



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



November, 2009

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 20, Number 11

Welcome New Pilgrims

**Women's Walk #1530
Oct. 22 - 25, 2009
Highland Lakes**

Dianna Ball-Soto
Carla Darce
Angela De Leon
Jane Denson
Fredda Gardner
Diane Garcia
Lisa Greinert
Sydney Heard
Jamie Holt
Brandace Hudson
Debbie Lamb
Marion Look-Jameson
Sandra May
Nancy McCain
Shelley McCannon
Mary Meoli-Johnson
Blaire Pierce
Donnie Reagan
Dana Ripley
Susan Sandberg
Nancy Simpson
Yvonne Stuart
Laura Thomson
Naomi Trejo
Nancy Wildberger



Two Questions

At the Sunday Closing ceremony for Walk 1530 Lay Director Joan asked the pilgrims two questions; the same two questions you were asked at your Closing.

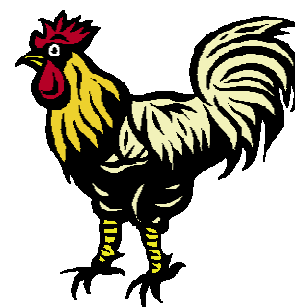
(1) "What has this Walk to Emmaus meant to me?"

(2) "What are you going to do about it?"

The euphoric pilgrims responded with expressions of joy from receiving overwhelming Christian love and vowed service and bible study. Do you remember your answers and commitments? Today, more than any time in the past, Emmaus needs your renewed commitment, the commitment to offer the love of Christ to others, the commitment to serve your Christian brothers and sisters, and the commitment sponsor pilgrim. You have two upcoming opportunities; a men's Walk in February and a women's Walk in April. Will you renew your commitment to serve your brothers and sisters? Will you sponsor a pilgrim? Will you make Agape? Will you be part of the Servant Team? Will you attend Candle Light? Will you Walk with Christ?

DeColores

Jack Foreman, Lay Director
Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group



Psalm 139 (NIV)

- 1 O LORD, you have searched me and you know me.
- 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.
- 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.
- 4 Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD.
- 5 You hem me in—behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

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

Weekend Follow-Up Coordinator

Lynn Hoermann

238-9554

lynn.hoermann@tdi.state.tx.us

Registration Liaison

Ted Shaw

989-3866

tedshaw@swbell.net

Database Coordinator

Bud Broeker

261-6001

bbroeker@austin.rr.com

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Kay Shout

Kayshout@yahoo.com

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Bonnie Harper

bonnieharper@earthlink.net

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 December is November 20th!

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 **83** attendees at the October 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 5!

We'll be looking for you!

2010 Austin Sponsored Walks

Men's Walk #1541 **February 11-14**

Keith Bible, Lay Director
Val Sansing, Spiritual Director
Don Greenway, Board Rep.
Beth Bible, ST Coordinator

contact: kbible@austin.rr.com

contact: lisbethmr@yahoo.com

Women's Walk #1556 **April 22-25**

Chris Weihl, Lay Director
Jeannie Whitehurst, Spiritual Director
Roxie Greenway, Board Rep.
Sandy Brooks, ST Coordinator

contact: cweihl@riverbend.com

contact: Sandy_brooks@dell.com

Men's Walk #1585 **October 7-11**

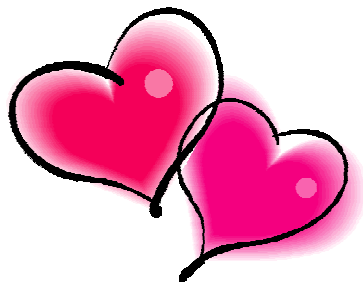
Gary Johnson, Lay Director
Jack Foreman, Board Rep.

contact: jcforeman@sbcglobal.net

Women's Walk #1599 **November 18-21**

Diane Merwarth, Lay Director
Cortney Smith, Board Rep.

contact: dianemerwarth@att.net



God Blesses us
everyday; go
out and share
the blessings.

Our Family: Together in Thanksgiving

With Thanksgiving approaching, we think of celebrating with our families, remembering the many blessings of the past. The ideal Thanksgiving dinner is a bountifully laden table with the family gathered around it.

Although there can be bickering and complaining, those who don't like certain foods, those who want to be excused to watch football, those who forget to show their appreciation to the cook, nagging and noise-making -- the psalmist describes how family togetherness can be a reality. "Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who walk in His ways" (Psalm 128). God sent His Son for us, who at the cross bridged all divisions between God and human beings, including families. God chooses us in our Baptism and brings us to faith in Christ. As we grow in faith, He fills us with reverence and obedience. By His power we reach out to our family at Thanksgiving and throughout the year.

