



# The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



February, 2010

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 21, Number 2

## Lay Director Notes:

I apologize for missing a month. There is joyous news about the upcoming men's Emmaus Walk 1541. It was announced at the Gathering last Thursday that 28 Pilgrims were registered and more applications are outstanding. Praise the Lord. Remember, Candle Light is this Saturday, 13 February at Highland Lakes Conference Center.

Now the sad news, Hyde Park UMC will discontinue as a congregation on 31 May 2010. Hyde Park and the great folks at HPUMC have been great supporters of the Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group and the Emmaus program. Please keep Hyde Park in your prayers.

More good news. The Fall Walks will be held at Camp Young Judaea in Wimberley Texas. The search for a new location to replace HLCC which has become cost prohibitive has been underway for months. Camp Young Judaea has new facilities set in a wonderful environment. Website: <http://www.cyjtxas.org/>

Reminder: Women's Walk # 1555 is just around the corner on April 22 to 25 at HLCC. Chris Wehl is the Lay director. New sponsor kits are available by sending me an e-mail at [jack@gae4dg.org](mailto:jack@gae4dg.org). Also, there is a wonderful introduction to Emmaus at [www.upperroom.org/emmaus](http://www.upperroom.org/emmaus). Go check it out.

On final note. Gene McConnell, the Assistant Lay Director of GAE4DG, needs members for the 2010-2011 nomination committee. Please contact Gene at [Gene@gae4dg.org](mailto:Gene@gae4dg.org) if you would like to help, volunteer to serve on the board or have a suggestion of someone who would be a great board member.

DeColores

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

## Emmaus Walk 1541

Men's Walk #1541 will take place February 11-14, at Highland Lakes.

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

Keith Bible – <i>Lay Director</i>	Val Sansing – <i>Spiritual Director</i>	Don Greenway – Board Rep.
Gary Bible	Bud Broeker	Mel Chambers
Charles Chupco	Tom Devaney	
Bob Duplantis	Ralph Eckwall	Paul Harris
Gary Johnson	David Kendrick	
BC Knowlton	Dean Kuhlman	Charlie Lancaster
Vance Morton		
Nancy Mossman	Jon Nelson	Mike Olsen
Mike Shepard		
Harold Sundbeck	Kyle Toomire	Jason White

## Reminders for Emmaus Walk 1541

**Sponsor Hour: 7:00 pm on Thursday February 11th**

**Candelight: 7:30 pm on Saturday February 13th**

**Closing: 3:00 pm on Sunday February 14th**



# Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

## 2009/2010 Board of Directors and Volunteers

### Lay Director

Jack Foreman

252-1001

[jcforeman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcforeman@sbcglobal.net)

### Spiritual Director

Rev. Georgia Stone

[pastorgeorgia1@aol.com](mailto:pastorgeorgia1@aol.com)

### 4<sup>th</sup> Day Board Representative

Bud Broeker

261-6001

[bbroeker@austin.rr.com](mailto:bbroeker@austin.rr.com)

### Assistant Lay Director

Gene McConnell

[gene.mcconnell@jicompanies.com](mailto:gene.mcconnell@jicompanies.com)

### Board Member for Gathering Support

Sandy Brooks

[Sandy\\_Brooks@Dell.com](mailto:Sandy_Brooks@Dell.com)

### Board Member for Walk Support

Diane Merwarth

[dianemerwarth@att.net](mailto:dianemerwarth@att.net)

### Board Member for Member Services

Bob Duplantis

261-7730

[Bob@BoDeb.com](mailto:Bob@BoDeb.com)

### Treasurer

Roxie Greenway

335-4604

[roxieg@austin.rr.com](mailto:roxieg@austin.rr.com)

### Immediate Past Lay Director

Leslie Smith

835-5249

[lsmith304@austin.rr.com](mailto:lsmith304@austin.rr.com)

### Chrysalis Representative

Cortney Smith

[cortneymeister@gmail.com](mailto:cortneymeister@gmail.com)

### Registration Liaison

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989-3866

[tedshaw@swbell.net](mailto:tedshaw@swbell.net)

### Database Coordinator

Bud Broeker

261-6001

[bbroeker@austin.rr.com](mailto:bbroeker@austin.rr.com)

### Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Dana Ripley

[rip@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rip@sbcglobal.net)

### Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Vacant

### Music Coordinator

Vacant

### Walk Talk Editor

Gina Franklin

970-1393

[franklingdom@gmail.com](mailto:franklingdom@gmail.com)



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



## The Walk Talk Deadline for March 2010 is February 22nd!

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](mailto:franklingdom@gmail.com)

## Were You There?

There were **81** attendees at the January 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 7!

