



# The Greater Austin Emmaus Community Newsletter



October 2017

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 28, Number 10

## God is Good....All the time!

I'm excited to announce that Woman's Walk #142 has made! But we still need your help in several important areas.

We have enough pilgrims to make the Walk, but it is not full. Over the next two weeks we can fill this Walk to capacity, so I am asking you to reach out to any potential pilgrims and simply ask if they are ready.

Also, as you all know, we MUST have all of the Prayer Vigil slots filled before the Walk can begin. I'm asking each of you to please go to the website and sign up for this critically important need. Through the action of prayer, you too can be a part of this Walk, helping carry the pilgrims on this journey by lifting them up.

There are also Agape needs still unfilled and we need those items provided to help support this Walk. Please check through our on-line sign-up.

Candlelight will be October 14 at 7:30 at Camp Young Judaea. Please make plans to come out to support these ladies and shower them with your love and support. Let them see and experience God's love through you as we sing the Jesus song. I'm looking forward to this Walk and I'm excited to be a part of this experience!

Our next Gathering will be on October 5<sup>th</sup> at Covenant United Methodist Church at 4410 Duval Road. We will be commissioning the team for Walk #142. The potluck will begin at 6:30 followed by the service. I look forward to seeing all of you there!

**De Colores!**  
**LeeLeen Sundbeck**  
**Lay Director**

**DeColores**



### October Gathering!

The October Gathering is October 5<sup>th</sup> at Covenant United Methodist Church, 4410 Duval Road. We will be commissioning the team for Walk #142. The potluck will begin at 6:30, followed by the service.

Please Notice This



**Important Note!**  
**The Gathering will start at 6:30**  
**instead of the usual 6:00.**

# Greater Austin Emmaus Community Board of Directors and Volunteers

## Lay Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck

[LayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:LayDirector@austinemmaus.org)

## Spiritual Director

Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr.

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## Assistant Lay Director

Rob Turk

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## Board Member for Gathering Support

Denise Noseworthy

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[@austinemmaus.org](mailto:@austinemmaus.org)

## Board Member for Walk Support

Carl Fisher & Harold Sundbeck

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## Board Member for Member Support

Kristin Hampsten

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[@austinemmaus.org](mailto:@austinemmaus.org)

## Treasurer

Patti Bizzell

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## Upper Room Support

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## Immediate Past Lay Director

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## Database Coordinator

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## Electronic Communications

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[@austinemmaus.org](mailto:@austinemmaus.org)

## Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Willy Maletta

[PrayerVigilCoordinator](mailto:PrayerVigilCoordinator@austinemmaus.org)

[@austinemmaus.org](mailto:@austinemmaus.org)

## Community Letters

Carl Fisher & Chris McKemie

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[@austinemmaus.org](mailto:@austinemmaus.org)

## Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Carl Fisher & Chris McKemie

[FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator](mailto:FoodGiftAgapeCoordinator@austinemmaus.org)

[@austinemmaus.org](mailto:@austinemmaus.org)

## Music Coordinator

Rob Turk

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[@austinemmaus.org](mailto:@austinemmaus.org)

## WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

[WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org](mailto:WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org)



**BOARD MEMBERS**



## Financial Statement as of 9/19/17

**Bank Balance**  
**\$19,588.70**

**Scholarship Fund**  
**\$2,400.00**

Visit the Greater Austin  
Emmaus Community  
Website at

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

## Emmaus Sunday!

### Don't forget!

The first Sunday of each month is Emmaus Sunday. Wear your cross and lanyard to worship. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring awareness to the Walk to Emmaus!



## The *WalkTalk* deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Please send your articles, information, community opportunities, 4th Day experiences/reflections to:

[WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org](mailto:WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org)

## The September 7<sup>th</sup> Gathering was at Manor UMC, and George Castillo gave an inspiring Fourth Day talk.

Check out the Gathering schedule on the last page. They are normally the first Thursday of each month unless otherwise noted. Childcare available.

## 2017 Austin Community Sponsored Emmaus Walk

**Women's Walk #142 October 12 — 15, 2017 CYJ, Wimberley**

Kristin Riggs Hampsten, Lay Director

Contact: [Kristin@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Kristin@austinemmaus.org)

Dick West, Spiritual Director

LeeLeen Sundbeck, Board Rep.

