



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



September 2016

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 27, Number 9

Greetings to my Fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ

"Where two or more are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20

Recently my wife and I attended a wedding, and during the service they performed a sand ceremony where they mixed three colors of sand: pink symbolizing the bride, blue for the groom, and white for the presence of Christ. That the perfect union also involves Christ. This got me thinking about each of us in this Emmaus community. Just like the blended sand, we all share in this experience of the Walk to Emmaus and in this Community when we come together from different churches to worship together, surrounded by Christ in our lives.

When we come together at our monthly Gatherings we continue the fellowship, the blending, that began on our Pilgrim Walk and is renewed at every Gathering. Over the last several years, I have taken notice of what used to be large, well-attended gatherings, has been steadily dwindling in attendance. The music is still joyful and the singing is uplifting, and as always, the Fourth Day talks are inspiring. If you haven't attended a Gathering in a while I encourage you to check the calendar for our upcoming Gatherings. You can find them on the last page of every *WalkTalk*, and also on the GAEC website. Come and reconnect with old friends, make some new friends, and bring a friend since visitors are always welcome. Join with us as we continue the journey we all began on our Pilgrim Walk.

I would also like to remind everyone that our next Gathering is September 1, 2016 at Cedar Park UMC. Music begins at 7:00 p.m., and I hope to see each of you there. Also, be sure to wear your crosses on the 1st Sunday of each month when you attend your church to bring awareness to Emmaus.

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

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LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

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SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

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WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



BOARD MEMBERS



Financial Statement as of 7/31/16

Bank Balance

\$15,678.47

Monies Received in August:

\$4,820.57 Rio Texas Final
Disbursements
(GAEC \$ ABC combined)
\$ 522.00 August Gathering

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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 84 attended the August
Gathering at Covenant UMC on August 4th,
and Ronnie Vandiver 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

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

March 30 — April 2, 2017

Contact: Rob@austinemmaus.org

CYJ, Wimberley

Contact: Mel@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Gene@austinemmaus.org

Women's Walk #142

Kristin Riggs Hampsten, Lay Director
Spiritual Director TBD
LeeLeen Sundbeck, Board Rep.
ST Coordinator TBD

October 12 — 15, 2017

Contact: Kristin@austinemmaus.org

CYJ, Wimberley

Contact: LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org



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 Sept. 1st Gathering at Cedar Park UMC, these Walks will be recognized:

Women's Walk #408, 1/12/1995, Junction (Lay Director, Sammie Thomas)

Women's Walk #1057, 3/6/2003, Highland Lakes (Lay Director, Kathy Shaw)

Women's Walk #1789, 4/23/2015, Camp Young Judaea (Lay Director, Debby Krueger)

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 September 1st Gathering at Cedar Park UMC to be reunited!



**Women's Walk #408
January 12, 1995
Junction**

*LD, Sammie Davis
SD, Mike Madden
BR, Suzi Golding*



**Women's Walk #1789
April 23, 2015
CYJ**

*LD, Debby Krueger
SD, Tina Carter
BR, Anne Rioux*



**Women's Walk #1057
March 6, 2013
Highland Lakes**

*LD, Kathy Shaw
SD, Nancy Mossman
BR, Roxie Greenway*



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!



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.

50th Anniversary of the 1966 Starr County farm worker march to Austin

**Join Bishop Martinez
for the 50th Anniversary Celebration to Commemorate
1966 Farm Worker March to Austin
Sunday, September 11, 2016
Austin, Texas**

Let us continue the struggle of the Starr County farm workers, who led a strike in the melon fields in the summer of 1966, and then marched 400 miles, beginning on July 4, from the Valley to Austin, and arriving at the Capitol on Labor Day, 1966. When they arrived, 10,000 people joined the last 4 miles of the march from St. Edward's University to the Capitol.

Their struggle for economic justice was the beginning of the United Farm Workers union in Texas and sparked the Chicano movement. They laid the foundation in the fight for justice that continues today in the struggle for a living wage.

Join us to celebrate the farm workers' historic struggle at a commemoration and march on Sunday, September 11th and to support their continuing struggle for justice in the fields.

Schedule for Sunday, September 11, 2016
12PM - Dedication of memorial plaque
(at Ragsdale Student Center, St. Ed's, 1st floor)
12:15PM - Program on the Quad at St. Ed's
1:30 PM - Start of the 4-mile march to the Capitol from St. Ed's
4PM - Arrive at Capitol for the rally

**Greater Austin Emmaus Community
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 4, 2016**

The following directors were present: Jeanne Randall, Secretary; Nickie Carstarphen, Treasurer; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Representative; Rob Turk, Member Services Coordinator; Silvia Villarreal-Rocco, Gathering Support Coordinator; Rev. Sylvester Chase, Spiritual Director. It was determined that six (6) directors were present, which did constitute a quorum.

