



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



October, 2009

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 20, Number 10

Emmaus - The Forgotten Mission

The men's September Walk 1513 did not make and the women's Walk 1530 scheduled for October 22nd through 25th needs our commitment and prayers. I was puzzling over the question as to why are we experiencing low Walk participation last Sunday while gazing at the colorful new mission banners hanging in our sanctuary at FUMC Pflugerville. There were 61 banners representing 61 current mission and outreach programs in our church. While Emmaus is one of the 61 missions, I am concerned that, with 60 competing church sponsored programs, the good folks at Pflugerville have forgotten Emmaus. As I looked around our facilities I did not find copies of the Upper Room or the Emmaus Walk Tri-fold. I could not remember the last time the wonderful grace of Emmaus was mentioned from the pulpit, discussed in my Sunday school class or UMM and it has been months since we needed to take the church van to a Gathering.

I have two (2) questions for you. First has your church forgotten Emmaus? Second, whose fault is it? While the first question is highly subjective I know the answer to the second. It is my fault that the good news of Emmaus has not been shared. I don't have to be part of a committee to talk to my preacher about Emmaus, I can do it. If there are not copies of the Upper Room and Emmaus information in the information racks then I can contact the church secretary or send an e-mail the Greater Austin Lay Director. I can take a few minutes to share Emmaus with my church small groups. I can organize a van pool or car pool to the Gathering. I can sponsor a pilgrim.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, this is a call to action. If I can do the above with God's help, so can you!

DeColores Jack Foreman, Lay Director Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

2009 Austin Sponsored Walk

Women's Walk # 1530	Oct. 22 – 25	Joan King, LD
Highland Lakes		Georgia Stone, SD

Please support the Pilgrims and this Walk with your prayers, your agape, and your presence at Candlelight and Closing.

Candlelight: 7:30 pm, October 24	Closing: 3:00 pm, October 25
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Local Lay Director Orientation (LLDO)

An LLDO will be held on Saturday October 3rd at Pflugerville UMC. This orientation is required for Lay Directors and those aspiring to be a Lay Director on a walk. It is also suggested for anyone who will be working on a walk as it provides a deeper understanding of how a walk is conducted. Anyone who just wants to understand more about how walks are conducted is welcome to attend.

Where: Pflugerville UMC - 500 East Pecan Street , Pflugerville, TX
When: Saturday October 3, 2009 **Start:** Precisely at 8:30 AM

Please send an email to Kathy Shaw at kathyshaw@swbell.net and put "LLDO" in the subject line.

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

2009/2010 Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Jack Foreman

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Spiritual Director

Rev. Georgia Stone

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Assistant Lay Director

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Board Member for Gathering Support

Vacant

Board Member for Walk Support

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Board Member for Member Services

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Database Coordinator

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Vacant

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 November is October 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 6!

We'll be looking for you!

2010 Austin Sponsored Walks

Men's Walk #1541	February 11-14	Keith Bible, Lay Director Val Sansing, Spiritual Director Don Greenway, Board Rep.
Women's Walk #1556	April 22-25	Chris Weihl, Lay Director Roxie Greenway, Board Rep.
Men's Walk #1585	October 7-11	Gary Johnson, Lay Director Jack Foreman, Board Rep.
Women's Walk #1599	November 18-21	Diane Merwarth, Lay Director Cortney Smith, Board Rep.

Agape Signup Online

The signup for Women's Walk to Emmaus #1530 is at www.mysignup.com/walk1530agape.

The general format at the web site is a list of instructions at the top of the page, followed by a grid of 6 columns with many rows for the items needed. The list of items is in alphabetical order. If you want to search for a particular item, you can enter <Control-F>, enter the name in the Find box, and press the Next pushbutton.

Approximately one week prior to the beginning of a Walk, a reminder e-mail will be sent to you for each item that you have promised to bring. The drop-off locations will be listed in the reminder e-mail.

