



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



January 2017

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 28, Number 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It's a new year, a time of new beginnings. It's my wish that each one of you have the best year ever. From the Changing Our World talk, we learn that change begins with us as individuals, then grows as we expand our efforts to those around us and ultimately to our world. I want to lift my prayers to all of you, our Emmaus community, and to all those around us. I want to lift prayers to our nation as we transition to new leadership and to those who lead us. May we continue to be blessed by God's presence in our lives.

This year we have two Walks planned and we need pilgrims. Our Men's Walk #141 is coming up on March 30th. Team meetings will be starting in a matter of weeks. Let's pull together to fill this Walk, and Women's Walk #142, which will be taking place in October. If you are interested in sponsoring a pilgrim, please go to www.austinemmaus.org and follow the directions to find the Sponsor forms.

Our next Gathering will be on Thursday, January 5th, at First UMC Austin, 1201 Lavaca Street. The pot luck dinner begins at 6:00 with the music starting at 7:15.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our first Gathering of 2017. 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 first 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**



Emmaus Sunday!

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

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

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

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BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

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Board Member for Member Services

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BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org

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Treasurer@austinemmaus.org

RTECC Board Rep.

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UpperRoomSupport@austinemmaus.org

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WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



BOARD MEMBERS



Financial Statement as of 12/16/16

Bank Balance
\$16,130.50

Deposits
\$227.00 December
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 59 attended the December 1st
Gathering at Cedar Creek UMC, and Louise
Ridlon gave a great Fourth Day talk.

Check out the Gathering schedule on the last page.
They are normally the first Thursday of each 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

Contact: Mel@austinemmaus.org

Contact: 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

Contact: LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org

Contact: 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 14th at Wesley UMC. Currently there are 3 pilgrims signed up. There must be a minimum of 20 by March 16th for this Walk to make. This is the only Austin Community Men's Walk in 2017. If this Walk doesn't make, men will not have the opportunity to attend a GAEC sponsored Walk until 2018.

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.



Walk Reunions

The GAEC sponsors Walk reunions at each Gathering. At the January 5th Gathering at First UMC, the following Walks will be recognized:

Women's Walk #480, January 11, 1996, Mt. Wesley (Lay Director, Deborah Berkey Wilder)

Women's Walk #491 3/7/1996, Omega Center (Lay Director, Gail Gourley)

Women's Walk #1140, 3/25/2004, Highland Lakes (Lay Director, Diane Albin)

Men's Walk #1152, 5/13/2004, Mt. Wesley (Lay Director, Wade Lindstrom)

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 January 5th Gathering at First UMC to be reunited!

**Women's Walk #480
January 11, 1996
Mt. Wesley**

**LD, Deborah Berkey Wilder
SD, Bobbie Kay Jones
BR, Donde Ashmos**



**Women's Walk #491
March 7, 1996
Omega Center**

**LD, Gail Gourley
SD, Larry Shores
BR, Annie Lancaster**



Women's Walk #1140
March 25, 2004
Highland Lakes

LD, Diane Albin
SD, Georgia Stone
BR, Audrey Lehman



Men's Walk #1152
May 13, 2004
Mt. Wesley

LD, Wade Lindstrom
SD, Dick West
BR, Tim Payne



Just Returned From Your Walk to Emmaus? Now What?



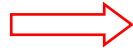
Just like many of you, as soon as you get off cloud nine from your Walk and your 4th Days have started, you ask yourself, “What do I do now?” Here are a few opportunities that will help enhance your Walk and the journey you are now on.

