



## The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



December 2016

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 27, Number 12

### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Advent, a time of preparation and anticipation. A time I have looked forward to since I was a child to celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus. As we enter into this Advent season, take a moment to reflect on that time over 2,000 years ago when a young couple traveling on the road was seeking shelter and all they were offered was a stable for the night. From those humble beginnings we celebrate the birth of Christ, the promised Messiah, and we also look forward anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment that was promised by his first coming.

So, as we celebrate Advent and also enter into the Christmas season of shopping, parties and families gathering to celebrate, take time to remember the child that came into this world to save us. Remember the reason for the season.

Our next Gathering will be on Thursday, December 1, at Cedar Creek UMC on Pearce Lane (FM 535) just north of Hwy 21. It has been their tradition to always have a pot luck dinner beginning at 6:00 before their Gatherings, and having attended one in the past I'm planning on getting there early to enjoy the feast.

Just some reminders – our Lay Directors for 2017 are Rob Turk with Men's Walk #141, and Kristin Hampsten with Women's Walk #142. Now we need to start working on filling these Walks. If you are interested in sponsoring a Pilgrim, please go to [www.austinemmaus.org](http://www.austinemmaus.org) and follow the directions to find the Sponsor forms.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Cedar Creek in December. 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. Also, be sure to wear your crosses on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month 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

## Lay Director

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## WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

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



**BOARD MEMBERS**



**Financial Statement  
Unavailable at press  
time**

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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 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 39 attended the November 5th  
Gathering at Leander UMC, and Kevin Murphy  
gave a great Fourth 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](mailto:Rob@austinemmaus.org)

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

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

**CYJ, Wimberley**

### Women's Walk #142

Kristin Riggs Hampsten, Lay Director  
Dick West, Spiritual Director  
LeeLeen Sundbeck, Board Rep.  
Jeanne Randall, ST Coordinator

**October 12 — 15, 2017**

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

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

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

**CYJ, Wimberley**

**The registration fee for 2017 Walks is \$198.00.**



**Men's Walk #141**  
**March 30 – April 2, 2017**  
**Camp Young Judaea**

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

The first team meeting is January 14<sup>th</sup> at Wesley UMC. Currently there are 3 pilgrims signed up. There must be a minimum of 20 by March 16<sup>th</sup> for this Walk to make. This is the only Austin Community Men's Walk in 2017.

Please be in prayer for whom God is calling you to sponsor! Please also be in prayer for the team, the sponsors, and most especially for the pilgrims. If you have any questions about this Walk, please contact Rob Turk at [Rob@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Rob@austinemmaus.org).





## Walk Reunions

The GAEC sponsors Walk reunions at each Gathering. At the December 1<sup>st</sup> Gathering at Cedar Creek UMC, the following Walks will be recognized:

**Women's Walk #468, November 9, 1995, Mt. Wesley (*Lay Director, Hazel Knowlton*)**

**Women's Walk #474 11/7/1995, Mt. Wesley (*Lay Director, Cathy Troutner*)**

**Women's Walk #1112, 11/6/2003, Highland Lakes (*Lay Director, Marty Terry*)**

**Men's Walk #1122, 1/22/2004, Highland Lakes (*Lay Director, Don Greenway*)**

Below and on the next page 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 December 1<sup>st</sup> Gathering at Cedar Creek UMC to be reunited!



