Lansing Emmaus Community

# Footprints

Number 09-4 July - August, 2009

**Community Lay Director**, Russ Fries
(810) 625-5296, r.fries@milftpd.us

**Outreach Coordinator,** Sue Neff
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**Newsletter Coordinator,** Harry Wallin
(517) 566-8452 owltalker@centurytel.net

## Summer Time

It's 80 degrees and sunny outside right now. Sitting here on my deck I can't think of anything else but how nice it is out side. Thank you Father! Thank you, for reminding me of how good you are to us and that there are times when we can relax and just sit in the sun. It's easy to day dream and forget our responsibilities. It happens to all of us on those lazy days of summer.

As my mind is wondering I'm thinking of Codee Kirkby and the conference room and auxiliary teams. It amazes me to think that just a few weeks away is the Fall Women's Walk. It will soon be here. If you're thinking of sponsoring a woman on this Walk, NOW is the time to get the paperwork to Terrie Eisenmann, our registrar. It will be in the beginning of October this year. Before you know it the new Pilgrims will be walking in with their sponsors, to check in. As always there will be some that will be nervous, some will be excited, many will be seeking a way to get closer to God. Then they'll go and meet their new best friend, and the weekend will begin.

There is a lot more to do before then, though. The conference room team has already met and started to listen to the talks. The auxiliary heads are making plans for where everyone will sleep and what jobs everyone will do. Other training dates are being set up as well. It's not just the Fall Walk Team that is preparing.

The Emmaus Board is still working too. We have a lot of stuff that goes on behind the scenes right now. The Team Selection is looking even farther ahead then Fall 2009. They're making plans for the Spring and Fall, 2010 Walks. We're also recruiting for new Board members. We have several Board members who's term will expire the end of this year and have to be replaced. Actually we need more then two, several of us have more then one job right now. Being on the Board isn't as difficult as one would think. If you're interested give me a call and we can talk. The Board is gearing up for an upcoming planning meeting. We have to look at how we do things as a Community to make sure it's being done as efficiently as possible.

It sure is nice right now, think I'll take a nap!

Russ

## September Gathering in a New Location!

We will be holding our September gathering at United Church of Ovid, 131 West Front Street, Ovid, Michigan. Our usual location, Pilgrim United Methodist Church will not be available that evening, and we are taking that opportunity to introduce you to the location for our Fall, **2010** Walks. It's just off M-21 about 10 miles west of the intersection of M-21 and Old 127. That makes it about 12 miles from Pilgrim U.M.C. There is a detailed map of the Ovid area on Page 2. We are excited to be planning the first Fall Men's Walk we've held in a number of years, and the United Church of Ovid is where it will take place. You will notice that we are also holding a Men's Walk in March of 2010. We know, however, that there are men who cannot take a Walk in March, so we have decided to step out in faith. Help us make it a success.

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# Lansing Area Emmaus Board 2009

