

# Grace for Today

*G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Monthly  
Newsletter  
October 31, 2017  
Volume 25 Issue 10*

## [Coming Events](#)

November Gathering  
Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup>  
Lane's Chapel  
8720 Old Jacksonville Hwy  
Tyler TX  
4:00 Baby Chick's  
5:00 Potluck  
6:00 Worship  
December's Gathering  
December 2  
Mineola UMC @ Noon

Contact Pat Thompson for more  
information.

## [Inside this Issue](#)

2: Community Lay Director's Corner  
Upper Room Training  
  
3: Reflections  
Agape  
  
4: Agape  
Gatherings  
  
5: Baby Chicks  
  
6 - 14: Board Nominees for the 2018  
thru 2020 Term  
  
15: Voting Ballot  
  
16: Board Members Contact Info  
  
17: Bank Drafts Form

## Community Lay Director's Corner

What now?

As we read in scripture, Jesus's disciples were somewhat confused, tired, and bewildered in the days after He was crucified. They struggled, even after He appeared to them. It took them awhile to re-group, but then they got about the business that He had led them to do.

Walks 82 and 83 are now behind us, and I consider them both to have been a great success. Those who attended the Closings saw and heard that many lives were changed in a very positive way. Having been present on site for both Walks, I can assure you that the Holy Spirit was at work through the hands and feet of all concerned.

Now we have the task of continuing the work that was begun at these weekends. We should support the new Fourth Dayers in every way possible as they get back to their regular routines.

It is especially important that we welcome them back into their local congregations and encourage them to increase their participation and leadership in all aspects of church membership.

We should also encourage them through our Reunion Groups, Gatherings, and Team participation.

What now? Let's remember that for our new Fourth Dayers, and for most of us, "it" has only just begun!

De Colores

Brett Walker  
Community Lay Director

### UPPER ROOM LEADERSHIP TRAINING

On Saturday, November 11, we will be having a Leadership Training session presented by our Regional Upper Room representatives.

All lay members **AND** clergy are urged to attend, especially those in any type of leadership position.

It will be held at Van UMC from 8:30 A.M. until about 3:30 P.M. If you can attend, please **RSVP to Brett Walker by email ([brettfcall@gmail.com](mailto:brettfcall@gmail.com)) or phone (903-987-3090).**

Those who attend are asked to bring a potluck dish for our lunch. Morning breakfast snacks will be provided by the members of the Board of Directors.

*Reflections*

WOW! Walk 82 and 83 are over.

What a time the pilgrims had and so did the teams. The Holy Spirit was moving in mighty ways throughout both Walks. Exciting things were happening continually during both Walks. The church I belong to started a 40 day fast and prayer before the Walks and one of the top on the prayer list was the Emmaus Walks and team members. I know some other churches that were doing similar things. As we tell the pilgrims, the foundation for the Walk is prayer. How true.

Want to let everyone know that the preparations for Walks 84 and 85 have already started. We need your Team applications right away. Please don't wait for the time is short. We will be doing Team selection on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Hurry, hurry, hurry.

De Colores

Mike Hodgson CALD

## *Agape*

God Has a Sense of Humor

Has God ever asked you to do something that you had no talent to do? My answer is "yes He has"! But I

just kept wondering why He asked me to do this job.

I have served for the past 2 years on the G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community Board of Directors. My job has been to "Coordinate Handmade Agape, Food Agape, the Agape/Christ Banquet, and Refreshments (including ice cream) for Afterglow which happens after Candlelight."

When I first realized my responsibilities, I "Laughed Out Loud!" You see, I do NOT crochet, knit, or make handmade items!!

I do NOT bake food items!! I do NOT cook!! And I can't even eat ice cream anymore!

Why are you asking me to do this, God? You must have a real sense of humor!!!

And God's response was this:

"I did not ask you to crochet, knit or make Handmade Agape. I did not ask you to bake Food Agape. I did not ask you to Cook for the Agape Banquet. And the Afterglow Ice Cream is not for you, it is Extravagant Agape for the Pilgrims and Team!!"