Rev Chase opened the meeting with prayer before the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mel Chambers, who presided over the meeting. Mel shared that we are now officially a Community directly under the Upper Room. RTECC will still be available, for a short period of time, to answer questions as we transition to a self-standing Community. We need to work with the District to support and recruit Pastors. RTECC made the initial disbursement of funds on July 31. GAEC received two checks totaling \$5362.44. This was the amount received from merger of GAEC4DG and ABC4DG.

Minutes: The Board of Directors Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on July 7, 2016. After corrections were made, the minutes were approved and adopted as emailed.

Treasurers Report: Nickie reported that the new bank account is with Frost Bank. She has transferred the funds and will close the Wells Fargo account when all checks have cleared. As of July bank statement, we have \$9225.40. Scholarship money needs to be transferred out of the General Fund into the Scholarship account so that there can be an accurate accounting and the records be reconciled. Nickie requested that there be a written protocol for making entries into the bookkeeping system. If a new Treasurer doesn't understand the system, mistakes will be made. With new people coming on board it is critical that they "know where" certain entries should be entered. The Scholarship application is online. The standard Scholarship is 1/3 the Pilgrim fee. However, if a request for additional funds is made, it is brought to the Board of Directors for a vote of approval. A motion was made and seconded that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. The motion passed.

Rio Texas Board Rep Report: Mel will mail the \$1,000.00 deposit check for each of the Walks that are scheduled at Cathedral Oaks. Walk #141, March 30 – April 2, and Walk #142, – October 12 – 15. Team Selection is scheduled for August 25, 7:00 pm at Wesley UMC.

Gathering Support: Silvia reported that no church has expressed willingness to host the Gathering for November. Cedar Creek UMC will host the December Gathering. Various churches do not have enough support to host a monthly gathering.

Walk Support Report: Carl was not present, but his report indicated everything from the cancelled Walk will be transferred to Walk #141.

Member Support Report: Rob stated that no one has contacted him to take over the position of Music Coordinator.

Walk #141 Lay Director Report: Rob reported that there have been questions about the fees charged for the caretaker of a disabled pilgrim. Fees for the caregivers of pilgrims is the same as the Servant Team.

Spiritual Director Report: Rev. Sylvester Chase said we need to look at the Emmaus spirit. We need to need to find out why Clergy and Laity are not actively supporting the movement. Rev Chase suggested that we all fast...skip lunch and pray about the movement.

General Discussion: Team members are concerned about GAEC not reaching out to other denominations. We need to brainstorm recruiting other denominations. Having only one Men's Walk and one Women's Walk a year may spark more interest. If people have to wait longer to attend, they might be more likely to sign up earlier. Craig will contact Scott Elliff from the Corpus Christi Emmaus Community and report back to the Board with regard to any ideas for facilitating a more extended meeting of the Board and/or the Community to pray together and discuss ideas of how to re-ignite interest in and the growth of the Emmaus movement.

Old Business: The following old business was discussed, with any items discussed or actions taken as noted below.

RTECC: Mel spoke at the beginning of the meeting about disbursement of funds and the limited support available after the dissolution of RTECC.

Bylaws – The Bylaws were discussed. The consensus was that we should wait until next month, when more of the Board can be in attendance, to vote to approve the Bylaws. Nicki made the motion that each position on the Board have a three-year rotation. Rob seconded the motion. Discussion followed. With the rotation, the 2nd and 3rd person in the position will be in Progressive Servanthood as well as be aware of the details of the office and the responsibilities and the direction of the Board. The motion passed. Board approved the information and staggering of terms as set forth in the attached Table of Officers and Directors:

May 2017 Chris McKemie, Carl Fisher, Sylvia Villarreal-Rocco, Rob Turk
May 2018 Harold Sundbeck, Mel Chambers, Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.
May 2019 LeeLeen Sundbeck, Jeanne Randall, Nickie Carstarphen

Craig was reimbursed the money he spent making copies of the Bylaws and the Table of Officers and Directors for the meeting.

The ABC Trailer must have new tags by the end of the month.

New Business: No new business discussed as we ran out of time. It was recommended that we meet at 5:30 next month to discuss and approve the Bylaws so that the 501c3 process can be completed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05. Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeanne Randall, Secretary



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2016/2017 Gatherings

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

