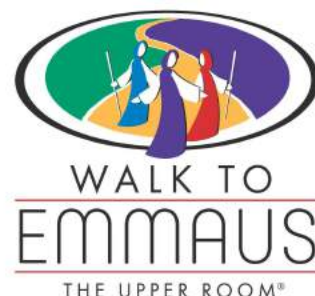


Lansing Area Emmaus FOOTPRINTS

January, February, March 2018

NUMBER 18 -1



Community Lay Director Ray Francis 989-330-913 drrayfrancis@yahoo.com	Asst. Community Lay Director Doris Shaw 989-506-9400 dorishshaw@gmail.com	Community Spiritual Director Ted Orwig 989-755-3150 orwigted@yahoo.com	Team Selection Julie Anderson 517-663-4264 janderson624@gmail.com
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Greetings All,

As we move through the season of Lent to Easter, and beyond, it brings special meaning to the idea of the “Walk to Emmaus.” It becomes not only an event from which we draw perspective and strength in our faith, but also a representation of our action and expression of our faith. As a part of our Lansing Area Emmaus Community, we are reminded that “the purpose of Emmaus is the renewal of the church as the body of the risen Christ in the world through the renewal of church members as faithful and committed disciples of Jesus Christ.” As the Lansing Area Emmaus Community, we are fortunate to welcome a new group of men and women Pilgrims transitioning to members of the LAEC community. We welcome all of our new members to the LAEC community and remind you that, as a part of the community, it is what you make it. I hope to see you at an upcoming gathering.

Blessings,

—*Ray*

(Ray Francis, LAEC Community Lay Director 2017-2018)

Dr. Ray Francis Alma, MI 48801



Community Spiritual Director

Pastor Ted Orwig

The weekend of our Emmaus Walk has successfully concluded. Why do we have Emmaus walks?

1) We want to help others discover this great Jesus, who can lead, guide, and direct our lives.

2) Through the 15 talks during the weekend, we want to give tools that will help them, throughout the rest of their lives.

3) We want them to go back out into their communities and take what was learned, so that they will affect the world that surrounds them.

4) We want them to go back to their respective congregations and become productive members of their church community.

We want them to go back and help their Pastors, so that the Pastors job becomes a little easier. I have seen walk after walk where individuals will say that they are going back and becoming a better husband, wife, dad, or mom. They are going back and not becoming a part of the problem at church, but instead becoming part of the solution. We dedicate ourselves to loving God with our whole being, mind, soul, strength. We also choose to love our neighbors as we do ourselves. So remember what ever part that you do at an Emmaus walk it is important. If you did not do your job, the puzzle would be incomplete. So let us not get weary in well doing, but let us do it all the more. Some day Jesus is coming back and when He does, He will say "Well done thou good and faithful servant".

Love,

Pastor Ted

Doris Shaw

Assistant Community Lay Director

Hello, it is a pleasure to serve you this year as the Assistant Community Lay Director. It looks to be an exciting year and we will be searching for new members for next year's board in August. If you have an interest in serving on the board or a committee, please feel free to contact me or any board member and we will gladly talk with you and answer any questions you may have.

May the next couple of months provide you with many blessings and warmth until spring arrives.

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

Our eyes falling down to the ground, our hearts dry as the dust we trample. A stranger joins our journey to despair.

Teasing out the details of what our hope had been, He listens on and on until our grief can say no more, only then can his words water our withered spirits.

Gently chiding, strongly guiding, weaving a story of glory hidden within fabled prophecies of faith. Later will we recall how fiercely our hearts did burn.

But now it is our turn, the time to beg him to linger, a request he can never refuse, for his very presence is sacred space, every home he visits his sanctuary.

For those who have eyes to see, his bread blessed, broken and shared - so much more than merely a meal. His visitation no longer contained to history.

This road we walked with him still beckons -- to journey back from where we once despaired, our eyes now open in hopeful recognition.

© J. Michael Sparough, S.J.

Group Fourth Day /Accountability Group

The Group Fourth Day reunion is one of the chief values of the Emmaus movement and one of the greatest measures the Walk to Emmaus contains. It is a way of persevering in the life of grace so that those things that are valuable to you during the weekend will not be lost when you return to your life in the world. The Group Fourth Day reunion serves the life of the Emmaus community.

