



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



March 2018

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 29, Number 3

How to Sponsor – Who to Sponsor – When to Sponsor

PILGRIMS ARE PRECIOUS, HANDLE WITH PRAYER

We are a little more than a month and a half into the New Year and a little more than two months away from our first Men's Walk of 2018. Have you given thought about Sponsorship? Have you given thought about who to Sponsor? And when will you know that it is the right time, or, if you have the time to be a Sponsor? This is a big commitment and a serious undertaking. Here is a checklist for sponsorship:

1. You will need to commit to the whole process of sponsorship to SEEKING prayerful guidance before asking a pilgrim to attend a Walk to Emmaus
2. You will need to listen to God about whom to sponsor on the walk. (Remember this is not to fix someone.)
3. You will need to ANSWER all the questions and concerns honestly with your pilgrim and the spouse (if applicable) even if the spouse has no intention to attend the Walk to Emmaus.
4. You will need to HELP resolve any problems that might prevent attendance of the pilgrim so that the pilgrim is fully committed to living a life that is pleasing to God.
5. You will need to know that the pilgrim is a church leader, and authenticator, a servant, or someone who is seeking their servant role in the church.
6. You will need to commit the time to sponsor the pilgrim, by OBTAINING agape letters, by ASSISTING the pilgrim's family during the pilgrim's absence, by BRINGING this pilgrim to and from the retreat site, commit time to get them settled in their room, and PARTICIPATE in sponsor's hour, ATTENDING candlelight services and closing services. Also PERSEVERE in the time to the pilgrim in finding or starting their reunion group and TAKING them to their first 4th day community gatherings.

If you would like to sponsor a pilgrim and you are unable to find a candidate then I suggest you go to your pastor and talk with him or her. They should know if anyone is interested. The thing you do not want to do is tell someone "You HAVE to go on a walk" or "It is TIME for you to go on a walk". This will turn a person off and they might never go on a Walk to Emmaus.

Sponsorship is an act of love for God, for the Pilgrims, for the Emmaus Community, and for the church. It is a demonstration of agape love. It is making oneself an instrument of Prevenient Grace. What a gift. Think about it – someone has done this very thing for you on your pilgrim walk. It is your turn to do this for someone else. God is counting on all of us to fill the walk and be servants to Him.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next Gathering on March 1st at Manor UMC, 510 Burnet Street North, Manor, 78653. Music will start at 7:00pm, services at 7:30, with agape feast to follow.

DeColores!
LeeLeen Sundbeck
Lay Director

De Colores!

Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

Assistant Lay Director

Rob Turk

AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

Denise Noseworthy

BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Carl Fisher & Harold Sundbeck

BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Member Support

Kristin Hampsten

BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org

Treasurer

Patti Bizzell

Treasurer@austinemmaus.org

Upper Room Support

Mel Chambers

UpperRoomSupport@austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

Harold Sundbeck

ImmediatePastLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Registrar

Bob Duplantis

Registrar@austinemmaus.org

Secretary

Jeannie Randall

Secretary@austinemmaus.org

Database Coordinator

Bob Duplantis

DatabaseCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Electronic Communications

Ed Turner

ElectronicCommunications@austinemmaus.org

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Willy Maletta

PrayerVigilCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Community Letters

Carl Fisher

CommunityLetters@austinemmaus.org

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Carl Fisher

FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Music Coordinator

Rob Turk

MusicCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



BOARD MEMBERS



Financial Statement as of 2/23/18

Bank Balance
\$21,133.73

Scholarship Fund
\$1,629.50

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 February 1st Gathering was at Bethany UMC, with 85 in attendance, and Matt Bryant gave an inspiring 4th 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.

2018 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #144

Coe Grace, Lay Director

Stella Burkhalter, Spiritual Director

Gene McConnell, Board Rep.

Roxie Greenway, ST Coord.

Agape and Prayer Vigil Sign ups

April 19 — 22, 2018

Contact: Coe@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Gene@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Roxie@austinemmaus.org

<http://austinemmaus.org/Walks.php>

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

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

Contact: Gina@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Myles@austinemmaus.org

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley



Database Help Needed!

We are looking for people to help rebuild our database and to add to our social media footprint. If you have skills in these areas, we would like to hear your input. We need your help to make this project a success. If interested, please send an email to

upperroomsupport@austinemmaus.org

if you would like to help. The first meeting date, time, and place will be emailed back to you and also printed in the *WalkTalk*.