Food for your Soul

Everybody has known what it means to be lonely. Loneliness has been part of life ever since the moment Adam and Eve realized their sinful disobedience had separated them from the fellowship of the Lord.

Yet, in reality -- God's people are never alone!

"You are no longer foreigners and aliens," Paul writes, "but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household." He goes on to declare that your faith and hope are *"built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the chief cornerstone"* (Ephesians 2). This means you are not alone when you have a faith that is founded on holy Scripture which says, *"I will never leave you nor forsake you"* (Hebrews 13). Not when your life is built upon the sacrifice of the Savior.

With faith in the crucified and ever-living Lord, you will never be alone. Not in this world; nor on the Day of Judgment -- what might have been the loneliest of days. Jesus will be at your side.

He will affirm that you have been adopted into the household of God. Because of Spirit-given faith in Jesus, you cannot be alone!

De Colores!

Gerard Kern

SWTX Walk/Flight 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: Oct. 17, 2009 **Location:** Kerrville

Purpose: Training Lay Directors, Board Reps and Spiritual Directors Leadership teams for Emmaus/Chrysalis. The Walk/Flight 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 LT is open to anyone interested in learning more about 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 SWTX Conf Emmaus/Chrysalis Lay Directors and Spiritual Director or their appointees.

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors Meeting

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors met on Thursday, September 3, 2009, at Covenant UMC Church. In Attendance were: Gene McConnell, Assistant Lay Director, Bud Broeker, SWTC Board Representative; Jack Foreman, Lay Director; Diane Merwarth, Walk Support; Roxie Greenway; Treasurer, Cortney Smith, Chrysalis Representative, Bob Duplantis, Member Services Support, Rev. Georgia Stone, Spiritual Director and Leslie Smith, past Lay Director.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 by Lay Director Jack Foreman, with an opening Prayer by Georgia Stone.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with one change (\$50 for childcare was to buy toys/books/videos, etc. appropriate for different age children for use at gatherings instead of to provide gas) on a motion by Bob Duplantis, with a second by Bud Broeker.

The finance report was presented by Roxie Greenway and approved on a motion by Bud Broeker, seconded by Bob Duplantis. Roxie reported that as of the end of August, the overall total balance of funds is at \$9,894.42. This is before refunding the fees back to team members of walk 1513. Roxie reported that she has already refunded the \$195 fee to Don Greenway.

Bud Broeker gave a report from conference, stating the cancellation charges from Highland Lakes now are at \$5,000 if the walk is cancelled within 90 days. There was discussion that conference was going to make a counter offer to HLCC to charge \$1500 if cancelled within 30 days of the walk date.

Old Business:

Nominations for the Board position of Gathering Support were Myles Mckemie and Sandy Brooks. The Board voted and a motion passed to offer the position to Sandy Brooks as our first choice and if she could not then to offer the position to Myles Mckemie. Roxie Greenway made the motion, with a second from Diane Merwarth.

Next discussion was on the communication letter that Diane Merwarth drafted and how it would be used. It was decided to be used to communicate with all new pilgrims coming off a walk by e-mail and by regular mail. Member services will take on this responsibility.

Childcare for the next walk will be offered and the childcare providers will be MaryAnn McConnell and Cortney Smith.

Host Churches are set for the rest of 2009.

October – Oak Hill UMC

November – Northwest Hills UMC

December – Tarrytown UMC

The date of the next LLDO was confirmed for 10/03/09.

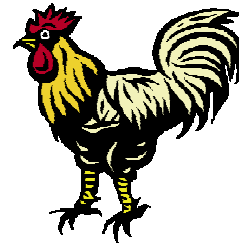
New Business:

The discussion was what to do on follow up with the cancellation of Walk 1513. There was an offer by Rocky Wilcox to put off his serving as Lay Director in February and let the Lay Director and team for 1513 serve for the February 2010 walk. Bud Broeker was asked to approach the team selection committee and also Keith Bible, Don Greenway and Val Sansing to see if all agreed they would take on the next walk. There was a motion that if Keith did not accept the next walk that the \$200 he received from GAE4DG would be returned with no expense report needed. Motion made by Bob Duplantis and seconded by Diane Merwarth. Motion passed.

