

eat that I was almost too full to sing at the worship time! A big thank you to the Marshall Fourth Day for your hospitality and for the great job you are all doing in promoting Christ through Emmaus.

I want to encourage all of us to use the next few weeks to pray about who God is calling us to sponsor for the upcoming October Walks at Camp Gilmont. They will be here before we know it. Melissa and Brian are working hard putting together God's team for Walks 38 and 39 and it would be awesome to have both Walks full and a waiting list for both! Remember how much your Walk meant to you? Don't you want your friends and family to have that same wonderful encounter with the living God? Let's all work hard and fill this Walks up and help to spread the love of Christ to our church families.

Don't forget our August Gathering will be at **First United Methodist Church** in **Troup** on August 10th at 7:00 p.m. See the website for directions. Let's pack that church and raise the roof with some awesome worship time! See you then!

Yours in Christ,

Bob Meyers

GRACEmmaus Community Lay Director



BE A BLANKET

When you were little and you fell

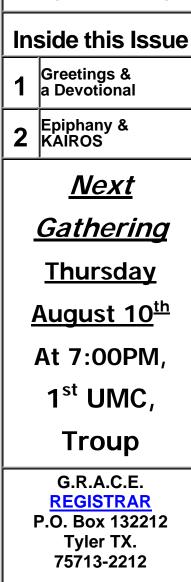
and scraped your knee who did you run to? The adult who would talk in a soothing tone, calm voice, clean up your scrap, put a bandaid on it, and kiss it all better? Or, the Adult who told you to pull it together, stop crying, brush it off, quit whining and get back outside and play with your friends? You probably went to the person who was the most comforting, right? It may have been your Mom or Dad, a grandparent, or a teacher, but you avoided the person who wasn't going to comfort you.

You can probably think of a time when you needed comforting. Someone you knew and loved was really sick or had passed away, maybe your pet ran away, or maybe nothing that serious but it still made you feel bad, like losing a championship game, getting cut from a team, or being teased for something. Through those experiences you mav have experienced two extreme reactions from other people. Either someone helped comfort you by sitting with you, listening to you, giving you a hug, or doing something special and thoughtful....OR You went for comfort and heard, "Come on... Get Over It... Life goes on. No big deal. So our dog died. It's not like it was a person!"

Think back to how you felt in those situations. Now, imagine one of your friends or family going through a rough time. Those people, no matter how old or young they are compared to you. They are looking for comfort. You may not know what to do, you may have no idea what to say. After all, you're just...YOU. Where are you supposed to get the strength and words to comfort someone

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G.R.A.C.E. Website www.gracemmaus.org



Greetings GRACE Emmaus Community,

It's been a long time since many of us have had the opportunity to worship and fellowship. A few of us got together last Saturday up in Marshall for a wonderful covered dish lunch. There was so much to else? I am glad you asked. You have a choice. You either are the person who brings comfort through kindness and compassion or you are the person who says "Quit whining ya big baby!" Which do you do?

People of all ages look for comfort when times get tough. Young children have blankets (hey this is still my comfort area) or stuffed animals. As they get older they generally find comfort in other things whether it is Food, Sleep, Shopping, or something else. We all search for that feeling we got from that loving compassionate person who comforted us when we were younger.

As a Christian we know that we can turn to Christ for our comfort. 2 Corinthians 1 is a section of the Bible that talks a lot about comfort. Paul tells us that we can find comfort in Jesus when times are tough but not only that. We are to comfort others when they are struggling with something or hurting. That we can be comforting because we find comfort in God; we should then show what comfort feels like to others.

WOW does this sound like one of our talks? This is most certainly a form of Christian Action.

There are millions of ways to be a Blanket for someone who is hurting. Many of them are something you can do without spending a dime. Be creative – send an e-card, write a note, give a hug, make a cup of coffee/hot chocolate, call on the phone, go spend time with that person – just be there to listen or hold them... Show someone the comfort that we are shown from God, and not the harsh comfort that some people consider helpful. <u>Today's Prayer</u>: God, you are such a comfort to me when I'm hurting. Help me remember that when others hurt, I can be a comfort to them and that you'll help me do just that. You'll give me the words to help them understand where real comfort comes from. **YOU**. Amen.

Next Gathering

<u>Thursday August 10th</u>

At 7:00PM, 1st UMC, Troup

Boy's Epiphany No. 8 at CRTC

The team for the Boy's Epiphany No. 8 WAS AMAZING. We were to have 45 boys of all ages then 40, then it dropped to 32 of the older boys, and by the time all the smoke (figuratively) cleared, we finished the weekend with 21 boys hand picked by God to be there. And out of those 21, 20 accepted their crosses, and one is struggling with the change in his life keep Tom P. (not his real name) in your prayers God will know who he is. If you've never been to a closing in Epiphany it is truly an amazing and spirit filled time of sharing and healing. The music is absolutely the best I've ever heard on a weekend, and I've been on a lot of three day weekends. Thank you all of you in our community that signed up for the prayer chain, your financial support and the agape love you showered on those boys. This should be a weekend that they could look back on in their life and and always feel blessed from.

Tom Perdue Lay Director

KAIROS No. 29 MICHAEL Unit

Please pray for the team going into the Michael Unit November 2nd- 5th, 2006. Though this is early the Team Leader is already getting started in spiritual warfare and battle, and is seeking Team members. You can contact John Schiffman at **(817) 496-0775** or you can send him an email at joschi7@comcast.net.



