



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



February 2019

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 30, Number 2

“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.” 1 John 4:18

Greetings Emmaus Community!

As we move into 2019, we are praying as a Board for direction on how to move the community forward. Inspired by Arnie's update below, and his reference to the 1 John verse, this article is focused on stepping out in perfect love and service opportunities in this community.

God is at work preparing hearts and minds already for the Greater Austin Emmaus Men's Walk #145, led by Lay Director Arnie Waden and Spiritual Director Ray Kiser, April 11 – 14. Here's Arnie's latest update to share with the community:

“Friends, another challenge has emerged in the form of one of the ALD's having to drop out. At first, this was very scary and disheartening to me. But then I was reminded that 1 John 4:18 tells us that perfect love casts out all fear. And since I am confident in the love of Christ, there is nothing to fear. I am also confident that God is calling someone who has not previously stepped out in faith, and starting on the pathway to becoming a lay director. I don't know who it is, but God knows, and I encourage all to search their heart and decide if it is them. God is doing miraculous things in the life of His church and in the lives of those who are committed to being His servants on Walk #145. I hear weekly of more and more pilgrims expressing interest in attending this Walk, and it looks like this will indeed be the best Walk ever. Don't get left behind. Get out there and recruit a pilgrim, get on the servant team, commit to pray daily for the Walk, provide some agape, and search your heart and discover if it is you that God is calling to join the team of Walk #145. De Colores! Arnie Waden”

In other news, the Board is looking for ways to improve public communications, and we need you! We already have some wonderful volunteers like Kellye Noret, who writes this wonderful newsletter faithfully and posts events to Facebook; Ed Turner, who sends messages to the community and maintains our website; Diane Merwarth, who verifies the content is up to date on our website; and Tisha Christopher, Member Services Board Member, using her talents with media relations to help drive change in our public communications. We need more help though to help research and experiment with email programs, learn the new Upper Room Community Management Database, computer services to help with the database for upcoming Walks, and more. If God is leading you to serve in any capacity for GAEC, large or small, please let us know!

At the last Board meeting, we voted on some minor revisions to the Bylaws, and we will post them once they are signed. The changes were minor, but the intent was to remove restrictive language, such as which day to hold the Gatherings. Another noteworthy change is that the Board terms were changed to align to the fiscal calendar year (January – December instead of May – June). Since this year is special, our Annual Meeting which should have been held in December to elect new Board members will be held at the May Gathering. Moving forward, the Annual Meeting will be held in December. This year, in March, we will ask the community to nominate Board members, and then at the May Gathering Annual Meeting vote the new officers to the Board. If you have a servant's heart and a passion for the Emmaus movement, please consider joining us on the Board.

Thank you all for all you do by supporting this community, and please pray for God to raise up leaders and servants, including a lay director for Women's Walk #146 this Fall.

**De Colores!
Kristin Hampsten**



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

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Myles McKemie

Registrar@austinemmaus.org

Secretary

Harold Sundbeck

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Database Coordinator

Open

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Ed Turner

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Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Jeanne Randall

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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 1/27/19

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 March Gathering at Bethany UMC on March 9th! Agape Making Party at 4:00, Potluck Dinner at 5:30, Music and Worship at 6:30, with the commissioning of Men's Walk #145. Check out the Gathering schedule on the last page so you don't miss the next one! Childcare available.

2019 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walks

Men's Walk #145

Arnie Waden, Lay Director
Ray Kiser, Spiritual Director
Jack Foreman, Board Rep.
Myles McKemie, STC
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

Contact: Jack@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Myles@austinemmaus.org

CYJ, Wimberley

Women's Walk #146

Lay Director TBD
Spiritual Director TBD

November 14 – 17, 2019

CYJ, Wimberley



A Note from the Lay Director of Walk #145

Friends, another challenge has emerged in the form of one of the ALD's having to drop out. At first, this was very scary and disheartening to me. But then I was reminded that 1 John 4:18 tells us that perfect love casts out all fear. And since I am confident in the love of Christ, there is nothing to fear. I am also confident that God is calling someone who has not previously stepped out in faith and started on the pathway to becoming a lay director. I don't know who it is, but God knows, and I encourage all to search their heart and decide if it is them. God is doing miraculous things in the life of His church and in the lives of those who are committed to being His servants on Walk #145. I hear weekly about more and more pilgrims who have expressed interest in attending this Walk, and it really looks like this will indeed be the best Walk ever. Don't get left behind! Get out there and recruit a pilgrim, get on the servant team, commit to pray daily for the Walk, provide some agape, and search your heart and discover if it is you that God is calling to join the team of Walk #145.

