



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



December, 2007

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 18, Number 12

Welcome New Pilgrims

Women's Walk #1409
November 15-18, 2007
Highland Lakes

- Jennifer Anderson
- Sharon Ash
- Melinda Blair
- Kathy Blanchard
- Madeline Burow
- Lex Freitag
- Judy Gotcher
- Cherie Hill
- Mary Koffend
- Frances Loftis
- Bonnie Maxwell-Craig
- Henrietta McDermott
- Chris McKemie
- Sula Milstead
- Patrice Monigan
- Amelia Najvar
- Lisa Oertli
- Cynthia Robles
- Sharon Romero
- Judy Sansom
- Tina Sawyer
- Jessica Smith
- Betty Torres
- Cheri Tummelson
- Nan Updike
- Nelda White
- Gloria Wood

Thanksgiving

We have so much to be thankful for that Thanksgiving should not be only a holiday or a season but a way of life! As I sit here on Thanksgiving Day, I reflect on a few of the most recent gifts, not the least of which is the last Women's Walk. Walk number 1409 was awesome, as usual, with a number of pilgrims deeply affected. God works in wondrous ways, and we are privileged to serve Him. And, as always, those working on both the conference room and servant teams on the Walk were blessed way beyond the blessings they delivered! Incidentally, there are plenty of openings on the servant teams for the next two walks, so contact the servant team coordinators if you are interested. (Kathy Shaw for the March Men's Walk #1425 and Tom Rioux for the May Women's Walk #1435.)

The GAE4DG trailer greatly simplified the setting up and running of the Walk. We still need, however, a reunion group or other group to "adopt" the trailer. Their task would be to arrange everything and ensure that all is ready for the next walk. The task would need to be done only four times a year, and would be a great reassurance to the following Walk Lay Director and Servant Team Coordinator. Any volunteers?

Speaking about volunteers, we are looking for a music director for GAE4DG to take over from Jon Nelson. Jon has served in that capacity for the last year and is looking to "retire" from being music director. If you are interested in volunteering for this important mission, please contact Jack Foreman and/or Jon Nelson.

I'll see you all at the December Gathering at Simpson UMC on Thursday December 6th. This will be an incredible way to close out the year. The Christmas Season is upon us, and this will be the last opportunity to worship together before the "real" Holiday Season – Christmas!

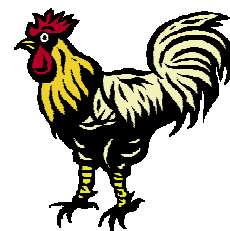
De Colores

Bud Broeker, Lay Director, Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group



Mark your Calendars!

The 25th Anniversary Celebration of Walk to Emmaus in the Southwest Texas Conference will be **April 4-6, 2008** at Mt. Wesley in Kerrville. Scholarships for the registration fee will be available. They are also soliciting vendors of religious crafts/items for the event. More Information will be available soon.



Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

2007/2008 Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Bud Broeker

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Spiritual Director

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Vacant

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Walk Talk Editor

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Visit the Greater Austin Emmaus
4th Day Group Website:
<http://www.austinemmaus.org>



The Walk Talk Deadline for January is December 23rd!

Please send your articles, 4th Day Stories, Group appreciation and reflections to
Gina Franklin 12905 Irongate Ave., Austin, TX 78727;
or email to franklingdom@gmail.com

Were You There?

There were **146** attendees at the November Gathering!
Have you been going to the monthly Gathering?

Why not?!?!?!?

They are normally on the first Thursday of each month. Childcare is available at all Gatherings! Check out the schedule on page 6!

We'll be looking for you!

2008 Austin Sponsored Walks

Men's Walk #1425 Highland Lakes	March 6 – 9	Gene McConnell, Lay Director Monte Marshall, Spiritual Director Jim Anthony, Board Rep.
Women's Walk #1435 Highland Lakes	May 1 – 4	Anne Rioux, Lay Director Sue Wells, Spiritual Director Tonna Marcyes, Board Rep.
Women's Walk #1451 Highland Lakes	Sept. 11 – 14	Belinda Smith, Lay Director TBA, Spiritual Director Leslie Smith, Board Rep.
Men's Walk #1456 Highland Lakes	Sept. 25 – 28	Randy Nettles, Lay Director TBA, Spiritual Director Wayne Roche, Board Rep.