I said, "Ok, Lord, then what is it that you have asked me to do?"

The Lord said, “Do you remember when you were teaching music in public school from 1996-2005 & you keep losing your voice? You finally had to resign because you couldn’t keep from losing both your speaking voice & your singing voice. You pleaded with me to restore your voice in exchange for your promise to Praise and Magnify the name of the Lord.”

“I have restored your voice and all I ask you to do is to be My Voice. Just remind fellow 4<sup>th</sup> Dayers of the GRACE EMMAUS COMMUNITY that Agape, which comes in many forms, is a gift of love.

“That’s all I ask of you: to be My Voice.”

I am His & I will continue to be His voice.

De Colores,

P.A.M. Martin

Agape Board Rep.

## *Gatherings*

Wow, what awesome candlelights at both the men’s and the women’s walks. I served on the men’s team and saw how spiritually moved the men were. Many of the men from Walk 82 returned the next weekend to serve the ladies and be at candlelight. I saw a glow in all of their faces. Our next Gathering is Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at Lane’s Chapel in Tyler with the Baby Chicks at 4:00, Potluck at 5:00 and Worship at 6:00. Our December gathering is Dec. 2 at Mineola UMC at noon. Looking ahead to 2018 our January gathering is on the 20<sup>th</sup> at Grace Palestine UMC. Our February will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> at First UMC Lindale. Both will be at noon.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Pat Thompson

## *“Baby Chicks” Board Rep.*

### My Fourth Day Experience

When my sponsor took me home on my 4th day I was physically and emotionally exhausted. Honestly, I did not have a lot to say. I am one of those people that take a while to process my emotions. I have to sit on something a while. Roll it over a bit. Emmaus was BIG for me.

About a month after my walk I had finally taken it all in...

The Love.

The Strength.

The Tears.

The Joy.

When I saw my sponsor out in public I became emotional and thanked him for giving me such an awesome gift. I knew at that moment that I wanted to be a part of Emmaus, so I could help others experience the same blessing as I did.

The Upper Room Handbook says, “An ancient image depicts the spiritual life as a wagon wheel with spokes connecting at the center. The center represents God in Jesus Christ, and the wheel rim represents people. As we turn and are drawn to the center,

we are all at the same time, drawn closer to one another.”

I am so thankful to be connected to all of y’all on the same wagon wheel! Hope to see everyone at the November gathering.

De Colores

Talia Epps

References: The Upper Room Handbook on Emmaus 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, pg. 63

# **Board Nominees for the 2018-2020 Term**

Listed below are the Community members running for election to the Board for the 2018-2020 term.

You may use the voting ballot found on page 15 of this newsletter to select 5 nominees.

There will also be a ballot box (and additional ballots) at the Grand Ultreya Gathering on November 4, 2017. Please bring your ballot with you if you can.

If you cannot attend the Gathering, please mail your ballot quickly to:

**Tyler Emmaus GRACE Community**

**P.O. Box 132212**

**Tyler, TX 75713-2212**

## Wayne Brunt



I'm honored to be considered for a Board position within the Emmaus Community.

My name is Wayne Brunt and I live in Hallsville, TX, with my wife Ginger and my two bonus kids Autumn and Andrew. My son Trevor lives and works in San Francisco, CA.

I attended Walk #76 in Athens and sat at the table of Mark. I am also an Outrider at The Cowboy Church of Harrison County.

I was adopted from The Texas Cradle Society in San Antonio in August of 1962 when I was 3 days old and lived in Bryan, TX until I was 18.

I've have never felt so much love than I did that weekend I went to the Walk from so many Brother's in Christ, so I would like to spread that Love to other brothers and sisters I come in contact with. With God's grace, I have had the honor to be an ATL, a TL in past walks and will be on the Chapel Team on this upcoming 2017 Men's Walk at Camp Gilmont.

When I was on the Board of The Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Tyler, TX, I learned so much from the young men and how important our faith is and how we as disciples must share with everyone we meet. God's love and grace are the most important gift that has been given to us. Christians Must Not Fit In, We Must Stand Out and let the lost know that God's love can conquer any struggle we face.

