

# Grace For Today

November, 2016  
Volume 25, Issue 11

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

## Inside this Issue

**1** -Editors notes  
-Food for Thought

**2** -Treasurers notes  
-Agape Notes  
-Sponsorship inspiration

**3** -Board Member Updates

**4** -Current Board Members

**5** -Bank Draft

**G.R.A.C.E. REGISTRARS**  
**Burton and Martel Love**  
**10226 Aaron Ave. Eustace,**  
**TX 75124**  
**Tyler Emmaus**  
**G.R.A.C.E. Community**  
**P.O. Box 132212 Tyler, TX**  
**75713-2212**

[Upcoming Gatherings](#)

December 16, 2016

Gladewater UMC  
217 W Quitman Ave.

Covered Dish Noon  
Worship 1:00

## KAROL'S KORNER Community Lay Director

I was truly blessed with assisting at both the Men's and Women's walks this fall. Life has its highs and lows and this past month seems to have been full with more lows than highs in my home – hospitalizations, concerns with jobs, caring for family, personal sickness, etc. Through all of this, I continue to rely on the one thing that I have stable, my Savior. I've shed many tears in the last few weeks and will in the weeks to come. My prayer is that we all take comfort in knowing him as our comforter, healer and the great physician in all things. One of the last talks you heard as a pilgrim was that the world hasn't changed, just you. Continue to use the tools provided at your walk and rely on your reunion group for support. Please be in prayer for the many needs in our community.

The season of Thanksgiving is soon approaching. Please take time to give thanks – even though it may be hard at times to find something to be thankful for. HE will always provide.

I hope to see you at the gathering on December 16, 2016 at Gladewater United Methodist Church. 12 noon Potluck Dinner 1:00 Praise and worship

**Blessings**  
**Everyone**

Today  
Has begun  
And  
Night will fall but  
Kindness  
Fills  
Us with  
Love

DeColores,  
Karol

## Food for Thought

### **Rejoice in the Lord!**

**Scripture Reading —**  
**[Philippians 4:4-9](#)**  
**Rejoice in the Lord always.**  
**I will say it again: Rejoice!**  
**— [Philippians 4:4](#)**

Are you old enough to remember writing or receiving handwritten thank-you notes? Those cards with polite words of thanksgiving to a host, friend, or associate used to be quite common. I still mail them occasionally. But judging by recipients' surprised reactions, it's not so common to receive such notes these days. We rush through our lives forgetting to thank people who show love and care for us. The book of Philippians can be described as a long and amazing thank-you letter. The apostle Paul wanted to express his gratitude to the believers in the city of Philippi for the gift they had sent after learning of his imprisonment for preaching the message of Christ. Led by the Spirit, Paul also sought to encourage them to stand firm in persecution and to rejoice,

regardless of their circumstances. What a great way to say thank-you! The unyielding joy Paul shares with his readers is based on the great truth "The Lord is near." Our loving God is never far away from his children. He is standing with us in our suffering. He knows what we are going through, and he is always ready to guide and comfort us, even in the most difficult situations. Nothing can separate us from his wonderful love! Do you know this gracious God? Are you thankful to him?

### **Prayer**

**Merciful Lord, fill our hearts with godly joy and thanksgiving. Teach us to rely on you even in the most difficult situations. In the name of our Savior, Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**Submitted by Karol Johnson**

### **Contributions to Walks**

The bank draft authorization for automatic giving to G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community is a simple way for you to contribute to help pay for the costs of the Walks. The Board encourages you to consider giving in this manner. You complete the form (provided on the last page of this newsletter and available at Gatherings) with the necessary information or attach a voided check. Then, give the form to any board member, or mail the form to G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community, P. O. Box 132212, Tyler, TX 75713-2212. The amount donated will show on your bank statement as "Tyler Emmaus Community." **You can stop the transaction at any time**

### **simply by written notification.**

(It can even be stopped for a month or two, and then resumed.) Currently there are several participants within our community. Please consider this alternative, especially if you do not make it to Gatherings. This will help each of us with consistent giving to our community. The costs for lodging, supplies, etc. for the Walks continue to increase, but the Board has been able to keep the cost for Pilgrims at \$155 for several years. In our efforts to keep our community strong and continue our commitment, we humbly ask that you prayerfully consider where your involvement is needed. Thank you, Fran Ayres Treasurer

**AGAPE is equivalent to being "the hands & feet of Christ".**

Thank you to all who helped with Handmade Agape & served as Escorts/Servers at the October, 2016 Agape Banquets.

Please mark your calendars for the following dates to Praise God through your service once again:

Men's Agape Dinner is **Saturday, March 4th, 2017;**  
Women's Agape Dinner is **Saturday, March 11th, 2017.**

We are blessing the Pilgrims with our gifts of love & service, however, we all know that we receive so much more.

