

May, 2010 Volume 10, Issue 5

G.R.A.C.E. Website www.gracemmaus.org

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DI RECTI ONS ARE AVAI LABLE ON THE <u>GRACEMMAUS.ORG</u> WEBSI TE

YA'LL COME!!

DEAR G.R.A.C.E.

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters of G.R.A.C.E. What a beautiful Spring we have experienced. Walks #52 and #53 were very big part of that beautification. Thanks to all of you for your part in making those Walks so successful. As is necessary, we hardly cleanup from the Spring Walks when it is time for team selection for the Fall Walks at Camp Gilmont. Have you completed your application to be a team member on either Walk #54 or #55? You can do that by going to

http://www.gracemmaus.org/TEAMA

<u>PP.html</u> and completing an online application for the conference room team or

http://www.gracemmaus.org/Outside

<u>Servant_Team_Application.pdf</u> to complete an application to be on the Servant Team (outside team). We have had problems with online applications in the past but we have made corrections to fix those problems.

Does making an application assure that you will be a team member on the next Walk? No, there are only so many positions to be filled (22-23 Conference Room team members and 8-9 Servant team members). We frequently have more applying than there are positions and there is a required criterion to be followed by the team selection committee. The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus Team requires the Selection Committee to use the "One-third Rule." This rule means the Team Selection Committee should strive to include on each team with approximately one-third new conference room team members, onethird second- or third-time team members and one-third team veterans. Another important criteria followed by the Team Selection Committee is to honor Emmaus Community The Team Selection Participation. Committee chooses first from among persons who actively support the Emmaus Movement and who practice the Emmaus method. Teams should represent those who seek to live a life of piety, study, and action; who know the value of a support group for living in grace as an accountable disciple: and who are active church members.

The committee also honors participation in Group Reunions and Gatherings as a sign of a person's commitment to the Emmaus method for Christian living. While ideally all team members should be active in a Group Reunion, the Lay Director and Fourth Day speaker must be active in an accountability group, or their witness is false. The committee honors these standards without being narrowly legalistic. Above all, the committee discerns individual gifts for team membership and overall commitment to the aims of Emmaus. I hope that I've shed some light on the team selection processes used to select Walk Teams. Posture yourself to meet all criteria for your best opportunity to be selected for team membership. And please be in prayer for the team selection committees as they meet this month for selection of Teams for Walks #54 & 55, that they may be successful in selecting the best possible teams. Grace and Peace,

Dan Matthews

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From the Spiritual Director

To call ourselves Christian" is to say many things packed into one word. It says that we have hope in life and we are able to acknowledge our mistakes and take corrective action. It means we see others as Christ sees them, full of possibilities. It means recognizing we do not live alone that we are part of a greater self, the Body of Christ. It means we dialogue with our creator to discover the ways and means of life.

Recently, I revisited a book I read some years ago that helped me in my dialogue with God. It is Coping *with Your Anger: A Christian Guide* by Andrew D. Lester. This book spends considerable time helping the reader to understand anger and why it is a gift from God. Dr. Lester looks at scripture to help us understand why we may have grown up believing we should not get angry and why that belief is harmful to our self and our relationship with God. Everyone can benefit from reading his words.

Lester says six things I will share. First, be conscious of our anger. If we suppress or fail to

acknowledge our anger, it can cause us to sin. Once aware we are angry, we can name the event, object and feeling that our anger is expressing. This allows us to interpret and evaluate why we are angry. We must remember that anger is not the problem; it is only a symptom of the problem. We must find the problemcausing event if we are to deal with We our anger. must take responsibility for our anger recognizing that somebody or something else does not cause our anger.

Finally, we must find an appropriate way of expressing our anger. Searching the scriptures yields many possibilities. I think Paul gives the best advice in 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, we are to be ambassadors of Christ seeking to be in a ministry of reconciliation. We need to be full of forgiveness (Mt 18:21-22), and to take action quickly (Mt. 5:25) not harbor/feed/frenzy our anger (Ep. 4:26-27).

