



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

Devotional from our Spiritual Director

June, 2009
Volume 9, Issue 6

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

Inside this Issue

1	DEVOTIONAL: PRAYING FOR GUIDANCE
2	NEWS FROM COMMUNITY LAY DIRECTOR
3	Making Agape / Rescheduling Walk Weekends
4	GATHERING NEWS Chrysalis Application
5	Calling all CLERGY for Local Gatherings
6	BOARD INFORMATION & BANK DRAFT FORM
<u>NEXT LOCAL AREA GATHERINGS!</u> June 13th Pilgrim Rest #2 Baptist Church Saturday, (worship-6:30 pm) AND Payne Springs UMC Saturday, June 27. Pot luck lunch at 12 noon with worship to follow at 1:15 PM	
G.R.A.C.E. REGISTRAR P.O. Box 132212 Tyler TX. 75713-2212	

I remember the first talk I gave on a Walk to Emmaus. Why did they select me to give the first talk? Sure, I had worked in the chapel, put agape out, cleaned up but this was my first time in the conference room, it was the first talk. I didn't know what to expect.

I had experience teaching classes and giving presentations, I owned my own business. I was a certified lay speaker. I had spoken in church about stewardship and setting personal priorities. Yet none of it gave me confidence to start the walk with a talk on priorities.

I studied the outline, researched the topic and still didn't feel any better about giving the talk. I struggled through a draft, it was OK. It was missing something, but what I wondered. I brought up my difficulty at reunion group and asked if any others had this experience. They all assured me no one had this experience because none of them had given a talk. Great, I thought, why did I say yes? Then Dick asked me, "Have you prayed about it?"

That seems like such a given – but in fact I had not “prayed” about the talk. I had prayed for myself, I asked for time to work on the talk. I prayed for understanding of the outline. I prayed for a place to study and patience and a whole list of other things but I had not prayed for the talk.

I set some time aside to visualize the conference room. I looked around the room and imagined people at the tables and then I asked God. What is it that you want me to say to these folks? My mind was suddenly deluged with possibilities and the word that remained was “EVOLUTION.” Great! What’s that got to do with priorities I thought.

Back at home I pondered about this word, evolution. Certainly there is a priority in creation and that’s when it hit me, “Mr. Potato Head”. I remembered as a child putting ears, eyes, mouth and such on a potato. Then I thought about taking it all off again and I came up with the idea of the evolution of the rock. I realized that without proper priorities we would slowly lose the ability and desire to do some things, thus Mr. Potato Head would lose, arms, smell, sight, sound until he was “just a rock.” It was just what the talk needed. Everything fell into place and it all started with earnest prayer.

How has your prayer life been lately? Do you bring complaints, laundry lists, needs, wants, kids, spouse, church, school or – Emmaus to prayer. Or do you pray “Thy will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.” What do you have for me today Lord, for my family, my neighborhood, my church – no your church, and your world. Then spend some time listening.

DeColores David Mays Community Spiritual Director



Greetings from the Community Lay Director

Preparations are well underway for the two Fall Walks at Camp Gilmont. The team selection committee met in May and the Lay Directors are currently interviewing potential team members for their willingness to serve. If you wish to nominate yourself I suggest you go on-line at www.gracemmaus.org **very soon** and file your application on-line rather than mailing it to our PO Box. This past month the board approved a request to allow separate men/womens team meetings. This will allow a flexibility we did not have before. Remember that our teams are made up of 33% new community members, 33% with 2-4 years experience and 33% veteran team members so we need volunteers from all areas.

Have you selected your person to sponsor yet? It's not too early if you plan to do it the right way. Select someone who is active in Church, loves the Lord, and is seeking to grow their faith. Pray about it and if God doesn't confirm your choice then select another one. He'll let you know when you've made the right choice. Then personally contact the person, ask them to consider your request and tell them how much Emmaus has meant to you. Then pray some more and ask God to help you. If it works; great. If not then assume that the person is not quite ready for an Emmaus experience. Applications are available on-line or call me and I'll mail one to you. Please don't wait until September to start this process. Our registrars would appreciate your getting in the applications early.

