

Grace For Today

September, 2011
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G.R.A.C.E. Website
www.gracemmaus.org

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**Men's Walk #58
Camp Gilmont
September 29-October 2, 2011**

**Women's Walk #59
Camp Gilmont
October 27-30, 2011**

DEAR G.R.A.C.E.,

Love Notes from the Community Lay Director - September 2011

I think we can all agree that the Emmaus weekend is a "game changing", "life changing" or "mountain top" experience. We have all been exposed to the love of God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit during our walk and walks we have worked. I know that we all understand the purpose of the Emmaus experience is to provide leadership training for the local churches. In addition, I'm pretty sure that we all know that Jesus told us what was important- Love God and our neighbors. I know you are with me so far. I'm sure you all know who our neighbors are - everyone.

It occurred to me that if we are all in basic agreement about these issues, perhaps we could dig deeper. Which political party did Jesus support? That's right, none. The local parties of his time were the Jewish-Sadducees and the Pharisees. I'm pretty sure that he wasn't close with either one of them. My question is - If we are to love our neighbors, what do we do if they are Democrats, Republicans, Libertarians or whatever and we are not? It appears that in the current climate in this country we proceed to vilify anybody who doesn't believe exactly what we believe. Perhaps we of the Emmaus community could work on keeping in mind the commissions that Jesus gave us. Love is one of them and making disciples is the other. We might even consider Steven Covey's suggestion to "Seek to Understand Before You Seek to be Understood"

Some of you know the Rev. Zan Holmes, the pastor who introduces all of the sessions of Disciple Study 1. My wife and I recently had the opportunity to hear Rev. Holmes preach at a revival at a Methodist Church in Fairfield, Texas. His scripture for the evening was Mark 5: 1-20, the story of Jesus casting out demons from a man possessed. The demons identified themselves as "Legion" and were allowed to go into

a nearby herd of pigs. To say that the demon possessed man did not have his stuff together is an understatement. However, I suspect he is a bit like us. He was thrashing around in his chains attacking anyone who came near. However, with the help of Jesus Christ, he changed and got himself together. We can do the same thing. With the help of Jesus Christ, we can bring civility to the conversations about issues in this country. We can value and love people even if they don't agree with everything that we say or do. Love and Jesus Christ do conquer all - If we let them.

DeColores

Burton I. Love

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My Grace is sufficient...



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FROM OUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

In Chapter Nine of the book of Romans, the apostle Paul, after celebrating the liberating love of Jesus Christ, turns his heart to the very people who had spurned him and the gospel hope. These are his words, "I am speaking the truth in Christ - I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are my people..."

Every time I read those words, I am struck about the passion Paul had for his people. Wow. I would even be cut off if it meant that these folk came to know Christ. How many of us can say and mean that? Every time I read those words, I get jealous to have that kind of passion for 'my people' in my life. So I am praying that God would

- If you make agape for the entire conference room, make 61
- For only conference room Pilgrims, TL and ATL make 48
- For Dining Room Agape make 61.
- For Dining Room agape to include outside team make an additional 10
- Be original. Try not to copy ideas that have already been done.
- Food and Drink agape is needed. Homemade food makes Pilgrims feel special.
- You can bring your agape to Thursday Night send off or get it to any community, team or board member.
- Walks #58 and #59 are counting on you, in fact, "Christ is counting on you!"

Judy Hawn



PRAYER VIGILS

We still have over 60 places left on both the Men's and Women's prayer Vigils. Please take a few minutes and find a time slot to pray for the Pilgrims on the upcoming Walks...The Prayer Vigil links are on the home page of our Grace Emmaus Web Site.

[Men's Walk](#)

[Women's Walk](#)

DeColores
Jay Edwards



GATHERING NEWS



The Canton group organized a delightful gathering for August at FUMC Canton. David and Dee Calhoun were quite meticulous in planning and preparing all activities (Dee was really the one who did the preparing... David and all the rest of the Canton bunch were the cheerleaders). The music presented by the church praise band was truly incredible.

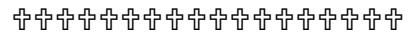
The next gathering is being hosted by the good folks in Troup (Troup is the "one horse town" 19 miles South East of Tyler, on Hwy 110 where pastor Mike Cline hangs his hat). This gathering is being organized by Diana Frachiseur et.al. and is set for September 17, 2011 at 5 pm. A covered dish dinner is at 5:30 and worship at 6:30 pm (or whenever Pastor Mike calls us to action) See you in Troup.



LAY DIRECTORS FOR UPCOMING WALKS

Men's Walk #58
Camp Gilmont
September 29-October 2, 2011
Lay Director: **David McPherson**

Women's Walk #59
Camp Gilmont
October 27-30, 2011
Lay Director: **Cindy Hooser**



2011 GRACE BOARD

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Community Lay Director
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903-425-3864

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 **select the 5 that you choose**. You may turn in your ballot by mailing it to:

**Tyler Emmaus
GRACE Community
P.O. Box 132212
Tyler, TX 75713-2212**

Or, you may bring it to the next Gathering or Candlelight. Ballots will be available at all events between now and the Gathering in November.

BOARD NOMINEES FOR 2012-2015

C J Cox - Grace 52

Carol DeRieux

Elizabeth Deverell - Grace 57

Kayla Hamm - Grace 55

Karol Johnston - Grace 49

David McPherson - Grace 3

Pat Moser - Grace 54

Shirley Starkey - North East Texas 1997

Mac Young - Grace 56

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: _____

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