It is important to acknowledge that our anger is a result of an attack on our greater self or the idols that we may worship. If we discover that we have placed greater value on "things" rather than our relationship with God, we may respond in anger to an attack on our "stuff". We pray, "Open our eyes illumine me, Spirit Divine."

De Colores David Mays Spiritual Director G.R.A.C Emmaus



Mark You Calendars for these Dates:

Girls Chrysalis Flight Sept 4th, 5th and 6th 2010

Boys Chrysalis Flight Dec 18th, 19th and 20th 2010 What is a Chrysalis Flight? A CHRYSALIS Weekend is a three day experience which takes a look at Christianity as a lifestyle. It is a highly structured weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of young Christians and, through them, all those with whom they come into contact. CHRYSALIS is an ecumenical, combined effort of laity and clergy toward renewal of the Church.

Those attending the weekend will spend three busy but enjoyable days living and sharing together in singing, prayer, worship and discussions centered around fifteen talks given by both laity and clergy. These talks present the theme of God's grace and how that grace comes alive in the Christian community and expresses itself in the world. CHRYSALIS is growth stage between the caterpillars and butterflies. While on the surface it may look like nothing is happening, the delicate process changes a caterpillar into a butterfly with wings and beautiful colors. This symbolizes that, through dying to self, Christ can transform us into new beings. Jesus Christ can transform us into something beautiful. We must open ourselves to Jesus for this transformation to occur.

CHRYSALIS is the name chosen for the Youth Walk to Emmaus because it symbolizes faith growth in the lives of youth -the spiritual growth that is necessary between adolescence and adulthood it is a crucial time in a maturing faith for discipleship.

CHRYSALIS has its roots deeply planted in its parent movement, the Walk to Emmaus. CHRYSALIS is a three-dav spiritual renewal retreat that provides participants an opportunity to learn more about faith, to experience Christian love and support, and chance to make new a commitments in their faith journey. The content of the three days focuses on God's grace, how one experiences Christ as a friend in the body of Christ, and how one is called into discipleship, giving love a needful word.



Notice In the cleanup after Walk #53 we found a pair of cloth/leather tan/brown gloves that need a home.

Ditto for a Christian music CD. Identify the CD and I will mail it to you. Don't have to identify the gloves. Ray Carden call me at 903-245-9138

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Prayer Vigil

Thank you to everyone that that participated in the 72 hour prayer vigils for Walks 52 and 53. Your prayers meant so much to the pilgrims and to the teams! Your prayers were a vital part of the success of those two walks!

There are walks going on all over the world every week. Each week I get requests from

many other Emmaus and other "three day" groups asking for prayers. From time to time I will be sharing those with you so that you might also pray for our brothers and sisters who are on Walks elsewhere. You may pray for these whenever you like or you may also go to www.3dayol.org and sign up for a specific time on their 72 hour prayer vigil. Below is a list of those who have recently requested prayer. Please pray for these during their walks. Thank you and DeColores! Judy Hawn

Anglican Cursillo of California	Coed Anglican Cursillo	<u>29 April-</u> <u>2 May</u> <u>2010</u>
Ashland Area Emmaus Community	Women's Walk to Emmaus #31	22-25 April 2010
Atlanta Christian Cursillo	Men's Christian Cursillo #71	22-25 April 2010
Auckland Emmaus Community	Men's Walk to Emmaus #41	29 April- 2 May 2010
Auckland Emmaus Community	Women's Walk to Emmaus #42	<u>13-16</u> <u>May</u> <u>2010</u>
Birmingham Cursillo Movement	Women's Catholic Cursillo #121	<u>13-16</u> <u>May</u> <u>2010</u>
Birmingham Walk to Emmaus	Men's Walk to Emmaus #56	29 April- 2 May 2010
Keystone Walk to Emmaus	Women's Walk to Emmaus #34	<u>29 April-</u> <u>2 May</u> <u>2010</u>
Keystone Walk to Emmaus	Men's Walk to Emmaus #31	<u>6-9 May</u> <u>2010</u>
North Mississippi Discipleship Walk	Women's Discipleship Walk #25	<u>29 April-</u> <u>2 May</u> <u>2010</u>

Celebrating Mothers, Daughters, Sisters & Friends.



