



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



June, 2008

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 19, Number 6

Welcome New Pilgrims

Women's Walk #1435
May 1-4, 2008
Highland Lakes

- Anita Barton
- Kay Brock
- Tracy Burger
- Linda Cooper
- Renae Cotton
- Maureen Culp
- Kristi Denis
- Doris Duke
- Belinda Eckols
- Samantha Franklin
- Beth Gleason
- Diana Goodloe
- Melanie Green
- Patricia Lopez
- Stephanie Lyles
- Hilary Marchbanks
- Amy McBride
- Adelene McCormick
- Regina Muse
- Linda Nelson
- Sheila Patterson
- Julie Peckham
- Betty Sanders
- Sallie Sassano
- Patti Simmons
- Brandi Smith
- Dorothy Stateler
- Haley Wheeler
- Sheila Wojcik

Welcome New Board Members!

I am honored to serve this next year as the Lay Director for the Greater Austin Emmaus Fourth Day Group. The Walk to Emmaus and its related events have always reminded me of God's presence and the way He works in my life. This has led me to encourage others to go on Walks, attend Gatherings, and join reunion groups. The Walk to Emmaus has encouraged many of us to become more active in our local churches and that is one of the goals of the Emmaus movement.

We have a few new faces on the Board: Jim Anthony, Assistant Lay Director; Diane Merwarth, Board Member for Walk Support; and Gene McConnell, Board Member for Gathering Support. Our returning members are: Rev. Georgia Stone, Spiritual Director; Mike Rhodes, Treasurer; Jack Foreman, Board Member for Member Services; and Bud Broecker, Board Representative to the Southwest Texas Conference Emmaus Board.

We are all committed to serving God and you. We continue to need your help, too. We encourage you to fill out applications for Team Service online at www.austinemmaus.org or we will get you a paper form. We also need help filling prayer vigils, agape needs, your attendance at Gatherings and Candlelight, and most of all, Pilgrims.

God has blessed me with the Walk to Emmaus. I hope I can share those blessings with others with your help.

De Colores! Leslie Smith

It's time for Chrysalis!!

It's time, it's time!! Time to round up this year's butterflies for the most awesome of adventures - a Chrysalis Flight!! All youth who are currently in 10th - 12th grades are invited to attend.

The Austin Community is sponsoring two Flights this summer:

**July 10-13: Girls' Flight # 305 at Twin Oaks in Buda,
Lay Director: Briana Roehling; Cost: \$140**

**July 24-27: Boys' Flight # 309 at Twin Oaks in Buda,
Lay Director: Kevin Fowler; Cost: \$140**

Registration forms are posted on the SWTX Conference and Greater Austin Emmaus Community websites, or you may contact one of the Lay Directors or any member of the Chrysalis Next Steps Group. Scholarships are available!

What is Chrysalis?

<http://www.upperroom.org/chrysalis/whatis/>

What Happens on a Chrysalis Flight?

<http://www.upperroom.org/chrysalis/whatis/whathappens.asp>



Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

2008/2009 Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Leslie Smith

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Spiritual Director

Rev. Georgia Stone

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4th Day Board Representative

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Assistant Lay Director

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Board Member for Gathering Support

Gene McConnell

Board Member for Walk Support

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Board Member for Member Services

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Chrysalis Representative

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Vacant

Agape Letter Coordinator

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Music Coordinator

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Walk Talk Editor

Gina Franklin

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



The Walk Talk Deadline for July is June 25th!

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?

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 5!

We'll be looking for you!

2008 Austin Sponsored Walks

Women's Walk #1451
Highland Lakes

Sept. 11 – 14

Belinda Smith, Lay Director
Cheryl Broom, Spiritual Director
Leslie Smith, Board Rep.

Men's Walk #1456
Highland Lakes

Sept. 25 – 28

Randy Nettles, Lay Director
Tom Deviney, Spiritual Director
Dale Williams, Board Rep.

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: June 21, 2008

Location: Gonzalez

Date: October 4, 2008

Location: Boerne

Date: August 16, 2008

Location: Kingsville

Date: January 24, 2009

Location: Buda

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 within 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 their appointees.

Prayer on the Run

Some of us may feel a little guilty when it comes to prayer. We may wish we prayed more, or better, or some days we prayed at all. These are actually good impulses, promptings of the Spirit to deepen our relationship with God. It's the guilt we can do without.

But if we take the simple definition of prayer -- lifting the mind and heart to God -- we can find ways to pray while doing dishes or driving to work. I'm not saying we should stop trying to find a time and place apart to pray deeply. It's just that when those extended periods of quiet aren't possible, we have other traditions to fall back on.