The Board will be asking you to vote in the fall for 5 new Board members. If you have ever had the desire to serve on the Emmaus

Board then let someone on our Board know. Please don't hide your light under a bushel basket and ask us to seek you out. This year we will be interviewing the Board candidates and including a photo and a bio in our newsletter for each candidate.

You should be aware that your Board approved a resolution to allow the use of tobacco, in designated areas only, at both campsites. While we don't promote use of tobacco we finally came to the realization that our tobacco free policy was both preventing some from attending, and promoting "sneaking around to smoke", including some in sleeping rooms. We will designate sites at each camp (with their approval already granted) and tobacco use outside those sites will strictly prohibited.

Our next Gatherings are 6/13 at Mineola/Golden and 6/27 at Payne Springs. These are both local community sponsored but both are open to all members to attend. I encourage you to attend either or both in support of our Community. Details elsewhere in this letter.

Well I've made it thru almost half a year as CLD and no one has stoned me yet. It has truly been a pleasure to have this opportunity to be so involved in Emmaus. We have such a wonderful Community with so many who want to serve their Lord.

De Colores, Ray Carden



A G A P E R E Q U E S T :

The servant team leaders on the last few Walks have mentioned to me that they have been short of agape items for our pilgrims. And that the late arrival (generally on Saturday night of Candlelight) has prevented them from properly distributing the items they receive. From their comments it is obvious that we, as a community, need to do a better job of creating agape items and getting them to the Walks on a more timely basis. Rather than bringing agape to Candlelight I would suggest that you look up the name of a team member you know and ask them to take your items of agape with them as they journey to start the weekend. Perhaps we should sponsor more agape parties in our Churches or have more reunion groups involved in making agape. I would never attempt to tell you how to be creative (remember I'm a man) but would ask that you give this request your consideration. Please remember to pray over your items dedicating them to the 36 pilgrims and the team members on each Walk. Contact any of the board members if you have any questions. Thanks,

Ray Carden

Rescheduling of Walk

Recently the Board was presented with a recommendation to change the scheduling of the Walks so that they do not occur on two consecutive weekends. The original suggestion was that we move to a quarterly arrangement with the Walks occurring about 3 months apart. After much discussion and the formation of a committee to take an in-depth look into this matter, the Grace Community Board is proposing that the Men's Walk and the Women's Walk occur 4-6 weeks apart. The proposal will be contingent upon a community vote, which will be handled by mailed ballots later this year. If the community agrees to this proposal, the new scheduling would not begin before 2010 and may be as late as 2012 before it could be implemented.

The board recommends this proposal for the following reasons:

1. The Emmaus Manual recommends there be at least one month between walks
2. The month would give new pilgrims ample time to prayerfully consider sponsoring someone else. A week is not adequate to pray, make a decision and fulfill all the sponsor responsibilities.
3. The change would give couples more financial spacing for their fees as well as give parents a break before having to arrange childcare for two weekends in a row.
4. The change will most likely increase attendance at Candlelight and Closings due to alleviation of driving long distances two weekends in a row.
5. It will give those that work both walks more time to refuel and rest before the next walk.
6. It may help with prayer clock participation because at present some people will only sign up for one of the weekends.
7. The proposal will help us to keep our supplies and trailers in better order since each Team will have to repack each time.

You will be hearing more about this proposal as time goes on. Please read over this article and consider this. Anyone on the board will be glad to answer any questions or feel free to contact the committee members.

Walk Reschedule Committee
Judy Hawn
Brent Hooser
Joy Parker

2009 Gatherings

We will hold 2 more QUARTERLY gatherings centralized in Tyler on a Saturday as a Pot Luck for the full community.

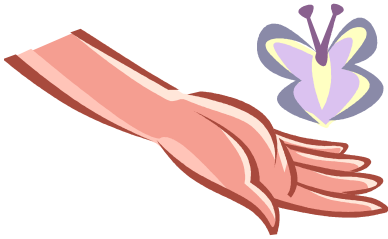
August 15th----- Pollard UMC, Sponsor's Training @ 11:00, Pot Luck @ 12 noon & Worship @ 1:15 p.m.

