



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



November 2019

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 30, Number 11

When to Ask for Support!

In the final moments of Jesus' life, he knew his death was imminent. What did he do? He asked for support. He asked Peter, James, and John to pray with him. And he prayed to God, from whom his help came. Do we know when to ask for the support we need, either from friends, from our pastors, or from God?

Emmaus is a spiritual-based community that gives lay leaders tools to be leaders in our churches. This, in turn, helps the pastor so they can lead their congregation to knowing Christ. A Walk cannot take place, nor even a team can be selected for the Walk, without the pastor. Just like Jesus, we, and I mean our Emmaus Community, need to ask for support from our pastor/spiritual leaders. When was the last time you heard your pastor talk about Emmaus from the pulpit? Or do you know if your pastor has been on a Walk? Without the support of our pastors/spiritual leaders, Emmaus will not be able to survive, and right now we are missing this vital part of the Emmaus Community.

It is heartwarming to see the pastors at Candlelight or at our Gatherings, and I know that it means a lot to the pilgrims that are on the Walk to look around and see their pastor there. With your help and support, we can get our pastors involved again.

I have written a letter addressed to the pastors about needing their support. The letter is in this issue of the *WalkTalk*, and I'm asking each of you to print it out and give it to your pastor to read. If our pastors receive multiple copies of this letter from the members of their congregations, they will know that it is important to keep Emmaus going and to support this community.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this very important matter.

DeColores!
LeeLeen Sundbeck
Acting Lay Director



Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

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Financial Statement as of 10/22/19



Bank Balance
\$20,951.19

General Scholarship Fund
\$455.00

Rob Turk Scholarship Fund
\$20.00

Pastors Scholarship Fund
\$15.00

Terry Gruber Scholarship Fund
\$520.00

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

Upcoming Gathering! Don't miss it!

Join us at Covenant UMC on November 16th for the
November Gathering. Agape Making Party at 4:00,
Potluck Dinner at 5:30, Music and Worship at 6:30.
Childcare available with advance notice to

ssarch@verizon.net

Greater Austin Emmaus Community 2020 Walks

Men's Walk EC 146

Eben Files, Lay Director
Grady Roe, Spiritual Director
Board Representative TBD

February 20-23, 2020

Contact: Eben@austinemmaus.org

Women's Walk

Debby Duplantis, Lay Director
Spiritual Director TBD
Board Representative TBD

November 5-8, 2020

Contact: Debby@austinemmaus.org

Both of these Walks will be held at Eagle's Wings Retreat Center in Burnet



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
- ⇒ anything else you think the community needs to know, would be helpful to know, or would enjoy reading. Send your news to:



WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org

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



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!



Next GAEC Board Meeting

Thursday, November 7, 2019, 6:00 – 8:00
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!



Emmaus Scholarship Fund

Please consider making a contribution to the Scholarship Fund so that those in need can experience their Walk to Emmaus. If your pilgrim is in need of a partial or full scholarship, scholarship forms are available by request and can be found on the GAEC website at the link below.

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



Next Gathering!

Saturday, November 16, 2019
Covenant UMC
4410 Duval Road, Austin, 78727
Agape Making Party at 4:00
Potluck Dinner at 5:30
Music and Worship at 6:30
4th Day Speaker Cortney Hollinger



Team Applications

With two Walks scheduled in 2020, now is the time to fill out a Team Application if you are interested in serving on one of those teams. *(See link below.)* If you have already filled one out, make sure the info on it is still correct. This info is used by the Team Selection Committee for Conference Room Team selections. No application is needed to serve on a Servant Team, but you must contact the Lay Director or the Servant Team Coordinator of that Walk to express your desire.

http://austinemmaus.org/team_app.php

GAEC Facebook page!

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



Become a Sponsor!

Please be in prayer for who you think is ready to take their Walk to Emmaus, and offer to be their sponsor! Go to <http://www.austinemmaus.org> and click on 'Document Downloads' for the pilgrim and sponsor applications. Be sure you also download the Sponsor Packet for a detailed list of sponsor responsibilities.

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

RE: Greater Austin Emmaus Community

Dear Pastor,

The Greater Austin Emmaus Community has had a long history of ministry in the greater Austin area for over 30 years. During this time, we have seen attendance at monthly Gatherings and participation in our Walks produce outstanding leaders in lay ministry for our area churches. We believe that this occurred through the encouragement of our area pastors, recognizing the importance of their participation. However, over the last several years we have seen a steady decline in participation in Emmaus by both lay people and clergy, and we are trying to discern why this is happening.