De Colores!
Arnie Waden



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>



From the Lay Director of Women's Walk #143

Dear Blessed GAEC,

With our Lord guiding us and preparing us, the GAEC sponsored Women's Walk #143 on November 15 – 18, 2018 sent forth into our world 36 disciples for our Lord. All praise and glory to our God!

I do not know where each pilgrim was on her personal spiritual journey, but I do know that a weekend immersed in God's love and God's grace was very powerful. Over the four days, their minds were filled with knowledge given to them through scripture, so they would see our Lord more clearly, their hearts were filled with His love so that they would love Him more dearly, and their souls were filled with His grace so that they would follow Him more nearly. For all of their Fourth Days!

When the pilgrims arrived on Thursday evening, all were excited to finally be here for the Walk. Some were more excited than others, some were a little apprehensive about what they were getting themselves into, and all were anticipating what would be happening. Do you remember how we were told many, many times not to anticipate!?!? You just have to smile when you are asked, "Really, how long is 2 beads on the God watch? Is it 5, 10, 15 minutes?" And your answer is, "Please try not to anticipate and just listen for the bell." This had me remembering my first night on my pilgrim Walk. I must have woken up at least 3 times worried that I had missed the bell and had overslept. Then I would see my roommate still snuggled in bed, and I thought everything was okay until I thought, "Oh, no, we both have overslept!" That first night sleep was not very restful.

Some pilgrims anticipating their needs for the weekend brought colorful markers and notebooks, but Friday morning they learned all their needs would be taken care of and they just needed to surrender themselves to the weekend. Amazing talks were given by lay and clergy, followed by table discussions, the joy of preparing their skits, and the joy and fun of presenting their skits. Feelings, thoughts, and hearts were shared, tears were shed, and voices were raised in singing and laughter. It was truly a blessing to witness the Holy Spirit present and at work on this Walk.

On Saturday, we brought our human messiness and our brokenness to our Lord at Dying Moments. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world He gave His only Son." We are made whole on the cross. Our hearts were filled with His love and our hearts overflowed with our love for our Lord. That evening, we went to Candlelight, and the Emmaus Community filled the room with their presence, their voices, and their love. As we approached the building, we could see through all the windows a room filled with the glow of candles, and we could hear their voices raised in song. Our hearts were filled with the joy and love as we saw all who came for just this moment to share their love for Christ and their love for us with us. Many tears were shed, so many smiles filled with joy graced our faces, and love flowed in us and from us. Our Lord was clearly present with all of us that evening, and our relationship with our Lord was reaffirmed as we surrendered to our Lord.

At our last chapel on Sunday morning, as the Lay Director, I was to greet everyone with, "Good Morning, Children of God." This was a very powerful and emotional moment for me. WE ARE GOD'S CHILDREN! WE are so blessed! WE are so loved!

As the Lay Director of Walk #143, I prayed for each pilgrim before I even knew their names, and I prayed for them by name as they became the pilgrims of Walk #143. Their names are in my heart, and I love each of them dearly. I have taken each one of them home with me in my heart and will pray for them for all of my Fourth Days.

Truly, Walk #143 was the Best Walk Ever! God's Blessings to all and remember, we are all God's children!

De Colores!
Christine McKemie



*See our group picture
on the next page!*



Women's Walk #143 November 15 – 18, 2018



Next Gathering!

Saturday, March 9, 2019
Bethany UMC
10010 Anderson Mill Road
Austin, 78750

Agape Making Party at 4:00
Potluck at 5:30
Music and Worship at 6:30



Next GAEC Board Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.
at Kristin Hampsten's house.
The community is welcome to attend,
you do not have to be a member of the Board!

Please RSVP to Kristin for address
if you will be attending.

