

GRACE for TODAY

October - November Newsletter

A Word from Wynn Harle Community Lay Director

During the closings of GR.A.C.E. Walks #90 and #91, our new Fourth Dayers comments reflected the spirit of the Walk to Emmaus. They spoke of being encouraged to live out their calls to discipleship in their homes, churches and communities.

The outpouring of love from our community was also mentioned. Thank you again G.R.A.C.E. for helping to make our Fall walks the “best walks ever!” Thank you team members who selflessly gave of themselves in abundant acts of agape love.

Often I find myself reading books to better myself in my job. A recent read stressed that each employee recognize the importance of his or her job. They need to know that what they do does make a difference to their job, their co-workers and the company they work for. I was reminded this is no different for our Emmaus Community.

As we learned in the Body of Christ talk during our weekends, we each have been given gifts. We are called to use our gifts in joyful service. And as a part of the whole, each gift is important. Without each part, the body could not function as it is intended to function.

Remember you are a vital part of the Body of Christ. Do you know where you fit in? What is your special gift?

De Colores!

Wynn Harle

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G.R.A.C.E. Website:
www.graceemmaus.com

Gatherings 2019

November 9th

St. Luke's UMC Kilgore, Tx
4:00 PM Babe Chick meeting
5:00 PM Potluck,
Worship to Follow

December 7th

Summit UMC, Marshall, TX
12 Noon Potluck
1:00 PM Worship

Spring Walks

Men's Walk #92

March 5-8th, 2020

Women's Walk #93

March 12-15th, 2020

**Both at Disciples
Crossing, Athens**

**Dear Grace Emmaus
Community,**

Please join the Emmaus
Board in welcoming our new
4th Day members.

What a treasure, God has
given us an opportunity to
know and share his love.

Let's do it with abundant
grace!

Peace,

Debbie Hays

Walk 90 Men, New 4th Dayers

Kevin Abney

Perry Lewis

Jim Aude

Scott Osborne

Chad Bearden

Lawrence Todd

Dale Buckner

Stacy Tyler

Bob Greer

John Whipkey

Dale Hively

Bill Hullum

Steve Hunt

David Lancaster

Walk 91 Women, New 4th Dayers

Kathy Barker

Martha Light

Tammy Blakemore

Abby Lykins

Susan Calhoun

Sherry Mason

Allison Drummond

Margaret McNear

Rebecca Drummond

Katie Monts

Jan Durham

Susan Morris

Dee Ellis

Fran Pence

Nichole Finch

Melissa Reeves

Summer Graybill

Bailey Rockovich

Stephanie Green

Mary Ann Setliff

Kelly Gustin

Barb Shirley

Cynthia Hibbetts

Laura Snyder

Delia Hively

Linda Spurger

Angie Hullum

Tammy Stidham

Teri Illchen

Joan Thomas

Amber Jones

Paula Yates

Ann LaFontaine

Gloria Lerz

Board Nominees for the 2020-2022 Term

Listed on the following pages are the Board Member Nominees for election to the Board for the 2020-2022 term.

You may use the voting ballot found on page 8 of this newsletter to select 5 nominees.

There will be a ballot box (and additional ballots) at the Grand Ultreya Gathering on November 9, 2020.

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

GRACE Emmaus Board Member Nominees for 2020-2023

BONI DEMAREE

Hello. My name is Boni Demaree and I attended CTC Walk #390 at Latham Springs in April of 2013. I sat at the table of Mary. My husband Chuck and I have attended and intermittently served on the board of directors of Starrville Methodist Church.

I love the Emmaus Walk mission. After serving in several GRACE walks, as well as the Central Texas Conference walks since 2013, I believe God is calling me to do more! As a nurse, cancer survivor and servant; I believe God can use my gifts to better serve the Grace Community in the capacity of Board member. Thank you for accepting this application.

JOHN EPPS

De Colores fellow Disciples in Christ, my name is John Epps. I attended Emmaus Walk 288 in 2006 in the Central Texas Conference Community at Round Rock, Texas. I sat at the table of Saint Peter "The Rock" and my wife Michelle and I attend and serve at First United Methodist Church in Mineola, Texas

I was asked if I would be interested in serving as a member of the GRACE Emmaus Communities board and my response was if I'm needed. I love the Emmaus experience that I have received both on my walk and serving on many of the walks since then. I love the growth I received in that experience that Christ loves me more than I ever thought possible and that His Grace given to me, a full-fledged sinner, needs passed on to others just like me.

