 Choices

Our everyday lives are filled with choices. We choose whether to get up and go to work (for those of you retired folks, you choose just to get up!). We choose what to wear. We choose what we eat. These choices are usually made without much thought.

Some choices take a little more thought. Norman Vincent Peale tells the story of an old man being interviewed on a talk show. The talk show host noticed that this older man was so radiant and happy.

He asked him for his secret of happiness. The man replied, “I haven’t any great secret. It’s just as plain as the nose on your face. When I get up in the morning,” he explained, “I have two choices—either to be happy or to be unhappy, and what do you think I do? I just choose to be happy, and that’s all there is to it.”

Choosing to be happy is the key. Choosing to follow our Lord and Savior is Essential.

I am often told how cheerful and pleasant I am when I answer the phone. I choose to answer the phone in a positive, cheerful way. I’ve called people on the phone and they choose not to answer that way. The whole conversation takes on a different tone than the phone conversations that begin with a cheerful “Hello”. So I choose to answer the phone in a positive, cheerful way. Even when it is the same salesman wanting to sell the latest whatever and I have already told him I am not interested or someone wanting to solicit my vote,

There are many choices that I have made that I am so very glad I made. The most important one is to be a follower of Jesus Christ and to remain a follower of Him. Another important choice was to marry Gene. And the list goes on.

Not all my choices have been the right one. But I’ve learned from those as well.

Choosing to go on the Walk to Emmaus was one of the good choices. Choosing to be a part of a team on subsequent walks was a good one (even though I initially said I would never work a walk, give a talk). I eventually made the choice to be part of a team and even give a talk. Those choices were the right ones.

I hope your choices are always the right ones and that you learn from all of them. I hope you choose to work walks, when asked; to give talks, when asked. You’ve already chosen to go on the Walk. I hope you choose to sponsor someone. I hope you choose to be a part of a reunion group. I hope you choose to be at as many gatherings as possible. I hope you choose to be happy!

DeColores!

Jo Anne Skeen

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Agape gifts

The team meetings for the Fall walks are underway. Be thinking about the agape gifts you can donate to the Walks: Homemade goodies, noisy toys, or anything that you can create to make a special memory. All are needed. Remember how much fun it was to return to your room or go to the cafeteria for meals and find little surprises?

GRACE people are very creative and will come up with many great items. If you are having problems getting these items to the walks, please contact a team member or a Board member and arrangements will be made to get your agape to the walks.

But they that wait upon the LORD...

...shall renew their strength

GATHERING NEWS

August 11, 2012

Noon – Potluck
1:00 – Praise and Worship

St. Mark’s United Methodist Church
1101 Jasper Drive
Marshall, Texas

David McPherson
903-894-3547 home
903-316-4272 cell
dtmold26@embarqmail.com

The gathering for September will be the candlelight ceremony in Gilmer at Camp Gilmont on Saturday night, September 22nd.

Emmaus community, I need a church to step up and host the Grand Ultray in November somewhere in the Tyler area. If you can meet on either the 10th or the 17th of November please contact me at 903-894-3547.

David McPherson

LAY DIRECTORS FOR UPCOMING WALKS

Men’s Walk #62
Camp Gilmont
September 19-22, 2012
Lay Director: David Barnes

Women’s Walk #63
Camp Gilmont
October 11-14, 2012
Lay Director: Kathy Kapka

Update on Fees for 2013

The Board is still discussing whether to raise the fees for next year. I have heard from one reunion group who held a Bake Sale on a Saturday morning and raised almost $400.00. Another reunion group has agreed to give $25.00 a year and one couple has decided to increase their bank draft by $10 a month to help keep the fees at $155.00.

Let me or a member of the Board know what your thoughts are on how we can keep the fees at $155.

Jo Anne

WALK # 62 TEAM MEMBERS

David Barnes – Lay Director
Assistant Lay Directors:
C.J. Cox
Jay Edward
Mike Johnston

Table Leaders:
Damon DeRieux
Derek Hamm
Shawn Heatherly
Heath Huffstetter
Bryan Jeanes
Jerry Simms

Assistant Table Leaders
Mark Bewley
Lane Bosely
James Buchanan
Jimmy Deverrell
Philip Kelly
Mac Walling

Spiritual Director:
Richard Luna

Assistance Spiritual Directors:
Tommie Burton
Jarrett Majors
Mathew Thomas
John Whitehurst

Music Team:
Loren Lykins
Mike Tucker
Seth Callahan

Board Representative:
Ken Braswell

Chapel Team:
Gene Skeen, Jr.
Pat Moser
Mark Jarrard
Larry Jones

Servant Team Members:
Gary Mount
Chuck Reed
Kevin Pierce
Bruce Carroll
Pat Thompson
George Assaf
Pat Eubanks

Please be in prayer for these team members as they have already met to begin preparing for the upcoming walks.
Hello Brothers and Sisters of the GRACE Community. We are only about 5 weeks away from the Men’s Walk #62. We still have over 90 time slots that need to be filled. Please take a few minutes and find a spot on the prayer vigils for the upcoming GRACE walks. I have attached links for both men’s walk #62 and women’s walk #63. DeColores


GRACE Walk #63 -- http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?vid=7150&commid=768

This is one way that you can participate in a walk without being in attendance.

