

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



August 2014

http://www.austinemmaus.org

Volume 25, Number 8

How to Grow Our Future

De Colores!

I want to thank all of you for your support during my time of personal loss and personal sickness. My dad's favorite bible verse was Romans 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." I know as community, we love Him, but our *actions* need to be according to His purpose. I need all of your help to keep this community on course. I want to hear your thoughts, your likes and your dislikes. I, and the community, need your prayers.

A Reunion group is where growth happens in Emmaus. It is where we open our hearts, our minds, our plans for growth, our plans to get to know the Father better (study), where we tell our friends how God has touched our lives, and where we had a chance to bring God's love to a world in need of it. A Reunion group is where our spirituality is held accountable. That is why I am asking all Reunion groups to pick a contact person or persons to hold their group accountable. Be the one to call its members and ask them to attend Reunion group meetings, Gatherings, Candlelight and Closing services, and Welcome Back services.

I would like each Reunion group to have someone to invite new pilgrims to attend their group meeting. New pilgrims will likely be active and carry their enthusiasm to the world. Please mail your contact info to jim@austinemmaus.org. If your Reunion group is not already on our list, please give us the following:

- **†** Reunion group name:
- Preunion group meeting place, Day and time:
- ♣ Contact person's name:

Thanks to everyone for your support!

Melvin Chambers Lay Director



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

Lay Director

Mel Chambers Mel@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Cheryl Broome Cheryl@austinemmaus.org

Assistant Lay Director

Chris McKemie
Chris@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

LeeLeen Sundbeck LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Carl Fisher
Carl.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

Anne Rioux Anne@austinemmaus.org

Chrysalis Representative

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Tom Rioux Tom@austinemmaus.org

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

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Music Coordinator

Tom Carstarphen
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WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret Kellye@austinemmaus.org



Financial Statement as of 6/30/14

Bank Balance \$2,273.46 (unencumbered funds)

Scholarship Fund \$2,482.49

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



The Walk Talk deadline is the 20th of each month.

Please send your articles, information, community opportunities, 4th Day experiences/reflections to:

Kellye@austinemmaus.org

100 attended the July Gathering at Westlake UMC, with Tom Rioux giving an amazing 4th Day talk!

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

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2014 Austin Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #1758 August 21 — 24, 2014 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

David Graham, Lay Director contact: David@austinemmaus.org

Jim Austin, Spiritual Director

Mel Chambers, Board Rep. contact: Mel@austinemmaus.org
Bob Duplantis, ST Coordinator contact: Bob@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back, August 26, 2014, 6:30, Westlake UMC, 1460 Redbud Trail, Austin, 512-327-1335

http://www.mysignup.com/walk1758agape

Women's Walk #1775 November 13 — 16, 2014 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Ronee Gilbert, Lay Director contact: Ronee@austinemmaus.org

Sue Abold, Spiritual Director

Lynn Magee, Board Rep. contact: <u>Lynn@austinemmaus.org</u>
Deena Raynor, ST Coordinator contact: <u>Deena@austinemmaus.org</u>

Welcome Back, Nov. 18, 2014, 6:30, Hill Country Bible Church, 11880 Old 2243 West, Leander, 512-259-1900

http://www.mysignup.com/walk1775agape



The following signups are up and linked to the Walks web page:

http://www.mysignup.com/walk1758agape http://www.mysignup.com/walk1775agape



If you would like to be considered for the Conference Room Team for <u>any</u> Walk, please submit a Team Application. You can download one by going to this link below.

http://www.austinemmaus.org/team_app.php



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Chrysalis News



Girls' Chrysalis Flight #382 took place July 17-19 at Bethany UMC. Welcome, new butterflies!

