



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



September 2014

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 25, Number 9

Good Stewards

At the Gathering last month, someone told me that I don't say thanks for all the hard work this community gives to God. So I want to thank you for filling out prayer vigils slots so that a Walk (not just ours but other communities' Walks as well) can happen. Thank you for helping to make us one of the strongest communities in our conference. Thank you for the support that you give to the Board. These are just a few of the things that our community has to be thankful for.

I want the Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group to be good stewards of the gifts the Lord has blessed us with. An example of us not being good stewards is in letting Men's Walk #1758 fail to make. The community has to pay for the Walk financially (\$1300), the community lost new workers, and our churches lost new leaders. Reverend Jim Austin was amazed at how many of his church leaders had been on an Emmaus Walk. We are making a difference in our churches.

To help make our future Walks successful, the Board will pay a 1/3 scholarship (\$71.67) each for the first twenty-one pilgrims to sign up for Women's Walk #1775, which is November 13 – 16, 2014, at Camp Young Judaea. Ronee Gilbert is the Lay Director, Sue Abold is the Spiritual Director, Lynn Magee is the Board Rep., and Deena Raynor is the Servant Team Coordinator.

To download a Walk application, go to:

<http://austinemmaus.org/pdf/EmmausApplication-1.pdf>

To download a Scholarship application, go to:

<http://austinemmaus.org/pdf/Application%20for%20Scholarship.pdf>

Community, start planting seeds of Emmaus to all our church members and pray over those seeds!

Melvin Chambers
Lay Director, GAE4DG

Men's Walk #1758, August 21-24, 2014 with David Graham as Lay Director, was **CANCELLED** due to lack of pilgrims.

David Graham has accepted an invitation from the GAE4DG Board of Directors to be LD for Men's Walk #1778, February 19-22, 2015. The previously selected LD, Myles McKemie, graciously agreed to change to the next available Walk.

All agape was transferred from Walk #1758 to Walk #1778. If you are unable to provide agape that you had signed up for, please contact Tom Rioux at Tom@austinemmaus.org.

If you were sponsoring a pilgrim on Walk #1758, you may transfer him to Walk #1778 by letting David Graham know at David@austinemmaus.org and by contacting SWTC Emmaus Registrar Adrian Gonzales at agonzaales@umcswtx.org. You may also request a refund for the Walk fees from Adrian or wait for another Walk..

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

Tim Deschner

Tim@austinemmaus.org

Database Coordinator

Tom Rioux

Tom@austinemmaus.org

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Willy Maletta

Prayervigils@austinemmaus.org

Community Letters

Carl Fisher

palanca@austinemmaus.org

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Tom Rioux

Tom@austinemmaus.org

Music Coordinator

Tom Carstarphen

Music@austinemmaus.org

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

Kellye@austinemmaus.org



Financial Statement *as of 7/31/14*

Bank Balance

\$2,197.96

(unencumbered funds)

Scholarship Fund

\$2,415.82

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

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

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

Kellye@austinemmaus.org

**88 attended the August Gathering at
Pflugerville UMC, with Hillary Smith
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.

2014 — 2015 Austin Sponsored Emmaus Walks

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: Lynn@austinemmaus.org

Deena Raynor, ST Coordinator

contact: Deena@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back, Nov. 18, 2014, 6:30, Hill Country Bible Church, 11880 Old 2243 West, Leander, 512-259-1900
Walk #1775 Agape Signup <http://www.mysignup.com/walk1775agape>

Men's Walk #1778 February 19 — 22, 2015 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

David Graham, Lay Director

contact: David@austinemmaus.org

Jim Austin, Spiritual Director

Mel Chambers, Board Rep.

contact: Mel@austinemmaus.org

ST Coordinator TBD

Welcome Back, Feb. 24, 2015, 6:30, Westlake UMC, 1460 Redbud Trail, Austin, 512-327-1335
Walk #1778 Agape Signup <http://www.mysignup.com/walk1778agape>

Women's Walk #1789

April 23 — 26, 2015

LD, Debby Krueger

CYJ

Men's Walk #1803

Sept. 10 — 13, 2015

LD, TBA

CYJ

Women's Walk #1819

Nov. 12 — 15, 2015

LD, TBA

CYJ



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

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

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group
Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting
Westlake UMC, Austin
Thursday, July 10, 2014

The regular meeting of the GAE4DG Board was held on July 10th at Westlake UMC commencing at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chris McKemie and the opening prayer was given by Tom Rioux. Present at the meeting were Chris McKemie, Assistant Lay Director; Anne Rioux, Immediate Past Lay Director; Tom Rioux, SWTC Board Representative; Debby Duplantis, Treasurer; Carl Fisher, Board Member for Walk Support; Rev. Cheryl Broome, Spiritual Director; LeeLeen Sundbeck, Board Member for Gathering Support; Tim Deschner, Chrysalis Representative; David Graham, Lay Director for Men's Walk #1758; Ronee Gilbert, Lay Director for Women's Walk #1775; Deena Raynor, Servant Team Coordinator for Women's Walk #1775.