Anything I can do to pass on or support this very important message and grow more disciples for Christ's many churches is an honor, a privilege, and a love gift to our God and His people.

Currently I serve at my church on the nominations committee and serve as a fourth-grade teacher in our church's after school program. I also serve as Methodist Men's vice president and coordinate all of our money drive dinners as well as special functions to support and recognize our widowed ladies and Methodist Women. Part of the function of money drives is to support the many handicap ramps that Methodist Men build in our surrounding communities each year as well as free handyman services we provide for those needing a helping hand.

I love God's creation and I love God's people and I love helping and spending time with those who need it. I appreciate your asking me to consider serving and hope that if selected can be a blessing to our Emmaus community and to our Lord Jesus.

De Colores and God Bless, John Epps

DAVID HUSTON

My name is David Huston. I went on GRACE Emmaus Walk #82 at beautiful Camp Gilmont in the fall of 2017. I sat at the table of St. Matthew, and my wife and I attend, worship, and serve at the First United Methodist Church of Mineola. I have served several Emmaus walks, and serve my church on the Board of Trustees, Mission Team Chair, and a member of Kiwanis. My walk meant the world to me and it was life changing. Could not image that God would love a sinner like me... but He does! My desire is to serve others, and to serve others is my community.

The gifts and talents that I have not only serve my church, but I feel will serve the Emmaus Community as well, and I would love the opportunity to serve on the Emmaus Board. De Colores!

Since that first walk, I have done everything I could to support Emmaus. I have attended candlelights, gatherings, and just finished my sixth walk. Acting as assistant table leader, table leader, part of the music team and chapel team, I have been gaining experience. Because I also have experience in all kinds of leadership positions, I feel my time and talents would be of value to Emmaus and I would love the opportunity to serve on the board.

MARY LEWIS

My name is Mary Lewis. I attended Grace Emmaus Walk #73 at Disciples Crossing in Athens. I sat at the table of Ruth and I attend Fairwood United Methodist Church in Tyler.

I grew up a Methodist and attended classes and was confirmed at Highland Park UMC in Dallas. I have been singing in church choirs since the age of four, eventually directing children's choirs, youth choirs and chancel choirs. Music, for me, is a major form of worship and I use what talent I have to glorify God. Being active in my church and having served as a Sunday school teacher, board member, and Vacation Bible School Leader, I found myself wanting more. I wanted a deeper relationship with Jesus. Laquita Showen suggested I attend a Walk to Emmaus. I did as she suggested and was introduced to a group where, with support from so many wonderful Christian men and women, I found just what I was looking for.

LAURA RESLER

My Name is Laura Resler. I went on G.R.A.C.E Emmaus Walk number 75 at Camp Gilmont in Gilmer Texas. I sat at the table of Naomi. My husband and I worship and serve at the First Presbyterian Church of Tyler.

I have been worked all of the Emmaus walks except one since my own and have been so blessed to see what the walks have meant to so many. I would like to serve on the G.R.A.C.E Board, because I am committed to growing the GRACE Community and want to work toward involving more of our community in service to their church and to the community. I am deeply committed to the mission of GRACE and know that I have the talents to meet that mission.

I have the organizational skills and abilities that it takes to serve on a not for profit board. I have served on several boards including Hospice of Dutchess County, N.Y., the American Heart Association and the New York State Association for the Elderly to name a few. I presently am involved in Youth Ministry at Church and am involved in missions that we serve including PATH, and the Potter House which provides people a comfortable homelike environment for patients receiving treatment at Tyler hospitals that do not have a place to reside while receiving treatment.

ERNEST RODRIGUEZ

My name is Ernest Rodriguez. I was on G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Walk #88 at beautiful Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX. I sat at the table of St. Luke. My wife Heather and I attend and serve at St. John's United Methodist church in Jacksonville, TX.