Butterflies

Victoria Ayala Mackenzie Beebee Madison Brown **Emery Burkhalter** Cassidy Byars Kayla Feil Grace Galiga Kristin Griffin Brenna Hassin Mackenzie Heldstab Lisa Helling Alexis Hutchins Jean Lambeth Autumn Long **Autumn Norris** Rhianna Palmiter Caitlyn Pearson Hannah Rang McKaelee Shaw Shelby Stewart Alyssa Wilkerson

Conference Room Team

Wendy Boatright – *Lay Director* Stella Burkhalter Doug Foster Jessica Glasebrook Kayla Greene Kristin Hampsten Ehrikka Hodge – Board Rep. Charmayne Howard Stacy Howard Tracy Johnson Cindy Layton – Spiritual Director Erin Murchison Arian Ritchie Ray Rang Susan Rang Madison Roehling Cathy Stone Susan Rang **Rusty Teeter** Katie Wallingford Amanda Weaver Claire Whisenhunt



Servant Team

Cody Boatright Nancy Boatright Matt Broome Tim Deschner Sara Radebaugh

2015 GAE4DG Walks

Men's Walk #1778 Feb. 19 — 22 LD, Myles KcKemie **CYJ** April 23 — 26 Women's Walk #1789 LD, Debby Krueger **CYJ** Men's Walk #1803 Sept. 10 — 13 LD, TBA **CYJ** Women's Walk #1819 Nov. 12 — 15 LD, TBA **CYJ**

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Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting First UMC, Austin Thursday, May 1, 2014

Opening: The regular meeting of the GAE4DG Board was called and held on May 1st at First UMC commencing at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Anne Rioux. Present were: Anne Rioux, Lay Director; Mel Chambers, Assistant Lay Director; Gary Johnson, Immediate Past Lay Director; Tom Rioux, Board Representative to SWTC; Debby Duplantis, Treasurer; Bobby Callison, Board Member for Walk Support; Cheryl Broome, Spiritual Director; LeeLeen Sundbeck, Board Member for Gathering Support; Carl Fisher, Candidate for Board Member for Walk Support; Chris McKemie, Candidate for for Assistant Lay Director; David Graham, Lay Director for Men's Walk #1758; Susan Curtis, Lay Director for Women's Walk #1749; Diane Merwarth, Board Representative for Women's Walk #1749; Myles McKemie, Servant Team Coordinator for Women's Walk #1749. The opening prayer was given by Anne Rioux.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Debby Duplantis' treasurer's report informed us that there was no change in our financial status. Walk #1749 closeout was completed and will be reflected on next month's report. The Board approved the report.

SWTC Board Representative Report: There was a Team Selection meeting for Walk #1775 at St. Mark's UMC on April 30th and the team was approved by the Board by email. Tom Rioux gave us a list of potential candidates for 2015 Walk Lay Directors.

Gathering Support Report: LeeLeen Sundbeck reported that we have a speaker for the June Gathering. All Gatherings between now and September are set and ready to go. The October Gathering needs a pastor and communion elements.

Walk Support Report: Bobby Callison reported that Welcome Back went well and the turnout was good. Two of the three young ladies approved for child care will be leaving for college, so we need to find replacements.

Members Services Report: Jim Burgess did not have anything new to report.

Immediate Past Lay Director Report: Gary Johnson had a handout with 501 (c) 3 with questions that needed to be answered. He is checking to see if we can go under SWTC 501 (c) 3.

Spiritual Director Report: Rev. Cheryl Broome has not found anyone to be her replacement.

Chrysalis Representative Report: Tim Deschner reported that Boys Chrysalis Flight #381, which was to begin July 17th at Covenant UMC, has been cancelled.

Walk #1758 Report: David Graham informed the Board that he has a full team but still needs a Spiritual Director. The first team meeting was a success.

New/Other Business: Bobby Callison and Gary Johnson volunteered to take care of the Silent Auction, Child Care, Cupcake Walk, and to supply greeters/ushers for Rev. Tina Carter at the June 7th Gathering. Anne Rioux will take care of getting items and people signed up for potluck and auction.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. by Anne Rioux. The next Board meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. on July 10th at Westlake UMC.

58 people attended the Gathering.

Minutes submitted by Mel Chambers, Assistant Lay Director



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Upcoming Walks

Men's Walk to Emmaus #1758 is August 21-24, 2014, at Camp Young Judaea. The Lay Director is David Graham, Spiritual Director is Jim Austin, Board Rep. is Mel Chambers, and Servant Team Coordinator is Bob Duplantis.

