

Grace for Today

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

Coming Events

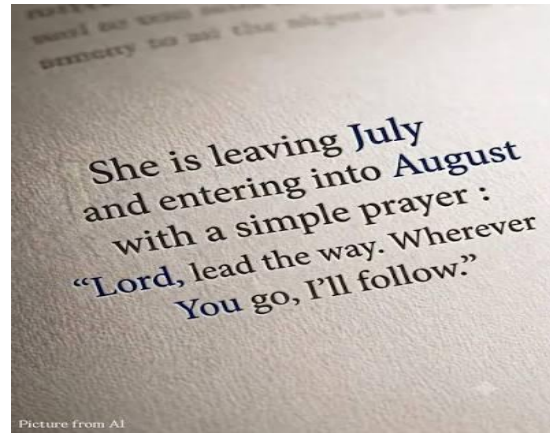
Saturday, Aug. 15th , Gathering at First Methodist Church, Athens Tx. Potluck at noon, service immediately after.

Men's walk #114- September 24-27th 2026
Camp Gilmont, Glimer Tx. Drop off at 7:00 pm.

Candle Light Men's Walk #114-September 26th, Camp Gilmont, Gilmer Tx. Gates open at 7:30pm. Gathering starts at 8 PM.

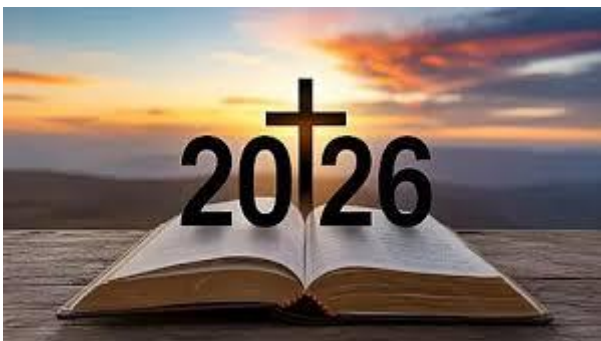
Women's walk #115- October 1-4th 2026
Camp Gilmont, Glimer Tx. Drop off at 7:00 pm.

Candle Light Women's Walk #115-October 3rd, Camp Gilmont, Gilmer Tx. Gates open at 7:30pm. Gathering starts at 8 PM.



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

www.GRACEEmmaus.com

Pilgrim's application

<https://www.graceemmaus.com/pages/applications/pilgrim-application>

Team Application

<https://www.graceemmaus.com/pages/applications/team-application>

Community Lay Director's Corner

Dear Emmaus Family,

We are getting ever closer to the fall walks. Our teams have begun training; they are excited and preparing to do their best.

I don't know about you, but these dog days of summer are just exhausting. We try to get to the pool at least once a week but, even then, it must be late in the evening.

I hope your summer has been fruitful. We always appreciate the agape you put together and bring to help us make these walks so special. As you know, this month we start back for our board meeting. If you ever have anything you would like to share with the Board, please do so. We are always open to new ideas, and ways we can improve the Walks. You can send us an email; our addresses are at the bottom of this newsletter.

As a reminder the fall walks are as follows:

Men's Walk 114 is September 24-27, 2026 at Camp Gilmont, led by John Webb

Women's Walk 115 is October 1-4, 2026 at Camp Gilmont, led by Donna Sustaire

I want to encourage you to attend our next gathering coming up, Saturday, August 15 at First Methodist Athens, Noon potluck with 1:00 pm worship service. All are welcome. Hopefully, we will hear a report from our Walk Lay Directors. If you have any announcements to make, I encourage you to speak up.

On behalf of the board and myself I want to thank each one of you who volunteered to work these walks. Thank you for hearing the call and coming through. You never know how much you will touch a pilgrim, or a 4th dayer. Over the years, I have been blessed to have others come up to me and thank me for being on their walk. I am so humbled that God has called me to participate in these walks. What a blessing!

Thank you for letting me be your Community Lay Director for 2026,

Debbie Hays- Community Lay Director

Because Someone Said “Yes”

Close your eyes for just a moment. Can you still remember your Emmaus Walk? Do you remember the butterflies on the drive there? The uncertainty of what you had signed up for? The warmth of being welcomed by strangers who quickly became brothers and sisters in Christ?

Do you remember songs that still stir your heart? The tears you didn't expect to shed? The prayers that seemed to be written just for you?

The moment you realized, perhaps for the very first time, that God loved you completely, just as you are? Hmmm Most of us don't remember every talk or every meal. But we remember how God met us there. We remember going home differently. Maybe your marriage became stronger. Maybe your faith came alive. Maybe you found your place to serve. Maybe you finally understood grace. Whatever your story, your Walk left footprints on your heart that time has never erased. But have you ever stopped to think about why you were there?

Because someone saw something in you. Someone prayed for you before you ever knew they were praying. Someone believed that God wanted to do something beautiful in your life. Someone cared enough to ask. Without that sponsor, your Emmaus story might never have begun. Now...someone else is waiting.

There is a friend who is exhausted, a coworker who quietly feels alone. A family member is searching for purpose. A neighbor who faithfully comes to church but longs for a deeper relationship with Christ. They may never ask to go to Emmaus. They may not even know it exists. They are waiting for someone who loves them enough to extend an invitation.

