

GRACE for TODAY

August Newsletter 2019

A Word from Wynn Harle Community Lay Director

Dear G.R.A.C.E. Community,

Team Training for G.R.A.C.E. Walks #90 and #91 began August 3rd. And Wow! What an exciting day of fellowship, learning and preparation. As the day progressed, I found myself singing this familiar song:

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings, we lift our hearts in praise.
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

Yes, God was present and we were reminded throughout the day of His grace and goodness

Please keep our teams in your prayers. They have said "Here I am" and accepted profound responsibilities. They will be spending a lot of hours preparing for the Walks: time away from other priorities in their lives to be better prepared to serve.

Please keep our pilgrims known and unknown in your prayers. God has a plan for Walks #90 and #91 and the pilgrims that will attend.

Please keep our sponsors in your prayers. Their role can make all the difference in a Pilgrim's walk and fourth days.

De Colores!

Wynn Harle,
Community Lay Director

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G.R.A.C.E. Website:
www.graceemmaus.com

Upcoming Gatherings

August 10, Pleasant Retreat UMC
Tyler, TX 12 noon potluck, 1:00 PM
Worship

September 21, Grace Crossing UMC
Longview, TX 12 noon potluck, 1:00
PM Worship

Fall Walks

Camp Gilmont, Gilmer, TX

Men's Walk #90

October 3-6

Women's Walk #91

October 10-13

SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR G.R.A.C.E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EACH YEAR THE G.R.A.C.E. COMMUNITY ELECTS 5 NEW MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE G.R.A.C.E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS. ONCE ELECTED NEW BOARD MEMBERS WILL SERVE A 3 YEAR TERM BEGINNING IN 2020. ARE YOU INTERESTED?

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

MIKE JOHNSTON

CELL 903-521-0860

EMAIL JOHNSTONMD08@GMAIL.COM

SERVERS NEEDED

FOR

WALK #90 AND #91 AGAPE DINNERS

You will need to arrive at Camp Gilmont by 4pm to help set up.
Attire is white shirt and black pants.

We will have a brief training on what to do. The dinner will begin at 5:30.

Please contact Lisa Brewer (903 720-1120) for the Men's dinner and Pat Thompson (903-239-1961) for the Women's Dinner.

Howdy GRACE Emmaus Members!

Have you heard God speaking to you about someone to share the Walk to Emmaus with? It is time for us to sponsor for the upcoming Grace Men's and Women's walks this October. The teams have started preparing for the walks and it is our time to do the same by sponsoring and thru prayer.

Be in prayer for the Holy Spirit to guide you to the people to sponsor.
Then be in prayer for them.
Then ask the Holy Spirit to guide you to give the invitation.
Remember it takes time to get all your sponsor duties done.
Also new this Fall, the signed applications are to be mailed in to the registrar.

Jesus invited each of us through our sponsors, so we are being God's hand and feet to invite others to go on the Walk to Emmaus.

We look forward to seeing you Sponsors this October.

Thank you very much!

De Colores
Garry Mount

Share your Favorite Emmaus Experience with us!

Have you been waiting for just the right time to share your Emmaus experience? Would you like to share what your Walk meant to you even after all these years? Or do you have a question about Emmaus.

We want to invite you to share your reflections and questions for consideration in future newsletters.

Simply email our Newsletter board rep Debbie Hays at dhays55@yahoo.com.

One way we can express Agape is in the giving of physical gifts during the G.R.A.C.E. Walks.

Table & Pillow Agape - Items that are made and provided by churches, reunion groups, and individual Fourth Day members. (Please refrain from labeling agape provided by individuals. Church and reunion group labels are permitted.)

If making for the pilgrims only, please make 36. For the team, please make 72.

Snack Agape - Food and beverages given for the pilgrims and team members is always appreciated.

One of the pilgrims on Walk #89 wrote this poem while still on the Walk. When asked if she would agree to have it shared with the G.R.A.C.E. community, she agreed, but wanted to remain anonymous. I hope that her words are as meaningful to you as they were to me.

