Grace for Today

G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus

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Next Gathering May 20th Camp Gilmont

For more information on the gathering or if you have a special skill contact

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COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Our April Gathering is now behind us, and I hope that everyone was blessed as much as I was as we listened to our new 4th Dayers give their testimonies. A special 'thank you' goes out to both Hank Resler and Talia Epps who welcomed the Babe Chicks in the training session. Also, a big thank you goes to St. Luke's UMC for hosting us.

Just a few weeks ago we celebrated Easter. It is my favorite time of the year. As Work Day 8-3 Pot Luck 12:00 Worship 1:00

we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, let's take a few minutes to reflect how this one event changed everything... how we look at ourselves, each other, and our entire world!! I believe that if it were not for what we celebrate at Easter, nothing else would matter. Without the resurrection of Jesus, we would have no hope for the future. His dying on the cross and his resurrection proved once and for all just how much God loves each of us.

To quote the popular song, <u>I</u> <u>Can Only Imagine</u>, that kind of ultimate, unconditional love for sinners like me is truly Amazing. I hope that each of you had a wonderful, blessed Easter Sunday!

DeColores Brett Walker

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Sponsorship

by Hank Resler

We had a very successful Babe/Chick and Sponsorship Discussion at St. Luke's Methodist Church on April 8. The new members of the G.R.A.C.E EMMAUS community turned out in large numbers to share their testimonies with us. They attended the sponsorship meeting and were very excited and ready to be sponsors of their own. Excellent Q&A was done and each participant went back to their home church with Emmaus sponsorship booklets. All were prepared to share this information with their home churches. DeColores,

Hank Resler, sponsorship

Agape Gifts

On your walk, you experienced love and blessings poured out on your pillow & at your place at the dining table in the form of Agape Gifts. Each Agape Gift is meant to draw us closer to Jesus and make our hearts smile with His love and provision. Those gifts were provided by members of the G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community – members just like YOU!

If you think you can't do anything creative, think again! Check out the ideas that can be found on the North Indiana Emmaus Community's website at https://www.niemmaus. com/agape/ some great ideas can be found here.

Please consider beginning the making of Agape Gifts for our upcoming GRACE EMMAUS Walks #82 & #83 for Fall, 2017.

If you need someone to take these Agape Gifts to either of the walks, just let me know.

Pam Martin

Agape Gifts Board Rep.

903/520-3975

Continued Babe Chick Training by Talia Epps

Important History and Features of The Walk to Emmaus

There are several different movements associated with what we know as Walk to Emmaus. These movements came from the original 3-day movement of the Roman Catholic Church called Cursillo which first appeared in 1944.

The following is a list of these movements and the groups they are associated with:

Cursillo- Catholic and Episcopalian ministry

Pilgrimage- Presbyterian ministry

Kairos- Prison ministry

Epiphany- Incarcerated juvenile ministry

Walk to Emmaus- Methodist adult ministry

Chrysalis Flight- Methodist youth ministry

Tres Dias- Protestant ministry

Via De Cristo- Lutheran ministry

In 1981, The Upper Room Cursillo became The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus. The primary issue involved in this action was the Upper Room's call to be an ecumenical movement. Cursillo had policies in place limiting sponsorship and expression of different denominations. The Upper Room reached an agreement with the National Cursillo Secretariat to develop a new program design for use by an ecumenical, largely Protestant audience.

The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus is a carefully designed experience that is conducted with discipline according to a universally standard handbook. A wellprepared team of ordinary people work together in a spirit of love and servanthood to conduct Emmaus. The nature of this outline is to minimize experiences that are built around charismatic personalities or individual leaders. Instead, the team provides a nonthreatening space in which people can be themselves in responding to the message and love of God.

References: <u>The Upper Room</u> <u>Handbook on Emmaus,</u> <u>Chapter 1, www.natl-</u> <u>cursillo.org/what-is-cursillo/,</u> <u>http://www.upperroom.org/e</u> <u>n/programs,</u> <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/</u> <u>Cursillo,</u>

On a personal note, it was great seeing everyone at the gathering!

De Colores

Food for Thought

So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secrets things of God. 1 Corinthians 4:1

In this verse, the Greek word for servant is defined as an under row. A subordinate, servant, attendant, or assistant in general. The subordinate official who waits to accomplish the commands of his superior.

Picture the sailors who are at the very bottom of the ship rowing. I'm not sure that would be the first job I would sign up for. The work is hard and you cannot see where you are going. You must rely that the Captain know where he is going.

But, because our "captain" is Jesus we know they he knows where we are going. Even when the work is hard, we know that Jesus will give us the strength to row as hard as we need to.

There are a few things we need to know about rowing. The first is that you need a group to row with. The rowers must stay in sync with their fellow rowers to move forward. Also, we do not get choose all our fellow rowers. Some may be different from us which may be awkward at first. We must work through conflicts and acknowledge that we to have flaws.

Emmaus is like that ship. It brings together many people of different backgrounds to work together to build and equipped leaders in their local churches. We are all asked to row together to accomplish this goal. It takes many different people with many different talent

to put on a walk. Some of us are visible, interacting with the pilgrims and leading them through the talks. Others serve in the background. They see that everything runs smoothly. Neither group is more important the other, and both group are need to work together. As you are filling out your applications to work the fall walks, be available to do any job that you are called to do. All of them are rewarding, and all will be a wonderful blessing.

Decolorus

part of this article where based on the Beth Moore bible study "Entrusted."

Thoughts on Prayer

In the book of John, chapter 17, Jesus prays. "My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you." He goes on to say that He is praying not only for the disciples, but for ALL WHO WILL EVER BELIEVE IN HIM! That includes us...and those after us. He says "Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am." Did you catch that? Jesus wants us! He has our names on His lips!

Believers come to know Christ through our witness. We pray to the Father, through the Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit. The love of Christ compels us to pray for others. Imagine if you could hear the voices of everyone who ever prayed for you—whose voice(s) would you hear? The voices of those who prayed for you on your walk? You would hear your parents, your spouse, your children, your friends. You would hear Jesus praying for you. And all those who you prayed for would hear your voice!

Prayer is our weapon against the enemy. Prayer is our help in time of trouble or pain. Prayer is our response to all that God does for us. Prayer is our duty as followers of Christ. Pray for each other. Pray for our world=our leaders. Sign up to pray for the fall walks. There is Power in Prayer

De Colores

Susan Morton

Fall Walks Men's Oct. 3rd to 6th Women's Oct. 12th to 15th

Remember:

It is never too early To send in applications

2017 G.R.A.C.E. EMMAUS BOARD

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