



## The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



May 2016

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 27, Number 5

### Sustaining the Spirit

Dear Greater Austin Emmaus Community,

I am sure many of you have questions regarding our Emmaus community and I will address some of these here, but you may have some that are not covered in this letter, and I encourage you to attend the May 12<sup>th</sup> Gathering at Northwest Hills UMC so that we may gather as a Community and discuss our future.

The Board of Directors meet on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> to evaluate if we could move forward as a community, evaluating changes in the structure of the community, evaluating the duties of the BOD, and evaluating the ability to hold a Walk. It was determined with a resounding **YES**, we can! Yes, we can and will move forward as a community!!

Basically, the GAEC will no longer be under the umbrella of the Rio Texas Emmaus, instead, will be in direct covenant with the Upper Room. The GAEC will schedule and hold our own Walks, be responsible for ordering all supplies for the Walk from the Upper Room, be responsible for registration of pilgrims, be responsible for all expenses for the Walk, and be responsible for clergy and lay training. Our community has already been doing most of these duties already.

The GAEC is already in the process of filing for a 501(c)3 to become a non-profit organization and to incorporate. We have already developed our own forms and procedures for the registration of pilgrims. At this time, the treasurer and computer person of a Walk will be taking care of this registration process, but we may need to create a position of registrar in the future.

The GAEC Board of Directors examined our finances and the income and expenses of a Walk very carefully, and determined that the GAEC is very able to meet all expenses of a Walk.

The changes to the Board of Directors are really very minor. Our Board Representative to the Rio Texas Emmaus will now be the Upper Room Representative. They will be responsible for scheduling a date for a Walk, ordering all supplies from the Upper Room, and scheduling lay training as required by the Upper Room. Our Spiritual Director will be responsible for assigning clergy to a Walk and for clergy training as required by the Upper Room.

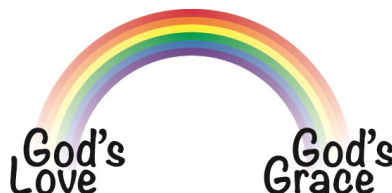
Also, there is the possibility of a smaller 4th Day Group merging into GAEC. This will make us a larger, stronger faith community. A faithful community committed to our Lord and answering His call to be His disciples.

In closing, this is a quote from the book "Sustaining the Spirit" from the Upper Room:

"You were blessed to be a blessing in the lives of others. You were called to a ministry of Jesus Christ and have responded through your commitment to the Walk to Emmaus. Go forward in love! You are supported by God's presence and love for you, and you will be sustained by God's Spirit. You are a part of God's instrument called Emmaus."

God is with us always and moving us to a new journey for Emmaus!

**With God's Love and Blessings,  
Chris McKemie,  
Lay Director**



# Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

## Board of Directors and Volunteers

**Lay Director**  
Chris McKemie

[LayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:LayDirector@austinemmaus.org)

**Spiritual Director**

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

[SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org)

**Assistant Lay Director**

Harold Sundbeck

[AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org)

**Board Member for Gathering Support**

LeeLeen Sundbeck

[BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org](mailto:BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org)

**Board Member for Walk Support**

*open*

[BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org](mailto:BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org)

**Board Member for Member Services**

Jim Burgess

[BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org](mailto:BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org)

**Treasurer**

Sam Johnson

[Treasurer@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Treasurer@austinemmaus.org)

**4<sup>th</sup> Day Board Representative**

Mel Chambers

[4thDayBoardRepresentative@austinemmaus.org](mailto:4thDayBoardRepresentative@austinemmaus.org)

**Immediate Past Lay Director**

Mel Chambers

[ImmediatePastLayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:ImmediatePastLayDirector@austinemmaus.org)

**Chrysalis Representative**  
*open*

**Database Coordinator**

Tom Rioux

[DatabaseCoordinator@austinemmaus.org](mailto:DatabaseCoordinator@austinemmaus.org)

**Electronic Communications**

Ed Turner

[ElectronicCommunications@austinemmaus.org](mailto:ElectronicCommunications@austinemmaus.org)

**Prayer Vigil Coordinator**

Willy Maletta

[PrayerVigilCoordinator@austinemmaus.org](mailto:PrayerVigilCoordinator@austinemmaus.org)

**Community Letters**

*open*

[CommunityLetters@austinemmaus.org](mailto:CommunityLetters@austinemmaus.org)

**Food/Gift Agape Coordinator**

*open*

[FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator@austinemmaus.org](mailto:FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator@austinemmaus.org)

**Music Coordinator**

Rob Turk

[MusicCoordinator@austinemmaus.org](mailto:MusicCoordinator@austinemmaus.org)

**WalkTalk Editor**

Kellye Noret

[WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org](mailto:WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org)



