



## The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



December 2018

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 29, Number 12

### Another Best Walk Ever – How Not to Let that Fire Burn Out

Greetings Greater Austin Emmaus Community,

It is with a heavy heart mixed with humility and joy that I introduce myself as your new Lay Director. Please join my prayer to serve this community with excellence for the glory of the Lord and the advancement of the Emmaus mission.

It's with great joy that I was blessed to serve on the outside team on Women's Walk #143. It was truly the **"Best Walk Ever!"** It was a full Walk and led by Lay Director, Chris McKemie, Spiritual Director, Tom Deviney, and Servant Team Coordinator, Myles McKemie. God worked mightily in the lives of all involved, and we left Camp Young Judaea transformed, thanks be to God.

#### Reflection

As I'm preparing to greet the pilgrims at Closing, I'm reflecting on my own 4<sup>th</sup> Day involvement with Emmaus since my Walk #629 in February 1998 at Cathedral Oaks. I was on fire after my Walk, as many of us were. I wouldn't have used these words back then as a good ol' Methodist, but I was "saved" on that Walk.

I wanted to plug in to this powerful ministry, and I'm so thankful that God put this fire on my heart, because it truly took *years* to find my place. I hope that it is not that way for you. My Walk was in another community near Eagle Lake. I was in college at UT, and I didn't have a home church yet in Austin, so my community was sparse. I knew no one at the Gatherings and didn't know how to find a reunion group. Remember, the internet wasn't what it is now back then.

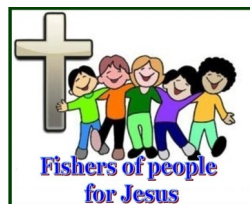
We "Emmaus folks" are a friendly people, but Gatherings can be tough places for a stranger to attend. We know each other from our pilgrim Walks, churches, or serving on teams, so it's easy to overlook someone who is new and alone. So, here's what I've learned, and I hope it'll help us all to be more empathetic and proactive.

#### Advice to the New Pilgrims

1. Sign up on the website for a [team application](#). This is the BEST way to meet people and bond with this community. You don't have to say "yes" when called, but at least you're making yourself open to God calling you to working on a team, inside or outside.
2. Next, sign up on our yahoo email group to stay in the loop by sending a blank email to [austinemmaus-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:austinemmaus-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).
3. Find a **reunion group**, or start one. You've heard enough about that in the Perseverance talk, so go look at your notes.
4. Come to the **Gatherings** hosted every other month on Saturday evenings – and boldly make new friends. After a while, you'll start to recognize people.
5. Email me at [LayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:LayDirector@austinemmaus.org) if you are interested in volunteering in any capacity. As the Board of Directors, we are developing a vision of how to grow the community and reach the next generation, but we need help with ideas and implementation. We have much to do, and the workers are few. Please come alongside our Board to further this mission.

The Walk to Emmaus is a wonderful gift that we've each been blessed with. Christ is counting on us to share this gift with others as "Fishers of People."

**De Colores!**  
**Kristin Hampsten**  
**GAEC Lay Director**



# Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

## Lay Director

Kristin Hampsten

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

## Spiritual Director

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

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

## Interim Assistant Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

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

## Board Member for Gathering Support

Steven Scott

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

## Board Member for Walk Support

Jeanne Randall

[BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org](mailto:BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org)

## Board Member for Member Services

Tisha Christopher

[BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org](mailto:BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org)

## Treasurer

Patti Bizzell

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

## Upper Room Support

Mel Chambers

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

## Immediate Past Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

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

## Registrar

Myles McKemie

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

## Secretary

Harold Sundbeck

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

## Database Coordinator

Open

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

## Electronic Communications

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

## Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Jeanne Randall

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

## Community Letters

Harold Sundbeck

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

## Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Jeanne Randall

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

## Music Coordinator

Open

## WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

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



**BOARD MEMBERS**



## Financial Statement as of 11/20/18

**Bank Balance**  
**\$30,761.47**

Scholarships are available by request for participation on a Walk. Applications can be found on the GAEC website, below:

## GAEC Website

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

## GAEC Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterAustinEmmaus/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterAustinEmmaus/)

## Emmaus Sunday! Don't forget!

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



The *WalkTalk* deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Info received after that will be printed only if space is available.

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

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

Join us for the January Gathering at Northwest Hills UMC on January 12<sup>th</sup>! The Joy of Sponsoring a Pilgrim Training at 5:00, Potluck Dinner at 6:00, Music and Worship at 7:00. **Please note different times for this Gathering ONLY.**

Check out the Gathering schedule on the last page so you don't miss the next one!

