



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



May 2015

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 26, Number 5

Thank you!

I want to welcome the women of Walk #1789 to our community. I want the community to invite them to attend your next reunion group meeting. We need to be there for them, help them by offering to help them start new reunion groups. The new pilgrims at my church started a new reunion group that meets on Tuesday at 6:00 PM. The good thing about this group is the fact that it got older community members back into a reunion group. I think in my first article, I talked about blowing on the ambers (new pilgrims) and a fire will happen. This fire is getting the Emmaus community active again in my church. I pray this is happening in other churches as well.

I want to thank the community for letting me serve you. Thank you for listening to my rants and responding to my cries for help. Thank you for asking people to go on Walks and getting the required twenty pilgrims way before the make date. Now that I am passing the reins over to Chris McKemie, I hope you will give her the same support.

And remember:

**If we schedule it,
You will ask!**

Keep up the good work!

**DeColores!
Melvin Chambers
Lay Director**



Welcome New Pilgrims

**Women's Walk #1789
April 23 – 26, 2015
Camp Young Judaea**

Help welcome these ladies back from the Best Walk Ever!

- Lilian Arrington
- Patricia Bahlmann
- Julianna Borgendale
- Suzanne Chirhart
- Terrie Dasilva
- Kimothy Dixon
- Mary Hampsten
- Bonnie How
- Jeannine Inbody
- Mona Kenyon
- Wende Lancaster
- Vickie Matthews
- Beth Null
- Lori Perry
- Sonja Petreska
- Macy Quintanilla
- Linda Robinson
- Morgan Terrace
- Nikki Tovar
- Elsa Vargas
- Lorena Velasquez
- Teresa Wagner
- Pam Williams



Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director
Mel Chambers

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director
Rev. Cheryl Broome

SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

Assistant Lay Director
Chris McKemie

AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

LeeLeen Sundbeck

BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Carl Fisher

BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Member Services

Jim Burgess

BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org

Treasurer

Debby Duplantis

Treasurer@austinemmaus.org

4th Day Board Representative

Tom Rioux

4thDayBoardRepresentative@austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director
Anne Rioux

ImmediatePastLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Chrysalis Representative
Tim Deschner

ChrysalisRepresentative@austinemmaus.org

Database Coordinator
Tom Rioux

DatabaseCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Electronic Communications
Ed Turner

ElectronicCommunications@austinemmaus.org

Prayer Vigil Coordinator
Willy Maletta

PrayerVigilCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Community Letters
Carl Fisher

CommunityLetters@austinemmaus.org

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator
Carl Fisher

FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Music Coordinator TBD

MusicCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



Financial Statement as of 3/31/15

Bank Balance
\$1,788.17
(unencumbered funds)

Scholarship Fund
\$ 965.70



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 experiences/reflections to:

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org

**80 attended the April Gathering at
First UMC Pflugerville, with Coe Groce
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.

2015 Austin Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #1803

Myles McKemie, Lay Director
Tom Deviney, Spiritual Director
Tom Rioux, Board Rep.
ST Coordinator, Chris McKemie

Oct 1 — 4, 2015

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

contact: Myles@austinemmaus.org

contact: Tom@austinemmaus.org

contact: Chris@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back TBD

Walk #1803 Agape Signup <http://www.mysignup.com/walk1803agape>

Women's Walk #1818

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

Nov. 12 — 15, 2015

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Men's Walk REQUESTED

Harold Sundbeck, Lay Director
SD, BR, STC to be determined

Feb. 18 — 21, 2016

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

contact: Harold@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back TBD

Women's Walk REQUESTED

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

April 21 — 24, 2016

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Welcome Back TBD

Men's Walk REQUESTED

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

Sept. 15 — 18, 2016

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Welcome Back TBD

Women's Walk REQUESTED

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

Nov. 10 — 13, 2016

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Welcome Back TBD



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 the link below:

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

Chrysalis News

Chrysalis is the youth version of the Walk to Emmaus for ages 15 – 18. This year the Austin community is sponsoring a Boy's Flight July 9-11 at Covenant UMC. Tim Deschner is the Lay Director, Rusty Teeter is the Spiritual Director, and Darren Mock is the Board Rep. For more information, contact Tim at:

ChrysalisRepresentative@austinemmaus.org

Fly with Christ!



A Note From the Editor...

Do you have 4th Day experiences you would like to share? Perhaps a reflection on your spiritual journey, a short devotional, or your favorite scripture and why? Or maybe you would like to share your answers to the two questions asked at Closing: What has this weekend meant to you? What are you going to do with it?

Well, this is your space to do that! Send them to WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org, and they will be printed as space allows.



