

EMMAUS

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Living Faith Through Community, Dialogue & Service

June 2016

www.ecmum.org

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Poem

by Lindsey Buck

We had left the heart of the city
But I couldn't help imagining
What its God might look like.
I began to erase the God of my youth
Who so often wore clothes stained with
my guilt
And so often spoke in my mother's south-
ern accent.
I thought I might start from the top
Constructing a caricature of this new God.
Inch by inch.
They would certainly have the short hair
of Ashlynn,
And along with it, her beautiful, sponta-
neous way of living and loving.
Beneath that hair, the raw, boundless
intelligence of Jayson, coupled
With a thirst for knowledge that followed
the rivers of the world.
Indents in the skull would contain the
eyes of Kate,
That saw through the skins of others to
find their
Sorrow and to reach that sorrow with the
blue gaze of understanding.

Their mouth would resemble that of John
Lund's,
Which gave away the discontent with the
current state of the world,
And taught others that the source of his
love would never evaporate.
They would have the strong neck of Hope,
Who refused to swallow the injustices she
saw and chose
Laughter as the deepest relief.
As I moved down, I realized that his chest
Was that of Colter's, who allowed
The world to lean upon him and carried
peace
Like rocks, heavy in his ribs.
Her form was slender, like Katie's;
She would carry herself with Katie's
humbleness
And her weight would be this endless
kindness.
I found their stomach much like that of
Jon Erler's,
Piled deep with courage that would arise
In the form of the true self, and nothing
less,
Furry tail and all.
The arms of Ellen were upon her,
The simple freckled strength that could
Move mountains and the gentleness that
Had been bestowed upon her, all at once.
Out to his fingertips,
God was much like Abby.
The chalky nails of the innocence and
gentleness
That stroked the world in its most painful
moments.
These fingertips curled into the palms,
Where the lines of God's hands
Followed the path of those of Christa,

Building the sense of community and
knowledge,
Wherever she went.
She had the hipbones of Storm,
Swaying with joy,
She walked with his pure vulnerabilities
And transformed much like him, into
eager lovingness.
The calves of Alicia carried him,
They held up his body,
Relentlessly, when it seemed that nothing
else could.
The strength in her shins most certainly
came from Brittany,
Whose legs may have been scraped by her
sufferings,
But who suggested that her eyes saw suf-
fering as opportunity,
And positivity as a sword.
His ankles bore the same cloths that Han-
nah's did;
They pulled him up and bore his wit and
resilience.

He cradled me in the Ark,
Like one of Noah's animals,
As I wept.

And I realized that I am sinner, you are
sinner,
That you are loved, that I am loved,
By the closest God I have ever known.

*Lindsey, a sophomore from Great Falls, was
one of sixteen students on this year's Spring*

Break trip to San Francisco.

See page 2 and 3 for more on Spring Break.

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These wonderful volunteers are vital to Emmaus Campus Ministry and we are grateful for their involvement.

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.



The Power of Inclusive Community

by John Lund

We have been leading spring break emersion trips to coastal cities for many years. We typically get about half the students from our own group and half from campus posters. This year was similar with 8 of our own and 8 from campus for a total of 16 going to San Francisco. What changed this year was the diversity of the group. On the first night in a church basement in Idaho Falls we went around the circle and shared our hopes for the week. One woman from Montana said she was a lesbian and had a partner, but was having trouble with her conservative mother and her evangelical church back home. She was hoping to experience a community that affirmed her and a city that celebrated gay pride. Soon another student said he was gay and was from small town, Montana and had had a difficult time as well. And then there was another, and another, and another. Almost half of our group was lesbian, or gay, or bi-sexual and, while we have always had one or two, this was the first time we had a larger queer- consciousness and identity as a group.

The first morning found us serving breakfast to homeless people on the streets of Berkeley and then we worshiped at Glide Church (highlighted in *The Pursuit of Happiness*). Glide is dedicated to helping the poor, LGBTQ issues, and anti-racism work. Their 40-person choir is diverse with many transgender members. The sermon was given by a gay Hispanic restaurant owner who had been denounced by his own family and church and who almost took his own life before finding a welcoming community. He talked about the transformation of his own life, and it was the start of transformation for many in our group. We spent the afternoon with ELCA pastor Megan Rohr, who is also a transgender person. She talked about the beauty and dignity of people on the streets and in the margins and what it means to be the church. Each day we found places where the church was working with others to bring liberation and life for people of color, immigrants, women, the poor and the rest of creation.

It was a powerful and life-changing trip for our group; the bonds we formed and commitments we made will carry us for months and years to come. Through it all I am learning.

In my experience, young adults.....