Contact: [LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org](mailto:LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org)

Jeanne Randall, ST Coordinator

Contact: [Jeanne@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Jeanne@austinemmaus.org)

[Walk #142 Agape Sign Up](#)

[Walk #142 Prayer Vigil Sign Up](#)

Candlelight – October 14, 2017 @ 7:30pm at CYJ

Closing – October 15, 2017 @ 3:30pm at CYJ

Welcome Back – October 19, 2017 @ 7:00pm at Covenant UMC

4410 Duval Road, Austin, Texas, 78727, 512-346-3124



## GAEC 2018 Walks

**We have approved the 2018 Walks!**

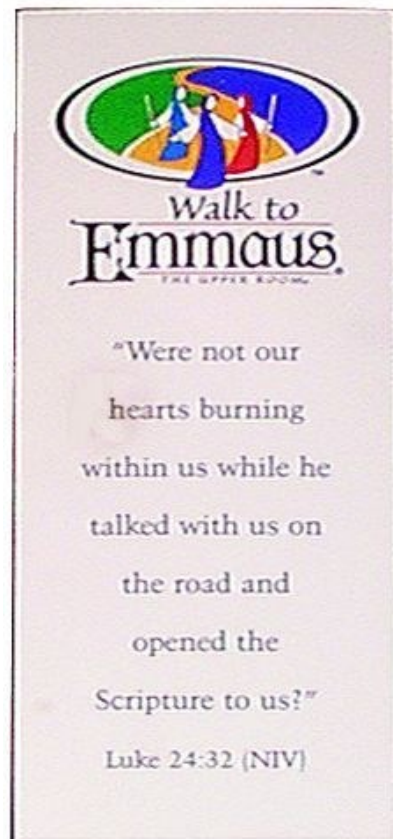
**Men's Walk #143 is March 15 – 18, 2018** (Note: We are trying to move it to March 22-25, 2018.) We are still looking for a Lay Director for this Walk.

**Women's Walk #144 is October 11 – 14, 2018**, with Chris McKemie as Lay Director.

We are hoping to have our first Face To Face Walk in 2019, and our first Journey to the Table in 2020. Also, we are working on moving our database to Access and we are considering a Facebook page. I hope you are willing to help make these things a success because you are Christ's hands and feet.

God bless you, your church, the Greater Austin Emmaus Community, and America.

**Melvin "The Real" Chambers  
Upper Room Support**



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## Sponsoring Pilgrims on Walk to Emmaus

I'd like to share some ideas about Sponsoring a Pilgrim with the Greater Austin Emmaus Community at large. We all know that without new pilgrims the Emmaus Movement does not continue to grow and affect change in lives and communities, so we should all be aware of the critical function of sponsoring pilgrims to the future of this group.

**Talking to potential Pilgrims about Emmaus:** The Walk to Emmaus may not be for everyone, but it is certainly important for people who are developing in their faith to at least have the opportunity to spend 72 hours walking with Jesus Christ. We don't want to convey the idea that someone "needs" to experience a Walk To Emmaus in order to mature as a Christian disciple, or anything else, but we if we know someone in our church or social circles who might benefit from the experience, then try to find the opportunity to share with them what the Walk to Emmaus experience was like for you.

**Getting to YES:** Most people are busy and the thought of setting aside 3 days for a "retreat" might seem unimportant or extravagant or maybe even wasteful. The Sponsor's encouragement that setting aside that time might be a good decision is critical, especially in the sense of the Sponsor's responsibility to ensure that their responsibilities might be taken care of while they are away for the weekend. Don't worry about your mail, the pets, the laundry, all that other stuff. The sponsor should be focused on removing impediments and getting the Pilgrim to the point where saying 'yes' feels natural and comfortable, for everyone involved.

**Obtaining letters from family and friends:** To the best of your ability, contact their family and friends and invite people to share Agape letters. These can be brought to the weekend itself, or even provided as late as Candlelight (Saturday) of the Walk weekend. Just explain to the family members about the letters and treat the letters with confidentiality and respect. The letters should be identified on the exterior of any envelopes or containers to have the Pilgrim's name and who the letter is from (Family, Friend, Sponsor, Table Leader, Assistant TL, Spiritual Director, etc.)

**Getting the Pilgrim to the WALK:** On Thursday, have the pilgrim at the Walk location by 5:30pm-6pm. Do not show up at 3pm, otherwise you will have to wait! Take them to dinner on the way, because the Pilgrims will not have a meal until the next morning. When you arrive at the facility, ask about special needs or accommodations, and get the Pilgrim to the Welcome center in a timely fashion. Get them their name tag and visit with everyone.

