

Grace for Today

G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community Newsletter February 2024

Coming Events

Saturday, February 17, Gathering

1st Methodist Athens, Athens
Potluck noon, Worship immediately after

Spring Walks at Disciples Crossing in Athens

Men's Walk #104, March 7 – 10, 2024
Gathering & Candlelight Sat, Mar 9, 7:30pm
Women's Walk #105, March 14 – 17, 2024
Gathering & Candlelight Sat, Mar 16,
7:30pm

Sat, Mar. 30, Crossroads Church, Canton

Babe Chick Training 4pm, Gathering 5pm

PILGRIMS needed for these Spring Walks!

Prayfully consider sponsoring a Pilgrim for the upcoming Walks! Helpful Information can be found on the website under the Pilgrim Application tab.



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Find More on the G.R.A.C.E. Website:

www.graceemmaus.com

TEN WAYS TO LOVE

1. **LISTEN** without interrupting. (Proverbs 18)
2. **SPEAK** without accusing. (James 1:19)
3. **GIVE** without sparing. (Proverbs 21:26)
4. **PRAY** without ceasing. (Colossians 1:9)
5. **ANSWER** without arguing. (Proverbs 17:1)
6. **SHARE** without pretending. (Ephesians 4:15)
7. **ENJOY** without complaint. (Philippians 2:14)
8. **TRUST** without wavering. (Corinthians 13:7)
9. **FORGIVE** without punishing. (Colossians 3:13)
10. **PROMISE** without forgetting. (Proverbs 13:12)

Community Lay Director's Corner

Hey Community,

For those of you wondering when winter would really arrive in East Texas... I think we can all agree, it's here!

We had a good turnout at our January gathering at Grace United Methodist Church in Palestine. Many thanks to the folks there for hosting us along with their excellent hospitality.

Upcoming Walk Lay Directors Eddie Liebold and Sandra Grasch were in attendance and gave updates regarding Team Training for Men's Walk 104, March 7-10, and Women's Walk 105, March 14-17, at Disciples Crossing in Athens. Their collective prayers, enthusiasm, and excitement have us anxiously awaiting the Lord's work. We need our GRACE Emmaus Community to sponsor Pilgrims for these Walks.

I've been praying for the Spring Walks and the Pilgrims who have completed applications, those who are still considering going, and those who have not yet been asked. Please give prayerful consideration to potential Pilgrims that you encounter in your circle of influence.

As Paul stated in Galatians 6:9-10, *"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially those who belong to the family of believers."*



I look forward to seeing you at our February Gathering at Athens First Methodist Church on Saturday, February 17th at noon. Please bring a dish to share for the potluck luncheon. Worship service will follow.

Let your light shine!

DeColores

John Webb
Community Lay Director

Have you recently replaced your laptop computer?

Do you have one sitting around you could donate to the Grace Emmaus Community?

The laptop computer used at the Walks needs to be replaced. If you are willing to donate a laptop computer, please email Brian Walker at triyourself@gmail.com

Thank you for your support!

Spring Walks Are Coming Soon and You Can Help!

- ***Spring Walks at Disciples Crossing in Athens***

Men's Walk #104, March 7 – 10, 2024

Women's Walk #105, March 14 – 17, 2024

Schedule of events during each Walk -

Thursday: Sponsors, please have Pilgrims arrive promptly at 7pm and stay for Sponsors' Hour after Sendoff.

Saturday: Servers for the Agape dinner arrive at 4pm.

Saturday: For Gathering, Worship and Candlelight arrive at 7pm.

Sunday: Sponsors pick up Pilgrim's belongings at 3:30, Closing begins at 4pm.

- ***Pray, Pray, Pray for our Walks!***

- ***Sponsor a Pilgrim!*** Do you know someone you would like to share this amazing experience with? Prayfully consider asking them to attend a walk. Pilgrim information is found on our website www.graceemmaus.com -> Applications tab -> Pilgrim Application.

- ***Start making agape gifts for men and women!*** Recommended number of identical pieces of agape for each Walk:

- Agape for Everyone – 72
- Dining Room Agape – 64
- Bed Agape – 36

Feel free to make as many sets as you would like! It's not too early to start! **We will also need lanyards for nametags and crosses, and decorated place mats.**

- ***Do you have a Golf Cart or Mule we could borrow for one or both Walks?***

- ***Consider being a server for the Agape Dinner on Saturday evening of each Walk.*** Women will serve for the Men's Walk on Saturday evening. Men will serve for the Women's Walk on Saturday evening. All you need are black pants, a white shirt, and a willing heart!

