

Spreading the Infused Love of God

December 2024

Christmas and New Year Blessings,

Emmaus House has been in eastern Montana for 16 years. There are still many who do not know what we are about or what we do. Therefore, we offer the following:

Our Mission is: To create a community that embraces the Rule of St. Benedict; to model a servant posture of prayer, simplicity, ministry, hospitality, contemplation and balance in order to set the world on fire with the Love of God.

The dynamic essence of Emmaus House has encouraged the rapid growth of our circle of ministry to cover a broadening region. This not only includes a wide range of towns and parishes across Montana and western North Dakota, but men and women throughout the United States. Our focus on the Rule of Saint Benedict has been our guiding principle, influencing the many lives we have touched. There are four areas in particular that have been impacted by Emmaus House through the many programs and projects we have offered over the years.

- ▶ Spiritual development: The Benedictine Tools for Good Works, in particular, include the important tools of justice, peacemaking, respect, and trust in God. The increase in demand is demonstrated by the growing number of people seeking a stronger relationship with God through the Journey Program, Spiritual Direction, and an ever-increasing number of individuals becoming Oblates.
- **▼** Inclusivity: Embracing the Benedictine value of hospitality, Emmaus House has shared the Good News of Jesus to a very comprehensive group from children to the elderly, whether active, inactive or unaffiliated with a faith community.
- **♥ Unique Services:** The work of Emmaus House encompasses many areas including prayer, sacramental prep, liturgy, pastoral care, study, discernment and
- more.

 Models a mission of service: Emmaus House nourishes and engages individuals through Benedictine Spirituality in a way that enhances service to others and strengthens the mission of the church. i.e. Vision of Hope & Grief Ministry.

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Here is how your contributions have made a difference during the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year.

Journey Program: 9 individuals completed the Journey

Spiritual Direction—424 Sessions provided by Sr. Rita & Sr. Regina,

49 sessions provided by Jen Vaira (Journey Program)

160 Counseling: sessions

Bible Studies---We offered both studies in Fairview and Sidney

Fall Study: "When You Pray: A Clear Path to a Deeper

Relationship with God" by Edward Sri

Lenten Study: "Made For Heaven" by Ave Maria Press

Oblates: 12 Oblates and 12 in Formation

Religious Ed at St. Bernard's and Liturgical services

Women's Retreat: 9 Participants April 26-28, 2024

Taize Prayer Service: 3 Taize Prayer Services

Wisdom and Coffee Hour: Once a month at The Lodge & St. Matthew's

Home Visits: Numerous

Funerals: Visitations—2 Vigils

Vision of Hope: A scholarship of \$2,695 was awarded to Avery Iversen, attending Minot State ASTEP Program. This scholarship was made possible from 1/4th of the proceeds from the Annual Fundraiser.

By focusing on these crucial areas Emmaus House continues to be committed to reaching as many people as possible. However, we cannot do this alone.

Please consider giving a donation to support Emmaus House and its vibrant ministries.

In Christ,

Sr. Rita Rauschendorfer

Sr. Regina Murray



