

# Grace For Today

November, 2011  
Volume 11, Issue 11

G.R.A.C.E. Website  
[www.gracemmaus.org](http://www.gracemmaus.org)

## Inside this Issue

<b>1</b>	<b>Love Notes from Our Community Lay Director</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>From Our Spiritual Director Walks 58 and 59 Gathering News</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Asking For Too Little The Fourth Day The Ultimate Candlelight</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Walk Schedules GRACE Board</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Non-Elected Positions</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Election Ballot</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Board Nominees Bios</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Board Nominees Bios</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Bank Draft</b>

**Philip and Lynda McKanna**  
**G.R.A.C.E. REGISTRAR**  
P.O. Box 56  
Diana, TX 75640

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

**Gathering**  
**Saturday November 19, 2011**  
**11:00AM Babe Chick**  
**1:30PM Worship**  
**Bethel Bible Church**  
**Tyler, Texas**

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

### Love Notes from the Community Lay Director - November 2011

As I write this piece, we have successfully completed Walk #58 under the direction of David McPherson. Rev. Jarratt Major appropriately described the Walk as having just enough “glitches” to prove that we were not perfect but not too many to detract from the experience of the Pilgrims. The Holy Spirit was clearly in charge. It was indeed, “The Best Walk Ever.” On behalf of the Community I want to thank the entire weekend team (conference room team and servant team) for their exemplary efforts.

By the time you read this, we will have also completed Walk # 59 under the direction of Cindy Hooser. Based on the care and work which have gone into the team preparation for Walk # 59, I am sure it was also, “The Best Walk Ever”. I suspect that here again there were just enough “glitches” to remind us that the Holy Spirit is in charge. Again, we offer our thanks and appreciation to the many team members who made the Walk possible.

As we begin to think about closing out this year, please remember to vote for new Board members (listed later in this Newsletter)

On Saturday, October 15, Carleen Alderman, Regional Representative, Emmaus Upper Room provided a very thoughtful leadership session for Board Members, potential Board Members, and Future Walk Directors. Attendees included Karol Johnston, potential Board Member; Robin Gillian, former Board Member/ Walk 63 LD; JoAnne Skeen, GRACE Treasurer/2012 Community Lay Director/ 2013 LD, and myself. (If you are interested in any of the details, send me an e-mail and I will send you a copy of the meeting summary. [burtonlove@embarqmail.com](mailto:burtonlove@embarqmail.com) )

A few excerpts from the meeting might interest you.

The vision and mission of the Upper Room Emmaus are as follows:

Our Vision: “Fourth Day Leaders Embodying Christ!”

Our Mission: “Empowering leaders through Emmaus & Chrysalis to be the hands & feet of Christ.”

A Five Point Test for Walk Teams and Boards:

1. Will it glorify God?
2. Will it move the Pilgrims closer to God?
3. Is it going to glorify someone on the team or in the community?
4. Will it detract the Pilgrim from receiving the intended message?
5. Does it fit the message of the day and the flow of the weekend?

Finally - To Embody Christ means:

“If you have gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care - then do me a favor:”

Agree with each other...  
Love each other...  
Be deep-spirited friends...  
Don't push your way to the front...  
Don't sweet talk your way to the top...  
Put yourself aside and help others get ahead...  
Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage...  
Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand...  
Think of yourself the way Christ Jesus thought of Himself...

Philippians 2:1-5 (The Message)

To me, one of the principal wonders of the Emmaus movement and GRACE Emmaus in particular, is the multitude of people who participate in the GRACE Community and work to

live by the above message in  
Philippians.

DeColores  
Burton I. Love

††††††††††††††††††††††††††††††

*God is our refuge and strength..*



*...A very present help in trouble*

††††††††††††††††††††††††††††††

**FROM OUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR**

Dear Friends,

I want to invite you to a conversation. The conversation has to do with a feeling inside of me and some others that Emmaus ought to be equally focused on our Walks and providing each other the 4th day nurture and support that we live as disciples long after that special Thursday through Sunday. Here's the reality: A lot of us get energized on our Walks and then fade away when the real world hits. Your Emmaus board is prayerfully discussing this, but my guess is that the Holy Spirit has an answer brewing inside of you, and that is why I want to invite you to the conversation. I'd like to share your ideas with the great people that serve as the Board for this Emmaus community.

