



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



April, 2010

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 21, Number 3



Welcome New Pilgrims

Men's Walk #1541, Feb. 11-14, 2010 Highland Lakes Conference Center

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Tim Behm | Nelson Hyde | David Sladek |
| Kevin Carmack | Eddie Jacinto | Don Strong |
| Jeff Chandler | James Lanning | Jerry Sullivan |
| Randy Dillion | Steve McCain | Brian Tanzola |
| Daniel Fiero | Kenneth McCannon | Will Thomson |
| Chip Geil | Kevin McVea | Phil Walker |
| Thomas Hampton | Jon Morgan | Eric Weidmann |
| Rick Hendricks | Arnold Potter | Mark Wendland |
| | Paul Scallon | |



Emmaus Walk 1555

Women's Walk #1555 will take place April 22-25, 2010 at Highland Lakes Conference Center. Please support this Walk with your prayers, your agape, and your presence at Candlelight and Closing. Please keep these team members in your prayers, and remember, there are many unseen and unsung community members working on the Servant Team!

Team Members

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Chris Weihl – <i>Lay Director</i> | Judy Baskin – <i>Spiritual Director</i> | Roxie Greenway – Board Rep. |
| Carolyn Bawcom | Angela Cava | Kay Dabbs |
| Lori Foster | Gina Franklin | Karla Fuchs |
| Madeline Carrasco | Henners | Roslynn Hopkins |
| Trisha Zaiontz | Newcomer | Nicole Norgaard |
| Georgia Stone | Jean Way | Judy Yemington |
| | | Linda Elliott |
| | | Sandy Farnham |
| | | Billie Gibson |
| | | Gail Gibson |
| | | Cheryl Johnson |
| | | Ruth Murphy |
| | | Paulette Schwartz |
| | | Salli Smith |

Reminders for Emmaus Walk 1555

Sponsor Hour: 7:00 pm on Thursday April 22nd

Candlelight: 7:30 pm on Saturday April 24th

Closing: 3:00 pm on Sunday April 25th



Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group

2009/2010 Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Jack Foreman

252-1001

jcforeman@sbcglobal.net

Spiritual Director

Rev. Georgia Stone

pastorgeorgia1@aol.com

4th Day Board Representative

Bud Broeker

261-6001

bbroeker@austin.rr.com

Assistant Lay Director

Gene McConnell

gene.mcconnell@jicompanies.com

Board Member for Gathering Support

Sandy Brooks

Sandy_Brooks@Dell.com

Board Member for Walk Support

Diane Merwarth

dianemerwarth@att.net

Board Member for Member Services

Bob Duplantis

261-7730

Bob@BoDeb.com

Treasurer

Roxie Greenway

335-4604

roxieg@austin.rr.com

Immediate Past Lay Director

Leslie Smith

835-5249

lsmith304@austin.rr.com

Chrysalis Representative

Cortney Smith

cortneymeister@gmail.com

Registration Liaison

Ted Shaw

989-3866

tedshaw@swbell.net

Database Coordinator

Bud Broeker

261-6001

bbroeker@austin.rr.com

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Dana Ripley

rip@sbcglobal.net

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Vacant

Music Coordinator

Vacant

Walk Talk Editor

Gina Franklin

970-1393

franklingdom@gmail.com



Visit the Greater Austin Emmaus
4th Day Group Website:
<http://www.austinemmaus.org>



The Walk Talk Deadline for May 2010 is April 26th!

Please send your articles, 4th Day Stories,
Group appreciation and reflections to
Gina Franklin 12905 Irongate Ave., Austin, TX 78727;
or email to franklingdom@gmail.com

Were You There?

There were **123** attendees at the March Gathering!

Have you been going to the monthly Gathering?

Why not?!?!?!?

They are normally on the first Thursday of each month.
Childcare is available at all Gatherings! Check out the
schedule on page 6!

We'll be looking for you!

