

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



January, 2012

http://www.austinemmaus.org

Volume 23, Number 1





Welcome New Pilgrims

Men's Walk #1640, October 20-23, 2011 Camp Young Judaea



Potential Sponsors!

Walk 1644 begins February 2nd and we need pilgrims for this walk!

Please give prayerful consideration to who you might sponsor for this walk and get the process moving as quickly as possible. Once again we challenge each Reunion Group to sponsor at least one pilgrim for this walk, the deadline for the walk is approaching and we need to have at least 20 pilgrims by the 19th of January. This challenge, of course, extends to individuals as well. Let's get busy and get the pilgrim applications in to the SWTX Emmaus Registrar.

Don't forget that the Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group has 1/3 scholarships available, download the form at http://www.austinemmaus.org/reg.php. Also check with your local church for other scholarship opportunities. Do not let cost stand in the way of a potential pilgrim, talk to your board members on ways to help.

Camp Young Judaea

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group (GAE4DG) is currently holding walks at Camp Young Judaea (CYJ) in Wimberley, TX. CYJ is a Jewish camp whose primary purpose is to hold summer camp for youth. In their off season it is available for use as a conference center. CYJ is a very nice campus and we have been welcomed there with open arms by the staff; they have gone out of their way to accommodate us.

It is important for our Emmaus community to be aware that the building that houses the dining hall, common room and the arts & crafts room is kept Kosher. In other words, they have strict rules dictated by the kosher tradition that are followed in this building. The common room is the room in which we hold our candlelight and closing ceremonies; thus, we need to be very careful when using this building so that we don't violate the kosher environment that has been created there. Because kosher is not something that we generally are aware of or even understand, GAE4DG has chosen to err on the safe side when occupying this building.

Therefore, please be aware that we can't allow any food products of any kind to enter this building. This includes gum, candy, snacks, coffee, soft drinks and even bottles of water. PLEASE, be sure to leave any food items you may have with you in your car upon arriving at the site for either candlelight or closing. The servant team will remind you at the door just in case and there will be a garbage can available for disposal. If the kosher environment is violated it is a major undertaking to return it to its kosher state, GAE4DG doesn't want to be responsible for any violations of the environment.

Bob Duplantis, GAE4DG Board Member

Page 1 GAE4DG Newsletter

Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group 2011/2012 Board of Directors and Volunteers

Lay Director

Sandy Brooks Sandy@gae4dg.org

Spiritual Director

Rev. Cheryl Broome Cheryl@gae4dg.org

4th Day Board Representative

Roxie Greenway Roxie@gae4dg.org

Assistant Lay Director

Gary Johnson
Gary@gae4dg.org

Board Member for Gathering Support

Myles McKemie Myles@gae4dg.org

Board Member for Walk Support

Bobby Callison Bobby@gae4dg.org

Board Member for Member Services

Bob@gae4dg.org

Treasurer

Anne Rioux Anne@gae4dg.org

Immediate Past Lay Director

Gene@gae4dg.org

Chrysalis Representative

Kathy Robbins krobbins100@yahoo.com

Registration Liaison

Ted Shaw tedshaw@swbell.net

Database Coordinator

Bud Broeker bbroeker@austin.rr.com

Prayer Vigil Coordinator

Dana Ripley rip@sbcglobal.net

Food/Gift Agape Coordinator

Tom Rioux rioux@mail.utexas.edu

Music Coordinators

Nickie Hyde and Tom Carstarphen nickie.ji@yahoo.com

Walk Talk Editor

Gina Franklin franklingdom@gmail.com



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



The Walk Talk Deadline is on the 20th of each month!

Please send your articles, Community Opportunities, 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?

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 gathering schedule on the last page!

We'll be looking for **you!**

Page 2 GAE4DG Newsletter

2012 Austin Sponsored Walks

Women's Walk # 1644 February 2-5

Robbie Cripe, Lay Director Madeline Henners, Spiritual Director Sandy Brooks, Board Rep. Anne Rioux, ST Coordinator Tom Rioux, ST Coordinator

Men's Walk # 1659 May 3-6

Bud Broker, Lay Director Ray Kaiser, Spiritual Director Gary Johnson, Board Rep. Myles McKemie, ST Coordinator

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

contact: rjcripe1@austin.rr.com

contact: Sandy@gae4dg.org contact: Anne@gae4dg.org contact: rioux@mail.utexas.edu

Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley

contact: bbroeker@austin.rr.com

contact: <u>Gary@gae4dg.org</u> contact: <u>Myles@gae4dg.org</u>

Agape Signup Online

The signup for Women's Walk to Emmaus #1644 is: www.mysignup.com/walk1644agape

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.

King of Kings

Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?

Matt 2:2

The Wise Men were wise, of course, but they did make an honest mistake. Because they were looking for the King of the Jews, they went to Jerusalem, the city of the king. The Wise Men had seen the star announcing the King's birth, and they went to the most likely place in which one might find a king. The infant King was not in Jerusalem, but King Herod was, and he was alarmed about the possible threat to his throne. But the new King would grow up to defeat different powers than those wielded by Herod. The new born King was not only the King of the Jews, but he was also the King of all nations. He was, and is, the King of kings. Jesus would defeat the powers of sin, death, and the devil.

It made perfect sense for the Wise Men to look for the king in Jerusalem. But God does not always work in ways that make perfect sense to us. Jesus, the King of kings, would not lead soldiers into battle to defeat His enemies. The infant King grew up to hang in apparent defeat on the cross. Then, after the third day after His death, He rose in victory. Jesus' enemies, and our enemies, of sin, death, and the devil were defeated by His death and resurrection. If you are looking for the King, look to the cross and the empty tomb.