November 21st---- Grace Community Church, Babe Chick @ 11:00; Pot Luck @ 12 noon; Worship @ 1:15 p.m.;

GATHERING ALERT:

OUR GATHERING CUP RUNNETH OVER- KIND OF... LOCAL Gatherings are scheduled for June 13th and 27th

Pilgrim Rest #2 Baptist Church is hosting a **LOCAL Gathering** on Saturday June 13th Worship will start at 6:30 PM and refreshments will be served immediately after. Pilgrim Rest #2 Baptist Church is located 9 miles north of Mineola on Route 69.



Chrysalis Corner

Well it is time to start thinking about the Chrysalis Flight for this Summer.

We are going to hold a Girl's Flight on July 30th, July 31st and August 1st @ Pollard UMC in Tyler, Texas. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS !!** We are so excited to be able to bring to the GRACE area our 2nd Chrysalis Flight.

1) We need team members to work this flight, – Adult and Youth alike,...both are needed. Please stop and fill out an application for team service and get that mailed in ASAP. We will hold team selection for this event in mid-April to early May. The team meetings are set so you can check your availability now.

Flight – July 30th, 31st and Aug 1st.

Team Meetings – Jun 27th, Jul 10th & 11th (over night) & Jul 18th

Attached you will see the team service application or you can go to the web site to download an application under (Chrysalis).

2) The next thing we need is for reunion groups AND/OR individuals to contact me to let me know if you can provide food for the flight. The concept is that the reunion group(s)/individuals/Sunday School classes would cook a meal and bring it to the church and serve during that meal. You can use the churches' kitchen and cook there if that is easier to do. We will need meals for July 30th Lunch & Dinner; July 31st Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner and Aug 1st Breakfast and Lunch. Dinner on Friday night the 31st would be the girl's banquet so it needs to be a nice meal. If you would like to help but are not able to cook a meal then green agape (money) to buy a meal is always appreciated. We do this in order to keep the cost down for the team fees and butterfly fees. The total cost per person is only \$50. Since we are not at a camp site and are not paying for meals the cost is much lower than if we did this like the Adult Walks. If we have a full flight we are looking at 36 butterflies and team of about 36 so 72 people for each meal.

3) We will need agape just as you would for the adult walks so reunion groups this is another area in which you can help. The girls just love all the goodies as you did on your walk.

Number of Agape Items:

BED – 48 items [We don't have just bed agape for butterflies as they are in the gym with the table groups so our youth and adult table leaders are there too.]

CONFERENCE ROOM / DINING TABLES – 60 items

ENTIRE TEAM – 72 items

4) Snack agape – some just plain junk food / soda pop... these are teenagers but we do hope to have some nutritional foods to include fruit, light snacks and water

5) We will need those prayer warriors out there for the 72 hour prayer vigil.

6) **LAST BUT NOT LEAST** - We need butterflies. Hopefully, 36 excited, wonderful girls ready to meet God where they are at in their journey of life. These girls need to have finished the 9th grade and be 15 yrs old to 18 yrs old. We will also have table(s) set aside for college age girls that fall between 18 yrs old and 24 yrs old. Some of the girls like to come to Chrysalis instead of a Walks because the group at their table are all close in age. Applications are at the web site under the Chrysalis tab: www.gracemmaus.org .

DeColores and Fly with Christ,

Teresa Elliott

Chrysalis Steering Committee Chairman

GRACE Chrysalis
Application for Team Service

Name _____ Preferred Name _____

Date of Birth ____ - ____ - ____ Sex _____

Phone Number (Home) (____) _____ - _____ Cell (____) _____ - _____

E-mail address _____

Address _____ City _____ St. ____ Zip _____

Please circle - I went on my Flight / Walk / Other (Please specify _____)

In community _____ number _____ year _____

Church _____ Pastor _____

Address _____ City _____ St. ____ Zip _____

Do you play a musical instrument? _____ What kind(s) ? _____

Can you lead group singing? _____

I have worked in the following communities and in these roles (Please List):

Assigned roles for the weekend (Please List):

Talks I have given (Please List):

I would like to serve on the following Flights:

GIRLS' ____ Summer 2009 July 30th, July 31st and August 1st.

