



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



August 2016

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 27, Number 8

Walk to Emmaus

As this goes to publication it is with a heavy heart that I must inform you that Men's Walk to Emmaus #1847 has been canceled. Only three pilgrims were signed up as of this week. On a positive note, the Conference Room Team is moving forward to be ready to resume this Walk on March 30 – April 2, 2017 as Walk #141. So, we now have six months to fill this Walk to capacity and hopefully we will have a waiting list for a second Men's Walk next year. We will also be looking for pilgrims for a Women's Walk next Spring as well. So, as I reminded you last month, "Christ is counting on You!" I issued a challenge several months ago to all of our reunion groups to seek out pilgrims thirsting to have their eyes opened in order to see Jesus more clearly. If each of our reunion groups can sponsor one pilgrim each we will continue to fill all Walks.

I would also like to encourage all of you to attend our monthly Gatherings, where we recognize past Walks and the participants. At our August Gathering we will be recognizing the following Walks:

Men's Walk #397

Mt. Wesley, December 8, 1994

Lay Director, Dan Byron; Spiritual Director, John Flowers

Men's Walk #1042

Omega Center in Boerne, January 23, 2003

Lay Director, John Robertson; Spiritual Director, Bill Henderson

Men's Walk #1778

Camp Young Judaea, February 19, 2015

Lay Director, David Graham; Spiritual Director, Jim Austin

If you participated in one of these Walks (*see photos on page 4!*), either as a pilgrim or a team member, please plan to attend so we can recognize you! We will also be commissioning the team for Walk #1847 at this Gathering, so come and show your support for them with your presence and your prayers.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our next Gathering on August 4th at Covenant UMC on Duval Road. The music begins at 7:00 p.m.

Also, be sure to wear your crosses on the 1st Sunday of each month!

May God continue to bless you, and remember, Christ is counting on You!

De Colores!

Harold Sundbeck

Lay Director



Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Harold Sundbeck

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

Assistant Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

Silvia Villarreal-Rocco

BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Carl Fisher

BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Member Services

Rob Turk

BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org

Treasurer

Nickie Carstarphen

Treasurer@austinemmaus.org

RTECC Board Rep.

Mel Chambers

UpperRoomSupport@austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

Chris McKemie

ImmediatePastLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Registrar

Tom Rioux

Registrar@austinemmaus.org

Secretary

Jeannie Randall

Secretary@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 & Chris McKemie

CommunityLetters@austinemmaus.org

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Carl Fisher & Chris McKemie

FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Music Coordinator

Rob Turk

MusicCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



BOARD MEMBERS



Financial Statement as of 6/30/16

Bank Balance
\$9,892.77

Monies Received in July:

\$500.00 Contribution
\$4,820.57 Transfer from ABC Community
\$219.00 July Gathering
\$1,439.00 Walk #1849 Fees (now Walk #141)

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Visit the Greater Austin Emmaus  
Community Website at

<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

**Approximately 65 attended the July Gathering
at Westlake UMC on July 7th,
and Kevin Murphy 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.

2017 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #141

March 30 — April 2, 2017

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Rob Turk, Lay Director

Contact: Rob@austinemmaus.org

Audrey Spencer, Spiritual Director

Melvin Chambers, Board Rep.

Contact: Mel@austinemmaus.org

Gene McConnell, ST Coordinator

Contact: Gene@austinemmaus.org

Note: This was Walk #1847, scheduled to take place August 25 – 28, 2016, but is now rescheduled to March 30 – April 2, 2017 as Walk #141.

Women's Walk #142

October 12 — 15, 2017

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

Lay Director TBD

Spiritual Director TBD

Board Rep. TBD

ST Coordinator TBD



There are NEW downloadable forms on the GAEC website, including:

Pilgrim Application Form Instructions

Pilgrim Application Form — Pilgrim

Pilgrim Application Form — Sponsor

Pilgrim Application Form — Church

Scholarship Application Form

Sponsor Packet

Team Application Form

Please go to <http://austinemmaus.org/reg.php> to access these new forms, and discard any old forms you may have.



Walk Reunions

The GAEC sponsors Walk reunions at each Gathering. At the August 4th Gathering at Covenant UMC, these Walks will be recognized:

Men's Walk #397, 12/8/1994, Mt. Wesley (Lay Director, Dan Byron)

Men's Walk #1042, 1/23/2003, Omega Center (Lay Director, John Robertson)

Men's Walk #1778, 2/19/2015, Camp Young Judaea (Lay Director, David Graham)

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 August 4th Gathering at Covenant UMC to be reunited!