Jesus, our King, help us to seek You. Amen!

De Colores! Gerard Kern

Page 3 GAE4DG Newsletter

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

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Board of Directors met on Thursday, November 3, 2011, at Northwest Hills United Methodist Church. In attendance were: Sandy Brooks-Lay Director; Cheryl Broome-Spiritual Director; Gary Johnson-Assistant Lay Director; Gene McConnell-Past Lay Director; Roxie Greenway-4th Day Representative; Bob Duplantis-Member Services; Myles McKemie-Gathering Support; Bobby Callison-Walk Support; and Tom Rioux-Food/Gift Agape Coordinator. Also in attendance was Jack Foreman.

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 by Sandy Brooks. Reverend Cheryl Broome gave the opening prayer.

Gary Johnson presented the minutes to the October Board Meeting. Roxie made a motion to accept and Myles seconded. The minutes were adopted.

Bob Duplantis, acting for Anne Rioux, presented the Treasurers Report. Bob discussed a \$165.00 plumbing from the recent Walk. It involved the rental of a porta potty used as a supplemental bathroom outside the conference room. Bob moved that the report be adopted and Gary Johnson seconded. The treasurer's report was adopted.

Roxie Greenway presented the notes from the SWTC Emmaus meeting she recently attended. Myles McKemie made a motion to accept the notes and Bob Duplantis seconded. The notes were accepted.

Cheryl Broome discussed the issue of how we might cooperate with the Hays Praise Emmaus Group in filling and staffing walks. Hays Praise is having some difficulty in obtaining team members, and the Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group has had some recent challenges in obtaining sufficient pilgrims. There might be a possibility of the two groups working together to meet the needs of both groups. [There was a discussion of having "combined walks" with them, but that would mean that we would lose two walks per year. Also, given our positive experience with the marketing plan conducted during the summer of 2011, we should be able to have our walks make with at least 25 pilgrims.] With a further discussion it was agreed that Cheryl will contact Hays Praise to see how we can coordinate our Walk support efforts. Also, she will discuss with them the possibility of having a Board liaison attend each other's Board meetings.

Roxie Greenway led a discussion of the Walk leadership for the second half of 2012. This involves the Spiritual Director for the Fall 2012 men's Walk.

Sandy Brooks led a discussion of how an ex officio member could be selected to fill the role of Board Representative on future walks. Sandy advised that by resolution, the Board can select a Board Representative for a Walk. A record of this selection would be kept by the Assistant Lay Director, and also the Board should have such resolution published in the same way the Board minutes are published.

Sandy led the discussion of an updating of the bylaws and a draft of the rewrite was reviewed and discussed. From previous Board meetings, these changes were being made in part, to provide that the Treasurer is to be a voting member of the Board. In addition, there was a discussion to also provide in the bylaws for the Ex Lay Director of the Community to also be a voting member. Roxie said that she would research this issue.

Gary Johnson provided an update on the effort to request a 501(c)(3) status for the Austin Emmaus Fourth Day Group, and that the by-laws would need to have boilerplate language inserted into the provisions stating that he organization is created as a non-profit and stating what the organization would is prohibited from doing. Based on his research, the bylaws should state that the organization is created to conform with the requirements of a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Myles McKemie, Gathering Support, reported that he had no updates to report, and that he was still working on sponsors for the February and May gatherings. The gathering for December will be at Parker Lane UMC.

Jack Foreman gave the Lay Director's Report for Walk 1640. He said that it was the "best walk ever" and that the facilities were great, the use of the porta potties worked well, that they focused on keeping talks to 25 minutes, and he thanked the Board for all the support it provided in making this a very successful Walk. Jack said the he supports the use of CDs for the take home packet, but that apparently some of the CDs were found to be defective in that they could not be read. He also said that they had 40 people at the Welcome Back" and he thanked Tom Rioux for his maintaining the "My Sign Up," in that it worked very well. Jack said that the Candlelight was great, and Gary Johnson added that there were 205 that attended.

Gene McConnell provided the Board Rep report. He said that one of the clergy for the walk was not on the approved list, but that this was apparently just a matter of paperwork not being updated to the system. He also said that the facilities were excellent. He also said that the "Zoid" needs restrooms and that it is still rather loud. He also added that the outside team for the next walk did come in and pack the trailer and took inventory of the supplies. Gene also said that we need a list on each walk of what should be on the conference room tables (check list) in that there is a problem with consistency.

Cheryl gave the closing prayer and the Board adjourned at 7:17. There were 137 in attendance at the Gathering.

Submitted by Gary Johnson

Page 4 GAE4DG Newsletter

Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

2012 Gatherings

January 2012

Thursday, January 5, 2012 First UMC Austin 1201 Lavaca Street

February 2012

**Thursday, February 9, 2012 Cedar Park UMC 600 W. Park Street

March 2012

Thursday, March 1, 2012 St. Mark UMC 601 W. Braker Lane

April 2012

**Thursday, April 12, 2012 Lake Travis UMC 1502 N. Ranch Road 620

May 2012

**Thursday, May 10, 2012



** Please note these Gatherings are on the second Thursday of the month due to schedule conflicts.

Reminder:

Childcare Services are available at all Gatherings.

Contact:

Board Member for Gathering Support

Myles McKemie

myles.mckemie@ergon.com

Page 5 GAE4DG Newsletter