When detected early, breast cancer is a curable disease. And the two most important things you can do to protect yourself are monthly self breast exams and annual mammograms. In honor of Mother's Day and the Tyler - Komen Race for the Cure®, The Trinity Mother Frances - Ross Breast Center is offering screening mammograms for the special cash price of \$150 during the month of May. Please visit tmfhc.org/Ross or call (903) 531-5433 or (800) 464-8807 today, to request an appointment.

GATHERINGS for **GRACE(2010)**

May 22, 2010, Payne Springs United Methodist Church; Fellowship 5:00PM, Pot Luck Dinner 5:30PM, worship 6:30PM

June 19, 2010, FUMC Troup; Fellowship 5:00 p.m., Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 p.m., Worship 6:30 p.m.

July 24, 2010, FUMC Canton; Fellowship 5:00 p.m., Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 p.m., Worship 6:30 p.m.

Aug. 28, 2010 Grace Community, OJ Campus; Sponsor training 4:30PM; Pot Luck Dinner 5:45PM; Worship 6:45PM

September 18, 2010, FUMC Athens; Fellowship 5:00 p.m., Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 p.m., Worship 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 20 2010 Grand Ultreya; Green Acres Baptist Church; Babe Chick training 4:30PM; Pot Luck Dinner 5:45PM; Worship 6:45PM

GATHERING NEWS

As this article is being written, we have not yet had the Lanes Chapel Gathering. I'm sure God would agree that it will be/was a great success regardless of how many were able to be there or who was able to be there. Someone will be blessed in ways we may never know.

As you can see above, we have a commitment from 1st United Methodist Church in Troup to host a local Gathering. We will have more specifics by the next Newsletter. We are hopeful that others will be able to finalize their plans to host a local Gathering. We still need for someone to step up and host a local Gathering in Dec. Sounds like a tough time but what a wonderful time to gather and celebrate the reason for the season. We can't have too manv There is nothing Gatherings. wrong with having more than one Gathering in a month. Our target is still to have them geographically separated to assure more community members have a chance to participate.

If you would like to plan a Gathering, contact Burton Love at 903-425-3864(h) 903-880-5462(cell) or

burtonlove@embarqmail.com.

You can also get guidance from any of the other board members. Keep in mind, it is not difficult and there is a lot of help available to make it a success. It is a true blessing when it all comes together.

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of the GRACEmmaus Gatherings in 2010. DeColores



Lay Directors for upcoming Walks

Men's Walk #54, Camp Gilmont October 7-10, 2010 Lay Director: Mike Minor

Women's Walk #55, Camp Gilmont October 14-17, 2010 Lay Director: Scotti Wood

Men's Walk #56, Disciples Crossing March 3-6, 2011 Lay Director: Bill Durr

Women's Walk #57, Disciples Crossing March 10-13, 2011 Lay Director: Toyia Urbaniak

Men's Walk #58, Camp Gilmont September 29-October 2, 2011 Lay Director: David McPherson

Women's Walk #59, Camp Gilmont October 27-30, 2011 Lay Director: Cindy Hooser

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1. The Board of Directors consists of three classes of five persons, a new class being elected each year, the oldest class rotating off. Therefore, being on the board is a three-year commitment.

2. The Emmaus community elects the board by voting each year on members of a new class from among nominees selected by a nominating committee and approved by the board. Voting is usually done through a mail ballot in the newsletter.

3. Each person on the board chairs one of the suggested committees needed to support the Walks and follow-up. These committees serve many functions, one of the most fundamental being leadership development. 4. Board meetings are held once a month.

