

G.R.A.C.E.



NEWS

MARCH 2005

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From the Community Lay Director

What a great Gathering at Walter Fair UMC. We had over 80 brothers and sisters who came together to worship and fellowship on Thursday, February 10. Take a minute and look up the GRACE calendar (in this issue of the newsletter). Put the gathering/walk dates on your personal calendars right now! We want to see you, and miss you when you are not fellowshiping with the community. We are especially appreciative of those churches and reunion groups that host our Gatherings. Your service in allowing our community a place to meet and worship is a blessing.

At the January Gathering, we discussed the following items:

1.) The location for our upcoming Women's walk #33. We will be at Disciple's Crossing camp, Hwy 31, Athens, TX. Disciple's Crossing is a tremendous camp and location that helps us better accommodate the growing needs of our community's members. **(Disciple's Crossing is located exactly 28.7 miles west of Loop 323 in Tyler on Hwy 31, just past Murchison, TX).**

2.) Board members have assigned groups of GRACE members/churches that they will contact on a regular basis to share community information. We want everyone in GRACE to know what is happening, where it is happening, and when it is happening.

3.) Reunion groups need to be working on agape for the upcoming women's walk – contact Willa Beltz (wbeltz2@tyler.net or 903-825-6906) with questions.

4.) Reunion groups – WHERE ARE YOU??? Tom Perdue (tperdue@cox-internet.com or 903-526-3504) is updating our reunion group listing. He needs to hear from you right way to be included in the updated listing.

We also made a decision that was extremely difficult one for the board and the community. We had to cancel a Men's GRACE Emmaus walk. Unfortunately, this is a direct reflection on our GRACE community. We had twelve men who wanted to engage the Lord Jesus on this meaningful weekend. There was a team of willing workers assembled who adjusted their personal lives to provide the arms, legs, head, and heart for Jesus to the pilgrims. **It was our community, each one of us, who let the Lord down. We must recall that the Lord is counting on us!** We are called to support our Emmaus walks and team members by attentively listening to Holy Spirit's call, and gathering pilgrims from our churches to provide a full walk of 36-42 pilgrims. Your GRACE board of directors voted to

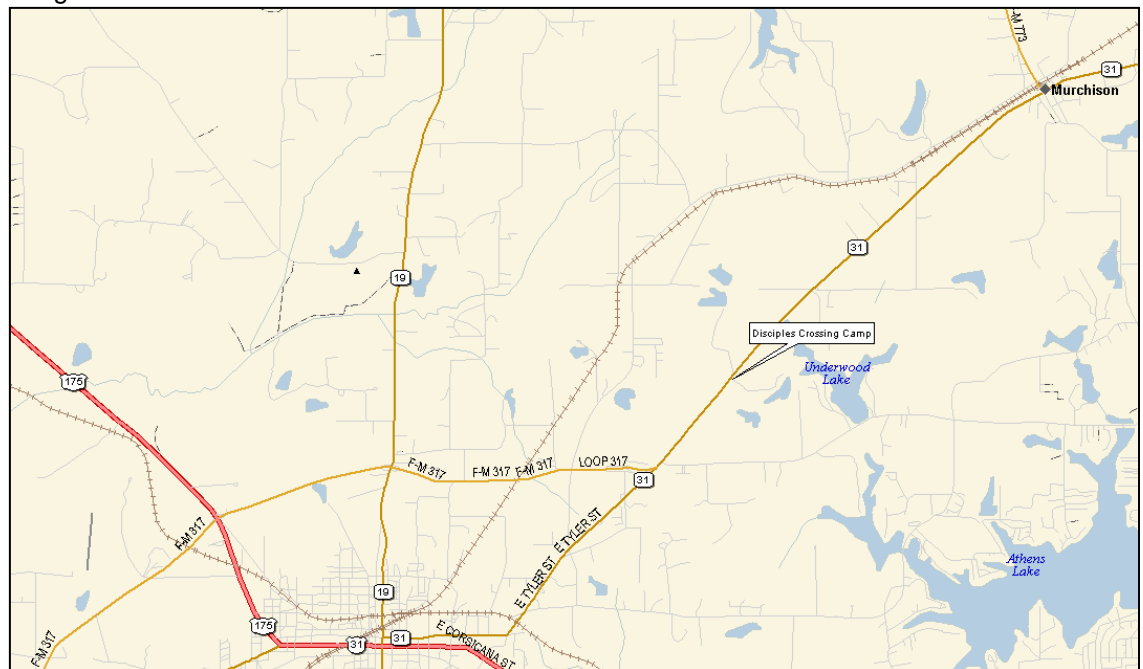
cancel Men's Walk #32, to avoid incurring extreme financial obligations that the small enrollment would impose on the community. To those who did sponsor pilgrims, **THANK YOU.** We will be communicating alternatives with you very soon through the registrar. We are asking your pilgrims to consider walking to Emmaus during our scheduled **October 6-9, 2005, Men's walk #34.** Community, we have another opportunity to serve.