DeColores!

Mel Chambers

Upper Room Support

Walk #143 Team Selection

Blessed Emmaus Community,

Team selection for Women's Walk #143 will be held 7:00 p.m. at Bethany UMC, 10010 Anderson Mill Road in Room D112 on Monday, February 26th. Everyone is warmly welcomed and invited to attend. If you are feeling called to serve, please submit a team application or update your old one as soon as possible so you can be considered for selection. The application is found on the GAEC website.

It will be a blessing to be able to serve our community, the pilgrims, and our Lord with you!

DeColores,

Chris McKemie, LD Walk#143

Walk Fee Increase

Registration fees for 2018 Walks have increased by \$12.00 to cover the \$12.00 increase in cost charged by Camp Young Judaea. The registration fee to attend a Walk to Emmaus is now \$210.00. If needed, partial scholarships are available. Go to the website to download the form.



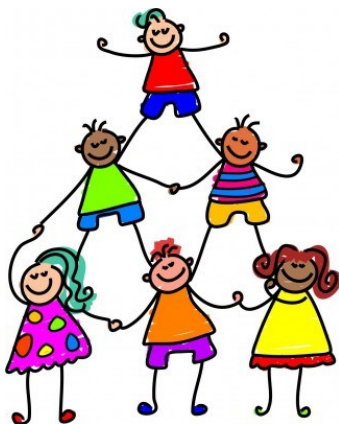
Gathering Support for Local Churches

Thank You!!! The Greater Austin Emmaus Community appreciates churches' willingness to host and participate in monthly Gatherings. We are always looking to increase the number of churches around Austin with the goal of providing fellowship for all who have been on their Walks. We all remember the mountain high feeling we had right after our Walks. Attending Gatherings is one way to show that the Walk to Emmaus is still an important aspect of our Christian journey. So many folks help make that happen. For that, we thank you.

Guidelines to Assist with Gatherings: People may want to help with Gatherings but don't know what to do or who to contact. The Board of Directors has updated and/or created four guidelines for churches to use for Gathering support: (1) Point of Contact (POC) Guidelines for Emmaus; (2) Host Church Gathering Guidelines; (3) Fourth Day Talk Guidelines; and (4) Music Guidelines for Gathering Worship Service. The POC works with the Board Member for Gathering Support and pastor to establish a date for a Gathering and then organizes and manages all components for host church responsibilities including arranging for a Fourth Day speaker, inviting musicians, organizing food for the Agape Feast, etc. The Guidelines provide extensive details for what is needed in each area. Those guidelines are printed in this issue of *WalkTalk*, and are also on the GAEC website and available from any Board member.

Calendar of Gathering Locations: The Board Member for Gathering Support (BMGS) is responsible for contacting churches to establish a yearly calendar of Gathering locations. If your church is interested in hosting a Gathering please contact the BMGS. Contact info is on the GAEC website and in this *WalkTalk*. The calendar for the current year is published in the *WalkTalk* every month. Please publicize Gathering locations and dates with your local Emmaus community.

Solicitation of Ideas about Gatherings: The Greater Austin Emmaus Community covers an expansive territory in and around Austin that includes many people who have been on their Walks. Attendance at monthly Gatherings, however, does not reflect that. Why aren't people coming? Is it traffic, meeting on a work night, meeting too often, lack of child care, minimal music, distance from the various churches? The Board of Directors is considering ways to perhaps change "the way things have always been done". Your suggestions are most welcome. Board members contact info is on page 2 of each *WalkTalk*.