Upcoming Walk

Men's Walk to Emmaus #1803
October 1 – 4, 2015
Camp Young Judaea

Lay Director, Myles McKemie
Spiritual Director, Tom Deviney
Board Rep., Tom Rioux
STC, Chris McKemie

Agape Signup

<http://www.mysignup.com/walk1803agape>

It's not too early to start signing up pilgrims!
Be in prayer for who YOU can sponsor!



Walk Reunions

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

Women's Walk #256, 8/27/92, unknown location
(LD Cheryl Johnson)
Men's Walk #1580, 10/7/10, Highland Lakes
(LD Gary Johnson)

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



Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors Meeting First UMC Pflugerville Thursday, April 9, 2015

The regular meeting of the GAE4DG Board was held on Thursday, April 9, 2015 commencing at 6:05pm at First UMC Pflugerville. The meeting was called to order by Mel Chambers and the opening prayer was given by Cheryl Broome. Present at the meeting were Mel Chambers, Lay Director; Anne Rioux, Immediate Past Lay Director; Tom Rioux, Rio Texas Board Rep; Debby Duplantis, Treasurer; Carl Fisher, Board Member for Walk Support; Harold Sundbeck (sitting in for LeeLeen Sundbeck, Board Member for Gathering Support); Jim Burgess, Board Member for Member Support; Debby Krueger, Lay Director for Women's Walk #1789; and David Graham, Lay Director for Men's Walk #1778.

Minutes: The Board approved the March Minutes by email, as edited per Tom Rioux.

Treasurer's Report: Debby Duplantis presented the treasurer report. A motion was made to approve, motion to second and the report was approved.

Rio Texas Board Representative's Report: The second reading of the GAE4DG Bylaws was approved by the GAE4DG Board. The Bylaws will be posted on the website for the community to read, and the final reading of them will be presented at May 2015's Gathering to be approved by the community. There was discussion on the upcoming Women's Walk #1818 in November; the search for a Lay Director is still in process. Childcare for Candlelight in Wimberley for the upcoming Women's Walk #1789 has been confirmed; that walk's Welcome Back is on Thursday, April 30, at First UMC Pflugerville. Tom Rioux will attend the quarterly Board meeting in San Antonio on April 11, 2015, and he reported there is a new Emmaus program, "Face to Face".

Gathering Support: LeeLeen Sundbeck not present. Harold Sundbeck, a future Lay Director for a 2016 Men's Walk, requested his walk to be pushed up one week. It will be checked on. The BOD requested that the October 2015 Gathering be moved from 10/1 to 10/8 as Men's Walk #1803 starts on 10/1. The agenda for the 5/7/2015 Gathering at Wesley UMC was finalized:

6:00pm	POT LUCK in the Fellowship Hall beneath the Sanctuary
6:45pm	Business Meeting
7:00pm	Presentation on the "Women's Storybook Project of Texas" by David Graham
7:30pm	Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Anne Rioux prepared a flyer for tonight's Gathering to promote the 5/7/2015 Gathering.

Walk Support: Carl Fisher reported that all seems to be going well with the upcoming walk. The child care is set in place. He has agreed to take over as Agape Coordinator.

Member Support: Jim Burgess had nothing new to report. We have gotten someone to take over the website, email forwards for austinemmaus.org, and Yahoo group.

Assistant Lay Director: Chris McKemie was not present, but the Nomination Committee's recommendations are: Spiritual Director – Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.; Assistant Lay Director – Harold Sundbeck; 4th Day Board Representative – Mel Chambers; and Treasurer – Sam Johnson. Jim Burgess agreed to be the Board Member for Member Services for another year. They will be presented at tonight's Gathering and the election will be held at the 5/7/2015 Gathering at Wesley UMC.

Walk Status:

- Walk #1778 – David Graham reported on his walk. He passed a Postmortem Report to each Board member, and he commented on several items.
- Walk #1789 – Debby Krueger reported that there are 24 pilgrims signed up thus far, and heard more are coming! The Servant Team is coming together, led by Jack Foreman.

New Business: Tom Rioux requested approval to purchase "Sustaining the Spirit" and team manuals. It was unanimously approved by the Board. Also, Mel mentioned that next month the Gathering is at Wesley UMC with a pot luck starting at 6pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm with Mel Chambers doing the closing prayer.

Minutes submitted by Debby Duplantis, Treasurer



Elections at the 5/7/2015 Gathering at Wesley UMC

We will be voting to elect members to the GAE4DG Board of Directors (BOD) to take office on 6/1/2015 and approve recommended changes to the GAE4DG Bylaws.