2010 Austin Sponsored Walks

- Women's Walk #1555 **April 22-25** **Highland Lakes Conference Center**
Chris Weihl, Lay Director contact: cweihl@riverbend.com
Jeannie Whitehurst, Spiritual Director
Roxie Greenway, Board Rep.
Sandy Brooks, ST Coordinator contact: Sandy_brooks@dell.com
- Men's Walk #1580 **October 7-11** **Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**
Gary Johnson, Lay Director contact: jcforeman@sbcglobal.net
Jack Foreman, Board Rep.
- Women's Walk #1593 **November 18-21** **Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**
Diane Merwarth, Lay Director contact: dianemerwarth@att.net
Cortney Smith, Board Rep.

Agape Signup Online

The signup for Women's Walk to Emmaus #1555 is at www.mysignup.com/walk1555agape.

The general format at the web site is a list of instructions at the top of the page, followed by a grid of 6 columns with many rows for the items needed. The list of items is in alphabetical order. If you want to search for a particular item, you can enter <Control-F>, enter the name in the Find box, and press the Next button.

Approximately one week prior to the beginning of a Walk, a reminder e-mail will be sent to you for each item that you have promised to bring. The drop-off locations will be listed in the reminder e-mail.

SWTX Walk/Flight Leadership Training Sessions

To register for an Emmaus Leadership Training Event please go to www.swtxumc.org/emmaus or contact Emmaus Register at Emmaus@umcswtx.org

Date: May 15, 2010

Location: Junction FUMC, 902 main, Junction TX

Purpose: Training Lay Directors, Board Reps and Spiritual Directors Leadership teams for Emmaus/Chrysalis. The Walk/Flight Leadership Training is required for all incoming Lay Directors and Board Reps and Spiritual Directors. Lay Directors and Board Reps need to attend training with in 15 months of serving, Spiritual Directors need to attend training at least once every 3 years. However LT is open to anyone interested in learning more about Leadership. This is a great time for the Lay Directors, Board Reps, and Spiritual Directors to develop effective Communication and Leadership skills. The outside support coordinators are invited to attend as well. Training will be conducted by the SWTX Conf Emmaus/Chrysalis Lay Directors and Spiritual Director or their appointees.

Chrysalis News

Time to Start Planning for Chrysalis!!

The Austin Chrysalis Community is sponsoring two Flights this summer:

July 8-10, 2010: Girl's Flight # 335 at Marble Falls UMC

July 22-24, 2010: Boy's Flight # 339 at Marble Falls UMC

Registration forms are posted on the SWTX Conference and Greater Austin Emmaus Community websites, or you may contact one of the Lay Directors or any member of the Chrysalis Next Steps Group.

Scholarships are available!



Pilgrim Scholarships

Did you know Greater Austin Emmaus has a scholarship fund to help Pilgrims with their walk registration fee? Ten percent of the Gathering offering each month is donated to the scholarship fund.

With the rising cost of Everything these days, it is sometimes tough for a Pilgrim to cover the entire registration fee. The Greater Austin Board of Directors doesn't want anyone to miss out on a walk because of the cost, so we are eager to help out with scholarships. The Board will cover 1/3 of the cost of the registration fee, and in cases of extreme need, 1/2 of the cost can be covered.

Sponsors, please be sure to mention the scholarship fund if a potential Pilgrim indicates they have a financial need. Also remember that most of the Austin area churches that support Emmaus have scholarship funds to help with the remaining registration fee too. Here is all you need to do to apply for a GAE scholarship for your Pilgrim:

- 1) Print a Scholarship Request form from the Greater Austin Emmaus website, www.austinemmaus.org. Click on the Forms link in the left-hand menu. The Scholarship form is the third one in the list. Print and complete the form.

- 2) Mail the Scholarship Request form to the Greater Austin Emmaus Treasurer:
Roxie Greenway
12418 Deer Track
Austin, Texas 78727

(Be sure to include your mailing address, email address, and phone #.) Roxie will mail the check to you to include with the Emmaus application. If the time for the Walk is less than 3 weeks away, send the completed application and additional registration fees along with the request form. Roxie will mail all to the Registrar for you.