**BOARD MEMBERS**



**Financial Statement**  
*as of 3/31/16*

**Bank Balance**

**\$6,123.15**

**Unencumbered funds**

**\$ 978.24**

**Scholarship Fund**

**\$3,468.39**

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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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

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

[WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org](mailto:WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org)

**Approximately 80 attended the April  
Gathering at Wesley UMC on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and  
LaMonica Lewis 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

### Women's Walk #1839

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

**May 5 — 8, 2016**

contact: [Roslynn@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Roslynn@austinemmaus.org)

**Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

contact: [Gina@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Gina@austinemmaus.org)

contact: [Sherry@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Sherry@austinemmaus.org)

[www.mysignup.com/walk1839agape](http://www.mysignup.com/walk1839agape)

[www.mysignup.com/walk1839prayer](http://www.mysignup.com/walk1839prayer)

*Welcome Back TBD*

### Men's Walk #1847

Rob Turk, Lay Director  
Audrey Spencer, Spiritual Director  
Melvin Chambers, Board Rep.  
Gene McConnell, ST Coordinator

**August 25 — 28, 2016**

**Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

Contact: [Rob@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Rob@austinemmaus.org)

Contact: [Mel@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Mel@austinemmaus.org)

Contact: [Gene@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Gene@austinemmaus.org)

*Welcome Back TBD*

~~Women's Walk #1863~~

~~October 6 — 9, 2016~~

~~Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley~~

**CANCELLED**

If you would like to be considered for the Conference Room Team  
for a Walk, please submit a Team Application here:

[http://www.austinemmaus.org/team\\_app.php](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 others to choose from!

<http://riotexas.org/emmaus/>





## Walk Reunions

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group sponsors Walk reunions at each Gathering. At the May 12<sup>th</sup> Gathering at Northwest Hills UMC, the following Walks will be recognized:

**Women's Walk #372, 9/8/1994, Mt. Wesley**

*(Lay Director, Debbie Steinbach)*

**Women's Walk #988, 5/2/2002, Highland Lakes**

*(Lay Director, Audrey Lehman)*

**Men's Walk #1740, 2/27/2014, Camp Young Judaea**

*(Lay Director, Paul Draper)*

Below are the original pilgrim/team photos of these Walks. See anyone you recognize? If you were a pilgrim or team member on one of these Walks, come to the May 12<sup>th</sup> Gathering at Northwest Hills UMC to be reunited!



**Women's Walk #372  
September 8, 1994  
Mt. Wesley**

*LD, Debbie Steinbach  
SD, Victoria Bailey  
BR, Pauline Lacey*

**Women's Walk #988  
May 2, 2002  
Highland Lakes**

*LD, Audrey Lehman  
SD, Mimi Raper  
BR, Annie Lancaster*



**Men's Walk #1740  
February 2, 2014  
Camp Young Judaea**

*LD, Paul Draper  
SD, Tom Deviney  
BR, Ed White*



Walk to Emmaus #1740





## Fellowship! Friendship! Worship! Pot Luck Gathering!

Where: First UMC Pflugerville

When: June 2, 2016

Time: 6:30 dinner ~ 7:30 worship

Mark your calendars, bring a favorite dish to share,  
a friend to worship with, and a heart filled with love and joy!

For more info, contact Chris McKemie at [LayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:LayDirector@austinemmaus.org)

*See you there! DeColores!*



## Change

It is said that there are two things we can count on: CHANGE, and the LOVE of our Savior. We as a 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group are about to go through some changes. As Rev. Chase tells us at Gatherings, “We need to show up and have love in our hearts.”

The Rio Texas Emmaus Community is going away. This means we will have to become our own Emmaus Community. And, it means we have to do the jobs that Rio Texas was doing for us. Lastly, it means, we have to “show up.”

We have changed our name to Greater Austin Emmaus Community. The name is important because it will be the name of our non-profit LLC, as well as the name that the Upper Room will display on their website. It is also the name that our 501(c)3 will use.

We will now be scheduling our own Walks, have our own insurance, and be our own Registrar, to name a few things that are changing. We will be making changes to our by-laws and adding more responsibilities to Board members jobs.

This means we need you to “SHOW UP” and help with some of the new tasks that it will take to hold a Walk. We will need your computer skills, accounting skills, legal skills, and muscle, to name a few, to get that job done. “But with God all things are possible.” (*Matthew 19:26.*) With your help, your time, your financial support, and your Love, we will accomplish this task.

I pray that we will fill Men’s Walk #1847 (the last number of a GAE4DG Walk), August 25-28. It will become Walk #142, the first Walk of the GAEC – the first Walk sponsored by your new Emmaus Community.

I know you have a lot of questions. Come to the May 12<sup>th</sup> Gathering at Northwest Hills UMC, and we will answer them.

