

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 News

NOVEMBER 2015

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Festival of Choirs  
Feb. 14, 2016



## THANKSGIVING –

It's hard to believe that in a few short weeks we will be celebrating *Thanksgiving*. Once again, Emmaus House has been very blessed. We have ended another year of plenty. God continues to provide for us in every way. We have much to give *thanks* for -

*We are thankful* for our volunteers who keep our homes and yards in shape, who answer phones and provide clerical support, who drive our ladies to appointments, who wrap gifts and who do more than we can say.

*We are thankful* for our dedicated staff who go above and beyond to make Emmaus House a "home" filled with love and compassion for the ladies who live here.

*We are thankful* for all of you who contributed financially and those who bring donations of food, clothing, household goods and furniture. We are able to provide for many because of your generosity.

*"Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, who is good; whose love endures forever." Psalm 106:1*

"Return Service Requested"

EMMAUS HOUSE OF SAGINAW, INC  
733 S 14<sup>TH</sup>  
SAGINAW MI 48601  
(989) 755-7538

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## **THANKSGIVING FROM WOMEN HELPED BY EMMAUS HOUSE**

### **GRETA'S STORY**

I was homeless of 25 years, more or less. When I finally decided to become healthy and whole, I had nowhere to go. Then I heard about Emmaus House from a woman who had lived there, Tausha. I am so grateful, most of all, for structure. The women at Emmaus help and support each other. I had a roof over my head and food in my stomach. Emmaus House is an awesome community where we can transition to the greater Saginaw community. I am thankful for the dream some people had that made Emmaus House come through. Thank you to the people at Emmaus and the people who support Emmaus House in many ways like donating all kinds of stuff, even cars. A lot of people doing a little but it makes a big thing happen. God bless everyone who helped me become the woman I am today!

*“Take care of yourself. You never know when the world will need you.” - Rabbi Hillel*

### **ANN'S STORY**

I have been sober for 8 months – the longest time in 10 years. If there were no Emmaus House, I would have to go back to the same bad space. I came to Emmaus House and there were hugs and welcoming. There is support from other women and your house manager. I am inspired by other women at Emmaus who have recovered or are recovering. Their example helps me want to succeed. I am grateful for the structure, hope and confidence I find at Emmaus House.

*“Be kind because everyone you meet is fighting a great battle.” - Philo of Alexandria*

## **CHRISTMAS IS COMING**

We need your help to make Christmas special for our Emmaus House Family. We provide gifts for the ladies who are currently staying with us, their children, some of our ex-guests and several of our neighbors who are in need. There are gift suggestions below for those who would like to help “Santa” this year. Thank you in advance for your help!

### **For Our Women**

Cosmetics, perfume, body wash, body spray, body lotion, shampoo, conditioner, blow dryer, curling iron/flat iron, CD players, MP3 players, pajamas and bathrobes (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL), slipper socks, slippers (6-11), hats, gloves, scarves, sweaters (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL), sweat shirts and pants (S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL), brushes, combs, mousse, hair spray, hair dye (all colors), hair relaxer kits, or adult games, Ampro style gel and blankets.

### **For the Children**

The children in our “family” range in age from toddlers to teen. Though minor children of the women here are in foster care or with relatives at this time, we hope that each woman will be able to have something to give her children. We especially need gifts for boys 12-18 years old.

### **For Emmaus House**

Paper products, cleaning products, laundry supplies, batteries, wrapping and tissue paper, personal care items single bed sheets, comforters, and mattress pads, towel sets, kitchen and bedroom throw rugs (with non-skid backing), clock radios, candy or Christmas treats and monetary donations to help us with winter expenses.

### **NOTE: PLEASE DO NOT WRAP GIFTS**

It is easier to assign appropriate gifts if the gifts are left unwrapped. Also, Moms enjoy wrapping something for their children. Please call if you have any questions (989-755-7538).



