



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



February 2014

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 25, Number 2

Commandments

By golly, as Americans we are raised to think of ourselves as single-minded and “nobody is gonna tell me what to do!” However, we stop at stop signs; we don’t go around punching out people without consequences; we listen to our doctors’ orders so that we may keep or achieve good health; and when Mama says do something we say “Yes ma’am!” (Or, at least when I was a girl that’s what I knew I’d *better* do...)

Over 2000 years ago our Lord and Savior spoke to us in the Gospel of John, Chapter 14, verses 15-17 saying: “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

What strikes me about this beautiful passage is that first Jesus says “if you love me”...So, we must first declare that we love Jesus. And once we so declare, we **will** keep His commandments; in essence, we **will** love one another. Even better, He promises us that we will have the Holy Spirit in us FOREVER. No matter what happens to us, we are never alone!

On February 27 and on April 24 we are slated to start Men’s Walk #1740 and Women’s Walk #1749, respectively. The lay people and clergy who have been working together to present these Walks to God’s pilgrims are moving in the Spirit at every step. When you read or hear the call “We need pilgrims”, it’s really not about “we” at all! It’s about following Jesus’ call to truly love Him and our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ by making sponsorship a priority. I thank God every day for my sponsor, for the friendships I have made in Emmaus, for the bond of sisterhood that arises from my weekly reunion group, and for opening the eyes of my heart to the needs of my church.

I ask that you pray the prayer to the Holy Spirit and let it guide you in the coming months: “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit, and we shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy your consolations. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

De Colores!
Anne Rioux
Lay Director, Greater Austin Emmaus



2013 Survey Results Available

<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Downloads” then “GAE4DG 2013 Survey” at the bottom

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group 2014 Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Anne Rioux

Anne@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Cheryl Broome

Cheryl@austinemmaus.org

Assistant Lay Director

Mel Chambers

Mel@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

LeeLeen Sundbeck

LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Bobby Callison

Bobby@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Member Services

Jim Burgess

Jim@austinemmaus.org

Treasurer

Debby Duplantis

Debby@austinemmaus.org

4th Day Board Representative

Tom Rioux

Tom@austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

Gary Johnson

Gary@austinemmaus.org

Chrysalis Representative

Tim Deschner

Tim@austinemmaus.org

Registration Liaison

Tom Rioux

Tom@austinemmaus.org

Database Coordinator

Tom Rioux

Tom@austinemmaus.org

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Bobby Callison

Bobby@austinemmaus.org

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Tom Rioux

Tom@austinemmaus.org

Music Coordinator

Tom Carstarphen

tomc4041@yahoo.com

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

Kellye@austinemmaus.org



Financial Statement

Bank Balance – 12/31/13	\$ 5,898.11
Deposits during 2013	\$ 26,769.40
Expenditures during 2013	(\$ 28,243.00)
Bank Balance – 12/31/2013	\$ 4,424.51

Scholarship Fund Balance
as of 12/31/13 = \$726.00

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



**The *WalkTalk* Deadline is
the 20th of each month.**

Please send your articles, information, community opportunities, 4th Day Stories, and reflections to

Kellye@austinemmaus.org

**There were 71 in attendance at the January
Gathering at St. Mark's UMC!
The 4th Day Speaker was Xylia Gomez.**

Check out the Gathering schedule on the last page!
They are normally the first Thursday of the month.
Childcare available.



2014 Austin Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #1740

February 27—March 2 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Paul Draper, Lay Director

contact: Paul@austinemmaus.org

Tom Deviney, Spiritual Director

Ed White, Board Rep.

contact: Ed@austinemmaus.org

Teresa Edwards, ST Coordinator

contact: Teresa@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back, March 4, 2014, 6:30, Bethany UMC, 10010 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, 78750, 512-258-6017

Women's Walk #1749

April 24—27, 2014

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Susan Curtis, Lay Director

contact: Susan@austinemmaus.org

Jeannie Whitehurst, Spiritual Director

Diane Merwarth, Board Rep.

contact: Diane@austinemmaus.org

Myles McKemie, ST Coordinator

contact: Myles@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back, April 29, 2014, 6:30, Berkeley UMC, 2407 Berkeley Avenue, Austin, 78745, 512-447-6633

Men's Walk #1758

August 21—24, 2014

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

David Graham, Lay Director

contact: David@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director TBD

Mel Chambers, Board Rep.

contact: Mel@austinemmaus.org

ST Coordinator TBD

Welcome Back TBD

Women's Walk #1775

November 13—16, 2014 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Ronee Gilbert, Lay Director

contact: Ronee@austinemmaus.org

Cindy Layton, Spiritual Director

Lynn Magee, Board Rep.

contact: Lynn@austinemmaus.org

ST Coordinator TBD

Welcome Back TBD



Chrysalis

Chrysalis is the youth version of the Walk to Emmaus for ages 15 – 18. College-age young adults ages 18 – 24 attend a Chrysalis Journey. They are normally held during the summer months or at other times when school is out, such as Winter Break. For more information about Chrysalis, please contact our Chrysalis Representative, Tim Deschner, at Tim@austinemmaus.org. Fly with Christ!

Update on Men's Walk #1740

Men's Walk #1740 will take place at Camp Young Judaea, February 27 – March 2. We are now in the final sprint to get pilgrims signed up. We need 20 pilgrims to hold the Walk and we're not there yet! The Lay Director for the weekend is Paul Draper, the Spiritual Director is Rev. Tom Deviney, the Servant Team Coordinator is Teresa Edwards, and our Emmaus Board Rep. is Ed White.

