



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



July, 2008

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 19, Number 7

Closest to Christ in Service

“When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.” Luke 24: 30-31

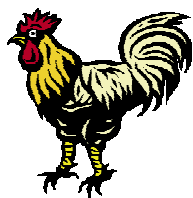
These words from the Book of Luke are familiar to all of us that have attended the Walk to Emmaus, but I was reminded of them again this past weekend. My closest to Christ this week occurred as the team for Walk to Emmaus #1451 met on Friday night and Saturday. These were our first meetings and I can already tell that it will be an awesome Walk.

The talks we previewed were very good and the team is bonding. Everyone was willing to pitch in and bring food – okay, so that isn’t anything new. But the most special times for me were in the chapel during communion. I don’t think it was just the quiet time. Pastor Cheryl reminded us that the Holy Spirit is always present, something I sometimes forget as I go about the business of life. It was a great reminder and I hope I remember that Good News each day, not just when I am at church or attending an Emmaus event. I also hope that I will be better able to share God’s Good News to others.

There are several opportunities coming up in the next few months to share the Good News with your family and friends. For youth, there will be a Girl’s Chrysalis #305 on July 10-13 and a Boy’s Chrysalis #309 on July 24-27, both at Twin Oaks in Buda. For adults, there will be two Austin sponsored Walks in September. Women’s Walk #1451 will be held September 11-14 and Men’s Walk #1456 on September 25-28, both at Highland Lakes. They will all be great! Please prayerfully consider sponsoring someone for these events.

Don’t forget that the date for the July Gathering has been changed to the 10th due to the holiday weekend. I hope to see you there.

De Colores! Leslie Smith, Lay Director
Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group



*Then I heard the voice of the **Lord** saying,
"Whom shall I send?
And who will go for us?"
And I said, "**Here am I. Send me!**"
Isaiah 6:8 (NIV)*



Prayers for Chrysalis Flight 305 & 309

Girl’s Flight #305 will take place July 10-13th, at Twin Oaks in Buda.
Boy’s Flight #309 will take place July 24-27th, at Twin Oaks in Buda.

Please support this Flight with your prayers, your agape, and your presence at Candlelight and Closing. Please keep the team members in your prayers, and remember, there are many unseen and unsung community members working on the Servant Team!

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

2008/2009 Board of Directors and Volunteers

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Board Member for Walk Support

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



The Walk Talk Deadline for August is July 20th!

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 6!

We'll be looking for you!

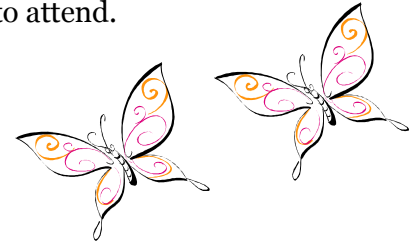
It's time for Chrysalis!!

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>

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: August 16, 2008

Location: Kingsville

Date: October 4, 2008

Location: Boerne

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 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.

Life is a Grand Trip

For many, summer means travel time, and sometimes it takes a lot of advance planning and worry. But travel takes more than planning and worrying. It takes a lot of hands. Consider your own. How have you used them to prepare for a trip? What about other people who helped you -- how have they employed their hands in order for you to reach your destination, and return? What of those who folded their hands in prayer, that you might have safe and productive travel?

Life is a grand trip. It really is. God has provided many helpful hands to keep us going in health, wealth, transportation, food, house, affection, and more. Sit back at day's end and count those helpful hands that made an impact on you.

Hands that move in the love of Christ are the best. *"Keep sane and sober for your prayers. Above all hold unfailing your love for one another....As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."* (1 Peter 4).

When God and His people are supporting your travels, then the plan, plan, plan and worry, worry, worry become thanks, thanks, thanks!

De Colores!

Gerard Kern

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors Meeting

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors met on Thursday, June 12, 2008 at Northwest Hills UMC. In Attendance were: Leslie Smith, Lay Director; Rev. Georgia Stone, Spiritual Director; Jim Anthony, Assistant Lay Director; Bud Broeker, SWTC Board Representative; Jack Foreman, Member Services; Diane Merwarth, Walk Support; Gene McConnell, Gathering Support; and Mike Rhodes, Treasurer.

Leslie Smith called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and the meeting was opened with prayer by Gene McConnell.

Minutes: With the transitioning of the new board, which would meet on June 12, 2008, no minutes were prepared at the May 29 board meeting. No board action was required or taken.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Rhodes presented his monthly report as of June 9, 2008. The general fund, which started at \$4,260.93, had an ending balance of \$798.15. Major items included receipt of \$868,90 from Walk 1435 close out and expense of \$4,311.68 payable to SWTC for Walk 1435. The Scholarship Fund, which started at \$918,23 had an ending balance of \$913.23. Collections from the May Gathering after payment of baby sitter fees will be included in the treasurer's report for the July 10 board meeting. The treasurer's report was accepted on motion by Bud Broeker and second by Gene McConnell.

