



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



February, 2009

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 20, Number 02

Christians By Our Love

“They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.”

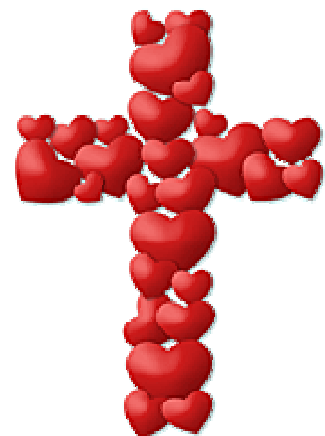
How many times have we sung this song on Walks to Emmaus, Chrysalis, Gatherings, Candlelights, and other worship services? It is so important to Emmaus that it is specified in the Lay Director’s manual to be sung on Sunday afternoon of the Walk. But do people really know we are Christians by our love?

Some days it would be pretty hard to see that I’m a Christian. It can be in traffic or work or at the grocery store, etc. etc. etc. Sometimes my temper and/or impatience get the best of me. I want to be a loving, patient person but it sure is hard to do. I have to remember Jesus and all the examples He gave us how to act and live. I also need to pray that God will help me be a better person. I can’t do it by myself, none of us can. We need God and we need to help each other.

The world needs us to be loving Christians that are not afraid to show our faith. There is so much we can do to show Christ in our homes, at work, in our city, state and country. Remember, you may be the only Bible a person ever reads. It may be a simple action such as letting someone go before you at the grocery store or it may be more involved such as working on a mission trip. Look for ways that you can show your love of Christ. I’ll be praying and looking, too.

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

**For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16 (NIV)**

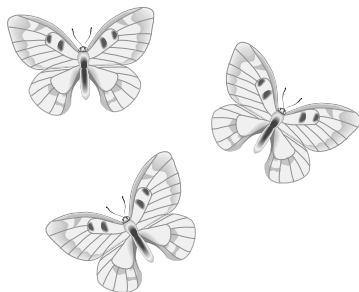


Welcome New Butterflies ~ ~ Fly With Christ

Girl’s Journey # 25-A ~ January 17-19, 2009 ~ Mt. Wesley

Boy’s Journey # 25-A ~ January 17-19, 2009 ~ Mt. Wesley

- Janai Davis
- Kari Harrison
- Amanda Jasso
- Rae Kinkead
- Sarah Meier
- Jessica Nunez
- Marina Perez



- Alex Black
- Aaron Forester
- Joe Harris
- Sean Harrison
- Thomas Johnson
- Tyler Lorenz
- Kevin Portwood

- Sergio Rivera
- Nick Shives
- Carlos Trevino
- Mario Vazquez Jr.
- Joseph Velazquez
- Weibel, Robert, III

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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Bonnie Harper
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Music Coordinator

Vacant

Walk Talk Editor

Gina Franklin
970-1393
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Visit the Greater Austin Emmaus
4th Day Group Website:
<http://www.austinemmaus.org>



The Walk Talk Deadline for March is February 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!

2009 Austin Sponsored Walks

| | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Men's Walk # 1485 **McKinney Roughs | Feb. 26 – Mar. 1 | Jim Anthony, Lay Director Jim Mayfield, Spiritual Director |
| Women's Walk # 1497 Highland Lakes | April 23 – 26 | Teddy Broeker, Lay Director Andy Smith, Spiritual Director |
| Men's Walk # 1513 Highland Lakes | Sept. 10 – 13 | Keith Bible, Lay Director Sue Wells, Spiritual Director |
| Women's Walk # 1530 Highland Lakes | Oct. 22 – 25 | Joan King, Lay Director Georgia Stone, Spiritual Director |

**Please Note the February Walk is at McKinney Roughs, located on Highway 71 between Austin and Bastrop.

Emmaus Walk 1485

Men's Walk #1485 will take place February 26 - March 1, at McKinney Roughs.

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

Team Members

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Jim Anthony – <i>Lay Director</i> | | Jim Mayfield – <i>Spiritual Director</i> | | Gene McConnell – <i>Board Rep.</i> | |
| Bill Bingham | Bobby Callison | Carey Dietert | Tanya Eustace | Jack Foreman | Jack Gause |
| Don Greenway | Paul LeBlanc | Monte Marshall | George Minchew | Dan Morgan | |
| Vance Morton | Mike Nasi | Billy Newberry | Rusty Pancoast | Dennis Perryman | |
| Pat Peyton | Thomas Pollock | Carl Rohlfis | John Vinson | Rusty Walker | Rocky Wilcox |

Servant Team:

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| Jay Angell | Sue Anthony | Doug Aycock | Vicki Aycock | Carl Beck | Liby Beck |
| Jeri Campbell | Roxie Greenway | Ron Hejtmanek | John Maxwell | Peggy Maxwell | |
| | Wayne Robertson | Kathy Shaw | Ted Shaw | Cortney Smith | |

Cook Team:

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Wayne Jacobs | Carol Hillis | Terry Hillis | Maja Nipper |
| Laurie Strawbridge | Allen Updike | Nan Updike | |

Important Information for Emmaus Men's Walk 1485

McKinney Roughs is located on Highway 71 East, approximately 13 miles on the other side of Austin Bergstrom Airport and is immediately adjacent to the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort. This will be the first time the Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group has used McKinney Roughs for a Walk. If any sponsor or pilgrim has further questions, please contact one of the individuals below.

