

# GRACE for TODAY

## A Word from Wynn Harle

How long has it been since you opened your Fourth Day packet? You remember that large manila envelope that was in your large white agape bag. I confess it had been a long time since I had. And then I heard a friend mention that some churches get it right when it comes to welcoming visitors while others fall short. I was reminded of the hospitality we Christians are taught to provide and seemed to recall reading a bit about this after I took my Walk to Emmaus.

Viola! There it was. In the booklet "Sustaining the Spirit" reference is made to Henri Nouwen's book "Reaching Out." He suggests that we need to learn and practice the art of hospitality. He makes several key points, not the least of which is "we can offer a space where people feel free to become vulnerable, to lay aside their burdens, to listen to their inner voices, and to begin to examine their own beliefs and the quality of their experiences." Read that again...slowly.

Fellow Fourth Dayers that is exactly what happens on the Walk to Emmaus. No matter the camp site, no matter the weather, no matter what time of year and no matter what may be going outside the Walk, our teams create a space that is built on hospitality. As Nouwen points out, it is a "gift of opportunity for the strangers in our midst to discover their own lifestyle and to find God in their own way."

As a new member to the G.R.A.C.E. community in November, 2013, I was overwhelmed by the acceptance of our members. Each walk worked has been an opportunity to share that with others, to be hospitable and to be blessed. May you all continue to find that gift of opportunity in each of your Fourth Days.

De Colores,

Wynn Harle

G.R.A.C.E. Community Lay Director

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**G.R.A.C.E. Website:**  
[www.graceemmaus.com](http://www.graceemmaus.com)

## Gatherings 2019

Saturday, May 18 at FUMC Lindale 12 noon potluck 1 PM Worship & Communion

June 15 Lane's Chapel, Tyler, TX  
5:00 PM

July 20 Winona FUMC, Winona, TX 12 noon

## Fall Walks

Camp Gilmont, Gilmer, TX

**Men's Walk #90**

**October 3-6**

**Women's Walk #91**

**October 10-13**

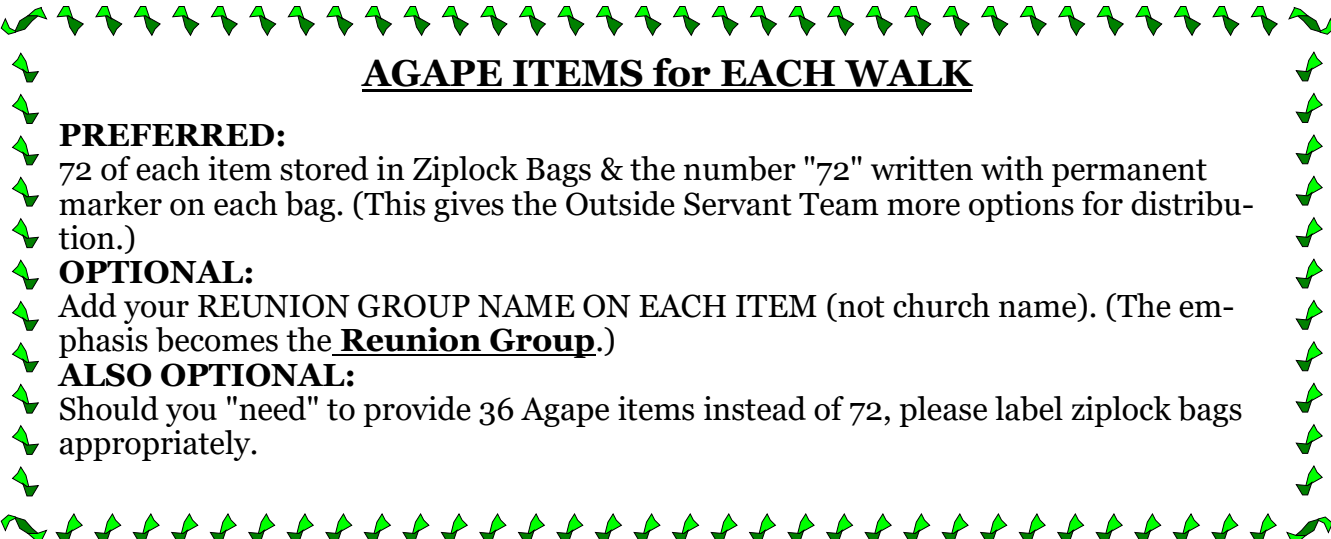
Sailing, Sailing...Jim and Betty Buchanan

