



# The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



January 2014

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 25, Number 1

## A Word from the Lay Director — Reflections

When did I get so old? Where did these wrinkles come from? These are the questions I ask when I see my reflection in a mirror or in a close-up photograph. No, Mr. DeMille, I am NOT ready for that!

Likewise, reflecting on the year gone by can be shocking. Sometimes the shocks are wonderful – news of a friend getting a job after months of unemployment; the announcement of a niece that she is pregnant again; taking the trip of a lifetime. Others, well, not so much – the loss of a loved one, especially if it’s a child; the inability to forgive another’s trespass against me; seeing one’s health decline.

As we round the turn from 2013 to 2014 and reflect on the events of the past year with respect to our community, holding the mirror up to our “Emmaus life” reflects both our challenges and accomplishments. On one hand, we have seen declines in participation at Gatherings, sponsorship of pilgrims, and attendance at Candlelight. On the other hand, we have seen an amazing “first time in years” of a Walk that received 36+ pilgrim applications resulting in a waiting list! Indeed, the Walks that “barely made it” were met with joy and gratitude by the pilgrims who attended.

As we approach 2014 I renew my commitment to work with our amazing Board to “think out of the box” when it comes to how we promote Walks and how we conduct Gatherings. A friend recently talked about “mindfulness” in what we do and say. I would add to that, the quality of truly listening. Thanks to all of you for stepping up and working with us to re-ignite the spark that made us love Emmaus in the first place.

I close with one of my very favorite Scripture verses from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18: “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

**De Colores!**  
**Anne Rioux**  
**Lay Director, Greater Austin Emmaus**



## Nominations for Board Positions Needed for June 2014 Board of Directors

We need nominations for a woman to fill the position of Assistant Lay Director (a 3-year term transitioning to Lay Director in 2015, and to Immediate Past Lay Director in 2016). Any questions should be directed to Anne Rioux at [anne@austinemmaus.org](mailto:anne@austinemmaus.org).

We also need two persons to fill the positions of Board Member for Walk Support and for Prayer Vigil Coordinator, both 3-year terms. Any questions should be directed to Bobby Callison at [bobby@austinemmaus.org](mailto:bobby@austinemmaus.org).

In our 2013 Survey there were 14 people who indicated an interest in serving on our Board. Well, now is your chance!!! It’s OK to nominate yourself!



## Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group 2014 Board of Directors and Volunteers

**Lay Director**

Anne Rioux

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

**Spiritual Director**

Rev. Cheryl Broome

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

**Assistant Lay Director**

Mel Chambers

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

**Board Member for Gathering Support**

LeeLeen Sundbeck

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

**Board Member for Walk Support**

Bobby Callison

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

**Board Member for Member Services**

Jim Burgess

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

**Treasurer**

Debby Duplantis

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Day Board Representative**

Tom Rioux

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

**Immediate Past Lay Director**

Gary Johnson

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

**Chrysalis Representative**

Tim Deschner

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

**Registration Liaison**

Tom Rioux

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

**Database Coordinator**

Tom Rioux

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

**Prayer Vigil Coordinator**

Bobby Callison

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

**Food/Gift Agape Coordinator**

Tom Rioux

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

**Music Coordinator**

Tom Carstarphen

[tomc4041@yahoo.com](mailto:tomc4041@yahoo.com)

**WalkTalk Editor**

Kellye Noret

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



**2013 Financial Statement**

Bank Balance – 12/31/13	\$ 5,898.11
Deposits during 2013	\$26,769.40
Expenditures during 2013	<u><u>(\$28,243.00)</u></u>

Bank Balance – 12/31/2013 \$ 4,424.51

Offering collected at December gathering = \$144.50

Childcare for December gathering = \$30.00

Scholarship Fund balance as of 12/31/13 = \$726.00

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



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

Please send your articles, Community Opportunities,  
4th Day Stories, Group appreciation and reflections to

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

**75 in attendance at the December Gathering!  
The 4<sup>th</sup> Day Speaker was Xylia Gomez.**

Check out the Gathering schedule on the last page!  
They are normally the first Thursday of the month.

