

Grace for Today

G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community Newsletter February 2026

Coming Events

Saturday, Feb 21, Gathering at First Methodist, Gladewater, Potluck at noon and Worship after

Coming soon at Disciples Crossing Camp...

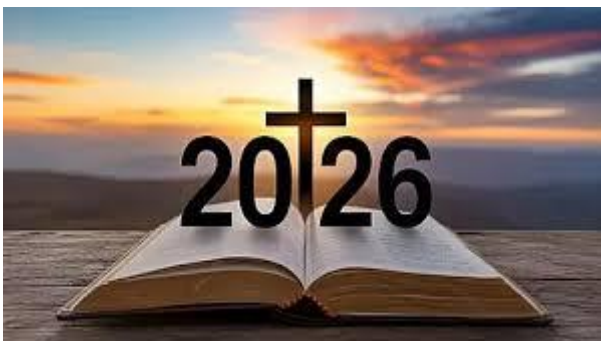
Men's Walk 112, Mar 5 – 8

Women's Walk 113, Mar 12 – 17

Pray about sponsoring a Pilgrim and submit the application!

Saturday, March 28th, Babe Chick Gathering at Marvin Methodist Church, Tyler, Babe Chick training at 11am, Potluck at noon (bring extra food for the Babe Chicks!) followed by worship

Saturday, April 18th, Gathering at Life Source, Lindale. Potluck at noon, service immediately after.



Inside this Issue

- 2: Community Lay Director's Corner
- 3: Love that lives beyond Valentine's Day
- 4: Love- Continued
- 5: Spring Walk updates
- 6: You can help with the Spring Walks
- 7: Reunion Groups
- 8: A time for cleansing
- 9: Prayer vigil
- 10: Grace Board
- 11: Support for GRACE Emmaus Community

Find More on the G.R.A.C.E. Website:

www.GRACEEmmaus.com

Community Lay Director's Corner

Dear Grace Emmaus Family,

Corinthians 13:4-8: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. February is the month of love. And Psalms 103:17 says "But from everlasting to everlasting The Lord's love is with those who fear him".

Wow, God wants you to understand that love is the most significant element for our growth in Him. I am blessed to have a close group of 7 women who keep me accountable for my actions and word. I hope you have a Reunion group or accountability group that you keep in touch with. If not check out our list of Reunion groups on our website, you might find one just perfect and close to you to attend. Kindness comes in many forms, but always from the heart. As we move closer to our Spring walks, I hope you will consider sponsoring someone you love as a pilgrim. Applications and information about Sponsorship are on our graceemmaus.org website. Thanks to Pam McAdams for sharing About sponsorship at our January gathering. I am so grateful for you who come to our gatherings and share your love with us. Our next gathering will be Saturday February 21st at Fist Methodist, Gladewater Tx.

God Bless you one and all,
Community Lay Director
Debbie Hays



Love that lives beyond Valentine's Day

February arrives wrapped in hearts, cards, flowers, and reminders to tell the people we love how much they matter. Valentine's Day gives us a beautiful opportunity to celebrate romance, friendship, and affection, but as pilgrims of Emmaus, we know love was never meant to stop at February 14.

The love we encountered on the Walk is deeper, wider, and far more lasting than chocolates and roses. It is agape love... the self-giving, unconditional love of Christ. It is the love that met us just as we were, called us by name, and invited us into something more.

On the Walk, we didn't just hear about love; we experienced it.

We were prayed over, served, listened to, and encouraged. We saw love lived out in quiet acts: a snack delivered at just the right moment, a beautiful handmade trinket on our bed at night, a handwritten letter that spoke directly to our hearts, a talk that felt like it was written just for us. That love wasn't flashy or transactional. It was intentional. It was Christ-centered. And it changed us.

Valentine's Day often focuses on who loves us. Emmaus reminds us to ask a deeper question: How are we loving others?

Fourth Day living calls us to carry that agape love into our homes, workplaces, churches, and communities. It looks like patience when it would be easier to be sharp. It looks like forgiveness when we'd rather hold on to hurt. It looks like showing up, serving faithfully, and loving people who may never return the favor.

This kind of love doesn't require a special occasion. It doesn't come with cards or candy. Sometimes it goes unnoticed. But it is powerful, because it reflects Christ.

Jesus didn't love us from a distance or with words alone. He loved us with His life. He loved us in sacrifice, in humility, and in obedience. That same love now lives in us, and through us, when we choose to walk out our Fourth Day with intention.

