimum is 20 at the two weeks before the Walk deadline. Please keep the members of the Conference Room team and the Auxiliary team, as well as those Pilgrims who were planning on attending, in prayer during this time of disappointment. A Gathering was held at Central UMC, on the evening of Saturday, September 23rd to worship, to do some grieving, sharing and healing, and to support the teams that were preparing to present this Walk. This team will be invited to return for the Spring Men's Walk, the date and location to be announced at a later date.

The Women's Walk deadline is September 27. Over 20 women registered at this time. We hope to have a full Walk with 36 women attending. If you are thinking of sending in a registration, don't wait - you might miss out this time. The Lansing Area Emmaus Community requires Sponsorship training before sponsoring a Pilgrim on a Walk.

--- IMPORTANT NEWS ---

A great deal is happening in the Lansing Area Emmaus Community right now. In this month's Newsletter you will find a sheet of paper simply titled **BALLOT**. **This sheet provides information about the status of voting for new Board members.** **PLEASE** consider prayerfully what your involvement in the Community, and perhaps on the Board will be for the upcoming year.

Also enclosed is a five page copy of the 'changes to the LAE Community BY-LAWS'. Please review this document and the changes. Contact any of your Board Reps with your questions, comments or concerns.

**2006 FALL Women's Walk October 12-15, 2006, at Central UMC in Lansing
Lay Director - Kim Duffield, Spiritual Director - Pat Skinner**

As of this writing OVER 20 women are registered for the Fall Walk. A full Walk has 36 Pilgrims.
Get those registration forms in!

From the Registrar:

Thank you Father for another day!! I hope all of you are enjoying each day to the fullest that you are able!!

REMINDER: the Women's Fall walk is at Central United Methodist Church in Lansing on October 12-15. Also remember that if you are a sponsor, you will need to bring your Pilgrim to the walk around 6:15 or so, **but BEFORE** 7 pm to get them checked in and ready to begin their journey...you will be staying to pray with the other sponsors while the Pilgrims begin the first phase of their Walk to Emmaus (can you remember that anticipation and nervous curiosity?). You should attend the Candlelight service on Saturday at 8 pm (Sponsorship Training is held at 7, and the Community gathers at 7:30). And attend the closing service around 4:30 on Sunday to celebrate and praise God and take your Pilgrim home. Give them a chance to share their thoughts with you on the ride home.

Even if you are not sponsoring a pilgrim on these walks we hope that you will consider attending the Candlelight—maybe with your reunion group! What better time to get together for a blessing and to be a blessing!!

As you know the Lansing Area Emmaus Community Board voted to hold only one Men's Walk per year unless the volume of Pilgrims registered increased and we had a waiting list. The maximum number of Pilgrims for each Walk is 36. In order to hold a Walk, we must have at least **20** Pilgrims registered **two weeks** prior to the beginning of the Walk date. Sooooo... Pray for those Pilgrims and for the Sponsors God has put his heart so that the Walks may be filled! What a JOY it is to serve Him! Pam Wyrick, contact information: ragdoll@voyager.net
(989) 224-2787

The Board is already planning for the Men's and Women's 2007 Walks. Watch future Newsletters for more information. **Remember, you must have Sponsorship Training before you can sponsor a Pilgrim.** It's never too early to take the training, and sponsor and register a Pilgrim. Get those registration forms in!

Flight of Hope Chrysalis:

The Fall Flights for Girls will be held on October 20 - 22, and for Boys on November 10 - 12. For more information go to: <http://www.flightofhope.com>

continued from page 1: to God, he gave me a more beautiful plan. Like when a relationship ended, and I thought my world was ending, a new one was revealed – God's plan. And when a church relationship ended, and a new one was revealed – God's plan. I've learned to trust God more and more. I'm always amazed, and yet I shouldn't be, God is trustworthy in all things.

As we continue on through this year, and into the years to come, let's be in prayer for the A Plan for our LAE Community, for our home churches, and for ourselves. As we wait to see how God will work out the plan, let's continue to work for His Kingdom. Let's look to see how much we see God's face in each other, how warm it feels to be in the care of God's keeping, and how sweet it smells to be in God's presence.

P.S. "Our granddaughter, Emerson June Sayer, arrived on August 30, 2006 (about 11 days after we thought she would). She weighed 8#6oz, and was 21 1/2 inches long. And beautiful!!!! Mom and Dad and baby are doing well. Thanks for your prayers." God loves you, and so do I. Elnora Wallin, Community Lay Director

AGAPE It's that time again! I hope that you all have been busy getting your agape done for the fall walk. We don't have much time left, so get your 4-th Day group working!!
The agape that is received during the Walk is such a wonderful example of the love of Christ. As it blesses the pilgrims - it also blesses the giver. You get to renew Christ's love with each little gift of agape that is given. Each time a pilgrim returns to their bed, or their conference room chair, or the dining room, they will be touch again and again with that love. Remember to include your 4-th Day or Reunion group name, but please no personal names on the agape. God Loves You and So Do, Janet Ball, Agape Coordinator