---OR---

Contact Roxie at Roxieg@austin.rr.com to make other arrangements for the request form and check.

Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Soon we will celebrate and witness the most special Easter Season, beginning with Resurrection Sunday. I want to share a story heard on the **Lutheran Hour** several years ago:

The mother of a nine-year old got a call from her son's teacher. That is normally not a good thing. Preparing herself for the worst, Mom listened as the teacher said, "Today I saw something unusual and I wanted to tell you about it." That wasn't much better. The teacher continued: "Early today, during our creative writing class, I gave an assignment. I began by telling Aesop's story of the ant and the grasshopper. You know the fable: the ant works hard, the grasshopper fiddles away the time. When winter comes, the ant has enough to eat and the grasshopper asks for a handout."

Mom listened as the teacher elaborated further: "I asked the children in finish the story. Most of the class wrote, 'The ant shared and both lived happily ever after.' A few had the ant saying, 'Sorry, Mr. Grasshopper, I only have enough for myself. If I share, we both starve.' But your son ended the story in a unique way. His story ended, 'The ant gave all of his food to the grasshopper and the grasshopper lived happily, but the ant died.' At the bottom of his assignment, your son drew a cross."

The ending the other children wrote could have been the ending to our story, as well. Because of our sin, we, like the grasshopper, are doomed to die. We want to know, "Is there any help, any hope, any way we can escape?"

Philosophers have concluded we are on our own. Free thinkers say we can live with our sin, deny them, or forget them. That's no help. Some of the world's religions say, "You have to work hard, *very hard*, if you're going to appease your god." Sadly, they can't say when or if a person has done enough. That's no help, either.

Only Christianity says that God, in the person of Jesus, came down to earth and took our place. Only Christianity speaks of a Savior who endured hunger so we would be filled; went without an earthly home so we might have a heavenly home; suffered so we could be saved; and died so we might live.

Jesus took our place. Jesus' resurrection guarantees our happy ending -- an ending made possible by the Savior who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. That is the resurrection message we proclaim.

De Colores!

Gerard Kern

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group - Board of Directors Meeting

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors met on Thursday, March 4th, 2010 at Bethany United Methodist Church. In attendance were: Gene McConnell; Bob Duplantis; Diane Merwarth; Roxie Greenway; Bud Broeker; Leslie Smith; Cortney Smith; Sandy Brooks; Keith Bible; Don Greenway; and Rev. Georgia Stone.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Gene McConnell, with an opening prayer by Cortney Smith. The minutes of the previous Board Meeting were approved as written on a motion by Diane Merwarth, seconded by Sandy Brooks. The finance report was given by Roxie Greenway, and was approved by a motion from Sandy Brooks with a second from Gene McConnell. Ending balance as of 02/28/10 is \$6,841.87. These funds include fees paid in for the upcoming Walks.

Bud Broeker presented updates from the recent Board training including the following:

- The Upper Room will not make a new "Remembrance" video for Thursday night.
- Table Leaders and Assistant Table Leaders should be housed with pilgrims.
- The type of projects done after the talks should not be defined for the tables; they should be able to choose the type on their own.

Bud Broeker made a motion that the Board purchase 4 sets of Emmaus Manuals for Board members who do not have one. These would be passed down to the next person filling that Board position in the future. The motion was seconded by Bob Duplantis and carried.

Bud Broeker stated that permission was received from Upper Room to post a video about the Walk to Emmaus on the GAE4DG website. He will work on adding the video as well as the sponsor packet to the website.

Sandy Brooks stated that Gathering locations are confirmed through September. There was discussion of adding an Information Table at Gatherings to include Pilgrim and Team Applications, Sponsor packets, Prayer Vigil and Agape Sign Up sheets, and agape letters for signatures by the community.