Sponsors are committed to their pilgrim's Fourth Day. They know their responsibility for recruiting pilgrims and supporting them with agape as well as being present at candlelight and closing. They also know they are expected to help the pilgrims find or form fourth day group reunions, and take them if necessary to to the first few events. Group Fourth Day events are held locally.

Following our walk to Emmaus, we are encouraged to see every day as an ongoing walk to Emmaus in the companionship of the risen Christ. Just as the eleven gathered together, the monthly gathering is for us a time to share our resurrection stories of how God became real to us on the road; with a friend, through a stranger, through scripture, in the breaking of the bread, or in the sharing of our love. Through singing and prayer, small groups, Fourth Day Talks, and Holy Communion, we share our stories and help one another recognize the risen Christ in the midst of our lives that we may live more fully in the Presence.

The Gathering is a monthly event:

- 1) The St Johns gathering meets at the former Salem UMC @ 6 p.m on the second Friday of each month.
- 2) The Greenville gathering at the First United Methodist Church is on the First Saturday of each month @ 4:30.



God's blessing to everyone. I would like to take this time to introduce myself as the new Chrysalis Community Lay Director. I took my walk in the Lansing Area Emmaus Community in March 2011, walk #79, in Charlotte and sat at the table of David.

I come to you with a happy and sad heart. My sadness comes from Peggy stepping down as the Chrysalis Community Lay Director after many years of service and wonderful leadership to the Chrysalis Flight of Hope Community. She has left some large shoes to fill and it is my hope that these size 15 shoes can fill the position with just as much grace and perseverance.

Upcoming Chrysalis Information

Chrysalis board meetings are held on the following dates; April 14, May 12, June 9, August 11, September 8, October 13, 2018 at 3:30pm, with a **R.U.S.H.** to follow.

A **R.U.S.H.** or ReUniting Servant Hearts is a time to gather to share Christian experiences in a safe environment with fellow Christians. These events are open to all whether or not you have taken an Emmaus walk or a Chrysalis flight.

The **R.U.S.H.** times are 5:00pm to 7:00pm with a potluck supper, activities, worship, and fellowship. These events will take place at the Zion United Methodist Church located at 423 W Washington in Ionia.

At this time, Chrysalis has two flights scheduled this summer. The girl's flight will be July 13th – 15th with an application deadline of June 26th and a boy's flight July 27th – 29th with an application deadline of July 13th. Both flights will take place at the Clare United Methodist Church located at 105 E Seventh St., Clare, MI 48617. There will be candlelight events on July 16th and the 28th and all of the Lansing Area Emmaus Community is invited to share the caterpillar experience.

If you would like more information about Chrysalis, you can visit the Lansing Area Emmaus Community website and click on the link to the "flight of hope" website located at the bottom of the home page or simply visit <https://flightofhope.weebly.com> for additional information. If you know of a young person that might be interested in attending a flight, the application is on both the Emmaus and Chrysalis websites.

Blessings to Everyone,

Harry Coles Jr.
Email: colesh.jr@gmail.com



“A true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions, and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. He does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the equality of his actions and the integrity of his intent.” -Douglas MacArthur

GOD has a great plan for you. Open your heart and mind to what he is calling you for and the many opportunities he is providing.

He may have many new friends, as well as faithful friends, to send your way. There may be opportunities knocking at your door, but are you open to see them for what they are.

GOD may have some great adventures planned, but are you willing to say **YES LORD, I AM READY TO DO WHAT YOU ASK.**

Are you willing to get on board or will you be standing on the sidelines, saying nothing exciting or new ever happens to me.

Be willing to say yes. You have many opportunities ahead of you. Have fun and enjoy the opportunities provided. **Don't be afraid to try something new or make a new plan. Remember if Plan A does not work, learn from it, improve on it and don't worry, there are still 25 more letters in the alphabet, so make a new plan and move on.** You can play it safe all your life or try something new. You may get a little banged up, but GOD has given you different talents and he equips you for what is needed. I plan to be a little banged up, use what GOD has given me, sliding in screaming WOOHOO, what a ride!

