



G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Today

January/February Newsletter 2020

What's Inside

A Word from Community Lay Director
Agape Needs
Sponsorship
Men's Walk #92 Team
Women's Walk #93 Team
From the Treasurer
Want to host a Gathering
Upper Room Connections
Walk Fees
Walk to Emmaus Movement
2020 Board Members
Bank Draft

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

Spring Walks

Both at Disciples
Crossing, Athens
Men's Walk #92
March 5-8th, 2020
Women's Walk #93
March 12-15th, 2020

Gatherings

McCary's Chapel, Liberty City
Saturday, February 15th
Lunch at noon
Worship at 1:00 PM

A Word from Community Lay Director

Hello.

My name is Mike Johnston and I am serving the G.R.A.C.E. community as your Lay Director for 2020. I attended G.R.A.C.E Emmaus Community Walk #50 in the fall of 2009, at beautiful Camp Gilmont. I sat at the table of St. Luke. I worship and serve at Union Chapel UMC and Van UMC.

This past year has been full of blessings for me and my family. I am thankful for the opportunities that God has provided for me in service to Him and look forward to serving as your community Lay Director for 2020. I have had the opportunity to serve with Wynn Harle as she led this community with love and grace during 2019. This year I will have the good fortune to serve this community with the wonderful people on the G.R.A.C.E Emmaus Board. I pray God's blessings on each one that will serve on the board, and for the members of this community.

We need to thank those that have served the past three years on the G.R.A.C.E Board and will be going off of the board, and these are Gary Mount, Hank Resler, Lisa Brewer, Mike Hodgson, and Steve Morton. Thank you all for your service, hard work, and dedication to this Board and community.

And also welcome our newest board members, and they are Boni Demaree, Ernest Rodriguez, John Epps, Laura Resler, and Scott Snyder. To see the positions that they will serve this year, please visit the G.R.A.C.E Emmaus website www.graceemmaus.com. There are also others that have changed positions for 2020 as well.

There are so many areas that the members of this community can serve. This year you can make it possible for fellow Christians to experience the presence of God's love through our scheduled walks in February/March and October. You can sponsor a pilgrim, you can work on a team, you can assist with the agape dinners at the walk and you can make agape gifts. If you have questions about how to participate, please contact one of our board members.

You can also spend time in fellowship at each of our monthly gatherings. We try to vary the locations and times throughout our community in order to make it possible for you to attend at least those that are close to you. The dates and times are posted on our website as well. Some of you have not attended this year and we have missed you!!