Elections

Members of the BOD serve 3-year terms; approximately 1/3 is elected each year. Current Lay Director Mel Chambers will automatically become Immediate Past Lay Director. Current Assistant Lay Director Chris McKemie will automatically become Lay Director. The following have been nominated by the Nominations Committee:

- Spiritual Director – Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr., Wesley UMC
- Assistant Lay Director – Harold Sundbeck, Bethany UMC (*will automatically become Lay Director on 6/1/2016 and automatically become Immediate Past Lay Director on 6/1/2017*)
- Board Member for Member Services – Jim Burgess, Northwest Hills UMC
- 4th Day Board Representative – Mel Chambers, Wesley UMC
- Treasurer – Sam Johnson, Oak Hill UMC

We thank Rev. Cheryl Broome, Anne Rioux, and Tom Rioux for their many years of service as they rotate off the BOD.

Bylaws

On 1/1/2015, the Southwest Texas Conference Emmaus Community changed its name to the Rio Texas Emmaus & Chrysalis Community. This event caused needed changes to the GAE4DG Bylaws and the BOD took the opportunity to make several other minor changes. Please see <http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Board of Directors” then at the bottom “Bylaws Proposed Changes”. Following are the changes:

1. Everywhere

- changed “Southwest Texas Conference”, “Southwest Texas Conference Walk to Emmaus”, and “Conference” to “Rio Texas Emmaus & Chrysalis Community” or “RTECC”
- changed “Association” to “GAE4DG”
- changed “Board”, “Board of Directors”, and “GAE4DG Board of Directors” to “BOD”

2. Article V, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 2. Composition, A. Qualifications, 2. Clergy
added “are qualified to be a Walk Spiritual Director by the RTECC,” (RTECC policy)
- Section 4. Officers
changed “Other officers may be appointed by the Lay Director with the approval of the GAE4DG” to “Other officers may be appointed by the Lay Director with the approval of the BOD”
- Section 6. Duties of Officers
 - A. Lay Director
 - changed “Appoint an Audit Committee to review the financial records each year.” to “Appoint a Financial Review Committee to review the financial records each year in accordance with RTECC policy.”
 - D. Board Member for Gathering Support
 - Music Coordinator
 - deleted “and Closing services (if requested)”
 - F. 4th Day Board Representative
 - deleted “Oversee the Registrar Liaison between the GAE4DG and the Walk to Emmaus Board of the Southwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church.” (the RTECC Registrar is responsible for Pilgrim Registration prior to 2 weeks before a Walk and the Walk Lay Director takes responsibility for Pilgrim Registration during the last 2 weeks before a Walk)
 - deleted “Appoint an Audit Committee to review the financial records as directed by the Southwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church.” (the old Bylaws had both the Lay Director and the 4th Day Board Representative appointing an Audit Committee)
 - G. Spiritual Director
 - added “or ensure that clergy is available to lead the Worship Service” to “Provide spiritual leadership at GAE4DG Gatherings”
 - deleted “and Closing Services” from “Ensure that clergy is available to lead the Candlelight Services and Closing Services at GAE4DG-sponsored Walks to Emmaus.” (the Walk Spiritual Director leads the Walk Closing Services)

(continued from page 5) **Elections at the 5/7/2015 Gathering at Wesley UMC**

5. H. Treasurer
 - a. changed “pay nursery staff” to “donate funds to the host church for child care” (this ensures that child care staff are employed by the host church and thus operating under their Rio Texas Conference annual background check)
 - b. added “Shall promptly comply with any request to review the income, expenses, and finances of the GAE4DG with the person or persons making the request being responsible for any direct expenses such as making copies”
 - d. Section 7. Team Selection Committee
 1. B.
 - a. added “RTECC and the” before “Upper Room Walk to Emmaus”
 2. C.
 - a. changed the entire section to “The BOD shall consider candidates to serve as Walk Lay Directors, Walk Spiritual Directors, and Walk Board Representatives, and shall select those that meet the training, cooperative, and spiritual requirements to serve. A Walk Board Representative shall have been a Walk Lay Director on a GAE4DG-sponsored Walk to Emmaus.”
 - e. Section 10. Quorum
 1. added “voting” before “members of the BOD” (make sure there is no misunderstanding)
- 3. Article VI, AMENDMENTS**
- a. Section 2. Adoption
 1. changed “An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present shall refer the proposed amendment to the GAE4DG for vote at the next regular GAE4DG Gathering.” to “An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting BOD members present shall refer the proposed amendment to the GAE4DG for vote at the next regular GAE4DG Gathering.”
- 4. Signature page**
- a. changed the names to the current BOD members

These proposed changes to the GAE4DG Bylaws were approved at the First Reading at the 3/5/2015 BOD meeting and at the Second Reading at the 4/9/2015 BOD meeting. The BOD recommends the election of the above people to their respective office and recommends approval of the changes to the Bylaws.

