

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



December 2015 http://www.austinemmaus.org

Volume 26, Number 12

The Spirit of Thanksgiving and the Coming of Advent

Dear Emmaus Community,

In 1 Thessalonians 5:18, we read, "In everything give thanks: For this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I pray your Thanksgiving was truly a day of gratitude and I wonder if Thanksgiving should be renamed to "The Spirit of Thanksgiving." It definitely changes the focus of the holiday. Our eyes, hearts, and minds will become focused on God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, and all the blessings that are bestowed upon us instead of the menu of the day: turkey, dressing, sweet potatoes, and pumpkin pie. While all that is very delicious, it is so much more wonderful to see the abundant love and joy, taste the sweetness of the blessings and love, and know how much we are loved by God!!

This Spirit of Thanksgiving will guide us into December and a time to kneel and pray prayers for the birth of our Savior – the gift that God has given us from above.

I adore reading Christian poetry and this Christian poem can help to keep our priorities as they should be.



If You Look For Me At Christmas

You won't need a special star – I'm no longer just in Bethlehem. I'm right there where you are. You may not be aware of Me Amid the celebrations -You'll have to look beyond the stores And all the decorations. But if you take a moment From your lists of things to do And listen to your heart, you'll find I'm waiting there for you. You're the one I want to be with, You're the reason that I came. And you'll find Me in the stillness As I'm whispering your name. Love, Jesus

~ Author Unknown ~



DeColores, Chris McKemie, GAE4DG Lay Director

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

Lay Director

Chris McKemie

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

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Treasurer@austinemmaus.org

4th Day Board Representative

Mel Chambers

4thDayBoardRepresentative @austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

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Chrysalis Representative

(position open)

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Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



\$

Financial Statement as of 10/31/15

Bank Balance \$4,392.61

Unencumbered funds \$1,597.85

Scholarship Fund \$ 2,239.71

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Visit the Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Website:

http://www.austinemmaus.org



# The Walk Talk deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org

41 attended the November Gathering at Berkeley UMC on November 5<sup>th</sup>, and Barbara Drake gave a great 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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# 2016 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #1821 Feb. 18 — 21, 2016 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Harold Sundbeck, Lay Director contact: <u>Harold@austinemmaus.org</u>
Charlie Baskin, Spiritual Director

Keith Bible, Board Rep. contact: <u>Keith@austinemmaus.org</u>
LeeLeen Sundbeck, ST Coordinator contact: <u>LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org</u>

Welcome Back TBD

Women's Walk #1839 May 5 — 8, 2016 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Roslynn Hopkins, Lay Director contact: Roslynn@austinemmaus.org
Tina Carter, Spiritual Director

Gina Franklin, Board Rep. contact: Gina@austinemmaus.org
Sherry Wilkinson, ST Coordinator contact: Sherry@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back TBD

Men's Walk #1847 Aug. 25 — 28, 2016 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

Welcome Back TBD

Women's Walk #1863 Oct 27. — 30, 2016 Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

Welcome Back TBD

If you would like to be considered for the Conference Room Team for a Walk, please submit a Team Application at the link below.

http://www.austinemmaus.org/team app.php



### Rio Texas Conference 2016 Walk Schedule

The Rio Texas Conference 2016 Walk schedule is available at the below link. This includes ALL walks in our Conference. If your pilgrim is unable to attend an Austin Community sponsored walk, there are many others to choose from!

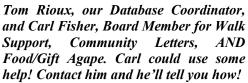
http://riotexas.org/emmaus/

Under Schedule and Application, click on 2016 Emmaus Walk Schedule. (Lots of other great info on this page too!)

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# Photos from the November 5<sup>th</sup> Gathering at Berkeley UMC. Thanks to Sam Johnson for being our "unofficial" photographer!







Enjoying the goodies at the Agape Feast!





Come worship with us!



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### A Note From the Editor...