PRAY FOR THESE WALKS AROUND THE WORLD Please remember to continue to pray for our own upcoming walks this fall.

Men's Walk Alaska Emmaus, 32 Alaska Women's Walk Alaska Emmaus, 32 Alaska Women's Walk Puget Sound Emmaus, 168 Washington Women's Walk Iowa Emmaus, 73 Iowa Women's Walk Emmaus of Southeast Michigan, 135 Michigan Women's Walk Noahs of Ark Emmaus, 121 AR Women's Walk Nebraska Emmaus. Omaha # 95 Nebraska Men's Walk Nebraska Emmaus, Chadron #96 Nebraska Women's Walk Central Texas Conference Emmaus, 295 Texas Men's Walk Hearts Afire Emmaus Community. #23 Texas Women's Walk Houston - Bay Area Emmaus. 37 Texas

Women's Walk Heart of Carolina Emmaus, 88 North Carolina Men's Walk Mid North Coast Emmaus -AUSTRALIA. 68 International Men's Walk Mid North Coast Emmaus -AUSTRALIA, 68 International August 10 - 13, 2006 Women's Walk Northern California/Nevada Emmaus, 46, Gardnereville, NV CA Women's Walk Northern Illinois Emmaus, 105 llinois Women's Walk Nebraska Emmaus. Chadron # 96 Nebraska Women's Walk Cross Country Emmaus, 142 Texas Women's Walk North Central New York Emmaus, 81 New York Men's Walk Alabama Emmaus, 306 Alabama Women's Walk Blue Lake Emmaus, 175 AL August 17 - 20, 2006 Men's Walk Hawaii Emmaus, 27 Hawaii Women's Walk Central Illinois Emmaus, 195 Illinois Women's Walk Greater Dayton Emmaus, 68 Ohio Women's Walk Heart of Ohio Emmaus, Women's Walk #42 Ohio Women's Walk Northwest Ohio Emmaus, 59 Ohio Men's Walk Big Country Emmaus, 133 Texas Men's Walk Cross Country Emmaus, 143 Texas Women's Walk New Life Emmaus, 9 Alabama Women's Walk Mid North Coast Emmaus AUSTRALIA, 69 International Men's Walk Queensland - Brisbane West Emmaus, 37 International August 24 - 27, 2006 Men's Walk Four Corners Emmaus Community, #7 Colorado Men's Walk Central Illinois Emmaus, 196Q Illinois Women's Walk Central Texas Conference Emmaus, 296 Texas Women's Walk Llano Estacado Emmaus Community, 95 Texas

Men's Walk SWTC - Greater Austin Emmaus. 1316 Texas Women's Walk Richmond Emmaus, Richmond 84 Virginia Men's Walk Blue Lake Emmaus, 176 Alabama Women's Walk Queensland - Brisbane West Emmaus, 38 International August 31 - September 3, 2006 Men's Walk Central West Emmaus, 15 International **CELEBRATION EVENT** November 3 - 4, 2006 Hosted by the Houston West Emmaus/Chrysalis **Communities** Memorial Drive UMC,

12955 Memorial Drive, Houston, TX 77079

Contact Information: Dick and Fran Adams Phone: 713-464-4957 Email: <u>rhadams7@yahoo.com</u>

Inspiring Presentations By:

Rev. Stephen D. Bryant, World Editor and Publisher, Upper Room Ministries Rev. Victor Perez, International Spiritual Director, Walk to Emmaus and Chrysalis

Dr. Dick Gilmore, International Lay Director, Walk to Emmaus

Jean Johnson Green, Assistant Director, Walk to Emmaus

Typical Workshops to Give You Some Tools:

The First Act of Agape: Sponsorship Overview of Weekend (Separate Emmaus and Chrysalis) The Spirit of Servanthood: Lay **Director Training** Sustaining the Spirit: Spiritual Director Training **Companion Community** In a Spirit of Cooperation and Charity: Team Selection Committee Training The Sings My Soul: Music Workshop Coming Down fro the Mountain: 4th Gatherings/Hoots Day (Separate Emmaus and Chrysalis) The Academy for Spiritual Formation Team Formation (Separate Emmaus and Chrysalis) Spiritual Formation and Scripture: Companions in Christ

Forms are available at:

www.upperroom.org/emmaus/gath erings/

Registration Information:

Early Bird registration is \$50.00 per person and is due two weeks before the event. Late registration and walk-ins are welcome at the cost of \$75.00 per person. Make checks payable to Upper Room Emmaus,

Mail or fax forms to:

Emmaus/Chrysalis Celebration 1908 Grand Avenue P.O. Box 340004 Nashville, TN 377203-0004 Fax: (615) 340-7257

Additional Information about the Celebration:

For more information, please contact Metral

Smith at (877) 899-2780 ext. 7227 or at

msmith@upperroom.org

You may also find more information online at

www.upperroom.org/emmaus

Expect This Schedule: *FRIDAY*

4:30 Arrive, register, fellowship 5:00 Light Dinner 6:30 Beginnings 7:00 Celebration 9:30 Dismissal SATURDAY 8:00 Morning Prayers 8:45 Elective Workshops 8:45 - 10:00 Session 1 10:00 - 11:45 Session 2 Noon Lunch 1:15 Elective Workshops 1:15 - 2:30 Session 3 3:00 - 4:15 Session 4 4:30 - 5:30 Session 5 6:00 Dinner 7:00 Singing 7:30 Worship and Holy Communion 9:00 Dismissal