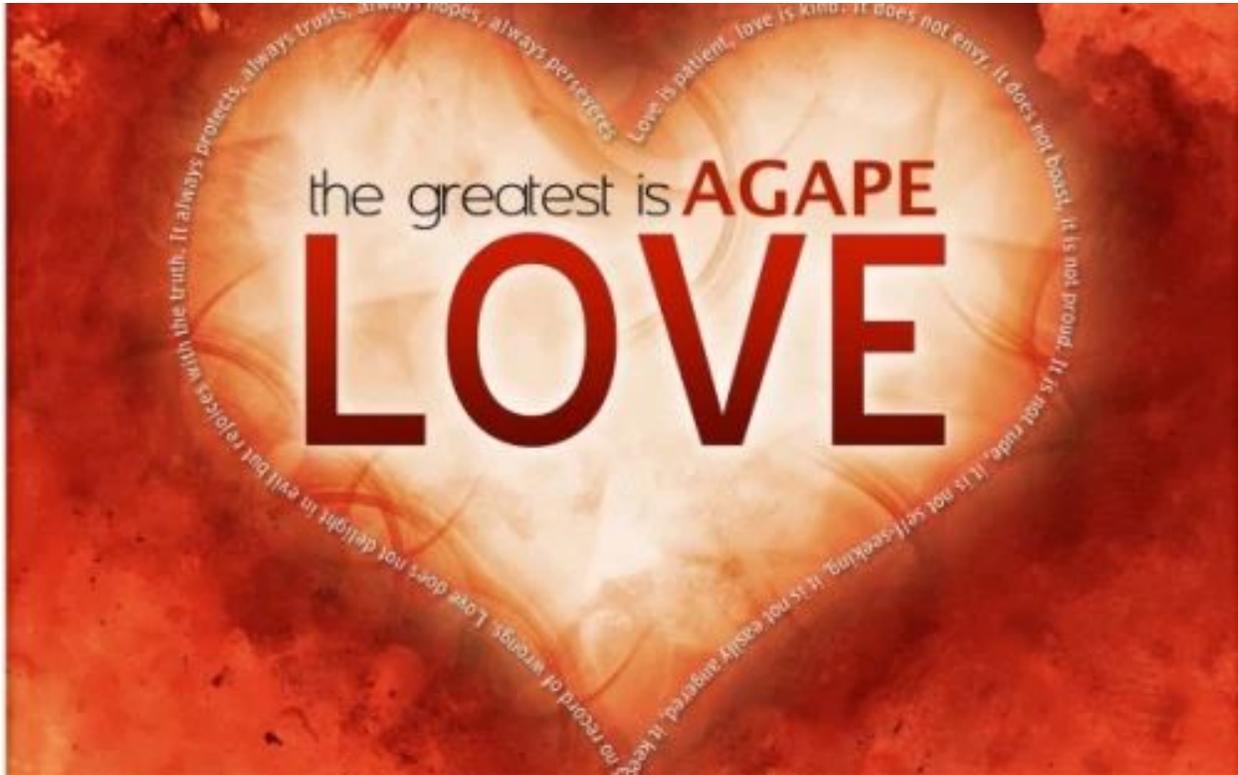
You can persevere in your faith journey by participating in reunion groups. We have the names of many in our community listed on our website. If you are looking for a reunion group, or are interested in starting one, please contact one of our Board members who would love to assist you.

As a participant as a pilgrim on a walk you know that the primary purpose of the Walk to Emmaus is to help build leaders in our local churches and communities. G.R.A.C.E. helps make this possible through our commitment to be Christians in action serving as the hands and feet of Christ. I am in hopes that the pilgrims of the walks that were held in 2019 have a home church and are serving in a leadership position in some role or capacity.

Our Spring walks are coming up soon! We need agape and pilgrims! Please pray that God will put someone on your mind to ask to go to one of these walks! Remember your walk and how God touched you. There are so many others that need this experience.

May your 2020 be filled with hope, love, peace, and joy. May God bless and keep you this year through!

De Colores!
Mike Johnston
Community Lay Director



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AGAPE

The Spring Walks are getting close and your Reunion Groups hold a vital part in the role of Agape Giving is the nature of God's love. Agape received during a Pilgrim's Walk to Emmaus experience has a ripple effect. As pilgrims reflect on being showered with nonstop agape in all its forms, many recognize the love of Christ in ways they have never imagined before. The hope is that they will return to their church and communities ready to share God's unconditional love with others. Thank you for making tangible signs of Agape through small gifts to be given to the Pilgrims throughout the weekend. Please bring them to the February Gathering or call Charlene

Burton at 903-920-6677 to make arrangements to drop them off.



SPONSORSHIP

I know we are all still basking in the Holiday Magic of the Birth of Jesus. What better time to reflect and think about friends and family members who would benefit from going on a Walk to EMMAUS.

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. It is not for everyone. It is not for the first time Christians.

You may ask who will benefit from this walk. Quite simply it is your friends, your neighbors, fellow church members and the clergy. It is for Christians of every denomination. Every 4th dayer can be a sponsor.

Please be in prayerful consideration of what this walk meant to you and what it will mean to someone else in our community of faith.

When you are ready to sponsor your pilgrim. Remember to pray with them. Work with them to fill out the pilgrim application which requires 3 signatures; theirs, their pastor and the sponsor. The cost of the walk is \$165. A \$50 dollar deposit must be sent in with the application. All pilgrim applications should be sent to :

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

There's still plenty of time to submit applications for the Spring Walks which will be held at Disciples Crossing in Athens. The Men's Walk will be March 5-8 and the Women's Walk March 12-15. Please include the deposit fee with the application. If the cost is a problem you might try approaching a group within your church that could provide a "scholarship". Should you have any questions regarding your sponsorship duties, I would be glad to help you. Please call me at 617 953-4486.