If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact a current board member for more information.

GRACE Board for 2010

Publications George Asaaf geeassaf@suddenlink.net 903-569-6553

Crosses and Nametags **Ken Braswell** <u>braswellsbb@aol.com</u> 903-677-3341 (h) 903-288-5949 (c)

Exificio Ray Carden raycarden@suddenlink.net 903-882-1780 (h) 903-245-9138 (c)

Trailer/Clean-up **Frank Copeland** <u>fhcopel@gmail.com</u> 903-723-3420

Secretary **Diana Frachiseur** <u>Tdhbe05@yahoo.com</u> 903-842-3030 (h) 903-571-2646 (c)

Wall Agape/Prayer Clock Judy Hawn Jacieh2002@yahoo.com 903-681-1565

Babe Chick Training Brent Hooser Brenth12000@yahoo.com 903-939-9528 (h) 903-521-7367 (c)

Music Director **Patti Jones** <u>Shellie47@aol.com</u> 903-469-3431 (h) 903-288-4550 (c)

Assistant Lay Director Gathering Coordinator **Burton Love** <u>burtonlove@embarqmail.com</u> 903-425-3864 Community Lay Director Dan Matthews danmatt4497@hughes.net 903-338-2136 (h) 903-948-9039 (c)

Book Table John Norman jenorman@hughes.net 214-803-4074(c)

Newsletter Editor

Joy Parker Bjparker859@yahoo.com jparker@co.wood.tx.us 903-768-2892 (h) 903-850-2893 (c)

Sponsorship Training Tom Perdue tomdue@gmail.com 903-218-1578 (h) 903-571-3199 (c)

Treasurer **Jo Anne Skeen** joanneskeen@gmail.com 903-723-2189 (h) 903-391-1664 (c) 903-723-6143 (w)

Agape Banquet/Afterglow Joe Tew joe@tylerrosenursery.com 903-859-3385

Walk Agape Jana Russell Whitehurst jrussell@flex-source.com 903-291-1110 (h) 903-237-9068 (c)

NON-ELECTED POSITIONS

ASD Ben Bright bfbright@aol.com 903-845-2871

Chrysalis Steering Chair Registrar **Teresa Elliott** Elliott.teresa@gmail.com

Elliott@tmfhs.org 903-570-5233 (h) 903-531-4485 (c)

ASD Kim Hagedorn

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ASD

Douglas Smith Ddsmith2000@yahoo.com 903-968-3833

ASD Jodie Windbigler

revjodie@aol.com 432-425-1485

MEET YOUR BOARD...



HI MY NAME IS KEN BRASWELL I WENT ON GRACE EMMAUS WALK #44 AT DISCIPLES CROSSING IN THE SPRING OF 2008,I SET AT THE TABLE OF ST.LUKE. MY WIFE SARAH AND I SERVE AND WORSHIP AT THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN ATHENS.WE HAVE TWO CHILDREN AND ONE **GRAND CHILD.WE HAVE** LIVED IN ATHENS 12 YEARS.WE LIVED AT CEDAR CREEK LAKE 15 YEARS BEFORE BUILDING IN ATHENS. I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN McKINNEY TX. I RETIRED FROM GOVERNMENT WORK .MOST OF MY TIME IS **FISHING.DOING** SPENT CHARITY WORK, AND WORKING

FOR OUR CHURCH. I LOVE GRACE EMMAUS AND I WILL WORK HARD TO TRY TO BE AN ASSET TO YOUR BOARD. DE COLORES

My name is Joe D. Tew. I went on Walk #34 at Camp Gilmont. I am 67 years old



and live in Arp, Tx with my wife Janie. I have one son, Brandon, and three wonderful stepchildren, Terri, Marc and Breezy. I belong to United Methodist Church in Troup. I'm almost retired, but enjoy helping at Troup Food Pantry. I look forward to representing you on the Emmaus Board.