The good news is that our Women's walk #33 is rapidly approaching the full status.

The walk team is preparing and the Holy Spirit is actively at work. Plan on attending the candlelight for this walk at Disciple's Crossing.

God is good all the time, and all the time God is good.

During the gathering at Walter Fair UMC, one of our members brought up the fact that we need to pray for our Emmaus community. Prayer is powerful, Prayer sustains, and Prayers are answered. We have a great community that spreads from Malakoff to Marshall, and Palestine to Gilmer. Within this territory, we have over 1000 brothers and sisters. What we need to constantly pray for is wisdom, knowledge, and guidance as we are called, through Emmaus, to do work for the Lord Jesus Christ. To much in the world is constantly pulling at us taking our time, and talents. All the reasons are valid and justifiable in our minds. In reality,



Jesus is asking us to do just one thing, and one thing only – be **FAITHFUL**. As the Holy Spirit directs each of us to align our lives with the Lord's will, pray that part of that alignment will be continued prayer, work, support, and participation in Emmaus. Remember the message of our Christian Action talk. Put your belief into practice, and use words if necessary.

Finally, consider this, if you were arrested today and charged with being a Christian -- would there be enough evidence to convict you?

Grace and peace

DeColores Community Lay Director **Bill Burgdorf**

G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Calendar for 2005

February

10 – **Gathering** – 7 pm, Walter Fair UMC, Tyler – speaker: Al Tribe

17 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

March

10-13 – **Women's Walk #33**, Disciples Crossing, Athens

12 – **Candlelight/Gathering** – 8:00pm, Walk #33, Disciples Crossing, Athens

17 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

April

14 – **Gathering** – 7 pm, Pollard UMC, Tyler – speaker: Willa Beltz

21 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

May

14 – **Gathering** and pot luck lunch – Noon, 1st UMC, Henderson – speaker:

14 – Board meeting – 10 am, 1st UMC, Henderson

June

9 – **Gathering** – 7 pm, 1st UMC, Lindale – speaker: David Barnes

16 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

July

No activities planned

August

11 – **Gathering** – 7 pm, Swan-Wood Spring UMC, Swan – speaker: Susan Stallings

18 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

September

8 – **Gathering** – 7 pm, Summerfield UMC, Longview – speaker: Lynda Slay

15 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

October

6-9 – **Men's Walk #34**, Camp Gilmont, Gilmer

8 – **Candlelight/Gathering** – 8:00pm, Walk #34, Camp Gilmont, Gilmer

13-16 – **Women's Walk #35**, Camp Gilmont, Gilmer

15 – **Candlelight/Gathering** – 8:00pm, Walk #35, Camp Gilmont, Gilmer

20 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

November

12 – **Gathering** (Grand Ultrea) and pot luck lunch – Noon, St Luke's, Kilgore – speaker: Bill Burgdorf

12 – Board meeting – 10 am, St Luke's, Kilgore

December

15 – Board meeting (transition to new board) – 7 pm, Lane's Chapel UMC, Tyler

January

12 – **Gathering** – 7 pm, Lane's Chapel UMC, Tyler

19 – Board meeting – 7 pm, Marvin UMC, Tyler

From the Women's No. 33 Lay Director:

The team for G.R.A.C.E. women's walk #33 is excited about being the pioneer team for the Disciples' Crossing camp. It is a beautiful facility set in the woods near Athens. The lake with the cross lit at night will be a focal point for trips across the campus.