## 40 Years and Still Growing.....

From March 28 through April 1, 2019, we were privileged to represent the G.R.A.C.E. community as we participated along with 90 other Emmaus pilgrims from several states as well as the Bahamas and Prague, Czech Republic in the "Walk to Emmaus: 40 Years and Still Growing" celebratory Caribbean cruise. There was a worship service each morning, and we were privileged to serve communion for one of the services. We met several interesting folks, including Rev. Tommy Tucker who, while assigned in the Central TX Conference, was one of the guides who helped in the forming of the G.R.A.C.E. Community. Through discussions we were exposed to some different ways of doing some things and some ideas for change that others are considering, some of which we may want to discuss and consider for G.R.A.C.E. One of the things we heard a lot of discussion about is called "Face to Face", a program that takes the Emmaus experience into areas for folks that the weekend experience might not be possible.



Keynote speakers Stephen Bryant, Pat Luna, and Jacob & Rachel Armstrong shared insights on the beginnings, history, and hopes for the future of the Walk to Emmaus, a ministry of The Upper Room. Emmaus Ministries staff invited communities to refocus on their mission. "Renewing Christian Disciples, Strengthening Local Churches" is the new mission statement, meant to reflect on what Emmaus means for the coming years.



### **AGAPE ITEMS for EACH WALK**

#### **PREFERRED:**

72 of each item stored in Ziplock Bags & the number "72" written with permanent marker on each bag. (This gives the Outside Servant Team more options for distribution.)

#### **OPTIONAL:**

Add your REUNION GROUP NAME ON EACH ITEM (not church name). (The emphasis becomes the **Reunion Group**.)

#### **ALSO OPTIONAL:**

Should you "need" to provide 36 Agape items instead of 72, please label ziplock bags appropriately.

### **REGISTRAR**

**I think we will agree that the spring walks were the best ever for teams and pilgrims. With those now sort of in the rearview mirror it's time to be in prayerful consideration for the fall walks and anyone who is being considered as a pilgrim.**

**In case you haven't been on the community website lately there is a big difference in the registration process. There is no longer an online application; all wholly completed applications will be mailed to the registrar's address, shown on the bottom of the application and on the website in the BOARD MEMBER section.**

**There are some other differences that each prospective sponsor will need to take note of. When you click on the tab to open the pilgrim application you will first find a set of abbreviated instructions to be followed in completing the application. Please follow these instructions as not doing so could create delays in having your pilgrim registered.**

**As always, if you have any questions you can email or call Jim or Betty with your request.**

**De Colores,  
Jim and Betty Buchanan  
G.R.A.C.E. Registrar**



## Fall Walks are Coming!!

Please be in prayer for the fall walks #90 & #91! If you would like to work one of these walks you still have time to get your application in. Please submit those to GRACE Emmaus website. (Team application) We would love to have you on a team!

DeColores,

Lisa Brewer

## WE NEED AGAPE!

You can also be making agape, or preparing to sponsor pilgrims for these walks. Looking forward to serving with each of you!!

*You're Invited!*

First United Methodist

Church of Mineola

Emmaus Sunday – May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019

8:30 A.M. – Contemporary Worship  
Ministries Center, 612 N. Newsom

10:50 A.M. – Traditional Worship  
Sanctuary, 319 N. Pacific

11:00 A.M. – Fellowship Service  
Ministries Center, 612 N. Newsom

At each of our services, we will have Fourth Day speakers and explore the Walk to Emmaus, it's meaning and purpose.