I recently received a notice about my nomination to the board member post, which was filed by a member of our G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus community family. I would like to express my gratitude and honor after they have chosen me to be your nominee. It is with much pride that I accept the nomination you have submitted to the election committee.

At St. John's United Methodist church, First, I have a responsibility to God for how I serve Him through His church. God created the church, and he owns it. The church is the body of Christ. As His body, I am responsible for being good stewards of His body. Second, as a church member I have a responsibility to obey Christ and be his hands and feet in our world. I have the responsibility to obey Christ and to live obediently in all our relationships. Third, I have served and continue to serve in a lot of small capacities as we are a small congregation. I currently serve as chairman of the board, Lay speaker and I'm also on the property committee, which oversees our sanctuary, fellowship hall and our parsonage.

While my nomination to be a board member of the G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus community is a huge source of pride, I assure you that I will do my very best to prove to the other members of the organization that your nomination is not a waste. I hope to work hand-in-hand with you as we work on the reforms that the organization needs to better achieve our goals and mission as a Christian group.

Also, as a board member, I humbly confess my imperfections, both personal and institutional. In a world desperate for the good news of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, I recommit to doing what I can to form communities of learning that will be in the vanguard of a spiritual awakening for G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus community and beyond.

Thank you, and I would like to express my utmost gratitude for the trust you have given me.

Sincerely, Ernest Rodriguez

SCOTT SNYDER

My name is Scott Snyder. I attended GRACE Emmaus Walk # 86 at Camp Gilmont during fall of 2018. I sat at the table of St. John, and my wife, Laura and I, have been members of Green Acres Baptist Church for over 27 years, and are now attending First UMC Winona.

I'm honored to be considered for membership on the GRACE Emmaus Board. I've served as an Assistant Table Leaders a few times since my walk. I love what the Emmaus Community stands for. I have been to most of all functions we have had, and currently am part of two reunion groups, with one in Van and the other in Mineola.

At Green Acres Baptist Church, I taught Royal Ambassadors for 13-years, Coached RA Basketball, took boys to numerous camp outs and field trips, served as an usher and greeter, and was in charge of setting up the bulletin tables each Sunday. I was also part of the security team when GABC hosted concerts. I have enjoyed serving the church in the many different positions that I have held.

I think all these different opportunities I've had in the past would aid me in being an asset and valued member of the Emmaus Board. I can never thank this community for all that they have done for me!

I can never thank my sponsors enough for asking me on my walk last October!

God Bless, Scott Snyder.

DEBBIE WADE

My name is Debbie Wade. I attended GRACE Emmaus Walk #87 in the fall of 2018 at beautiful Camp Gilmont, sat at the table of Ester, and I worship and serve at Pleasant Retreat UMC in Tyler, Texas.

After careful and prayerful consideration, I made the decision to run for the Board of the GRACE Emmaus Community. As a recent retiree from the State of Texas, I believe that my skills and talents will serve the community well as a member of the board.

Thank you for your consideration.

Voting Ballot

Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus
BOARD NOMINEES for the term 2020-2022

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

Nominees are listed Alphabetically

BONI DEMAREE

JOHN EPPS

DAVID HUSTON

MARY LEWIS

LAURA RESLER

ERNEST RODRIGUEZ

SCOTT SNYDER

DEBBIE WADE

Howdy GRACE Emmaus Members!

[Thanks to all the sponsors for pilgrims on Grace Men's walk 90 and Women's walk 91. The pilgrims had a great walk to Emmaus!](#)

Now your next step is to get them in a Reunion Group. There may be room in your group, but if the meeting time does not work for your new 4th dayer, check out the list of reunion groups from the GRACE website.

Next is to bring them to the gathering on November 9, 2019 at St Luke's United Methodist Church in Kilgore, Texas. Babe Chick/Sponsorship training starts at 4 PM followed by potluck dinner at 5 PM followed by worship.

Then help your new 4th dayer to be a sponsor. You need to coach them through all the steps that you just did for them.

Jesus invited each of us through our sponsors, so we are being God's hand and feet to invite others to go on the Walk to Emmaus.

Steve and I look forward to seeing you Sponsors and new 4th dayers at the training on November 9, 2019 at 4 PM.