I appreciate every person I have met in my short "Walk" with this wonderful Emmaus community.

Sincerely,  
Wayne Brunt

## Betty Buchanan



Hey y'all! My name is Betty Buchanan. I attended G.R.A.C.E. Walk #57, Spring 2011, and sat at the table of Esther.

My husband, Jim, and I worship at Hallsville UMC in Hallsville, TX.

My walk experience has included, Chapel Team, Asst. Table Leader, Table Leader, and Asst. Lay Director.

Jim and I served as the community registrars, 2013-15, a very challenging and rewarding task, vital to the workings of each walk.

Serving the Lord in these positions has been very rewarding and hopefully a meaningful service to the G.R.A.C.E community.

The Emmaus Walk was a real life-changing experience for me, as I feel like it certainly was for most all of you.

Participation in this community has certainly moved me out of my box, and serving on the board would be an additional opportunity to continue serving God.



## Scott Catchot



Hello, my name is Scott Catchot. I attended GRACE Emmaus Walk #74 at Camp Gilmont in Gilmer, Texas. I sat at the table of St. Paul.

The Walk to Emmaus was an awesome personal experience for me that helped solidify and confirm God's direction in my life.

I think everyone would benefit from attending a walk.

I want to be on the Board to help do my part in seeing that this tool for the development of leaders in the church continues to grow and becomes all that God wants it to be in His body.

I believe it has barely begun to shine in this world and the future for Walk to Emmaus is bright and so much more than we could imagine.

I would love to work with you all in seeing it come to pass.

## Kenneth Duesterhoft



I attended G.R.A.C.E Community Walk #72 at Disciple's Crossing in Athens, Texas in March of 2015. I sat at the table of St. Matthew. My wife and I attend the United Methodist Church of Frankston.

Currently I serve as the audio/visual technician.

For the past four years I attended the Texas Annual Conference as a voting district delegate. In the past, I served as chairperson of the Administrative Church Council, chairperson of SPPRC, Lay Leader, a member of Vibrant Church Initiative (VCI), and the Stewardship Committee.

I have also been a member of the Committee on Lay Leadership and the local Board of Trustees. I was also a Sunday School teacher and Scout Master.

I worked G.R.A.C.E Community Walk #76 as an Assistant Table Leader, walk #78 as a Table Leader, Walk #80 as an Assistant Table Leader. I have been asked to serve on the Chapel Team at Walk #82 this October.

I ended my career in education in 2015 when I retired as a school counselor of a maximum-security state prison.

I was asked by a member of the Board of Directors if I would be interested in being a nominee for a position on the Board. In the past, I would have said yes immediately. But now I have learned to ask our Heavenly Father where he wants me to serve. I believe that He wants me to serve others by being a Board member.

## Angela Fitzgerald



My name is Angela Fitzgerald. I attended GRACE Community Walk #79 at Camp Gilmont, Gilmer TX in October 2016, and sat at the table of Ruth. I worship and serve with my family at Athens First United Methodist Church.

I am in my 28<sup>th</sup> year in public education, specializing in Special Education.

After completing my walk in the fall, I was honored and privileged to be a member of the inside team. In Spring 2017, I began to serve as the Audio/Visual (AV) technician for the Ladies walks #81 and #83.

My walk served as a point of spiritual renewal in my life, and has been a great source of joy.

While I am a relatively new member of the GRACE Community, my enthusiasm for the organization and future walks is shown through me involve.

It would be an honor to serve on the GRACE Community Emmaus Board of Directors.

## Debbie Hays



My name is Debbie Hays, I attended Walk #8 at Timberline and sat at the table of Ruth.

I have been blessed to work on many walks with the GRACE Emmaus community. On the outside team for 2-3 walks. I have served a few times as an assistant table leader, a few times as a table leader, a few times as the AV person, and three times as an assistant lay director.

This year I am serving as the lay Director for the women's fall Walk #83.