Betty Buchanan

Meaning of Grace

This the transforming love
From Almighty God above
The gift we freely receive
When truly just believe
Giving us the tools we need
To spread the Word His seed
Truly belonging to Jesus Christ
And fully taking His advice
His grace washing our face
From all that brought us disgrace
Professing our faith in church
Like the birds sitting on a perch
Called to a meaningful life
Letting go of every strife
God's will is to raise us up
Despite the sin we brought His cup
Overflowing abundant grace and joy
Then and now for every girl and boy
Making ourselves regularly available to God
To transcend to our holy bod
Loving Him forever more
Along with our faithful Lord
So through all time and space
We know this is the meaning of Grace.

Put your registrars to work!

Pilgrim applications are coming in, slowly but surely. Both Walks have less than 10 pilgrims already registered. Remember a full walk is 36 pilgrims

If you had a pilgrim who was carried over from a previous Walk, please check with them to verify that they will be attending a Walk in the Fall. They may have forgotten about the Walk coming up! Please let the registrars know as soon as you can. If we don't hear from the sponsors soon, we will be contacting you about whether or not the "carry-overs" will be attending the Fall Walks.

As the community registrars, we're ready to fill up the rosters and get notifications out to sponsors and pilgrims for Walks #90 & #91!

Jim & Betty Buchanan, Registrars

ATTENTION...Past Walk Lay Directors!!!!

Remember when you served as the Lay Director for a Men's or Women's Walk? Remember all the details that you wanted to be just right in order to glorify God on this walk? Mine was just last spring, Walk #89, so the planning is still fresh on my mind.

One of the many things that made the walk unique was the book cover for the Worship Book used throughout the weekend. To ensure that enough were made for everyone involved, the total number was estimated based on the attendees and team: pilgrims, table leaders, assistant table leaders, music team, spiritual director, assistant spiritual directors, assistant lay directors, and lay director. Of course, an exact number was unknown until the walk actually started on Thursday night.

After the book covers were distributed on Friday, there were some leftover, plus material remnants leftover. What was I going to do with them? I came up with an idea. As a fundraiser for the community, a quilt could be made and auctioned off as a fundraiser for the community. Also, this would be a great reminder of previous walks when you served on a team. A quilt is a very usable memento of the walks in our community.

If you think this could be done, please let me know by email (jimbet85@gmail.com) or phone (903-930-2678). There are quite a few quilters in the community, so labor is not a problem. You provide the material; we will make it!

Betty Buchanan



Reunion groups allow us to stay connected.

Are you looking for a reunion group? Check out our website for locations and times or start your own group. It takes two people to start a group and I'll be more than happy to help you get connected.

Our Emmaus website has a list of times, locations, and contact people. If you are currently part of a reunion group, please take a minute to review the information about your group. Then let me know if there are any corrections so we can keep the website up to date.

Paula West

A REMINDER OF WALK FEES:

Pilgrim: \$165 (although the community expense is \$175)

Clergy Pilgrim: \$75

Inside/Conference Room Team: \$165

Outside Servant Team (full weekend): \$165

Outside Servant Team (partial weekend): \$8 per meal, \$27 per night (lodging)

Betty Buchanan, Treasurer



GOLF CARTS NEEDED !

We typically have Pilgrims with mobility issues that need help getting around the camp.

If you are looking for a way to serve but are not on a team, this might be the opportunity you have been looking for.

If you can help provide either a golf cart or mule (also known as an ATV or UTV) for Walks 90 and 91, please contact Mike Hodgson (903-948-0821) or Lisa Brewer (903-729-1120).

DISCOVERY WEEKEND

THE UPPER ROOM®

WHAT IS IT?