Thank you very much!

De Colores

Garry Mount

From the Treasurer:

Along with the many snacks, chips, cookies, candies, etc.,



one of the most popular and much consumed items is water. Water for both the Men's Walk #90 and Women's Walk #91 was donated by Nestle Waters North America. The donated Ozarka Spring Water allows our community to use funds that would otherwise be spent on water to be used in other areas in order to make for the weekend a realization.

“...but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” John 4:14 (NIV)

Farewell to James Hilliard Director of Camp Gilmont



This rustic, hand made cross was presented recently to departing Camp Gilmont Director James Hilliard. James has worked with our GRACE Emmaus Community for the last 19 years, and is leaving Camp Gilmont to pursue an amazing opportunity to open a new camp for special needs children in Pennsylvania. His help and support of our Community has been greatly appreciated.



THE UPPER ROOM



<https://www.upperroom.org/newsletters>

Stay Connected

Sign up to receive newsletters and updates from The Upper Room.

Newsletters

Upper Room Daily Reflections (Daily) - Words of wisdom and faith found in the pages of Upper Room Books.

From the Center (Monthly, 1st Tuesday) - A monthly email newsletter from The Upper Room with resources for your soul care as a spiritual leader.

Academy Bulletin (Monthly) - Updates, news, and special reflections exclusively for The Academy for Spiritual Formation participants, faculty, and leaders.

Emmaus eNews (Every Other Month) - Get the latest news and tips for your fourth day journey. Especially for leaders and participants in Emmaus Ministries, including the Walk to Emmaus, Face to Face, and Chrysalis.

Upper Room Recommends (Weekly, Thursday) - A weekly email for those seeking resources for spiritual formation and prayer. The email contains excerpts from Upper Room authors, plus book and online resource suggestions for small groups, congregational studies, and individual spiritual growth.

My Quiet Spaces (Quarterly) - A quarterly newsletter for women seeking inspiration, tools, and support to deepen their walk with God.

Rising Generations (Every Other Month) - Whether you're a church leader or parent, this bimonthly newsletter provides tips and tools for ministry with Children, Youth & Young Adults.

Community Churches and Members,

If you ever wanted to host a Walk to Emmaus Gathering, here is your chance. We are looking for Emmaus groups to volunteer to welcome the G. R. A. C. E. Community to their church for fellowship, worship, and food. Please consider hosting us at your church!

If you are interested, please contact Ken Duesterhoft at (903) 520-0294 or kwdues@gmail.com.

Thank you,

Kenneth

Share your Favorite Emmaus Experience with us!

Have you been waiting for just the right time to share your Emmaus experience? Would you like to share what your walk meant to you even after all these years? Or do you have a question about Emmaus.

We want to invite you to share your reflections and questions for consideration in future newsletters.

Simply email our Newsletter board rep Debbie Hays at dhays55@yahoo.com.

A REMINDER OF WALK FEES:

Pilgrim: \$165 (although the community expense is \$175)

Clergy Pilgrim: \$75

Inside/Conference Room Team: \$165

Outside Servant Team (full weekend): \$165

Outside Servant Team (partial weekend): \$8 per meal, \$27 per night (lodging)

Betty Buchanan, Treasurer

The Walk to Emmaus Movement



The Upper Room, part of United Methodist Discipleship Ministries, began the three-day ecumenical spiritual-renewal retreats in 1978. The self-supporting ministry grew out of the Catholic Cursillo movement, and took the name Walk to Emmaus in 1981. The goal of Walk to Emmaus is to equip church members for Christian action. Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ. The movement also includes the [Chrysalis](#) program for youth, the [Face to Face](#) program for adults 60 and older, and the [Journey to the Table](#) program for adults 18 to 35.

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
johnstonmd08@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

Vacant

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
ltnp2@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

Agape (Banquet, Afterglow,

Handmade items)

Lisa Brewer
lbrew0366@gmail.com
903-720-1120

Reunion Groups

Paula West
pjwest57@yahoo.com
903-918-9067

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Registrar

Jim and Betty Buchanan
jimbet85@gmail.com
Jim Cell: 903-930-2360
Betty Cell: 903-930-2678

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