

# EMMAUS

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

Living Faith Through Community, Dialogue & Service

September 2015  
www.ecmum.org

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The Bob Marshall Experience Back Cover

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

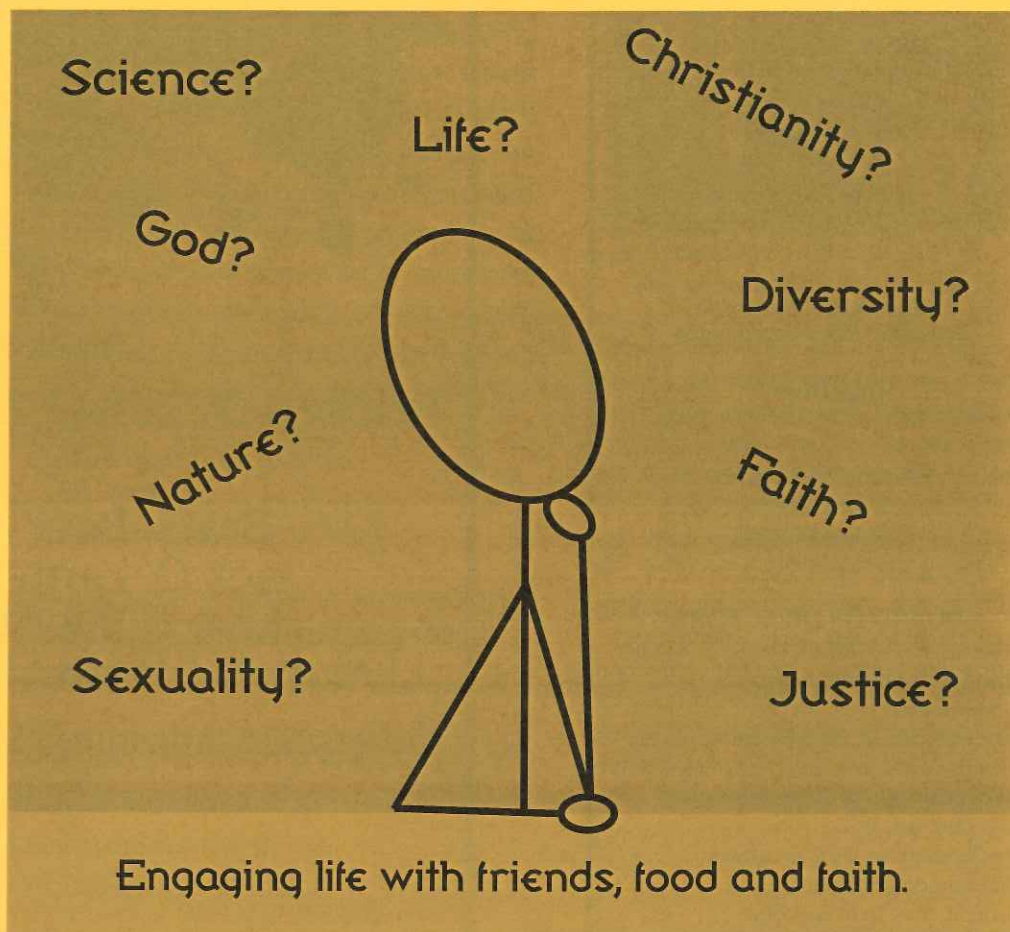
#### Interfaith Events Sponsored by Emmaus

Abrahamic Reunion : Oct. 14,  
7pm. UM south ballroom  
Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf of the  
Islamic Center of New York:  
Oct. 21, 7:30pm, Double Tree  
Hotel Ballroom.

**Faith and Climate  
Change Working Lunch  
Group** Meeting monthly to  
assist area congregations on  
environmental projects and  
goals. Contact Pastor John for  
more details.

#### Oktoberfest 2015!

October 23 at the Missoula  
Fairgrounds. Mark your calen-  
dar for our annual celebration,  
auction, & fundraiser! Have an  
auction donation? Please con-  
tact us at [ecmumt@gmail.com](mailto:ecmumt@gmail.com).

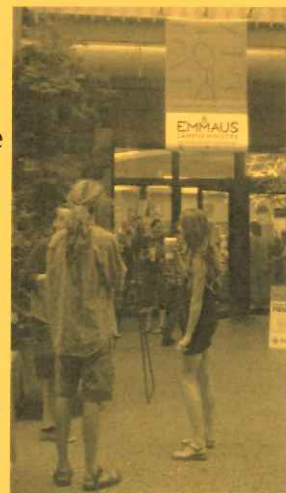


*Rebekah created this graphic as part of our back to school outreach, it hung in the University Commons.*

### Identity Crisis

by Pastor John Lund

As we begin a new school year we are caught in the tension of trying to market a product (church) that many young adults have a negative impression of. Because of experience and media we are perceived to be judgmental, anti-science, homophobic, hypocritical, and out of touch. Yet, on a good day, we are exactly the opposite. The Christian faith calls us into a journey of humility and deep compassion for all people and all of life. We live in a time when we have to reclaim our own faith brand and not let it be co-opted by the voices of hatred and fear. How do we let people know that we are a safe community who truly welcomes and cares for all people, takes current science and ethics seriously in honest dialog, seeks justice, and strives to care for the marginalized of our world? How do we invite people into a life of faith that makes a difference to them and others? These are the questions we all need to ask as we consider our future as the people of God.