Point of Contact Guidelines for Emmaus

- The POC should ensure they have access to the Board Member for Gathering Support (BMGS) current list of churches that have agreed to host Gatherings. The list includes the name of the church, the Point of Contact (POC) information assigned for each church and the months that have already been filled. The list is a moving schedule to ensure that the next 12 months' Gatherings are assigned to churches. If your church wants to host a gathering for a specific month, please contact the BMGS with your request at least 7 months prior to the month you are requesting. If your church needs to change the month that you agreed to host a Gathering, please use this list to find a church that is willing to trade with you. It is your responsibility to swap with a church and then to inform the BMGS. The name and email address of the BMGS are included on the GAEC website. For further information, see the **Board Member for Gathering Support (BMGS) Guidelines**.
- Depending on your pastor's desires, you may need to secure his/her approval prior to committing to hosting a gathering. After the date is agreed to, advise your pastor and the person in your church office responsible for the church calendar(s) to ensure that the date is included on all calendars and that the room(s) (including set up) is/are reserved for your Gathering.
- Approximately three months prior to your Gathering, review the **Host Church Gathering Guidelines** for all tasks that need to be completed and begin contacting people to help. Send everyone a "Save the Date" request.
- Approximately three months prior to your Gathering, review the **Fourth Day Talk Guidelines**, consult with your pastor, select a speaker, and share a copy of the Guidelines with the person who agrees to speak. Contact the BMGS with the name of your speaker at least 30 days before your Gathering, if possible, to allow for publication of the name in the reminders and other communications.
- Approximately three months prior to your Gathering, review the **Music Guidelines for Gathering Worship Service**. If your church has a music team, share the guidelines with them. If your church has equipment to project the words to songs and the service please inform the BMGS. If your church does not have a music team and/or does not have projection equipment please request assistance from the GAEC Music Team Coordinator. The name and email address are included on the GACE website.
- Approximately three weeks prior to your Gathering contact Emmaus members who are willing to prepare the **Agape Feast**. The type of light snacks and variety of drinks provided are left to the church's discretion. Please know that the GAEC requests and prefers that no elaborate preparations are made.
- Approximately two weeks prior to your Gathering review the **Host Church Gathering Guidelines** and remind people of their tasks and any supplies they might need, such as communion bread and juice, access to projection equipment, etc. Contact the Fourth Day Speaker to see if anything is needed.
- The night of your Gathering allow enough time for you to be on site before Gathering to review all requirements and ensure that everything is set up and ready to go.

General Communication



- Add all Gathering and Walk dates and locations to the church calendar.
- Print copies of the *WalkTalk* (on the website) for distribution.
- Three months before each Walk increase communications encouraging folks to be sponsors and sign up pilgrims. Send emails; write articles for the weekly bulletins, monthly news blasts, electronic bulletin boards; visit Sunday school classes, other Bible studies, reunion groups, etc. Engage pastors.
- Refer to the GAEC website for information on assisting pilgrims with their registrations

Last revised 1/21/2018

Host Church Gathering Guidelines

guidelines

The Greater Austin Emmaus Community (GAEC) appreciates your church's willingness to prayerfully consider hosting a Greater Austin Emmaus Gathering. Singing begins at 7:00p and the service at 7:30p, with the agape feast following. The following guidelines are provided in order to help answer any questions. For other questions, please contact the GAEC Board Member for Gathering Support (BMGS) or the Emmaus Point of Contact (POC) person assigned to your church. The host church is asked to provide the following:

1. **Church space:** the sanctuary and two additional rooms: one for the Agape Feast following the service and the other for the Board meeting (seating for 10 - 15). Space available from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Space appropriately heated or cooled depending on the season.
2. **Greeters and Ushers:** four people selected from your Emmaus Community or reunion groups. They should be available 20 minutes before the singing begins (6:40 p.m. to greet people, especially those arriving solo). During the Offertory distribute offering plates to attendees. After the Offertory, give plates to the Emmaus Treasurer or other designated Board member.
3. **Pastor:** to lead the service. The pastor is asked to contact the GAEC spiritual director a month before to confirm and to coordinate who will participate in the communion service and other matters in which clergy may be involved (e.g. Gatherings at which Emmaus Walk team members are commissioned).
4. **Fourth Day Speaker:** selected from your Emmaus Community to give the Fourth Day Talk (See attached Fourth Day Talk General Guidelines). If possible, please advise the BMGS of the 4th Day Speaker's name at least 30 days before the Gathering to allow for publication of the name in the reminders and any other communications.
5. **Communion elements and service:** elements (bread and juice) for an estimated 100-125 people. Please provide a gluten free station. Four persons are needed to serve communion: the pastor, the 4th day speaker, and two others selected by the lay director. Contact the pastor for details.
6. **Sound needs:** (a) hand held wireless microphone for the lay director; (b) microphone for the 4th Day speaker; and (c) wireless microphone for clergy conducting the communion service (can be the same mic as used by the lay director if the church doesn't have mics assigned to their pastors).
7. **Music needs:** Please work with your church's music director and any members of your church who play music to provide a band to play for the gathering. (See attached Music Guidelines for Gathering Worship Service). If a music team is not available from the local church, please contact the GAEC BMGS for assistance at least 30 days prior to the Gathering. The particular sound needs of the local music team, microphones or otherwise, should be determined and provided after consultation with the local music team or GAEC BMGS.
8. **Audio/Visual:** a person(s) to operate the A/V equipment (presuming these are available) to control the sound and for displaying the Service and words to all songs onto a screen. Information to be projected will be provided by GAEC. If projection equipment is not available, please contact the GAEC BMGS.
9. **Agape Feast:** light snacks and drinks such as coffee, soft drinks or punch, etc. The type of light snacks and variety of drinks provided are left to the church's discretion. Please know that the GAEC requests and prefers that no elaborate preparations are made.