**Women's Walk #468  
November 9, 1995  
Mt. Wesley**

*LD, Hazel Knowlton  
SD, Sherry Strain  
BR, Jane Posten*



**Women's Walk #474  
December 7, 1995  
Mt. Wesley**

*LD, Cathy Troutner  
SD, Sarah Bentley  
& Mimi Raper  
BR, Mary Francis Markley*







**Women's Walk #1112  
November 6, 2003  
Highland Lakes**

*LD, Marty Terry  
SD, Mimi Raper  
BR, Marsha Hughes*



**Men's Walk #1122  
January 22, 2004  
Highland Lakes**

*LD, Don Greenway  
SD, Bill Henderson  
BR, Ralph Eckwall*



*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!*



*Happy  
Holydays*

## 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
- ⇒ 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

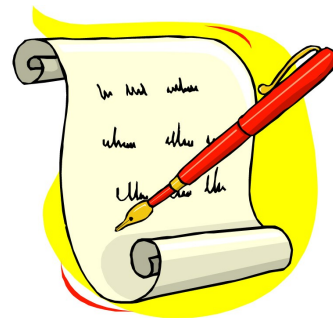
Send your news to [WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org](mailto:WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org)

## Clergy Corner!

Community clergy, would you like to write a paragraph, or two or three, for the Greater Austin Emmaus Community? It can be as long or as short as you would like, and on any topic of your choice. Just send your musings to:

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

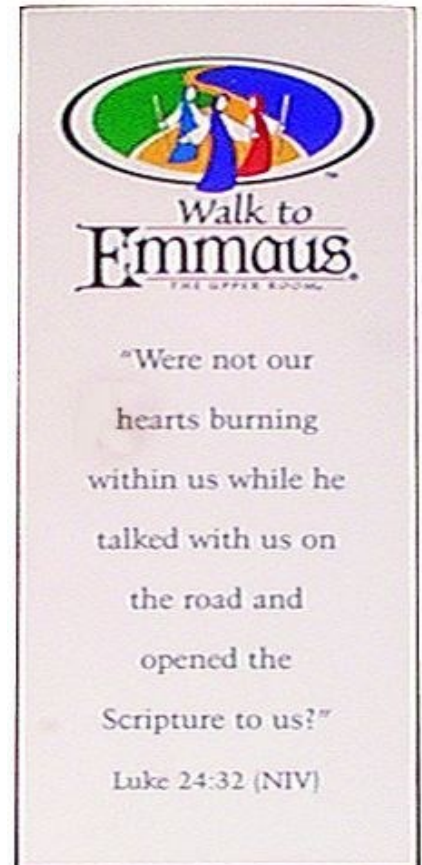
We will all be blessed by your sharing!





## ***Sponsorship is Important!***

- Seek*** prayerful guidance before asking applicant to attend
- Answer*** all questions and concerns honestly
- Help*** resolve any problems that might prevent attendance
- Bring*** your pilgrim to the center on time on Thursday evening
- Participate*** in the sponsor's hour prayer service at the center
- Obtain*** personal agape letters from friends and family
- Assist*** your pilgrim's family during his/her absence
- Attend*** Candlelight and Closing services
- Drive*** or ride home with your pilgrim after the weekend
- Take*** your pilgrim to the first Gathering after the weekend
- Persevere*** in helping your pilgrim get in a reunion group



## **New Gathering Format**

Beginning with our January Gathering, we will start having potluck dinners before each Gathering. By having a potluck prior to our Gatherings, we will be able to have our business meeting during dinner and then go to our music and worship service. This will allow us to be finished by 8:30, getting all of us home before too late.



## **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!



## Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

### 2016/2017 Gatherings

#### December 1, 2016

Thursday, December 1, 2016  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Cedar Creek UMC  
5630 FM 535, Cedar Creek, 78612  
4th Day Speaker Louise Ridlon  
*Reunion for Walks #468, #474, #1112, #1122*

#### January 5, 2017

Thursday, January 5, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #480, #491, #1140, #1152*

#### February 2, 2017

Thursday, February 2, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #504, #513, #1161*

#### March 2, 2017

Thursday, March 2, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #521 #1170, #1803*

#### April 6, 2017

Thursday, April 6, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #1189, #1821*

#### May 4, 2017

Thursday, May 4, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #1839*

#### June 1, 2017

Thursday, June 1, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #1839*

**Childcare provided.**

**Contact Silvia Villarreal-Rocco**

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



**Emmaus Gatherings**