Here are three questions for the conversation: How can we in a real world best help each other 'remember our first love'? How can we be more active in helping people embrace the fourth day life following their Walks? What is your reunion group doing to welcome new members and help them live the life of a disciple?

I would genuinely love to hear your ideas. If you want to write, it is Ricky Ricks, 1101 Pine Tree Road Longview, Texas 75604. If you want to email me, it is [rickyr@greggton.org](mailto:rickyr@greggton.org). Thank you for

your love and care for each other and all the great churches that we call home.

With Hope and Joy in Christ,

Ricky Ricks

††††††††††††††††††††††††††††††

**MEN'S WALK #58**

Well, Walk #58 is in the books. There were 25 Pilgrims and we had a great Walk. We had a great team and for the most part everything went smoothly. We had just enough glitches to show that we were humans and that God was in charge. There were 11 of the Pilgrims at the candlelight for the Women's Walk. I hope to see all the Pilgrims again at the "Babe Chick" meeting in November.

David McPherson  
Lay Director, Walk #58

††††††††††††††††††††††††††††††



††††††††††††††††††††††††††††††

**WOMEN'S WALK #59**

Well, G.R.A.C.E. Women's Walk #59 is now in the history books. There were 36 Pilgrims on the Walk and God did amazing things in their lives. It was truly a blessing for me to serve as the Lay Director and I have to give God all of the thanks and glory for choosing such an amazing group of clergy and laity to serve alongside me, and to truly show the meaning of "Servant."

I sat amazed all weekend and watched as God orchestrated the weekend from moment to moment and day to day. To have that many women in one room and everyone show such love and charity towards each other was truly a miracle in the making.

Thank you to all of the community for your gifts of agape, your prayers and for the huge attendance at Candlelight on Saturday evening. I felt God

moving in the lives of every Pilgrim as well as the members of the team.

What a privilege to be a part of such a loving and generous community. May God continue to be first in all of your lives.

Blessings,  
Cindy Hooser  
Lay Director, Walk #59

††††††††††††††††††††††††††††††

**GATHERING NEWS**



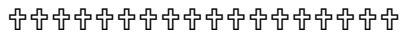
Call it a gathering; or call it a "candlelight"; someone may even call it a celebration... Whatever it is called, the October gatherings at Camp Gilmont were remarkable. With almost two hundred Community members singing and worshipping God, they were marvelous evenings; as if out of Acts chapter 2.

The next gathering is the Community's "Grand Ultraya", the "grandest" and most informative Gathering of the year. It is scheduled for Saturday, November 19, 2011 at Bethel Bible Church located at: 17121 Hwy 69 South, Tyler. At 11 a.m. our "most well-informed" Patti Jones will present a session on Babe Chick training. The meal will be served at noon: a "grand" covered dish (so bring your best dishes... blue ribbon for Creole or stuffed red fish; HA). Worship will begin about 1:30 p.m. Please make plans to attend.

If anyone would like to plan a community gathering for any month next year, do call George Assaf at 903-520-6699 or Burton Love at 903-880-5462

DeColores  
George Assaf

††††††††††††††††††††††††††††††



## ASKING FOR TOO LITTLE

### Acts 3: 1-8

*Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth hour, the hour of prayer. And a man who had been lame from his mother's womb was being carried along, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, in order to beg alms of those who were entering the temple.*

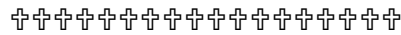
*<sup>3</sup>When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he began asking to receive alms. But Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, "Look at us!" And he began to give them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene--Walk!" And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened.*

*With a leap he stood upright and began to walk; and he entered the temple with them, walking and praising God.*

If we don't know and believe God's promises and capabilities, we will ask for too little, when God is willing to give us much more than we ever dared or imagined.