Thank you for your support during my term as the Chrysalis Community Lay Director. I hope you will continue to support our new **Chrysalis Community Lay Director, Harry Coles, Jr.** Please come to our Rush events/gathering to meet him and our Chrysalis Board, show support of our Chrysalis program and enjoy an afternoon of fun, fellowship, worship and good food.

Lord help give us the wisdom to know your will for us and the strength to meet any challenges. Let us use our time and talents for your greater honor and glory.

Peg Pirhonen

Chrysalis Assistant Community Lay Director

If you change your phone number, email address or move, please keep us updated at cld.foh@gmail.com.

Lansing Area Emmaus 100 Walks!

Jim Platt

Why I Work Behind the Scenes

I have a friend named Larry Hampton who lives in a group home in Bay City. It was on my first visit to a church in Bay City that I first met Larry. At the beginning of the worship service at announcement time, Larry stood up and said, "I would like to stand up and say I love the Lord." He would then proceed to inform us that he wed at McDonalds, what the high and low temperature for the day would be, and then say "I am the weatherman man just like God". The congregation would hear Larry's voice of joy every Sunday and the only change in his words would be the high and low temperature for the day. I would occasionally hear scuttle that some in the congregation got tired of the routine announcement, but it always put a smile in my heart that worship was about to begin and Larry had stood up and proclaimed the same thing I wanted to stand up and proclaim "I love the Lord". My wife was the pastor of Larry's church and when she was re-appointed to another city, I told Larry that one of the losses I would miss the most was his standing up and saying "I love the Lord". I have not yet stood up at announcement time and said "I love the Lord", but occasionally I will slip it in with a joy or concern. During the prayer request, I sometimes will be like Larry and physically stand and say "I would just like to stand up and say I love the Lord" then I quickly add a joy or a concern to be mentioned in the community prayer. It is as if I would be embarrassed or need to explain myself to make an announcement during announcements... that I love the Lord. I find myself waiting for just the right time to proclaim my faith. My name is Jim Platt and I took Walk 60 in 2005, in Clair, Michigan and sat at the table of Paul. Since then, I have worked several walks Behind the Scenes because "I love the Lord".

As I am writing this article, the Lansing Area Emmaus Community is hosting the Women's Walk number 100. Many people have worked for many years behind the scenes to make one hundred walks possible. Behind the Scenes is not like being on a walk, but it is like being on a journey. Some people will say remember your walk and how you felt, but to me it is not about the past experience, but the present journey. God is amazing in His love, power, and grace. The Lansing Area Emmaus Community "BTS" Behind the Scenes is a most comfortable place to stand up and say "I love the Lord".

I am on the Site Selection Committee for future walks and we presently are still searching for a location for the Women's Walk scheduled for this fall. If you know of a church that could host a walk, please contact me at jimeplatt@gmail.com or 989-289-9072. There are also opportunities to work Behind the Scenes which for me is a great opportunity to **take time to be Holy** and to stand up and say "I love the Lord".

Emmaus Reset My Faith Life

Sherry Anderson

I'm Sherry Anderson and I took my walk in October, 2003 and sat at the table of Rachel. I know it seems to be a long time ago yet the impact continues.

I grew up in the church and went to church camp from 7th grade through 12th grade. I gave my life to Christ at my home church during a pre-Easter week when we had evening services every night for 5 days with a guest evangelist. I was 11 years old. Emmaus was a perfect continuation of the ever building of my faith.

As I'm sure my readers did as well as myself, I built relationship with my sisters at the table of Rachel and I'm blessed to have sponsored several women on walks. I am forever indebted to my friend who sponsored me. Thank you, Nancy.

As a result of my Emmaus experience, my faith journey is strong. My whole life has and continues to be "just doing what God has put in front of me". How else can I explain that this Nebraska farm girl ended up in Mecosta Michigan (I have learned to love trees)?

Emmaus was a priceless experience. It reset my faith life. I had just finished a career in educational administration, raised a strong-willed son by myself, and didn't really know what was next. I had maintained church attendance and needed a "next step". Emmaus launched that next step and since then I have helped in the conference room and behind the scenes. I have taught Disciple Bible Study 1 through 4 a couple times, served on mission trips to Haiti and with Samaritan's Purse here in the US a couple times, served as a Stephen Minister Leader, a lay speaker, and now lead worship every Sunday as a Praise Team member. My 4th Day group meets semi-regularly (we are all so busy), but we hold each other accountable and we enrich each other's lives.

