

February, 2016 Volume 25, Issue 1

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

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Tyler Emmaus G.R.A.C.E. Community P.O. Box 132212 Tyler, TX 75713-2212

### **Upcoming Gatherings**

February 20, 2016 FUMC Jacksonville 12noon potluck lunch Worship 1pm

March 5, 2016
Men's Walk – 8:00
March 12, 2016
Women's Walk – 8:00

April 9, 2016 Kilgore – St. Luke's UMC

### Community Lay Director

It is my privilege to welcome everyone to a new year in our community – new resolutions and new beginnings. I am Karol Johnston, Community Lay Director for this year. I took my walk in March of 2009 at Disciples Crossing in Athens, Texas. It was Walk 49 and I sat at the table of Ruth. I worship and serve with my husband at Van UMC.

I am looking forward to leading the community with your help and prayers. The board has met and is committed to serve you (the community). Please call on any of us for help or assistance.

The January gathering in Palestine had a great turn out. I am hoping to see those people along with some new faces at the February gathering in Jacksonville.

Please be in prayer for the upcoming walks – 76 & 77 – as the team members give of their time in preparation for the weekends.

As an Emmaus community member, we are developing leaders for our churches. As a member, are you serving with a grateful heart and servant attitude? Are you being HIS servant? We all need to remember that we serve our Lord in ALL that we do. Things may not always go "our way" but we must hold onto the truth that HE is in control of our paths whether we know the end result. God knows best. He is first and we are second (or further down the list).

Let us serve with love. Many scriptures remind us of this: "Love one another as he has loved us." "God is love." "Love your neighbor as yourself." Most memorable is the love letter in 1 Corinthians 13 – "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices

with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. .... And these three things remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Go forth and serve with love.

DeColores, Karol Johnston

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Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.... God is love.... We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:7, 16, 19

Many people are deeply impressed by the Bible's teaching that "God is love." However, we must keep in mind that God is not just a force, or even just a concept. He is the infinite, personal God, whose very character is best described as selfless love.

The ancient world had its goddesses of love who inspired romance. But the Bible's teaching about the love of God is far different. It is seen most clearly in the love of Christ, which led him to die on the cross for our salvation. The self-sacrificing love of Mother Teresa among the poorest of the poor in Calcutta came from God's love too. The beauty and glory of the universe itself is also an expression of God's love.

By its very nature, love calls for a

By its very nature, love calls for a response. This is true in romantic love and in the love of parents for their children. A person will either love in return, or reject the love shown.

Such is the case with the love of God. Jesus said, "How often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing" (Matthew 23:37). One cannot expect to reject the love of God and still receive the blessings of salvation. What will your response be?