Women's Walk to Emmaus #1775 is November 13-16, 2014, at Camp Young Judaea. The Lay Director is Ronee Gilbert, Spiritual Director is Sue Abold, Board Rep. is Lynn Magee, and Servant Team Coordinator is Deena Raynor.

Please be in prayer for these team members and for the pilgrims that God is calling to attend, and also about how you can help with agape needs.



Leadership Training

SWTC Emmaus has organized an Emmaus Walk/ Chrysalis Flight Leadership Training in Austin on Saturday, September 6, 2014.

I encourage all who have not taken this training to let me know; it is strongly recommended that the Walk LD and BR take the training at the same time, but that is not mandatory. ALD's and Board members are also encouraged to attend this FREE training. Walk manuals will be available at the training for about \$60.00; this can be a Walk expense.

Tom Rioux 512-422-8682



Religious Freedom

In the preamble to the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, Thomas Jefferson wrote, "well aware that Almighty God hath created the mind free; that all attempts to influence it by temporal punishments or burdens, or by civil incapacitations, tend only to beget habits of hypocrisy and meanness, and are a departure from the plan of the Holy Author of our religion..."

Our freedom in this nation is a gift from God and the core of that freedom is religious liberty. As religious liberty fades, so does every freedom we enjoy. Without religious freedom there is not freedom of speech, as can be seen in other nations. If a government can restrain us from speaking of our faith, it can restrain us in any regard.

If we do surrender and accept that government is the new god and that legislators and judges are the new priests, it is not just Americans who will lose that first and most basic right of freedom of religion, it will be all of humanity.

De Colores! Gerard Kern

Walk Reunions!

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group is sponsoring reunions for the following Walks at the August 7th Gathering at Pflugerville UMC:

Men's Walk #165, 8/16/90, Mt. Wesley
(LD Don Partridge)
Men's Walk #700, 11/19/98, Mt. Wesley
(LD Jim Cox)
Women's Walk #1409, 11/15/07, Highland Lakes
(LD Nancy Minchew)
Men's Walk #1425, 3/6/08, Highland Lakes
(LD Gene McConnell)

If you were a pilgrim or team member on one of these Walks, we hope to see you at Pflugerville UMC August 7th!

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Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2014/2015 Gatherings

August 7, 2014

Thursday, August 7, 2014
First UMC Pflugerville
500 E. Pecan Street
Pflugerville, 78660
4th Day Speaker Hillarie Smith
Reunion for Walks #165, #700, #1409, #1425

September 4, 2014

Thursday, September 4, 2014 Covenant UMC 4410 Duval Rd., Austin, 78727 4th Day Speaker TBA Reunion for Walks #170, #704

October 2, 2014

Thursday, October 2, 2014
Hill Country Bible Church
11880 Old 2243 West, Leander, 78641
4th Day Speaker Johan Carl
Walk #1775 team commissioning
Reunion for Walks #182A, #721, #1435, #1451

November 6, 2014

Thursday, November 6, 2014 Wesley UMC 1164 Bernard Street, Austin, 78702 4th Day Speaker TBA Reunion for Walks #184, #738, #1456

December 4, 2014

Thursday, December 4, 2014 Oak Hill UMC 7815 Hwy 290 West, Austin, 78736 4th Day Speaker TBA Reunion for Walks #193, #750, #1485

January 8, 2015

Thursday, January 8, 2015 First UMC Cedar Park 600 West Park St., Cedar Park, 78613 4th Day Speaker TBA Reunion for Walks #209, #758, #1497

February 5, 2015

Thursday, February 5, 2015 Lake Travis UMC 1502 North RM 620, Austin, 78734 4th Day Speaker TBA Men's Walk team commissioning Reunion for Walks #218, #786, #1530

March 5, 2015

Thursday, March 5, 2015 Location TBA 4th Day Speaker TBA Reunion for Walks #226, #792, #1541

April 2, 2015

Thursday, April 2, 2015
First UMC Pflugerville
500 East Pecan St., Pflugerville, 78660
4th Day Speaker TBA
Women's Walk team commissioning
Reunion for Walks #237, #814, #1555

Childcare available at all Gatherings!

Contact: LeeLeen Sundbeck <u>LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org</u>

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