As Valentine's Day comes and goes, may we be reminded that the greatest love story didn't begin in a card aisle at WalMart or Mardels. It began at the cross and continues every time we say "yes" to living out our Emmaus calling.

May we love generously.

May we love courageously.

May we love in ways that point others straight back to Christ.

**Love that lives beyond
Valentine's Day-Continued.**

Because when agape love is lived out daily, every day becomes an opportunity to walk someone closer to Emmaus.



DeColores!

Charlene Burton

G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Registrar

**A word from the Lay Director's of
the spring 2026 Walks.**

**Men's Walk 112 Spring 2026-
Todd Morgan**

Jeremiah 29-13, this verse reminds me that there is always a greater plan and to never get upset when the plan doesn't happen. This verse has helped me throughout my walk with Christ. It has grounded me in living in the present, without worry for the future or the past. It has helped me during this time as Lay Director as well and has given me calmness. Our first training went well at Crossroads Canton church, and we are grateful for their service. Our second training was canceled due to the ice storm and has been rescheduled for 2/14; thank you to all the wives that are sacrificing that day to allow their husband to serve Him. This will only strengthen that holy matrimonial trinity that you all have forged.

I humbly ask for all sponsors to dig deep and find that pilgrim within your church or community that exemplifies a disciple. A man that is ready to find their purpose with our Lord, learn more about themselves and be a better disciple in their church and community. We all have a call to bring as many disciples as we can to Him. Be bold, go out of your comfort zone, you might find out more about yourself than you imagined when you sponsored a pilgrim. Often, we learn more about ourselves from our humble service than any self-help book!

God Bless all of you!
Love,
Todd Morgan
Lay Director Men's Walk #112

**Women's walk 113 Spring 2026-
Rhonda Gorrell**

Hello to the GRACE Community, everything is progressing as planned and we know God is at work. Please help sponsor a pilgrim!
Decolores,
Rhonda Gorrell

**Community Lay Director, Debbie
Hays**

"Our First training went well. We are looking forward to more pilgrims." "Get out and sponsor your friends and family."
-Debbie Hays

Please recruit your neighbors, friends, co-workers and family members. Just remember, the walk is meant to ignite passion for believers that are currently attending a church.
-CJ Cox

The Spring Walks are sooner than we realize, and you can help!

- **Pray, Pray, Pray for our Fall Walks!**

Disciples Crossing Camp in Athens
Men's Walk #112, Mar 5 – 8
Women's Walk #113, Mar 12 – 17

- **Sponsor a Pilgrim!** Do you know someone you would like to share this amazing experience with? Prayerfully consider asking them to attend a walk. Pilgrim information can be found on our website www.GRACEmmaus.com -> Applications tab -> Pilgrim Application.



- **Start making agape gifts for men and women!**

Recommended number of identical pieces of agape for each Walk (you can add the name of your Reunion Group and city to the Agape, but please do not put the name of your church):

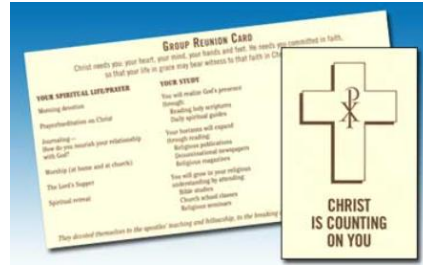
- Agape for Everyone – 72
- Dining Room Agape – 64
- Bed Agape – 36

Feel free to make as many sets as you would like! It's not too early to start! We will also need lanyards for nametags and crosses, and decorated place mats. Contact Betty Buchanan for more information. (jimbet85@gmail.com)

- **Do you have a Golf Cart or Mule we could borrow for one or both Walks?**
Contact one of the Walk Lay Directors, Todd Morgan (texantodd23@yahoo.com) or Rhonda Gorrell (fire322dfd@yahoo.com).
- **Attend Candlelight at the Walks:**
Saturday, gates open 7:30, worship at 8
- **Attend Closing at the Walks:** Sunday, Sponsors pick up Pilgrim's belongings at 3:30, Closing starts at 4
- **Sign up on the Prayer Vigil posted on the website!**
- **Consider being a server for the Agape Dinner on Saturday evening of each Walk.** Women will serve for the Men's Walk on Saturday evening. Men will serve for the Women's Walk on Saturday evening. Arrive at the camp at 4pm. All you need are black pants, a white shirt, and a willing heart! Contact Betty Buchanan for more information. (jimbet85@gmail.com)
- **Can you help with snacks and drinks for both Walks?** We can use all types of drinks from bottled water to cans and bottles of soft drinks and tea. Cases of bottled water are greatly appreciated! We also need plenty of snack food, and individually wrapped goodies are best

Are you in a Reunion Group?