McKinney Roughs is a beautiful 1,100 acre nature site with a campus that is well suited for an Emmaus Walk. For more information regarding the site, one is encouraged to "google" LCRA McKinney Roughs Nature Park.

De Colores, Jim Anthony, Lay Director- jim-anthony@sbcglobal.net
 Rev. Jim Mayfield, Spiritual Director- JLMay36@sbcglobal.net
 Kathy Shaw, Servant Team Coordinator- kathyshaw@swbell.net

Agape Drop-off:

There are several sites around town available, for a list of agape drop-off points, please contact Jim Anthony jim-anthony@sbcglobal.net, Bonnie Harper bonnieharper@earthlink.net, or Diane Merwarth dmerwarth@seton.org. Remember (1) any drop-off agape should be delivered by 6:00 PM on February 25. (2) no agape that requires "refrigeration" or ice, should be left at a drop-off point and (3) any agape which is perishable should be limited to that one would expect to be used on Friday, February 27. Thank you for your support, prayers and gifts.

Candlelight: Saturday, February 28th: Singing starts at 7:30 p.m. and Worship at 8:00 p.m. Please allow plenty of time for arriving and parking since this is a new facility for the Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group.

Closing: Sunday, March 1st: Community gathers at 3:00 p.m., Singing starts at 3:15 p.m.

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors Meeting

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors met on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at Hyde Park United Methodist Church. In Attendance were: Leslie Smith, Lay Director; Bud Broeker, SWTC Board Representative; Jack Foreman, Member Services; Diane Merwarth, Walk Support; Gene McConnell, Gathering Support; Mike Rhodes, Treasurer and Cortney Smith, Chrysalis.

Leslie Smith called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. and the meeting was opened with prayer by Gene McConnell.

The minutes from the December 4, 2008 meeting were approved as amended. A copy of the amended minutes are included with this report.

Treasurer's Report: The General Fund balance on December 31, 2008 was \$2946.60. An additional \$1080.00 was available for distribution for Walk #1485. The Scholarship Fund balance was \$891.23.

Mike Rhodes commented that the accounts had been combined as had been approved in December. A yearly financial report was submitted to the SWTX Conference office on January 3rd. It was discussed that scholarships should be limited to 1/3 of the entire cost of the weekend. There was discussion of including walk expenses and income in the yearly financial report. Mike Rhodes will provide an amended yearly report to the Board that includes this information. The treasurer's report was approved.

Diane Merwarth stated that there will be space available for babysitting at McKinney Roughs. There is still a need for sitters for Candlelight. An announcement about the need for sitters was to be made at the January Gathering.

Gene McConnell stated that there is still a need for a Music Coordinator on the Board. Also, there is a need for a band to play at the upcoming Gathering at First United Methodist Church of Austin. There was a discussion of the size of band that is needed and it was determined that a small group of musicians is adequate. It was determined that it would be helpful to have a list of back-up musicians who were willing to play at Gatherings when the host church can not provide a band. These needs were to be presented at the January Gathering.

The members of the Board signed forms that were required by the Upper Room.

There was a discussion of extending the make date for Jim Anthony's Walk. It was previously set at one month before the start date of the Walk due to the contract established with McKinney Roughs and the loss of a \$1,200 deposit if cancelling after that point.

The Board discussed moving the make date to two weeks before the event, which is the standard time period due to the number of registrations that had been received at this point and that fact that more registrations would likely come in during the extra two week period. The Board decided to move the date to two weeks out instead of one month out and risk the possible loss of \$1,200 if the Walk did not make.

There was discussion of the use of Camp Young Judea as a possible Walk site in the future as it had been recommended by the SWTX Conference Office. Leslie Smith suggested that the site be reviewed by members of the Board and include meal service during the review.

Bud Broeker requested that possible Lay Directors for 2010 Walks be reviewed at the February Board meeting.

A reminder was made that Team Selection will be held on February 12th at Northwest Hills for the Men's and Women's Fall 2009 Walks. A request for volunteers to sit on the committee was to be made at the January Gathering.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M. with a closing prayer by Jack Foreman.

Respectfully submitted, Cortney Smith

Singing About the Wonderful Story

They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. *Psalm 145:7 ESV*

There are many ways to share "the wondrous story." Some speak it, some sing it, and some paint it; but God asks all of us, with His help, to live it. When we show our love for Christ through our daily activities, we are truly singing the story "with the saints in glory."

To sing the story, we need the gift of our Savior's presence. Even though He is back in glory, Christ continues -- through the Holy Spirit -- to be with those He came to save. He takes us by the hand and leads us safely through the "days of darkness" that come now and then.

