



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



January 2019

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 30, Number 1

Psalm 85:6 “Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?”

The last few years, the Greater Austin Emmaus community has struggled to gain and maintain momentum. The Walk to Emmaus is so close to many of our hearts, and those of us involved feel drawn to do something about this. I see God's hand at work in this community and praying that we as a board and community will be able to discern where God is leading us.

We had the first full walk in years with Women's Walk #143. This is a huge win. God certainly raised up God's blessed servant, Chris McKemie, to lead this Walk, and we very much need God to raise up another female Lay Director for Women's Walk #146 this year. I also hope that maybe the sign of this full Walk indicates that the Emmaus movement is starting to grow in our community. We shall see as we move forward into 2019 what this means for us.

We love having Walks, and filling them up is obviously important. But more importantly, are we involving these pilgrims in the community afterwards? This responsibility ultimately falls on sponsors to help them get into reunion groups and come to Gatherings. But it also falls on the community regarding our Gatherings. If people don't come, the fellowship is sparse. Are we as welcoming as we should be? You might recall in last month's article how I touched on how isolated I felt at the first few Gatherings I attended.

We have implemented some changes this year to help increase attendance at Gatherings, primarily by moving to every other month on Saturdays. In the Houston area, this model has worked well by removing obstacles caused from the sprawl of the community and the week-day traffic. We have also added some events prior to the Gathering, such as agape parties and trainings. New guidelines for Gatherings have helped produce consistent music at the Gatherings, welcoming greeters, and solid 4th Day speakers.

So far, I'm not sure we have seen growth in attendance. You'd expect after a full Walk this will change, but if people don't feel connected and inspired, they won't keep coming. That's where prayer comes in. If God desires to build this ministry, we must lean on God in prayer for direction.

What can you do?

- Show up at the Gatherings.
- Get plugged in. We need help on the Board. Work on a team.
- One huge gap is with communications. The Yahoo group is antiquated, and much of our community is not following it. We have a Facebook presence, but we need more innovation and publicity to spread news about our events and generate excitement. If you are interested in helping with this effort, we would love to talk to you.

Christ is counting on you to build this community!

**De Colores,
Kristin Hampsten
Greater Austin Emmaus Lay Director**



Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Kristin Hampsten

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

Interim Assistant Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

Steven Scott

BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Jeanne Randall

BM4WalkSupport@austinemmaus.org

Board Member for Member Services

Tisha Christopher

BM4MemberServices@austinemmaus.org

Treasurer

Patti Bizzell

Treasurer@austinemmaus.org

Upper Room Support

Mel Chambers

UpperRoomSupport@austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

ImmediatePastLayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Registrar

Myles McKemie

Registrar@austinemmaus.org

Secretary

Harold Sundbeck

Secretary@austinemmaus.org

Database Coordinator

Open

DatabaseCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Electronic Communications

Ed Turner

ElectronicCommunications@austinemmaus.org

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Jeanne Randall

PrayerVigilCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Community Letters

Harold Sundbeck

CommunityLetters@austinemmaus.org

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Jeanne Randall

FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

Music Coordinator

Open

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



BOARD MEMBERS



Financial Statement as of 12/20/18

Bank Balance
\$22,223.63

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/

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 20th 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

Join us for the January Gathering at Northwest Hills UMC on January 12th. 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, 7:30 PM
Closing – April 14, 3:30 PM
Welcome Back – May 4, 4:00 PM

April 11 – 14, 2019

Contact: Arnie@austinemmaus.org

CYJ, Wimberley

Women's Walk #146

Lay Director TBD
Spiritual Director TBD

November 14 –17, 2019

CYJ, Wimberley



*Come,
Holy Spirit*

fill the hearts of
your faithful and
kindle in them the fire
of your love.
Send forth your Spirit
and they shall be created.
And You shall renew
the face of the earth.
O, God, who by the light
of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts
of the faithful,
grant that by the same
Holy Spirit we may be
truly wise and ever enjoy
His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord,
Amen.

