



The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



February 2020

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 31, Number 2

AGAPE

You can never tell when a small act of kindness to a friend, an act of agape, can end up also impacting so many other people. It's the little things that we do for others, not expecting anything in return. This is what we experienced, this agape, on our pilgrim Walk. Seeing the letters from Emmaus communities from around the world, even from those in prison, that were sent out of love for us gave us a sense of being connected to all these people through these acts of agape.

One member of our community is a craftsman who makes beautiful wood cut-outs that read HUG – Hold Us God. I was given one and it sat on my desk at work where I would look at it, taking inspiration from those words. A while back, over a year ago, I met with a friend to catch up on what was going on in her life. She was someone I used to work with, and she had also been on a Walk to Emmaus. I knew from our conversation before we met up that she was in need of a HUG, so I took my HUG and passed it on to her. Recently, she told me that it had sat on her desk giving her inspiration, just as it had me, but she passed it on to her sister who was battling cancer. Her sister told her that while going through chemo, she met an older woman who was also battling cancer and going through chemo. She gave this woman the HUG to give her strength in her battle. The woman started to cry and said the gift of the HUG was the best gift she had ever received. A small act of agape traveled a long way, passing through many hands and hearts, touching all who received it as an act of love. Agape, pass it on.

Speaking of which, we have Men's Walk #146 coming up February 20-23 that still needs pilgrims. And, we have two Women's Walks this year – Women's Walk #147, May 14-17, and Women's Walk #148, November 5-8; all of these Walks are at Eagles Wings Retreat Center in Burnet. We need pilgrims for these Walks, and we are counting on the community to reach out to those men and women you know of who are ready to experience the Walk to Emmaus. If you are interested in sponsoring a pilgrim, please go to www.austinemmaus.org and follow the directions to find the Sponsor forms.

We have our Agape List and the Prayer Vigil list on-line waiting for you to sign up. I encourage all of you to go through our Agape list and sign up for items we will need on the Walks. As you all know, the Prayer Vigil is most important, since a Walk cannot begin until all prayer slots are filled, so please sign up for a time to pray.

One excellent way to promote the Walk to Emmaus is to wear your lanyards to church on the first Sunday of each month. Another way is to have Emmaus Sunday at your church, where you set up a table and have printed forms to hand out with information, and someone there to answer questions about Emmaus.

Our next Gathering is March 7th at Northwest Hills UMC, with an Agape Making Party at 4:00. Northwest Hills UMC is providing a meal (thank you NWHUMC!) at 5:30, so no need to bring food for a potluck. Music and worship will follow at 6:30. I hope to see all of you there as we gather for fellowship and worship!

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

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

Vacant

Treasurer

Patti Bizzell

Treasurer@austinemmaus.org

Upper Room Support

Mel Chambers

UpperRoomSupport@austinemmaus.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

Vacant

Registrar

Myles McKemie

Registrar@austinemmaus.org

Secretary

Harold Sundbeck

Secretary@austinemmaus.org

Database Coordinator

Vacant

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

Mike Carmagnola

MusicCoordinator@austinemmaus.org

WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org



Financial Statement as of 1/9/20



Bank Balance

\$21,770.58

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

March Gathering! Don't miss it!

Join us at Northwest Hills UMC on March 7th for the
March Gathering. Agape Making Party at 4:00, meal
provided by NWHUMC at 5:30, and music and worship
at 6:30. Childcare available with advance notice to
ssarch@verizon.net by March 4th.

Greater Austin Emmaus Community 2020 Walks

Men's Walk #146

Eben Files, Lay Director
Grady Roe, Spiritual Director
Harold Sundbeck, Board Rep.
Steven Scott, ST Coordinator

February 20-23, 2020

Contact: Eben@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Harold@austinemmaus.org

Contact: Steven@austinemmaus.org

Women's Walk #147

Deena Raynor, Lay Director
Spiritual Director TBD
Board Rep. TBD
Servant Team Coor. TBD

May 14-17, 2020

Contact: Deena@austinemmaus.org

Women's Walk #148

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

All Walks 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
- ⇒ 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



Men's Walk #146 Prayer Vigil and Agape Sign-ups are now on-line!

Agape Sign-up

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f4ea9a92fa0ff2-walk>

Prayer Vigil Sign-up

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080a4fabae29a0ff2-prayer>

Next GAEC Board Meeting

Thursday, February 6, 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!

March 7, 2020

Northwest Hills UMC
7050 Village Center Drive, Austin, 78731
Agape Making Party at 4:00 p.m.
Meal provided by NWHUMC at 5:30 p.m.
Music and Worship at 6:30 p.m.
4th Day Speaker John Coffman



GAEC Facebook page!

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



Men's Walk #146

February 20-23, 2020
Eagle's Wings Retreat Center

Conference Room Team

Bob Severance
Chuck Tencer
Craig Adams
Dan Byron
Eben Files – Lay Director
Frank Heffern
Fren Widmer
Grady Roe – Spiritual Director
Harold Sundbeck – Board Rep.
Marshall Kwait
Michael Pavlu
Mike Carmagnola
Nathan Jones
Noble Doss
Rick Markle
Robert (Frank) Weidner
Steven Scott – Servant Team Coor.
Tim Martin
Rev. Christine Bistline
Rev. Mel Hazelwood
Rev. Nancy McDougel
Rev. Tom Deviney



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!