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org





Kairos Prison Ministry

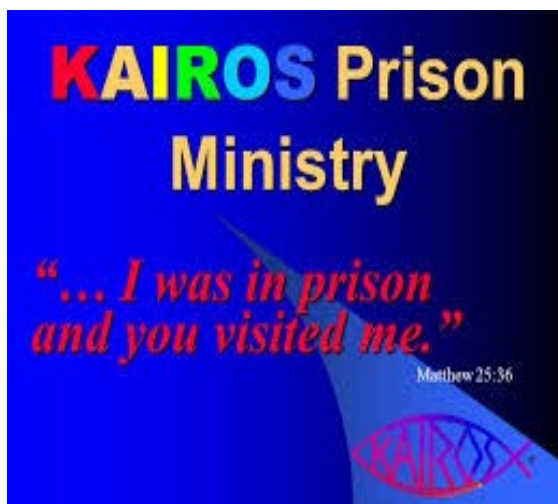
Kairos Prison Ministry is a lay-led, interdenominational Christian ministry in which volunteers bring Christ's love and forgiveness to prisoners and their families. The word Kairos is a Greek word meaning in "God's Special Time" or in the "Fullness of Time," indicating an opportunity for participants 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)*



GAEC Facebook page!

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



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



De Colores!



Greater Austin Emmaus Community

GAEC JOINT GATHERING with DIAKONIA EAGLES WINGS COMMUNITY

Saturday, March 9, 2019

Bethany UMC

10010 Anderson Mill Road

Austin, TX 78750

4:00 – Agape Making Party in the Ministry Center of the Disciple Building

Bring materials to make Agape

5:30 – Pot Luck Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

6:30 – Music and Worship in the Shalom Building
with Commissioning of Men's Walk #145 Team

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, March 6th.

Please contact Steven Scott @ 281-460-5567

or ssarch@verizon.net

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2019
Bethany UMC

The meeting was called to order at 3:09 p.m. by Kristin Hampsten. LeeLeen Sundbeck opened the meeting with a prayer. Kristin Hampsten presided over the meeting. Attending were: 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; and Walk Support Coordinator, Jeanne Randall. Bradley Bizzell was also present.

QUORUM – Seven Board members were present.

MINUTES – The Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on December 6, 2018. The minutes from the previous meeting 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 Bizzell had sent out the financial report by email. The Frost Bank balance reconciles with the Aplos balance of \$22,501.63. Patti made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Steven Scott seconded the motion. All approved. Patti reported she spent \$185 for a new easel and other supplies for the conference room. Patti also reported she had received an acknowledgement from the Upper Room for our \$500.00 contribution to The Gift, a fund utilized to help spread the Walk to Emmaus experience to other countries. Patti suggested we need to have a financial review performed and asked the Board to suggest names of those that could do this. Patti presented the 2019 budget, and after some discussion, made a motion to have it accepted. Kristin Hampsten seconded. All approved.

Patti reported that we have received \$325.00 in Memorial Contributions for Rob Turk, and another \$490.00 toward scholarships in Rob's honor. Patti suggested talking to Yolanda to see if she would be OK with moving the Memorial Contributions into Scholarships. Kristin will contact her.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Mel Chambers reported we need to sign the Upper Room Covenant during our meeting. He will also check into cones for use at CYJ to mark driving areas.

WALK SUPPORT – Eben Files has picked up the trailer and will bring it to the Walk.

GATHERING SUPPORT – Steven Scott reported upcoming Gathering is set for January 12th starting at 5:00 pm, potluck at 6:00 pm and service at 7:00 pm. Sponsorship training will be at 5:00 pm. Terri Sloan and Mike Carmagnola are looking at helping with music for the Gathering. Steven will meet with the Board of Eagles Wings Emmaus Community to discuss the possibility of sharing ideas for a combined Gathering.

MEMBER SUPPORT – No report, however, there was some discussion as to using Constant Contact instead of the Yahoo Group for sending communications to the community.

NEW BUSINESS – Next Board meeting will be February 7th at Kristin's house at 6:30 pm. The Annual meeting will be held in March this year and then again in December. Kristin made a motion to have the Board terms coincide with the calendar year. Steven seconded. All approved.

OLD BUSINESS – Kristin made a motion to approve the revisions to the Bylaws. LeeLeen seconded. All approved.

Kristin closed with a prayer and the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully recorded and submitted by Harold Sundbeck.



**Meeting
Minutes**

2019 Greater Austin Emmaus Community Gatherings

Training Workshops at 4:00 PM

Potluck dinner at 5:30 PM

Music and Worship at 6:30 PM

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

with Team Commissioning of Men's Walk #145

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!



Emmaus Gatherings