



Emmaus News

April 2015!

SPRING IS HERE

The long awaited spring is in the air and we are all enjoying the hints of spring that are emerging. Despite Old Man Winter's reluctance to let go, (yes, the ladies of Emmaus hunted Easter eggs in snow flurries), we have spring grass emerging and flowers blooming. This year it feels like spring has been hard won. Like those little bits of grass The truth is, just like wondering when the discomfort of this winter will end, I don't know. Everyone is unique in their path. We understand the pain. We continue to walk with our guests on their healing journeys... searching for the new growth, even when old patterns are reluctant to let go, offering the possibility of a beginner's mind - of springtime for the soul.

OUR CHOIRS LOVE EMMAUS HOUSE

The first annual Festival of Choirs fundraiser was held February 15th. The event was hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Saginaw. We were blessed with a beautiful venue and great hospitality from the First Presbyterian Church Congregation. The voices of six choirs filled the air and lifted the spirits of a full sanctuary. We are especially grateful to Mr. Gregory Largent, Choir Director, First Presbyterian Church, for serving as our Master of Ceremony. The choral event was followed by a dessert fellowship. *"Our Choirs Love Emmaus House"* is going to be an annual event. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make this a fun and successful event.



If you would like to volunteer your time, services or make a contribution to help continue the work of Emmaus House, contact:

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Emmaus women share their inner and outer goals:



(The following are the result of interviews of some of our ladies done by one of our volunteers.)

Darlene:

My biggest goal and my inner goal is my recovery. I also want to help others who come to Emmaus and share my strength and hope.

My outer goal is to have a house of my own where I can have time with my eight grandchildren.

My inner peace comes from God. Sister Marietta is like my mom; she has taught me about God. She taught me how to read! I was so scared when I came here. She has helped me so much. I am so, so grateful.

Lynn:

My goal is to be more spiritually anchored in Bible study and my church, Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church. My pastor is a teacher not a preacher. I used to ask God to help me out of trouble but now I ask for patience, to be honest, more accepting and tolerant, and to love others. I give back by volunteering at the soup kitchen, at church, at senior outreach.

I think I am getting a better attitude. I realize addiction is not moral deficiency but a disease. I realize I need meetings, sponsorship. This is addicts helping addicts.

God is so good when you stand right where He wants you to be.

Dante:

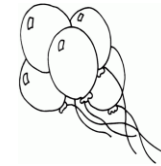
Inner goal - to trust the God of my understanding. As a child I didn't know God. I had no religious upbringing. Before, instead of having faith that all will be OK, I let my mind play tricks on me. I need deep faith that no matter what happens God will provide. There is nothing that can come my way that He can't handle. I don't handle it. That's my goal: to trust Him; complete abandonment.

My other goals are to get my driver's license back, pay off fines in different areas, be probation free, and finish getting my teeth fixed. Also, I would really like to become involved in helping others, some kind of ministry. Maybe I could go back to school.

"Your vision will become clear only when you can look into your own heart. Who looks outside, dreams; who looks inside, awakes." Carl Jung

IN HONOR OF:

Franklin Tomsich's 80th Birthday



MEMORIALS

Dr. Malcolm Pike (d. 06/24/2014) John Oberschmidt (d. 05/21/2010)

Jean Frattarelli (d. 01/04/2015) Floyd Kostrzewa

Henry Meyer (d. 01/23/2015) Pat Gianfortuna

Jean Erdman Jean Rombach

Bob Cierzniedki (d. 03/12/2015) Alice (Pat) Bender

Jennings Gavit

In December, former board member Freddy Marquez passed. Freddy had moved to Texas. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Marquez family.

We also extend our sympathy and prayers to:

Linda Leach (ex-guest) - lost her son in January

Anne Duflo lost her father in March

Alicia Nelson (ex-guest) – Alicia's brother Johnny passed in March

Lisa Rucker (ex-guest) – Lisa's daughter April passed in April

Joyce Jackson – Lost her husband in March.



NEEDS



- hand towels
- paper products
- toiletries (especially African American hair products)
- socks and panties (sizes 5, 6, 7 and 8)

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR OUR HELPERS...