**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.  
Beth Bible, ST Coordinator

contact: [kbible@austin.rr.com](mailto:kbible@austin.rr.com)

contact: [lisbethmr@yahoo.com](mailto:lisbethmr@yahoo.com)

### Women's Walk #1555      **April 22-25**

Chris Weihl, Lay Director  
Jeannie Whitehurst, Spiritual Director  
Roxie Greenway, Board Rep.  
Sandy Brooks, ST Coordinator

contact: [cweihl@riverbend.com](mailto:cweihl@riverbend.com)

contact: [Sandy\\_brooks@dell.com](mailto:Sandy_brooks@dell.com)

### Men's Walk #1580      **October 7-11**

Gary Johnson, Lay Director  
Jack Foreman, Board Rep.

contact: [jcforeman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcforeman@sbcglobal.net)

### Women's Walk #1593      **November 18-21**

Diane Merwarth, Lay Director  
Cortney Smith, Board Rep.

contact: [dianemerwarth@att.net](mailto:dianemerwarth@att.net)



## Agape Signup Online

The signup for Men's Walk to Emmaus #1541 is at [www.mysignup.com/walk1541agape](http://www.mysignup.com/walk1541agape).

The signup for Women's Walk to Emmaus #1555 is at [www.mysignup.com/walk1555agape](http://www.mysignup.com/walk1555agape).

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 button.

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.



## Chrysalis News

### Time to Start Planning for Chrysalis!!

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!



## The Lenten Season

During Lent we keep our eyes focused on Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. There is no "law" about what you should be doing, but there are certain practices and disciplines that will be a blessing, such as:

**Self-examination:** Set aside time to examine and evaluate your life as a Christian.

**Repentance:** Be honest with God and yourself about those areas of your life that do not reflect God's plan or will for you. Use the power of the Holy Spirit in your life, to change those parts of your life.

**Meditation:** Read a portion of Scripture daily. Let its words settle into your heart, and apply what you read to your life.

**Prayer:** Set aside time for conversation with God. Open your heart and listen to what He says to you.

**Special Service:** Live out your faith by committing to serve the Lord in a specific way, one that touches the life of another.

**Worship services:** Participate in a worship service additional to regular Sunday worship. You will be drawn closer to Him.

**Look for ways to share your faith:** Think about people who do not know God's love for them. And think about those who know Jesus but are not connected with a worshipping congregation. Lift those people in prayer, and think about how you can bring them to church.

**Commitment:** "How am I serving the Lord in my congregation?" Look for ways. Commit yourself to serve. Use this Season to reflect on how much God has done for you in Christ. How can you show your thanks? By serving others.

De Colores!

Gerard Kern

## A note about agape....

Agape is ALWAYS welcome, and greatly appreciated. However, this is a good time to review some general guidelines. The Upper Room Handbook states: "... agape is an expression of unconditional love; therefore personal names are not attached, although Reunion Group or church names are acceptable." Please keep this in mind when you are packaging your agape for a walk. One suggestion in the event that your reunion group doesn't have a name, is to say "Reunion group of \_\_\_\_\_ church" (instead of listing each individual's name of that group). Another important point to remember – agape should not be directed to or "feature" a specific pilgrim. Finally, the conference room team is an integral part of the Walk and they should be included in the agape distribution (this is why "65" pieces of agape are requested). If you have any questions at all concerning agape, please don't hesitate to contact the Board Member for Walk Support. Thanks to everyone who provides agape for pilgrims – a true reflection of God's love through your hands!!