The Hinge of History

The Reformation fueled significant changes in many aspects of life, and its effects still resonate with us today. Lord Acton, a Roman Catholic historian, termed Luther's stand at Worms the hinge of history, a moment when the world turned toward the modern age.

Behind Luther's entry into the cloister lay the medieval notion that some vocations -- priest, bishop, monk, nun -- were sacred and so gained eternal merit. Luther razed the sacred-secular wall, emphasizing instead that believers in all walks of life please God. God works through all people, unbelievers included, to achieve His purposes.

Family life was affected. Exercising Christian love and faithfulness began, not in the artificially created cloister, but in the home, as the family formed the foundation for larger social relations. Education felt a deep effect, as formal learning at the time had been geared toward professional service in the church.

The biggest effect of Luther's reform was the biblical view of salvation. That God saves us, not because of us, but in spite of us, with His love embodied in Christ Jesus, turned the world upside down. We are sinners. Nevertheless Christ died and rose for us each of us.

Luther knew the mental gymnastics would tie us in knots, so in an age that looked for a link to God in the extraordinary -- claims of relics, visions, pilgrimages, and more -- Luther pointed to the profound right in front of our eyes: to a cross, to water, and to bread and wine. Unspectacular? Yes, but there also is God's promise "for you" ringing in our ears.

De Colores!

Gerard Kern



**The Lord is my rock
and my fortress and my
deliverer; my God, my
strength, in whom I will
trust. Psalm 18:2**

SWTX Emmaus Leadership Training Sessions

To register for an Emmaus Leadership Training Event please go to www.swtxumc.org/emmaus or contact Emmaus Register at Emmaus@umcswtx.org

Date: February 9, 2008

Location: New Braunfels First UMC

Date: February 16, 2008

Location: Harlington: Welsey UMC

Date: May 10, 2008

Location: San Angelo: First UMC

Purpose: Training Lay Directors, Board Reps and Spiritual Directors Leadership teams for the Walks to Emmaus. The ELTS (Emmaus Leadership Training) is required for all incoming Lay Directors and Board Reps and Spiritual Directors. Lay Directors and Board Reps need to attend training with in 15 months of serving. Spiritual Directors need to attend training at least once every 3 years. However ELT is open to anyone interested in learning more about Emmaus Leadership. This is a great time for the Lay Directors, Board Reps, and Spiritual Directors to develop effective Communication and Leadership skills. The outside support coordinators are invited to attend as well. Training will be conducted by the Southwest Texas Conference Emmaus Lay Director and Spiritual Director or there appointees.

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group
Board of Directors Meeting
November 1, 2007

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors met on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at Bethany UMC.

In attendance were:

Bud Broeker, Lay Director
Georgia Stone, Spiritual Director
Leslie Smith, Assistant Lay Director
Kathy Shaw, Board Rep
Mike Rhodes, Treasurer

Bud Broeker called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. The meeting was opened with prayer by Georgia Stone.

Minutes – A motion to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2007 meeting was approved. (Mike Rhodes motion, Georgia Stone second)

Treasurer – Mike Rhodes gave the following report:

	General
Balance as of end of August	\$6914.72
Oct. Gathering	+263.61
*Scholarship	+ 25.00
*Chrysalis	+ 25.00
Wayne Roche Expenses	- 50.00
Nursery Advance	- 60.00
Bethany Nursery	- 60.00
Graphic Work	- 100.00
New Balance	\$6958.33



Scholarship Balance as of end of September \$944.63, one scholarship returned \$60.00
New Balance \$1004.63

*Items held in general fund and distributed quarterly

A motion to accept the treasurer's report was approved. (Kathy Shaw motion, Leslie Smith second)

Conference Board Rep – Kathy Shaw gave a report from the SWTC Emmaus Community board meeting on Oct. 20. The annual financial report form is due soon. Clergy must complete service forms annually before they may be approved to serve on a Walk. The request form for 2009 Walk dates is due Dec. 14. Bud Broeker will send us proposed dates and we will discuss this at the next Board meeting.

An example of the Highland Lakes contract with the candle addendum was presented. A candle may only be used in the conference room during the talks.

The 25th Anniversary Celebration of Walk to Emmaus in the Southwest Texas Conference will be April 4-6, 2008 at Mt. Wesley in Kerrville. Scholarships for the registration fee will be available. They are also soliciting vendors of religious crafts/items for the event.