THANKS TO THOSE WHO DONATED

New Life Christian Fellowship, Saginaw	1 st Presbyterian Church, Saginaw
Community of Christ Church, Saginaw	Sisters of Notre Dame Ministry Fund, Ohio
Corpus Christi Parish, Bay City	1 st Merit Bank/Boutell Foundation, Saginaw
Jim Redmond's Auto Repair, State Street, Saginaw	Saginaw Community Foundation
Ancient Order of Hibernians	Ascension Health/ St Mary's Hospital, Saginaw
Benevity Community Impact Fund	Memorial Presbyterian Church, Midland
The First Presbyterian Church of TAYMOUTH	Lions Club of Frankenmuth
Holy Spirit Parish, Shields	St Marks Catholic Church, Au Gres
Blessed Sacrament Parish, Midland	William and Kathleen Fothergill Trust, Midland
Trinity Lutheran Church, Mary Martha Guild, Reese	OWLS, St Paul's Lutheran Church, Saginaw
Knights of Columbus Council #3590 Ladies Auxiliary	St Gabriel Parish, Auburn
The Province of St Joseph of the Capuchin Order, Inc., Detroit	Saginaw Diocesan Council of Catholic Women
Listvan Inc., Gaylord	Herb Society, Saginaw

In addition, we received donations from 79 individuals.



- Katy's Kards gave us paper plates and napkins for our Easter celebration.
- Jim Redmond of Redmond's Auto Shop (State Street) donated an oil change and maintenance work.
- Reverend Lois Baker, Ohio, sent clothing and Easter candy.
- Peter Schwartz and four other members of New Life Christian Fellowship Church gave up their Saturday morning to help us clean mold off the basement walls and floors of a home we are fixing up.
- Rose Banker donated canned goods, pens, pencils and paper.
- Richard and Jill Vary, Saginaw, gave us a 2000 Toyota Camry which is being used by one of our house managers.



- Bill and Alice Kraniak donated a lamb roast from their farm.
- John and Sandy Wyatt brought us paper products, soap and deodorant.

- Unity Church of Bay City donated food, clothes, soap and toothbrushes.
- Roxanne Hutchinson, Birch Run Contractor, donated several gallons of paint.
- Mona and Tom Thiel held two basketball clinics for our neighborhood youth. The Thiel's also distribute over 100 lunches twice a week to our neighborhood children. Additionally, Tom plowed our snow for us again this winter.
- Many thanks to all who donated food: Hidden Harvest, Butter Crust Bakery, Barb B., St John Vianney Church, Christ the Good Shephard as well as many individual.
- Doctors Richter and Puszykowski for assisting women with dental services.
- Rodarte Builders have given us two homes on the south side of Saginaw. One is occupied and the other will be occupied in the near future.
- Network Services provides us with computer support.
- Thanks to everyone who has donated furniture, clothes and other items for our homes and for our free thrift shop.



- Thank you to those who provide us with coupons, cancelled stamps and used grocery bags.
- Mr. and Mrs. James Forbes, Vasser, donated an 8 passenger Astro Van, which we use daily.
- KIA McDonald (State Street) tested our Kia at no charge when we suspected a problem.
- Mike and Kay Gross brought toiletries.
- The Catholic Diocese of Saginaw provided their Little Books for Lent and Easter for all of our ladies.
- Sandy Wight gave us a bag of handmade knitted scarves.
- The Beaverton Quilters, Beaverton, brought us a bag of beautiful homemade quilts.
- Stitch- N-Chat group from Our Lady of Grace Parish, Sanford, provided coats and lovely knitted hats and scarves.
- Our volunteers are a treasure. Thanks to all of you who drive, provide maintenance support and do so much for Emmaus House. Your time and talents are very much appreciated.

For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

(2 Corinthians 9:12)



The name "Emmaus" is from the Bible, Luke 24:13-34.

In the Bible, it designates the story of Jesus who walks with two of His disciples returning home from Jerusalem on the "road to Emmaus", a city. Our hope is that our women while here, will meet Jesus on their journey toward a better life.



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- ❖ Diamonque Sutton, former guest, on the birth of her son, Kingston.
- ❖ Jessica Pignatelli, former guest, on the birth of her daughter.
- ❖ Sister Marietta was honored by the Kingdom Life Ministries Church at their Pay It Forward Luncheon on March 28th.