God has put together an awesome team for this walk. We have been getting to know one another and previewing talks at the team meetings. As we share our faith experiences, we relive our own Emmaus Walk and the feelings of agape love and grace we felt. We delight in being able to pass it on to the pilgrims of Walk 33. We are learning to put self aside and rely on God's grace to support and sustain us as we continue in His work. We know that there will be obstacles and challenges, but we have the assurance that the Holy Spirit will equip us for His work. We have been praying for the pilgrims and we lift them up to you, the G.R.A.C.E. community, for your prayers. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Matthew 6:33

Kay McKinley

Lay Director, Walk 33

Pilgrim's for Women's Walk #33

Kay Alewine	FUMC, Arp
Ann Marie Barnett	FUMC, Mineola
Marilyn Beard	Winterfield UMC
Cathy Bedair	FUMC, Gladewater
Barbara Bobo	Grace Community
Lynda Bobo	FUMC, Gilmer
Kathryn Brazzel	Walter Fair UMC,
Melanie Bynog	FUMC, Malakoff
Felecia Cain	1st. Presbyterian, Athens
Rebecca Canter	Winterfield UMC
Niki Chowdhury	St Lukes UMC,
Venona Clyde	Green Acres Baptist
Sharon Coberly	FUMC, Grand Saline
Helen Cole	FUMC, Athens
Linda Dykes	Wallace/Moore UMC
Cindy Fields	1 st Christian, Athens
Dee Gemmel	FUMC, Murchison
Jeannie Hanssen	FUMC, Gladewater
Rachel Harton	FUMC, Henderson
Bobbie Hiney	FUMC, Gilmer
Emily Hobson	St Mark's UMC
Debe Hukill	Bethel Bible Church
Rita Jarrard	FUMC, Mineola
Lori Mosley	First Baptist, Eustace
Barbara Mutchler	Lake Fork Baptist
Amy Odenthal	FUMC, Athens
Kelly Ott	Walnut Creek Baptist
Michelle Pena	Bethel Bible Church
Virginia Pevey	Winterfield UMC
Ellen Pollard	FUMC, Athens
Pamela Pruitt	FUMC, Athens
Jennifer Rummel	FUMC, Athens
Tina Rummel	FUMC, Athens
Sylvia Sable	Tyler Unity Center
Misty Shipman	St Lukes UMC
Linda Anne Smith	Green Acres Baptist
Cara Wallace	Hopewell UMC
Mary Ann White	FUMC, Gladewater
Gigi Williams	FUMC, Gladewater

Conference Room Team Walk #33

Robert Besser	- SD - St. Luke's UMC
Bill Holda	- ASD - St. Luke's UMC
Mike Cline	- ASD - Troup UMC
Candace Barron	- ASD - Cheatham UMC
Pam Besser	- ASD - St. Luke's UMC
Kay McKinley	- LD - St. Luke's UMC
Lynda Slay	- ALD - FBC, Eustace (Time Keeper)
Toyia Urbaniak	- ALD - Beckville UMC (Conference Room)
Scotti Wood	- ALD - St. Luke's UMC (Speaker Escort)
Willa Beltz	- Board Rep. - Pollard UMC
Patti Jones	- TL - FUMC Athens

Juanita Keosoff - TL - FUMC Mineola
Ann Rosson – TL -St. Luke's UMC
Marjorie McPherson -TL-Lanes Chapel
UMC
Cathi Fields – TL - Bethel Bible Church
Renee LeBeouf – TL - Marvin UMC
Donna Swenson–ATL-Lanes Chapel
UMC
Vicky Bright – ATL - FUMC Gladewater
Sharon Jones–ATL - New Birth Ministries
Becky Krajewski– ATL -Emmanuel
Baptist, Henderson
Carol Younger – ATL -FUMC Gladewater
Angela Horst - ATL- St. Luke's UMC
Gerri McGilvray – MD - FUMC Athens
Kay Reddoch – AMD - Canton UMC
Jo Clark – AMD - FUMC Athens
Teresa Elliott - ST Leader - Lanes
Chapel UMC
Jennifer Burgdorf – ST - Lanes Chapel
UMC
Sandy Collins – ST
Jennifer Currey - ST
Tina Moyers - ST
Katinka Aldridge - ST
Shelly Mitchell - ST
Dawn May - ST
Bill Burgdorf - ST -Lanes Chapel UMC
Chuck Robinson - ST- Lanes Chapel
UMC
Tom Perdue – ST – Grace Community
Jennifer Neill - ST
Karen Bonds - ST

Other members of the Athens Fourth
Day are working as chapel angels.
Thank you to all who desire to serve
our Lord on this weekend.

PLEASE REMEMBER!!!!!!
THAT THE MEN'S WALK
NO. 32 HAS BEEN
CANCELLED. AS A
COMMUNITY WE CAN
KEEP THIS FROM
HAPPENING AGAIN.

The editor: Tom Perdue

Please note that this is the internet
edition of the printed newsletter that you
should be receiving soon in the mail.