Could someone be you? As our upcoming Walks approach, don't just remember what Emmaus did for you. Ask God who needs the same gift today. Pray for a name. Listen. Then be courageous enough to ask. You are not simply filling another pilgrim spot. You are opening the door for someone to encounter the transforming grace of Jesus Christ. Years from now, they may be telling their own Emmaus story, and it will begin with the words:

“Someone invited me.”

Perhaps that someone will be you?

Let's give others the same opportunity that changed our lives.

Sponsor a pilgrim. Pray faithfully. Trust God with the rest.

DeColores,

“Freely you have received; freely give.” — Matthew 10:8



freely ye have
received,
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Matthew 10:8

LDS SCRIPTURE
OF THE DAY

Who Is God Placing on Your Heart?

As we look forward to the upcoming Fall Emmaus Walks, one of the greatest privileges we have as a community is the opportunity to sponsor someone who is ready to experience God's grace in a fresh and life-changing way.

Sponsorship is much more than handing someone an application. It begins with prayer.

Ask the Lord, "Who have You been preparing? Who needs to experience Your love, Your grace, and the transforming power of Christian community?" You may be surprised at the name that comes to mind.

Think about the people God has placed within your circle of influence:

- A family member that is searching for purpose.
- A friend carrying a heavy burden.
- A coworker facing difficult circumstances.
- A neighbor longing for deeper faith.
- Someone who has drifted from the church.
- A new believer who desires to grow spiritually.
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God often uses ordinary relationships to accomplish extraordinary things.

Many of us can point to someone who cared enough to invite us on our Emmaus Walk. That invitation became a turning point in our spiritual journey. Now we have the opportunity to offer that same blessing to someone else.

Remember, our role is not to convince anyone. Our role is to pray, to love, and to invite. The Holy Spirit is the One who prepares hearts.

As the Fall Men's and Women's Walks approach, let's ask God to give us eyes to see those He is calling. Pray faithfully. Listen carefully. Then, if God opens the door, extend the invitation. Your simple "yes" to sponsoring someone may become the beginning of a lifetime of deeper discipleship.

The Men's Walk # 114 is 9-24 to 9-27

The Women's Walk #115 is 10-1 to 10-4

Who is God placing on your heart today?

De Colores,

John Webb Lay Director Walk #114

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Spring Is Fully Funded - Now Let's Carry the Momentum Into Fall!

A Fall Walk funding outlook built from last year's attendance and actual camp costs.

From Blake Burton, Treasurer

Here is something worth celebrating: **our G.R.A.C.E. Community fully funded Spring Walks #112 and #113 - and finished \$2,972 ahead.** In June we still had a \$3,809 gap. By July 31, your generosity had closed it completely and given our Fall Walks a head start.

That carryforward helps us keep the fee at **\$210 for full-time team members and pilgrims.** It is one of the ways this community makes sure cost is never the reason someone misses a walk God is calling them to.

*"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
- 2 Corinthians 9:7*

WHAT LAST FALL TELLS US - WALKS #110 AND #111

Actual Camp Gilmont cost for both walks	\$31,695
People served: 99 team members + 60 pilgrims	159 people
Expected full-fee registrations at \$210	126 people / \$26,460
Estimated community subsidy	\$5,235

Last fall's total worked out to **about \$251.55 for every full-fee registration.** The \$210 fee covered about 83% of that amount; the community supplied the remaining **\$41.55 per fee-paying person.** Using the same attendance pattern gives us a reasonable planning estimate for Fall 2026.

FALL 2026 COMMUNITY FUNDING OUTLOOK

Estimated community subsidy based on Fall 2025	\$5,235
Already provided by the Spring surplus	-\$2,972
Estimated additional amount needed	\$2,263
Practical Fall community goal (rounded for changes)	ABOUT \$2,500

FALL COMMUNITY SUBSIDY - 57% ALREADY COVERED

\$2,972 spring carryforward	\$2,263 estimated remaining
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The final number will move with attendance, meals, lodging, and any camp price changes, but **\$2,500 is a practical target for the additional community support we should plan to raise.** Every gift beyond that becomes a head start for future walks and helps us continue welcoming people at an affordable registration fee.

Help Carry the Momentum Into Fall

Give online through Tithe.ly at graceemmaus.com/pages/donate.

Checks payable to Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus or GRACE Emmaus - mail to P.O. Box 132212, Tyler, TX 75713-2212, or bring to any monthly gathering.

Thank you for your faithfulness to this community and to the pilgrims still on their way. De Colores.

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 **our website** by visiting <https://www.graceemmaus.com/pages/donate> and using the giving form there:

A screenshot of the online giving interface for the Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus. At the top, it says "Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus". Below that is a large display showing "\$ 0.00". Underneath is a dropdown menu currently set to "Fund: General Fund". Below the dropdown is a button that says "+ Add Another Gift". At the bottom, there are five buttons for donation frequency: "One Time" (which is highlighted), "Weekly", "Bi-weekly", "1st & 15th", and "Monthly".

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 information below to:

G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus 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:

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