

# EMMAUS

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

Living Faith Through Community, Dialogue & Service

December 2016  
www.ecmum.org

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Confluence	1
Winter & Spring Programs	2
Outreach Updates	3
Oktoberfest 2016 Back Cover	

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

#### Christianity in the 21st Century

Wednesday nights from Jan. 25 – Mar. 15 : How do we understand Christian faith in an ever more diverse and complex world?

#### Winter Retreat

February 3-5 at Georgetown Lake, MT. The retreat will include games, discussion, skiing, great food and fun. Students and young adults are welcome.

#### Spring Break in Vancouver BC

March 18-26 Serving neighbors and exploring diversity, culture, homelessness, racism, LGBTQ+ issues, alternative worship, and God: All students and young adults are welcome to join us.

#### Friends in Need

We continue to do a variety of jobs and projects including Family Promise, food drives, nursing home visits, fix-up projects, shoveling and more. Contact Lindsey: 406-750-3929

### Confluence: A new community for young adults

by John Lund

For many years we have observed numerous young adults living in the Missoula area who have a history of growing up in our churches, working at our camps, being involved with campus ministry, and/or even doing a year abroad in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program. We are also aware that most of these folks are not connecting with or attending our local Sunday morning congregations. When asked, however, many express an interest and desire to be part of a young adult faith group. There is a yearning to have a community and sacred space to revision and reclaim their own Christian faith narrative in a way that gives life, builds community, and calls them into the work of service, healing and justice. In our last newsletter I lifted up the possibility of starting young adult small groups with shared leadership and vision.

Since that time, we have had a variety of young leaders come together and start asking the hard questions such as: "What would a group look like that I would want to invite my friends to?" "What would really feed me in a way that I would want to be part of it?" "Could I help be a leader in this?" We now have a core group of about 8 who have been meeting through the fall and are ready to launch a new venture together! This new venture is our attempt to build that group with a model of shared leadership, creativity, and quality programming. Our hope is that this will be a collaboration between Emmaus Campus Ministry and our partner congregations in the Missoula area. We envision this being an extended ministry of those congregations and way for all of us to meet the spiritual needs of this generation.

To start, the name of this new group will be called Confluence. This was picked out of at least 50 names because it suggests a coming together of different people with varied experiences, traditions, stories, passions and skills to combine as a community with more power, love and possibility that anyone can have alone. It also suggests movement and flow and perhaps the acceptance that change and growth will happen to us all.

Confluence is a young adult faith group grounded in Christian traditions and wisdom with a focus on spiritual practice, deeper conversations, social action, and having fun. We start with the basic principle that all people and creation are sacred and deserve dignity, compassion, and the freedom to live a meaningful life. Our work together is to be spiritually grounded, theologically and culturally formed, and deeply connected so that we can be instruments of healing, peace, and justice for all, and especially those who are oppressed in our time and place. Confluence is welcoming and affirming to people of all perspectives, histories and identities.

*Meetings: At UCC church; 2nd and 4th Sundays, twice per month (6-8pm), with a launch date of Feb. 12.*

# EMMAUS CAMPUS MINISTRY

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These wonderful volunteers are vital to  
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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.



## Winter & Spring Programs

**Confluence:** A young adult faith group grounded in Christian traditions and wisdom with a focus on spiritual practice, deeper conversations, social action, and having fun. This group is welcoming to all people and perspectives in the 18-35 age group. Meets 1st and 4th Sunday nights, 6-8pm, at UCC church.

**Christianity in the 21st Century:** Wednesday nights from Jan. 25 to Mar. 15 : How do we understand Christian faith in an ever more diverse and complex world? Join us for weekly discussions with our Catholic and Methodist campus ministry friends: Wednesday nights with dinner 6-8pm.

**Faith and Climate Action:** This is a working group that helps faith communities build internal "green teams", provides education and support, and is building an advocacy network of people willing to speak to power about environmental issues from a faith perspective. Contact Abby: 650-922-3250

**SALAM: Standing Alongside America's Muslims** This is an allies group that works to support local Muslim friends, put on educational and dialog events, and respond to hate speech. We can also come to congregations or groups to lead discussions on Islam or related topics. Meets second Mondays at 5:10 at Emmaus. Contact Eamon for more info: 406-799-8889

**Winter Retreat:** February 3-5: Georgetown Lake and Discovery Ski Area. Options include downhill or cross country skiing, ice fishing, or cabin time. Also includes sledding, games, discussions, great food and fun. Cost is \$20/person.

**Spring Break Trip to Vancouver BC:** March 18-26: Serving neighbors and exploring diversity, culture, homelessness, racism, LGBTQ issues, alternative worship, and God: All students and young adults are welcome to join us. Cost is \$200 plus some meals and expenses.

**Friends in Need:** We continue to do a variety of jobs and projects including Family Promise, food drives, nursing home visits, fix-up projects, shoveling and more. Contact Lindsey: 406-750-3929

**All Area Youth Events:** We are again working with local congregations to put on middle-school and high school youth events in the winter and spring. Events TBA. Contact Maya: 406-240-6098

### How you can support Emmaus:

**Donations** are always needed and welcomed! This year we have made budget through the help of the Montana Synod, the ELCA, the Episcopal Diocese of Helena, numerous grants, over 30 congregations, and over 100 family donors.

**Sponsor a student:** you might prefer to sponsor a Spring Break trip student, or perhaps an intern working on one of our projects.

**Thrivent Action Team Grants:** Thrivent Financial members can now apply for two Action Team project grants of \$250 each year. We have many events that are eligible and will definitely find the right project for you!! This past year we used about 10 different action team grants!

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

**Come and cook:** We are looking for volunteer cooks on Wednesday nights to feed our group. You are welcome to drop off, or join our group for the evening.

Many thanks to all of our donors and supporters!

# LIVING FAITH FALL 2016 HIGHLIGHTS



Outreach worship team at St Paul Lutheran



Students collect food and toiletries for the Missoula Food Bank with Friends in Need



Pastor Lund and Emmaus alumni gather near Sacramento to celebrate the wedding of Erin and Rafael Haste in October. Congratulations to the newlywed couple!



Outreach worship team at Zion Lutheran in Lewistown



PJ and Maya leading music at the area wide middle school retreat at Emmaus



Emmaus Friends in Need joins in on a building day with Habitat for Humanity



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## Return Service Requested

**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!**

**Oktoberfest 2016** was a great success. Thanks to your support and generosity we auctioned off 82 items, fed 150 people and raised over \$15,000!

## An Apology

This year we auctioned off a set of Martin Luther's complete works. As part of this we gathered some quotes from Luther to help inspire the bidding, but they ended up being more of a Luther roast. We apologize for not have a balanced sampling of his quotes as he clearly had many important and inspirational things to say. We do plan to study Luther's core writings as part of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.



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Emmaus Campus Ministry at the University of Montana.

## Thank You to our Sponsors!

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