Minutes: The Board approved the May minutes by email. A Board meeting was not held at the June Gathering.

Treasurers Report: Debby Duplantis reported a balance of \$2,225.50 and noted there has been little activity the last couple of months. The good news is an increase of \$700 to the scholarship fund due to our fund raiser event. Tom made the motion to accept, LeeLeen seconded and the treasurer's report was accepted.

SWTC Board Representative Report: Tom Rioux reported that he was approved by e-mail as the Board Representative for the Men's Walk with the requested date of February 19-22, 2015, and Debby Kruger was approved by e-mail as the Lay Director for the Women's Walk with a requested date of April 23-26, 2015. Team selection for the April Walk will take place immediately after Walk #1775. Tom will attend the next SWTC Emmaus BOD meeting on 7/19/2014.

Gathering Support: LeeLeen reports Gatherings are scheduled through April of 2015.

Walk Support: Carl Fisher reported prayer vigil and agape needs list still need to be filled. Emmaus Sunday which will be held on July 20th is proceeding as planned and board members were assigned churches to attend. Tom presented a list of churches in the Austin area that reflected their participation in Walk to Emmaus and Carl will contact these churches.

Immediate Past Lay Director: Anne Rioux requested that even though Gary Johnson is off the Board, he continue to work on the 501(C) 3 to its completion. The board approved and Anne will contact Gary.

Spiritual Director: Rev. Cheryl Broome continues the search for a replacement. She presented a request for a scholarship to be granted for a pilgrim on a future Walk. The scholarship was approved by the Board.

Chrysalis Report: Tim Deschner reports the prayer vigil for the Chrysalis walk still has time slots that need to be filled and, also, asks that we show our support by attending the Candlelight at 7:30 Friday at Bethany UMC.

Walk #1758 Report: David Graham reports the team is doing well. Two meetings have been held and inspiring talks have been given. A member of the Spiritual team and pilgrims are still needed for the Walk, and BBQ will be held for prospective sponsors and pilgrims.

Walk #1775 Report: Ronee Gilbert reports the team has met and all is coming together.

Other Business: The June 7th Saturday Gathering was met with great success and it was agreed to continue this as an annual event. A potluck may be considered for a future Gathering.

Anne Rioux gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 by Chris McKemie. The next Board meeting will be August 7, 2014, at Pflugerville UMC.

Minutes submitted by Chris McKemie, Assistant Lay Director



**Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group
Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting
First UMC, Pflugerville
Thursday, August 7, 2014**

Opening: The regular meeting of the Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group was called and held on August 7th at First UMC, Pflugerville, commencing at 6:10 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mel Chambers. Present were: Mel Chambers, Lay Director; Anne Rioux, Immediate Past Lay Director; Tom Rioux, Board Representative to SWTC; Debby Duplantis, Treasurer; Carl Fisher, Board Member for Walk Support; Jim Burgess, Board Member for Member Services; Cheryl Broome, Spiritual Director; Ronee Gilbert, Lay Director for Women's Walk #1775; Lynn Magee, Board Representative for Women's Walk #1775. The opening prayer was given by Mel Chambers, Lay Director.

Minutes: The minutes of the July 2014 meeting were unanimously approved by the Board via email.

Treasurer's Report: Debby Duplantis submitted the July 2014 Treasurer's report. Tom Rioux moved to accept the report, Jim Burgess seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

SWTC Board Representative Report:

- Tom Rioux reported that Men's Walk #1758 was cancelled due to insufficient number of pilgrims. The official count was 14, and 20 were needed to proceed. Tom moved that the Board approve David Graham as Lay Director for Men's Walk #1778 in February 2015 as Myles McKemie had indicated that he would step aside for David. Jim Burgess seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. A discussion ensued concerning the future of Walks for the GAE4DG and the matter was tabled to the September Board meeting.
- Tom moved that the Board pay \$1300 for the cancellation of Walk #1758. The motion was seconded by Carl Fisher and approved unanimously.
- Tom reminded all that the free Lay Director Training would be held September 6th at Westlake UMC and recommended all future Walk Lay Directors, Board Representatives and ALD's attend.
- Tom reported that the newly combined Conference name proposed is "Rio Texas Emmaus/Chrysalis Community." There has been a first reading, two more are required to approve the new name.