## 2019 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walks

### Men's Walk #145

Arnie Waden, Lay Director  
Ray Kiser, Spiritual Director  
Servant Team Coordinator, TBD  
Candlelight – April 13, 2019 7:30 PM  
Closing – April 14, 2019 3:30 PM  
Welcome Back – TBD

April 11 – 14, 2019

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

CYJ, Wimberley

### Women's Walk #146

Lay Director TBD  
Spiritual Director TBD

November 14 –17, 2019

CYJ, Wimberley



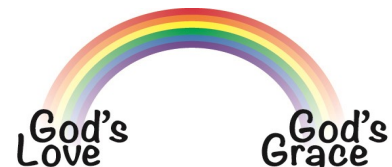
### Men's Walk to Emmaus #145

Men's Walk #145 is up and running! I thank God for His faithfulness and pray for continued guidance. The walk will take place April 11-14, 2019 at Camp Young Judaea. The Spiritual Director is Ray Kiser.

We have compiled a team of both new and experienced members who are all looking forward to serving God by serving the pilgrims and each other with their own particular gifts. I am very excited to learn what God has in store for us. While we are still several months away, there is great excitement building as we see pilgrims coming on board.

I encourage all of you to take the opportunity to share this wonderful experience with those that you know who are seeking a closer walk with Christ. It is time for the church to leave the building and spread the good news of God's grace to our community.

De Colores!  
Arnie Waden  
Lay Director



## Very Important Note From Your Editor

This ..... 

## GAEC Facebook page!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GreaterAustinEmmaus/>



## The WalkTalk Needs YOU!

The *WalkTalk* depends on you to keep it informative, interesting, and enjoyable to read. Please send your . . .

- ⇒ Emmaus information
- ⇒ Chrysalis information
- ⇒ Kairos information
- ⇒ 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)



## Next Gathering!

Saturday, January 12, 2019  
Northwest Hills UMC  
7050 Village Center Drive  
Austin, 78731

The Joy of Sponsoring a Pilgrim  
Training at 5:00  
Potluck at 6:00  
Worship at 7:00

*(Please note different times for this Gathering only.)*



## Next GAEC Board Meeting

Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Northwest Hills UMC  
7050 Village Center Drive  
Austin, 78731  
We will meet in Room 111.

The community is welcome to attend. You do not have to be a member of the Board!



## Welcome Back Pilgrims of Women's Walk #143!

Allecia Remington  
Amber Aiken  
Candy Taylor  
Carla Hoxie  
Chandra McDonald  
Charlotte Ford  
Cheri Alderman  
Cherri Caudle  
Connie Hughes  
Evelyn Swinney  
Gail Viebig  
Jackie Jones  
Janice Ferguson  
Jessica Fox  
JoCarol Snowden  
Jovita Rutz Murrillo  
Karissa Horton  
Kathy Bouldin  
Kathy Quinn  
Kay Wright  
Lesa Dykes  
Margaret Arnold  
Margaret Herman  
Michelle Parker  
Nancy Weidner  
Pam Carmagnola  
Pam Kelly  
Phyllis Smith  
Rahee Rachui  
Sara Agouba  
Sonya Loyer  
Susan Craig  
Towanna Hopkins-Lewis  
Twila Gamble  
Wanda Atkins  
Zel Heaney

**WELCOME  
BACK!!**

The Welcome Back for Women's Walk #143 will be held on December 1<sup>st</sup> in the chapel of Northwest Hills UMC. It will begin at 4:00, and will be followed by snacks in the Family Life Center. We will celebrate communion during the Welcome Back, and the community is invited to come share in the joy of this time.

## Fourth Day Corner

Do you have 4th Day experiences you would like to share? Perhaps a reflection on your spiritual journey, or sharing your answers to the two questions asked at Closing: What has this weekend meant to you? What are you going to do with it? Send your reflections to:

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

We will all be blessed by your sharing!



**Share Your Stories**

## WalkTalk Deadline

Please remember that the deadline to submit articles and information to the *WalkTalk* is the 20th of each month. This is a firm deadline. Articles and info received after the 20th will be printed only if space is available. Thank you for helping ensure that the *WalkTalk* is produced in a timely manner!