Please mail to: GRACE CHRYSALIS - TEAM SELECTION
PO BOX 6291
Tyler, Texas 75711

Questions? Email them to elliott.teresa@gmail.com

Medical Authorization

(This must be filled out for all working and must notarized if worker in under age of 18)

I, _____, am the parent/guardian of _____
and give my permission for his/her attendance at the GRACE Chrysalis weekend beginning
_____ and ending _____.

During this time, I may be reached at (home) _____ (cell) _____

Emergency contact and number _____

Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Insurance Provider: _____

Policy Number: _____

Date of last tetanus shot _____

Are there any medications, prescription or other, to be taken during the weekend? _____

If yes, provide all medications (prescription and over-the-counter) in the original container.

List ANY allergies _____

List ANY special dietary needs or restrictions _____

Are there any health or physical needs that require special attention? _____

If yes, please explain _____

I understand that my son/daughter will be in the care of Chrysalis adult staff members. In case of an emergency and if I cannot be readily contacted, I hereby authorize the administration of any medical treatment that may be necessary. I will be responsible for the cost of such treatments.

Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

Subscribed sworn before me, a Notary public in _____ County, Texas this the _____
day of _____, 20__.

Signature of Notary Public _____

Date my commission expires _____

GRACE Board for 2009

Community Lay Director

Ray Carden

RayCarden@suddenlink.net

903-882-1780 (h)

903-245-9138 (c)

Spiritual Director

David Mays

david@wcclv.org

903-663-2438

903-374-4766

Treasurer, Agape Dinner

Robin Gillian

bobbilane@aol.com

903-894-3512 (h)

Secretary/ Agape Dinner/ Afterglow

Joy Parker

bjparker859@yahoo.com

903-768-2892(h)

903-850-2893(c)

Walk Agape/ Publications

George Assaf

geeassaf@suddenlink.net

903-569-6553 (h)

Prayer Clock, Agape Letters

Judy Haw

jacieh2002@yahoo.com

903-681-1565 (c)

Babe Chick Training

William "Bill" Durr

903-586-1720 (h)

GRACE Crosses/Name Tags

John Teegarden

johnt58@yahoo.com

903-451-4439 (h)

Nominating/ Team Selection Chair

Brent Hooser

Brenth12000@yahoo.com

903-939-9528 (h)

903-521-7367 (c)

Assistant Community Lay Director

Sponsorship

Dan Matthews

danmatt4497@hughes.net

903-338-2136 (h)

903-948-9039 (c)

Newsletter Editor

Gail Meadows

AgapeGail@Suddenlink.net

903-240-1223 (c)

Walk Book Table

John Norman

jenorman@hughes.net

214-803-4074(c)

Webmaster, Reunion groups

903-526-3504 (h)

Tom Perdue

tomdue@gmail.com

Registrar

Ted & Pam Weaver

tpweaaver@yahoo.com

Chrysalis Steering Chairman

Teresa Elliot

tgelliott@suddenlink.net

903-570-5233 (h)

Community Trailer/Cleanup

Frank Copeland

fhcopel@gmail.com

903-723-3420 (h)

903-391-3542 (c)

Music Director

Patti Jones

SheLLie47@aol.com

903-469-3431 (h)

903-288-4550 (c)

Gathering Coordinator

Burton Love

burtonlove@embarqmail.com

903-425-3864 (h)

If you have a desire to see the G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community to be able to further the ministry of God through the Walk to Emmaus program and would wish to make a automatic monthly **tax deductible** donation through your bank account, prayerfully consider filling out the form below and mail it back to

GRACE EMMAUS

Treasurer

P.O. Box 132212

Tyler TX.

75713-2212

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 donating \$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: _____

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 # _____

Email Address: _____

Return to:

GRACE EMMAUS

Treasurer

P.O. Box 132212

Tyler TX.

75713-2212