Christ is not only with us but has also remained righteous, just like His heavenly Father. What joy that puts into our song! As Jesus' righteousness shines through us, we can point others to the Father.

Dear God, I praise You for Scriptures and songs about Your love. Thank you for the opportunity to sing Your story through my daily living. Thank you, Jesus, for holding me by the hand, especially when everything seems dark and unsafe. Keep me singing about You and Your righteousness. Amen.

De Colores! Gerard Kern

Austin Next Steps Chrysalis Board Minutes

December 16, 2008

IN ATTENDANCE: Kathe Boothby, Penny Mills, Ehrikka Hodge, Cortney Smith, Darren Mock, Paul LeBlanc, Tracy Boothby, William Gray, Liz Gray, Greg Mill, Kelsey Mills

MINUTES: Minutes were read. Minutes approved and seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer reports balance of \$8,060.27. Check in the amount of \$3,862 was made to Conference to close out the Boys Chrysalis. We have deposits coming in for the Journeys. Treasurers Report was approved and it was seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Update on the Journeys

Boys Journey - Found speaker for the Singles Talk. There are 5 confirmed butterflies, 7 more in the works. Jan 9 and 10 are the last meetings. Greg Mills will be the ALD for the Journey.

Girls Journey - There are 2 confirmed butterflies. 6 talks need to be previewed.

For both Journey's need 12 butterflies by Jan 2.

Looking into Cokesbury to get Books for Journey

Girls Chrysalis: Marble Falls will host the summer Chrysalis on July 22-25 (Wed-Sat). Still searching for a SD. Sheri Clifton is unavailable. Possible choices are: Cheryl Broome, Val Sansing. Leslie Tomilson and Kim Burke were suggested but not to be ordained until June.

Boy Chrysalis: Greg Mills has agreed to be the Lay Director. Ralph Mann will be the Spiritual Director. Darren Mock is the Board Rep. The dates will be July 8-11 (Wed-Sat)

Hoot: January 31st is the date of the Hoot at First UMC - Austin. Looking for speakers. Darren will work on the Band. Tracy will work on games.

Publicity: We need to work on flyer for the Hoot. We need to start working on summer advertising for the Chrysalis.

Other Business: We will plan an Agape Party possibly on December 27. Tracy will work on this.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Next meeting - Tuesday, January 27th

Journey Team Commissionings - January 8, 2009 at Hyde Park UMC

Conference Board Meeting - January 10th in San Antonio

Chrysalis Journeys - January 17-19th at Mt. Wesley

Chrysalis Emmaus Leadership Training - January 24th at Buda UMC
(required for LD & SD, Recommended for BR & ALD's within
15 months of the Flight)

Hoot - January 31st at FUMC - Austin

Chrysalis Sponsored Emmaus Gathering - April 2nd at FUMC Pflugerville



Chrysalis News!!

Save the Date!! Time to start thinking about 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.

July 8-11: Boys' Flight # 325 at Marble Falls UMC

July 22-25: Girls' Flight # 327 at Marble Falls UMC

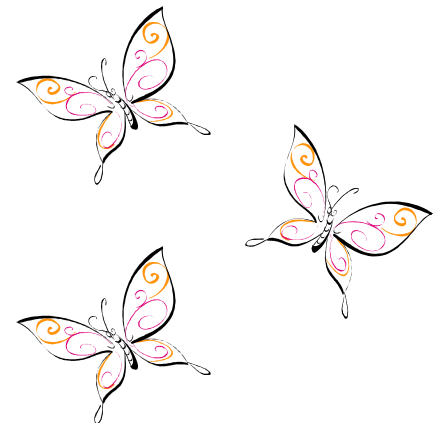
Registration forms are posted on the SWTX Conference and Greater Austin Emmaus Community websites, or you may contact one of the Board Members or any member of the Chrysalis Next Steps Group. Scholarships are available!

What is Chrysalis?

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

What Happens on a Chrysalis Flight?

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



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

February 2009

Thursday, February 5, 2009
First Church of Austin
Lavaca & 12th Street
Speaker: Sara Hickman

March 2009

Thursday, March 5, 2009
Crestview UMC
1300 Morrow Ave.
Speaker: TBA

April 2009

Thursday, April 2, 2009
First UMC of Pflugerville
500 East Pecan Street
Speaker: TBA

May 2009

Thursday, May 7, 2009
Memorial UMC
6100 Berkman Dr.
Speaker: Alberta Shelton

June 2009

Thursday, June 11, 2009
The Rock UMC
2001 W. New Hope Rd.
Speaker: TBA

July 2009

Thursday, July 2, 2009
TBA
Speaker: TBA

August 2009

Thursday, August 6, 2009
TBA
Speaker: TBA

Reminder: Childcare Services are available
at all Gatherings.

**GAE4DG is now accepting
volunteer host churches and
speakers for the upcoming 2009
Gatherings.**

Contact:

Board Member for Gathering Support

Gene McConnell

gene.mcconnell@jicompanies.com