Sponsorship is a blessing, especially if there is someone you know – someone you've had your sights on for a while – that you think would be inspired, reinvigorated, made suddenly alive in Christ by the experience of a Walk to Emmaus. Think of the person who did this for you. Think of the people who you know who have gone on a Walk and who have since blossomed in their faith and works.

De Colores!
Paul Draper, Lay Director



Update on Women's Walk #1749

Women's Walk to Emmaus #1749 has a dedicated team which has been working for several months to prepare for our walk on April 24-27 at Camp Young Judaea in Wimberley. We have had our first team meeting and have 6 pilgrims confirmed so far. We have a little over 2 months to get the other pilgrims registered, so don't procrastinate! It will be here sooner than you think! Sponsorship is the privilege – and the responsibility – of all members of the Greater Austin Emmaus Fourth Day Group. It is a way you can give someone else the blessings you received on your Walk to Emmaus. Our Lay Director is Susan Curtis, Spiritual Director is Rev. Jeannie Whitehurst, Servant Team Coordinator is Myles McKemie, and Emmaus Board Rep. is Diane Merwarth.

De Colores!
Susan Curtis, Lay Director



Walk Reunions!

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group is sponsoring a reunion for the following Walks: Women's Walk #78 (5/5/1988, Mt. Wesley, LD Anna P. Jones), Men's Walk #610 (11/6/1997, Texas Tech Center in Junction, LD Cliff Dunn) and Men's Walk #1274 (1/19/2006, Highland Lakes, LD Steve Smith) at the February 6th Gathering. If you were a pilgrim or team member on one of these Walks, we hope you'll come to the February 6th Gathering at Bethany UMC!



**Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group
Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting
St. Mark United Methodist Church, Austin
Thursday, January 2, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Anne Rioux. Gary Johnson opened with prayer.

In attendance were: Anne Rioux, Lay Director; Mel Chambers, Assistant Lay Director; Gary Johnson, Immediate Past Lay Director; Tom Rioux, Board Representative to SWTC; Rev. Cheryl Broome, Spiritual Director; Debby Duplantis, Treasurer; LeeLeen Sundbeck, Board Member for Gathering Support; Bobby Callison, Board Member for Walk Support; Jim Burgess, Board Member for Member Services; Kellye, *WalkTalk* Editor; Paul Draper, Lay Director for Men's Walk #1740; Susan Curtis, Lay Director for Women's Walk #1749; Diane Merwarth, Board Representative for Women's Walk #1749; and Lois Draper.

The minutes of the December 2013 Board meeting were unanimously approved as reported to the *WalkTalk*.

Treasurer's Report: All outstanding checks have cleared the bank and the report was approved. The year-end report needs to be turned in to the Emmaus office in February.

SWTC Board Representative Report: We need Spiritual Directors for Walks #1749 and #1758. A Walk/Flight training was held at Coker UMC on January 11th, and all team leaders were notified. There is a Southwest Texas Conference Board meeting on January 18th.

Other Reports: LeeLeen Sundbeck reported that childcare for the Gathering will have a sign informing attendees where it is located in the church. February and March Gatherings have been confirmed with the hosting churches. Plans were discussed for a family outdoor Gathering for May or June Gathering with the date to be voted on at a future Board meeting.

Bobby Callison reported that he may have two people willing to work childcare for Candlelight at Wimberley UMC. He informed the Board that Ed White ordered a copy of the old video for Walk #1740 and we may receive a bill for it. Pilgrim Welcome Backs have been set for all upcoming walks but #1775. We have Prayer Vigils set up with the Conference for upcoming walks.

Jim Burgess did some work on our email list. The Board suggested that we have email addresses for church Point of Contacts.

Gary Johnson told us the IRS is backed up about a year on 501(c) 3 filing, and when we apply we need to have everything right or it will take longer. He stated that within the next 60 days he should have a sample report for the Board to approve. The cost of the filing will be between \$500.00 and \$700.00.

Rev. Cheryl Broome informed us she will fill in as Spiritual Director for Walk #1749 until one can be found. She is still trying to contact pastors to be Spiritual Directors for Walks #1758 and #1775.

Paul Draper has a new servant team coordinator. He has 7 pilgrims confirmed for Walk #1740. Susan Curtis has 5 pilgrims for Walk #1749. Mel Chambers and Gary Johnson will represent the Board at the first team meeting.

New Business: Two people were suggested for ALD and Prayer Vigil Coordinator. The Board retreat is planned for February 8, 2014. The Board picked churches to attend for the January 26th Emmaus Sunday.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m. by Anne Rioux. The next meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on February 6th at Bethany UMC.

Minutes submitted by Mel Chambers, Assistant Lay Director

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2014 Gatherings

February 2014

Thursday, February 6, 2014

Bethany UMC

10010 Anderson Mill Rd., 78750

4th Day Speaker: Gayle Rolland

Walk #1740 team commissioning

Reunion for Walks #78, #610, #1274

March 2014

Thursday, March 6, 2014

St. John's UMC

2140 Allandale Rd., 78756

4th Day Speaker Mark Adleman

Reunion for Walks #83A, #619, #1316

April 2014

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Berkeley UMC

2407 Berkeley Ave., 78745

4th Day Speaker TBD

Walk #1749 team commissioning

Reunion for Walks #108, #635, #1338

May 2014

Date TBD

Location TBD

June 2014

Thursday, June 5, 2014

Location TBD



Reminder:

Childcare Services are available
at all Gatherings.

Contact:

Board Member for Gathering Support

LeeLeen Sundbeck

LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org