What blessings flow from God to us by His grace! "You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table" (Psalm 128). By faith we rejoice in God's Thanksgiving blessings. Our family: together in thanksgiving.

With voices united our praises we offer And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us. To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

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, October 1, 2009, at Oak Hill UMC Church. In Attendance were: Jack Foreman, Lay Director; Gene McConnell, Assistant Lay Director; Bud Broeker, SWTC Board Representative; Diane Merwarth, Walk Support; Roxie Greenway; Treasurer, Cortney Smith, Chrysalis Representative; Bob Duplantis, Member Services Support; Sandy Brooks, Gathering Support; Rev. Georgia Stone, Spiritual Director and Leslie Smith, past Lay Director.

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by Lay Director Jack Foreman, with an opening Prayer by Roxie Greenway. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Bob Duplantis, with a second by Bud Broeker.

The finance report was presented by Roxie Greenway and approved on a motion by Bud Broeker, seconded by Bob Duplantis. Roxie reported that as of the end of September, the overall total balance of funds is at \$8,684.91. This is before refunding any fees back to team members of walk 1513. Roxie reported that she had already written numerous \$65.00 checks for scholarships for the upcoming walk 1530, as she thought she had authority to do that without board approval. She will send the board the names she wrote scholarship checks for and ask for board approval by e-mail. The results of that e-mail voting approval are that all scholarship checks written were approved by a unanimous vote of yes from all board members by e-mail. A motion was made by Bud Broeker and seconded by Bob Duplantis to offer scholarships of 1/2 pilgrim costs for any more pilgrims needing help to go on walk 1530. The motion passed.

Old Business:

Bud Broeker reported there was nothing new to report from conference.

Diane Merwarth reported that there was nothing new to report concerning childcare requirements.

Gene McConnell reported that host churches with 4th day speakers and music have been set for the rest of 2009 and that duties for securing host churches for 2010 have been turned over to Sandy Brooks, the new Gathering Support board member.

New Business:

There was an update of the transition of walk 1513 team for walk 1541 in February. It appears they plan to have 2 team meetings as they will have 3 new team members and 4 new talks to be reviewed. A motion was made by Bob Duplantis and seconded by Roxie Greenway for Bud Broeker to let the Lay Director, Keith Bible know the Board recommends they have two meetings, they hear the 4 new talks and hear a 5 minute synopsis of the other talks already given in past meetings. The motion passed.

The date of the next LLDO was confirmed for 10/03/09 with Bud Broeker, Jack Foreman and Sandy Brooks indicating they planned to attend.

The board decided to hold a special board meeting within the next two weeks to discuss what recommendations the board wants to make to conference concerning the Highland Lakes contract proposed for 2010 walks and also to discuss how to re-energize the Greater Austin Emmaus Community. The actual date will be decided by polling board members by e-mail to find the best date for everyone.

Jack Foreman requested \$200 be approved for ordering Emmaus marketing materials to be distributed to churches throughout GAE4DG. The motion was made by Bob Duplantis, seconded by Diane Merwarth and passed to use \$200 for purchasing Emmaus pamphlets for distribution.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM with a closing prayer by Rev Georgia Stone.

Minutes submitted by: Gene McConnell, Assistant Lay Director

The Church is not a building, We are the Church.

Our churches are made up of everyday people... not drywall or wood or brick; that's the building we gather in. A church is a "community of faith," meaning that the church can be out in the streets, or wherever "two or more are gathered," as Jesus told us. While the unique function of the church is worship, it is also its **members** gathering to celebrate God in their lives. When we pray together, make plans together, do volunteer work together, have worship services together, *that's church*. We are the members within our church.

One of the main purposes of the Emmaus movement is to strengthen disciples within the members of the church. The Walk to Emmaus is a powerful instrument to inspire and renew us by proving reunion groups, fourth day gatherings, and spiritual weekends so that we may serve others. We are called into Christian action by becoming more involved in our local church and community. We are the church in action - the hands and feet of Christ.

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

November 2009

Thursday, November 5, 2009
Northwest Hills UMC
7050 Village Center Dr.
Speaker: Diane Coleman

December 2009

Thursday, December 3, 2009
Tarrytown UMC
2601 Exposition Blvd.



Reminder: Childcare Services are available at all Gatherings.

Upcoming 2010 Dates:

January 2010

Thursday, January 7, 2010

February 2010

Thursday, February 4, 2010

March 2010

Thursday, March 4, 2010

April 2010

Thursday, April 1, 2010

May 2010

Thursday, May 6, 2010

**GAE4DG is now accepting
volunteer host churches and
speakers for the upcoming 2010
Gatherings.**

Contact:

Assistant Lay Director
Gene McConnell

gene.mcconnell@jicompanies.com