# EMMAUS CAMPUS MINISTRY

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

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Faith & Climate Action Coordinator

**Brittany Christensen**  
**Micah Drew**  
**Jessica Wurzel**  
Peer Ministers

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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.



# 4th Annual 2015



## A Fall Fundraiser

for Emmaus Campus Ministry

**Friday, October 23th, at 6:00 pm**

Missoula Fairgrounds - Home Arts Building

Brats, Beer and More  
Jack O' Lantern Contest  
Live & Silent Auctions  
Live music from Skippin' A Groove

**Tickets: \$15 individual | \$25 couple | \$40 family**

Available at your church office,  
from an Emmaus Board Member,  
or at the Emmaus Campus Ministry office.

*Call (406) 549-7821 to purchase your ticket,  
donate an auction item, or for more information.*

Thanks to Our Generous Sponsors:

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# COMING UP...

**Dinner Church:** A Young Adult house gathering with elements of worship, dinner, conversation and connection. Wednesday nights from 5:30-7pm at Emmaus House.

**Sunday Dinner and Discussions:** Every Sunday, 6-8pm students and young adults share food and ideas. Topics include: Gender, Patriarchy, Christianity & Racism, Global Mission Work, Suffering, Christianity & Environment, Spirituality & Art, Gratitude and Heaven, 'Hell and the Devil: Biblical Truth of Roman fear tactics?'

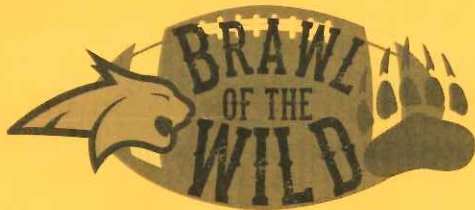
**Fall Retreat:** Lochsa Lodge and Jerry Johnson Hot Springs, Nov. 6-7th

**Faith and Climate Action Montana:** Emmaus is helping facilitate a monthly work group to assist Missoula area congregations on environmental projects and goals. Please contact Pr. John for more information.

## Interfaith Events Sponsored by Emmaus

**Abrahamic Reunion:** A peace keeping tour of Christians, Jews and Muslim leaders from the Jerusalem area: Wednesday, October 14th in the South Ballroom at UM at 7pm. Co-hosted by Har Shalom and interfaith partners.

**Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf of the Islamic Center of New York:** The Evolving American Muslim Identity – October 21st at 7:30pm, DoubleTree Hotel Ballroom. Imam Rauf was named as one of Time Magazine's most influential people in 2011 and is sponsored by the Montana World Affairs Council.

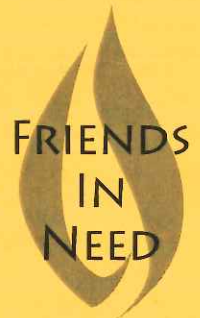


### CATS VS GRIZ CAMPUS MINISTRY CHALLENGE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22

The 115th Brawl will be Nov. 21st! We're reaching out to our MT Synod congregations to take part in the **Campus Ministry Challenge** on the Sunday following the Brawl, **Nov. 22nd**, to collect donations for favorite teams (split equally between each campus ministry) and learn more about Lutheran Campus Ministry on our Montana campuses.

### PROGRAM UPDATE

The summer months were mostly quiet for our Friends In Need program. With the vast majority of student volunteers away for the months of June, July and August, projects remained much smaller.



As the new school year begins, the program has gone through some changes. For multiple reasons Keenan's, the Friends In Need Coordinator, hours were reduced from 25 hours a week to 10 hours. Calls continue to come in and we continue to help those in need in the Missoula community.

If you know of someone in need please contact the Emmaus Campus Ministry office (406-549-7821) or Keenan personally at (406) 370-3193.

### Many Thanks

We have three board members terming off this fall. We want to thank Don Spritzer, Steve Shelley, and Don Church for their good work and service! We also give many thanks to Mick Hanson and Charlie Thorn for their help in running our shuttle on the Bob Marshall trip and their ongoing renovation work at Emmaus.

Abby Huseh is an Environmental Studies graduate student working with our Faith and Climate Change faith leaders group.

