

Grace For Today

October, 2008
Volume 8, Issue 8

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

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CANDLELIGHT!

Saturday, October 11 & 18

CAMP GILMONT,
GILMER TX
8PM WORSHIP

YA'LL COME!!

DIRECTIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON
THE [GRACEMMAUS.ORG](http://www.gracemmaus.org) WEBSITE

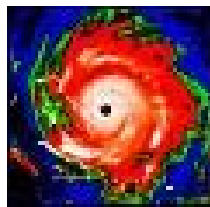
G.R.A.C.E. REGISTRAR
P.O. Box 132212
Tyler TX.
75713-2212

DEAR G.R.A.C.E.

Remember as you make your way through this month that we depend upon the prayers of 4th day-ers to carry us through the upcoming walks! While you are taking care of business in the coming weeks, please be in prayer in the following areas so that God's work can be done at our utmost for his glory...

All pilgrims will feel the Grace of our Lord and Savior throughout their time at Gilmont, Walk Lay Directors will have peace and wisdom as they direct each walk, Servant Teams, inside and out, are given the necessary strength and understanding to perform their duty to His glory, Prayer Clocks for each walk are filled to capacity.

Also, please keep in your prayers the upcoming board representative and gathering schedule elections; that God will have his hands on all those people who are meant to serve the coming term, and that His holy hands will be held upon them as they work to serve His purpose.



HURRICANE IKE – Everyone was captivated by our recent exposure to Hurricane Ike. We have much destruction and many evacuees in our area. These families need our prayers as they work to get their homes, businesses, and families back in order. Many of you have done things to help and I just want to thank you so much. When you think about a storm coming that is as large as our state – you can't help but look at that storm with some awe and some fear. This is a time when no matter how prepared you are nature is in control. Many times I feel this same way when looking at a Walk to Emmaus – no matter how prepared we are as a team I still have some fear that I have forgotten something that has to be done... But when the time gets here you realize that God is so large that we must be in awe of the works he does on these weekends. All we need to

do is be prepared and then step out of the way and let God do all the work. We are called to be servants as we work on the team no matter what our role each is as important as the next. We are one part of a team, but each role is needed to be complete. We are called to be sponsors. As sponsors we are responsible to ensure that the pilgrims are prepared for the weekend, that we have gathered letters, that we bring the pilgrim to the weekend, we are back for candlelight, we sign up for the prayer vigil, we are present for closing and most importantly that we get the pilgrim involved in his/her 4th day to help get them in a reunion group and encourage them to participate in all Emmaus/Chrysalis activities.

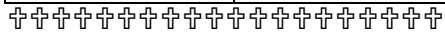
Recently I was asked why we have a Board Representative from Chrysalis. Part two of this question was why we don't have Epiphany and Kairos Representatives. I wanted to answer this question in the newsletter because as a manager of employees I have learned over the years if one person asks the question you have others that have thought about it but never asked.

As a community we have decided to sponsor Chrysalis (the teenage version of a Walk to Emmaus). With this commitment there are some things that are required of us as a community by the Upper Room. One is that we have a Steering Committee for at least 3 years. The first year was January 2007. We have one year left for this process then we will be able to split off and elect a Chrysalis Board. Leah Huffstetter sits on the Board of Emmaus as the Steering Committee Chairman and I sit on the Chrysalis Steering Committee as a representative of the GRACE Board. Once we become two boards the Upper Room requests that we each have a representative continue to sit on the others' board. So even after we have a Chrysalis Board someone from that board will sit on the Emmaus Board and vice versa.

The second part of the question wanted to know why we don't have representatives of Kairos and Epiphany on the Board. This is a simple answer. Kairos Prison Ministry was sprung up and supported by the Cursillo Movement. Epiphany is an ecumenical ministry that was modeled after part of Emmaus, Kairos, Chrysalis and other 4th day movements. Neither the Kairos nor Epiphany is sponsored by the UpperRoom which oversees the activities and mandates our actions for both

God's Pilgrims for Walk 47 Cont'd

Ricks, Ricky	FUMC, Henderson
Robinson, Charles	Payne Springs UMC
Rogers, Dallas	St. Marks UmC
Scarborough, Ted	FUMC, Longview
Snyder, Stephen	Marvin UMC
Sprinkle, Ken	FUMC, Marshall
Wells, Charles Don	Friendly Baptist



BANQUET

We need people to help with Banquet on Saturday Evening. Here is the deal if you are interested in helping serve banquet. To help set up you need to be at the camp site by 3pm if you just want to help serve then be there by 4pm. Wear black (or dark) pants and a white shirt. (Women may wear a skirt; sorry men). No name tags are worn at this event. **Remember that if you have a spouse and/or you are a sponsor of a pilgrim you are not to serve at banquet.** The men serve the women and the women serve the men.

Women's Walk is first this time so men we need you on Saturday the 11th of October.

Men's Walk is second and women we need you on Saturday the 18th of October.

Co-Ed Servant Team

The question has come up about GRACEmmaus allowing for Co-Ed Servant Teams. There are some general rules that apply in order to work a walk of the opposite sex.