Are you willing to settle for crumbs when He wants you to have a full banquet? Have you accepted defeat over your problems, sickness, habits, addictions when He wants to give you victory? Have you accepted a life of misery when He wants to give you a life of abundance? Are you settling for getting by when He wants to give you everything? Are you acting like a lame beggar instead of a Child of the King? Are you asking for alms when He wants to make you walk?

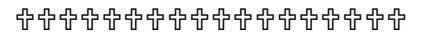
Judy Hawn



## THE FOURTH DAY

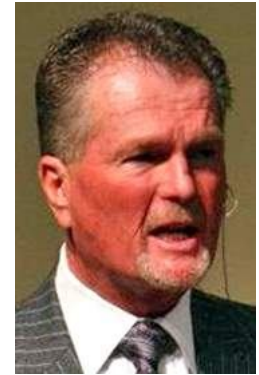
Matthew 5:16 ... let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. As a little girl, the scriptures that made the greatest impression on me were the ones like this one. The ones that did not necessarily say go out and preach on street corners, or even behind a pulpit, but the ones that said to live your life as an example of Christ in everything you do. We all perceive the world through our own personality and our own experiences. Being a terribly shy child, I appreciated that I would not have to preach to show Christ to the world. Perhaps you are of the same mind. We are not all called to preach after all. However, something happened this week that caused me to question my "work quietly in the background" attitude. On Monday October 24th my brother turned a front end loader over in a pond. Thankfully, the tractor did not end up in the water, only deep mud, and the loader was equipped with a reinforced cab that protected him from serious injury. He was, however, very shaken up, and of course everyone who heard about the accident had a story to tell about someone they knew who might or might not have survived a similar accident. He and we know that he could have been gone in an instant. We all live with the knowledge that life in this world is short, but, as Christians, we also live with the knowledge that this is not all there is. Most of us know someone who does not know the love, peace, and joy of knowing Jesus Christ. And while it is important to live every day in every way as the "salt of the earth and the light of the world" by our actions, sometimes it is necessary to step out of our personality, step out of our comfort zone, and share the word of God in a more direct way. This week God sent me a very real and concrete example of why I need to share his love with those around me in a real and direct way. I am thankful for the reminder, and the push. Perhaps my reminder can be yours as well.

DeColores  
Elizabeth Minor



## THE ULTIMATE CANDLELIGHT

We bid a fond goodbye to Rev. Lou Gary Thomas Pastor, Lanes Chapel United Methodist Church (Better known as "Brother Lou").



The Body of Christ has lost one of its strongest parts. Brother Lou Gary Thomas was called home to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday Oct.28th at 11:24PM. Brother Lou had suffered a major stroke with bleeding on the brain earlier in the week. Brother Lou was a true follower of Christ and a strong supporter of the Emmaus movement. In fact, he had just served as an Assistant Spiritual Director for Walk 58, led by David McPherson a member of Lanes Chapel UMC. Many, many stories could be related about Brother Lou's dedication to the Lord. The following was provided by Teresa Elliott, former Community Lay Director for the GRACEmmaus Community. It is an excellent thumbnail of Brother Lou's life...

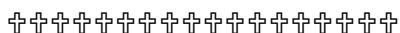
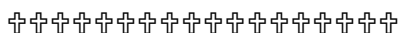
*Sunday October 30 was a very difficult day to face as the first Sunday Lanes Chapel would be without their beloved Bro Lou. The place was full of tears and joy. It was "Pastor Appreciation Sunday" at Lanes Chapel; so last week Bro Lou had picked out his favorite songs to be sung and had asked the Children's Choir to sing as well. As one of our members stated, "Little did Bro Lou know that it would be his sweet goodbye kiss to his congregation". At the end of the service a young man accepted Christ into his heart. Any of you who know Bro Lou and have*

attended one of the Lanes Chapel services know that when someone accepts Jesus into their heart... Brother Lou would jump for joy. Bro Lou would say if you can jump up and down at a football game you should be able to jump up and down when someone comes into the family of the Lord. Well after our new Christian and member of the church was introduced, Brenda Thomas (wife) and Richard Hughes (Brother-in-law) came forward and asked us all to jump on the count of three as Bro Lou would have done. It was AWESOME!!

