



## The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group Newsletter



December 2014

<http://www.austinemmaus.org>

Volume 25, Number 12

### “If We Schedule It, We Will Ask!”

I would like to welcome the ladies of Walk #1775 to our community. I hope you find a reunion group, and I hope to see you at the next Gathering on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at Oak Hill United Methodist Church. Singing starts at 7:00 pm.

As I stated last month, we have to ask someone to attend a Walk to be successful. The success of future Walks depends on it. We as a community voted to keep the September Men's Walk. Now is the time to start asking someone! Ask them which would be better for them: to go on a Walk in February or in September (Men's walks or April or November for Women's Walk) Then follow that with “I need to sign you up now to save you some money.” Remember — “**If we schedule it, we will ask!**” All we need to do is ask, God and the Holy Spirit will do the rest. I have faith in you that you will do the easy part.

I had a dream, I was at Candlelight and there were so many people that we lined the walkway. The line started at the conference room and went to the chapel. And the brightness of the chapel was blinding. That light in the chapel was dim compared to the glow that everyone's faces gave off. I felt lonely and scared as I stood in the dark chapel after everyone had filed out. Now close your eyes and visualize that statement. Powerful! Now let's make it a reality in February.

I wish all of you a safe and Merry Christmas. Happy New Year, too! Go and spread God's love to all.

**DeColores!**  
**Melvin Chambers**  
**Lay Director, GAE4DG**



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

## Lay Director

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## Board Member for Walk Support

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## Board Member for Member Services

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## Treasurer

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## 4th Day Board Representative

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## WalkTalk Editor

Kellye Noret

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



## Financial Statement

as of 10/31/14

### Bank Balance

\$1,291.21

(unencumbered funds)

### Scholarship Fund

\$1,518.17

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, information, community  
opportunities, 4th Day experiences/reflections to:

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

**75 attended the November Gathering at  
Wesley UMC, with Diana Everett  
giving an amazing 4<sup>th</sup> Day talk!**

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

## 2014 — 2015 Austin Sponsored Emmaus Walks

### **Men's Walk #1778                      February 19 — 22, 2015                      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

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

Jim Austin, Spiritual Director

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

ST Coordinator TBD

*Welcome Back, Feb. 24, 2015, 6:30, Westlake UMC, 1460 Redbud Trail, Austin, 512-327-1335*

*Walk #1778 Agape Signup <http://www.mysignup.com/walk1778agape>*

### **Women's Walk #1789                      April 23 — 26, 2015                      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

Debby Krueger, Lay Director                      contact: [Debby@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Debby@austinemmaus.org)

Tina Carter, Spiritual Director

Anne Rioux, Board Rep.                      contact: [Anne@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Anne@austinemmaus.org)

### **Men's Walk #1803                      Sept. 10 — 13, 2015                      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

Myles McKemie, Lay Director                      contact: [Myles@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Myles@austinemmaus.org)

Spiritual Director TBD

Tom Rioux, Board Rep.                      contact: [Tom@austinemmaus.org](mailto:Tom@austinemmaus.org)

ST Coordinator, Chris McKemie                      contact: [Chris@austin.emmaus.org](mailto:Chris@austin.emmaus.org)

### **Women's Walk #1819                      Nov. 12 — 15, 2015                      Camp Young Judaea, Wimberley**

LD, SD, And BR to be determined



If you would like to be considered for the Conference Room Team for any Walk, please submit a Team Application. You can download one by going to this link below.

[http://www.austinemmaus.org/team\\_app.php](http://www.austinemmaus.org/team_app.php)

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## Divine Foolishness

*For this message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart (1 Corinthians 1:18-19).*

Paul wrote this to the Corinthians who were going astray. They were smitten with the elegant formulas of the Greek philosophers. They had become boastful, and Paul had to remind them that not many of them were wise or powerful or noble according to the standards of the world.

The Corinthians had begun to believe that their own effort and understanding was the basis of their life and faith. (It's clear they had not read Martin Luther's explanation of the third article of the Apostles' Creed!)

The foolishness of the cross is not just that the brutal and humiliating crucifixion of Jesus is actually the way God's love was manifested, but that God's love is so complete. This is the overwhelming simplicity of God. God loves us completely. There is no way or any need to dress that up. It just is.

This is not to discount secular best practices or expertise. Heaven knows the church can learn a lot from the business world. But it is to say that our starting point is our helplessness. We need to get human agency out of the way.

Theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote that discipleship is "not hero worship but intimacy with Christ." Strangely, that intimacy actually propels us out into the world. In God's love we have been given our life so that, in love, we can give our life away. That is divine foolishness.

**De Colores!**  
**Gerard Kern**



### Upcoming Walk

**Men's Walk to Emmaus #1778**  
**February 19-22, 2015**  
**Camp Young Judaea**

**Lay Director, David Graham**  
**Spiritual Director, Jim Austin**  
**Board Rep., Mel Chambers**

Please be in prayer for this Walk, and also about how you can help with agape needs.

*Agape Signup*

<http://www.mysignup.com/walk1778agape>



### Walk Reunions

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4th Day Group is sponsoring reunions for the following Walks at the December 4<sup>th</sup> Gathering at Oak Hill UMC:

**Men's Walk #193, 4/11/91, Ingram**  
*(LD Tom Bettes)*

**Women's Walk #750, 7/22/99, Moyer Center**  
*(LD Carolyn Jane Bingham)*

**Men's Walk #1485 2/26/09, McKinney Roughs**  
*(LD Jim Anthony)*

If you were a pilgrim or team member on one of these Walks, we hope to see you on December 4<sup>th</sup>!