1. largely don't care who is gay or straight and many of them have no problem being somewhere on the continuum between the two.
2. are not rigid on gender identity, neither for themselves or others.
3. care deeply about the poor as well as people of diverse races, ethnicities and religions.
4. care deeply about the environment and global warming and our responsibility in it.
5. are almost all feminists and assume there is equality for all gender identities.
6. are very excited about faith communities that take the previous perspectives seriously and take the necessary risks and changes to live into them.
7. are much more interested in transformative community and action than doctrinal belief or worship.
8. want to be engaged participants and leaders in community change and are open to faith narratives that empower them for that work.

I believe the heart of the Gospel and the Jesus movement is a narrative that empowers us for transformational work in the world. As a pastor to young adults I am learning how to connect our narrative to their passions. Mostly, it is about building relationships, safe space, and opportunities for young adults to step up and let their light shine. I find myself in a hopeful place these days, knowing that we have some amazing young and emerging leaders who will change the world.

Leadership, Faith & Social Action

Starting in the fall of 2016, Pastor Lund will be teaching a weekly seminar course called Leadership, Faith and Social Action. It will be carried by the social work department as a 400 level course so that undergraduate or graduate students can take it for credit. We are also offering our active students to be part of the seminar without taking it for credit.

A requirement of the course is that each student have some kind of field placement in the community. Last fall Emmaus received a \$100,000 grant from the Lilly Foundation (to be budgeted over 5 years) to help build an internship program that goes along with the course. Possible positions are:

1. Peer Minister (3): Organizes weekly events, retreats, and student outreach.
2. Resident Coordinator: Organize weekly gatherings for resident students including desserts and devotions.
3. Friends in Need Coordinator: Works with congregations, other partners and volunteers to take on projects.
4. Outreach worship Coordinator: Organizes and plans student worship team services at partner churches.
5. Campus Outreach Coordinator: Coordinates Emmaus efforts to find and welcome new students.
6. Area Youth Events Coordinator: Works with local youth leaders and churches to put on youth events.
7. Emmaus Retreat and Spring Break trip Coordinator: helps plan and organize trips.
8. Interfaith Events Coordinator: Organizes regular interfaith dialog, meals and service events.
9. Faith and Climate Change Coordinator: Organize the Faith and Climate Action programs and events.
10. St. Paul Lutheran intern: Works with St. Paul staff to help build a green team in the church.
11. Immanuel Lutheran intern: Works with Immanuel staff to coordinate high school youth program.
12. Atonement Lutheran: still in development.
13. Our Savior's Lutheran, Bonner: still in development.
14. Salvation Army Homeless and At-risk Teen Drop in Center Intern: This is a new program that Pastor Lund is helping to shape and will be up and running in the fall.

Snapshots from San Francisco, Spring Break 2016



Clockwise from top left:

- 1) The Emmaus crew serving food in the Glide Kitchen.
- 2) Prepping sandwiches to hand out on the street with Pastor Megan Rohr.
- 3) Two Katies in a music shop.
- 4) Emmaus spring breakers visit Zaytuna College in Berkeley, CA, the nation's only Islamic liberal arts college.





Program Highlights from 2015-16

Dinners: every Sunday with discussions and Wednesday night dinner church

Retreats: fall sailing on Flathead Lake, late fall hot springs in Idaho, and winter snow retreat by Seeley Lake

Spring Break: Spring break emersion trip in San Francisco, with sixteen folks

Summer Expedition: Backpacking and Rafting in the Bob Marshall Wilderness with 10 adventurers

Residents: the ARK and Emmaus house rented to 22 different students / young adults.

Interfaith: Hosted community meetings for Muslim allies group (SALAM). Co-sponsored and helped organize "Celebrate Islam Week" in Missoula.

Faith and Climate Action Montana: Led by grad student, Abby Huseh (Environmental Studies), this group offered public lectures, two faith and climate summit events and letter writing events.

Missoula Area Youth Events: Organized by intern, Brittany Christensen, Emmaus students put on a fall high school faith and action youth event as well as a winter youth Seder Meal.

Friends in Need: Many thanks to Keenan Weatherford for his many hours running this program for 1.5 years. We worked on 15 different house projects in that time. We continue with student interns in this position as we move into the fall.

Outreach worship: We had over 15 different students help organize and lead Sunday worship in 8 different congregations in Western Montana.

Missoula Interfaith Collaborative: Pastor Lund sits on the board of MIC and helped them through a merger with Family Promise this past year. He is also the convener of a 15-member clergy group supporting each other in transformational faith-based community organizing.

Many thanks to our Staff and Interns

Micah Drew, Boise, ID, peer minister

Jessica Wurzel, Powell, WY, peer minister

Colter Murphy, Missoula, peer minister

Brittany Christensen, Powell, WY, Interfaith & HS Youth

Abby Huseh, Missoula, Faith and Climate Action Montana

Keenan Weatherford, Billings, 2015 Friends in Need

Anne Jehle, Gardiner, spring 2016 Friends in Need

Jessica Weiss, Missoula, Faith and Social Action course development

Rebekah McDonald, Emmaus Administrator

Bethany Youngblood, Bookkeeper

Jayson Nicholson, PLTS Seminary Intern

Many thanks to Rebekah McDonald who has worked as our Emmaus Administrator the past 1.5 years. Rebekah is a graduate student in communications studies at UM and will also be teaching two courses in the fall. Thanks for all your great work and care for our students and board Rebekah!