The walks are deeply rooted in prayer before the pilgrims are selected and throughout their walks.

Note from the Women’s Lay Director

Plans are coming together for the Women’s Walk #63 on October 11-14. There are still a few needs for the team – an Assistant Lay Director, a Table Leader and an Outside Team Leader. Please pray for the walk that these spots will be filled with servants who are excited about being the hands and feet of Jesus! And continue to pray for those who have already answered the call to serve, as well as the pilgrims who will be taking the journey. The first team meeting is August 18th at Pollard UMC in Tyler. If you have a desire to serve on the team, please contact me at 903-316-1628. Thank you and God Bless, Kathy Kapka

GRACE Walk #63 Roster

Spiritual Director – Doug Smith
Lay Director – Kathy Kapka
Assistant Spiritual Directors – Virginia Wall
Heidi Cain
Linda Christians
Amy Hodge
ALD – Karol Johnston
ALD – Margie McPherson
ALD – ????

Board Rep – Jo Anne Skeen
Table Leaders:
Kathy Arriola
Fran Ayres
Babby Carroll
Janis Johns
Janet Moser

ATLs:
Betty Buchanan
Alison Campbell
Lisa Collins
Barbara Cox
Elizabeth Deverieux
Gail Gindele-Cordell
Music Leader – Pam Martin
Outside Servant Leader - ???

Are you being called to serve in one of these positions?

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KAIROS #41 AT THE MICHAEL UNIT

Kairos No. 41 at the Michael Unit will be Nov. 15-18, 2012
The team is now forming and the Team Leader for the weekend is Terry Younger of Tyler, his email address is tyounger@nctv.com
If you have been waiting to serve on a team, this is the weekend you have been waiting for. Team meetings for the weekend will be starting in just a couple of weeks. See our website, www.michaelunit.org for the Team meeting dates and locations. You can also download an application for the team from there as well. Kairos is a truly unique ministry that is done inside the walls of maximum security prisons across the USA and Internationally. It is a lot like a Walk to Emmaus weekend, being brought to men that have the same God that loves them, just as He loves us.
Matthew 25:38-40
When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

Thank You,
Tom Perdue G.R.A.C.E. Walk No. 1

KAIROS OUTSIDE of EAST TEXAS

Kairos Outside of East Texas No. 1
September 21-23, 2012 at
Green Acres Baptist Church Retreat Center, Lake Tyler

Praise God - it is amazing to see a ministry be formed by God’s hands and the awesome things He is doing for us in KOET. We have been blessed beyond our wildest expectations so far. We have already had 3 incredibly spiritual, rewarding and beautifully bonding in His Holy Spirit team meetings, and we are looking forward to what He has for us in the next two meetings. We have a full complement of ladies (30) eager to come on the weekend with a growing waiting list for the next one in May of 2013. He has been so good to us providing us a camp to use, an abundance of servants for the weekend and He is blessing us financially, but we could use more help. Each of the guests that go on the weekend are there by our or your gifts to help them get there. There is no cost for the weekend out of their pockets it is entirely up to the team to find the support for the weekend. We are sure He will bless us with more, we trust Him.

Please pray for the weekend. You can sign up for our Prayer vigil at www.michaelunit.org/KOET.html
We have need for agape. Also if any reunion groups or individuals desire to provide agape for us, we need 34 pieces of each agape. Linda Blevins at lblevins@rocketmail.com could use a hand; she is the Agape Coordinator for the weekend.

Consider serving on the weekend as a Day Angel; see our needs and the requirements on the Angel Information Sheet, if you feel so led. Fill out a Day Angel Application and mail it to the address shown on the application. Karen Mascho is the Angel Coordinator for the weekend and she would appreciate the help.

Closing Services will be Sunday Sept. 23 at approx. 2:30 p.m. Please arrive early. You can get a map to the retreat center on our website.

