# G.R.A.C.E. News



September, 2007 Volume 7, Issue 8

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

#### Inside this Issue

- **NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY LAY LEADER, BOOK TABLE INFO**
- CHRYSALIS CORNER, TREASURY PRAISE, FALL 2007 WALK NEWS

COUNT DOWN TO PRAYER, **AGAPE NEEDS, 2008 GATHERING REQUEST, COMMUNITY CALENDAR, GRACE BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION** 

- **GRACE BOARD NOMINATION FORM**
- **EFT DRAFT FORM AND COMMUNITY ADDRESS**

#### Next Gathering

Thursday, September 13 Crossroads Community Church, Longview, TX

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

# Dear G.R.A.C.E.

### Refresh the Hearts of the Saints

"Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you brother, have refreshed the hearts of the saints." Philemon 1:7

I opened my e-mail the other day, and this was my "verse for the day." I immediately thought of the GRACE Emmaus community, and the way I feel after every gathering, team meeting, or candlelight ceremony. In our prayer to the Holy Spirit, we ask: "Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love." And He does doesn't He?

I have a confession to make. Sometimes I may not feel like going to a gathering or maybe a team meeting, although I almost always can't wait to go to a Candlelight ceremony. I might be tired or grumpy or just don't feel like getting out that evening. But you know what? I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN GLAD THAT I MADE THE EFFORT TO GO! I have been going to gatherings in the GRACE Community for 7 years, and I have never come away from one thinking "I wish I'd stayed home." Rather I have ALWAYS come away refreshed and renewed, and the reason for that is YOU, my brothers and sisters in Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement because you have refreshed my heart. (Not that I am a saint, by any means!!) That is just one of the many benefits of being a member of the G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community. There are many others: prayer, support, friendship,

opportunities for Spiritual growth to name a few.

After the "verse for the day" in my e-mail, the "thought for the day" read: Wouldn't this description of Philemon be a great one to have said about vou? To be loved. supported, and encouraged by an encourager is to have your heart refreshed and your attitude lifted. Let's make a commitment to be an encourager who refreshes the hearts of the saints. I have another confession to make. Often I go to gatherings to be encouraged, or to have my spirits lifted - and they always are - but this month, I am making the commitment to try to be The Encourager.

Whether you are in need encouragement or you are willing to share God's love and joy with someone else, YOU ARE NEEDED AT THE GATHERINGS. You never know just whose day you might make by being there or what joy and refreshment you yourself might receive until you get there. I can honestly say I am looking forward to seeing all of you at Septembers gathering in Longview. The fall walks are just around the corner. Won't you join us in supporting your brothers and sisters in Christ on September 13<sup>th</sup> in Longview? Make the effort to go; you won't be sorry you did.

DeColores, and God Bless You Susan Stallings 2007 CLD

**\*** 

#### **BOOK TABLE**

We all know how important the book table is on a walk. We are looking at making a few changes to the book table on the future walks and we need your

We are looking for people who are willing to donate books to the table (they may be gently used but please no writing in them). We will put a nominal amount on these books to help offset the cost of the book table. We will still go and get books from the Scroll but we have been losing money each walk because books are looked at and walked off with

and people forget to purchase them by the end of thee weekend.

If you have any books you would like to donate, we would appreciate your help. We will have a bucket set up at each gathering and you can put them in there. Or contact me and I will get with you. leah\_belle@hotmail.com

Thanks in advance for your help and support.

Leah Huffstetter (Book table coordinator)

\*

### **Chrysalis Corner:**

II Corinithians 5:17

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.

On August 10<sup>th</sup> we had the pleasure of a visit from Wayne Ingle with the Upper Room. Wayne was here for training of the board and Chrysalis Steering Committee as we prepare to start our own Chrysalis Community right here in GRACE. He even suggested that GRACE stood for Greater Rose Area Chrysalis & Emmaus. I thought it was a very fitting change to our name. In fact our name has not changed but we are changing as a community.

As we move forward we will be holding a <u>Chrysalis Steering</u>

<u>Committee Meeting on September</u>

<u>27<sup>th</sup> @ Lanes Chapel United</u>

<u>Methodist Church.</u> All Committee members are needed to be there. Please mark your calendars and don't forget. This will be our major kick-off to getting ready to hold our first Flight here in GRACE. This is such an awesome time and I am so excited to be part of this time in our history.

