



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



January 2016

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 27, Number 1

UNWRAPPED GIFTS

Dear Blessed Emmaus Community,

It is Christmas time and everywhere you look you will see businesses and houses decorated with lights, bows, wreathes, and all types of Christmas fare. We see decorated shrubs and trees as we drive down the roadways. Our homes are decorated inside, too. We have Christmas trees aglow with lights and decorated with ornaments, tinsel, and ribbon. Stockings are hung and ready to be filled with treats and small wrapped gifts. Under the Christmas tree there are gifts and some may be wrapped in red foil paper with silver bows or colorful Christmas paper with matching ribbon and bows. There is an eagerness, joy, and an air of anticipation to discover what is in the wrapped gift boxes.

This has us feeling wonderful, special, and loved!! But let's pause and take the time to discover and to know what our "unwrapped gifts" are and to be grateful for these gifts. These unwrapped gifts are our lives, our families, our friends, the love our friends and family have for us and we for them, our dogs, our cats, our homes, our world, our churches, and so much more. Let's pause and take the time to see the special unwrapped gifts of all the blessings and grace that our Lord showers upon us. The most special, most precious, and most holy unwrapped gift of all, is the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

In Acts 17:28, we read, "For in Him we live and move and exist." So as we move through our lives, let's pause and take the time for the beauty and meaning of this season, let's pause and take the time to listen, and pause and take the time to cherish and to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

Let's remember to live, move, and exist with Our Savior. Let's celebrate this most special unwrapped gift we have ever received!!

**Merry, Blessed Christmas,
Chris McKemie, Lay Director**



Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director
Chris McKemie

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

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SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

Assistant Lay Director

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4th Day Board Representative

Mel Chambers

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Immediate Past Lay Director

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WalkTalk Editor

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>

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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

**64 attended the December Gathering
at Parker Lane UMC on December 3rd, and
Lori Perry 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 December 3rd Gathering at Parker Lane UMC.
Lots of singing and praising! If you missed it, come to the January 7th Gathering
at First UMC and join us in song and worship!*



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!



Notice of Walk Fee Increase

Beginning January 1, 2016, the fee for upcoming Walk to Emmaus will increase from \$215 to \$240. If you are thinking of sponsoring someone for the upcoming walks next year, take advantage of the lower fee by registering and paying for your pilgrim before December 31, 2015.

Epiphany January 6



Walk Reunions

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group sponsors Walk reunions at each Gathering. At the January 7th Gathering at First UMC, the following Walks will be recognized:

Women's Walk #330, 11/11/1993, Mt. Wesley
(Lay Director, Marsha Hughes)

Women's Walk #919, 7/5/2001, Omega Center
(Lay Director, Roxie Greenway)

Men's Walk #1686, 10/25/2012, CYJ
(Lay Director, Derly Tijerina)

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 January 7th Gathering at First 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

**Have you been praying about who
YOU can sponsor?**



**Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group
Board of Directors Meeting
Parker Lane UMC, Austin
Thursday, December 3, 2015**

The regular meeting of the GAE4DG Board was held on December 3rd at Parker Lane UMC commencing at 6:15 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Harold Sundbeck who gave the opening prayer. Present were: Harold Sundbeck, Assistant Lay Director; Mel Chambers, Rio Texas Board Representative and Immediate Past Lay Director; LeeLeen Sundbeck, Gathering Support; Carl Fisher, Walk Support; Sam Johnson, Treasurer; Jim Burgess, Member Support, and Rev. Sylvester Chase, Spiritual Director.

Assistant Lay Director's Opening Remarks: Harold Sundbeck welcomed everyone.

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

Treasurer's Report: Sam Johnson presented the treasurer's report. The ending balance as of December 3, 2015 was \$4,421.10, with an unencumbered balance of \$1,474.85 after outstanding liabilities of \$2,946.26. The Scholarship balance is \$2,402.71. Walk #1803 made \$543.55 since the walk had 35 pilgrims. Harold Sundbeck made the motion to approve, Mel Chambers seconded and it was approved unanimously.

Sam also reported we now have the capability to accept credit card payments by use of Square. He presented the new Walk Application forms and reported they should be available on line very soon.

Rio Texas Board Representative's Report: Mel Chambers reported he will make sure the conference gets the new Application Fees schedule and also that the current fee will increase 1/1/2016 from \$215 to \$240 for 2016 Walks. Mel is still looking for LD candidates.

Walk Support: Carl Fisher reported he will be leaving in January to move to St. Paul. Tonight there will be Agape lists to be passed around since the only new Walk will be Walk #1821 in February. By the time he leaves there will be enough worship books for all the upcoming walks in 2016.

Member Support: No Report

Immediate Past Lay Director: No report.

Assistant Lay Director: No report.

Spiritual Director: No report.

New Business: None

Old Business: Harold Sundbeck reported that Chris and Myles McKemie and Tom and Anne Rioux met with Pastor Ella Luna and David Ancira of Emmanuel UMC welcoming them into our conference. They discussed ways that the GAE4DG could help in awakening Emmaus in their church. They are very interested in getting involved and would like to have an Emmaus Sunday at Emmanuel UMC on January 10, 2016. A Traditional Spanish Worship will be at 9:00 and a Blended English Worship Service at 11:00. It would be wonderful to have members of the community and the Board attend to show support and encouragement. Harold indicated he would attend.

Walk Reports: Walk #1821 – Harold reported they had the first team meeting and the next will be on December 12, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. by Harold Sundbeck. 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

2016 Gatherings

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
Pflugerville UMC
500 E. Pecan St., Pflugerville, 78691
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