The 2006 Lansing Area Emmaus Board

Position	Name, Telephone & E-Mail Address	Class Of
Community Lay Director	Elnora Wallin (517) 566-8452 owlalker@centurytel.net	2006
Community Spiritual Director	Andy Kroel (517)646-0694 dimondaleumc@juno.com	2007
Secretary & Agape (Mailroom)	Janet Ball (231) 972-7335 Ljball6@hotmail.com	2007
Treasurer & Supply Trailer	Lyle Ball (231) 972-7335 Ljball6@hotmail.com	2008
Assist. Comm Lay Director & Logistics	Andy Sass (517) 627-0452 to4cc2me@Netscape.net	2008
Assist. Spiritual Director	Charlie Farnum (989) 773-6934 charlie.fnum@yahoo.com	2008
Temporary Assist. Spiritual Director	Becky Morrison (517) 645-7701 revrkmor@msn.com	2005
Registrar	Pam Wyrick (989) 224-2787 ragdoll@voyager.net	2006
Outreach (4th Day/Reunion Group)	Kathy Wilson (989) 862-5693 kw543210@yahoo.com	2007
Gatherings & Prayer Vigil	Ed Shepherd (517) 543-5318 Eddy@calamur.com	2007
Team Selection	Judy McPherson (517) 627-2712 judym@acd.net	2006
Data Manager & Newsletter	Michele Childs (517) 627-8121 childsm11797@msn.com	2006
Emmaus Store	JoAnn McCrum (517) 468-3480 mccrumjl@michigan.gov	2007
Former Comm Lay Director, Advisor	Roxi Bass (517) 676-4495 rrb323@yahoo.com	2005
Music, Sponsor's Hour/Training, Candlelight, & Closing -	Ned Weller (989-875-4202)	

**You can get more information on the Lansing Area Emmaus (LAE) Web site:
www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com**

This piece is just this simple few lines of prose. Yet, the words are powerful and really "hit the point!" As Outreach Coordinator I find that words can make or break anything or anyone even an Emmaus community. As friends in Christ let us remember simple lessons like the Nail in the Fence. Let our words encourage and uplift one another instead of take down and leave scars. To build fences without nail holes should be part our goal as a community. God's blessings, Kathy Wilson, Outreach

NAIL IN THE FENCE

There once was a little boy who had a bad temper. His Father gave him a bag of nails and told him that every time he lost his temper, he must hammer a nail into the back of the fence. The first day the boy had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as he learned to control his anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled down. He discovered it was easier to hold his temper than to drive those nails into the fence.

Finally the day came when the boy didn't lose his temper at all. He told his father about it and the father suggested that the boy now pull out one nail for each day that he was able to hold his temper. The days passed and the young boy was finally able to tell his father that all the nails were gone.

The father took his son by the hand and led him to the fence. He said, "You have done well, my son, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave a scar just like this one. You can put a knife in a man and draw it out. It won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one." Friends are very rare jewels, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share words of praise and they always want to open their hearts to us.

The Lansing Area Emmaus Prayer Chain is one way that we can care for each other. By sharing our joys and concerns with our family of Christian sisters and brothers we allow them to care for us when needed, and share in our joys when we share those as well. Burdens shared are burdens divided, and joys shared are joys multiplied.

Community announcements are also made via the prayer chain groups from time to time. Reminders of meetings, gatherings and other items of Community interest are sent out along with or in addition to the prayer requests and praises.

If you are already on the prayer chain, you know the blessing it is to be "in touch" with others in our Community. If you are not on the prayer chain and wish to be, you may sign-up by contacting Elnora Wallin at owltalker@centurytel.net and ask to be added. If you are on the prayer chain and wish to be taken off you may also contact Elnora.

Pilgrim U.M.C.
Lansing Area Emmaus
2965 West Parks Road
St. Johns, MI 48879

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The Walk to Emmaus is a three-day retreat designed to enhance leadership and spiritual development within the Christian community. Men and women attend separate Walks.

The Keryx Walk is designed for those who are incarcerated.

For more information go to *the Lansing Area Emmaus (LAE) Web Site*: <http://www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com>

Chrysalis is for young adults and the retreat is called the Journey. And for those in high school we offer three-day Flights, for information go to: <http://www.flightofhope.com>

Upcoming Events

It's always a good idea to check the LAE Website for possible date changes and other information.
Board Meetings and Gatherings are held at Pilgrim UMC, 2965 W Parks Rd, St Johns, MI., unless otherwise noted.

Board Meetings

(are held the second Tues of each month at 6:30 unless otherwise noted)

Oct 10
Nov 14
Dec 12

Gatherings (are held the second Friday of each month unless otherwise noted. Fellowship 6:00, Potluck 6:30, Praise, Worship, Communion & Sponsors Training after dinner)

Oct 14, is the **Saturday of the Women's Walk**. In place of the regular Gathering, we will meet Lansing Central UMC, 215 Capital Ave, for a CANDLELIGHT GATHERING. (NO POTLUCK). Be there by 7:30, the Candlelight starts at 8:00.

Nov 10 The Emmaus Store will be open!
Dec 8 The Emmaus Store will be open!

Oct 20-22, **The Flight of Hope Chrysalis** Fall Flight for Girls
Nov 10-12, **The Flight of Hope Chrysalis** Fall Flight for Boys - Both Flights will be held at the Immanuel Community Church, at 3200 Delta River Drive, Lansing

Plans are being laid out for the 2007 Walks!