It was decided that the Board would announce openings for 4th Day Speakers at Gatherings so that people who attend a church that is not the host can have the opportunity to speak. It will also be announced at the Gathering that the position of Music Coordinator is still available. Bob Duplantis will obtain a copy of the Board's By-Laws and distribute them to Board Members via email for review and the Board will return next month for suggestions and ideas for adding committee member positions on the Board.

Diane Merwarth reported that the Agape Needs List will be passed around at the Gathering and a link to the online sign up would be sent out through the Yahoo group. Diane Merwarth asked if childcare supplies could be stored on the trailer and it was agreed that they could be. Diane discussed the creation of a set of food safety guidelines for outside teams to ensure sanitary conditions of food and proper handling. Keith Bible will assist Diane with the creation of the guidelines. Refrigerators will be removed from the agape list since there are presently enough refrigerators available from the trailer and the Walk sites.

Leslie Smith made a motion that the Board purchase 2 pump air coffee pots, 2 30-40 cup coffee makers, and 1 timer. The motion was seconded by Sandy Brooks and carried.

Bob Duplantis reported that there has been difficulty in setting up services through Vertical Response because he has not been able to obtain a letter about the non-profit status of the organization.

Cortney Smith reported that there will be two Chrysalis Flights this summer (July 8th-10th for the Girls and July 22nd-24th for the Boys). Chrysalis is in need of a cook team for the Boy's Flight, a Marriage speaker for the Girl's flight, and the registration of butterflies for both Flights. Announcements would be made at the Gathering regarding these needs.

Gene McConnell reported that there have not been any volunteers for a Nominating Committee to assist with suggesting new Board members. Names were suggested by the Board for the Assistant Lay Director and Spiritual Director positions.

Don Greenway and Keith Bible reported on the outcome of Walk 1541 and provided the following concerns/suggestions:

- On the Sunday morning schedule, the talk times are listed as 20 minutes and do not provide enough time to get to lunch on time. Bud Broeker stated that the schedule has been updated and is now being distributed to upcoming LDs.
- It was suggested that the Candlelight music team wait to break down equipment until after the Pilgrims have finished with their reflection time so as not to distract them.
- There should be a cross on the trailer specifically for St. Elsewhere Table pictures since the Conference Room cross can not be removed for pictures.
- The Lay Director's worship book had different text from the Pilgrim's in one of the responsive reading sections on Sunday morning.
- There was a request for guidance on how Dying Moments should be performed. It was stated that at the most recent Walk Flight Leadership Training the service was modeled for participants. Bud Broeker will find out if any additional guidance is available from the SWTX Conference.
- The new wooden crosses are easily broken. Bud Broeker will take this feedback to the SWTX Conference Emmaus Board.

Possible candidates for Lay Directors in 2011 were chosen and Bud Broeker will contact these individuals to find out if they are available and interested.

The board set the date of April 8th for the next board meeting to be held at Riverbend Church prior to the gathering that night. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM with a closing prayer by Rev. Georgia Stone.

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

Singing at 7:00 p.m., Worship at 7:30 p.m., Agape Feast Following

April 2010

Thursday, April 8, 2010
Riverbend
4214 N. Capital of Texas Hwy.

May 2010

Thursday, May 6, 2010
Pflugerville UMC
500 E. Pecan, Pflugerville

June 2010

Thursday, June 10, 2010
Chrysalis Hosting at
Riverbend
4214 N. Capital of Texas Hwy.

July 2010

Thursday, July 1, 2010
University UMC
2409 Guadalupe Street

August 2010

Thursday, August 5, 2010
Covenant UMC
4410 Duval Road

September 2010

Thursday, September 2, 2010

October 2010

Thursday, October 7, 2010

November 2010

Thursday, November 4, 2010
Oak Hill UMC
7815 W. Hwy 290

December 2010

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Reminder: Childcare Services are available
at all Gatherings.

Contact:

Board Member for Gathering Support

Sandy Brooks

Sandy_Brooks@Dell.com