- ⇒ **Reunion Groups:** Join a Reunion Group, or start one with other pilgrims from your Walk. Once you meet there are opportunities to give back to the Emmaus community. Remember all that pillow agape left on your bed? Your group can make something for an upcoming Walk. It doesn't have to be expensive – keep it simple with a scripture on an index card would be great.
- ⇒ **Gatherings:** Go to Gatherings, especially when it's held at your church. This is a way to connect to many others, hear individual's 4th Day talks and their journey. Perhaps your Reunion Group can carpool. Don't forget the Potluck before the Gathering. We've changed things recently and we ask all who are coming to the Gatherings to bring a food item of any kind to share, prior to singing and the service.
- ⇒ **Walk to Emmaus Outside Team:** This gives you a first-hand look at the behind the scenes of what all has to be done to ensure the Walk goes smoothly. The team is there from Thursday afternoon until Sunday evening. The outside team is responsible for the snack times in the conference room, letters, making sure pillow agape gets put on beds, and many other duties.
- ⇒ **Walk to Emmaus Inside Team:** It is recommended you serve on an outside team prior to applying to be part of an inside team. You can find an application on the Emmaus website for you to complete. Once the team has been selected, it meets at least 6 months prior to the Walk to practice and review talks and responsibilities for each team member.
- ⇒ **Candlelight Service:** Just as you recall the feelings you felt when you walked in and saw all the Emmaus community there to support you, you can now come give those pilgrims that same overwhelming feeling. Usually groups will carpool together and stop along the way to share a meal on the way.
- ⇒ **Serve on the Emmaus Board:** Talk to a Board member if you have a desire to join the Board. There are always opportunities to serve!
- ⇒ **Sponsorship:** Just like your sponsor talked to you about the Walk, provided transportation to and from the retreat center for you, participated in the Prayer Vigil, and attended Candlelight and Closing, now you can give someone the same experience you felt on *your* Walk.

These are just a few ways to stay connected to the Emmaus community!

De Colores!
Silvia Villarreal-Rocco





REMINDER!



There is only ONE Men's Walk and ONE Women's Walk in 2017

The Greater Austin Emmaus Community will sponsor only two walks in 2017, one for men and one for women. If sponsors do not get their pilgrims signed up for Men's Walk #141, March 30 – April 2, or Women's Walk #142, October 12 – 15, and if those Walks do not make, it will be 2018 before they have the opportunity to do so again. The Upper Room guidelines stipulate that a Walk must have 20 pilgrims signed up in order for the Walk to occur.

In the past, people have been able to casually let a Walk deadline slide past on the calendar because another Walk would occur within months. This is no longer the case. The wait for men who signed up for Walk #1847 (which was replaced by Walk #141) to 2018 would be over 24 months. PLEASE prayerfully consider your Walk To Emmaus experience, and the men and women in your life who might benefit from this experience, and discuss with potential pilgrims what the Walk To Emmaus meant to you in your life, and then work to share that experience with others.

The forms needed to sign up a pilgrim, sponsor a pilgrim, and for clergy to sign on behalf of the pilgrim are located here: <http://www.austinemmaus.org/reg.php>

The cost of these Walks is \$198.00, but scholarship funds are available. Check with your local church point-of-contact, your pastor, or with the Lay Director for the Walk for scholarship assistance.

Rob Turk

Lay Director GAEC Men's Walk #141



5 Ways to Strengthen YOUR Emmaus Ministries Community

<https://t.e2ma.net/message/potfm/tz0jg7>

Please remember that the *WalkTalk* deadline is the 20th of each month. This is a FIRM deadline.



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

Potluck at 6:00 p.m. Worship at 7:15 p.m.

2017 Gatherings

January 5, 2017

Thursday, January 5, 2017

Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p

First UMC, Austin

1201 Lavaca St., Austin, 78701

4th Day Speaker Mary Heckmann

Reunion for Walks #480, #491, #1140, #1152

May 4, 2017

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p

Wesley UMC

1164 San Bernard St., Austin, 78702

4th Day Speaker TBD

Reunion for Walks #1839

February 2, 2017

Thursday, February 2, 2017

Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p

Oak Hill UMC

7815 Highway 290 West, Austin, 78736

4th Day Speaker TBD

Reunion for Walks #504, #513, #1161

June 1, 2017

Thursday, June 1, 2017

Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p

St. Mark UMC

601 West Braker Lane, Austin, 78753

4th Day Speaker TBD

March 2, 2017

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p

First UMC, Pflugerville

500 East Pecan St., Pflugerville, 78660

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

Bethany UMC

10010 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, 78750

4th Day Speaker TBD

Reunion for Walks #1189, #1821

Childcare Provided
Contact Silvia Villarreal-Rocco
BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