**Bringing \$5 cash for their 4th Day Book:** There is a \$5 fee for the Pilgrims 4th Day Book which the Sponsor is responsible for. If you don't bring the \$5, someone else will have to cover the cost for your pilgrims.

**Attending Sponsor's Hour:** When the Lay Director announces the names of the Pilgrims and Team members, the Sponsors are dismissed. What is NOT announced is that the Sponsors go to Sponsor's Hour to pray over the pilgrims' lanyards and to receive Holy Communion with a Spiritual Director. When the dismissal happens, follow the group to the Chapel for Sponsor's Hour.

**Responsibilities during the weekend:** As mentioned previously, the Sponsor should ensure that any needs the Pilgrim might be worried about over the weekend are met. This could be feeding their pets, bringing in their mail, or even mowing their lawn, if it helps them enjoy the weekend without worrying about life back home. Sometimes teams of people sponsor a pilgrim because one person can get them to the Walk but they cannot necessarily take care of that person's duties at home throughout the weekend. However you make it work, the important thing is for the Pilgrim to not be worried about Fluffy the cat or anything happening to their home while they're away.

**Candlelight and praying over their lanyard:** Saturday night of the Walk weekend is the Candlelight Ceremony, which I'm sure most of us remember fondly from our Walks. The Sponsor's responsibility at Candlelight is to pray over the pilgrim's lanyard and to be present, if at all possible. At Camp Young Judea the Candlelight and Closing occur in a facility that is Kosher, so please don't bring in or out any food items or non-Kosher items of any kind. People will be there to help us be good guests of the facility in this regard. Please respect our Hosts and do not bring in any food items.

*Continued on next page...*



**Closing:** Closing occurs Sunday afternoon but the start time is not set. It generally begins around 3pm - 3:30pm and finish by 5pm or so. Be flexible and patient. As mentioned above, the facility is a Kosher facility so please don't bring in any food items. After Closing, the teams will be focused on cleanup and packing up of the trailers, so getting your Pilgrim's suitcases, toiletries, and personal effects as well as their candle, lanyard, and Closing Packet is critical.

**Welcome Back:** The Sponsor should, if possible, bring the Pilgrim to the Welcome Back meeting the following week at a location to be announced at Closing. This informal meeting is the Pilgrims' chance to see one another and discuss how their initial 4th Days have been, and to touch base as they hopefully get involved in the Greater Austin Emmaus Community at the next Gathering.

**Inviting them to a Reunion Group:** Encourage the Pilgrim to join a Reunion Group. If appropriate, invite them to your group (e.g. if they are the same gender) otherwise help find them a Reunion Group that will work for their schedule and that meets in their neighborhood. Share with them how important your Reunion Group is for keeping the flame of Emmaus alive in the weeks, months, and years to come.

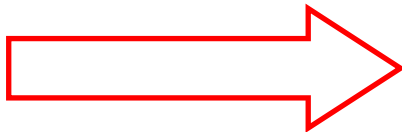
**Inviting them to Gatherings and helping them get involved in Emmaus:** Finally, please invite them to the first Gathering to occur after their Walk, including offering to bring them to it physically.

Sponsoring Pilgrims is THE most important job in the Emmaus movement because without Pilgrims there is no movement. Jesus Christ told His disciples to GO and Make Disciples unto the ends of the Earth. The fields are plentiful, but the workers are few, as they say. It is my hope that by sharing this article that I've answered some questions about what being a Sponsor entails but I'm sure there is more to it, and I share it in hopes that each person reading it prays about it and feels empowered by the Holy Spirit to sponsor someone on the next Walk to Emmaus.

~ Robert Turk  
GAEC Assistant Lay Director

**Very Important Note  
From Your Editor**

This .....



**Thank you!**

**Please remember that the *WalkTalk* deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. This is a FIRM deadline.**

*DON'T MISS  
THE DEADLINE!*

**The *WalkTalk* Needs YOU!**

The *WalkTalk* needs your help to keep it informative, interesting and enjoyable to read. Please send your . . .