Childcare available.

## 2014 Austin Sponsored Emmaus Walks

### **Men's Walk # 1740      February 27—March 2      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

Paul Draper, Lay Director      contact: [Paul@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Paul@austinemmaus.org)

Tom Deviney, Spiritual Director

Ed White, Board Rep.      contact: [Ed@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Ed@austinemmaus.org)

Teresa Edwards, ST Coordinator      contact: [Teresa@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Teresa@austinemmaus.org)

*Welcome Back, March 4, 2014, 6:30, Bethany UMC, 10010 Anderson Mill Rd., Austin, 78750, 512-258-6017*

### **Women's Walk # 1749      April 24—27, 2014      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

Susan Curtis, Lay Director      contact: [Susan@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Susan@austinemmaus.org)

Spiritual Director TBD

Diane Merwarth, Board Rep.      contact: [Diane@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Diane@austinemmaus.org)

Myles McKemie, ST Coordinator      contact: [Myles@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Myles@austinemmaus.org)

*Welcome Back, April 29, 2014, 6:30, Berkeley UMC, 2407 Berkeley Avenue, Austin, 78745, 512-447-6633*

### **Men's Walk # 1758      August 21—24, 2014      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

David Graham, Lay Director      contact: [David@austinemmaus.org](mailto:David@austinemmaus.org)

Spiritual Director TBD

Mel Chambers, Board Rep.      contact: [Mel@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Mel@austinemmaus.org)

ST Coordinator TBD

*Welcome Back TBD*

### **Women's Walk # 1775      November 13—16, 2014      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

Ronee Gilbert, Lay Director      contact: [Ronee@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Ronee@austinemmaus.org)

Spiritual Director TBD

Lynn Magee, Board Rep.      contact: [Lynn@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Lynn@austinemmaus.org)

ST Coordinator TBD

*Welcome Back TBD*



## Update on Men's Walk #1740

The upcoming Men's Walk to Emmaus has been in preparation for months, and there are only a few months left to go! The Walk will take place at Camp Young Judaea, February 27 – March 2. We welcome all pilgrims, and now is the time to get the applications in! The Lay Director for the weekend is Paul Draper, the Spiritual Director is Rev. Tom Deviney, the Servant Team Coordinator is Teresa Edwards, and our Emmaus Board Rep. is Ed White.

Sponsorship is a blessing, especially if there is someone you know – someone you've had your sights on for a while – that you think would be inspired, reinvigorated, made suddenly alive in Christ by the experience of a Walk to Emmaus. Think of the person who did this for you. Think of the people who you know who have gone on a Walk and who have since blossomed in their faith and works.

**De Colores!**

**Paul Draper, Lay Director**

## Update on Women's Walk #1749

The team for Walk #1749 will begin their meetings on January 11<sup>th</sup>, to prepare for a wonderful Women's Walk on April 24-27 at Camp Young Judaea in Wimberley. We already have several pilgrims registered, but there's still room for more! NOW is the time to talk to those potential pilgrims and get them registered for the walk. As a friend said, "This is a wonderful opportunity which happens only twice a year in the Austin area, and there are a limited number of spaces available. So don't wait – do it now!"

**De Colores!**

**Susan Curtis, Lay Director**

### Men's Walk #1720

Walk #1720 took place September 26 – 29 at Camp Young Judaea with Bob Duplantis as Lay Director, Tina Carter as Spiritual Director, and Jack Forman as Board Rep.