Men's Walk #145 April 11 – 14, 2019

It's a new year, and what better way to start it off than by sponsoring a pilgrim! Be in prayer about who you think is ready to go on a Walk to Emmaus, and offer to sponsor them. Send those registration forms to Myles McKemie at Registrar@austinemmaus.org.

Never been a sponsor? Or it's been a long time? Go to this link for all the info you need to know!

<http://austinemmaus.org/pdf/EmmausSponsorPacket.pdf>



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
- ⇒ 4th 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



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, January 10, 2019, at 6:45 p.m.
Bethany UMC
10010 Anderson Mill Road
Austin, 78750
We will meet in Room D213.

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





Kairos Prison Ministry

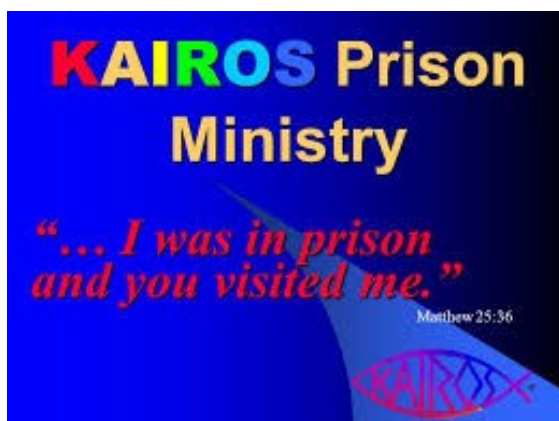
Kairos Prison Ministry is a lay-led, interdenominational Christian ministry in which volunteers bring Christ's love and forgiveness to prisoners and their families. The word Kairos is a Greek word meaning in "God's Special Time" or in the "Fullness of Time," indicating an opportunity for participants to reconsider their life choices. The next Kairos Weekends will be at the Ferguson Unit, near Huntsville, Texas, June 27-30, 2019, and December 5-8, 2019.

There are several ways you can participate in a Kairos weekend, one of which is by baking cookies. Watch this video on YouTube to see how Kairos cookies change lives:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXV_lgVWwA4

For more details on preparing cookies, or other ways in which you can support Kairos, contact Randy Nettles at 512-636-0832.

*"...I was in prison and you came to visit me."
(Matthew 25:36)*



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

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





Greater Austin Emmaus Community

GAEC GATHERING

Saturday January 12, 2019

Northwest Hills UMC
7050 Village Center Drive
Austin, TX 78731

5:00 – The Joy of Sponsoring a Pilgrim Training

6:00 – Pot Luck Dinner

7:00 – Music and Worship

NOTE: DIFFERENT TIMES FOR THIS GATHERING ONLY.
BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

4TH Day Please Bring:

Last Name: A – G: Desserts

H – M: Appetizers, Salads, Side Dishes

N – Z: Main Dishes

Child care is available for ages 5 and under with
reservations by 2 PM Wednesday, January 9th.

Please contact Steven Scott @ 281-460-5567

<mailto:ssarch@verizon.net>

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2018
Northwest Hills UMC

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by Kristin Hampsten, who presided over the meeting. Mel Chambers opened the meeting with prayer. The following Directors were present: Lay Director, Kristin Hampsten; Assistant Lay Director and Immediate Past Lay Director, LeeLeen Sundbeck; Secretary, Harold Sundbeck; Treasurer, Patti Bizzell; Upper Room Representative, Mel Chambers; Gathering Support Coordinator, Steven Scott. Chris McKemie, Lay Director, Women's Walk #143 (*non-voting*); Arnie Waden, Lay Director, Men's Walk #145 (*non-voting*), and Myles McKemie were also present. **QUORUM:** Six Board members were present.

