



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



March 2019

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 30, Number 3

BACK TO BASICS

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness." Genesis 1:1-4

Sometimes, we need to step back and look at the beginning to realize that we might be going in the wrong direction and have lost sight of what our mission is. As the Board, it is our mission to grow the community and make leaders in our churches, our communities, and in our world.

We have a challenge to change our world and not just think about all the ills we see on the evening news or read about on social media. The troubles in our world are overwhelming: hunger, violence, poverty, disease, war, substance abuse. And the list goes on. It is mindless to begin to think of ways to change our world. Yet, we cannot get away with being so overwhelmed by the problems that we wring our hands and do nothing.

You, yes you, can do more than wring your hands, or complain about all the ills in the world. You can help to change our world by joining the Board and helping to put a plan in place to grow our community and put the flame back into Emmaus.

It seems that every Walk we fret about whether it will make, when not so many years ago there were waiting lists. What has happened that we lost that energy? Why do we fret if our Walks will make or not? This is where we need to step back and take a look at the beginning. We are at a critical point in Emmaus that if we do not get people on the Board, or put the energy back into Emmaus, one day there will be no Emmaus.

I, for one, am not ready for this to happen. I'm sure many of you know that the Board has undergone several position changes over the past few months; first with the passing of our Community Lay Director, Rob Turk, and then Kristin Hampsten, who moved into that position, had to step down due to increased work responsibilities and family obligations. That has resulted in my stepping back into the Lay Director position.

Now, the Board would like to get back to the basics, and in order to do this we need to have a Point of Contact at each church that will step up and help to promote the Walk to Emmaus.

March 3rd is Emmaus Sunday. We will set tables up at our churches with Emmaus information, including sponsor and pilgrim applications. We need your help. Even if you do not want to be a POC, you can still set up a table at your church and promote Emmaus. You can also sponsor a pilgrim, go to Gatherings, attend Candlelights and Closings, and wear your lanyard to church on the first Sunday of each month. Wearing your lanyards on the first Sunday of each month helps start conversation when you are asked about the lanyard, giving you an opportunity to promote Emmaus.

Our March Gathering will be at Bethany UMC, located at 10010 Anderson Mill Road, with Patti Breau as our 4th day speaker. We will have an Agape making party starting at 4:00, with the potluck dinner at 5:30, then music and worship at 6:30. Also, you will have an opportunity to offer to serve, as we will be taking nominations for open Board positions.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next Gathering on March 9th at Bethany UMC. Come and reconnect with old friends, make some new friends, and bring a friend. Visitors are always welcome! Join with us as we continue the journey we all began on our pilgrim Walk.

Just a reminder – if you are looking for dates of Walks, applications for pilgrims or sponsors, or to sign up for Prayer Vigils and/or to bring agape, go to the Greater Austin Emmaus Website at austinemmaus.org to find all of this and more.

May God continue to bless you, and remember, Christ is Counting on You.

De Colores!

LeeLeen Sundbeck, Acting Lay Director



Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

Acting Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

LayDirector@austinemmaus.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

SpiritualDirector@austinemmaus.org

Assistant Lay Director

Vacant

Board Member for Gathering Support

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BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org

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Board Member for Walk Support

Jeanne Randall

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Board Member for Member Services

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Music Coordinator

Vacant

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



BOARD MEMBERS



Financial Statement as of 2/18/19

**Bank Balance
\$25,496.41**

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, and the
commissioning of Men's Walk #145. See the
Gathering schedule on the last page so you don't
miss the next one! Childcare available with advance
notice by March 6th to ssarch@verizon.net.

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



Emmaus Walk #145 Needs Pilgrims!

Men's Walk to Emmaus #145, April 11 – 14, 2019 has only 9 men registered. There must be a minimum of 20 for the Walk to make. Please pray about who you think is ready to go on their Walk, and offer to sponsor them. If you have not sponsored someone before, or it's been a while and you need a refresher, please go to the link below for information or applications.

Remember how you felt and how your faith increased from your Walk to Emmaus. Remember that you are God's Hands and Feet! Remember Matthew 28:19 to "go and make disciples"! Therefore, get going!!

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



GAEC Facebook page!

<https://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!



Agape Making Party at March Gathering!

We had so much fun with the Agape Party last year that we've decided to do another one at the March Gathering! It will be at 4:00 in the Ministry Center of the Disciple Building at Bethany UMC, before the potluck dinner. Bring agape making supplies, ideas, or just show up to help others make their agape. The agape will be used for Men's Walk #145, April 11 – 14, or for Women's Walk #146, November 14 – 17.



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

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



Emmaus Gathering

Next GAEC Board Meeting

Thursday, March 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.
Northwest Hills UMC, Room 109
7050 Village Center Drive
Austin, TX 78731

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



Upcoming Walk!