De Colores,
Laura Resler Board Sponsorship Chair

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Men's Walk #92 Team Members | |
| Lay Director | Mac Walling |
| Assistant Lay Director | Troy Harley |
| Assistant Lay Director | Steve Morton |
| Assistant Lay Director | Hank Resler |
| Board Representative | Pat Thompson |
| Spiritual Director | Adam Muckleroy |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | Jason Huffman |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | David McGlocklin |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | Jim Pickens |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | Dan Vickers |
| Table Leader | John Epps |
| Table Leader | Dennis Gage |
| Table Leader | Gary Laliberte |
| Table Leader | Monte McRee |
| Table Leader | Ken Sides |
| Table Leader | Scott Snyder |
| Assistant Table Leader | Kevin Abney |
| Assistant Table Leader | Chad Bearden |
| Assistant Table Leader | Lanny Caffee |
| Assistant Table Leader | David Hillman |
| Assistant Table Leader | Bob Holloway |
| Assistant Table Leader | Rick Rundquist |
| Music Team Leader | Lauren Lykens |
| Music Team | John Crow |
| Music Team | Joe Hall |
| Music Team | Mark Jarrard |
| Audio/Visual | Ken Duesterhoft |
| Assistant Audio/Visual | Bob Wade |
| Chapel Team Leader | Jim Buchanan |
| Chapel Team | Brad Burton |
| Chapel Team | Ed Cozart |
| Chapel Team | George Duncan |
| Chapel Team | Roger Mann |
| Outside Team Leader | Chuck Reed |
| Outside Team | Ken Braswell |
| Outside Team | Jay Edwards |
| Outside Team | Nancy Edwards |
| Outside Team | Mike Johnston |
| Outside Team | Chuck Lowry |
| Outside Team | Candy Maroney |
| Outside Team | Gil Maroney |
| Outside Team | Cathy Morris |
| Outside Team | Willian Morris |
| Outside Team | Cathy Mount |
| Outside Team | Garry Mount |
| Outside Team | Stacy Tyler |
| Outside Team | Martha Walker |

| Women's Walk #93 Team Members | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lay Director | Anita Duesterhoft |
| Assistant Lay Director | Laura Resler |
| Assistant Lay Director | Nicole Duncan |
| Assistant Lay Director | Janet Bagley |
| Spiritual Director | Susan Smith |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | Mike Cline |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | Eric Dehmer |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | Mark Pedersen |
| Assistant Spiritual Director | Jim Pickens |
| Audio/Visual | Karol Johnston |
| Board Representative | Wynn Harle |
| Table Leader | Debbie Wade |
| Table Leader | Becky Foote |
| Table Leader | Paula West |
| Table Leader | Kathy Pruitt |
| Table Leader | Liz Webb |
| Table Leader | Charlene Burton |
| Assistant Table Leader | Carla McRee |
| Assistant Table Leader | Kim Whipkey |
| Assistant Table Leader | Delia Hively |
| Assistant Table Leader | Betty Buchanan |
| Assistant Table Leader | Jan Watters |
| Assistant Table Leader | Jerri Hodgson |
| Music Team Leader | Babby Carroll |
| Music Team | Linda Baker |
| Music Team | Lisa Greer |
| Chapel Team Leader | Debbie Hayes |
| Chapel Team | Danielle Vickers |
| Chapel Team | Rhonda Gorrell |
| Chapel Team | Tracie Oden |
| Outside Team Leader | Martha Walker |
| Outside Team | Frank Baker |
| Outside Team | Kelly Buford |
| Outside Team | Rhydonia Clem |
| Outside Team | Kim Conlon |
| Outside Team | Ken Duesterhoft |
| Outside Team | Nancy Edwards |
| Outside Team | Tom Haygood |
| Outside Team | Chuck Lowery |
| Outside Team | Cathy Mount |
| Outside Team | Garry Mount |
| Outside Team | Rebecca Shank |
| Outside Team | Diane Smith |
| Outside Team | Patti Suggs |
| Outside Team | Brett Walker |