1. If you are the spouse and/or sponsor of a pilgrim on that walk you are not to work as a Servant Team Member for the weekend. Your job is to be the sponsor/spouse. It is distracting to the pilgrim if they happen to see you. And it is not fair to the other pilgrims that are not allowed to see and talk to their spouse/sponsor.

2. If you plan on staying overnight – it is imperative that you talk to your servant team leader ahead of time to ensure that there is a spot

for you to stay safely. NO co-ed cabins are allowed; even if you are married.

3. At times we have had some bring their travel trailer for their spouse to sleep in. If this is the case it is your responsibility to check with the camp site to see if they can accommodate you. If any fees are associated with the travel trailer being set up, you would be responsible to pay those fees.

AGAPE NOTE

All agape is needed and appreciated: 48 if just for pilgrims' tables; 60 - 65 for the entire team; 36 for bed agape. It is always interesting and inspirational to see what is created by all of you Fourth Dayers! Thanks for ALL that you DO for others!! If you have any questions re agape, please phone 903-566-0733 or email at ilshowen@aol.com. Laquita Showen



Reunion Groups

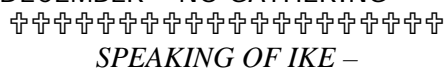
Are you looking for a reunion group? Are you looking for a way to let people know about a reunion group? If you answered yes to either of these questions, I encourage you to visit our web site. www.gracemmaus.org and click on the Reunion Groups link. Here you can find the latest information that we have on all the reunion groups in the community. Also at our web site, in the bottom left corner, there is a link where you can update your reunion group information and let us know about any new reunion groups. We will update the web site with new information as we receive it. So check back often! Whether you are looking for a reunion group or adding information about a new one, let www.gracemmaus.org be the place to find it.

2008 Gatherings

November 8 (Saturday) GRAND ULTREYA at Lanes Chapel United

Methodist Church 5pm Babe Chick Meeting, 6pm Potluck Dinner, 7pm Gathering

DECEMBER – NO GATHERING



\$138 was spontaneously given by team members for Hurricane relief at the last team meeting. It will be sent to the Texas Conference for distribution. This may be the time to ask your local pastor how your donations to offset this tragedy might be best used!



.....COUNT DOWN!

The time is nearing for the Pilgrims to arrive at Camp Gilmont and we still have plenty of 30-minute slots available on the prayer vigils! Your prayers are a vital part of this 72-hour experience through which these Pilgrims will encounter our Lord Jesus Christ in a new and exciting way. Remember how 'in awe' you felt when you were a Pilgrim and discovered that people you didn't even know had been and were still praying for you? WOW! Well it's time to return that feeling to the NEW Pilgrims!

SPONSORS--I challenge you to ask the families and friends who give you Pilgrim letters to fill a slot on the prayer clock as well. PLEASE be in constant prayer for these Pilgrims of Women's Walk #46 and Men's Walk #47 as well as the Team Members, Walk Lay Directors, and Walk Clergy as they prepare their hearts and minds to be used mightily for GOD! You can sign up for the prayer vigil online

at <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml>

Scroll down to Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus (G.R.A.C.E.) and click on the Men's or Women's Walk dates OR BOTH. Afterwards, pick a time slot, then click on sign up and fill in the blanks.

For suggestions on what specifically to pray for, visit the GRACEmmaus.org website and click on the [PRAYER VIGIL GUIDE](#).

Election Time

The following ballot contains the names of God's people that said they would be willing to serve if asked. They are each willing to make a three-year commitment if elected and serve our community to the best of their ability. So please take time to look over the ballot and help choose our next 5 G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Board Members.

As you mark your ballot, please remember to choose 5 names only! You may turn in your ballot by mailing it in 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 end of the year.

Board Nominees 2009-2011

Judy Hawn__
(Athens)

Burton Love__
(Eustace)

Patti Jones__
(Athens)

Karen Christopher__
(Flint)

Diana Frazier__
(Troup)

George Assaf__
(Mineola)

Linda Truell Blevins__
(Tyler)

Carol Derieux__
(Gladewater)

Frank Copeland__
(Palestine)

Tom Perdue__
(Tyler)



Gatherings for G.R.A.C.E.

Ballot: Vote for your choice on how G.R.A.C.E. will implement Gatherings starting in 2009. Please vote for only one (1) of the three (3) plans.

PLAN 1

With only one clarified change, leave the Gatherings as they are. We would hold Gatherings monthly (excluding July and December) at varied Churches and Towns all over the district. The change being that we would ensure that the Gathering including the Babe Chick Trainings would be held in a more central location and/or close to the campground at which the Walks are held. We currently hold 8 gatherings a year, not including Candlelights.

PLAN 2**

We divide the Community into geographic fourths (1/4 sections) and have each area hold Gatherings at least Quarterly. The point towns would be:

- Tyler / Jacksonville (hold 4 gatherings a year)
- Longview / Marshall (hold 4 gatherings a year)
- Mineola / Lindale(hold 4 gatherings a year)
- Athens / Palestine (hold 4 gatherings a year)

We would have a minimum of 16 gatherings annually with at least 4 being close to your living area to reduce the amount of driving distance. The Babe Chick training would be held at a Tyler / Jacksonville location after each of the Walks for Fall and Spring are completed.