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THE WALK TO EMMAUS

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program intended to strengthen the local church through development of the Christian disciples and leaders. The program's approach seriously considers the model of Christ's servanthood and encourages Christ's disciples to act in ways appropriate to being "a servant of all."

The Walk to Emmaus experience begins with a 72-hour short course in Christianity, comprised of fifteen talks by lay and clergy on the themes of God's grace, disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church. The course is wrapped in prayer and meditation, special times of worship and daily celebration of Holv Communion. The "Emmaus community," made up of those who have attended an Emmaus weekend, support the 72-hour

experience with a prayer vigil, by preparing and serving meals, and other acts of love and selfgiving. The Emmaus Walk typically begins Thursday evening and concludes Sunday evening. Men and women attend separate weekends.

During and after the three davs, Emmaus leaders encourage participants to meet regularly in small groups. The members of small the groups challenge and support one another in faithful living. Participants seek to Christianize their environments of family, job, and community through the ministry of their congregations. The three-day Emmaus experience and follow-up groups strengthen and renew Christian people as disciples of Jesus Christ and as active members of the body of Christ in mission to the world.

The Upper Room, а ministry unit of the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church, Walk to sponsors the Emmaus and offers it through local Emmaus groups around the world. Although connected through The Upper Room to The United Methodist Church, The Walk to Emmaus is ecumenical.

Where can I buy Emmaus products?

There is no official catalog containing Emmaus products. However, there are several places that sell related products. The Upper Room offers Emmaus products for sale. In addition, the following organizations sell Emmaus products and donate part of their proceeds to the International Emmaus Office:

- <u>Swanson's</u> -- 1-800-251-1402. Call and ask for the De Colores Catalogue.
- Dove Incorporated

... But Wanted to Know About Sponsoring...

The purpose of The Walk to Emmaus is to produce leaders for the church. Leadership is developed in serving the Emmaus community and through one's service to the pilgrims one sponsors. Building up the body of Christ and bringing spiritual revitalization to Christians who will in turn bring new life and vision to their churches, homes, workplaces and communities is the aim of sponsorship. The Walk to Emmaus is not meant to convert others to Christ, to fix people's problems or to reproduce one's own religious experience. With that in mind, one needs to prayerfully consider who to sponsor. This would include church leaders, active Christians whose own renewal will mean new energy, commitment, and vision to their churches, those who are the quiet backbone of the church they attend, who desire to renew their commitment, who are hungry for "something more", who want to grow spiritually, who will keep the Emmaus movement theologically sound and those who will help build a sound, balanced leadership base for their communities.

The first rule of sponsoring is pray, pray, pray. When the Holy Spirit leads you to ask a friend about going on the Walk to Emmaus, show how important it is to you by making an appointment. If you are talking to a married couple, be sure to present the offer to both husband and wife. Emmaus involvement is not meant to cause any kind of resentment between spouses. Often times a reluctant spouse will attend in order to be supportive of their husband or wife who is eager to attend a Walk. When you meet with your prospective pilgrim, share your personal experience. Remember there are no secrets in the Walk to Emmaus, only surprises, which are indescribable anyway. Answer any questions you are asked honestly.

No one's name can be added to a Walk Pilgrim list until the entire application is complete. This includes the name of the church your pilgrim attends and his or her pastor's signature. The cost of the Walk to Emmaus at GRACE is \$150.00 Scholarships are available at a 50/50 split. At least \$75.00 must be attached to the application along with a letter stating the reason a scholarship is needed. Mail the applications to



Names are added to the Walk lists by the registrar based on the postmark on the envelope, the completeness of the application and the inclusion of the Walk fee. Don't delay your pilgrim's placement by failing to complete the process. As the sponsor you will be contacted by the registrar of the date to which your pilgrim has been assigned. You will need to check this date with your pilgrim and notify the registrar immediately if your pilgrim needs to be scheduled for a different date.