Do you have 4th Day experiences you would like to share? Perhaps a reflection on your spiritual journey or a short devotional? 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?

Please share with us by sending your submissions to WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org. We will be blessed by your sharing!



Silent night,
holy night,
wondrous star,
lend thy light;
with the angels,
let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born;
Christ the Savior is born!



### **Walk Reunions**

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group sponsors Walk reunions at each Gathering. At the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Gathering at Parker Lane UMC, the following Walks will be recognized:

> Men's Walk #316, 9/23/1993, Mt. Wesley (Lav Director, Wade Schuessler) Women's Walk #895, 4/8/2001, Mt. Wesley (Lay Director, Roxie Greenway) Men's Walk #914, 5/17/2001, Mt. Wesley (Lay Director, Leyton Jones) Women's Walk #1674, 9/20/2012, CYJ (Lay Director, LeeLeen Sundbeck)

Check out the original pilgrim/team photos of those Walks on the next page! See anyone you recognize? If you were a pilgrim or team member on one of these Walks, come to the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Gathering at Parker Lane UMC to be reunited!



### **Upcoming Walk**

Men's Walk to Emmaus #1821 February 18 - 21,2016Camp Young Judaea

Lay Director, Harold Sundbeck Spiritual Director, Charlie Baskin Board Rep., Keith Bible STC, LeeLeen Sundbeck

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



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Women's Walk #895 April 8, 2001 Mt. Wesley LD Roxie Greenway SD Ann Beaty BR Peggy Maxwell



Men's Walk #316 September 23, 1993 Mt. Wesley LD Wade Schuessler SD Larry Shores BR Jim McComb



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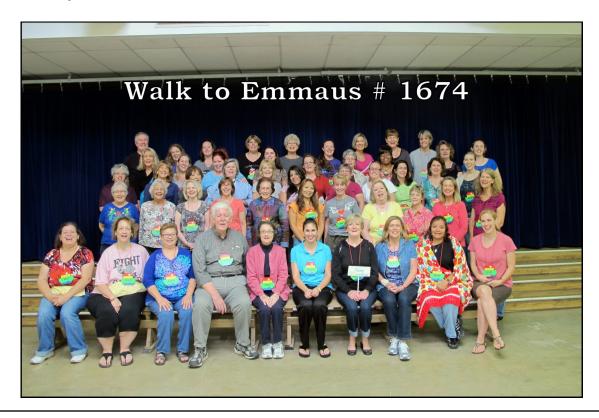


Women's Walk #1674 September 20, 2012 Camp Young Judaea LD LeeLeen Sundbeck SD Tom Deviney BR Roxie Greenway



Men's Walk #914 May 17, 2001 Mt. Wesley LD Leyton Jones SD Sylvester Chase BR Ralph Rash





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# Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors Meeting Berkeley UMC, Austin Thursday, November 5, 2015

The regular meeting of the GAE4DG Board was held on November 5<sup>th</sup> at Berkley UMC commencing at 6:16 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chris McKemie and the opening prayer was given by Carl Fisher. Present at the meeting were: Chris McKemie, Lay Director; Harold Sundbeck, Assistant Lay Director; Mel Chambers, Rio Texas Board Representative and Immediate Past Lay Director; Carl Fisher, Board Member for Walk Support; Sam Johnson, Treasurer; Tom Rioux, Anne Rioux and Myles McKemie, Lay Director for Walk #1803.

Lay Director's Opening Remarks: Chris McKemie welcomed everyone.

**Minutes:** The Board approved the October minutes by email and they were submitted to Kellye Noret for the publication in the *WalkTalk*.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sam Johnson presented the treasurer's report. The ending balance as of November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was \$4,392.61, with an unencumbered balance of \$1,597.85 after outstanding liabilities of \$2,794.76. The Scholarship balance is \$2,239.71.