Greater Austin Emmaus Community

GAEC GATHERING **Saturday March 7, 2020**

Northwest Hills UMC

7050 Village Center Drive

Austin, TX 78731

4:00 – Agape Making Party

5:30 – Meal provided by Northwest Hills UMC

6:30 – Music and Worship



There will be no potluck dinner, as Northwest Hills UMC will be providing a meal at 5:30 (thank you, NWHUMC!).

Child care is available for ages 5 and under with reservations by 2 PM Wednesday, March 4th.

Please contact Steven Scott @ 281-460-5567

ssarch@verizon.net

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2019
Northwest Hills UMC

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Acting Lay Director LeeLeen Sundbeck, who presided over the meeting. Steven Scott opened the meeting with a devotional and a prayer.

The following directors were present: Acting Lay Director, LeeLeen Sundbeck; Secretary, Harold Sundbeck; Treasurer, Patti Bizzell; Upper Room Representative, Mel Chambers; Gathering Support Coordinator, Steven Scott; Walk Support Coordinator, Jeanne Randall; Spiritual Director, Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr. **QUORUM:** Seven Board members were present, providing a quorum for the meeting. Eben Files, Bob Duplantis and Debby Duplantis were also in attendance.

MINUTES: The Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on December 5, 2019, and were approved by email with a couple of small corrections.

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 \$20,912.58. Harold Sundbeck made a motion to approve the submitted financial report, Mel Chambers seconded the motion. All approved.

For the year, our Income Statement reflects a negative \$964.05, primarily due to trailer repairs and no income, since the last Walk was held by the Eagles Wings community.

UPPER ROOM REPORT – Mel has talked with Kristin about moving our data from her Dropbox account. He is following up with Church Mutual for our renewal. He has set up an e-mail account for our Walks that can be accessed by the Lay Director, Treasurer, Upper Room Support, and Registrar.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR – Pastor Chase posed the question, “Why go on a Walk to Emmaus?” How do we get people enthused about attending a Walk to Emmaus? We, as a community, need to let potential pilgrims know they can experience a tremendous spiritual awakening by spending three days in a God-filled weekend getting to know the love and grace offered by God. We need to sustain the spirit of the Walk by bringing excitement to our Gatherings so that our community will look forward to attending, and the reunion group is the best way to help sustain our commitment to Emmaus.

WALK SUPPORT – Jeanne reported the Prayer Vigil and Agape sign-ups were set up, but the website doesn't show them on-line.

GATHERING SUPPORT – Our next Gathering will be held on January 11, 2020 at Wesley UMC. Linda Thomas will be the 4th Day Speaker. Our Gathering on March 7th will hopefully be held at Northwest Hills UMC. Steven will lead the Agape Party. The September Gathering will be at Lake Travis UMC on September 12th.

WALK #146 LAY DIRECTOR REPORT – Eben Files reported they have had one team meeting with four talks previewed. He is still short four Conference Room team members and one talk. The next team meeting will be January 18th at Northwest Hills UMC. He has five potential pilgrims with two that have paid from Lake Travis.

WALK #147 LAT DIRECTOR REPORT – Debby Duplantis requested guidance for a potential Spiritual Director for Walk #147. Several names were suggested, and she will reach out to those individuals. She will also need a Board Rep. and a music leader.

NEW BUSINESS – Steven reported that Eagle's Wings will have their final Gathering on January 18th so they can vote on the merger. Hopefully, they will have Board members willing to move into positions on our Board.

Steven reported that Eagles Wings has an open date for a Walk in May if we want to take it for a Women's Walk. He has spoken to Cortney Hollinger about being the Lay Director and she has accepted; however, there may be issues with her having all the necessary qualifications. Mel will check into the qualifications.

Steven will also check with the Eagles Wings group for any potential members that are qualified to be a Lay Director.

We need to change how we reach our community by e-mail and get away from Yahoo Groups. Eagles Wings group emails directly from their database. We can set up a direct contact from our database, possibly using mail merge.

OLD BUSINESS – LeeLeen brought up discussion about articles for the *WalkTalk*.

Pastor Chase closed the meeting with prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes taken and respectfully submitted by Harold Sundbeck.

**Meeting
Minutes**

2020 GAEC Emmaus Community Gatherings

Training Workshops at 4:00 PM

Potluck Dinner 5:30 PM

(With the exception of the March 7th Gathering, where a meal will be provided by NWHUMC)

Music and Worship at 6:30 PM

March 7, 2020

Northwest Hills UMC
7050 Village Center Drive, 78731
Agape Making Party at 4:00 p.m.
Meal provided by NWHUMC at 5:30 p.m.
Music and Worship at 6:30 p.m.
4th Day Speaker John Coffman

September 12, 2020

Lake Travis UMC
1502 Ranch Rd 620 N, Lakeway, 78734
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

Gatherings are open to anyone. Guests who have never been on a Walk to Emmaus, Chrysalis Flight, or Chrysalis Journey are always welcome!

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.



Fourth Day Speakers Needed!

If you would like to give a Fourth Day talk at a Gathering, please contact Steven Scott at ssarch@verizon.net. We will all be blessed by your sharing!