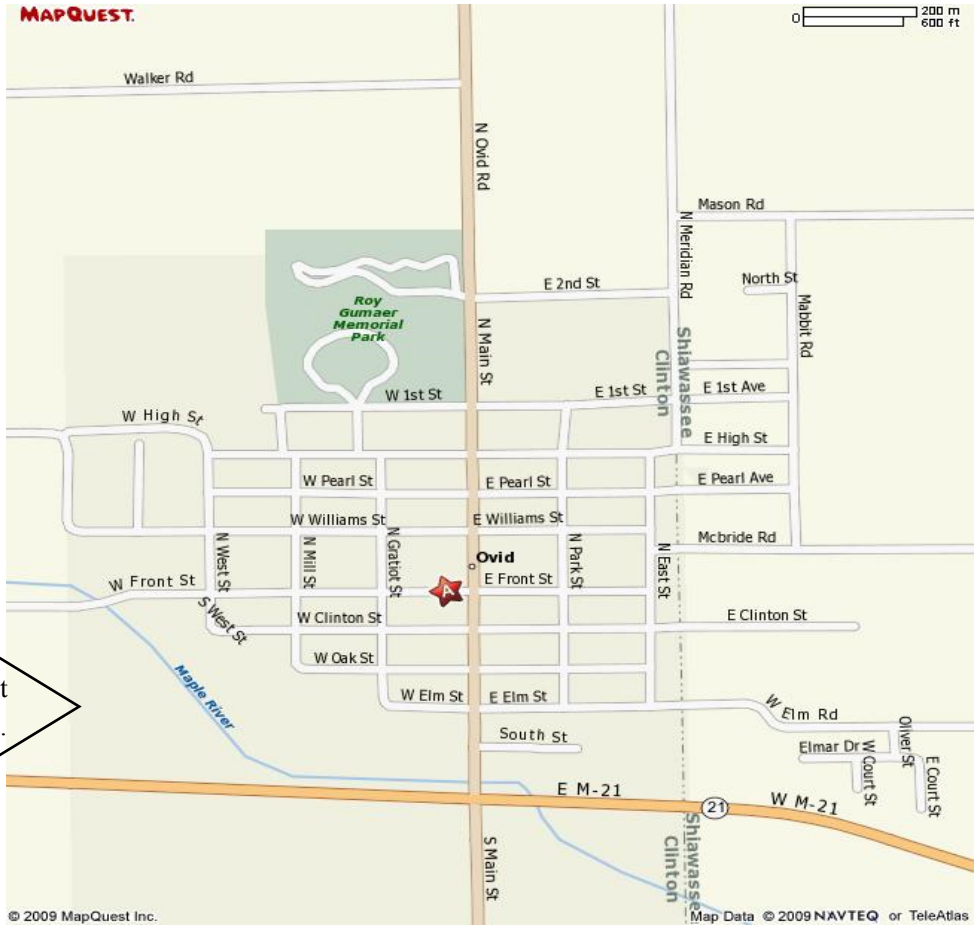
| Name | Position | Phone | E-mail | Expires |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rev. Terri Bentley | Asst. Community Spiritual Director | | | 2009 |
| Rev. Greg Buchner | Asst. Community Spiritual Director | | | 2009 |
| Terrie Eisenmann | Registrar | | | 2009 |
| Ray Francis | Sponsorship, Candle Light, Closing, Gatherings, Music | | | 2011 |
| Russ Fries | Community Lay Director, Team Selection | (810) 625-5296 | r.fries@mi.ftpd.us | 2010 |
| Scott Lobert | Auxiliary, Kitchen, Site Selection | | | 2011 |
| Sue Neff | Member-At-Large, Outreach | (989) 386-7633 | sgneff@chartermi.net | 2009 |
| Ed Nierescher | Treasurer (on leave) | | | 2009 |
| Rev. Susan Poynter | Community Spiritual Director | H (989) 427-3289<br>W (989) 427-5575 | susepoy@yahoo.com | 2009 |
| Andrew Sass | Immediate Past Community Lay Director | | | 2009 |
| Roger Silverthorn | Asst. Comm. Lay Director, Supply Coordinator, Acting Treasurer | | | 2010 |
| Barb Tyler | Secretary, Agape | | | 2010 |
| Elnora Wallin | Team Selection | | | 2009 |
| Harry Wallin | Data Manager; Newsletter Coordinator | (517) 566-8452 | owltalker@centurytel.net | 2009 |

Please Note: Our Spiritual Directors are members of the Board one year at a time, and are eligible to continue on the Board .

## Your Emmaus Board

Come join us at our next meetings at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 8 and Tuesday, October 13, at Pilgrim UMC). Board meetings are always open to any Community member who wishes to attend. Do you have concerns or suggestions: Call or e-mail Russ Fries, our Community Lay Director, or any Board member and we'll be sure you get included in the agenda. Please prayerfully consider being a member of one of the Board Committees. All Board members have committees to help them do the work. There is more than one person can do. Join us in service.

This is the map to United Church of Ovid. (see the star marked "A" on the map.) It is about 10 miles west of St. Johns, and about 12 miles from Pilgrim U.M.C.



# Free to be Free

Pastor Greg Buchner
– July 2009

Theme Scripture: "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free…" – Galatians 5:1

The message is a simple one…Christ set us free! It's amazing how complicated we often try to make it, "Christ set us free, but…Christ set us free, however…Christ set us free, in return…" NO! The simple message is – Christ set us free!

The Galatian Church had been influenced by people who said that God's mercy wasn't enough, that God's grace wasn't enough, and they had become convinced that the only way to fully please God was to go back to the Law, which had held them down for generations. They decided that they didn't want to be free.

Now I don't know many who are practicing adult circumcision now-a-days, but I am aware of too many churches, too many parishioners, and yes, too many pastors who lay down the guilt trip, who claim that God's grace and love come with a price, and expect people to respond. This dysfunctional form of Spirituality is nothing more than being "burdened again by the yoke of slavery" and it has no place in the life of the church. It does not matter where it comes from. Bishops, district superintendents, pastors, and congregations have all been set free and they have no right to limit that freedom.