From the G.R.A.C.E. treasurer

Thanks to the generosity of the G.R.A.C.E. community, donations continue to come in regularly each month by the ACH, personal checks, and at monthly gatherings. Every dollar received goes back into the community to continue to spread the life changing experiences that an Emmaus weekend can deliver. Donated funds can also be used for pilgrim and team member scholarships, updating equipment, and the general fund of our community. Thank you, for your continued support of our Emmaus community.

Treasurer, Boni Demaree

EMMAUS GATHERINGS

**Community Church Members,
Planning to host a Walk to Emmaus Gathering? Here is your chance. We usually meet on the third Saturday. We are looking for Emmaus groups to volunteer to welcome the G. R. A. C. E. Community to their church for fellowship, worship, and food. Please consider hosting us at your church! If you are interested, please contact Debbie Hays 903-452-5331 or dhays55@yahoo.com**

**Thank you,
Debbie**

THE UPPER ROOM



<https://www.upperroom.org/newsletters>

Stay Connected

Sign up to receive newsletters and updates from The Upper Room.

Newsletters Upper Room Daily Reflections (Daily) - Words of wisdom and faith found in the pages of Upper Room Books.From the Center (Monthly, 1st Tuesday) - A monthly email newsletter from The Upper Room with resources for your soul care as a spiritual leader. Academy Bulletin (Monthly) - Updates, news, and special reflections exclusively for The Academy for Spiritual Formation participants, faculty, and leaders. Emmaus eNews (Every Other Month) - Get the latest news and tips for your fourth day journey. Especially for leaders and participants in Emmaus Ministries, including the Walk to Emmaus, Face to Face, and Chrysalis.Upper Room Recommends (Weekly, Thursday) - A weekly email for those seeking resources for spiritual formation and prayer. The email contains excerpts from Upper Room authors, plus book and online resource suggestions for small groups, congregational studies, and individual spiritual growth.My Quiet Spaces (Quarterly) - A quarterly newsletter for women seeking inspiration, tools, and support to deepen their walk with God.Rising Generations (Every Other Month) - Whether you're a church leader or parent, this bimonthly newsletter provides tips and tools for ministry with Children, Youth & Young Adults.



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)

Boni Demaree, Treasurer

The Walk To Emmaus Movement



Walk to **Emmaus** THE UPPER ROOM®

The Upper Room, part of United Methodist Discipleship Ministries, began the three-day ecumenical spiritual-renewal retreats in 1978. The self-supporting ministry grew out of the the Catholic Cursillo movement, and took the name Walk to Emmaus in 1981. The goal of Walk to Emmaus is to equip church members for Christian action. Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ. The movement also includes the [Chrysalis](#) program for youth, the [Face to Face](#) program for adults 60 and older, and the [Journey to the Table](#) program for adults 18 to 35.

G.R.A.C.E. BOARD ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2020

Lay Director: Mike Johnston

Cell: 903-521-0860 Email: mike.johnston.unionchapelumc@gmail.com

Assistant Lay Director: John Crow

Cell: 903-288-1881 Email: jwcrow56@gmail.com

Ex Officio Lay Director: Wynn Harle

Cell: 903-245-2701 Email: cowboycentral@suddenlink.net

Spiritual Director: Rev. Joe Hall

Cell: 903-742-5828 Email: joehall@mhd.com

Assistant Spiritual Director: Dan Vickers

Cell: 214-673-6233 Email: dvickerspmp@gmail.com

Secretary: Paula West

Cell: 903-918-9067 Email: pjwest57@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Boni Demaree

Cell: 903-352-2857 Email: boni@sysresourcegroup.com

Music Coordinator: Scott Snyder

Cell: 903-539-1754 Email: scott_snyder@att.net

COMMITTEES

(Board Member is chair of designated committee)