God, your love is unimaginably great! O Lord, let our hearts and our lives proclaim your love in every-thing we do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Walker, Brett Men's Walk 76 Walling, Mac Team Members Eubanks, Pat Barnard, David \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Bewley, Mark Women's Walk 77 Braswell, Ken **AGAPE Team Members** Brewer, James Buchanan, Jim Agape Gifts Campbell, T. J. Judy Hawn I D On your walk, you Harold Starkey experienced love and Shatzall, Jim Carol DeRieux ALD blessings poured out on Edwards, Jay Janis Johns ALD your pillow & at your place at the dining table in the Edwards, Nancy JoAnne Skeen ALD form of Agape Gifts. Each Laguita Showen BR Fowler, Jerry Agape Gift is meant to draw Robin Gillian ΑV Haliday, Mike us closer to Jesus and Nan Haygood TL Haley, Roland make our hearts smile with Wynn Harle TL His love and provision. Henderson, Those gifts were provided Lisa Brewer TL James by members of the Kathy Cochran TL Brandon G.R.A.C.E. Community -TL **Ann Connor** Cowart?? members just like YOU! Melissa Urban TL Haygood, Tom If you think you can't do Mary Lewis ATL Heatherly, anything creative, think **Sue Cross** ATL Shawn again! Check out the ideas Traci Willingham ATL that can be found on the Hodgson, Mike Paula McAughan ATL North Indiana Emmaus Jarrard, Mark Community's website Sandra Grasch ATL Killingsworth, at https://www.niemmaus.c Laura Resler ATL Pack om/agape/ ..... some great Pam Martin MD ideas can be found here. Luna, Richard Patti Jones **AMD** Jaratt Major **AMD** Please consider beginning Maroney, Candy the making of Agape Gifts **Doug Smith** SD for our upcoming GRACE Maroney, Gil Dr. Herb Marlow **ASD** EMMAUS Walks #76 & #77 Mathews, Dan **Beverly Tune ASD** on March 3-6 & March 10-Mark McClellan Susan Smith **ASD** 13, 2016. McDonald, Tom If you need someone to Morton, Steve Servant Team Outside take these Agape Gifts to **Karol Johnston** STL Mount, Garry either of the walks, just let Sarah Braswell ST Nicholson, me know. ST Amanda Smith Calvin Pam Martin ST Julie Blythe Cox, C. J. Carol Hart Reed, Chuck Agape Gifts Board Rep. JoAnne McElroy ST Ricky Ricks Becca Shank ST 903/520-3975 **Elton Simpson** 

Skeen Jr., Gene

### Women's Team Cont.

Pamella McAdams

Team Leader Chapel
Maxine Pagitt Chapel
Pam Pruitt Chapel
Patti Curtis Chapel
Phyllis Hall Chapel

## Sponsorship

There are still spaces left for both the Men's and Women's Walks.

When you sponsor someone, you are responsible for getting your pilgrim to the camp. Also you need to be there for candlelight and closing.

# **Prayer Vigil**

Remember to sign up for the prayer vigils for the upcoming walks. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### **Upcoming Gatherings**

February 20, 2016 FUMC Jacksonville 12 noon potluck lunch

### 2016 BOARD MEMBERS

Community Lay Director Karol Johnston johnston karol@yahoo.com 903-521-0236

Community Assistant Lay Director
Brett Walker brettfcall@gmail.com
903-987-3090

Ex-Officio Member Mark Bewley mbewley@cablelynx.com 903-522-0782

Spiritual Director Richard Luna richard@pleasantretreat.rog 903-592-7183

Secretary Jerri Lykins lykinsjl@yahoo.com 903-894-3946

Treasurer
Fran Ayres
ayresfran75@gmail.com
903-534-8929

Music

Mac Walling No email address 903-885-9803

Agape (Banquet, Handmade items)
Pam Martin pammar52@yahoo.com
903-520-3975

Agape (Wall, Prayer Vigil)
Talia Epps
<u>Talia.groce@gmail.com</u>
903-714-71195

Babe Chick Bubba DeBerry deberrygas@etex.net 903-256-7080

Book Table
Dan Matthews
matthedm@exede.net

903-948-9039

Community Trailer
Jerry Fowler
JERRYFOWLER1956@GMAIL.COM
318-617-5035

**Gatherings**Pat Thompson
<u>Thompsonp84@yahoo.com</u>
903-239-1961

Newsletter

Lisa Palomaria
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Mike Hodgson
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**Sponsorship**Jim Buchanan
<u>jimbet85@gmail.com</u>
903-930-2360

Reunion Groups Tommy Ferguson tloys@hotmail.com 903-256-7296

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS** 

Registrar
Burton Love
BURTONLOVE@GMAIL.COM
903-880-5462

**Crosses/Doves** Elizabeth Minor

### **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.  $\label{eq:community} \textbf{DeColores}$ 

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW:				
Name:			_	
Address:			<u>_</u>	
City, State, Zip:			<u> </u>	
Email Address:			<u> </u>	
	BANK INFORMATI	(ON		
I (We) hereby authorize GRACE Emmaus to initiate domonthly. This authority is to remain in full force and e				
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