On your Walk, do you remember getting your first Reunion Group Card and going over what happens in a Reunion Group meeting?



The Reunion Group serves as a vital support system for those of us who have taken our own Walk. They are designed to help us maintain our spiritual growth and commitment to a life lived in the grace of God. These meetings provide a safe space for us to share our faith, celebrate victories, find comfort in life's problems and hold each other accountable in our faith journeys. They also offer a way to continue the experience of the Walk to Emmaus into daily life, ensuring that the lessons learned there are not lost.

Did you know that on our GRACE Community website, www.GraceEmmaus.com, you can find a list of the Reunion Groups in our Community? Just click the "Reunion Groups" tab at the top of the main page, and then the "Reunion Groups List" option. **BUT**, we need your help to keep this list accurate and up to date!

If you are already attending a Reunion Group, please check the online list to make sure the information there is correct. If there are any updates, please email me at marthasgarden55@gmail.com

If you don't already have a Reunion Group, please check the online list for possible choices! The list is organized by city so you can easily find one with a convenient time and location for you. **Reach out to the contact person** for the chosen Reunion Group to verify the location and time.

If none of the Reunion Groups on the list are convenient for you, remember, it only takes TWO folks to form a group of your own!

And don't worry if you can't find your Reunion Group Card... we have plenty! Contact me if you have any questions!

-Martha Walker
Community Reunion Group Coordinator

February-A time for cleansing

Most people associate February with Valentine's Day, but did you know February is derived from the Latin word "Februa," meaning "to cleanse"? It is a time for deep introspection before the Lenten season. A quiet time to clear out old emotions and let go of past hurts, and to restore your inner peace.

As winter comes to an end and spring begins focus on God's promise of renewal and the potential of new growth.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10



Prayer Vigil

As we turn the corner into a new year, let us reflect on what it truly means to be a disciple—to serve God in all that we do and to love our neighbors as ourselves. During the Christmas season, we are reminded that giving is far better than receiving. God designed us in such a way that when we serve others, we are serving Him, and in doing so, we experience deep and undeniable joy.

It is truly a blessing to serve our Creator and our neighbors. When we do, our hearts are lifted. I have learned this lesson many times in my own life: when I am feeling discouraged, it is often because I am too focused on myself. The remedy is simple—go out and serve.

Opportunities to serve surround us in our communities and churches. We can serve in the streets, at the supermarket, and in our workplaces. If you are reading this newsletter, chances are you had a meaningful experience on a Walk. Countless people serve in countless ways to make these Walks impactful for every pilgrim.

If you haven't signed up for the next Walk, please consider supporting the community in another way. Sponsor a pilgrim, bring agape, attend Candlelight, serve Christ's Dinner, or join us for Closing. The Grace Emmaus community has transformed many lives, and it is important that we continue to grow and strengthen this instrument of God's grace.

See you there,
An anonymous community member.



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SUPPORT THE G.R.A.C.E. EMMAUS COMMUNITY!

The **G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community** wishes to continue to spread the life-changing experience that an Emmaus weekend can bring. Won't you help us by donating funds for scholarships for both Pilgrims and team members, or to the general fund of our community? We will happily accept donations of any amount and apply them to helping more Pilgrims strengthen their relationship with Christ!

There are multiple ways you can give:

1. You can give online via **Tithe.ly**, either by downloading their app on the iPhone or Google app store, registering for your free account and searching for our "church", called "Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus",
OR, you can just go straight to the giving form by scanning this QR code:



<https://app.tithely.com/login>

2. You can give via direct ACH out of your bank account or mail us a check. To send in a check, or to begin a monthly ACH, either send the check or the below information to:
Tyler Emmaus GRACE Community, PO Box 132212, Tyler TX 75713

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email address: _____

Bank Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Account #: _____

Routing #: _____

For any questions, feel free to reach out to Blake Burton, Treasurer:
clogguy82@yahoo.com or 832-835-4692

De Colores!