Sandeep Perdue, Team Leader
2012 GRACE BOARD

Babe Chick Training
Ken Braswell
braswellsbb@aol.com
903-677-3341 (h)
903-288-5949 (c)

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903-681-4668 (c)

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903-445-0295 (c)

Wall Agape/Prayer Vigil Coordinator
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903-844-2412 (h)
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903-237-5460 (w)

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903-571-2646 (c)

Agape Banquet/Afterglow
Agape (Gifts)
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Reunion Group Coordinator
Joe Tew

2012 GRACE BOARD

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2012 GRACE BOARD

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903-918-4196 (c)

Community Lay Director
Jo Anne Skeen
joanneskeen@gmail.com
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903-391-1664 (c)
903-723-6143 (w)

NON-ELECTED POSITIONS

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pmckanna@osisoft.com
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Webmaster
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tomdue@gmail.com
903-218-1578 (h)
903-571-3199 (c)

Spiritual Director
Ricky Ricks
rickyr@gregton.org
(903) 657-6588

Assistant Spiritual Director
Doug Smith
ddsmsmith2000@yahoo.com
(903) 968-3833
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 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: __________________________________________________
Email Address: ____________________________________________________

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 # ____________________________
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE AN ANGEL FOR KAIROS OUTSIDE WEEKEND?

If yes, think about the times and dates you might be available. Here are some suggestions you for things you might do as your gift as an “ANGEL.”

Friday morning, September 21, 2012
- Help set, make beds in the Guest dormitories.
- Help to set up tables & chairs in the Community room.
- Help to unpack and set up kitchen.
- Help to set up Agape Room.
- Place signs giving directions to Green Acres Baptist Camp Retreat Center.
- Help set up the Chapel.
- Bathroom Detail, Grounds Detail, etc., as needed.

Friday afternoon or evening:
- Transportation for a Guest.
- Help in kitchen.
- Help in Agape.
- Help to put together the prayer vigil chain.
- Pray.

Saturday, September 22, 2012
- Kitchen Detail.
- Bathroom Detail.
- Agape room.
- Photocopying.
- Cake pickup.
- Run errands.
- Pray.

Sunday, September 23, 2012
- Agape Room (morning).
- Bathroom Detail.
- Sleeping Area Detail.
- Grounds Detail.
- Community Room Cleanup.
- Kitchen Cleanup.
- Inventory of supplies.
- Pray.

To sign up to be an “Angel,” please complete the Angel Application on the reverse side. You will be contacted and scheduled for a special time. Remember to make a note of your scheduled time because we will be counting on you.

Website: www.michaelunit.org/KOET.html
DAY ANGEL APPLICATION

There are some very special people who come to help on Kairos Outside Weekends. They serve behind the scenes to help keep things running. They may be the first to arrive and the last to leave. We refer to these people as **Day Angels**. We encourage you to make a commitment for a few hours or an entire day to support the Kitchen or Agape Teams, run errands, provide transportation, pray in the Speaker’s Chapel, or assist with set up in the Chapel.

If you would like to provide agape for a Weekend, we need a minimum of 30 identical pieces by Friday evening of the Weekend.

*All expenses associated, to include any lodging or meals, are a personal expense payable upon your arrival at the facility. Lodging is subject to availability.*

When you arrive, please sign in with the Weekend Angel Coordinator.

**Name_______________________________________ Date________________________**

**Address____________________________________________________________________________**

**City ______________________ State _______ Zip ________________**

**Email:____________________________________________________________________________**

**Phone Number__________________________ Best times to reach__________________________**

**Fourth Day Weekend (if) attended____________________________________________________**

**Church of attendance ______________________________________________________________**

I would be available to serve:

- [ ] Friday afternoon to set up from _________to_________
- [ ] Friday evening from _________to_________
- [ ] Saturday from _________to_________
- [ ] Sunday from _________to_________
- [ ] Sunday afternoon to inventory, pack and clean up from _________to_________

Please invite friends from your Kairos Outside, Kairos Inside, Kairos Torch, Cursillo, Emmaus, Tres Dias, and Via de Cristo communities to attend the **FLOWERS AT DAWN PRESENTATION** on **SUNDAY MORNING** at 6:00am, (arrive by 5:30am please) and the **CLOSING CEREMONY** on **SUNDAY** at 2:30 pm (arrive by 2:00pm please). To show agape love and support for the Weekend guests, plan to arrive 30 minutes prior to the start time of these events.

**NOTE: Since Ministry guidelines do not allow for Day Angels to interact with Guests, you’ll dine separate from Guests and will not be able to participate in the Saturday evening Agape Service/Thanksgiving Celebration. Please mail completed application to the address located at the top of this form.**