DeColores,  
P.a.m. Martin  
[903/520-3975](tel:9035203975)

[pammar52@yahoo.com](mailto:pammar52@yahoo.com)

### **Reserved...**

**This will take a while, so please stay with me.**

**A couple of Sundays ago, our Kids Choir sang during worship. They are a precious group; from 4 to about 7 years old - and their presentations are made up of part brilliant-eyed enthusiasm, part mumbled verses and LOUD choruses, part deer-in-the-headlight stares and a lot of waves to parents and grandparent. In short, always a joy to hear - and watch.**

**On this particular Sunday I was in the sanctuary early and got to see them practice their song. After that was over, there were about 10 minutes until people started coming in. For a few minutes the children outnumbered their 'keepers' and they were making the most of it.**

**Our church has little wooden signs with weighted flaps on them that set on the ends of the pews - they have "Reserved" on them and are used to make sure there is room for special groups like the Kids Choir to sit near the front. Apparently, there is something**

attractive about the sign to 4 and 5 year old girls - I noticed two wearing them on their heads. (It appeared that hair bows - large white poofy ones in particular - help keep the signs in place.)

So, picture it - little girls, smiling and laughing in church with the word "Reserved" over their heads - and see what I saw. That we all at one time had "Reserved" on our heads that maybe only our Sponsors could see - Reserved for a place on our Walk and Reserved for the blessings it brought and still brings to our churches and to us.

In the few months and weeks ahead, keep an eye out for the people God is showing their Reserved signs to you. Think about sponsoring them, pray - a lot - for guidance on whether this is their time - if they are Reserved for Walks 80 or 81. And if they are, sponsor them!

James H Cox, Jr  
TXO Site Services  
B1 - Rm 251 ,  
[903 237 6301](tel:9032376301)

[JamesCox@eastman.com](mailto:JamesCox@eastman.com)

Congratulations to our newest board members.

LISA BREWER,

WYNN HARLE

STEVE MORTON

GARRY MOUNT

HANK RESLER

They will begin their 3-year term starting January, 2017.

Congratulations also to

Mike Hodgson

Who has been elected as the Community Assistant Lay Director.

Brett Walker will become the Community Lay Director in January.

We want to thank Karol Johnston as she steps down from her role as Community Lay Director. She will now serve as the Ex-Officio Member of the board.

Thank you also to

Mark Brewley, Mac Walling Jim Buchanan, And Tommy Ferguson, who will be ending their terms. Words can't express how much of a blessing your sacrifices have blessed the G.R.A.C.E. community.

Spring Walk Update:

Team selection is underway, with team training starting in January.

## 2016 BOARD MEMBERS

### Community Lay Director

Karol Johnston  
[johnston\\_karol@yahoo.com](mailto:johnston_karol@yahoo.com)  
903-521-0236

### Community Assistant Lay Director

Brett Walker  
[brettfcall@gmail.com](mailto:brettfcall@gmail.com)  
903-987-3090

### Ex-Officio Member

Mark Bewley  
[mbewley@cablelynx.com](mailto:mbewley@cablelynx.com)  
903-522-0782

### Spiritual Director

Richard Luna  
[richard@pleasantretreat.rog](mailto:richard@pleasantretreat.rog)  
903-592-7183

### Secretary

Jerri Lykins  
[lykinsjl@yahoo.com](mailto:lykinsjl@yahoo.com)  
903-894-3946

### Treasurer

Fran Ayres  
[ayresfran75@gmail.com](mailto:ayresfran75@gmail.com)  
903-534-8929

### Music

Mac Walling  
No email address  
903-885-9803

### Agape (Banquet, Afterglow, Handmade items)

Pam Martin  
[pammar52@yahoo.com](mailto:pammar52@yahoo.com)  
903-520-3975

### Agape (Wall, Prayer Vigil)

Talia Epps  
[Talia.groce@gmail.com](mailto:Talia.groce@gmail.com)  
903-714-71195

### Book Table

Dan Matthews  
[matthedm@exede.net](mailto:matthedm@exede.net)

903-948-9039

### Community Trailer

Jerry Fowler  
[JERRYFOWLER1956@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JERRYFOWLER1956@GMAIL.COM)  
318-617-5035

### Gatherings

Pat Thompson  
[Thompsonp84@yahoo.com](mailto:Thompsonp84@yahoo.com)  
903-239-1961

### Newsletter

Lisa Palomaria  
[Lisa.Palomaria@gmail.com](mailto:Lisa.Palomaria@gmail.com)  
334-312-3128

### Publications

Mike Hodgson  
[hdgmanmd@gmail.com](mailto:hdgmanmd@gmail.com)  
903-948-0821

### Sponsorship

Jim Buchanan  
[jimbet85@gmail.com](mailto:jimbet85@gmail.com)  
903-930-2360

### Reunion Groups

Tommy Ferguson  
[tloys@hotmail.com](mailto:tloys@hotmail.com)  
903-256-7296

### NON-VOTING MEMBERS

### Registrar

Burton Love  
[BURTONLOVE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BURTONLOVE@GMAIL.COM)  
903-880-5462

### Crosses/Doves

Elizabeth Minor



## 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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Thank you for your continued support of our Emmaus community.  
DeColores

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**