Agape (Gift, Banquet, Afterglow): Charlene Burton

Cell: 903-920-6677 Email: cburtonlindale@gmail.com

Babe Chick Training: Ken Duesterhoft

Cell: 903-520-0294 Email: kwdues@gmail.com

Book Table : Betty Buchanan

Cell: 903-930-2678 Email: jimbet85@gmail.com

Community Trailer: Wayne Brunt

Cell: 903-522-0833 Email: waynebrunt@ymail.com

Gathering Coordinator: Debbie Hays

Cell: 903-452-5331 Email: dhays55@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor: Ernest Rodriguez

Cell: 903-810-0633 Email: erod7707@gmail.com

Prayer Vigil/Wall Agape: Rhonda Gorrell

Cell: 575-749-1221 Email: fire322dfd@yahoo.com

Publication Coordinator: John Epps

Cell: 830-444-1400 Email: j.epps1400@gmail.com

Sponsorship Training: Laura Resler

Cell: 617-953-4486 Email: ltfnp2@gmail.com

Team Selection-Board Nominations: John Crow

Cell: 903-288-1881 Email: jwcrow56@gmail.com

Reunion Groups: Scott Catchot

Cell: 903-373-5415 Email: scottcatchot@yahoo.com

Non-Board (non-voting) Positions

Registrar: Jim and Betty Buchanan

Cell Betty: 903-930-2678 Cell Jim: 903-930-2360 email: jimbet85@gmail.com

Walk Crosses/Dove NameTags: Elizabeth Minor

Home: 903-657-8112 Email: mnm-design@msn.com

Cell: 903-720-1740

Webmaster: Martha and Brett Walker

Cell Martha: 903-235-0158 Cell Brett: 903-987-3090

email Martha: marthasgarden55@gmail.com email Brett: brettfcall@gmail.com



Assistant Spiritual Director

My name is Dan Vickers. I went on GRACE Emmaus Walk #78 at Camp Gilmont. I sat at the table of St. Mark. My wife and I worship and serve at Winona United Methodist Church.

My role is to be the Assistant Spiritual Director for the GRACE community. I'm deeply humbled to be in this role and I'm honored to serve this community spiritually.

To have the opportunity to learn from Joe Hall how to better serve you all is a tremendous opportunity for me. If I can pray with you about anything, partner with you in faith for any circumstance you are facing, or simply be a listening ear for any concern you have I would be honored to do so.

Jesus calls us to love one another and to lift each other up. With all the honor and glory due to Him, I'm happy to partner with you any way I can. Jesus is Lord!

De Colores!
Dan Vickers

Community Trailer

I went on Walk 76 at Disciples Crossing and say at the table of Mark.

I am responsible for inventory and logistics for the community trailer for each spring and fall walks.

DeColores!!!
Wayne Brunt

Agape(Banquet,Afterglow, Handmade Items)

My name is Charlene Burton. I attended G.R.A.C.E Emmaus Walk #85 at Disciples Crossing. I sat at the table of Ruth. My husband, Brad, and I worship and serve at First United Methodist Church in Lindale, Texas.

As the Board Rep for the Agape Banquet and Afterglow, I am responsible for seeking volunteer 4th dayers to help decorate (with the Outside Servant Team), to escort pilgrims and team members to the dinner, and to serve food and drink at the dinner.

This responsibility also includes making sure the Afterglow is set up and that refreshments are provided and served.

I prayerfully request the assistance of any 4th dayer who feels led to volunteer at the Agape Banquet. Please arrive at the cafeteria at Disciples Crossing at approximately 3pm on Saturday. If you would like to escort, please wear black pants and solid white shirts or tops. You will be blessed by this special time.

"Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God" (Luke 14:15).

DeColores,
Charlene Burton

Gathering Coordinator

I am Debbie Hays, I went on GRACE Walk # 8 at Timberline and sat at the table of Ruth. My husband and I worship and serve at Marvin United Methodist Church, in Tyler, TX. I am new to this position this year. My responsibilities include contacting churches and finding locations to hold our monthly meetings. I am responsible for ensuring at each meeting we are set up for Communion. I am responsible for cleaning up and making sure things are better than we left them.

