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UPCOMING EVENTS  
AT A GLANCE

**Spring Break in  
Portland, Oregon**

Out group will journey to Portland and explore its culture and community through service projects, learning and worship.

**Year-End Banquet**

We hope you will join us May 6th for dinner, music, thank-yous and news on upcoming programs/ events. Contact us with your RSVP to attend.

**Journey in "The Bob"**

This summer Emmaus is leading a backpacking / floating trip in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, open to clergy, lay church people, young adults, and students.

## A Missoula Response to Global Violence



by Pastor John Lund

War and violence permeate the news reel on a global scene almost daily. The issues are almost always connected to history, politics and ethnicity. Often they are connected to religion, or in many cases religion get used to fuel the fire. For instance, ISIS distorts the heart of Islamic teaching to justify mass killing and terror.

Christianity has been similarly used by warring groups with violent intent such as Nazi Germany, the Crusades, and the wars against American Indians.

Unfortunately, these actions cause fear and mistrust and the violence spreads. In recent days three Muslims were shot in North Carolina, an Iraqi immigrant was killed in Dallas, and the list goes on. We know that we are not immune to such violence even in Missoula.

How might we do things differently here? How do we create a different narrative in Missoula? Most of our fear comes from ignorance, distortion, and hype. The only way to overcome this fear of the other is by building relationships. As a Christian, several core values from my faith come to mind which include hospitality, table fellowship (eating together), compassion, and respect. None of those are theoretical. They are all developed, practiced, and nurtured. We are called into relationship and understanding of the other, that we might listen to each other's stories, concerns, and passions in life.

For American Christians, many of us have some homework. What are the 5 pillars of ... story continued on page 5



Our Winter Retreat lodging at Georgetown Lake included a time warp sledding session with snow clothes circa 1980s.

# EMMAUS CAMPUS MINISTRY

[ecmum.org](http://ecmum.org)

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ann Bohman, Immanuel (vice president)  
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Clay Acker, Valley of Christ, Frenchtown  
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Jocko Valley, Arlee  
Allen Sasser-Goehner, Immanuel  
Steve Shelley, Holy Spirit Episcopal  
Jan Turbak, St. Paul Lutheran

These wonderful volunteers assist with programming, financial matters, staffing, special events, workdays and so much more.

We are grateful for their involvement with Emmaus Campus Ministry.

**Emmaus Campus Ministry is a ministry of ELCA Lutherans in partnership with the Episcopalians and United Church of Christ. We are a Reconciled in Christ Ministry, welcoming students of all perspectives and identities.**

## Spring Programs

Sunday Dinner & Discussions are from 6-8pm at Emmaus House

**Spring Break Service Trip** to Portland the first week of April to serve the community and explore culture and faith.

**Dinner Church**, a Young Adult house gathering with worship, dinner, conversation and connection. Meet at Emmaus House (6:30-8pm) on April 16, April 23 and May 7.

**Easter Dinner** for students and young adults: Sun. April 5th at 6pm

**Passover Seder** is Thursday, April 9 at 6:30pm at Har Shalom Parish

**Year-End Banquet** will be May 6th, 6-8pm at St. Paul Lutheran.

**Residents Applications for 2015-16 are open!** Emmaus is now taking applications for residents in either of our buildings for the 2015-16 school year. The first round deadline will be April 12. Contact Pastor Lund for more details.

**Emmaus Intern Leadership Initiative** starts next fall! Emmaus will invite students and young adults to be part of an internship program that will include leadership development, vocational discernment, spiritual and theological grounding, mutual support and service to others. This group will meet 2x per month under the guidance of our campus pastor and other faith and community leaders. (with possible UM credits)

Potential internships include coordinator positions for the following programs: Dinner Church, Dinner and Discussion group, resident life, outreach worship team, interfaith events, faith and climate change working group, Friends in Need, and student outreach on campus. We are also working with partner congregations to develop congregational interns who might work in various areas. Please let Pastor Lund know if you have a potential internship possibility.