Last revised 12-05-2017

General Guidelines for the Fourth Day Talk

- The talk is to be a personal sharing and testimony about your walk with Christ in the Fourth Days since you attended your Walk/Chrysalis. This is a one- time opportunity (i.e., can only do one Fourth Day talk).
- Limit the talk to no more than *10-15 minutes*. **Please, Please** adhere to this!
- Do not go into your entire life story or Christian history. This will use up valuable time for sharing your Fourth Day experience and message.
- Do not spend time talking about your Walk or Chrysalis other than a brief mention if it is truly relevant to your message. Do not go into detail about the Walk/Chrysalis, as there are often visitors or guests present who have not attended a Walk/Chrysalis.
- Please do not “speak in code” about Emmaus events, as this leaves visitors feeling that they missed something, are purposefully being excluded, or that there is a “secret” they are not a part of.
- Remember this is to be about YOUR Walk with Christ in the days AFTER your Walk/Chrysalis. Tell YOUR story, everyone wants to hear it! Please do not use this time for personal agenda items.
- Remember to begin by reciting the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.
- DeColores! May God bless and inspire your words!

Last revised 12-05-2017

Music Guidelines for Gathering Worship Service

- Prepare approximately 10-12 songs for use throughout the service
 1. Prior to the Service: 5-7 songs (approximately 30 minutes)
 2. Hymn of Praise (beginning of the Service)
 3. Offertory song(s) depending on how long it takes for collection
 4. Communion song(s) depending on how long communion takes
 5. Hymn or song prior to dismissal
- Use the book called “Songs” composed by YoHann Anderson for approximately two-thirds of the songs selected.
- Use other songs preferred by the band for the remainder of the song selections if desired; otherwise you can use song selections entirely from the “Songs” book.
- Present music in the style of your band that is worshipful and upbeat.
- Prepare list of songs at least one week prior to the Gathering and give to the BMGS so that words can be printed for projection onto a screen during the Gathering.

Last revised 12-05-2017



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes February 1, 2018, Bethany UMC

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Leeleen Sundbeck, who opened and presided over the meeting. Rev. Chase led the Board in prayer. The following Directors were present: Leeleen Sundbeck, Lay Director; Jeanne Randall, Secretary; Patti Bizzell, Treasurer; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Representative; Kristin Hampsten, Member Services Coor.; Harold Sundbeck, Walk Support Coor. and Immediate Past Lay Director; and Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr., Spiritual Director. Also attending were: Coe Groce, Walk #144 Lay Director (*non-voting*); Chris McKemie, Walk #143 Lay Director (*non-voting*); and Kellye Noret, *WalkTalk* Editor (*non-voting*). We also had a guest, Steve Scott, who shared his views on the GAEC community interactions and make some recommendations based on his experience with the Houston-area Gatherings. **QUORUM:** It was determined that 7 Directors were present, which did constitute a quorum. Our guest was Steve Scott who attended the Board meeting to share his views on the GAEC community interactions and make some recommendations based on his experience with the Houston-area Gatherings.