#### Pilgrims

Greg Burk  
Warren Chirhart  
Charles Christopher  
Jeff Dach  
Daniel Davis  
Jason Duplantis  
Albert Fakoya  
Lou Goodall  
Jerry Gordon  
David Highland  
Rick Hoenerhoff  
Rocky Howard  
Larry Hupman  
Curtis Jarrell  
Gordon Jones  
Dale Kilsby  
J.J. Koons  
Jerry Lehmann  
Ken Morgan  
Nick Oswald  
Ray Rang  
Shane Robinson  
Mam Te  
Htaik Toe  
Bill Vanecek

#### Conference Room Team

Tim Abel  
Kent Baxley  
Randy Beaver  
Keith Bible  
Cokie Brownlee  
Tina Carter  
Mel Chambers  
Kermit Counts  
Jay Dolfuss  
Bob Duplantis  
Dave Felps  
Carl Fisher  
Jack Foreman  
David Graham  
Tom Green  
Tommy Horndt  
Sam Johnson  
Ray Kiser  
Wade Lindstrom  
John Maxwell  
Myles McKemie  
Jon Nelson  
Michael Rayos  
Arnie Waden

### Women's Walk #1730

Walk #1730 took place November 7 – 10 at Camp Young Judaea and had 34 pilgrims, 25 inside team members and 14 outside team members. Lay Director was Tonna Marcyes, Spiritual Director was Dick West, and Board Rep. was Roxie Greenway.



The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group is sponsoring a reunion for the following Walks: Men's Walk #54 (9/10/1987, LD Clint Smith), Women's Walk #594 (9/18/1997, LD Sharon Zimberg) and Women's Walk #1268 (11/10/2005, LD Sherrie Raven) at the January 2<sup>nd</sup> Gathering. If you were a pilgrim or team member on one of these Walks, we hope you'll come to the January 2<sup>nd</sup> Gathering at St. Mark's UMC!

**Greater Austin Emmaus 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group  
Board of Directors' Monthly Meeting  
Parker Lane United Methodist Church, Austin  
Thursday, December 5, 2013**

The following were in attendance: Anne Rioux, Lay Director; Debby Duplantis, Treasurer; Tom Rioux, 4<sup>th</sup> Day Board Representative; Bobby Callison, Board Member for Walk Support. The following were also in attendance: Ed White, Tonna Marcyes, Roxie Greenway, Paul Draper, and Lois Draper. Because there was not a quorum of voting Board members, all motions were tabled until email votes could be procured.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Anne Rioux. Ed White opened with prayer.

The minutes for the November 2013 Board meeting were unavailable.

Debby Duplantis presented the Treasurer's Report. Tom Rioux moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Bobby Callison seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board via email.

Tom Rioux moved that Lynn Magee be approved as Board Representative for Walk #1775 (LD Ronee Gilbert). Anne Rioux seconded the motion which was carried unanimously by email vote of the Board.

Tom Rioux also raised the cost of supplying port-a-potties to Walks (currently \$165 for delivery and pick-up of two) as one that is a "hidden expense" to a Walk. He suggested that future Servant Team Coordinators should explain this to the community at Candlelights. Roxie Greenway suggested that future Conference contracts with Camp Young Judaea might include this service, as the access to bathrooms is very limited with respect to keeping the Walks on schedule versus time for bathroom breaks. Although the new conference room in the New Health Center at CYJ is very well-appointed and has good bathroom access, it is too small for use as the Conference Room on Walks. Tom Rioux's motion for asking Lay Directors to get prior approval for using port-a-potties was tabled until the January Board meeting.

Current dates for Gatherings through April 2014 are:

- January 2, St. Mark's UMC
- February 6, Bethany UMC (Walk #1740 Team Commissioning)
- March 6, St. John's UMC
- April 3, Berkeley UMC (Walk #1749 Team Commissioning)

Bobby Callison reported that he has been in discussion with Wimberley UMC about providing child care for Candlelights. He also reported that as of our meeting the Prayer Vigils web page from Conference had not been set up yet.

Walk Reports:

- #1730 – Tonna Marcyes and Roxie Greenway reported that they were convinced that it was a combination of the recruiting of pilgrims by all 5 Spiritual Directors for the Walk, as well as the team and community, that made it fill to overflowing.
- #1740 – Paul Draper reported that there are 4 pilgrims signed up for the Walk. He is also searching for a Servant Team Coordinator.