Not all prayer involves words. Tracing the sign of the cross on your body or on the forehead of another is itself a prayer. We sometimes use words with the sign of the cross, but it can stand alone. If your mornings are hectic, make it a habit to cross yourself as you leave home. Hang a cross near the door as a reminder.

The cross was traced on many of us when we were baptized. And when you die it will be traced over you again by your pastor and other loved ones. Making the sign of the cross is becoming second nature for many, so you already have this prayer in your heart.

Early Christians saw the cross as an identification mark, an invisible seal that marks us as belonging to Christ. Others saw it as a kind of shield, a protection from evil. The cross is therefore a perfect prayer to make before you go forth into your day.

Another shortcut is to be brief. Some of the most familiar one-line prayers come from Scripture itself. "Your will be done." "Lord, have mercy." The simple prayer of the tax collector comes to mind: "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." Jesus recommends brevity in Matthew 6:7: "When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words." He commended himself to God with his dying breath using the fifth verse of Psalm 31: "Into your hands I commit my spirit."

Now, God loves a good heart-to-heart conversation, where you tell all and listen for God's reply. So have it when you can and when you need to. But when you're in a bind and the choice is between brief prayer or no prayer, be brief.

De Colores!

Gerard Kern

Austin Next Steps Chrysalis Board Minutes

April 22, 2008

In attendance: Debbie Sandifer, Briana Roehling, Kevin Fowler, Penny Mills, Kathe Boothby, Tracy Boothby, Mackey Welch, Rev. Tanya Eustace, Sandy Brooks, Joel Roehling

Minutes

Motion by Tanya to accept March Board Meeting minutes. It was seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Motion by Kevin to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded. Motion carried.

SWTX Conference Board Meeting

May 10 is the next conference in San Antonio at University UMC.

Shirts

Various t-shirt designs were passed around just for viewing not to vote on. The designs will then be passed on to Cortney.

Team selection

Girls Flight #305 (July 10-13) – Briana

2 clergy needed, 1 more adult leader needed. Debbie Sandifer agreed to be the adult ALD. Tracy Boothby agreed to be the Youth ALD. Could use 1 more for the music team. Tracy will check with a couple of girls at Bethany. Meetings have been scheduled for: May 2 & 3 (overnight), May 9 and June 14

Boy Flight #309 (July 24-27) - Kevin

Joel will be the Board Rep. The 4 clergy are ok'd. Still in need of a YTL and still looking at possible ATL but may be ok at this point. Tracy will check with Max Randa as possibly being part of the team.

There will be 5 total meetings. The 1st meeting was on April 5 and three talks were previewed. There were several new adults to Chrysalis so the difference between Chrysalis and Emmaus was explained.

We discussed when to do the team consecrations. Thursday, June 12 at the Austin gathering was discussed as a possible date. We need to check the calendar. Both teams would possibly be consecrated at that time.

Next meeting May 27, 2008

Submitted, Darren Mock

"Therefore if anyone is in Christ they are a new creation; the old one has gone, the new one has come." -- 2 Corinthians 5:17



Lay Directors!



Emmaus and Chrysalis Lay Directors, before your walk/flight weekend, it is **YOUR** responsibility to send your **team list** to the *WalkTalk* Editor to be printed so that we can all be in prayer for them. And when your walk/flight weekend is over, it is **YOUR** responsibility to send your **pilgrim/ butterfly list** to the Database Coordinator, and again to the *WalkTalk*, so we can welcome them as new pilgrims!. Thank You!

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

June 2008

Thursday, June 12, 2008
Northwest Hills UMC
7050 Village Center Dr.
Speaker: Gary Johnson

October 2008

Thursday, October 2, 2008
Covenant UMC
4410 Duval Rd.
Speaker: TBA

July 2008

Thursday, July 10, 2008
FUMC Austin
Lavaca & 12th Street
Speaker: Jen Stuart

November 2008

Thursday, November 6, 2008
Bethany UMC
10010 Anderson Mill Rd.
Speaker: TBA

August 2008

Thursday, August 7, 2008
Parker Lane / Lake Travis
@ Parker Lane UMC
2105 Parker Lane
Speaker: TBA

December 2008

Thursday, December 4, 2008
Riverbend
4214 Capital of Texas Hwy.
(Loop 360)
Speaker: TBA

September 2008

Thursday, September 4, 2008
Tarrytown UMC
2601 Exposition Blvd.
Speaker: TBA

Reminder: Childcare Services are available
at all Gatherings.

**GAE4DG is accepting volunteer host
churches and 4th Day Speakers for
2008/2009 Gatherings.**