Teresa Elliott Chrysalis Steering Committee Chairman

#### TREASURY PRAISE!

Fourteen individuals/families are giving by electronic bank transfers to Emmaus. This is a CONSISTENT, painless way to give. Please

consider. Currently, \$220/month is going into the treasury. It adds up!

For those 4th Day-ers who may have concern over automatic drafts as a method of giving because of the giving of a bank account number OR the inability to stop the draft without a phone call - there is another method altogether that puts you in the driver seat for control of you donations. If would like to have convenience of an automatic monthly draft while maintaining the ultimate control of its duration please give a call or email to Laquita Showen, Treasurer, or Robin Gillian at the numbers or email address listed on the Board Information portion of this newsletter.

#### Men's Walk #42 October 11-14, 2007

Grace Community, The team is working hard in preparation for the fall 2007 Men's Walk, October 11 - 14. We had our first team meeting August 25 and previewed three great talks. Our remaining meetings are Sept. 8, 22, and October 6. Please pray for the team especially on these dates as we prepare for the walk. One last request to the community... we need Pilgrims: the last number I heard last week was 9 men registered for the walk. One of the guys on the team said, surely there's more than 9 men in East Texas who needs to experience an Emmaus weekend! Please encourage the men of your church to go, see, and experience for themselves the love shown by the Body of Christ

DeColores.

Ted Weaver, Lay Director, Walk #42

#### GOD'S TEAM FOR WALK #42:

	•	
LD	Ted	Weaver
ASST. LD	Lane	Bosley
ASST. LD	John	Norman
ASST. LD	Harold	Starkey
TL	Steve	Callaway
TL	Tommy	Morrison
TL	Mike	Russell
TL	Kevin	Shelley
TL	Jim	Showen
TL	Pat	Thompson
ATL	David	Barnard
ASST. TL	Joe	Burgess
ASST. TL	Frank	Copeland
ASST. TL	Burton	Love
ASST. TL	Tom	McDonald

ASST. TL	John	Teegarten	
MUSIC	Mitch	Shamburger	
MUSIC	Larry	Schneider	
SD	Jim	Reiter	
ASD	Jarratt	Majors	
ASD	Mark	Robinson	
ASD	Tom	Haygood	
BRD REP	David	Barnes	
	Al	Tribe	
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++			

#### Women's Walk #43 October 18-21, 2007

The team for Women's Walk #43 is completed. Our precious Lord's loving hand in this was clearly felt and seen at our first team meeting. The talk previews were powerful.

We are looking forward to the rest of the meetings and being blessed even more by serving the pilgrims on the walk.

DeColores, Betty Devine, LD, Walk #43



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 this vital part of 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 Men's Walk #42 and Women's Walk #43 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 <a href="http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/Get">http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/Get</a> Comm.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. If you don't have internet access or if you just prefer to talk with a person, you can signup for a time by calling me @ 903.312.1501 and I will get you signed up in an available slot! DeColores!

Donna Swenson

swensonhome@aol.com

#### **AGAPE!**

It's that time again! Please begin planning to bring in agape for the October Walks. The Men's walk is October 11-14 and the Women's walk is October 18-21. We will need agape placemats and dining table agape (72 items), conference room agape (60 items), and bed agape (60 items). We will need to provide items for Afterglow on Saturday night, as well. We welcome you and anything you can do. Please consider joining us for Candlelight October13 and October 20. We look forward to seeing you there. Please feel free to contact me at 903-753-4463 work.

903-758-1636 home, 903-452-5331 cell.

email: <a href="mailto:dhays@longviewfumc.org">dhays@longviewfumc.org</a> should you have any questions.

Debbie Hays Agape Chairman

# 2008 Gatherings

It may be only September but it is not too late for you to get on the schedule to host a Gathering at your church in 2008. If you wish to host a Gathering please contact **Ray Carden** 

at Raycarden287@aol.com or 903-245-9138 and let him know which month you selected. Remember that we normally don't have Gatherings in July or December. And the Gatherings held the month after an Emmaus Walk will generally include a Babe Chick meeting held before the normal service.

