

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

## Grace For Today

April, 2007  
Volume 7, Issue 4

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

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***Don't Miss the  
Candlelights!***

**Saturday**

**April 21 & 28**

**@ 8:00PM,**

**Disciple's Crossing,  
Athens**

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

**Dear G.R.A.C.E.  
Missing CLD Checks In**

**Greetings G.R.A.C.E.  
Community! I have missed seeing all  
of you at the last two Gatherings, but I**

have kept you in my prayers. I have less than 3 weeks left to attend in my Child

Development Certification classes, and I am working hard to make the most of the opportunity. It's been interesting, not just the classes I have been attending, but the almost surreal way I have felt God working during the last 8 weeks. My schedule has been very full, and it sometimes feels as if I have put my Spiritual Life on hold. At the same time, I have been unusually calm and keenly aware of God's presence in even the small details of life. I have no doubt that prayer plays a major part in this reassurance, both my prayers and those of my friends and family.

It is so true that "When I am weak, He is strong". For years I have insisted that I just couldn't go back to school, work, tend to my family, and fulfill my "church obligations". Know what? I was right. **I couldn't.** But with the help and support of my reunion group, my family, my "sister-friends", and God Himself, I have been able to do something I previously thought unmanageable. The same is true of so much we do in life. If we will just take a step of faith, enlist the help of loved ones, and depend solely on God from whom all blessings flow, we will be able to do those things that God calls us to do. Like teach a Sunday School class, lead a Bible Study, be Lay Director for an Emmaus Walk, and who knows what else? So please remember to pray for our upcoming Walk Lay Directors, the teams as they prepare, and those pilgrims God is calling into something mysterious called "The Walk to Emmaus". And then, ask God what he might have in store for you! I look forward to seeing all of you at the next Gathering—Candlelight's for Walks #40 and #41.

God Bless You!

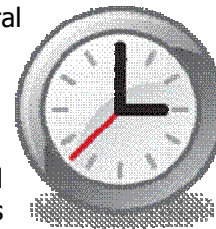


Susan Stallings  
2007 Community Lay Director

**.....COUNT DOWN!**

The time is nearing for the Pilgrims to arrive in Athens and we still

have several  
30-minute  
slots  
available!  
Your prayers  
are a vital  
part of this  
72-hour



experience through which these Pilgrims will encounter our Lord Jesus Christ in a new and exciting way. 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 #40 and Women's Walk #41 as well as the Team Members and especially the Walk Lay Directors as they prepare their hearts and minds to be used mightily for GOD! You can sign up for the prayer vigil online at <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml> Scroll down to Greater Rose Area Community of Emmaus and click on the Men's or Women's Walk dates. 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 sign up for a time by calling me @ 903.312.1501 and I will get you signed up!

***DeColores!***

***Donna Swenson***

[swensonhome@aol.com](mailto:swensonhome@aol.com)

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### ***Chrysalis Steering Committee***

We are going to be having the first Chrysalis Steering Committee meeting on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at Lanes Chapel UMC. Please contact Teresa Elliott, Chairman ([tgelliott@suddenlink.net](mailto:tgelliott@suddenlink.net) or 903-570-5233) if you would like to be part of this Steering Committee. This will be a time for us to lay some ground work and to get organized as a working committee of the GRACE Emmaus Community.

DeColores!

Teresa Elliot, Chairman

Chrysalis Steering Cmte.

## Thank you.... In Advance

As we all know our upcoming spring walks are right around the corner. The camp knows we're coming, the teams are getting ready and God is providing the pilgrims. Everything is shaping up for us to have the best walks ever.

Another key ingredient that makes these weekends happen is our wonderful Grace Community. Our fourth day always supports the walks from beginning to end. Without your help these walks would not be possible.

My name is Micheal May; I would like to say thank you for all you do to help with the walks. I along with Ray Carden, serve as members of your Grace Emmaus Board. One of the responsibilities we share is that of our clean up committee. It is not a very difficult responsibility. Mostly we just remind people about the walks and encourage them who can to stay and help us get the camp put back together. Remember on your walk the exhilaration you felt? You may have felt like you were on a mountaintop. By Sunday late afternoon, you may also have felt as if you had climbed that mountain. Those who have worked walks will tell you of the great blessing they received on that weekend; but also, almost always how intense that weekend was. So, anyone who can, please remain a few minutes after closing with the entire team to help put the camp back together. After the men's walk, we generally can leave most things in place for the next weekend. Only a small amount of cleanup is necessary. After the women's walk, we have to completely load up and exit the camp. This is a big job. If a bunch of us stay to help it would only take a short amount of time to complete the task. Now some people will be picking up pilgrims at the closing and taking them home right away. PLEASE.....TAKE CARE OF YOUR PILGRIMS FIRST. But if you can stay, it would be greatly appreciated. Again, thanks in advance for your help. We look forward to seeing all of you in Athens.