**THE BOB MARSHALL EXPERIENCE**  
AN EPIC JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF MONTANA'S BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS AREA  
July 7-14  
\$550 per person

Three days backpacking and four days floating on the South Fork of the Flathead River. The group will explore the theological, spiritual and ecological dimensions of the Northern Rockies and beyond. Contact John Lund for more information: 406-396-4974 OR [John.lund@mso.umd.edu](mailto:John.lund@mso.umd.edu)



## Program Updates

by Keenan Weatherford, Post-YAGM Intern & Friends In Need Coordinator

We've had our hands full here at Friends In Need the last couple of months! Projects continue to come from a variety of places, people and needs.

Plumbing issues seemed to hit the Missoula community hard this winter and were a regular part of our work throughout the last couple months. Myself and volunteers became seasoned hands in the art of sinks, toilets, random leaks and other basic plumbing repairs as well as emergency water valve shut off and replacement projects.

Broken windows seemed to plague the Missoula community this winter season as well. We've lended a helping hand to neighbors with multiple window repairs, replacements and temporary emergency window coverings throughout these recent cold months. As we move into spring, window repairs appear to be a continuing project we look forward to lending a hand with.

More recently, the Friends In Need crew has tried our hand at our lumberjack skills! As the weather slowly warms up we've helped multiple people around the Missoula area with tree trimming, tree removal and bush and shrub removal. In the coming weeks we're looking forward to a couple projects in the painting, siding and maybe even small roofing repairs department with the multi-talented crew we've developed over the last 8 months. Thank you to all our volunteers who have come out and helped with so much over these last few months. We couldn't do what we do without you!!

Friends in Need is sponsored by the MT Synod Mission Venture Fund, Thrivent Financial, Knutson Endowment, Hetzel Foundation, Immanuel Lutheran and St. Paul Lutheran of Missoula, and numerous other groups and individuals. Thank you!

If you have a referral for someone needing a helping hand or want to volunteer yourself, please feel free to contact us at any of the following resources:

(406) 370-3193 or (406) 549-7821  
friendsinneed.ecmumt@gmail.com



Roger Parson and Sam Harder unload a trailer at Eko Compost after felling a tree.



### Thrivent Choice Dollars

March is the time to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars towards the organization of your choice. In 2014 we received over \$3,400 in Thrivent Choice Dollars! Thank you for your support, and consideration of ECM in your Choice Dollar Decision!

### Thrivent Action Team Grants

Thrivent Financial members can now apply for two Action Team project grants of \$250 each year. These can range from many different projects and events, many of which Emmaus does on a regular basis. This year we used Action Team grants to host a faith-leader luncheon with guest speaker, Gershon Baskin, and an Advent dinner celebration with students and young adults. If you are a Thrivent member and want to support an Emmaus event with an Action Team grant please let us know. We will definitely find the right project for you!!

# Food

# Faith

# and

# Dinner Church

by Sarah Nehm



It is no secret here at Emmaus: I love to eat! I have a passion for all things food. Add a meal to worship and call it, “dinner church?” I’m in! Sounds like a fun, delicious, and a meaningful expression of Christian worship to me.

Food and faith go hand in hand. Scripture reveals that God loves to feed people. God provided food in the garden, in the desert, and for travelling prophets. Jesus offers bread and wine, his own body and blood, for his disciples to eat. Through the meal of Holy Communion we are united with Christ and with one another. It is a foretaste of the heavenly feast to come.

The act of feeding others and being fed is a spiritual act. According to the New Testament epistles, the earliest Christians gathered for agape meals, or love feasts. Many congregations are trying their own version of this and calling it, “dinner church.” I’ve attended two such ministries, St. Lydia’s in Brooklyn, New York and The Garden in Seattle, Washington. Both offered meaningful worship experiences, and both were able to reach the young adult population that many churches have difficulty reaching.

In traditional, Sunday morning worship services, the physical elements of communion are minimized. In most congregations, participants stand in line and receive one bite of bread and one sip of wine on the move. Slowing down,

*“Young people are hungry for community, hungry for finding purpose in their lives, hungry for the Good News, and especially hungry for home-cooked meals.”*

sitting together at a candlelit table, pouring over scripture and eating a full meal offers a truly moving experience of worship and communion.