Questions? Contact Tom Rioux at rioux@mail.utexas.edu.

Sponsorship is Important!

- Seek* prayerful guidance before asking applicant to attend
- Answer* all questions and concerns honestly
- Help* resolve any problems that might prevent attendance
- Bring* your pilgrim to the center on time on Thursday evening
- Participate* in the sponsor’s hour prayer service at the center
- Obtain* personal agape letters from friends and family
- Assist* your pilgrim’s family during his/her absence
- Attend* Candlelight and Closing services
- Drive* or ride home with your pilgrim after the weekend
- Take* your pilgrim to the first Gathering after the weekend
- Persevere* in helping your pilgrim get in a reunion group



It is recommend by the Upper Room and the Rio Texas Emmaus Registrar that recent Walk to Emmaus attendees wait 6 months before sponsoring their first pilgrim. It is also recommended by the Rio Texas Emmaus Registrar that a sponsor should sponsor no more than one to two pilgrims on a single walk.

Reprinted from Rio Texas Conference webpage. For more information on sponsorship go to <http://riotexas.org/emmasus>.



**May 7, 2015 Gathering
Potluck Supper and Special Presentation
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Wesley UMC
1164 San Bernard Street, Austin, TX 78702**



Join us at the May Gathering to share a potluck supper at 6:00 PM at historic Wesley UMC in the Fellowship Hall (street level).

Bring your favorite entrée, side, salad or dessert and catch up with old and new Emmaus friends.

After supper there will be a special presentation of the video entitled “*Women’s Storybook Project of Texas*,” followed by singing and worship upstairs in the Sanctuary.

Childcare will be provided.

For more info, contact Mel Chambers at LayDirector@austinemmaus.org or LeeLeen Sundbeck at BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org.



We thank you, Thomas

“Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, nicknamed “Twin,” wasn’t with them when Jesus came.” John 20:24

At first we would think he should have been there for this very important gathering. After all, he was one of the Twelve, a member of the foundational apostolate. Leaders in the Church should show up at the gathered meetings of the people of God. This looks at first glance to be the most inopportune or even irresponsibly missed meeting in church history. The Risen Lord does not put in all that many physical appearances as he does this momentous Weekend. Yet, Thomas’s requirement of proof serves us because he is exactly what we ourselves deeply crave. “Did this *really* happen?” The reality question is the big one for us. So we thank you, Thomas, for having raised our single most existential question. Has Jesus really, bodily, historically, in fact and not just in devout wish or ecstatic vision, been raised from the dead? Thomas’s desire is every honest person’s desire, so we are grateful that the Evangelist gave doubting Thomas this space and that the Risen Lord gave him this satisfaction. The Gospel is giving all such people, in Thomas’s person and through his present insistence, some space, time, and respect. Thanks be to God!

**De Colores!
Gerard Kern**



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2015 Gatherings

May 7, 2015

Thursday, May 7, 2015
POTLUCK — see page 6 for more info
Wesley UMC
1164 San Bernard St., Austin, 78702
4th Day Speaker Willie Everett
Reunion for Walks #256, #1580

June 4, 2015

Thursday, June 4, 2015
Northwest Hills UMC
7050 Village Center Dr., Austin, 78731
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #261, #825, #838, #1593

July 2, 2015

Thursday, July 2, 2015
St. Mark's UMC
601 West Braker Lane, Austin, 78753
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #274, #845, #1597

August 6, 2015

Thursday, August 6, 2015
Covenant UMC
4410 Duval Rd., Austin, 78727
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #276, #853, #1629

September 3, 2015

Thursday, September 3, 2015
Lake Travis UMC
1502 North RM 620, Austin, 78734
4th Day Speaker TBD
Men's Walk #1803 team commissioning
Reunion for Walks #293, #876, #1640

October 1, 2015

Thursday, October 8, 2015
Oak Hill UMC
7815 Highway 290 W., Austin, 78736
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #296, #881, #1644

November 5, 2015

Thursday, November 5, 2015
Berkeley UMC
2407 Berkeley Ave., Austin, 78745
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #300, #895, #1659
Women's Walk #1818 team commissioning

December 3, 2015

Thursday, December 3, 2015
Parker Lane UMC
2105 Parker Lane, Austin, 78741
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #316, #914, #1674

Gatherings are on the 1st Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Childcare provided

Contact LeeLeen Sundbeck
BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