PLAN 3**

We would hold 4 quarterly gatherings centralized in Tyler on a Saturday as a Pot Luck for the full community. Locally we would encourage other towns, or reunion groups, or churches to hold smaller gatherings as often as you like with the following understanding; In order to hold a gathering you would need to provide the space, a 4th day speaker, clergy, and announce/advertise the gathering in the newsletter. All would be welcome to attend but greater emphasis would be placed on advertising for local attendance.

****PLEASE NOTE:** THE BOARD WOULD EXPECT THAT ALL LOCAL GATHERINGS WOULD FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES SET OUT FOR EMMAUS GATHERINGS TO INCLUDE A 4TH DAY TALK, MUSICIANS, AND QUALIFIED CLERGY TO CONDUCT THE ACCOMPANYING COMMUNION. FURTHER INFORMATION AND TRAINING WILL BE AVAILABLE TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES AS OR IF WE PROCEED IN THAT MANNER.

Please Cast Your Vote: (Circle the Plan of Choice)

PLAN 1

PLAN 2

PLAN 3

4th Day Praise:

It was Thursday night and I had just walked into a room greeted by applause and hoots. “What had I gotten myself into”, I thought. I signed up for a Walk to Emmaus without any information whatsoever. I thought I was going on a “WALK”. When I heard I would be cooped up in a room with 80 other guys and have to listen to 15 of them “give their testimony” I was ready to go. I had places to go and things to do. Yes, I was one of those that did not realize my table leader and assistant table leader were team members until closing on Sunday.

My first memory of 4th day was one of deception. I pondered my weekend for several days before it all sank in and then I set about changing my world. The first thing I did was NOT tell my wife or anyone else they needed to go on a walk. To change my world it had to start with me. I changed and others saw the difference in my words and actions.

I got involved in the newly formed Llano Estacado Emmaus community and in a reunion group. It seemed like every month or so the community put on a walk and I served in some capacity or in the prayer room. Community meetings, we were either celebrating “Babe Chicks” or praying for the next team and sometimes both.

I tried not to initiate a conversation with others about Emmaus. I let them ask first. My boys were the first to notice that Emmaus made a difference in my life. When I tensed up about work or family my boys would say, “Dad isn’t it about time you worked another walk.” They could tell that Emmaus affected me in a positive way.

My middle son, Joe, was the first to go on a Chrysalis, it was the first Chrysalis of our community. Kathy and I served one of the meals and my youngest son, who was 11 years old, wanted to go. I told him he would have to wait until he was old enough. After we left, he got on his bicycle, rode 11 miles from Woodrow to Slaton, TX. He asked around town until he found us. Tim commented, “Nothing is going to keep me away.” Tim passed away his senior year in High School never attending a walk, but he changed the lives of thousands as a reflection of his faith and family.

That is the way 4th days should be. We start with our family and move to our block, community, town and we change our world. We create a desire in others to go. We want them to say, “I will not be denied”. We live our lives so that others want to know, why and how we changed. We invite those that are in a place in their lives where they are ready to take it up a notch, to move from just a Christian to a Disciple.

I believe that God is still speaking in this world. I believe the Holy Spirit is active today and one of my jobs is “not get in the way”. We must listen for the Holy Spirit, know that God has written it on our hearts and it is for good. With discernment and trust, we are vigilantly ready to serve. When we do, we receive a blessing and change our world.

DeColores – Rev. David Mays

GRACE Board for 2008

Community Lay Director

Teresa Elliot

tgelliott@suddenlink.net

903-570-5233 (h)

Assistant Lay Director

Ray Carden

903-882-1780 (h)

903-245-9138 (c)

Raycarden287@aol.com

Spiritual Director

Tom Haygood

tomhaygood@yahoo.com

903-570-4123(c)

903-881-2663(h)

Treasurer

Robin Gillian

bobbilane@aol.com

903-894-3512 (h)

Secretary

Joy Parker

bjparker@yahoo.com

903-768-2892(h)

903-850-2893(c)

Micheal May

mdcmay@embarqmail.com

903-894-7290 (h)

Laquita Showen

jimshowen@aol.com

903-566-0733 (h)

William “Bill” Durr

903-586-1720 (h)

John Teegarden

john58@yahoo.com

903-451-4439 (h)

Brent Hooser

Brenth12000@yahoo.com

903-939-9528 (h)

903-521-7367 (c)

Dan Matthews

danmatt4497@hughes.net

903-338-2136 (h)

903-948-9039 (c)

Gail Meadows

agapegail@suddenlink.net

903-240-1223 (c)

John Norman

jenorman@hughes.net

214-803-4074(c)

Chrysalis Steering Committee

Leah Huffstetter

Leah_belle@hotmail.com

903-509-1218 (h)

903-360-1017(c)

Webmaster

Tom Perdue

tomdue@gmail.com

Registrar

Ted & Pam Weaver

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: _____