## SWTX Walk/Flight Leadership Training Sessions

To register for an Emmaus Leadership Training Event please go to [www.swtxumc.org/emmaus](http://www.swtxumc.org/emmaus) or contact Emmaus Register at [Emmaus@umcswtx.org](mailto:Emmaus@umcswtx.org)

**Date:** February 20, 2010

**Location:** Manchaca UMC, 1011 FM 1626, Manchaca, TX

**Date:** March 13, 2010

**Location:** Welsey UMC, 1406 E. Austin, Harlington, TX

**Date:** May 15, 2010

**Location:** Junction FUMC, 902 main, Junction TX

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 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group Board of Directors Meeting

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group Board of Directors met on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Northwest Hills United Methodist Church. In attendance were: Jack Foreman – Lay Director; Gene McConnell – Assistant Lay Director; Bob Duplantis – Member Support; Sandy Brooks – Gathering Support; Diane Merwarth – Walk Support; Roxie Greenway – Treasurer; Bud Broeker – SWC Representative; Cortney Smith – Chrysalis Rep; Leslie Smith – Immediate Past Lay Director.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Jack Foreman, with an opening prayer by Roxie Greenway. The minutes of the previous Board Meeting were approved as written on a motion by Bud Broeker, seconded by Diane Merwarth. The finance report was given by Roxie Greenway, and was approved by a motion from Bob Duplantis with a second from Diane Merwarth. Ending balance as of 12/31/09 is \$5,470.61.

Bud Broeker gave a conference report in which he suggested the Board make a visit to Camp Young Judea (CYJ) as a site for some of our future walks. Those who can attend will meet at the site on Saturday 01/09/10 at 2:00pm. Conference asked us to move our spring 2011 Walk dates so they would not be so close to the dates of Hays Praise. The dates of the first two Walks in 2011 were changed to 02/10-13/2011 for the Women's Walk and 03/24-27/2011 for the Men's Walk. The Board also asked Bud to initiate talks with Conference about moving our Fall 2010 Walks to Camp Young Judea.

Sandy Brooks reported that host churches for 2010 Gatherings are being identified. Lake Travis UMC will host January and Westlake UMC will host February, 2010. Bob Duplantis reported the initial test of a new website host went well and we are moving towards setting up the registration and using the new host.

Diane Merwarth (Walk Support) suggested we send a letter to the sponsors after each walk to keep them motivated to get their pilgrim involved in gatherings and reunion groups. The Board approved a motion by Leslie Smith with a second by Bob Duplantis. The Board approved in this motion to secure more letterhead and envelopes with Emmaus logo. The Board also agreed to put a Sponsor's Corner on the website to include general information and direct sponsors on how to download the sponsors packet.

To help support the next Men's Walk each board member was assigned a church to contact personally to announce and encourage members to get pilgrims signed up by the end of January, 2010. The Board also reminded Gene McConnell that a Nominations Committee needs to be formed to begin putting together nominations for board positions that will take over in June, 2010.

The board then set a tentative date of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 for Team selection for the Fall 2010 walks with the location to be a Northwest Hills UMC starting at 7:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM with a closing prayer by Gene McConnell.



### Opportunities:

**GAE4DG Community Member**, would you like to say a few words to your fellow brothers and sisters in the community or do you have a special announcement to share? You can write a brief message for the *WalkTalk*. Send your message to Gina by the 25th of each month!

**Community clergy**, would you like to write a column for the *WalkTalk*?

We would love to hear from you! We would call it **Clergy Corner**! You can write as brief or as long as you want. You can be a one time column, or an every month column. Up to you! Send your column to Gina by the 25th of each month!

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

## Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

### February 2010

Thursday, February 4, 2010  
Westlake UMC  
1460 Redbud Trail

### March 2010

Thursday, March 4, 2010  
Bethany UMC  
10010 Anderson Mill Road

### April 2010

Thursday, April 8, 2010  
Riverbend  
4214 N. Capital of Texas Hwy.

### May 2010

Thursday, May 6, 2010  
Pflugerville UMC  
500 E. Pecan, Pflugerville

### June 2010

Thursday, June 10, 2010  
Chrysalis Hosting at  
Riverbend  
4214 N. Capital of Texas Hwy.

### July 2010

Thursday, July 1, 2010  
University UMC  
2409 Guadalupe Street

### August 2010

Thursday, August 5, 2010  
Covenant UMC  
4410 Duval Road

### September 2010

Thursday, September 2, 2010

### October 2010

Thursday, October 7, 2010

### November 2010

Thursday, November 4, 2010  
Oak Hill UMC  
7815 W. Hwy 290

**Reminder:** Childcare Services are available  
at all Gatherings.

### Contact:

**Board Member for Gathering Support**  
Sandy Brooks  
[Sandy\\_Brooks@Dell.com](mailto:Sandy_Brooks@Dell.com)