On a regular basis, I hear God talking to me. For example, one night I was sitting in my chair in front of the fireplace wondering why I was still single. I had tried the "match" dating services and met a few men, but always after a short time, they disappeared. Very clearly the message came to me, "Sherry, no one can make you happy. Happiness is your choice". Really, happiness is a choice? My response was, "Ok, God, then I am going to be happy because I choose to be. If there is someone you have for me you are going to have to put him right in front of me and hit me up the side of my head with a 2x4. Otherwise I'm not to pay attention." God talks to me!! He really does.

My life is rich with my wonderful adult son, his wife, 2 grandchildren, and many wonderful friends. I serve in many roles throughout the community. I know my Lord has great things in store for me. I just finished reading David Jeremiah's book Revealing the Mysteries of Heaven and as I turn 70, I am looking forward to what God's plan is for me here and beyond. GLYASDI

Agape by Annette

Greetings to all. What a wonderful God we have giving us opportunities such as the one given to me. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your new Agape Chair for the Lansing Area Emmaus Community Board. I took my walk in March of 2011, at Charlotte MI and sat at the table of Phoebe.

While thinking of what to write the verse from 1 Corinthians 1:9 comes to mind; *God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.* When I said yes, I too was being faithful to what God had put upon my heart.

It has taken several years for me to step outside of my comfort zone and into a leadership position on the board, which I do with God's guidance and His grace. There will be opportunities for those of you who do not know me to get to know me more at the gatherings and other Emmaus events.

For those that are new to the community, welcome. We would love to see you at our; gatherings, 4th day events, participate behind the scenes at the next walks or come to a board meeting to get to know what is going on within the Emmaus community.

Agape is a self-sacrificing love which is given to others in many forms. You may want to bake a batch of sugar cookies for a friend, sweep off a sidewalk, or clean out a gutter for a neighbor. Additional ways to give agape gifts may be to pay for another pilgrim to go on a walk, sign up on the prayer vigil, write a letter to a pilgrim, friend, or loved one, or make a set of small gifts for a new set of pilgrims who are starting a new journey with God during their walk. Anyone of these make a difference to the one who is receiving the gift of love.

If you are interested in more information or if there is ever a time when you would like to work in the agape room or need information on an agape idea please feel free to contact me via email, phone or text and I will be happy to assist in any way I can.

God's blessings and prayers for everyone,

Annette Coles

Email: acoles@mecostacounty.org

Camping Connects Faith & Fun For All Ages!



You probably know about and appreciate our variety of summer camps for children and teens. But do you know we have summer camp for adults, too? Whether you're new to "adulting" or have many decades of experience, we have something just your speed.

- Four locations are offering **Grand Camp** – make special memories with your grandchildren.
- **Big Kids Camp** (Crystal Springs) and **College Camp** (Wesley Woods) kick off the summer with a Memorial Day weekend event for young adults.
- **Family Camping Events** at Judson Collins: **Memorial Day** weekend and **Fourth of July** (July 1-6)
- Adults with special needs enjoy **Summer Fun** at Judson Collins and **God's Special People** (at Albright Park) and **God's Treasures 1 & 2** (at Lake Huron). Note: God's Treasures camps are full.
- Camp Kinawind is hosting many adult events, including **backpacking, family backpacking, canoe trip** for women, **kayaking** trips for young adults and more seasoned adults, the family **Bridge Walk** event, and a "**getaway**" week for writers, artists and ministry professionals.
- Lake Huron offers a **choir retreat weekend** and a seniors escape called **Lakeshore Interlude**.

Stories from the Conference: Camp & Churches Making Disciples of Jesus Christ



United Methodist Churches all over Michigan are celebrating Camp Sunday throughout the winter. With worship, fellowship time, Sunday School or evening activities, they share how camp changes lives for Christ.