**IN MEMORY OF...**

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John Oberschmidt Dorothy Cieszlat  
Tom Sova Marshall and Theresa Burkey  
Linda McElwain Ike Hamilton  
Adella Sierocki Mary Sowton  
Mary Sarge Nancy Moon  
Dr. Malcom Pike Bob and Diana Egbert  
Don Foye Dorothy Greenwood  
Shirley Hammans



**IN HONOR OF...**

Tom Spence Father Bob Byrne  
Dr. Anne Tapp Daniel (Hymie) Brown

**OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS TO:**



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Father John Sarge in the loss of his mother Mary Sarge  
Carla Hinton, in the loss of her sister Rhonda  
The family of Emmaus House guest Letha Owen  
The family of Emmaus House guest Ashley Sandstrom

**WARNELLA'S STORY**

I am thankful because God did not forget about me, didn't leave me out there. He gave me another chance to live a new and better way of life, a life He promised.

I was rebellious, hard headed, and stubborn. I didn't like myself and tried to do things to make me feel better about myself. I tried to please everyone else but I didn't know who was good and who was bad for me. As a result, I spent many years on drugs and stealing and have been to jail and prison numerous times.

The last time I was sent to prison was December 19, 2011, for 15 months. But by this time I was tired and ready to change. My son told me about the RSAT program to treat prisoners who are substance abusers. It helped me to look at myself in a deeper way and see what needed to be changed. As part of this program I had to write my life story and read it to the group. Reading my life story out loud was shocking to me and made me take a really hard look at myself. I decided to deal with my problems so I could heal.

I had been to Emmaus House before and they didn't want to take me back because of my repeated relapses but I finally convinced them that I had really changed and they took me in. Emmaus House is a strong link in my recovery. I am now a house manager at Emmaus. I love to encourage the other women in their recovery because I've been where they are.

*"Will you ever understand how near God is to you?"  
Lalla (4th century)*



## MEET THE BOARD

Karen Brown-Fackler joined the Emmaus House board six years ago after hearing about the organization from Father John Sarge, who has served on the board for many years. Karen lives in Bay City and is an associate professor of nursing at Saginaw Valley State University. She is a widow, has two grandchildren, and likes to spend time with them regularly. Karen has helped to raise awareness of the organization outside of Saginaw, arranging presentations at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Bay City and the Bay City Morning Rotary Club. Westminster Presbyterian Church now gives Emmaus House everything left after their semiannual rummage sale and donates money to purchase needed items. Karen has a great deal of administrative experience, having served as Associate Dean at Kirtland Community College, Director of Nursing at Bay Medical Center, and on many other boards, so other areas she has helped with at Emmaus House is drafting the Personnel Policies, facilitating the search and select processes for the Administrative Assistant, and currently facilitating the Strategic Planning process. Karen served on the board of the Bay County Women's Center for six years and has regularly volunteered at the Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City but feels that Emmaus House is special for many reasons. She is currently the secretary of the board.

*"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed." Maya Angelou*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS –

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival of Choirs Fundraiser

*"Our Choirs Love Emmaus House"*

Sunday, February 14, 2016 at 3pm

First United Presbyterian Church

121 South Harrison, Saginaw MI



## WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THOSE WHO HELP...

- Harvest Assembly of God, Saginaw – Donations of food
- St Mark Lutheran Church and Pre-school, Saginaw – Beautiful quilts
- State Street United Methodist Church, Saginaw – Cleaning supplies and paper products
- Valley Lutheran High School, Saginaw – Students helped clean and organize at the Morrow Center
- Hopevale Church, Saginaw – Ladies sewing club donated several quilts
- Our Lady Consolata Parish, Cass City – Donations for clothing and household items
- Beta Sigma Thi, Saginaw Chapter – Household products, personal care items, cooking utensils, towels, laundry supplies
- Greg Skelcy – Paper products
- Jim Redmond – Donated work on our Ford Focus
- MacDonald Kia – Donated work on our KIA
- Frankenmuth United Methodist Church (Thursday Morning Bible Study), Frankenmuth – Sheets, blankets and bedspreads.

Food has been donated by: Hidden Harvest, Butter Crust Bakery, First Ward Community Center, Harvest Assembly of God, Nancy Topham, Chuck Beck and the Kraniaks. Thanks also to the many local farmers who donated fresh produce throughout the summer and fall.

## THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY...

Sisters of Notre Dame  
Benevity Community Foundation  
Fothergill Trust  
St Gabriel's Parish  
88 private donations