While young and old can enjoy this style of worship, dinner church is especially well suited for students and young adults. Young people are hungry for community, hungry for finding purpose in their lives, hungry for the Good News in the midst of tragic world news, and especially hungry for delicious home cooked meals. Dinner church is a type of worship that attempts to honor and feed each of these spiritual needs.

In April, we will pilot Emmaus Dinner Church. Emmaus worship leaders and local clergy are excited to give this a try together. This ministry will serve University of Montana students and the young adult population in Missoula. We are hoping that young people will build a faith community that they are excited to call their own.

If you’re interested in learning more about what you can do to support this ministry, contact John Lund or Sarah Nehm, sarahanehm@gmail.com.

## Welcome to our newest Board Members!



Allen Sasser-Gainer (left) is the spouse of Pastor Molly at Immanuel Lutheran Church. He has been a youth minister for many years and has a passion for helping the church move into the future. Lee Christianson (right) moved to Missoula from Havre with his wife Holly and their family of teens and young adults. He serves as a Thrivent Rep. in Missoula County and his family attends Atonement Lutheran Church. Here at Emmaus we are blessed by the leadership of a diverse, engaged and passionate Board of Directors. Thank you to all who serve and welcome to the team Lee & Allen!





## ***New Life!!***

*Over the winter break we finally took on the worst of our living space for renovation. The Emmaus basement apartment had low ceilings, narrow hallways, low light, and a small dingy kitchen. When the small sized fridge quit on us we saw that as an opportunity to tear up the whole thing and start over!*

*Many thanks to Don Church, Mick Hansen, Charlie Thorne, Adrian Hoyer, Keenan Weatherford, Pastor John and many others for about 6 weeks of straight work to get it done between semesters.*

*The apartment is awesome with large open space, new floors, cabinets, dishwasher, windows, lights, walls and so on. Our only fear now is that students won't want to graduate and move on.*



Lund from page 1

Islam and how are they practiced? What is the Jewish Talmud and how is it used? What is the 8 fold path of Buddhism? What are the core spiritual beliefs of the Salish and other tribes of our state? What are the sacred times and days of other faiths around us? Have we celebrated holy days with any of them?

I was on an interfaith panel a few years back and a Muslim student said that Islam recognizes Moses and Jesus as major prophets and asked what Christians think of Mohammed. I realized that most of us don't think of Mohammed very often at all. Can we recognize and respect Mohammed as a legitimate prophet of God? Can we respect followers of Islam? How about the Buddha? Is it possible that God has worked through people beyond our own prophet and path? We are called to dig deep and open our hearts and minds to the other and for many this is challenging and hard work.

Some of us may need to start small. How about a conversation, a meal, or a service project together? How do we make space to share stories, wisdom and laughter and build friendships over time. It is through these relationships that we will change our narrative about each other. Instead of saying, "That was a Muslim or a Jew, or an Indian, or a Christian," we will say, "that is my sister or my brother or maybe my cousin" because we will know that at a deeper level we are all related as brothers and sisters and cousins of God. Because of that we will care for each other and lift each other up as the people of faith that we are all called to be.

Rev. John Lund is an ELCA Lutheran pastor and director of Emmaus Campus Ministry at the University of Montana. He can be reached at [John.lund@umontana.edu](mailto:John.lund@umontana.edu).

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Thank you for your help in minimizing this expense!



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Emmaus Campus Ministry at the  
University of Montana.



*You're Invited!*  
**YEAR-END  
BANQUET**  
*Wednesday, May 6th  
6pm-8pm  
St Paul Lutheran Church*

*Join us for dinner, music, year-end thank yous and a roll-out of upcoming programs and events.  
Please contact us with number of attendees by April 30.*

*RSVP  
[emmaus.montana.office@gmail.com](mailto:emmaus.montana.office@gmail.com)  
406-396-4974*