De Colores!

Micheal May

GRACE Emmaus Board

## MAY AND JUNE GATHERINGS

Due to a conflict in schedules at Mineola, the May and June gatherings have swapped places. The May Gathering will be at FUMC-Lindale on Saturday May 12. Babe Chick training at 5PM, potluck supper at 6PM, followed by worship and communion. The June Gathering will be FCC-Mineola on Thursday June 14 at 7PM. See the website for maps to both locations

### Community Calendar for Remainder of 2007

**April 21** Candlelight at Disciple's Crossing, Athens – 8 p.m.

**April 28** Candlelight at Disciple's Crossing, Athens – 8 p.m.

**May 12** Gathering Lindale FUMC – 6 p.m. POTLUCK

**May 17** Board Meeting at Marvin UMC – 7 p.m.

**June 14** Gathering 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Church, Mineola – 7p.m.

**June 21** Board Meeting at Marvin UMC – 7 p.m.

**July NO GATHERING; NO BOARD MEETING**

**August 11** Gathering St. Marks UMC, Marshall NOON meal bring vegetable dish or dessert (Meats provided)

**August 16** Board Meeting at Marvin UMC – 7 p.m.

**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 18** Candlelight at Camp Gilmont, Gilmer–8 p.m.

**November 10** Grand Ultreya at St. Lukes UMC Kilgore at NOON

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

**December NO GATHERING; NO BOARD MEETING**

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**You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light. Psalm 18:28 (NIV)**

### Men's LD note :

Thanks to all the team members of Men's Walk #40. Our team

has worked hard and God has been faithful to unite and equip us to serve the Pilgrims. I look forward to seeing how God works in the lives of the pilgrims through our service. Please continue to pray for our team and our effectiveness.

Radford Tarry, LD

### **God's Team for Walk #40:**

Radford Tarry, LD  
Bill Hauck, SD  
Tom Haygood, ASD  
Tommy Lyles, ASD  
Jarratt Major, ASD  
Ross Strader, ASD  
Pat Eubanks, BR  
George Assaf, ALD  
Dan Mathews, ALD  
Alan Smith, ALD  
Bill Durr, TL  
Dean Hansen, TL  
Tommy Nichols, TL  
Joe Tew, TL  
Brent Hooser, TL  
Brad Bradshaw, TL  
Bob Meyers, ATL  
Steve Callaway, ATL  
Jack Carter, ATL  
Mark Alderson, ATL  
Frank Duncan, ATL  
Charlie Wright, ATL  
Micheal May, MT  
Loren Lykins, MT  
Chuck Robinson, OSTL

### **God's Pilgrims for Walk #40:**

Sam Armstrong, Murchison  
David Barnard, Palestine  
Wray Boyd, Hallsville  
Joe Burgess, Tyler  
Ronald Byers, Gladewater  
Bob Chauvin, Gladewater  
Glynn Collins, Mabank  
Adam Copeland, Palestine  
Frank Copeland, Palestine  
Steve Copeland, Sherman  
Chris Crawford, Longview  
Randy Gary, Jr., White Oak  
Ben Goodwyn, Houston  
Raymond Haymes, Haltom City  
Jay Mitchell, Longview

Bob Plantanida, Whitehouse  
Ted Scarborough, Longview  
Bill Schlebach, Eustace  
Chris Thompson, Tyler  
Jeremy Thornton, Longview  
Jay Walters, Hallsville  
Stephen Williams, Gilmer

Peggy Painter, MT  
Sandy Collins, MT  
Linda Slay, OSTL

**Women's LD note :**

I would like to thank the Lord Jesus first for choosing our team and the G.R.A.C.E. community second in allowing our team to re-present our Lord Jesus on this upcoming women's walk #41. We are all humbled and privileged to serve. All of us are in the process of overcoming many obstacles.... Please continue to keep us, and the pilgrims in your prayers. We are excited about being His hands and feet to these "chosen ones". Pray that all available slots are filled with the pilgrims He chooses. Community, listen for His whisperings and sponsor those He calls you to sponsor. Let's be intentional in our love and support of our Lord and this community of Emmaus.

