



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



June, 2012

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 23, Number 6



De Colores!

Welcome New Pilgrims

Men's Walk #1659, May 3-6, 2012
Camp Young Judaea

Kent Baxley
Brad Calhoun
Rod Chupco
Dick Coddington
Juan Cosio
Marc Draper
Richard Duron

Billy Fletcher
Greg Frederick
Stephen Galliver
Don Hurst
Rob MacFarland
Jack McVey
Hal Mercer

Greg Mikeska
Billy Morell
Jerele Neeld
Charlie Oehler
Kevin Osborn
Daniel Rodriguez
CJ Salzman



Chrysalis News

Time to Start Planning for Chrysalis!!

The Chrysalis Community is sponsoring two Flights this summer:

July 11-13, 2012: Girl's Flight # 357 at First UMC, Austin, TX
Jackie Condra, Lay Director, James Amerson, Spiritual Director
Wendy Boatwright, Board Rep.; Cost: 85.00

July 26-28, 2012: Boy's Flight # 360 at Cathedral Oaks, Weimer, TX
Bill Holladay, Lay Director, James Amerson, Spiritual Director
Jim Luton, Board Rep.; Cost: 185.00



Both flights are expected to fill completely, so please enroll as soon as you are able. 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!

We still need team members to serve on the boy's flight this summer. Please notify Bill Holladay if you feel led to serve. His email is billh@tisd.net

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

2011/2012 Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Sandy Brooks
Sandy@gae4dg.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Cheryl Broome
Cheryl@gae4dg.org

4th Day Board Representative

Roxie Greenway
Roxie@gae4dg.org

Assistant Lay Director

Gary Johnson
Gary@gae4dg.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

Myles McKemie
Myles@gae4dg.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Bobby Callison
bobbycallison@swbell.net

Board Member for Member Services

Bob Duplantis
Bob@gae4dg.org

Treasurer

Anne Rioux
Anne@gae4dg.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

Gene McConnell
Gene@gae4dg.org

Chrysalis Representative

Kathy Robbins
krobbins100@yahoo.com

Registration Liaison

Ted Shaw
tedshaw@swbell.net

Database Coordinator

Bud Broeker
bbroeker@austin.rr.com

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Connie Ellis
drcellis@gmail.com

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Tom Rioux
rioux@mail.utexas.edu

Music Coordinators

Nickie Hyde and
Tom Carstarphen
nickie.ji@yahoo.com
tomc4041@yahoo.com

Walk Talk Editor

Gina Franklin
franklingdom@gmail.com



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



The Walk Talk Deadline is on the 20th of each month!

Please send your articles, Community Opportunities, 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 gathering schedule on the last page!

We'll be looking for you!

2012 Austin Sponsored Walks

Women's Walk # 1674 **Sept. 20-23**

LeeLeen Sundbeck, Lay Director
Tom Deviney, Spiritual Director
Roxie Greenway, Board Rep.
Diane Merwarth, ST Coordinator

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

contact: leeleen21@gmail.com

contact: Roxie@gae4dg.org

contact: dianemerwarth@att.net

Men's Walk # 1686 **Oct. 25-28**

Derly Tijerina, Lay Director
Charlie Baskin, Spiritual Director
Gene McConnell, Board Rep.
Bob Duplantis, ST Coordinator

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

contact: derly@pobox.com

contact: Gene@gae4dg.org

contact: bob@bodeb.com

Agape Signup Online

The signup for Women's Walk to Emmaus #1674 is: www.mysignup.com/walk1674agape

The signup for Men's Walk to Emmaus #1686 is: www.mysignup.com/walk1686agape

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.

Changing Course -- Love Can Soften Calcified Heart

"Do not ask the Lord to guide your footsteps, if you are not willing to move your feet." (Anonymous).

Jonah probably had many attributes, but an eagerness to listen to the Lord was not among them. He was in love with his own beliefs and opinions. When God first commanded Jonah to go to Nineveh, a city pregnant with evil, and declare that godlessness would only lead to destruction, Jonah went in the opposite direction. He jumped in a boat and sailed away from God. He didn't want the people in Nineveh to be saved.

The second time God ordered Jonah to go to Nineveh, he went. But when the wicked urbanites of that city suddenly started to believe in God, Jonah was miffed. Actually he was furious -- less at them than at God.

God had decided to call off the fire and brimstone, elected instead to rain down mercy. God had changed God's mind about a promised wrath. This was too much for Jonah. The whole idea of divine mercy disgusted him. Never mind that he was the recipient of mercy several times himself. He couldn't stomach God showing more flexibility of heart than he had ever demonstrated himself.

Somewhere along the way we Christians picked up the notion that to change one's mind is a spiritual weakness. Why change a perspective when you have everything figured out? We equate the constancy of God with divine inflexibility. Yet throughout the Old Testament, God appears ready and willing to change God's mind, and there is one reason -- love. Love has a way of breaking the chains of dogged certainty. If God is love, it stands to reason that God has the privilege of changing God's mind, especially when mercy is at stake.

It takes humility to re-examine old assumptions and to be open to new possibilities. On the best days, it will open up whole new worlds of love.

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, February 9, at Cedar Park United Methodist Church. In attendance were: Sandy Brooks-Lay Director; Cheryl Broome-Spiritual Director; Gary Johnson-Assistant Lay Director; Gene McConnell-Immediate Past Lay Director; Roxie Greenway-4th Day Representative; Bob Duplantis-Member Services; Myles McKemie-Gathering Support; Bobby Callison-Walk Support; Anne Rioux-Treasurer; Tom Rioux- Food/Gift Agape Coordinator; and Kathy Robbins-Chrysalis Representative.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Sandy Brooks. Cheryl gave the opening prayer. Gary Johnson stated that the minutes to the January Board meeting would need to be emailed to the Board for review and approval.