Several ideas were made about encouraging sponsorship for all Walks:

- All team members should recruit pilgrims with a co-sponsor handling the weekend duties
- The Lay Directors should write personally to all Austin District/GAE4DG pastors inviting them to encourage members to attend the Walks
- The Lay Directors should ask team members to contact their respective pastors about suggested recruits for pilgrims
- The Lay Directors should be in continuous communication with their teams about pilgrim counts.

The Board agreed to host a city-wide "Emmaus Sunday" on January 26, 2014 for the 2 Spring Walks. Anne Rioux also suggested we have a Board retreat soon and include musicians from our entire list to be part of the retreat. The aim of the retreat will be to discuss 1) details of the 2013 Survey and comments, 2) how to improve attendance at Gatherings and Candlelights, and 3) ways to increase sponsorship.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Roxie Greenway.

*Respectfully submitted by Anne Rioux*



**Did you know all of this great info is available on our website?!**

**<http://www.austinemmaus.org>**

Sign up for GAE4DG E-mails for latest information on Gatherings, Walks, and other important information (this list is moderated so there should be no spam) <http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “E-Mail Subscriptions” then [AustinEmmaus-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:AustinEmmaus-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

See information on upcoming Walks  
<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Walks”

See information on upcoming Gatherings  
<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Gatherings”

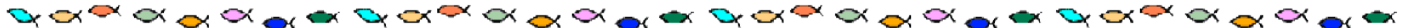
Submit a Conference Room Team Application (update when contact information changes and every 3 years)  
<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Team Application”

Read the latest *WalkTalk*  
<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “WalkTalk” then “Latest WalkTalk”

For information on Sponsoring a Pilgrim  
<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Downloads” then “Sponsor Information”

To contact someone on the GAE4DG Board of Directors  
<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Board of Directors”

To submit an article for the *WalkTalk*  
<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “WalkTalk” then [WalkTalk Editor](#) near the bottom



## 2013 Survey Results Available

**<http://www.austinemmaus.org> then “Downloads” then “GAE4DG 2013 Survey” at the bottom**

If you were one of the 14 people who responded “Yes” or you were one of the 27 people who responded “Need more information” to Survey question 23 “I would like to serve as a Board Member for the Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group”, we need nominations for 2 BOD positions and 1 support position as follows:

**Assistant Lay Director** – for more information about this position, please contact the GAE4DG Assistant Lay Director Mel Chambers at [Mel@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Mel@austinemmaus.org)

**Board Member for Walk Support** – for more information about this position, please contact the Board Member for Walk Support Bobby Callison at [Bobby@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Bobby@austinemmaus.org)

**Prayer Vigil Coordinator** – for more information about this position, please contact the Board Member for Walk Support Bobby Callison at [Bobby@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Bobby@austinemmaus.org)

Board of Directors (BOD) members serve a 3-year term, with new people starting June 1, 2014. Feel free to nominate yourself!



## Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

### 2014 Gatherings

#### January 2014

Thursday, January 2, 2014  
St. Mark UMC  
601 W. Braker Lane, 78753  
*4th Day Speaker Alana Oehler*

#### February 2014

Thursday, February 6, 2014  
Bethany UMC  
10010 Anderson Mill Rd., 78750  
*Walk #1740 team commissioning*

#### March 2014

Thursday, March 6, 2014  
St. John's UMC  
2140 Allandale Rd., 78756

#### April 2014

Thursday, April 3, 2014  
Berkeley UMC  
2407 Berkeley Ave., 78745  
*Walk #1749 team commissioning*

#### May 2014

Date TBD  
Location TBD

#### June 2014

Thursday, June 5, 2014  
Location TBD



#### Reminder:

Childcare Services are available  
at all Gatherings.

#### Contact:

**Board Member for Gathering Support**  
LeeLeen Sundbeck  
[LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org](mailto:LeeLeen@austinemmaus.org)