When you arrive in Heaven, there will be some folks you don't expect (and they may not expect you either) but I am confident that Brother Lou will be there. He is probably having a chat with Jesus right now.

Our prayers are with Brother Lou's family, his church family and his Emmaus family.

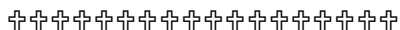
DeColores



**LAY DIRECTORS FOR  
UPCOMING WALKS**

Men's Walk #60  
Disciples Crossing  
March 15-18, 2012  
Lay Director: **John Norman**

Women's Walk #61  
Disciples Crossing  
April 19-22, 2012  
Lay Director: **Kathy Kapka**



**2011 GRACE BOARD**

Gathering Coordinator

**George Asaaf**  
[geeassaf@suddenlink.net](mailto:geeassaf@suddenlink.net)  
903-569-6553

Team Selection/Nomination Chair  
Walk Clean-up Coordinator

**Ken Braswell**  
[braswellsbb@aol.com](mailto:braswellsbb@aol.com)  
903-677-3341 (h)  
903-288-5949 (c)

Reunion Group Coordinator

**Chuck Reed**  
[chuck.reed@ymail.com](mailto:chuck.reed@ymail.com)  
(903) 845-8128 (h)  
(903) 918-4196 (c)

Wall Agape/Prayer Vigil Coordinator

**Jay Edwards**  
[jedwards@eastman.com](mailto:jedwards@eastman.com)  
903-844-2412 (h)  
903-235-6935 (c)  
903-237-5460 (w)

Book Table Coordinator

**Diana Frachiseur**  
[Tdhbe05@yahoo.com](mailto:Tdhbe05@yahoo.com)  
903-842-3030 (h)  
903-571-2646 (c)

Gift Agape Coordinator

**Judy Hawn**  
[Jacieh2002@yahoo.com](mailto:Jacieh2002@yahoo.com)  
903-681-1565

Secretary

**Cindy Hooser**  
[andysue13@yahoo.com](mailto:andysue13@yahoo.com)  
903-939-9528 (h)  
903-530-5174 (c)

Agape Banquet/Afterglow

**Joe Tew**  
[joe@tylerrosenursery.com](mailto:joe@tylerrosenursery.com)  
903-859-3385

Babe Chick Training

**Patti Jones**  
[Shellie47@aol.com](mailto:Shellie47@aol.com)  
903-469-3431 (h)

Community Lay Director

**Burton Love**  
[burtonlove@embarqmail.com](mailto:burtonlove@embarqmail.com)  
903-425-3864

Exificio

**Dan Matthews**  
[danmatt4497@hughes.net](mailto:danmatt4497@hughes.net)  
903-338-2136 (h)  
903-948-9039 (c)

Music Coordinator

**Tom McDonald**  
[tom@tommc.net](mailto:tom@tommc.net)  
[themcdss@sbcglobal.net](mailto:themcdss@sbcglobal.net)  
903-534-4911 (h)  
903-571-8011 (c)  
903-894-8116 (w)

Newsletter Editor

**Philip McKanna**  
[pmckanna@osisoft.com](mailto:pmckanna@osisoft.com)  
903-663-2155 (h)  
903-746-5628 (c)  
903-353-9052 (w)

Woodworking Coordinator

Publication Coordinator  
**Elizabeth Minor**  
[mnm-design@msn.com](mailto:mnm-design@msn.com)  
903-657-8112 (h)  
903-720-1740 (c)

Sponsorship Training

**Tom Perdue**  
[tomdue@gmail.com](mailto:tomdue@gmail.com)  
903-218-1578 (h)  
903-571-3199 (c)

Assistant Community Lay Director

Treasurer  
**Jo Anne Skeen**  
[joanneskeen@gmail.com](mailto:joanneskeen@gmail.com)  
903-723-2189 (h)  
903-391-1664 (c)  
903-723-6143 (w)