Community Calendar for Remainder of 2007 (Please note November's Change in Time)

**September 13** Gathering Crossroads Community, Longview – 7 p.m.

**September 20** Board Meeting at Marvin UMC – 7 p.m.

October 13 Candlelight at Camp Gilmont, Gilmer–8 p.m.

October 20 Candlelight at Camp Gilmont, Gilmer–8 p.m.

**November 10** Grand Ultreya at St. Lukes UMC Kilgore *at 7p.m.* 

**November 15** Board Meeting at Marvin UMC – 7 p.m.

December NO GATHERING; NO BOARD MEETING

#### **GRACE Board for 2007**

Community Lay Director

Susan Stallings

<u>1bighappy5@sbcglobal.net</u> 903-534-2195 (h) 903-714-0623 (c)

Assistant Lay Director

Teresa Elliot

tgelliott@suddenlink.net 903-570-5233 (h)

Spiritual Director

Mike Cline

1stumcpastor@earthlink.net 903-842-3531 (h)

903-842-3320 (w)

**Assistant Spiritual Director** 

Tom Haygood

Nominating Committee

Micheal May

mdcmay@earthlink.net

903-894-7290 (h)

Secretary

**Donna Swenson** 

<u>Swensonhome@aol.com</u> 903-312-1501 (c)

Registrar

**David Barnes** 

Registrar@GRACEmmaus.org 903-581-0441 (h) 903-534-2176 (w)

Treasurer

Laquita Showen

jimshowen@aol.com 903-566-0733 (h)

Music Director

Micheal May

mdcmay@earthlink.net 903-894-7290 (h)

#### **Committees**

Agape (walk agape, email, letters)

**Debbie Hays** 

hays48@sbcglobal.net

Agape Dinners/Afterglow

Debbie Hays/Robin Gillian

hays48@sbcglobal.net bobbilane@aol.com

**Babe Chick Training** 

**Pat Eubanks** 

Eubanpl@aim.com

Book Table (Scroll consignment)

Leah Huffstetter

Leah\_belle@hotmail.com

Community Trailer

Mike Minor

mnm-design@msn.com 903-657-8112 (h)

903-720-0488 (w)

Gatherings (Communion, babysitters, fellowship)

**Rav Carden** 

Raycarden287@aol.com

Chrysalis Steering Committee

Teresa Elliot

tgelliott@suddenlink.net

903-570-5233 (h)

Website coordinator

Tom Perdue

tomdue@suddenlink.net

903-526-3504 (h)

903-571-3199 (c)

Newsletters

**Robin Gillian** 

bobbilane@aol.com

903-894-3512 (h)
Prayer Clocks **Donna Swenson**Swensonhome@aol.com

Publications (Walk, Gathering, Upper Room Literature)

Harold Starkey
hjstarkey@suddenlink.net

Reunion Groups
Harold Starkey
hjstarkey@suddenlink.net

Sponsors

**Bill Durr/Pat Eubanks** 

Eubanpl@aim.com
Team Selection

**Betty Devine/Bill Durr** 

Walk Clean Up **Micheal May** <u>mdcmay@earthlink.net</u>

Walk Doves/GRACE Crosses, Name Tags

Mike Minor

## **ELECTION TIME !!!**

Yes it is that time of year again; time to elect new persons to our G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Board. Each year there are 5 new persons elected to take the place of 5 people that have fulfilled a three year obligation and are rotating off of the Board.

The persons that are rotating off of the board at the end of this year are our Community Lay Director Susan Stallings, David Barnes, Pat Eubanks, Mike Minor, and Betty Devine. As you see these folks, be sure and say a special thank you for all of the hard work they have done for our community over the past few years. We would also like to say thank you to Mike Cline who will be stepping down at the end of the year as our Community Spiritual Director. That position will be taken over by Dr. Tom Haygood.

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 you may bring it to either of the upcoming Candlelights. Ballots will be available at the gatherings between now and the end of the year.

-----

# Board Nominees 2008-2010

Sue Cross	Delisa Heard (Tyler)	Brent Hooser
Dan Matthews (Palestine)	Gail Meadows (White Oak)	John Norman (Canton)
Joy Parker (Golden)	John Teagarden(Payne Springs)	Rick Tetrick