For those of us who have experienced the Emmaus journey, our mantra…our call…has to be what we know to be true. In the midst of Spiritually-dysfunctional, guilt-trip, Law-abiding journey back to Jerusalem that churches unfortunately take, we need to stand up and ask the questions, "Where is God's grace in all of this? Where is God's mercy? Where do we show God's love?" and demand an answer.

Can we run around sinning because of our freedom? Probably not a good idea; however, it's not a good idea because someone told us that it wasn't! We know it's not a good idea because once we experience the freeing power of God's grace and love, we don't want to go back from whence we've come. DeColores, my friends, my Emmaus family, DeColores!
Galatians 5:1-13, 19-23 (NIV) - Freedom in Christ

***"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.***

***Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law.***

***You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.***

***You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth? That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. 'A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.' I am confident in the Lord that you will take no other view. The one who is throwing you into confusion will pay the penalty, whoever he may be. Brothers, if I am still preaching circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished.***

***As for those agitators, I wish they would go the whole way and emasculate themselves!***

***You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.***

***The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.***

***But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."***

# Treasurer's Reports:

## Balance Sheet
### As of 6/30/2009:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ASSETS** | | |
| **Cash and Bank Accounts** | | |
| Checking | 5240.57 | |
| Emmaus Store | 50.00 | |
| Scholarship | 584.94 | |
| Undesignated | 193.79 | |
| **Total Cash and Bank Accounts** | **6,069.30** | |
| **OTHER ASSETS** | | |
| Assets | 8,270.00 | |
| Emmaus Store inventory | 4,756.00 | |
| **TOTAL Other Assets** | **13,026.00** | |
| **TOTAL ASSETS** | **19,035.30** | |
| **LIABILITIES & EQUITY** | | |
| **LIABILITIES** | **0.00** | |
| **EQUITY** | **19,095.30** | |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** | **19,095.30** | |

## Cash Flow
### 1/1 to 7/14, 2009

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **INFLOWS** | | |
| Uncategorized | 0.00 | |
| Auxiliary Fees | | |
| Men's | 1,210.06 | |
| Women's | 1,125.00 | |
| **TOTAL** Auxiliary Fees | 2,335.06 | |
| Buttons | 19.00 | |
| Conference Team Fees | | |
| Manual Deposits | 15.00 | |
| Men's | 800.00 | |
| Women's | 800.00 | |
| **TOTAL** Conf. Team Fees | 1,615.00 | |
| Pilgrim fees | | |
| Men's | 2,330.00 | |
| Women's | 2,490.00 | |
| **TOTAL** Pilgrim fees | 4,820.00 | |
| Returns, walk expense checks | | |
| Auxiliary | | |
| Men's | 100.00 | |
| Women's | 123.10 | |
| TOTAL Auxiliary | 223.10 | |
| **TOTAL** Ret, Walk Exp Ck | 223.10 | |
| Store | | |
| Inventory sold | 535.50 | |
| **TOTAL** Store | 535.10 | |
| **TOTAL INFLOWS** | **9.547.66** | |
| **OUTFLOWS** | | |
| Bank Charge | 11.06 | |
| Board expense | 157.49 | |
| Charity | 250.00 | |
| Church Reimbursement | 284.95 | |
| Computer | 108.56 | |
| Newsletter | | |
| Copy & fold | 500.11 | |
| Postage | 191.16 | |
| Supplies | 21.25 | |
| Other newsletter | 565.07 | |
| **TOTAL** Newsletter | 1,277.59 | |
| Pilgrim dues | 700.00 | |
| Registrar | 84.00 | |
| Trailer | | |
| Gas | 77.43 | |
| **TOTAL** Trailer | 77.43 | |
| Walk supplies | | |
| Auxiliary | | |
| Men | 873.10 | |
| Women | 1060.35 | |
| **TOTAL** Auxiliary | 1933.45 | |
| Church Deposit | | -350.00 |
| Conference room supplies | | 9.73 |
| Dining room | | |
| Dining Room Supplies | | 21.85 |
| **TOTAL** Dining Room Supplies | | 21.85 |
| Food | | |
| Men's | | 2,207.78 |
| Women's | | 1,268.35 |
| **TOTAL** Food | | 3.476.13 |
| Mail room | | 86.65 |
| Supplies | | 65.00 |
| **TOTAL** Walk supplies | | 5,242.81 |
| Web Server | | 28.51 |
| **TOTAL OUTFLOWS** | | **8,222.32** |
| **OVERALL TOTAL** | | **1,325.34** |

# From the Board Kitchen Coordinator:
# Kitchen Help is Needed

Recently the State of Michigan enacted new rules that affect our Emmaus Community. We are now required to get a food license to prepare the meals on an Emmaus Walk. This will also mean that at two walks a year we will need to have a health inspector approve our food preparation and serving procedures. Having a "Serve Safe" certification by someone on the the Kitchen Committee who is present working on the Walk when the inspection occurs would cover us well, and allow us to continue to serve food at the walks in the future.