**God Bless,  
Mel Chambers,  
Board Representative**





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**Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wesley UMC, Austin**  
**Thursday, April 7, 2016**

The regular meeting of the GAE4DG Board was held on April 7<sup>th</sup> at Wesley UMC commencing at 6:06 PM. The meeting was called to order by Chris McKemie and the opening prayer was given by Mel Chambers. Present were: Chris McKemie, Lay Director; Harold Sundbeck, Assistant Lay Director; Mel Chambers, Rio Texas Board Representative and Immediate Past Lay Director; Sam Johnson, Treasurer; Rev. Sylvester Chase, Spiritual Director; Jim Burgess, Board Member for Member Support; Tom Rioux, Rob Turk, Lay Director for Men's Walk #1847, and Roselyn Hoskins, Lay Director for Women's Walk #1839.

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

**Minutes:** The Board approved the March minutes by email; they were submitted to Kellye Noret to publish in the *WalkTalk*.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sam Johnson presented the Treasurer's Report. The ending balance as of March 31, 2016 was \$4,446.63, with an unencumbered balance of \$978.24 after outstanding liabilities of \$3,468.39. There is \$3,468.39 available for Walk Scholarships. Walk #1821 ended with a net loss of \$984.48 due to an additional expense of \$575.00 for golf cart rentals, delivery and pick-up, and applications with fees submitted prior to the increase in fees as of January 1, 2016. There were also two refunds to team members who had to drop out for family medical reasons. Sam reported the Gatherings have been successful in raising funds for scholarships. Chris McKemie made motion to accept the report, Harold Sundbeck seconded, and it was voted and approved.

Parker Lane UMC will need a check to cover 4<sup>th</sup> Day books that Carl Fisher ordered for the Walk that was sent to Parker Lane and paid for by them. Sam will send them a check.

**Rio Texas Board Representative's Report:** Mel Chambers reported the Rio Texas Conference and the local Emmaus Communities are separating and will no longer be under the Conference's umbrella organization. As a local community we will need to have funds to cover the cancellation costs for four walks, if we want to continue having four walks per year. By having our own register we will have greater control over keeping track of the Pilgrims as they are processed.

**Gathering Support:** LeeLeen Sundbeck was not present so Harold Sundbeck reported she was working on moving the May Gathering at Northwest Hills to the August Gathering so the Team Commissioning will be held at Rob Turk's home church. She is still waiting to hear from Covenant UMC if they can move from August to May. The June Gathering will be a pot-luck with meeting to follow. Also, new officers will be announced.

**Walk Support:** Volunteers still needed to take over Carl's duties.

**Assistant Lay Director:** Rob Turk expressed interest in serving as Assistant Lay Director and Silvia Villarreal expressed interest in serving as Gathering Support. An announcement will also be made tonight for individuals to serve on the Board.

**Walk #1847:** Rob Turk reported Mel Chambers is serving as Board Rep., Gene McConnell as Servant Team Coordinator, Audrey Spencer as Spiritual Director, and Keith Bible as Music Team Leader. The first two meetings will be at Northwest Hills UMC and the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting TBD. Will need to find a computer person for the Walk.

**Walk #1839 Report:** Team commissioning will take place tonight. There are 34 Pilgrims with 2 in process. Site visit has been made and all is in order. Rev. Waddle had to drop off but Rev. Sharon Stewart will serve.

**Old Business:** Chris McKemie presented a notice for the Community concerning announcements about the passing of Community members to be notified by the Yahoo blast. Ed Turner will be tasked to change the link and Member Support will be in charge of getting notices sent out.

The current Pilgrim applications need to be changed out to the new applications indicating checks/payments need to be sent to the GAE4DG Treasurer. LeeLeen Sundbeck will contact all church POC's to remove the old applications.

**New Business:** Tom Rioux reported on the current work on the 501(c)3. He has talked to several attorneys and all indicated we need to be a non-profit corporation instead of a non-profit organization. This will help remove individual liability from the BOD. We are already holding quarterly meetings and elections of the BOD. We will just need to vote in our original by-laws with some minor changes as needed to conform to the new incorporation.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. by Chris McKemie. Sam Johnson 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

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

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

#### **June 2, 2016**

Thursday, June 2, 2016  
First UMC Pflugerville  
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  
Commissioning for Walk #1847*

#### **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*

#### **\*\* October 13, 2016 \*\***

Thursday, October 13, 2016  
Lake Travis UMC  
1502 RR 620 North, Austin, 78734  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### **November 3, 2016**

Thursday, November 3, 2016  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### **December 1, 2016**

Thursday, December 1, 2016  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

*\*\* Gatherings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday  
of the month unless otherwise noted.\*\**

**Childcare provided.**

**Contact LeeLeen Sundbeck**

[BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org](mailto:BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org)