Jack Foreman announced that a meeting would be held at First UMC-Pflugerville on Sept 10th at 7:00pm to discuss ways to energize the Emmaus Community and brainstorm ideas of how to prevent future walks from not making. Jack is to announce at the Gathering tonight all are welcome at this meeting next week.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM with a closing prayer by Rev Georgia Stone.

Minutes submitted by: Gene McConnell, Assistant Lay Director



Austin Next Steps Chrysalis Board Minutes

July 28, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE: Kathe Boothby, Cortney Smith, Penny Mills, Jim McClain, Paul LeBlanc, Briana Roehling, Sandy Brooks, Tanya Eustace, Jim Luton, Ehrikka Hodges

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

TREASURERS REPORT: Flight #327 started without with the food stipend. Balance of \$1105.88 before close out of Flight #327. Treasurers report approved and seconded.

NEW BUSINESS:

Boys Chrysalis: We will try have the Girl's flight first and be consistent with dates for the future This might help with getting boys interested. We will have the Boy's Flight the 4th week in July.

Girls Chrysalis: Girls Flight for 2010 is the 2nd week in July. Recommended to have team selection done earlier, possibly before Christmas.

Issues from Flight #327 as far as the sight are the lack of showers, and the need to have rooms locked up for security. Otherwise all went well.

Need to work on needs list and the 3-day schedule. Also work on representatives from other communities to have representatives from Chrysalis/Emmaus to be more attentive on the Austin Community coming together as a group for support.

Journey 2010: Issues were raised that since we did not have a Boy's Flight to "work up" an ALD we do not have a current Boy's ALD for the Journey in 2010. So it was decided to wait on the Journey until 2011. Possible locations suggested for the Journey were McKinney Roughs, Concordia University, public schools.

Jim McClain will work on the clergy for next summer's Chrysalis.

LD names for Chrysalis 2010

Girls – Angela Cava, Ehrikka Hodge –both need 1 more ALD

Also look into getting on track – Liz Gray, Ness Meredith, Jenn Anderson

Boys – Chris Kingsbury, Jeff Montgomery, David Kendrick

The amount of training hours required has been raised to 3 team meetings for flights, 24 hours. Board Rep needs to track who has heard all the talks. All talks need to be heard by the team.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Next meeting – Tuesday, August 25

Hoot August 8 at Elgin UMC

October 10th – Conference Chrysalis Board Meeting

October 17th – WFLT – Kerrville

2010 Flight Leadership due December 1st



Chrysalis News

Time to Start Planning for Chrysalis!!

Calling all team members for an awesome adventure.

The Austin Chrysalis Community is sponsoring two Flights this summer:

July 9, 2010: Boys' Flight # 335 at Marble Falls UMC

July 23, 2010: Girls' Flight # 339 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 Lay Directors or any member of the Chrysalis Next Steps Group. Scholarships are available!



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

October 2009

Thursday, October 1, 2009
Oakhill UMC
7815 Highway 290, West

November 2009

Thursday, November 5, 2009
Northwest Hills UMC
7050 Village Center Dr.

December 2009

Thursday, December 3, 2009
Tarrytown UMC
2601 Exposition Blvd.

Upcoming 2010 Dates:

January 2010

Thursday, January 7, 2010

February 2010

Thursday, February 4, 2010

March 2010

Thursday, March 4, 2010

April 2010

Thursday, April 1, 2010

May 2010

Thursday, May 6, 2010



Reminder: Childcare Services are available at all Gatherings.

**GAE4DG is now accepting
volunteer host churches and
speakers for the upcoming 2010
Gatherings.**

Contact:

Assistant Lay Director
Gene McConnell

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