**Men's Walk #397
December 8, 1994
Mt. Wesley**

**LD, Day Byron
SD, John Flowers
BR, Jim McComb**



**Men's Walk #1042
January 23, 2003
Omega Center**

**LD, John Robertson
SD, Bill Henderson
BR, Jim McComb**



**Men's Walk #1778
February 19, 2015
CYJ**

**LD, David Graham
SD, Jim Austin
BR, Mel Chambers**

Emmaus Sunday!

Don't forget! The first Sunday of each month is Emmaus Sunday!

Wear your cross lanyards to worship!
This is a great opportunity to bring awareness to the Walk to Emmaus!



Did you know... ?

..... that a Walk has to have a minimum of 20 pilgrims for it to make?

..... that the GAEC has had to cancel Walks because they didn't meet this minimum?

..... that the deadline for a Walk to make is two weeks before the Walk is to begin?

What you can do to help.....

Sponsor pilgrims! Meet the deadline!

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!



The *WalkTalk* Needs YOU!

The *WalkTalk* needs your help to keep it informative, interesting and enjoyable to read! Please send your . . .

- ⇒ Emmaus information
- ⇒ Chrysalis information
- ⇒ Kairos information
- ⇒ any upcoming events
- ⇒ articles
- ⇒ personal reflections
- ⇒ 4th Day experiences
- ⇒ GAEC service opportunities/needs
- ⇒ Walk info
- ⇒ team info
- ⇒ Gathering info



. . . you get the idea! Anything you think the community needs to know, would be helpful to know, or would enjoy reading.

Send your news to WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org!

The *WalkTalk* deadline is the 20th of each month.

Greater Austin Emmaus Reunion Groups

Looking for a reunion group?

Want to add a new group?

Need to update info on an existing group?

Go to the link below to do all of this!
Help keep our Reunion Group list accurate!

http://austinemmaus.org/reunion_groups.php





Music Coordinator Needed!

Do you love singing music at Gatherings?



Do you enjoy coordinating with host churches and Emmaus points-of-contact to ensure that there is singing at each Gathering?

If so, we need a new Music Coordinator for the Greater Austin Emmaus Community, since our current Music Coordinator, Rob Turk, has joined the Board of Directors and is also going to be the Lay Director for Men's Walk #141, March 30 — April 2, 2017.

Please contact Rob at BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org for more information or if you would like to take on this role for our community.

To All Greater Austin Emmaus Community Reunion Groups

Over the last several years we have been struggling to fill our Walks to Emmaus and have had to postpone or cancel several due to not filling the required minimum number of Pilgrims.

In addition to the financial cost of canceling a Walk, we also have the emotional costs to pilgrims who were looking forward to this extraordinary experience of spiritual growth and renewal, to sponsors ready to undertake their responsibilities to the pilgrim and their family, and to Conference Room and Servant team members ready and filled with a "servant heart" to serve.

Those who have sponsored pilgrims, know the challenges of sponsorship and all that entails. Therefore, we would like to encourage all Reunion Groups to find at least two pilgrims a year to sponsor. By teaming up as a group for sponsorship and sharing the responsibilities in seeing to the needs of the pilgrims and their families, we hope to make sponsorship a group act of Agape and hopefully fill all of our future Walks so that we never have to postpone or cancel a Walk again.

If you have never sponsored a pilgrim, you will find it to be a great blessing. Be in prayer for who you think is ready to take their Walk to Emmaus! Go to this link for info that will be very helpful:

<http://austinemmaus.org/pdf/EmmausSponsorPacket.pdf>



**Greater Austin Emmaus Community
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 7, 2016 @ Westlake UMC**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Lay Director Harold Sundbeck, who presided over the meeting. Attending were: Harold Sundbeck, Lay Director; LeeLeen Sundbeck, Assistance Lay Director; Jeanne Randall, Secretary; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Representative; Carl Fisher (*via speaker phone*), Walk Support Coordinator; Rev. Sylvester Chase, Jr., Spiritual Director; and Chris McKemie, Immediate Past Lay Director. It was determined that 6 directors were present, which did constitute a quorum. [Note: with nine voting directors on the board, five voting directors required for a quorum.] Also attending were Dot Files, Cedar Creek UMC Point of Contact, Eben Files, and David Graham. The June minutes were sent by email to the BOD, corrections made, and final draft was approved by email prior to the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Nickie was unable to attend the meeting but had a copy of the current bank statement for our review. A recommendation was made to table the approval of the report until the August meeting.