**Men's Walk #145
April 11 – 14, 2019
Camp Young Judaea**

**Please keep these team members in your prayers
as they prepare for THE BEST WALK EVER!**

Conference Room Team

Arnie Waden – *Lay Director*

Charles Koenig

Charles Murphy

Coe Groce

David Kendrick

David Scott

Gary Johnson

Gregory Graham

Harold Sundbeck

Ivan Dominguez

Jack Foreman – *Board Rep.*

Rev. Jim Roberts

Joel Roehling

Jon Nelson

Kenny Kant

Rev. Larry Shores

Marshall Kwait

Mike Carmagnola

Myles McKemie – *Servant Team Coordinator*

Randy Beaver

Rev. Ray Kiser – *Spiritual Director*

Scott Broberg

Scotty Holman

Steve Williams

Rev. Tim Abel

Rev. Tina Carter

Servant Team

Becky Kuckendohl

Bob Miles

Chris McKemie

Diane Merwarth

Don Greenway

Janice McNutt

Jeanne Randall

Myles McKemie – *STC Coordinator*

Nancy LeMieux

Pam Carmagnola

Patti Bizzell

Paula Bryant

Sherri Wilkison

Steven Scott

Tom Rioux

Willie Maletta

**TEAM
AWESOME**

From the Lay Director of Men's Walk #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, with Ray Kiser as the Spiritual Director.

God has provided us with an excellent team of both new and experienced members that is dedicated to His service in building the Kingdom of God through the Walk to Emmaus, and 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 a couple months away, there is great excitement building as we see pilgrims coming on board. We currently have 9 pilgrims, and 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. I believe great things are happening and will continue to happen. We are richly blessed to have this responsibility in sharing God's grace and as we pray for His guidance. He is faithful to be right there in the lead every step of the way.

But there is still much work to be done and more blessings to be realized. We are in need of more pillow agape and the rest of the "stuff" that goes along with being able to provide for the needs of the pilgrims and team. Also, please do not forget to sign up for the Prayer Vigil. Without a FULL Prayer Vigil, we can't even start the Walk. Go to the link below and look for the Agape and Prayer Vigil sign-up links. I pray that you are blessed as you follow God's call for your life.

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

I continue to pray that in all things God will be glorified and His will be done.

De Colores!

Arnie Waden

Lay Director, Men's Walk #145

And don't forget these important dates!

Candlelight – April 13 @ 7:30

Closing – April 14 @ 3:30

Welcome Back – May 4 @ 4:00

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 First Letter of Last Name:

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
February 7, 2019
Northwest Hills UMC

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by acting LD LeeLeen Sundbeck, who opened the meeting with a prayer and presided over the meeting. The following Directors were present: LeeLeen Sundbeck, Acting Lay Director; Harold Sundbeck, Secretary; Patti Bizzell, Treasurer; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Representative; Steven Scott, Gathering Support Coordinator; and Jeanne Randall, Walk Support Coordinator. **QUORUM:** Six Board members were present. Arnie Waden, Lay Director for Men's Walk #145, was also present.

MINUTES – The Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on January 12, 2019. The minutes were approved, with corrections, 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 \$23,741.41. The financials were approved as submitted. We have 5 pilgrims with funds deposited. We also received a scholarship check from Legacy Deo and a Walk #145 scholarship check from Santos and Associates.

Patti reported she had received a request from Legacy Deo to use direct deposit for their annual deposit. She reported she spoke to the bank and they assured her it was safe to allow a direct deposit. Harold Sundbeck made the motion to approve Legacy using the direct deposit. Mel Chambers seconded the motion. All approved.

Patti reported she had moved the \$325.00 collected for Rob Turk's memorial fund to the Rob Turk Scholarship fund, for a total of \$815.00.

Patti also discussed using PayPal to accept deposits and listing it on our website. The link is [PayPal.Me/GEMmausCommunity](https://www.paypal.com/mef/GEMmausCommunity).

Patti presented a revised budget for 2019 and made the motion to approve. Jeanne Randall seconded the motion. All approved. A copy of the revised budget is filed in Dropbox.

Patti asked about the financial review of the books for 2018. Mel Chambers reported he has approached several individuals to assist in performing the review but has not received a final decision. He will get back to the Board when he hears of their decision.

Jeanne Randall made a motion to provide a full scholarship for a team member serving on the Conference Room team for Walk #145. LeeLeen seconded the motion. All approved.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Mel Chambers reported he discussed having Dot Files serve as the Lay Director for Women's Walk #146. Jeanne Randall made the motion and Steven Scott seconded the motion. All approved. With Kristin stepping down as the Lay Director, Mel suggested we need to re-sign the Upper Room Covenant. We will do this at the March Board meeting.

WALK SUPPORT – Jeanne Randall reported the Agape Sign-up list and the Prayer Vigil list are now up on the website.

GATHERING SUPPORT – Steven Scott reported that he and Harold have been working on the March Gathering. Steven is working on getting musicians for the Gathering and will also approach the musicians from Eagles Wings. The Eagles Wings Emmaus community will be joining us for our March Gathering. Steven will be sending out an email to all church POC's to spread the word for the March Gathering.

WALK #145 REPORT – Arnie Waden reported there are 5 pilgrims in to the Registrar with several other potential pilgrims. The new ALD is Randy Beavers. The next team meeting is February 23rd at Northwest Hills UMC.

UPCOMING EVENTS – LeeLeen recommended having March 3rd as a formal Emmaus Sunday, with POC's and Board members setting up tables at their churches to promote the Walk to Emmaus. We also need to remind the POC's about encouraging their Emmaus members to wear their lanyards on the first Sunday services.

NEW BUSINESS – The Board signed the revised By-laws and they were imprinted with our seal. They are available for view in the Dropbox.

Steven Scott closed with a devotion and prayer and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Harold Sundbeck.



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 Patti Breaux

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