Discovery Weekend is a spiritual formation retreat for middle school youth that engages high school youth in leadership. Held in the local church, Discovery invites the entire church family to live out the baptismal promise to create a community of love and forgiveness. In this environment, middle school youth will be encouraged to strengthen their faith with foundational Christian teachings and experiences.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Discovery Weekend is for the entire church family. Middle school youth, no matter where they are on their faith journey, are invited to attend. High school youth lead small groups and worship. Parents share gifts of love, presence, and prayer. Youth leaders provide overall leadership, direction, and supervision of the weekend. Church parishioners serve on the Discovery team. Sunday school classes and small groups provide prayer support, meals, and snacks. Clergy help with teaching, provide spiritual guidance, and, with parental involvement, celebrate baptism.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE WEEKEND?

Worship

Singing, praising, and worshiping as one body.

Engagement

Skits, short videos, and meaningful talks about faith and God.

Love

Congregational care and love.

Fun

Free time, serious time, and fun time.

Fellowship

Mentoring, small-group sharing, Bible reading, and prayer.

Interested in Discovery but aren't sure if its right for your church?

Visit discovery.upperroom.org to learn more about Discovery Weekend (including a short video) and to download a manual sampler, connect via email with the Discovery Weekend Team at discovery@upperroom.org, or call 615.340.7088 (or toll-free 877.899.2780, ext. 7088)

2019 G.R.A.C.E. BOARD MEMBERS

Community Lay Director

Wynn Harle

cowboycentral@suddenlink.net

903-245-2701

Community Assistant Lay Director

Mike Johnston

johnstonmd08@gmail.com

Ex-Officio Member

Mike Hodgson

hdgmanmd@gmail.com

903-948-0821

Spiritual Director

Rev. Joe Hall

joehall@mhd.com

903-742-5828

Assistant Spiritual Director

Rev. Wade Harman

harmanwk01@yahoo.com

903-631-9534

Secretary

Charlene Burton

cburtonlindale@gmail.com

903-920-6677

Treasurer

Betty Buchanan

jimbet85@gmail.com

903-930-2678

Music Coordinator

John Crow

jwcrow56@gmail.com

903-288-1881

Agape (Wall, Prayer Vigil)

Rhonda Gorrell

fire322dfd@yahoo.com

575-749-1221

Baby Chicks Training

Steve Morton

Stc.morton@gmail.com

903-722-4014

Book Table

Hank Resler

ltfnp2@gmail.com

617-953-4486

Community Trailer

Wayne Brunt

waynebrunt@ymail.com

903-522-0833

Gathering Coordinator

Kenneth Duesterhoft

kwdues@gmail.com

903-520-0294

Newsletter

Debbie Hays

dhays55@yahoo.com

903-452-5331

Publications

Scott Catchot

scottcatchot@yahoo.com

903-373-5415

Sponsorship

Garry Mount

mt3279@aol.com

903-985-0957

Agape (Banquet, Afterglow,

Handmade items)

Lisa Brewer

lbrew0366@gmail.com

903-720-1120

Reunion Groups

Paula West

pjwest57@yahoo.com

903-918-9067

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Registrar

Jim and Betty Buchanan

jimbet85@gmail.com

Jim Cell: 903-930-2360

Betty Cell: 903-930-2678

Crosses/Doves

Elizabeth Minor

mn-m-design@msn.com

903-720-1740

Webmaster

Martha Walker

marthasgarden55@gmail.com

903-235-0158

GRACE EMMAUS

The G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community wishes to continue to spread the life changing experience that an Emmaus weekend can deliver.

Won't you help us by donating funds for scholarships for both Pilgrims and team members, or the general fund of our community? We are asking you to consider donate \$5, \$10, \$25 monthly or whatever amount you would like to set the donation to. This monthly donation will be debited automatically from your bank account on or about the 15th of the month.

Thank you for your continued support of our Emmaus community.

De Colores

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Email Address: _____

BANK INFORMATION

I (We) hereby authorize GRACE Emmaus to initiate debit entries to my (our) checking account indicated below. The amount will be charged monthly. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until GRACE Emmaus receives written notification of its termination.

Monthly gift amount \$ _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Fill out information below or attach voided check

Depository Name: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Account #: _____ Transit/ABA #: _____

MAIL INFORMATION TO:

Tyler Emmaus GRACE Community

P.O. Box 132212

Tyler, TX 75713-2212