



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



January 2020

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 31, Number 1

Service-Scholarships-Sponsorships

When I was a little girl growing up in a small town in Nebraska, I went to church every Sunday, and anytime there was some kind of activity for teens when I got older. During this time, I always thought the pastor took care of everything, from preaching, cleaning the church, visiting church members, visiting the sick in the hospital, doing the burials, and the weddings; everything that goes on at a church. But what I did not see, was that behind the scenes my great-grandmother was cleaning the pews and straightening all the papers in the backs of the pews, or how so many members of my church did so much work around the church that I had no idea about.

Service: After I met my husband and joined his church, they had a Saturday “clean-up” day and they asked us to help out. WHAT!!! They wanted me to work to “Serve the Lord?” I really did not understand this, but I was a good wife and joined my husband on the “Clean-up” day where we did yard work, painted, and planted flowers. All the things once again that I thought was the pastor’s job.

Shortly after I went on my Walk, I was asked to serve on a conference room team and asked to do a talk. That is when I got it! I got that the pastor’s job is not to do it alone, but if we are to serve our Lord we have to get involved and do the work. We cannot continue to sit on the sidelines and think that it is the pastor or the “lay directors” job to do. We are called to serve! When will you get off the sidelines and serve? I know a lot of you have talents that could be put to use. And I’ve heard the excuses, like “I’m too busy, I will do it when...” But when never comes. It seems you will only come forward and serve the Lord if it fits into YOUR schedule and timing. Only when you make serving the Lord a priority will it happen. Currently, we have several open positions on the Board that need to be filled. If you feel that this article is speaking to you and you have a talent that could be put to use, please reach out to one of the Board members to offer your service.

Scholarships: Did you know that you, yes YOU, can donate to the Emmaus Scholarship fund? When you went on your Walk, did you use scholarship funds to pay for it? Or, maybe you served on a team and were short of funds and your service on the team was paid by scholarship funds. If you are now in a financial position to help pay it forward by making a contribution to the Scholarship fund to help pay for someone else to go on their Walk, or serve on a team, please consider making a donation. At the next Gathering we will have a box out with ‘Scholarship Funds’ on it that you can drop a check or cash in.

Sponsorships: If you have ever sponsored a pilgrim, have you kept in contact with them? Have you checked to see if they got connected with a reunion group, if they are attending Gatherings, if they are signed up for the Yahoo group? Even when the weekend is over does not mean your responsibility as a sponsor is over.

As we start the beginning of a new year, what would happen if we decided to crank up our “God Work” and increase our **service** participation, our **scholarship** giving, and our **sponsorship** involvement? When we make the effort to give more, what always happens is we receive so much more in return.

So, here’s our first assignment for 2020: We have a Men’s Walk coming up February 20-23, 2020, and we are in need of sponsors and pilgrims. If you know of any potential pilgrims, please reach out and talk to them and see if they are ready to go on a Walk. Ask them if money is an issue and then follow through to get financial help from your church, your reunion group or from you personally.

Our second assignment is to see that our Board is full of members who can enthusiastically move us forward to new heights.

Christ is Counting on You...Are you ready to do something about this?

DeColores!
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

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WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



Financial Statement as of 12/12/19



Bank Balance

\$20,782.66

General Scholarship Fund

\$455.00

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 Wesley UMC on January 11th for the January
Gathering. Agape Making Party at 4:00, meal provided
by Wesley UMC 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 #146

Eben Files, Lay Director
Grady Roe, Spiritual Director
Harold Sundbeck, Board Rep.
Steven Scott, Servant Team Coor.

February 20-23, 2020

Contact: Eben@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Harold@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Steven@austinemmaus.org

Women's Walk #147

Debby Duplantis, Lay Director
Spiritual Director TBD
Board Representative TBD
Bob Duplantis, Servant Team Coor.

November 5-8, 2020

Contact: Debby@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Bob@austinemmaus.org

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



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
- ⇒ Informative 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, January 9, 2020, 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!



Next Gathering!

Saturday, January 11, 2020
Wesley UMC
1164 San Bernard St., Austin, 78702
Agape Making Party at 4:00
Meal provided by Wesley UMC at 5:30
Music and Worship at 6:30
4th Day Speaker TBD



Team Applications

The two Walks this year need team members! If you are interested in serving on one of those teams, go to the link below and fill out a Team Application form. If you have already filled one out, make sure the information 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

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>

DONATE
TO SCHOLARSHIP FUND



**Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2019
Northwest Hills UMC**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by 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; Steven Scott, Gathering Support Coordinator; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Representative (C); Jeanne Randall, Walk Support Coordinator. Eben Files, Myles McKemie, and Chris McKemie were also in attendance. C = Present by Call-in.

QUORUM: Five Board members were present providing a quorum for the meeting. Eben Files, Myles McKemie and Chris McKemie were also in attendance.

MINUTES: The Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on November 7, 2019 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 Bizzell had sent out the financial report by email. The Frost Bank balance reconciles with the Aplos balance of \$21,363.66. Patti Bizzell made a motion to approve the submitted financial report, Harold Sundbeck seconded the motion. All approved.

For the year, our Income Statement reflects a negative \$837.97, primarily due to trailer repairs and no income since the last Walk was held by the Eagles Wings community that we haven't received a final accounting from. Steven Scott will check with Eagles Wings for the final accounting from Women's Walk EW 142 and if any monies are owed to GAEC since we registered 19 of the 24 pilgrims on the Walk.

Mel Chambers brought up the need to send a donation to the Upper Room for The Gift, a fund utilized for supporting Emmaus Communities around the world. We sent \$500 last year. Mel made a motion to send \$500 for our 2019 donation. Steven seconded the motion. All approved.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Mel has team manuals and will get them to Harold as Board Rep for Men's Walk #146. After discussion as to the potential use of Eagles Wings Dropbox account, it was concluded that we should set up a separate account. Mel will activate a new Dropbox account for GAEC.

WALK SUPPORT – Jeanne reported the Prayer Vigil and Agape sign-up lists are up and sign-ups have begun.

GATHERING SUPPORT – Next Gathering will be January 11 at Wesley UMC. Steven will lead the Agape Making Party at the Gathering. Mel will get the 4th day speaker.

WALK #146 LD REPORT – Eben Files reported the clergy team is in place but he is still short 7 Conference Room team members. Steven will contact Eagles Wings for additional team members. The first team meeting will be December 14 at Northwest Hills UMC.

NEW BUSINESS – We still have open Board positions to fill. Steven, Harold, Mel, and Patti met with four Board members from Eagles Wings on a potential merger and they have Board members willing to move into positions on our Board. We will meet again on December 16 in our continuing discussion on the merger to work out the final details for the merger.

Mel brought up that we need to make sure any Emmaus Facebook groups on social media need to be open to all.

OLD BUSINESS – LeeLeen brought up discussion about articles for the *WalkTalk*. She will write the LD article on the three S's – Serving, Scholarship, and Sponsorship. Harold will submit a blurb promoting the Scholarship fund.

Mel Chambers closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes taken and submitted by Harold Sundbeck.

**Meeting
Minutes**

2020 GAEC Emmaus Community Gatherings

Training Workshops at 4:00 PM

Potluck Dinner at 5:30 PM

Music and Worship at 6:30 PM

January 11, 2020

Wesley UMC

1164 San Bernard St., Austin, 78702

Agape Making Party at 4:00 p.m.

Wesley UMC providing meal at 5:30 p.m.,
so no need to bring a potluck dish.

Thanks, Wesley UMC!

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.



Emmaus Gatherings

