



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



December 2017

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 28, Number 12

Our Fourth Days

The king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

We are told that whatever we do in love, even if it is the least task, we have done it to and for him. Think about the loving tasks you do each day. Are you a parent? A custodian? A teacher? A nurse or doctor? A truck driver? A secretary? You may feel that your position in life is not as important as someone else's. But that's not true. All things done in love, count as good.

What have you done with your Fourth Day? Have you sponsored someone on a Walk? Have you signed up for a prayer vigil? Have you made agape for a Walk? Are you attending Gatherings and staying connected? Have you joined a 4th day group so you remain accountable for your faith walk?

Question One: Are you doing your part to change the world for the good of God? We all at one time have the thought, "I really do want to be a part of Changing Our World". This does not need to be just a thought. You can transform this thought into reality if you have the desire to do God's will. It is up to us to deepen the spiritual growth of those in our congregations, our neighborhoods, our communities, and in ourselves.

Question Two: How do you spend your time? Have you taken the time lately to speak to your pastor about your faith walk? Your pastor can give you direction and insight to help with a plan. Without a plan it is easy for your faith to fall by the wayside.

As your Lay Director, I would like to give you a challenge for 2018: Be in prayer about how you see yourself getting involved in Emmaus. Will it be serving on the Board? Will it be by sponsoring a pilgrim? Will it be serving on an Emmaus Team, either inside or outside? Will it be serving on a board at your church? Any of these will be a start in Changing Our World.

I look forward to seeing you at our next Gathering at Cedar Creek on December 7th. If you have questions about how you can get involved or serving please do not hesitate to talk with me.

We all count on Christ. Do not forget he is counting on us to be His hands and feet!

DeColores
LeeLeen Sundbeck
Lay Director



Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

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BOARD MEMBERS



Financial Statement as of 11/2/17

**Bank Balance
\$19,484.00**

**Scholarship Fund
\$1,539.50**

Visit the Greater Austin
Emmaus Community
Website at

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Emmaus Sunday!

Don't forget!

The first Sunday of each month is Emmaus Sunday. Wear your cross and lanyard to worship. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring awareness to the Walk to Emmaus!



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

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

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org

The November 2nd Gathering was at Lake Travis UMC, with 85 attending. The pilgrims of Walk #142 shared about their 4th days.

Check out the Gathering schedule on the last page. They are normally the first Thursday of each month unless otherwise noted. Childcare available.

2018 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #144

Coe Grace, Lay Director

Spiritual Director TBD

Gene McConnell, Board Rep.

Roxie Greenway, ST Coord.

April 19 — 22, 2018

Contact: Coe@austinemmaus.org

CYJ, Wimberley

Contact: Gene@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Roxie@austinemmaus.org

Women's Walk #143

Chris McKemie, Lay Director

Tom Deviney, Spiritual Director

Gina Franklin, Board Rep.

Myles McKemie, ST Coord.

November 15 — 18, 2018

Contact: Chris@austinemmaus.org

CYJ, Wimberley

Contact: Gina@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Myles@austinemmaus.org



Went on a Walk...Now What?



Over the last several years we have seen a majority of pilgrims finish their Walk and then we never see them again. It's easy to lay the blame on busy schedules, but it also can be due to a lack of follow-thru by our sponsors. When I received my cross on Walk #1344 (Table of John), I was told, "Christ is counting on you". and I replied, "And I'm counting on Christ". We, as a community of Christ, are also counting on you. We need to encourage our sponsors to make sure their pilgrims get plugged into a Reunion Group and also encourage them to attend the monthly Gatherings. However, it's also true that we need more support from the Clergy. It's been my observation that those churches where the pastor encourages and promotes Emmaus from the pulpit will also have an active Emmaus community that participates in Gatherings and sponsors pilgrims for our Walks.

The Emmaus communities that are active in our Central Texas area have no problems filling Walks multiple times every year. What are they doing differently? Remember the first talk given? It's Priorities. The difference between our community and our neighboring Emmaus communities is that they have made Emmaus a priority, and they hear it from the pulpit.

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual journey and we need to convey that message to potential pilgrims by sponsors, by our community, and by our pastors. This connection is the key to our continued success as we move forward into next year. This can only happen through the continued strengthening of our spiritual growth through attending Gatherings, sponsoring pilgrims, and the promotion and encouragement from our pastors.

Remember, Christ is counting on YOU!

**De Colores,
Harold Sundbeck
Immediate Past Lay Director**



*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!*



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes October 5, 2017 Covenant UMC

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., by LeeLeen Sundbeck, who opened the meeting with prayer and presided over the meeting.

The following directors were present: Leeleen Sundbeck, Lay Director; Rob Turk, Assistant Lay Director; Jeanne Randall, Secretary; Patti Bizzell, Treasurer; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Rep.; Kristen Hampsten, Member Services Coor.; Denise Noseworthy, Gathering Support Coor.; Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr., Spiritual Director; Harold Sundbeck, Immediate Past Lay Director. **QUORUM:** It was determined that 9 directors were present, which did constitute a quorum.

MINUTES: The Board of Directors Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on September 9, 2017. Corrections that had been submitted were made and a final draft was emailed and approved by the Board. Copies of the approvals are filed with the Minutes.