Gathering the agape letters is another responsibility of the sponsor. As sponsors one of the most perplexing situations arise when we try to explain to someone what kind of letter we want from them for the pilgrims. You may want to use this example letter as a pattern for your requests for agape letters.

SAMPLE AGAPE LETTER

As sponsors one of the most perplexing situations arise when we try to explain to someone what kind of letter we want from them for the pilgrims. You may want to use the following explanation as a pattern for your requests for agape letters.

Dear _____

The "Walk to Emmaus" is a weekend of spiritual renewal with many beautiful gifts and surprises. One of the surprises is the mail that persons attending receive from their loved ones. _________ is going to attend a "Walk to Emmaus."

As sponsors, we are responsible for contacting family and close friends and asking them to send a note or letter to ______ so that he/she will receive it during this special weekend.

Since it will be a total surprise, we sometimes have to do a little detective work in order to get names and addresses of persons from whom we need help. Perhaps you'd like to pass this along to someone that you know _____would like to hear from.

This letter is an opportunity for you to express your appreciation of _____ and what your relationship with him/her has meant and means. You might want to recall some humorous event or some happening that has been special to the two of you. This is a letter of love and WILL BE READ ONLY BY THE PERSON TO WHOM YOU WRITE.

Would you help make _____'s "Walk to Emmaus" special by doing the following?

- 1. Write a letter to _____ and sign it.
- 2. Put it into an envelope and seal it.
- 3. Write 's name (but not yours) on the envelope.
- 4. Put the envelope in a larger envelope and mail it to us prior to ______so we can get it to the proper place on time.

This should be a complete surprise to ______ so please help make it special by keeping "mum" until it's over.

We hope you'll help us by getting a letter to us. It will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Ask a good friend or a relative of your pilgrim to help you with names and addresses of other family members and close friends. Aim for quality rather than quantity. Each pilgrim will be given 8 to 12 letters to read. Any letters above 12 are placed in the pilgrims' closing packets.

It is important for you to pick up your pilgrim, make sure they have eaten, and deliver them to the Walk site. At Send Off stay with your pilgrim and help your pilgrim meet others who are attending the same Walk. Bring your agape (letters, food, drinks, pillow and dining room agape) with you to Send Off. After the pilgrims go to the conference room, sponsors go to the Sponsor's Hour. You will have the opportunity to hold your pilgrim's lanyard and cross and pray for them specifically. Be sure to be at Candlelight and Closing.

As a sponsor you also have the opportunity to serve your pilgrim's family during the Walk weekend. Your may help with their family, pets or even their business. Another way the sponsor serves a pilgrim is after the Walk. Take them to their first 4th Day activities, including the Babe Chick meeting, 1st Gathering, 1st Candlelight, etc. Help your pilgrim get into a reunion group.



Kairos No. 36

God's Special Time What An awesome weekend was had by all that attended the Kairos No. 36 Short Course weekend at the Michael Unit in Tennessee Colony. 42 men that have been incarcerated for various offenses against society found the love and forgiveness of Christ through the agape love of the inside and outside teams that served the love of Christ to them April 22-25. Many thanks to all the prayer warriors in our community that prayed for us as are praises and thanks offered up to those that supported us with agape gifts of letters, posters, placemats, cookies, and financial support. That is the true Body of Christ in ACTION. Many

comments from the men at closing reflected that appreciation, some of the conditions of their hearts when they first arrived were closed and hardened for Christ and his followers, but through the love showed by the awesome team that our own Pat Owens from Marshall assembled you could feel the love of Christ and the Holy Spirit used those hardened hearts to mold new believers to soften the hearts of many more inside that cruel prison. The next Kairos weekend will be led by Bruce King of Tyler it is scheduled for October 14-17, 2010 and he is seeking team members send him an email at drbwking@aol.com I'm sure he would love see where God wants him to use you.

Tyler Emmaus Community DBH: **GRACE Emmaus Community P.O. Box 132212** Tyler, TX 75713-2212

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.