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**Greater Austin Emmaus 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wesley United Methodist Church**  
**Thursday, November 6, 2014**

The regular meeting of the GAE4DG Board was held on November 6, 2014 commencing at 6:08pm at Wesley UMC. The meeting was called to order by Mel Chambers and the opening prayer was given by Mel. Present at the meeting were Mel Chambers, Lay Director; Chris McKemie, Assistant Lay Director; Anne Rioux, Immediate Past Lay Director; Tom Rioux, SWTC Board Representative; Debby Duplantis, Treasurer; Carl Fisher, Board Member for Walk Support. Ronee Gilbert, Lay Director for Women's Walk #1775, Lynn Magee, Board Representative for Walk #1775, Myles McKemie, STC for Walk #1775, and David Graham, Lay Director for Walk #1758 were also present.

**Minutes:** The Board approved the October Minutes by email.

**Treasurer's Report:** Debby Duplantis presented the treasurer's report. It was accepted and approved by the Board.

**SWTC Board Representative's Report:** Tom Rioux reported team selection for Women's Walk #1789 will be held on November 20, 2014 at 7:00pm. Location to be determined.

**Gathering Support:** LeeLeen Sundbeck was not in attendance and no report was given.

**Member Support:** Jim Burgess was not in attendance and no report was given.

**Walk Support:** Carl Fisher reported that 2/3 of prayer lists are completed and an agape list will be passed out at tonight's Gathering with emphasis on pillow and table agape. Candlelight for Walk #1775 is all in place with Leander UMC's Praise Band singing for Candlelight. No childcare will be available for Candlelight.

**Immediate Past Lay Director Report:** Anne Rioux remains in contact with Gary Johnson about 501(c)3.

**Spiritual Director:** Rev. Cheryl Broome was not in attendance and no report was given.

**Chrysalis Report:** Tim Deschner was not in attendance and no report was given.

**Walk #1775 Report:** Ronee Gilbert reported all is wonderful. The Walk has made with 26 Pilgrims and possibly 27 by the time the Walk starts.

**Walk #1778:** David Graham reported Walk #1778 needs a STC and a few Conference Room team members. The first team meeting will be held this coming Saturday.

**Old Business:** Tom Rioux discussed possible changes to be made to the Walk schedule for ADL rotation. A discussion followed. David Graham suggested that this be done on Walk #1778 so the BOD could have input about rotation from a walk. Tom Rioux made a motion that the ALD's rotate on Walk #1778, Mel Chambers seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**New/Other Business:** Scholarships will be given for Walk #1778 with the first 21 pilgrims receiving a 1/3 scholarship.

Emmaus Sunday will be held January 11, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm by Mel Chambers and Mel gave the closing prayer.

*Minutes submitted by Chris McKemie, Assistant Lay Director*



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## Seeking Nominations for GAE4DG Positions

The Greater Austin Emmaus 4<sup>th</sup> Day Group Nominations Committee, chaired by the Assistant Lay Director Chris McKemie, is seeking volunteers to be on the Nominations Committee, and volunteers who are interested in serving on the Board of Directors and in Support Positions. The following Board of Director positions will be up for election this Spring:

- Assistant Lay Director (the current Assistant Lay Director will automatically become the Lay Director and the current Lay Director will automatically become the Immediate Past Lay Director)
- Board Member for Member Services (3-year term)
- 4th Day Board Representative (3-year term)
- Treasurer (3-year term)

The duties can be found in the Bylaws at [www.austinemmaus.org](http://www.austinemmaus.org), then “Board of Directors” then in the bottom left “Bylaws.” Also needed are people for the following support positions:

- Food/Gift Agape Coordinator
- Music Coordinator

Please contact Lay Director Mel Chambers at [LayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:LayDirector@austinemmaus.org) or Assistant Lay Director Chris McKemie at [AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org](mailto:AssistantLayDirector@austinemmaus.org) for more info.

*Silent night,  
holy night,  
wondrous star,  
lend thy light,  
with the angels,  
let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!*



## Upcoming Greater Austin Emmaus Gatherings

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

### 2014/2015 Gatherings

#### December 4, 2014

Thursday, December 4, 2014  
Oak Hill UMC  
7815 Hwy 290 West, Austin, 78736  
4th Day Speaker Frank Goodloe  
*Reunion for Walks #193, #750, #1485*  
**Childcare available by [reservation](#)**

#### March 5, 2015

Thursday, March 5, 2015  
Location TBD  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #226, #792, #1541*

#### January 8, 2015

Thursday, January 8, 2015  
First UMC Cedar Park  
600 West Park St., Cedar Park, 78613  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Reunion for Walks #209, #758, #1497*

#### April 2, 2015

Thursday, April 2, 2015  
First UMC Pflugerville  
500 East Pecan St., Pflugerville, 78660  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Women's Walk #1789 team commissioning*  
*Reunion for Walks #237, #814, #1555*

#### February 5, 2015

Thursday, February 5, 2015  
Westlake UMC  
1460 Redbud Trail, Austin, 78746  
4th Day Speaker TBD  
*Men's Walk #1778 team commissioning*  
*Reunion for Walks #218, #786, #1530*

**Childcare available at all Gatherings!**

#### Contact:

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