The board approved changing the deadline for submission of information to Gina Franklin for inclusion in WalkTalk from the 26th of each month to the 20th in order to provide a more reasonable time for completion and publication online prior to each Gathering. This change was approved on motion by Leslie Smith and second by Jim Anthony.

Rev. Georgia Stone reported that Spiritual Directors for 2009 Walks had been selected and approved: Men's Walk February 26, 2009- Rev. Jim Mayfield; Women's Walk April 9, 2009- Rev. Andy Smith; Men's Walk September 10, 2009- Rev. Sue Wells; and Women's Walk October 9, 2009- Rev. Georgia Stone. Walk Numbers for 2009 have not yet been assigned by SWTC.

Team selection for the 2009 Men's Walk on February 26 and Women's Walk on April 9 was scheduled for Tuesday, August 12 at Northwest Hills UMC beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The board began initial discussion regarding child care at Candlelight services and this discussion would continue at the next board meeting.

The board discussed the means by which the progress may be tracked of those who have expressed an interest in serving in the future as a Lay Director on a Walk. This discussion will continue at the next board meeting.

No further business was conducted by the board and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. with prayer by Rev. Georgia Stone.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Anthony

Visit the GAE4DG Website !

www.AustinEmmaus.org

Team Applications are now interactive http://www.austinemmaus.org/team_app.php. While you can still download a pdf of the Team Application form, you can now submit one in a few minutes by entering your information online. Anyone, interested in serving on an Inside Team at a future Walk must go to this new link and submit an application.

Another exciting feature is the new interactive Event Calendar. This feature provides information for all Emmaus activities for the entire year. All of which are color coded for easy navigation. Blue are Gatherings, Pink are Walks and Yellow is Chrysalis.

Austin Next Steps Chrysalis Board Minutes

May 27, 2008

In Attendance: Debbie Sandifer, Briana Roehling, Joel Roehling, Kevin Fowler, Cortney Smith, Mackey Welch, Penny Mills, Kathe Boothby, Tracy Boothby, William Gray, Liz Gray, Rev. Tanya Eustace, Sandy Brooks, Darren Mock

Minutes -Motion to accept April Board Meeting minutes. Second. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report

Balance \$1310.23, Memorial UMC \$280 check deposit, Deposit \$140 cash, Deposit check of \$54 SWTX.

Cortney will bring documentation of team fees to next meeting

We will review fees paid Girls Flight weekend

Cortney Smith is ALD receiving team fees for Girl's flight. Chris Kingsbury receiving team fees for Boy's flight.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report. Second. Motion carried.

Scholarships

Request for 2 Chrysalis scholarships on Boys flight. Are the team scholarships limited to \$50 and butterflies limit to half (\$70)? Heard at SWTX board that scholarships are available. Mackey will contact Chris to inquire about scholarships.

Shirts

150 max shirts needed for both boys and girls flights. Decide to order approximately 120 shirts. Approximately \$8.79 per shirt, white with red trim. 7-10 day turn around. Proceeds for scholarship fund, suggest selling shirts for \$10.

Girls Flight #305 (July 10-13)

2 Team meetings held. Last training June 14th. Need a prodigal speaker.

Need Outside team members – adults and youth.

Team Commissioning – either 6/3 (Buda) or 7/1 or 6/12 (NW Hills hosting) or could be done at Marble Falls or at last team meeting. June 3rd likely not work because so quick.

1 butterfly registered in system. 3 from Pflugerville in works. Elgin had 2 or 3.

Contact butterflies from last summer that were unable to attend.

Leander UMC wants us to talk to them about Chrysalis. Kevin and Briana to follow up.

Boys Flight #309 (July 24-27)

Team meeting 5/24. Filled last ATL. 90% confirmed on last YTL. Medical person confirmed.

3 Team meetings completed, 6 talks previewed. All Lay talks will be previewed at next team meeting (6/21).

5 butterflies confirmed, at least 4 others in works.

Worship Books

Chrysalis worship books were supposed to be the same so both Chrysalis and Emmaus are the same.

Minutes from Conference Board Meeting - Reviewed by Debbie.

Journey

MLK weekend has been selected as date – January 17-19th following 3 Day model.

Location has been selected as Highland Lakes.

Should not have any team member or caterpillar under 18. No background checks needed.

Discussion on potential Spiritual Directors. Beneficial to have representation from Wesley on team.

Need to check to get these Journeys registered with the Conference - Mackey.

Need to check into Highland Lakes about dining options – Cortney.

Several potential caterpillars have been identified.

Girls Journey

7 Women want to be on team

Boys Journey

2 Men in Wesleyan group prayerfully considering. 3 others approached. Music director asked to prayerfully consider.

Chrysalis 2009

Weekends considered at Highland Lakes - July 9-12th and July 23-26. Potentially could do joint flights as well.

Board/Community Training - Dates for Fall will be researched

Announcement - 7th Annual 4th Day Camp on the River – 6/14/08

Spiritual Director Nomination - Several potential directors discussed. Board will prayerfully consider.

Next Meeting – June 24, 2008

Submitted, Darren Mock

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

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.

October 2008

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

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