

Grace For Today

January, 2012
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G.R.A.C.E. Website
www.gracemmaus.org

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March 15-18, 2012**

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DEAR

G.R.A.C.E.,

**Community Lay Director
January, 2012**

Happy New Year!

I'm Jo Anne Skeen from Palestine! I went on G.R.A.C.E. Walk #39 at Camp Gilmont, sat at the Table of Rachel. Gene and I attend Grace UMC in Palestine and worship where ever we are.

This is my third year to serve on the G.R.A.C.E. Board and I am honored to serve this year as the Community Lay Director.

By now you've had time to make New Year's resolutions and break them! The first of the year seems like a good time to break old habits and start new ones, get projects finished and new ones started and set goals for the New Year. One year I made a list of goals to accomplish throughout the New Year. I, of course, soon lost the list! But sometime during the next year, I found that list. I was amazed at how many of my goals I had actually done (the usual ones like losing weight and excising more were not on that list!!!) Just writing those goals down put them in my mind and I never completely forgot them.

So with that in mind, I would like to write down the goals I have for this New Year. The first one is an old one. Let's continue to have a Gathering every month. The Gatherings are scattered all over East Texas. That gives everyone a chance to make at least one Gathering!

The second goal is to continue the great intentional Walk Team training started last year. The more we understand our roles the better the chance each Walk will be "the best one ever"!

The third goal is to become a community that is not just Walk driven, but Fourth Day driven. It's easy to get enthused about sponsoring a Pilgrim and working the Walks. Not so much about attending Gatherings,

reunion groups, serving our churches and other Fourth Day responsibilities. The Walk is important and I believe lives are changed, but the Fourth Day is where that change makes a difference not only in our lives but in the lives of others.

One area where we need to stay enthused is reunion groups. Reunions groups are so important to helping new pilgrims stay in touch and accountable. Be in a Reunion Group. Bring new pilgrims to it or start new ones. Do whatever it takes to remain accountable to each other in order to keep our priorities straight. If you would, please check out the Reunion Group page on our website. Check to see if your Reunion Group is listed and if the information is correct. (If you see one listed there you know is no longer meeting, please let the Board know.)

There will be more about becoming a Fourth Day and Walk driven community in future newsletters.

These are just a few goals I have in mind for the New Year. What are yours? Write them down, share them, do them!!!

DeColores!

Jo Anne Skeen

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FOURTH DAY MISSION

Many Emmaus Communities are focused on presenting The Walk to Emmaus as they should be. The Walk to Emmaus has been a highlight of many of our religious lives. However, what is the most difficult part of any program? Follow-up...For the Emmaus movement, the Fourth Day is our follow up. It is the way we attempt to keep the emphasis on Christ, sharing his word and his missions after we have been on our Walk. It makes sense for us to begin to focus on how we can provide better support for our Fourth Days and bring balance to the Emmaus movement.

I'm sure that many of you have ideas about how we might support Fourth Days in more meaningful ways. It

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.

DeColores

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name: _____

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