In the spirit of openness, I find myself completely over my head here. I do not know the first thing about the guidelines or procedures we need to meet in order get licensed, and stay licensed, so I am asking the community for help. Please, if you have any experience with "Serve Safe" certification, or with the licensing procedures, and you feel led to be more involved with the community, contact Scott Lobert at my email address, scottylobert@yahoo.com.

I am hoping to form a kitchen team committee that will help to oversee this area and improve our Emmaus cooking and eating experience.

I thank you for your assistance and consideration.
Scott Lobert

# Training to Be Servant Leaders

Philippians 2:5-8. ***"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!"***

On June 12th and 13th, 2009, Cathi Eberly from the Upper Room came to our Community for servant leader training. Several groups were invited to specific training sessions. Those groups were 1) Clergy, 2) the Community Board of Directors, and 3) you, the Community as a whole. The purpose was two fold: one, to review our procedures as to how they relate to the Upper Room model, and two, to train us to be servant leaders for this Community and especially for the pilgrims that will be taking that Emmaus Road journey in the future. From my perspective, we as a Community are doing most things well. We have a couple of areas where change and/or improvement are needed. One is we need to increase the number of Board members we have. Not increase the number of Board seats, but to increase the number of servant leaders willing to serve in those seats. As time approaches for Board elections, please prayerfully consider if asked. Your input is important! The second area is that Chrysalis is an outreach ministry of Emmaus and our Community needs to be represented on the Board of Directors of Chrysalis. In fact our relationship needs to be defined and strengthened. If anyone of you feel God calling you to be involved with this vital youth ministry, please let Russ or myself know and we will be glad to discuss it with you.

One of the other parts of the training that stood out the most for me in relation to the temptation that most of us have had from time to time to "improve on the manual" or to do or provide something "special" just this one time. Cathi asked us to consider these questions in deciding whether to do this "special improvement":

1) Will it glorify God?
2) Will it move the pilgrim closer to God?
3) Is it going to glorify someone on the team or in the community?
4) Will it detract the pilgrims from receiving the message?
5) Does it fit the message of the day and the flow of the weekend?

Your Community Board of Directors is committed to look at any suggestion as it relates to these questions. The training was very good for me and I appreciated Cathi Eberly dedication to Emmaus and the Upper Room.

May God bless you and keep you
and raise all of you up as servant leaders in the likeness of Jesus.
And may he give you peace.
Roger Silverthorn, assistant community lay director

# Upcoming Events

**September 8** ***Lansing*** 7:00 Board Meeting, Pilgrim U.M.C., St. Johns.

**September 11** ***Lansing*** Gathering. United Church of Ovid. **Note change of location** Gather at 6pm, Pot-luck at 6:30, Worship at 7pm, Sponsorship Training at 8pm

**October 8-11** ***Lansing*** Women's Walk #74, Holt U.M.C., Holt.

**October 9** ***Lansing*** **No Community Gathering at Pilgrim U.M.C. (See October 10 below)**

**October 10** ***Lansing*** **(Saturday) Note change of date and location:** Gathering at Women's Candle-Light. **Holt U.M.C., Holt.** Sponsorship Training 7:00 pm Gathering 7:30 C-light service begins 9:00

**October 11** ***Lansing*** Women's Closing 4:30 P.M.

**October 13** ***Lansing*** 7:00 Board Meeting, Pilgrim U.M.C., St. Johns.

**March 4-7, 2010** ***Lansing*** Men's Walk #75, Carson City U.M.C., Carson City.

**March 18-21, 2010** ***Lansing*** Women's Walk #76, Carson City U.M.C., Carson City

**June 1, 2010** ***Lansing*** Deadline to have a minimum of 20 men registered for Men's Walk #77

**October 7-10, 2010** ***Lansing*** Men's Walk #77, United Church of Ovid. This is the first time we are having a Men's Walk in several years. Be sure to sign up early!

**October 21-24, 2010** ***Lansing*** Women's Walk #78, United Church of Ovid.

**Newsletter Deadline for Next Issue**

If you have an idea for a story, please let me know by September 8, 2009. Contact Harry Wallin (517) 566-8452 owltalker@centurytel.net

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**
www.lansingemmaus.truepath.com

**IMS Database**: Link from our Website using Internet Explorer

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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S.. Postage
St. Johns, MI
Permit #16