MINUTES – The Board of Directors meeting minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting of January 4, 2018. Kristin moved to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Patti, and the motion was approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Patti moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented by email. Mel seconded the motion and the motion passed. A copy of the report is filed with the minutes. Patti made a motion that we confirm the Walk rate increase to \$210 to compensate for the increase cost of CYJ. Harold seconded the motion and it passed. Harold will send a letter to the *WalkTalk* to inform the Community. We have received a \$90.00 donation to the Scholarship Fund.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Myles McKemie has agreed to become the Registrar for the upcoming Walk. The Covenant will be signed at the Team Meeting on Saturday at Lake Travis UMC. Mel reported that the 2019 dates have not been confirmed by CYJ. He will be ordering Director (Coordinator?) manuals for each Board member. The manuals will be set up so that they can be passed on to the next person taking the Board position. He will also be ordering Team Manuals.

GATHERING SUPPORT – Denise is resigning her position as Gathering Coordinator. LeeLeen will start looking for someone to take over the position.

WALK SUPPORT – The Agape Signup and the Prayer Vigil are active on the GAEC website. Carl Fisher has requested that someone take over the position of Agape Coordinator. Patti made the motion that Jeanne take the position, if she is willing. Harold seconded the motion and the motion passed. Jeanne accepted the position. Jeanne printed out the signups for the Gathering.

MEMBER SUPPORT – Tish is willing to take over the position and use her expertise to make the communication system better for the Community. There will be a Communications Committee meeting at the home of Kristin Hampsten on Feb 11.

ASSISTANT LAY DIRECTOR REPORT – Rob emailed suggestions for the opening Board positions. He is recommending Kristin Hampsten for ALD and Tish Christopher for the position of Member Support Coordinator.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR – Rev Chase asked us to think about the Gatherings, why people come together, and what is keeping people from coming. We all agreed that we come together for the fellowship. We discussed the issues of time, traffic, lack of child care available for young families, distance from the various churches and other factors that are a significant issue for many people.

The suggestion was made that the POC's from each church should be attending the Board meetings, so that they know what we are doing and take it back to the local congregation. One suggestion was to have Gatherings every other month, possibly on a Saturday.

The discussion of the lack of clergy participation in the Emmaus movement continues. A sample letter has been drafted to send to all the clergy. We need to review the letter and send any recommendations for changes by email within one week. Patti made a motion to send the letter to the clergy once any changes are made. Harold seconded the motion and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- At the March meeting the Board will be signing the Covenant with the Upper Room.
- A committee will be formed to establish a data management process (DMP) that meets the needs of the GAEC that preserves the confidentiality and privacy of members, pilgrims, sponsors, vendors, etc.
- The credit card application was denied, as the company needs more information including a copy of the Articles of Incorporation. Mel will get a copy of the document to Patti.
- We need to develop an organizational chart, and have job descriptions so that so that when new people join the Board they are aware of the duties, time lines of commitments, etc. These need to go into a policies and procedures manual.

NEW BUSINESS – Because of traffic and time constraints, we are going to explore the idea of having the Board meetings on the Sunday before the Gatherings. The only concern would be the issue of Board meetings that must be open to the GAEC Community.

WALK #143 REPORT – Chris reported that everything is going smoothly towards Women's Walk #143.

WALK #144 REPORT – The Team Covenant will be signed at the Team Meeting on Saturday.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:00 p.m., a motion was made by that the meeting be adjourned, and the meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Jeanne Randall

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

Music at 7:00, Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

March 1, 2018

Thursday, March 1, 2018

Manor UMC

510 Burnet Street, Manor, 78653

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

April 5, 2018

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Pflugerville UMC

500 E. Pecan St., Pflugerville, 78691

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

May 3, 2018

Thursday, May 3, 2018

Northwest Hills UMC

7050 Village Center, Dr., Austin, 78731

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

June 1, 2018

Thursday, June 1, 2018

Cedar Creek UMC

5630 FM 535, Cedar Creek, 78612

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

July 5, 2018

Thursday, July 5, 2018

Westlake UMC

1460 Redbud Trail, Austin, 78746

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

August 2, 2018

Thursday, August 2, 2018

Location TBD

Address

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

September 6, 2018

Thursday, September 6, 2018

Covenant UMC

4410 Duval Road, Austin, 78727

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

October 4, 2018

Thursday, October 4, 2018

Location TBD

Address

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

November 1, 2018

Thursday, November 1, 2018

Lake Travis UMC

1502 North RM 620, Austin, 78734

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

December 6, 2018

Thursday, December 6, 2018

Bethany UMC

10010 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, 78750

Worship at 7:30, followed by agape feast

4th Day Speaker TBD