Emily Eaton is studying Nonprofit Administration and working with our board on Oktoberfest fundraiser and long-range planning.

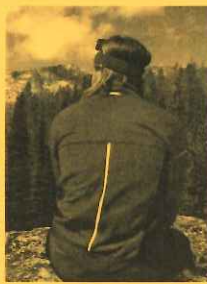




Reagan



Tucker



Micah



Jonathan



Colter



Melissa

## Meet the Residents of the Ark & Emmaus House

**Brittany Christensen** is originally from Powell, WY where she is a member of Hope Lutheran Church. In May she graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in History, and is now working at the Poverello Center and applying to medical school. She's excited to be back in the Rocky Mountains to snowboard and also really likes to read and hang out with friends.

**Reagan Colyer** is a junior studying Journalism and French at the University of Montana. She is a member of St. Francis Xavier parish in Missoula and runs track and cross country for the Griz. Originally from Seattle, her hobbies include running, cooking and cheering for the Seahawks.

**Tucker Costain** comes from Helena, MT and is a junior studying Cellular and Molecular Biology, as well as English. He is a runner and a cyclist, dabbling in cyclocross racing and trail racing this fall, in between whatever school throws at him.

**Jonathan Erler** is a Post Baccalaureate student in Secondary Education from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell, MT. Jon enjoys music appreciation and performance, being creative, outdoor adventures, hang-outs with fellow geeks, and general petty mischief.

**Peregrine Frissell** is a senior studying Journalism and working for the Montana Kaimin as a news editor. When he's not in the newsroom he likes to play basketball, read good books, and tell himself he's going to learn how to cook... someday. He grew up in Polson, MT.

**Colter Murphy** is a junior studying Wildlife Biology. Colter grew up in Missoula and Immanuel Lutheran is his home congregation. In his free time Colter enjoys being outside with friends and going to concerts!

**Jayson Nicholson** is from San Diego, CA; his home church is College Lutheran Church. Jayson is spending a year as Seminary Intern for Emmaus Campus Ministry and Valley of Christ Lutheran Church in Frenchtown, MT. He enjoys reading Luther and the Patristics... or spending time on the water, playing sports, and cooking.

**Soren Ormseth** is a sophomore studying Math and Physics, from First Presbyterian Church in Great Falls, MT. He enjoys skiing, tennis, golf, frisbee, camping and spending time with friends and family.

**Melissa Pursell** was born and raised in Kalispell, Montana. She is a senior in college studying nursing and loves spending time outside skiing, climbing mountains and relaxing in a kayak on a beautiful lake!

**Jessica Wurzel** is from Powell, WY just outside of the west entrance to Yellowstone. She grew up in the First United Methodist church and is in her fifth year (a super duper senior), graduating in Chemistry this spring. She hopes to eventually teach chemistry to high school students. Jessica loves outdoor adventures, reading, wearing lab goggles, and baking.

## Alumni News

**Kevin Beebeel (2013)** has finished up a summer of hospital chaplaincy in Arizona and will be in his second year of seminary at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary.

**Natalie Faltin (2013-14 intern)** has accepted a call as pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Great Falls, MT.

**Erin Hastey (2014)** is starting a graduate program in English at the University of Chicago, and is engaged to be married next fall.

**Hillary Heskett (2014)** is pursuing a Doctorate of Physical Therapy at Pacific University in Oregon.

**Halle Wilson (2014)** is starting her first full-time teaching job as a 4th grade teacher in Kalispell, MT.





## the Student Perspective

by Jessica Wurzel

I've had a year long break from ECM, and have returned to my final year at UM, excited, as always, for the community that Emmaus has to offer. Emmaus has been an opportunity to explore the burning questions as I stumble through college and push to understand my faith as it applies to the

real world. I've found in Emmaus a group of people often seemingly mismatched: we all have different majors, different faith backgrounds, and different things to bring to the table. The fact that Emmaus can gather together a group of people so varied makes us all the richer for what we can do in the community. Emmaus is a place where we can look outside ourselves, our next homework assignment, and ponder the questions no one asks us anywhere else. Not only that, but Emmaus provides an outlet and opportunity to become involved with the greater community at large, through service or interfaith events in Missoula, and even as far as Vancouver, Portland, or San Francisco. Whether it's a quiet time in the middle of a busy week for dinner church, a weekend retreat spent in God's creation, or an afternoon giving time at one of Missoula's many non-profits, Emmaus is the family of caring, fun individuals that I looked forward to returning to.

## Ways to Support Emmaus

Emmaus remains a solvent ministry because of many volunteers and the gracious giving of the Montana Synod, partner congregations, and individual donors. Your help makes a big difference!