In Christ,  
Carol Younger  
Lay Director Walk #41

**God's Team for Walk #41:**

Carol Younger, LD  
Jack Matkin, SD  
Ben Bright, ASD  
Kevin King, ASD  
Gary Andrews, ASD  
Richard Luna, ASD  
Betty Devine, BR  
Shirley Starkey, ALD/TK  
Kathy Kapka, ALD/CR  
Sue Wallace, ALD/SE  
Donna Swenson, TL  
Cindy Hooser, TL  
Gayle Robinson, TL  
Willa Beltz, TL  
Teresa Elliott, TL  
Vicky Bright, TL  
Jeannie Hanssen, ATL  
Maria Frederick, ATL  
Dee Gemmel, ATL  
Danna Turner, ATL  
Carol Derieux, ATL  
Sharon Cline, ATL  
Kathy Melton, ML

**God's Pilgrims for Walk #41:**

Cheryl Armstrong, Murchison  
Mary Bueche, Longview  
Reba Caraway, Jacksonville  
Patsy Collins, Mabank  
Kathy Copeland, Palestine  
Felicia Dennis, Longview  
Nanci Evans, Lindale  
Valerie Fish, Hallsville  
Diana Frachiseur, Troup  
Joni Gary, White Oak  
Elizabeth Halpain, Jacksonville  
Ginger Hames, Larue  
Stacy Hope, Mineola  
Rebecca Jackson, Gladewater  
Kim Johnson, Larue  
Fran McGilvray, Athens  
K-Trina Pickard, Lone Oak  
Gina Roberts, Lufkin  
Karla Rohne, Palestine  
Kimberly Russell, Tyler  
Candi Kay Rye, Quitman  
Toni Schlebach, Eustace  
Robin Simpson, Fairfield  
Tracy Siouz, Longview  
Mary Dale Skiles, Athens  
Lisa Tidmore, Athens  
Carol Turner, Lindale  
Robin Westmoreland, Canton  
Barbara Wilson, Mabank  
Fern Woodall, Grand Saline

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**FOURTH DAY**

You do not really come on a Walk to Emmaus being pushed or pulled by your loved ones. The real reason is the need for a better relationship with Jesus Christ. It is only a plus that you find comfort and togetherness with others. The want and desire to meet others who have your zest for the Holy Spirit. This particular community of Emmaus has a rich background full of great lovers of Christ. Enriched with the spirit and

more than willing to share the love of Christ.

Through a series of talks, aimed at you alone, the evidence is presented that will back up your study, discipleship, action, piety, and Grace. For me personally, it was a true introduction to quiet time, fun, love (there really is an importance attached to the "Hug") and opening up to others. The discussions pointed out that it was ok to feel lost, misinformed, and bewildered. It was also great to know that others went through the same struggles that I felt. Emmaus only strengthened my attitude for all the Christ projects I choose to get involved with. Getting involved with the entire community is vital for success in all the different activities and events; attending gatherings, candlelights, and closings. Remember how you felt to see the support from the community at your walk. The feeling that you're involved would only make you get these same feelings back. Now is the time to do yourself a great favor. KAIROS, Epiphany, and Chrysalis are all expanding in this community - there is a place for you. Your walk would not have been successful without the time, effort, and agape love shared by others for YOU! Our community was started by a very small group of people who were dynamic followers of Christ; 5 to be exact. Their dreams have come true with a lot of great spirit filled prayers, hard work, and planning. Get involved in all the activities to help this community grow and give to others what you felt.

Harold Starkey

## REMINDERS

The Men's Agape Meal is on Saturday, April 21. Ladies who wish to help serve need to arrive no later than 4:30 pm in a white shirt and dark slacks. No sponsors or spouses of the pilgrims, please.

Set-up will begin by 3:30 pm and you are encouraged to call Robin Gillian at (903) 894-3512 or email [bobbilane@aol.com](mailto:bobbilane@aol.com) by Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> if you would like to help.

The Women's Agape Meal is on Saturday, April 28. Men who wish to help serve need to arrive no later than 4:30 pm in a white shirt and dark slacks. No sponsors or spouses of the pilgrims, please.

Set-up will begin by 3:30 pm and you are encouraged to PLEASE contact Debbie Hays at [hays48@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hays48@sbcglobal.net) NO LATER THAN Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> if you would like to help.

**7 pm, Time for send Off at Disciple's Crossing in the cafeteria, Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>; Sponsor's hour to follow. 8 pm, Time for worship and candlelight at Disciple's Crossing in the cafeteria. Watch for parking servants to direct when you arrive. 4 pm, Time for fellowship and closing of GRACE Walks #40 & 41.**

## GRACE EMMAUS

The G.R.A.C.E. Emmaus Community wishes to continue to spread the life changing experience that a Emmaus weekend can deliver. Won't you help us by donating funds for scholarships for both pilgrims and team members? Our goal is to one day provide enough scholarships so that we can help those that cannot afford to go to be able to attend an Emmaus weekend.

We are asking you to consider donating \$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> day 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 Draft 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 # \_\_\_\_\_