Anne Rioux presented the Treasurer's Report. She also presented an amended December summary due to an outstanding check having cleared. The ending checking account balance for January was \$6,417.43. Gary Johnson moved that we approve the Treasurer's report and Bobby Callison seconded. The report was approved by the Board.

Roxie Greenway led a discussion of the men's and women's possible walk dates for 2013 and how she has been working with Camp Young Judaea to resolve date conflicts since other groups have also requested on the preferred dates. Roxie also discussed that the new GAE4DG Fourth Day Representative that will replace her in June, should attend the May SW Texas Conference Board meeting in San Antonio with her. Roxie also stated that there will be a Team Selection meeting on February 28 at 6:30 at Covenant UMC for the second men's and women's 2012 walks.

Bobby Callison reported that the "new" DVD did not work on the most recent women's walk. The cost for new ones are \$25 each and he asked that the Board approve the purchase of two of them in order to have a backup. Gary moved to approve the purchase of two new DVDs and Bob seconded. The purchase was approved by the Board.

Bobby also addressed the issue of the music at candlelight and that Nickie Hyde and Tom Carstarphen will continue leading the music at those events. There was a discussion concerning the most recent candlelight and it was agreed that the music at the end with only a drum (for pace) and no other instruments or amplification was excellent and that this is the approach that should be followed on future Walks. There was also the recommendation that the music team completely leave the stage before the pilgrims enter the building, thereby allowing for full use of the stage area at that point. Bobby stated that the "welcome back" is scheduled for that coming Monday night.

Bob Duplantis discussed the sponsor's hour on Walks, that we could use a pastor to lead communion but that the pastors on the Walk team have other assignments and therefore cannot be used for this purpose. Another pastor should be used for the communion. Bob also addressed the issue of the need for a faster coffee brewer for the conference room. Currently we brew remotely and haul the coffee into the back room of the conference room during periods when talks are being given. On the last women's walk there was a big demand for coffee and the servant team struggled to keep up. Bob moved that we purchase a high capacity Bunn Coffee Brewer for \$238.86 along with two additional "air pots." Gary seconded and the motion was approved.

Tom Rioux discussed the burning of CDs for the pilgrims closing packets-that they now include an autorun with hyperlinks so that pilgrims can more easily open the Austin Emmaus website link and therefore there will be a better chance of them plugging into Emmaus following their Walk experience, including signing up for Emmaus emails.

Roxie addressed the ongoing issue of a better form of communicating with the Emmaus community. She stated that "Constant Contact" was too expensive and that she still needs information from Bud on the approach to take.

Gary discussed the nominations committee to fill the upcoming vacancies in the Board. Gary moved that the following individuals from the Emmaus community be approved as members of this committee: Gina Franklin, Gene McConnell, Bobby Callison, Anne Rioux, Don Greenway, Jon Nelson and Carl Fisher. Bobby seconded and the motion passed.

Cheryl commented that this year everything is working well in Emmaus-that the Walks are filling and the Holy Spirit is with us.

Bob stated that at CYJ we do not have wireless mikes and those that we have used have been on loan. Bob suggested that we research and purchase a wireless mike for Emmaus use. The Board discussed this and asked Bob to research this and bring it to the Board at the March meeting.

Kathy Robbins discussed Chrysalis issues. She stated that originally the Flights were to be in Victoria, but high costs required a reconsideration of the UMC in Seguin. She said the Flight dates are being moved to July 12-14. In addition she stated that it would be desirable to locate Austin area churches with facilities that are necessary for supporting Flights, especially with shower facilities. First UMC Pflugerville and Northwest Hills UMC were mentioned as possible places to start. Kathy also stated that there would be four Flights in 2013-two in the North and two in the South. There will be "Rush" at Buda UMC on March 9 for high school ages.

Sandy Brooks briefly discussed the bylaws update and adoption at the Gathering that night. She said that she would bring this up before the Community and would then have Gary introduce the amendment addressing the wording to the proposed bylaws addressing that the GAE4DG was a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code. (At the Gathering, this was handled and the Community voted to adopt the proposed amendments to the bylaws.)

Roxie discussed the project of making agape for the first Walk in Romania. She said that the costs of shipping might be best handled by the Board. Bob moved that we cover the shipping costs and also send \$200 in support of the Romanian Walk. Gary seconded and the motion was approved.

Gene closed with a prayer and the meeting adjourned at 7:10. There were 121 at Gathering.

Submitted by Gary Johnson

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2012 Gatherings

June 2012

**Thursday, June 14, 2012
Hyde Park Christian Church
610 East 45th Street

July 2012

**Thursday, July 12, 2012
University UMC
2409 Guadalupe

August 2012

Thursday, August 2, 2012
Covenant UMC
4410 Duval Road

September 2012

Thursday, September 6, 2012
Bethany UMC
10010 Anderson Mill

October 2012

Thursday, October 4, 2012
Tarrytown UMC
2601 Exposition Blvd.



Gathering Dates

Please note the following changes on
Gathering Dates:

June 14, 2012—moved to 2nd week to
avoid conflict with Church Conference

July, 2012—moved to 2nd week to
avoid conflict with July 4th holiday

Reminder:

Childcare Services are available
at all Gatherings.

Contact:

Board Member for Gathering Support
Myles McKemie
myles.mckemie@ergon.com