## Fourth Dayers Go Forth

We had a wonderful turnout at the Fourth Day training despite horrendous weather conditions that morning. We talked about Sponsorship and the value of joining a Reunion Group. Your sponsor has committed to introduce all new Fourth Dayers into an active Reunion Group. We encourage all to make it a priority to find a reunion group near you. The fellowship and support are really helpful and meaningful.

If you are interested in working the next walk, fill out an application online. Teams will be chosen prior to the Board Meeting on May 16. Also consider sponsoring a new pilgrim. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask anyone in the GRACE community. We are here to help you.

De Colores Steve Morton

## CAMP GILMONT NEEDS OUR HELP!

Camp Gilmont needs our help! Just as with so many worthy institutions they are in financial need. They are looking to increase revenues by way of donors, grants and camp usage. We are looking into working on some kind of grant with them. The best way for all of us to help is to get more kids to attend their Summer camp weeks. If you can get your church to send a boy or girl in need of a week in an ecumenical Christian camp it would benefit the child and the camp. Gilmont has added a zip-line and paddle boarding on their lake to a long list of activities. The cost for the week is \$595; more than \$400 less than other Christian camps in the area. Maybe you can suggest to family, friends or members in your church to send their kids there as well. Any support will be greatly appreciated and help Camp Gilmont in a difficult time. Thank you for your attention.

Hank Resler

## Walk to Emmaus Book Table



Our book table at the Walks is in need of your used books. If you have any appropriate books you are willing to donate, please bring them to our upcoming Gatherings or send them with a member of the team on our next walk. Thank you for your help.

Hank Resler

## Reunion groups allow us to stay connected.

Are you looking for a reunion group? Check out our website for locations and times or start your own group. It takes two people to start a group and I'll be more than happy to help you get connected.

Our Emmaus website has a list of times, locations, and contact people. If you are currently part of a reunion group, please take a minute to review the information about your group. Then let me know if there are any corrections so we can keep the website up to date.

Paula West

# 2019 G.R.A.C.E. BOARD MEMBERS

## **Community Lay Director**

Wynn Harle

cowboycentral@suddenlink.net

903-245-2701

## **Community Assistant Lay Director**

Mike Johnston

johnstonmdo8@gmail.com

## **Ex-Officio Member**

Mike Hodgson

hdgmanmd@gmail.com

903-948-0821

## **Spiritual Director**

Rev. Joe Hall

joehall@mhd.com

903-742-5828

## **Assistant Spiritual Director**

Rev. Wade Harman

harmanwk01@yahoo.com

903-631-9534

## **Secretary**

Charlene Burton

cburtonlindale@gmail.com

903-920-6677

## **Treasurer**

Betty Buchanan

jimbet85@gmail.com

903-930-2678

## **Music Coordinator**

John Crow

jwcrow56@gmail.com

903-288-1881

## **Agape (Wall, Prayer Vigil)**

Rhonda Gorrell

fire322dfd@yahoo.com

575-749-1221

## **Baby Chicks Training**

Steve Morton

Stc.morton@gmail.com

903-722-4014

## **Book Table**

Hank Resler

ltfnp2@gmail.com

617-953-4486

## **Community Trailer**

Wayne Brunt

waynebrunt@ymail.com

903-522-0833

## **Gathering Coordinator**

Kenneth Duesterhoft

kwdues@gmail.com

903-520-0294

## **Newsletter**

Debbie Hays

dhays55@yahoo.com

903-452-5331

## **Publications**

Scott Catchot

scottcatchot@yahoo.com

903-373-5415

## **Sponsorship**

Garry Mount

mt3279@aol.com

903-985-0957

## **NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

### **Registrar**

Burton Love

burtonylove@gmail.com

903-880-5462

### **Crosses/Doves**

Elizabeth Minor

mnm-design@msn.com

903-720-1740

### **Webmaster**

Martha Walker

marthasgarden55@gmail.com

903-235-0158

**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.

**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 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 75713-2212**