REPORTS: The following officers, directors, or other persons presented reports to the Board of Directors, with any items discussed or actions taken as noted below. The following items were discussed:

TREASURER'S REPORT: Report on file.

UPPER ROOM REPORT: The GAEC "address" will be changed to Mel's home address, rather than the UMC District Office.

MEMBER SUPPORT: It is important that the GAEC Community are aware that they need to contact Rob (until after the Women's walk) and then Kristen if one of our members is in the hospital or passes away, so that that information can be communicated to the group.

OLD BUSINESS: The second announcement of the proposed changes to the bylaws will be done at the Gathering tonight.

NEW BUSINESS: Myles McKemie is in the hospital

WALK #142 REPORT: The Walk has 26 confirmed Pilgrims. Rev Chase is going to do the Sponsors Hour and David Scott is going to set up the Agape Feast. Kristen requested that the Servant Team attempt to make the "Basketball Court bathrooms" a little nicer for the Pilgrims.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next Gathering will be at Lake Travis UMC. Potluck at 6:30, worship at 7:15.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Jeanne Randall.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes November 2, 2017, Lake Travis UMC

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., by Leeleen Sundbeck, who opened the meeting with prayer and presided over the meeting. The following directors were present: Leeleen Sundbeck, Lay Director; Rob Turk, Assistant Lay Director; Jeanne Randall, Secretary; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Rep.; Kristen Hampsten, Member Services Coor.; Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr., Spiritual Director; Harold Sundbeck, Immediate Past Lay Director. The following additional persons were also present: Chris McKemie, Gene McConnell, Arnie Waden, Coe Groce, Tisha Christopher, and Bob Duplantis.

MINUTES – The Board of Directors Meeting Minutes were presented for the previous meeting held on October 5, 2017 and approved by the Board.

REPORTS – The following officers, directors, or other persons presented reports to the Board of Directors, with any items discussed or actions taken as noted below. The following items were discussed:

TREASURER'S REPORT – Patti requested a Board vote on the following motions: (a) that the Board approve the reconciled balances between Frost Bank and the Aplos Accounting System for the month of October 2017. Frost Bank Balance is \$19,246.00, the Aplos checking balance is \$19,246.00. (b) that the Board approve the financial statements for October 2017 submitted by the Treasurer. Rob made the motion to accept both requests, Mel seconded, and the motion passed.

Also discussed was the need to set a \$\$ limit on amounts that the Treasurer could disperse without Board approval. This was the result of a potential internet scam that Patti was able to prevent. Pattie is in the process of developing guidelines and schedule for the position of Treasurer, to be included in a Policies and Procedures manual. This will assist the next Treasurer to take over the responsibilities of the position.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Mel will make a list of everything he needs and will place the order for the Men's Walk.

GATHERING SUPPORT – The following churches have confirmed, so far, for 2018 – January at Oakhill, February at Bethany, April at Pflugerville, July at Cedar Creek, and December at Cedar Creek. All other months TBD.

Topics discussed, to enhance the Gatherings, were the possibility of having greeters to welcome everyone. We discussed the tendency for Gatherings to become somewhat cliquish and the number of reunion groups that are closed to new members. Some are closed because they are at the max for participants, but we need to know who is open to new members.

WALK SUPPORT – The Trailer needs to be “redone”. It left CYJ with more on it than it arrived with. Harold brought up the issue of the sponsors not being actively involved past dropping off and picking up the pilgrims for the Walk. Sponsors need to get the pilgrims to the Gathering and make certain that they know how to connect with a Reunion Group. We need to do some sponsor training so that they understand what their responsibilities are.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR – Need to work on getting the pastors involved in the movement. The congregations won't stay involved if the pastor isn't on board.

NEW BUSINESS – We should make better use of social media in staying in contact with members of the Community.

WALK #144 REPORT – April 19-22, 2018 at CYJ – Coe Groce let us know that the team selection will be at Pflugerville UMC on Tuesday, Nov 7th at 7:30 PM. All are welcome to attend.

WALK #143 REPORT – Nov. 16-18, 2018 at CYJ – Chris McKemie is the Lay Director.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Jeanne Randall.



Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

2017 — Potluck at 6:30p, Worship at 7:15 p 2018 — Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast

2017/2018 Gatherings

December 7, 2017

Thursday, December 7, 2017
Potluck Dinner at 6:30, worship at 7:15
Cedar Creek UMC
5630 FM 536, Cedar Creek, 78612
4th Day Speaker TBD

January 5, 2018

Thursday, January 5, 2018
Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast
Oak Hill UMC
7815 Hwy. 290 West, Austin, 78736
4th Day Speaker TBD

February 1, 2018

Thursday, February 1, 2018
Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast
Bethany UMC
10010 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, 78750
4th Day Speaker TBD

March 1, 2018

Thursday, March 1, 2018
Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD

April 5, 2018

Thursday, April 5, 2018
Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast
Pflugerville UMC
500 E. Pecan St., Pflugerville, 78691
4th Day Speaker TBD

May 3, 2018

Thursday, May 3, 2018
Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD

June 1, 2018

Thursday, June 1, 2018
Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast
Location TBD
4th Day Speaker TBD

July 5, 2018

Thursday, July 5, 2018
Worship at 7:00, followed by agape feast
Cedar Creek UMC
5630 FM 536, Cedar Creek, 78612
4th Day Speaker TBD

To reserve childcare,
send an email to:

BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