- ***Mark your calendar to attend the Gathering and Candlelight for each Walk.***



Note from the Mens Walk #104 Lay Director

Greetings

Mens Walk 104 held its first team practice meeting in Athens at the Methodist church. The meeting was well attended, and we heard five awesome talks. Thank you to those that gave your talks. All the talks were very well done and will speak Gods word to the Pilgrims. The chefs at the Methodist church prepared a wonderful lunch for us. Thank you! Our next team practice meeting will be on February 3rd in Mineola at the Methodist church.

God has assembled the best group of men to make this the best walk ever.

He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6

De Colores
Eddie Leibold
Lay Director Walk 104



The Theme for Womens Walk #105

The theme for Walk 105 is Surrender.

God asks us for total and complete surrender. We can't hold anything back!

He wants our minds -

"Finally, brothers and sister, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things." (Philippians 4:8).

He wants our bodies –

*"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sister, in view of God's mercy to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship."
(Romans 12:1)*

He wants our wills –

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to him, and He will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Have you surrendered yourself unconditionally to Christ? Have you given Him your mind and your body and your will?

"All to Jesus I surrender. All to Him I freely give. I will ever love and trust Him. In His presence daily live.

All to Jesus I surrender. Humbly at His feet I bow. Worldly pleasures all forsaken. Take me, Jesus, take me now.

I surrender all ... I surrender all. All to thee my blessed Savior. I surrender all."

Sandra Grash

Lay Director, Walk #105



“De Colores”

“De Colores” is a beloved song in the Emmaus community that has its origins in Mexican folk music. The song was introduced to the Emmaus community in the 1960s and since then has become a staple at Emmaus walks.

The song’s message of joy, gratitude, and appreciation for the beauty of life aligns with the values and principles of the Emmaus community. It serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of living a joyful and meaningful life and appreciating the colors of nature.

“De Colores” is more than just a song, it’s a symbol of the Emmaus community’s spirit and energy. It not only reminds us of the joy and beauty of life, but also encourages us to live out our faith in a deeper and more meaningful way.

If you don’t yet know the lyrics to “De Colores”, I encourage you to look in your worship booklet, starting on page 35.



Charlene Burton
Community Registrar



God's Will

There is no better place to be than in God's will.

How do we get there?



Surrender...

Obedience... to be obedient we must surrender. It might sound like a simple concept. But, it's the hardest thing I've ever done, and yet the most rewarding.

OBEDIENCE simply means hearing the Word of God and acting on it. It implies aligning our will to God's will; doing what God has asked us to do. It is when we completely surrender to His authority and base our decisions and our actions on His Word. "Peter and the apostles replied, 'We must obey God rather than men.'" Acts 5:29

Elijah tended not to procrastinate. He was a man of earnest prayer, who fervently sought God's face and God's direction. Then, when he heard from God, he did what God called him to do, and went where God told him to go. When Elijah did what the Lord told him, the Lord was true to His Word and provided for Elijah. God always keeps His promises.

Looking at the faithfulness and obedience of Elijah both teaches us and challenges us.

As followers of Christ, we are called to "walk by faith, not by sight" 2 Cor. 5:7. But that can sometimes be difficult. We may be reluctant if we don't know "the whole picture" of God's plan. But, have we ever!? We may procrastinate because we want to know the end from the beginning. But, have we ever!?

God calls us to follow Him step-by-step. He does know the end from the beginning, so we can trust Him! Your obedience is what He desires.

What can God do in you, and with you, if you allow Him? How much we miss by failing to submit to what and where He calls us.

Liz Webb

God's Grace - Titus 3:7 (KJV)



Bill Brinkworth

Words to Find

**“That being justified by His grace,
we should be made heirs
according to the hope of eternal life.”**

Betty Buchanan

GRACE Emmaus Community Board of Directors 2024

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SUPPORT FOR THE GRACE EMMAUS COMMUNITY

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 donating \$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 in 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 #: _____

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