- ⇒ Emmaus information
- ⇒ Chrysalis information
- ⇒ Kairos information
- ⇒ any upcoming events
- ⇒ articles
- ⇒ personal reflections
- ⇒ 4<sup>th</sup> Day experiences
- ⇒ GAEC service opportunities/needs
- ⇒ Walk info
- ⇒ team info
- ⇒ Gathering info



. . . you get the idea! Anything you think the community needs to know, would be helpful to know, or would enjoy reading.

Send your news to

[WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org](mailto:WalkTalkEditor@austinemmaus.org)



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**Greater Austin Emmaus Community  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Manor UMC, September 7, 2017**

The meeting was held at Manor UMC, and was called to order at 5:46 p.m. by Rob Turk, who opened the meeting with prayer and presided over the meeting. The following directors were present: Rob Turk, Assistant Lay Director; Jeanne Randall, Secretary; Patti Bizzell, Treasurer; Mel Chambers, Upper Room Representative; Kristin Hampsten, Member Services Coordinator; Carl Fisher and Harold Sundbeck, Walk Support Coordinators; and Harold Sundbeck, Immediate Past Lay Director (non-voting). The following additional persons were also present: Chris McKemie, Kim Newman, and JoAnn Robison.

**QUORUM:** It was determined that 7 Directors were present, which did constitute a quorum.

**MINUTES** – The Board of Directors Meeting Minutes were sent by email for the previous meeting held on August 3, 2017. Corrections that had been submitted were made and a final draft was emailed and approved by the Board. Copies of the approvals are filed with the Minutes.

**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 provided detailed reports, by email, using the new bookkeeping system. Rob moved to accept the report as given, it was seconded by Mel and the motion passed. Patti moved that the Board approve the reconciled balances among Frost Bank, Aplos accounting system, and Drop Box for the month of August, 2017. Frost Bank balance is \$16,965.70. Fourteen pilgrims are registered for Walk #142. Mel Chambers seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

**WALK SUPPORT** – The Agape Signup is working well. The Prayer Vigil signup (mySignup.com) is not working well. Jeanne offered to convert it to the same format as the Agape Signup. Willie Maletta is still listed as the PV Coordinator, so that needs to be changed on the website.

**MEMBER SUPPORT** – Kristen has concerns about the complicated method of getting to important information on the website. Getting to the Yahoo group seems cumbersome, making it difficult to get information out to the Community.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR** – No report – Rev Chase has been in Columbus dealing with the aftermath of the flooding of his mother's home.

**OLD BUSINESS** – The title to the "ABC" trailer has disappeared. To finalize the transfer of the trailer to the Kairos Community, a new title and documentation of the transfer must be obtained. Jeanne will contact the former Lay Director of ABC to get a letter of transfer and start the process.

We still have no one to take over as Music Coordinator. Rob will try to curate a playlist that can be pulled up from Pandora in the absence of a Music Team for a Gathering.

The Board has listened to the views of the Community and voted to return to the following timeline for Gatherings. The motion was made by Harold and seconded by Mel. The motion passed. The Gathering will begin at 7 pm, followed by Worship and then the Agape Feast. We will announce it at the next three Gatherings and begin the new schedule in January 2018.

**NEW BUSINESS** – There was a discussion of the need to make a minor amendment to the Bylaws to allow the Past Lay Director to have a vote on all issues brought before the Board. The proposed change will be brought informally to the Community at the September Gathering and done formally at the October Gathering, to be voted on in November.

**WALK # 142 REPORT** – Kristin let us know that there are 14 confirmed Pilgrims for the Walk.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – the next Gathering will be at Covenant UMC.

**ADJOURNMENT** – motion was made that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

*Minutes recorded and submitted by Jeanne Randall*

## Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

Potluck at 6:00 p.m. Worship at 7:15 p.m.

### 2017/2018 Gatherings

#### October 5, 2017

Thursday, October 5, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Covenant UMC  
4410 Duval Road, Austin, 78727  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### November 2, 2017

Thursday, November 2, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Lake Travis UMC  
1502 North RM 620, Austin 78734  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### December 7, 2017

Thursday, December 7, 2017  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### January 5, 2018

Thursday, January 5, 2018  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### February 1, 2018

Thursday, February 1, 2018  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### March 1, 2018

Thursday, March 1, 2018  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### April 5, 2018

Thursday, April 5, 2018  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

#### May 3, 2018

Thursday, April 5, 2018  
Potluck Dinner at 6p, worship at 7:15p  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD

**To reserve childcare,  
send an email to:**

[BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org](mailto:BM4GatheringSupport@austinemmaus.org)