**Kellye Noret**  
**WalkTalk Editor**





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**Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes**  
**November 1, 2018**  
**Covenant UMC**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Lay Director Kristin Hampsten, who presided over the meeting. Harold Sundbeck opened the meeting with a prayer. The following directors were present: Lay Director, Kristin Hampsten; Immediate Past Lay Director and Interim Assistant Lay Director, LeeLeen Sundbeck; Secretary, Harold Sundbeck; Upper Room Representative, Mel Chambers; Member Services Coordinator, Tisha Christopher; Gathering Support Coordinator, Steven Scott; Walk Support Coordinator, Jeanne Randall; and Lay Director, Women's Walk #143, Chris McKemie (*non-voting*). Absent were: Treasurer, Patti Bizzell, and Spiritual Director, Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

**MINUTES** – The Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on October 4, 2018, and were approved by email.

**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 had sent out the financial report by email. The Frost Bank balance reconciles with the Aplos balance of \$30,037.97. Jeanne Randall made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Steven Scott seconded the motion. All approved. A request for a partial scholarship of \$94.00 was made for Blanca Montez. Steven Scott made a motion to approve the scholarship and Jeanne Randall seconded the motion. All approved.

**UPPER ROOM REPORT** – Mel Chambers reported he spent \$350.00 for Upper Room devotionals for Walk #143. He also reported he had ordered manuals for next year. Discussion as to Dropbox options for storing/sharing data. Also, discussion as to who will have access to the Dropbox – Lay Director, Registrar, Treasurer, and Member Support.

The database group is taking shape and needs a contract signed.

**WALK SUPPORT** – Jeanne Randall reported the trailer is ready and Eben Files will deliver to CYJ for the Walk. The Agape List and the Prayer Vigil sign-ups are nearly full.

**GATHERING SUPPORT** – Steven Scott reported upcoming Gathering is set; Monica Lewis will lead music, and Becky Kurkendall will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Day speaker. Mel Chambers will lead the discussion about serving on the Board at the November gathering at Lake Travis UMC. Steven Scott will be contacting the Board of Directors of Eagles Wings Emmaus community about a potential merger, or to widen our reach with other area Emmaus communities.

**MEMBER SUPPORT** – Tisha Christopher reported she is still working on upgrading our existing website. She is still working on Mail Chimp. The Facebook group is gaining new members.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Chris McKemie brought up to the Board her concerns about rotation of the ALD's during the Walk. After discussion, Steven Scott made the motion to have the ALD's not rotate during Walks. Jeanne Randall seconded the motion. All approved.

Discussion as to filling vacant positions and a music leader. Steven suggested delaying while we discuss a potential merger with Eagles Wings Emmaus community. A motion was made to have LeeLeen Sundbeck serve as interim Assistant Lay Director. Steven made the motion and Jeanne seconded. All approved.

Discussion about having Board positions run with the calendar year. We will discuss at a later date after reviewing the By-Laws.

Discussion as to communicating to Board and community. Also, the need for volunteers to serve as back-up for Board positions. Jeanne mentioned needing two back-ups for Walk Support, Gathering Support, and Member Support. Tisha mentioned the Secretary should be notifying the Board for all upcoming meetings, agenda, etc.

**OLD BUSINESS** – We will discuss updating By-laws at the December Board meeting.

**WALK #143 REPORT** – Walk is ready except for needing someone to provide the Agape Feast. Jeanne Randall will make an announcement at the Gathering for this.

**WALK #145 REPORT** – The Board will attend the first team meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> at Lake Travis UMC.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Ideas for future articles to be submitted to the *WalkTalk* about duties of the various Board members.

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:45 p.m.**

*Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Harold Sundbeck.*



## Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

Training Workshops at 4:00 PM

Potluck dinner at 5:30 PM

Music and Worship at 6:30 PM

### January 12, 2019

Saturday, January 12, 2019

Northwest Hills UMC

7050 Village Center Drive, Austin, 78731

**NOTE DIFFERENT TIMES  
FOR THIS GATHERING ONLY!**

The Joy of Sponsoring a Pilgrim Training at 5:00

Potluck Dinner at 6:00

Music and Worship at 7:00

4th Day Speaker TBD

### March 9, 2019

Saturday, March 9, 2019

Bethany UMC

10010 Anderson Mill Road, Austin, 78750

Agape Making Party at 4:00

Potluck Dinner at 5:30

Music and Worship at 6:30

4th Day Speaker TBD

### May 4, 2019

Saturday, May 4, 2019

First UMC Pflugerville

500 Pecan Street, Pflugerville, 78660

Men's Walk #145 Welcome Back at 4:00

Potluck Dinner at 5:30

Music and Worship at 6:30

4th Day Speaker TBD

### July 13, 2019

Saturday, July 13, 2019

Cedar Creek UMC

5630 FM 535, Cedar Creek, 78612

Agape Making Party at 4:00

Potluck Dinner at 5:30

Music and Worship at 6:30

4th Day Speaker TBD

Don't forget to bring a dish or  
some snacks to share for the  
potluck before each Gathering!

Yum!

