



letter was about. Could the letter be from a sister, brother, child, grandchild or great grandchild that lived far away updating her on current events? Maybe, it was a letter from the church telling about something good about to happen. I wondered as I drove by once again.

Occasionally, I receive a letter. I do not consider collection, advertising or sales brochures letters. I consider letters to be personal. Personal letters seem to be falling to the wayside with the advent of telephone, email and texting. I confess I am part of the guilty who do not write letters.

When I was overseas in the service, letters were my link to home. Mail call was looked forward to with anticipation and anxiety. If there was not a letter I would wonder what happened back home. I could see others without letters, their eyes reflecting abandonment, wondering if they had been forgotten.

Seeing that lady on the side of the road, oblivious to the world as she read her letter made me remember how important hand written letters were to me. Once in my life I received more than five letters at one time. All handwritten, all signed with love, it changed my life.

Can you imagine such a moment?

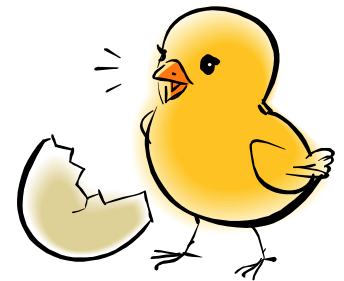
**De Colores, David Mays**

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## **Last 2009 Gathering - GRAND ULTREYA**

Our last 2009 QUARTERLY gathering in Tyler is called our GRAND ULTREYA. It is on a Saturday as a Pot Luck for the full community and is our biggest, most important Gathering of the Year !



**Nov. 21st Grace Community Church; Babe Chick training 11 am; Pot Luck lunch- 12 noon; Worship 1:15 pm**

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### **GATHERINGS (2009)**

Grand Ultreya Saturday Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> Grace Community Church; Babe Chick training 11 am; Pot Luck lunch- 12 noon; Worship 1:15 pm. This is the last full community Gathering for 2009.

### **GATHERINGS (2010)**

Jan. 23, 2010 Fairwood UMC; Sponsor training 4:30PM; Pot Luck Dinner- 5:45PM; Worship 6:45PM

April 24, 2010 Lanes Chapel UMC ; Babe Chick training 4:30PM; Pot Luck Dinner- 5:45PM; Worship 6:45PM

## GATHERING NEWS

As you can see above, we have established the dates and locations for the first two centralized Gatherings for the Community for 2010. We are still in the process of setting up the other two centralized Gatherings for 2010. As soon as we have the dates and locations for the third (Aug 28, 2010) and fourth (Nov. 20, 2010) confirmed, we will share that information with the Community. Please be reminded that the Gracemmaus Board has voted to change the time of day for 2010 Gatherings. Training will start at 4:30PM, Dinner will be at 5 :45PM with worship starting at 6:45PM. Centralized Gatherings will continue to be on Saturdays in the Tyler area.

If you are interested in hosting a local Gathering, any of the GracEmmaus Board members can help you with nearly all aspects of your planning and acquiring resources. If you need an update on the criteria and/or you would like to explore hosting a Gathering, please contact Burton Love [Burtonlove@embarqmail.com](mailto:Burtonlove@embarqmail.com) 903 425 3864 or any of the other GracEmmaus Board members. We will be happy to help with the planning and preparation for these local Gatherings. Dec. is still available for 2009. Wouldn't celebrating your Christian faith be great way to honor the season? Any month except March and October 2010 would be available for local Gatherings. March and October find a significant part of the community busy with the walks.

### Burton Love

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If you need an update on the criteria and/or you would like to explore hosting a Gathering, please contact Burton Love [Burtonlove@embarqmail.com](mailto:Burtonlove@embarqmail.com) 903 425 3864 or any of the other Emmaus Board members. We will be happy to help with the planning and preparation for these LOCAL Gatherings. July, Sept., or Dec. would be great times to schedule local Gatherings.

**(Be sure to check the Gracemmaus web site ([www.gracemmaus.org](http://www.gracemmaus.org)) for additional directions and any updates on these Gatherings).**

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### A GREAT WAY TO GET UPDATED GRACE EMMAUS INFO BETWEEN NEWSLETTERS !

Technology is a wonderful thing but it really drives me nuts sometimes, and it's usually not a very far trip. The website [www.gracemmaus.org](http://www.gracemmaus.org) is getting a lot of attention, thanks for all the hits. The community email is currently having technical difficulties though, it is currently disabled/or dead. But there is an alternative if you feel adventuresome and as of this writing 135 members are and have already joined our new FACEBOOK Group. What's beautiful about Facebook is that I don't have to keep up with all of YOUR addresses. Currently the way the email group works is if someone sent a message to the group and there was a bad address in the group that sender would get a message back about the error, and most of the time others would get it also, and as we all have seen that it would snowball with a lot of replies and a lot of folks getting upset about all the extra emails coming in. But with FACEBOOK you are responsible for your own account with FACEBOOK and if you change your email account you will more than likely update it there too and I don't have to keep up with it. if you would like to join Facebook got to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and signup, it really is a fun way to keep up with all your old and current friends. If you are already a member, look for me, TOM PERDUE, I am in the Tyler/Longview network and befriend me, and I will add you to our group. It really is a much easier way to communicate with a lot of people. A word of WARNING though, there are lots of APPLICATION, GAMES, and GROUPS to get involved with, as with everything nowadays be careful with what you do and the amount of PERSONAL information you post online.

G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus and myself will never use any of your information for anything other than Emmaus prayer requests, prayer praises, Community Information about walks and gatherings or conveying other Emmaus needs. No Political or Business posts will be allowed or tolerated. G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus and its board members and myself will not be held accountable for any Identity or virus problems that may occur, but like everything





## Election Time

The following ballot contains the names of God's people that have said they would be willing to serve on the GRACEmmaus Board of Directors, if asked. They are each willing to make a three-year commitment if elected and serve our community to the best of their ability. Please take time to look over the ballot and *circle the 5 that you choose*. You may turn in your ballot by mailing it to the address on the front of the newsletter or you may bring it to the next gathering or candlelight. Ballots will be available at all events between now and the Grand Ultreya Gathering in November.

## Board Nominees

2010-2013



Name: Ken Braswell  
City: Athens  
Walk: Grace #44



Name: Frank Copeland  
City: Palestine  
Walk: Grace #40



Name: Diane Frachiseur  
City: Troup  
Walk: Grace #41



Name: Kathy Kapka  
City: Tyler  
Walk: Grace #4



Name: Tommy Morrison  
City: Palestine  
Walk: Signal Mountain #17



Name: Joanne Skeen  
City: Palestine  
Walk: Grace #39



Name: Joe Tew  
City: Arp  
Walk: Grace #36



Name: Jana Whitehurst  
City: Longview  
Walk in 1994

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## GRACEmmaus Walks

It has been brought to the attention of the Board that having the walks on back-to-back weekends can sometimes be a financial burden on Pilgrims, Team and/or Community. Additionally, the travel to and from the walks on back-to-back weekends can be burdensome on much of our community. In reviewing guidelines from Upper Room, we find that it encourages us to have the walks approximately 4-5 weeks apart. We as a board are recommending changing to 4-5 weeks apart, beginning with the 2011 Spring walks. We are asking the community to tell the Board your desire regarding the scheduling of the Walks.

Please place an "x" in the box below that reflects your choice.

Have the men's and women's walks approximately 4-5 weeks apart.

Leave the walks on back-to-back weekends as is.