Emmaus has always been about the shared experience between clergy and laity to bring fellow Christians to a deeper understanding of the unconditional love of Jesus Christ. This is why it is imperative that our local Emmaus community have the support of the clergy. We only need to look at two of the nearby Emmaus communities, Hays Praise to the south and Soaring Eagles to the west, which have full Walks and monthly Gatherings, to see that the Emmaus movement is thriving in these areas. As large as the Austin area is, and with the number of churches in the area, we should not have any problems filling Walks, yet over the last two years we have had to cancel Walks due to a lack of pilgrims.

The Walk to Emmaus is a powerful tool which we, as members of the Board of Directors for the Greater Austin Emmaus Community, believe can start a revival for the local churches. We are asking for your support, and how we can support you, in encouraging participation in Emmaus.

- Could you wear your lanyard on the first Sunday of each month, attend Gatherings, and speak about the Walk to Emmaus from the pulpit?
- Could you help identify a passionate parishioner who could serve as the Point of Contact for your church to work with our Gathering Support Board Member?
- Can you provide the Board of Directors feedback regarding involvement for the Walk to Emmaus?

We believe God is moving us to evangelize the Walk to Emmaus movement in the Greater Austin Area, and we invite you to join us in this revival to spread the gospel in this community.

DeColores!

LeeLeen Sundbeck

Acting Lay Director and Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board

bod@austinemmaus.org





Greater Austin Emmaus Community

GAEC Community Gathering November 16 , 2019

Covenant UMC
4410 Duval Road
Austin, TX 78727

4:00pm – Agape Making Party in the Fellowship Hall
5:30pm – Potluck Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
6:30pm – Music and Worship in the Sanctuary

BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

4TH Day Please Bring First Letter of Last Name:

A – E: Desserts

F – K: Appetizers, Salads, Side Dishes

L – Z: Main Dishes

Childcare is available for ages 5 and under with
reservations by 2 PM Wednesday, November 13th.

Please contact Steven Scott @ 281-460-5567 or

ssarch@verizon.net

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2019
Northwest Hills UMC

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by LeeLeen Sundbeck, Acting Lay Director, who opened the meeting with prayer and presided over the meeting. The following directors were present: LeeLeen Sundbeck, Acting Lay Director; Harold Sundbeck, Secretary; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Representative; Steven Scott, Gathering Support Coordinator; Jeanne Randall, Walk Support Coordinator, and Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr., Spiritual Director. Coe Grace also attended the meeting.

QUORUM: Five Board members were present, providing a quorum for the meeting.

MINUTES: The Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on September 5, 2019. 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 – No report due to Patti Brizzell, Treasurer, being out of town.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Mel reported Eban Files has agreed to serve as the Lay Director for Men's Walk #146 to be held February 20 – 23, 2020. Steven made the motion to approve Eban Files as Lay Director for Walk #146. Mel seconded the motion. All approved. The Board, along with Pastor Chase, will work with Eban to find a Spiritual Director for the Walk. Grady Rowe was suggested as a possible Spiritual Director.

Joel Roehling has agreed to serve as a Lay Director in 2022.

Mel reported the computer Patti brought to the last BOD meeting will meet our needs and made a motion to purchase the computer. Harold seconded the motion. All approved. Mel will talk to Bob Duplantis about acquiring the software we will need for use with the computer.

GATHERING SUPPORT – The next Gathering will be November 16th at Covenant UMC. Steven will lead the Agape Party at the Gathering. He is still working on music and a 4th day speaker.

The January Gathering will be at Wesley UMC on San Bernard Street.

NEW BUSINESS – Steven reported that Eagles Wings community is interested in merging with the Greater Austin Emmaus Community, but we will need to have further discussions. Steven will try to set up a joint meeting over the next month.

Mel will take care of transferring our documents from Kristin Hampsten's Dropbox account into a new one for GAEC.

We will meet at 6:00 p.m. on October 10th at Northwest Hills UMC to continue our discussion of the 3-day schedule.

OLD BUSINESS – LeeLeen brought up discussion about articles for the *WalkTalk*. She will write the Lay Director article.

Pastor Chase closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Harold Sundbeck.

**Meeting
Minutes**

2019 GAEC Emmaus Community Gatherings

Training Workshops at 4:00 PM

Potluck Dinner at 5:30 PM

Music and Worship at 6:30 PM

Saturday, November 16, 2019

Covenant UMC

4410 Duval Road, Austin, 78727

Agape Making Party at 4:00 p.m.

Potluck Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Music and Worship at 6:30 p.m.

4th Day Speaker Cortney Hollinger

January 11 or 18, 2020 (TBD)

Wesley UMC

1164 San Bernard St, Austin, 78702

Training Workshop TBD at 4:00 p.m.

Potluck Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Music and Worship at 6:30 p.m.

4th Day Speaker TBD

Reminder to sponsors: One of the responsibilities of being a sponsor is to bring your pilgrim to their first Gathering after their Walk. This is an important step in helping them get plugged into the community.

Don't forget to bring goodies to share for the potluck before each Gathering!



Emmaus Gathering

