



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

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Chris McKemie

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

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AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

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4th Day Board Representative

Mel Chambers

4thDayBoardRepresentative@austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

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ImmediatePastLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Chrysalis Representative

(position open)

Database Coordinator

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Prayer Vigil Coordinator

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WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



BOARD MEMBERS



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>

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DeColores



**The WalkTalk deadline is
the 20th 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 5th, 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.

2016 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #1821

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

Feb. 18 — 21, 2016 **Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

contact: Harold@austinemmaus.org

contact: Keith@austinemmaus.org

contact: LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back TBD

Women's Walk #1839

Roslynn Hopkins, Lay Director
Tina Carter, Spiritual Director
Gina Franklin, Board Rep.
Sherry Wilkinson, ST Coordinator

May 5 — 8, 2016 **Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

contact: Roslynn@austinemmaus.org

contact: Gina@austinemmaus.org

contact: Sherry@austinemmaus.org

Welcome Back TBD

Men's Walk #1847

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

Aug. 25 — 28, 2016 **Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

Welcome Back TBD

Women's Walk #1863

LD, SD, BR, STC to be determined

Oct 27. — 30, 2016 **Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

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!)

Photos from the November 5th Gathering at Berkeley UMC.
Thanks to Sam Johnson for being our “unofficial” photographer!



Tom Rioux, our Database Coordinator, and Carl Fisher, Board Member for Walk Support, Community Letters, AND Food/Gift Agape. Carl could use some help! Contact him and he'll tell you how!



*Enjoying the goodies
at the Agape Feast!*



Come worship with us!



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 3rd Gathering at Parker Lane UMC, the following Walks will be recognized:

Men's Walk #316, 9/23/1993, Mt. Wesley

(Lay 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 3rd Gathering at Parker Lane UMC to be reunited!



Upcoming Walk

Men's Walk to Emmaus #1821

February 18 – 21, 2016

Camp 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!**





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



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





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

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

De Colores!



**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 5th at Berkeley 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 5th, 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



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