**NON-ELECTED POSITIONS**

Registrar

**Philip & Lynda McKanna**

[lmckanna@beerwells.com](mailto:lmckanna@beerwells.com)

[pmckanna@osisoft.com](mailto:pmckanna@osisoft.com)

903-746-5628 (c)

Webmaster

**Tom Perdue**

[tomdue@gmail.com](mailto:tomdue@gmail.com)

903-218-1578 (h)

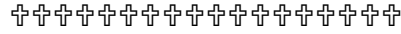
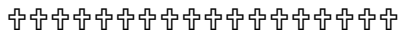
903-571-3199 (c)

Spiritual Director

**Ricky Ricks**

[rickyr@greggton.org](mailto:rickyr@greggton.org)

(903) 657-6588



Tyler Emmaus Community

DBH:**GRACE Emmaus Community**

**P.O. Box 132212**

**Tyler, TX 75713-2212**

Philip & Lynda McKanna

GRACE REGISTRAR

**P.O. Box 56**

**Diana, TX 75640**



## 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 by circling their name.** 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. Ballots will be available at all events between now and the Gathering in November.

### BALLOT FOR BOARD NOMINEES 2012-2015

**INDICATE YOUR VOTE BY CIRCLING NO MORE THAN 5 NAMES**

**C J Cox - Grace 52**

**Carol DeRieux – Grace 29**

**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**



**See Submitted Bios Below**



**Carol Derieux**



My name is Carol DeRieux, I attended Grace Walk 29, March of 2004 at camp Gilmont and sat at the table of Elizabeth. My family and I worship at First United Methodist Church in Gladewater.

I would like to be on the board because I love the way God has put Emmaus together and you can see Him working all the time! Also, being involved in Emmaus keeps me focused on what I should be focused on in this life.

**Elizabeth Deverell**



My name is Elizabeth Deverell. I attended Walk #57 at Disciples Crossing in Athens. I sat at the table of Ruth. My husband of 30 years and I attend Lanes Chapel United Methodist Church in Tyler

I so enjoyed my Walk to Emmaus with the Grace Emmaus Community. I plan to work wherever I can for the Grace Community.


If elected I will work with all the board members to help further the growth of Grace Emmaus. I would love for this Lord's servant to be able to use the talents that God has given me to work and serve the Grace Community.

**Karol Johnston**



Hello, my name is Karol Johnston, and I went on GRACE Emmaus Walk #49 at Disciples Crossing in Athens, Texas. I worship at Van United Methodist Church with my husband Mike.

I feel honored to be asked to serve as a board member for the GRACE community. My experience as a Pilgrim and worker in the Emmaus community as both an inside assistant table leader and table leader as well as an outside team member on three different Walks have been wonderful and times of renewal. I am one who feels rewarded by giving of my time and talents that God has provided for me. I have always had a servant's heart and have pledged to be open to serve when I am asked. I would delight in serving this community as a board member.

<p><b>David McPherson</b></p>		<p>My name is David McPherson. I attended GRACE Walk #3 at Timberline. I sat at the table of Luke. I attend Lanes Chapel UMC.</p> <p>I want to be on the board so I can provide feedback to the <a href="http://Upperroom.org">Upperroom.org</a> on what works and what doesn't work at our local Walks so they may make better decisions on any future changes to the Walk structure. As the most recent lay director, I want to stay active in the Emmaus movement and the best way I can do that is to serve on the board.</p>
<p><b>Mac Young</b></p>		<p>Payne Springs UMC has a long tradition of supporting and working hard to serve the GRACE community, I would like to carry on this tradition.</p> <p>Walk 56 was a life changing experience in my life and I would like to show my appreciation by serving and working to give this same experience to another Pilgrim. Working Walk 58 was almost as great an experience as my first Walk. I would be honored to serve on the board.</p>



## 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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Thank you for your continued support of our Emmaus community.

DeColores

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

PRSRT STD  
US Postage  
Paid  
Tyler, TX  
Permit No.275