**Volunteer:** We have a very active building and grounds crew who do most of the repairs and maintenance of our two buildings. New volunteers are always welcomed!

**Cook a meal:** We offer two meals per week to our student group which are usually cooked by fellow students. Having a guest cook and participant is a welcomed gift!

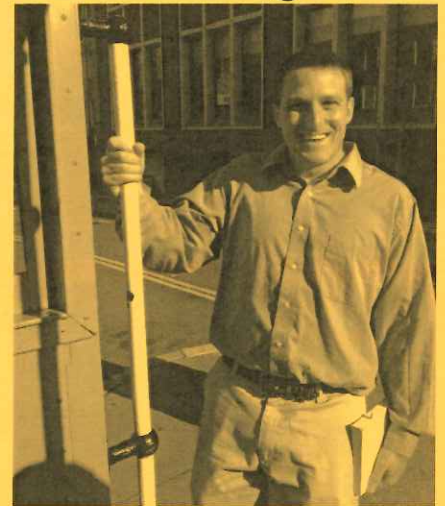
**Donate items to Oktoberfest:** We are still collecting live and silent auction items for our October 23rd event.

**Donate financially to Oktoberfest:** Our goal is to raise \$20k at our fall fundraiser. We have \$3k in sponsorships already and \$2k in challenge gifts. We hope to have \$5k total in challenge gifts prior to the event and raise the rest that night and beyond. Your gift before, during or after the event will help us reach our goal!

**Thrivent Choice Dollars:** We have a number of donors who direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Emmaus. This is a great way for Thrivent members to support us!

**Thrivent Action Team Grants:** We also have many events coming up that would work perfectly for a Thrivent Action Team grant of \$250. If you are a Thrivent member you get two grants per year to apply for. If you haven't used them up for 2015 yet, please call Pastor John, or perhaps consider us for 2016.

## Meet Jayson!



by Jayson Nicholson

Frenchtown/Missoula, Montana was not an internship site that I initially preferred. However, one of my classmates encouraged me to look into the position after she interviewed, because she thought I would enjoy what it offers. Being born and raised in California, Montana was a great unknown. At the same time, this opportunity was unique. There was no other internship site that allows seminary students to be a solo pastor at a congregation and gain experience in chaplaincy, through campus ministry. As a Chaplain Candidate in the US Navy, I am excited to gain a deeper understanding of chaplaincy.

The role of a chaplain is slightly different from a regular priest or pastor. Chaplains provide religious guidance and support for those of the same tradition, but they also provide pastoral care for all people regardless of religious affiliation. As a campus ministry that is open and affirming of all people, and one that has professional staff trained in the work of chaplaincy, we are uniquely situated to accompany any and all students through whatever life may throw at them. During several conversations that I have had with students while doing outreach on campus, they have been surprised, but delighted to hear about a campus ministry group more interested in caring for them than converting them.

Thank you for your continued support of Emmaus. I look forward to the opportunity to learn and grow along with the students at the University of Montana.



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**NOTE:** Forwarding addresses and returned newsletters cost the ministry \$0.49 each.

If you have an address change or wish to stop receiving newsletters or receive e-news instead, please contact us at [ecmumt@gmail.com](mailto:ecmumt@gmail.com) or (406) 549-7821 to update your information.

Thank you for your help in minimizing this expense!

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## THE BOB MARSHALL EXPERIENCE

by Sarah Nehm

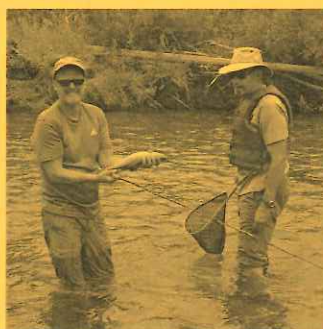
The whole week we were in the Bob seemed to exist outside of time.

We couldn't check our email or keep in touch with loved ones. We had no idea what was going on in the world and had trouble even remembering what day of the week it was. It was such a treat to have the luxury of time. I was in the midst of making a few big life decisions, and there is nothing quite like a 28-mile walk in the woods to gain some perspective!

I also really enjoyed the community that developed on the trip. For those seven days, we only had each other. We would set up our temporary homes, cook for one another, and care for each other's scrapes and bumps. We were a little family for a short time. By the end, we had our own language and could make each other laugh with just a word or two. I'm so glad that I pushed myself to go on this trip. It was an incredible week and a truly Montana experience that I will cherish

*Photos: (top right) Sarah, Rebekah, Rose and Keenan cross a creek during 23 miles of back packing. (middle right) Mules packed in rafting equipment for the second half of our journey.*

*(bottom right) John, Tolly, Merv and Eric enjoying the South Fork of the Flathead River. (left) Steve and Jeff fly fishing.*



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Emmaus Campus Ministry at the University of Montana.