Just a few examples:

- South Lyon UMC sponsors many campers every summer and pays half of camp fees through their annual rummage sale.
- The United Methodist Women at Oak Grove UMC in Howell made curtains for the dorms at Judson Collins Center to help the camping ministry update its facilities. Thank you UMW!
- Lake Huron Retreat Center guests are invited into mission by donating non perishable food items, which are given to a local food pantry. They also collect toilet tissue and paper towels for Cass Community Social Services in Detroit. "Because of these projects, we are able to meet the needs of individuals and families who are working hard to provide for their loved ones. In this way, we are the hands and feet of Christ, sharing His love with local communities," explained Lake Huron Director Rev. Ann Emerson.

How can you help send people to camp and change lives for Christ? Contact us if you want to connect in mission with a camp, [email info@umcamping.org](mailto:info@umcamping.org).

CAMP SPOTLIGHT: LAKE MICHIGAN



#nofilter #lakemichigansunsets

Camp, Campground, Retreat Center on the beach? Yes!

Enjoy the beach, dunes, summer camp, retreat center and northside family campground. Three new family cabins will soon be placed in the north camp, along with other improvements.

Groups and families have been camping here for generations. There's room for you, too!



Our blessings and thanks go to Ryan and Marieke Culby as they move to accept a new opportunity to serve. Their hard work and generous spirit have shown our guests the love of Christ through hospitality. Thank you and God bless!

The search for a new director is underway.





Print this page for a reminder of upcoming events

New Life Men's Fellowship

Second Saturday of the month
Contact Bill Besemer for further details

Men's Bible Study

Every Wednesday at 8:00 AM
New Life United Methodist Church

Prayer Team & Care Team

Every Tuesday at 10:00 AM & 11:00 AM
New Life United Methodist Church

New Life Emmaus 4th Day

1st Tuesday of the Month at 6:00 PM
New Life United Methodist Church
Bring a dish to pass for the potluck

Greenville Gathering

1st Saturday of the month at 4:30 PM
Greenville First United Methodist Church
204 W Cass St.

LAEC Gathering

2nd Friday of the month at 6:00 PM
St. Johns at the former Salem UMC

Amble Emmaus 4th Day

1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM
Amble United Methodist Church
Bring a dish to pass for the potluck

Listen to Andy Hollander

Sunday at 6:30 AM on 106.3 WGOM in
Greenville
Rebroadcast Sunday at 10:00 AM on 1380AM

2018 RUSH Dates

March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9,
September 8, and October 13
5:00-7:00 PM at Zion UMC
423 W. Washington Ionia, MI

Young Women's Flight 2018

July 13-15, 2018
Clare UMC, Clare MI
Contact Roxanne Denson

Young Men's Flight 2018

July 27-29, 2018
Clare UMC, Clare, MI
Contact Joe Denson

Lansing Area Emmaus Community 2018 Board

Board Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail
Community Lay Director	Ray Francis	989-330--9135..	drray@yahoo.com
Assistant Community Lay Director/	Doris Shaw	989-506-9400	dorissshaw@gmail.com
Secretary/Kitchen chair/prayer chair	Kathy Wilson	989-862-5693	kw543210@yahoo.com
Treasurer/Gathering Chair	Jim Natker	989-560-6096	jmartler@yahoo.com
Community Spiritual Director	Ted Orwig	989-307-3104	orwigted@yahoo.com
Assistant Community Spiritual Director	Andy Hollander	231-580-7145	andyhollander122@yahoo.co
Music	Harry Coles jr	231-912-0894	colesh.jr@gmail.com
Agape Chair	Annette Coles	231-912-0893	acoles@mecostacounty.org
Team Selection/ Board Chair	Julie Anderson	517-663-4264	janderson624@gmail.
Supply Trailer Chair/Closing/ Sponsorship Candlelight Chair	Bruce Davenport	517-482-4020	bucedavenport@gmail.com
Chrysalis rep	Harry Coles, jr	231-912-0894	colesh.jr@gmail.com
Newsletter Chair Leadership Development Chair Outreach Chair	Doris Shaw	989-506-9400	dorissshaw@gmail.com
Data Chair/Registrar	Cindy Iversen	517-348-3095	civersen517@gmail.com
Facilities Chair/ Site Selection Chair	Jim Platt	989-289-9072	jimeplatt@gmail.com