2015-2016 Financial Highlights

*This was an exciting year of growth, development of new projects, and renovations to our properties!
We are pleased to share our financial highlights with you!*

Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending January 31, 2016

Income Statement	<u>Feb '15 - Jan 16</u>
Revenue	
Donations by Individuals	19,275.59
Congregational Gifts	16,910.56
Grants	60,500.31
Fundraiser Income	18,412.66
Rental Income	48,421.36
Other Income	11,599.42
Total Revenue	175,119.90
Expenses	
Operations / Business Expenses	4,168.81
Program Expenses	13,964.00
Building Expenses	19,606.97
Fundraising Expenses	6,269.55
Salaries, Benefits and Payroll Expenses	113,411.09
Annual ARK Buyout Payment (6 of 10)	18,765.50
Total Expense	176,185.92
Net Income	<u><u>-1,066.02</u></u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	146,902.22
Fixed Assets	863,335.82
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>1,010,238.04</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	4,332.68
Long Term Liabilities	167,050.00
Total Liabilities	171,382.68
Equity	838,855.36
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>1,010,238.04</u></u>

A complete set of financial statements may be obtained by contacting our office at ecmumt@gmail.com or (406)549-7821.

- We were blessed to receive an incredible \$29,481 in donations from 133 households. Wow!
- 23 of our donors thoughtfully designated \$3637 in Thrivent Choice Dollars to benefit our ministry.
- We are honored that 29 churches and ministries supported our work, totaling \$21,046.
- 11 local businesses generously sponsored our work at our annual fundraiser.
- Emmaus received a \$100,000 grant from the Lilly Endowment in 2015! These funds will be spread out over 5 years and will support our new Faith, Leadership and Social Action seminar and internships.
- The leadership of our Board of Directors has been exceptional and continues to keep our mission and vision relevant to all that we do.

Grants Received February 2015 - January '16

We were blessed to receive support from generous granting organizations this past year. Thank you!

Montana Synod Campus Ministry Grant \$38,500
 ELCA Campus Ministry Grant \$8,056
 Thrivent Action Grants \$1,000
 Hetzel Foundation \$3,500
 Episcopal Diocese of Montana Grant \$3,000
 Lilly Endowment \$3,000

**We couldn't do it without the support of our synod churches, ecumenical partners, and individual contributors. Thank you!
 We hope to keep the momentum going and the presence of Emmaus strong on the UM campus.
 As always, we welcome your thoughts, prayers, and donations.**

Church Donors

American Lutheran Church - Billings
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 Zion Lutheran Church - Lewistown

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Thank you for your help in minimizing this expense!



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University of Montana.

Congratulations!!!

2016 Graduates

Jessica Wurzel, Powell, WY graduated with a chemistry degree and will be at the University of Wyoming this fall to get credentialed as a high school teacher.

Peregrine Frissell, Polson, MT graduated with a degree in journalism and will have an internship in Las Vegas this summer and move to New York City in the fall.

Linsey Trent, Missoula graduated with a degree in accounting and will stay at UM to get her masters in accounting next year.

Alum updates

Dan Sager, 2014, entering Phd in psychology at The Wright Institute in Berkeley, CA.

Brittany Christensen, resident 2015-16, is attending medical school at the University of Washington.

Kathleen Heiskell, 2015, will be starting the masters of social work program at UM.

Sean McQuillan, 2015, is attending law school at UM in the fall.

Hillary Heskett, 2014, finished her first year of physical therapy school at Pacifica University in OR.

Erin Haste, 2014, is graduating with a master's in English Literature from the University of Chicago.

Alex Duncan, 2012, just finished her RN degree to go with her social

Oh the places you'll go!

work degree and will begin working in the Acute Unit at Shodair Children's Hospital in Helena.

Emmaus Seminarians

Kevin Beebe, 2013, is finishing his second year of seminary at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and will be a chaplain at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp this summer.

Mary Dickman, Whitefish, 2007, is in her second year at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

Daniel Viehland, 2010, finished his first year at Wesley Theological Seminary

Lindsay Ross-Hunt, 2008, finished her first year at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Sarah Nehm, 2014-15 seminary intern with Valley of Christ in Frenchtown, is graduating from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in May, getting married in June, and will be open for call this summer in the New England Synod.

Jayson Nicholson, 2015-16 seminary intern with Valley of Christ in Frenchtown, is graduating from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary this summer and will be open for call this fall.

Annela Rova, 2012, Arlee, MT has been working in the Minneapolis area for two churches and is in the early stages of candidacy for the MDiv program.