Leslie Smith had received one application for an Emmaus scholarship. After discussion, a motion to allow the scholarship for \$60 was approved.

Wayne Roche was unable to attend but he has some questions on the web site format. Bud will get with him to discuss.

There being no further new business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00, followed by a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted. Leslie Smith

Austin Chrysalis Board Minutes

October 23, 2007

In Attendance: Debbie Sandifer, Kathe Boothby, Tracy Boothby, Paul LeBlanc, Cortney Smith, Penny Mills, Joel Roehling, Briana Roehling, Rev. James Amerson, Sandy Brooks, and Darren Mock

Treasurer's report – Paul has all treasurer rights. He can sign checks, etc. Balance is \$394.25. Motion to accept treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Kathe volunteered to be a cosigner on the account. Debbie Sandifer move that Kathe Boothby be cosigner on the account. Cortney Smith 2nd. Motion carried.

T-shirts for the Hoot – Sell old shirts and reorder sizes of the 2007 Chrysalis T-shirt. Motion that old t-shirts be sold for \$1 piece. Motion carried.

2 Offices to fill

- Lay Director in training and Conference Board Rep position. Paul LeBlanc motion for Chris Kingsbury for the position of Conference Board Rep, 2nd by Briana Roehling. Motion carried.
- Darren Mock move that Cortney Smith be our Lay Director in Training, Debbie Sandifer second, Motion carried.

Minutes

Rev. James Amerson move to accept September Board Meeting minutes. Debbie Sandifer 2nd. Motion carried.

November Gathering – 11/1

Danielle Bedford agree to be girl speaker. Joel will check with Cody Boatright and has several backups if needed. Tanya Eustace will be Spiritual Director at Gathering. Music is all lined up with Marble Falls Youth band.

2008 Flights

- Girl's Flight (LD = Briana Roehling), 7/10-7/13, Twin Oaks is confirmed.
- Boy's Flight (LD= Kevin Fowler), is checking with Highland Lakes on dates in July available.

Team Selection

Bring applications to 11/13 meeting, begin our review and continue at 12/11 meeting. Team selection must begin at January meeting.

Board & Community Training

Debbie Sandifer requested 2/2 or 2/9.

Next Hoot

1/4/08 is reserved at Riverbend



New Business

- Check with Amy on talking to Youth Directors. Would like to have youth and adult meet and talk about Chrysalis/Emmaus. Have 4 or 5 youth recruits to talk about their experience. Want to start the campaign in January. Can split up churches as Board Members to spread the message. Need to get by in from youth sponsor first. DYPS and Merge. DYPS meets monthly and more important to get to them. Do tour January/February to get it on calendar. Catch after Midwinter and they will be fired up about it.
- **Journey** – check location (Concordia, Twin Oaks, Highland Lakes, Bee Creek UMC, Mt. Wesley) on 1/8-1/10. Find 2 Lay Director (Male and Female). Chris Kingsbury or Darren Mock potential candidates for Male Lay Director. Recruit Chrysalis alumni college age to work on team. Start publicize early. Cortney would like to be Female Lay Director .

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

Singing at 7:00 p.m., Worship at 7:30 p.m., Agape Feast Following

December 2007

Thursday, December 6, 2007
Simpson UMC
1701 E. 12th Street
Speaker: Joyce Nesby

January 2008

Thursday, January 3, 2008
Hyde Park UMC
4001 Speedway
Speaker: Sally Rodgers

February 2008

Thursday, February 7, 2008
Westlake UMC
1460 Red Bud Trail
Speaker: TBA

March 2008

Thursday, March 6, 2008
Oak Hill UMC
7815 Hwy. 290 W.
Speaker: TBA

April 2008

Thursday, April 3, 2008
Crestview UMC
1300 Morrow Ave.
Speaker: TBA

May 2008

Thursday, May 1, 2008
Pflugerville First UMC
Speaker: TBA

June 2008

Thursday, June 7, 2008
Northwest Hills UMC
Speaker: TBA

Reminder: Childcare Services are available at all Gatherings.

GAE4DG is accepting volunteer host churches and 4th Day Speakers for 2008 Gatherings.

Please contact Jack Foreman at 252-1001 or jcforeman@sbcglobal.net for open dates.