I find joy in serving our Community. These gathering help us to fellowship with other Christians and remind us we are an example to others. God calls us to fellowship and support each other. Won't you join us?

DeColores,
Debbie Hays
Tyler, TX

Book Table

My name is Betty Buchanan. I went on Walk #57 in the spring of 2011 and sat at the table of Esther. My husband and I worship and serve at Pleasant Retreat UMC in Tyler, TX. For 2020, I will be serving as the Book Table person.

The purpose for having a book table on Walk to Emmaus is to introduce participants, particularly laity, to a variety of authors and titles, with an eye on the cost of the book and a view to the subject of the book as it relates to one or more of the fifteen talks. The book list is not meant to be comprehensive, but rather representative. More than anything, these are not so much books people SHOULD read, but books that people MIGHT read profitably. Books and any other material sold at the Book Table are sold for what we paid for them.

The books will be selected from the latest Upper Room catalogs, representative of the following categories: Christian Action, Spiritual Growth, Inspiration and Devotion, Family Life and Bible Study.

During the walk trainings before each walk, the Lay Director will ask team members to submit a list of book titles and authors that they recommend. If these are not available through the Upper Room, I will try to purchase from Mardel Christian Book Store. Any unsold books are returned to Mardel for refund.

Also, anyone in the Emmaus community with books they would like to donate, we will gladly accept them. These books will be free or sold for a donation to the Pilgrims. Donated books can be brought to gatherings, Thursday of a Walk, or be picked up by me.

DeColores,
Betty Buchanan

Music Coordinator

IM SCOTT SNYDER. I WENT ON GRACE EMMAUS WALK 86 AT CAMP GILMONT IN GILMER TX. I SAT AT THE TABLE AND SAINT JOHN. MY WIFE LAURA AND I SERVE AND WORSHIP AT WINONA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN WINONA TX.

I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING MUSIC TRAILER TO AND FROM WALKS, SET UP CONFERENCE ROOM FOR MUSIC, AND SOUND SYSTEMS, MUSICIANS FOR ALL GATHERINGS, SONG BOOKS TO ALL FUNCTIONS.

DeColores,
Scott Snyder

Prayer Vigil

Hello, my name is Rhonda Gorrell. I went on New Horizons Emmaus Walk number 63 in Amherst, Texas in April 2016. I sat at the table of Sarah, My family and I worship and serve at Bar None Cowboy Church in Tatum, Texas. My position on the board is Prayer Vigil and Wall Agape.

As all of you know PRAYER is a vital part of the walks. The prayer vigil is posted on our website for everyone to sign up and pray for each pilgrim and team member of the walks. This list of prayer warriors will be placed in the conference room for all pilgrims to see. Remember how important that list was to you on your walk. When signing up please remember to put your town a couple spaces behind your name.

The Wall Agape is what other communities send to us, telling us that they are praying for our walks. In turn, I send out our wall agape to their communities from us.

DeColores,

Rhonda Gorrell

Newsletter

My name is Ernest Rodriguez. I went on G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Walk #88 at beautiful Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX. I sat at the table of St.Luke. My wife Heather and I worship and serve at St. John's United Methodist church in Jacksonville, TX.

As the newsletter editor on the G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus board, I am responsible for gathering all article submissions from the rest of the committee, determine dates all submissions must be made, publish community newsletter each month, edit articles and proofread the final draft.

I learned what it means to truly love and serve, my walk was an awesome experience, changed how I see people and has really given me a deeper desire to serve. God healed my broken heart at dying moments. He condescended to me, brushed my cheek with His breath and picked up a burden I could not carry one step farther. I was dying when I walked in, I was living when I walked out. The Lord gives and The Lord takes away. Blessed be the name of The Lord.

DeColores,

Ernest Rodriguez

G.R.A.C.E. 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 #: _____

MAIL INFORMATION TO:

Tyler Emmaus GRACE Community

P.O. Box 132212

Tyler, TX 75713-221