There was a discussion of the appropriate signers to be on the checking account. Currently it is the Board Representative and the Treasurer. A motion was made to include the current Lay Director, Harold Sundbeck, and the Immediate Past Lay Director, Chris McKemie, to the authorized signers. After discussion on the items as noted above, a motion was made by LeeLeen Sundbeck and seconded by Mel that two additional signers be on the GAEC checking account. Motion passed.

Reimbursement checks to Tom Rioux (\$80.47) and Sherry Wilkinson (\$56.03 for Walk expenses) were discussed. After discussion on the items as noted above, a motion was made by Chris McKemie and seconded by Rev. Chase to approve the disbursement of funds. Motion passed.

Insurance through Church Mutual was discussed. The recommendation was made, to add a Board Liability rider to the insurance policy. After discussion on the items as noted above, a motion was made by Harold and seconded by Rev. Chase to add the rider. Motion passed.

RTECC Board Rep: Mel reviewed the CYJ Contract and some questions were raised about cancellation fees. He will research the answers and report back. The final deposit check for the August Men's Walk #1847 was tabled until there is clarification of the rates.

Gathering Support: Silvia was unable to attend the meeting but sent her report by email to Harold. Listed in the report were the confirmed Gathering locations through March of 2017. It was also mentioned that Cedar Creek UMC is available to host a Gathering.

Walk Support: Carl has prepared a Power Point Presentation to explain the procedure for using the new system for Prayer Vigils. Prayer Vigils will now be on the website 3dayol.org. Childcare will not be available for Candlelight for Walk #1847. No one has signed up for the Saturday Agape Feast. Check the agape list at the Gathering. Chris has the Walk to Emmaus display board available for any church POC that wants one. She only has four with her, but more are available. An inventory of Walk crosses and any publications needed for the upcoming Walk must be done as soon as possible. *Day Four* books need to be ordered from Cokesbury. It was recommended that one or two copies of the current Upper Room manuals be kept on file. Updates and changes can be obtained from the Upper Room as needed. After discussion on these items, a motion was made by Mel and seconded by Rev. Chase that the report be approved and adopted as presented. Motion passed.

Immediate Past Lay Director's Report: Chris McKemie's report was merged with the Walk Support Report.

Spiritual Director's Report – Rev. Chase: There was discussion regarding the lack of support for the Walk to Emmaus at the local level. The feeling is that support for the Walk to Emmaus needs to come "from the top." If the District Superintendent isn't supporting and recommending the Walk to Emmaus to the pastors, the pastors don't appear to be supporting the movement in their churches. We need to speak to the DS and see if she will recommend participation to the pastors.

Training required by the Upper Room is minimal and only needs to be done once. GAEC can require more training. RTECC recommended every 4 years, but the frequency is a decision for GAEC to make. Offering Walk to Emmaus Clergy training at the regular professional meetings held by our District would make it much easier for the local Clergy (UMC & other) to have the latest information and any changes to the Clergy portion of the Walk. The ability to post Death and Funeral notices has been well received. We just need to be kept informed of details.

Old Business:

- Attorney Craig Adams presented a copy of the attached Bylaws to the Board of Directors for approval.
- Harold Sundbeck and Mel Chambers met with Craig Adams to discuss updating the Bylaws to reflect the new name for the community and adding the position of Secretary. Craig will present the updated Bylaws at the August Board meeting.

New Business:

- Transfer of Title and registration for the Emmaus Trailer (currently stored at the home of Dot and Eben Files) needs to be done before the end of August when the new tags must be purchased.
- Inventory of Emmaus trailers: Chris offered to hold a "Trailer Day" at her home so that both trailers could be inventoried and organized before the August Walk. It was suggested that one trailer be set up for the Men's Walks and the other trailer for the Women's Walks.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. and Rev. Chase gave the closing prayer. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on August 4, 2016 at 6 p.m. at Covenant UMC.

Minutes submitted by Jeanne Randall



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2016/2017 Gatherings

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

October 6, 2016

Thursday, October 6, 2016
Lake Travis UMC
1502 RR 620 North, Austin, 78734
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #432A, #444A, #1073

November 3, 2016

Thursday, November 3, 2016
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #449, #458, #1080, #1094

December 1, 2016

Thursday, December 1, 2016
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #468, #474, #1112, #1122

January 5, 2017

Thursday, January 5, 2017
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #480, #491, #1140, #1152

February 2, 2017

Thursday, February 2, 2017
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #504, #513, #1161

March 2, 2017

Thursday, March 2, 2017
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #521 #1170, #1803

April 6, 2017

Thursday, April 6, 2017
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #1189, #474, #1821

May 4, 2017

Thursday, May 4, 2017
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD
Reunion for Walks #1839

Childcare provided.

Contact Silvia Villarreal-Rocco

BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org