Due to not having a quorum of the Board when the report was given the report was submitted for approval by e-mail. Chris McKemie made the motion to approve the Financial Report. Harold Sundbeck seconded the motion and it was approved by e-mail vote.

At this time a quorum was now present and Sam proposed to setup the GAE4DG to use an App (Square, or something similar) to handle accepting credit/debit transactions for Pilgrim application payments. This would allow for the payments to be spread out. Sam proposed we set the Walk Fee at a total of \$240 to cover the service charge and make it easier to calculate the scholarship portion as needed. This will require updating the GAE4DG forms to include credit card and debit card information. Chris made the motion and Carl seconded. Passed by unanimous vote. Sam said he would work with Carl to set this up. Sam will also check with the bank to see how the checking account was first set up to see if a Tax ID number was used or a SSN.

**Rio Texas Board Representative's Report:** Mel Chambers reported the dates for the 2017 Walks will be as follows: Men's Walks -2/16-20 and 9/21-24; Women's Walks -4/20-23 and 10/19-22. Team selection for Walk #1839 will take place at Wesley UMC on Thursday November 12.

Gathering Support: No Report.

**Walk Support:** Carl Fisher reported he is working on new forms. There is only one Prayer Vigil for upcoming walks and it will be passed around at this Gathering. Carl said he has asked Jack Forman to make new posters for Emmaus Sundays.

Member Support: No Report

Assistant Lay Director: No report.

**Old Business:** BR Walk #1803 – Tom Rioux reported the biggest problem with Walk #1803 was time issues. Talks ran too long, but that being said, "It was the Best Walk ever". He suggested that future team meetings stress the need for all speakers to stick to the allotted time.

**New Business:** STC Walk #1803 – Chris McKemie reported she would have liked more guidance for Sponsor's Hour and some other duties could be better covered in STC training. Mel Chambers and Chris McKemie will review the training.

**Walk Reports:** Walk #1821 – Harold reported the team was coming along and the first team meeting will take place at Bethany UMC on Saturday November 14.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. by Chris McKemie. Mel Chambers gave the closing prayer.

Minutes submitted by Harold Sundbeck, Assistant Lay Director

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# **Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings**

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

# 2015-2016 Gatherings

### **December 3, 2015**

Thursday, December 3, 2015
Parker Lane UMC
2105 Parker Lane, Austin, 78741
4th Day Speaker Lori Perry
Reunion for Walks #316, #895, #914, #1674

### **January 7, 2016**

Thursday, January 7, 2016 First UMC 1201 Lavaca, Austin, 78701 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #330, #919, #1686

### **February 4, 2016**

Thursday, February 4, 2016
Bethany UMC
10010 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, 78750
4th Day Speaker TBD
Men's Walk team commissioning
Reunion for Walks #334, #881, #930, #1690

### March 3, 2016

Thursday, March 3, 2016 St. Mark UMC 601 Braker Lane, Austin, 78753 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #355, #953, #1720

### April 7, 2016

Thursday, April 7, 2016 Wesley UMC 1164 San Bernard, Austin, 78702 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #358, #968, #1730

# \*\* May 12, 2016 \*\*

Thursday, May 12, 2016 Northwest Hills UMC 7050 Village Center Drive, Austin, 78731 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #372, #988, #1740

### June 2, 2016

Thursday, June 2, 2016 Location TBD 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #376, #381, #1008, #1749

### July 7, 2016

Thursday, July 7, 2016 Westlake UMC 1460 Red Bull Trail, Austin, 78746 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #1035, #1775

### August 4, 2016

Thursday, August 4, 2016 Covenant UMC 4410 Duval Road, Austin, 78727 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #397, #1042, #1778

### September 1, 2016

Thursday, September 1, 2016 Cedar Park UMC 600 W. Park St., Cedar Park, 78613 4th Day Speaker TBD Reunion for Walks #408, #1057, #1789

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

Childcare provided.
Contact LeeLeen Sundbeck
BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org



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