I would like to have an opportunity to serve on the GRACE Emmaus board to assist in furthering the outreach of the Emmaus community.

Through the Emmaus three-day weekend, we empower women and men to know God through his powerful grace, and to become strong leaders for their home church.

By providing monthly gatherings we help encourage our community in God's faith and build strong Christian fellowship.

Because the GRACE Emmaus community has meant so much to me over the years, I want to have an opportunity to help others experience God's grace and I would like to give back to the GRACE Emmaus community.

Please consider me for a Board position for the next three years.

De Colores  
Debbie Hays

## Nan Haygood



Hi. I am Nan Haygood.

I took my Walk in October, 1998, at Central Texas Glen Lake.

I couldn't be more thankful for the Emmaus experience and my Emmaus brothers and sisters in our GRACE Community.

I truly believe that both talking the Walk and serving Walks afterward are life changing!!

I would be deeply honored to serve you and our Community on our board, should you choose.

Thank you for your consideration and for the sweet relationship we all have as a Community!

Nan Haygood

## Mike Johnston



My name is Mike Johnston, and I attended Grace Emmaus walk 50 at beautiful Camp Gilmont during the fall of 2009. I sat at the table of St. Luke, and my wife Karol and I attend the Van United Methodist Church where I serve on the staff as choir director.

I have served on numerous committees at the church along with being a Sunday School teacher, youth leader, and now am also a Certified Lay Minister.

The Emmaus walk experience for me woke me up spiritually and helped rekindle my light for Christ!

Even though I have been a Lay Director (Walk 74), the experience of working walks helps me relive the experience in a different way each time I have the opportunity to work on either an outside or inside team.

I would cherish the opportunity to work on the Grace Emmaus Board to make sure this experience continues for others as we serve God together in all that we do!

De Colores!!!

Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus

**BALLOT**

BOARD NOMINEES for the term 2018-2020

Please **CIRCLE** your **5** choices **clearly**

Nominees are listed Alphabetically

WAYNE BRUNT

BETTY BUCHANAN

SCOTT CATCHOT

KEN DUESTERHOFT

ANGELA FITZGERALD

NAN HAYGOOD

DEBBIE HAYS

MIKE JOHNSTON

## 2017 G.R.A.C.E. BOARD MEMBERS

### Community Lay Director

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

### Community Assistant Lay Director

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

### Ex-Officio Member

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

### Spiritual Director

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

### Assistant Spiritual

#### Director

#### Vacant

### Secretary

Wynn Harle  
[cowboycentral@suddenlink.net](mailto:cowboycentral@suddenlink.net)  
903-245-2701

### Treasurer

Fran Ayres  
[ayresfran75@gmail.com](mailto:ayresfran75@gmail.com)  
903-574-6884

### Music

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

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

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

### Agape (Wall, Prayer Vigil)

Garry Mount  
[mt3279@aol.com](mailto:mt3279@aol.com)  
903-985-0957

### Baby Chicks Training

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  
[fowlerjerry56@gmail.com](mailto:fowlerjerry56@gmail.com)  
903-619-2363

### Gatherings

Pat Thompson  
[thompsonp84@yahoo.com](mailto:thompsonp84@yahoo.com)  
903-239-1961

### Newsletter

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### Publications

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(903) 722-4014

### Sponsorship

Hank Resler  
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903-894-6239

### Reunion Groups

Lisa Brewer  
[lbrew0366@gmail.com](mailto:lbrew0366@gmail.com)  
903-720-1120

## NON-VOTING MEMBERS

### Registrar

Burton Love  
[burtonylove@gmail.com](mailto:burtonylove@gmail.com)  
903-880-5462

### Webmaster

Martha Eschenfelder  
[marthasgarden55@gmail.com](mailto:marthasgarden55@gmail.com)  
[m](http://www.marthasgarden55.com)  
903-235-0158

### Crosses/Doves

Elizabeth Minor  
[mnm-design@msn.com](mailto:mnm-design@msn.com)  
903-720-174



**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. 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**