Walk Support: Carl Fisher reported that he was inquiring about child care from Wimberley UMC for the November Women's Walk at Camp Young Judaea. He reported that Prayer Vigils were going along well.

Member Support: Jim Burgess – no new report.

Immediate Past Lay Director: Anne Rioux advised she had asked Gary Johnson to continue his work on our 501 (c) 3 filing and that Gary agreed to carry on. Anne said she'd ask Gary for an email report for the September meeting.

Spiritual Director's Report: Rev. Cheryl Broome moved that an incentive for the next Walk should include an automatic scholarship to all pilgrims. A discussion ensued. Mel Chambers seconded the motion and the Board unanimously agreed to provide a 1/3 scholarship (\$71.67) to the first 21 pilgrims who submit applications for Women's Walk #1775. Rev. Broome said she would write an article for the District newsletter about encouraging pastors to promote Emmaus Walks.

Walk #1758 Report: Rev. Cheryl Broome advised she would table the assigning of additional Spiritual Directors for the February Men's Walk until the status of the team from #1758 is resolved.

Walk #1775 Report: Ronee Gilbert reviewed status of team meetings and pilgrim count. It was suggested that future Lay Directors visit the most active churches to promote the Walks.

Rev. Cheryl Broome gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. by Mel Chambers. The next Board meeting will be Sept. 4, 2014 at Covenant UMC.

Minutes submitted by Anne Rioux, Immediate Past Lay Director

For where your treasure is...

Do you remember the fable of King Midas and his golden touch? As active church members we understand that we find true riches in God's kingdom. Sometimes we take those riches for granted...

According to the fable, King Midas cherished gold. If only he could conjure the substance at will and increase his wealth! A stranger granted Midas' wish. Midas went into action touching common objects, turning them to gold. His fortune increased. All appeared well – until unintended consequences emerged.

His wish spiraled out of control. He grew hungry and thirsty, but food and drink turned to gold in his hands. But a worse fate broke Midas' heart: When his beloved daughter ran into his arms to hug him, she turned into a golden statue.

Midas had lost his daughter – a true treasure, one that gold *couldn't* buy.

Riches of this world look impressive. We can use them to purchase the largest home on the block, the fastest car, the latest gadgets. These things are not bad, but the Bible tells us they are fleeting.

True riches take a different form. The riches of the Lord's kingdom often show up in places the eye cannot see, such as human hearts.

God values **you** more than gold. The Apostle Peter explains, *"It was not with perishable things such as silver and gold that you are redeemed...but with the precious blood of Christ"* (1 Peter 1:18-19 NIV).

We must seek to make known Christ's salvation – our greatest treasure – to all mankind. We must put Christ's words into action: *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Matthew 6:19-21 NIV).

De Colores!
Gerard Kern



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



Walk Reunions!

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group is sponsoring reunions for the following Walks at the September 4th Gathering at Covenant UMC:

Women's Walk #170, 9/20/90, Mt. Wesley
(LD Mary Frances Markley)
Men's Walk #704, 1/7/99, Mt. Wesley
(LD Les Witcher)

If you were a pilgrim or team member on one of these Walks, we hope to see you at Covenant September 4th!



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2014/2015 Gatherings

September 4, 2014

Thursday, September 4, 2014
Covenant UMC
4410 Duval Rd., Austin, 78727
4th Day Speaker Amy Wendland
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
Women's Walk #1775 team commissioning
Reunion for Walks #182A, #721, #1451

November 6, 2014

Thursday, November 6, 2014
Wesley UMC
1164 Bernard Street, Austin, 78702
4th Day Speaker Diana Everett
Reunion for Walks #184, #738, #1435, #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
Westlake UMC
1460 Redbud Trail, Austin, 78746
4th Day Speaker TBA
Men's Walk #1778 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 #1789 team commissioning
Reunion for Walks #237, #814, #1555

Childcare available at all Gatherings!

Contact:

LeeLeen Sundbeck
LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org