MINUTES – The Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on November 1st. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by email, however, a correction needed to be made as to the ALD rotation. Under current Upper Room guidelines, it is left up to the discretion of the Lay Director to decide if the ALD's are to rotate duties on a daily basis. The Board has approved this correction to the November 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 – Patti Bizzell had sent out the financial report by email. The Frost Bank balance reconciles with the Aplos balance of \$33,640.01. Patti made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, and LeeLeen seconded the motion. All approved. Patti reported we had received \$325.00 in memorial contributions for Rob Turk, and another \$490.00 toward scholarships in Rob's honor. Patti asked for clarification on a scholarship for Kim Newman, a member of the Servant Team for Walk #143. Myles stated that Jeanne turned in receipts for expenses related to Walk #143, and in lieu of receiving reimbursement, she wanted the Board to use those funds to cover a portion of the fee for Kim. Jeanne offered to pay the difference between expenses she incurred and the \$136.50 cost for Kim. There was no request for a scholarship for Kim.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Mel Chambers reported he found another source for a database site called Tresorit. He will look further into this company and report back. Still looking for a Lay Director for the 2019 Women's Walk.

GATHERING SUPPORT – Steven Scott reported the upcoming Gathering will be January 12th at 5:00 p.m., with potluck at 6:00 and the service at 7:00. Sponsorship training will be at 5:00. Terri Sloan and Mike Carmagnola are looking at helping with music for the Gathering.

WALK #143 REPORT – **Close-out** – Welcome Back was wonderful with a good turnout, music, and communion, and finished within an hour before going to the Agape Feast. Chris reported that Candlelight in the ESL building was the best experience, but the parking situation needs new directives for handicapped parking. It was discussed to have one golf cart to ferry handicapped attendees at Candlelight. There weren't enough Agape supplies. Chris mentioned that she was disappointed that all the Conference Room team did not attend the Team Commissioning. The Board discussed the need to stress to future teams the need to attend the commissioning service as a demonstration of commitment to the team. Patti suggested that the movie used for Thursday night be tested before the Walk begins to avoid delays.

The storage bins on the trailer have been renamed, which led to confusion during unloading. The Chapel bins did not have the command hooks and push pins needed to hang the drapes; they were mismarked and ended up in the Conference Room. The Board decided that the trailer will be returned to the McKemie's house after Walks and a team will meet to inventory the trailer at their house.

The Conference Room needs a new easel. Leeleen made a motion to purchase a new easel. Steven seconded the motion. All approved. Patti will look into purchasing a new easel.

WALK #145 REPORT – Arnie reported all is ready. The Board will attend the first team meeting on January 5th at Lake Travis UMC at 8:00 a.m., and will sign the Covenant at that time.

UPCOMING EVENTS – BOD Special Meeting to discuss the by-laws at Lake Travis UMC on January 5th in the MAC building, Room 111, at 10:00 a.m. Next BOD meeting will be 6:30 p.m. on January 10th at Bethany UMC, Room D213. The next Gathering will be at Northwest Hills UMC on January 12th.

NEW BUSINESS – Upper Room Community Management training was attended by Kristin and she encouraged all to attend. Steven reported he was signed up to attend. The database is designed to help with team selection and database control.

Discussion as to future Servant Team volunteers. Recent Walk had a volunteer that was unable to perform any duties due to physical limitations. Team members were required to assist the individual throughout the weekend. A few other volunteers were not able to perform their duties because of the distance required to walk to various buildings at the camp. Future volunteers need to be informed as to the size of the site and what would be expected in order to serve. Myles offered to create some guidelines to assist future Servant Team Coordinators in selecting their teams.

OLD BUSINESS – Steven reported he would meet with Eagle Wings Emmaus Community in January to discuss a possible combining of our communities. Discussion began on changes to the by-laws. After several corrections, it was decided to meet as a Board to update the by-laws after the Covenant Signing for Walk #145 at Lake Travis UMC on January 5th. Mel made a motion to table the discussion until that time.

Kristin closed with a prayer and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully taken and submitted by Harold Sundbeck.

**Meeting
Minutes**

2019 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 Pam Carmagnola

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 East 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!

