



“For I am convinced that...[nothing] in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.”

*Romans 8:28*

Perhaps you have not been wrestling with all the controversy over whether or not Mother Teresa should be canonized as a saint in the Roman Catholic Church. The issue at stake is not her deeds. Everyone is aware of the awesome ministry she had to the impoverished, the weak, the least and the last and the lost of the world. She treated them with such love and respect, and allowed them to die with dignity and the knowledge that there were some people who cared for them out of love for Jesus Christ. I cannot imagine what it was like to spend every day looking into the faces of those discarded by others, seeing their pain, degradation, fear, despair and loneliness. All the mistreatment and misunderstandings these people had faced and the emotional and physical pain that they had endured would keep me constantly in tears until I would reach a point of overload and then feel nothing to shield myself from the incredible daily pain. Maybe that is what happened to Mother Teresa.

Because the uproar is not over her work, but over her emotional response to her ministry. In her writings- journals I suppose, and conversations with her advisers, she has shared that the last 50 years of her life she existed in a spiritual vacuum. She did not feel that God was present with her. Her deep longings for God were not satisfied and she lived with darkness, emptiness and unanswered questions. Because of this her Atheistic critics deem her unworthy of sainthood saying that she had lost her faith and no longer believed in God. (And, if she really felt nothing for 50 years and continued that ministry...in my book she IS a saint!

This issue prompted some strong feelings in me: I was embarrassed to be relieved that someone I thought to be a spiritual giant could go through the same deep valleys that I (and I assume) all of us sometime do in our lives. I thought perhaps I was the only not totally faithful disciple in the group. But then I identified with her pain and I wanted to reach out to her and invite her into our Emmaus community, into a weekend where she could feel joy and see God working through so many people to reach others with his love. I wanted her to be a part of a reunion group where others, having no authority over her, could love her and hold her as she found her way out of the wilderness. I wanted her not to feel so alone and abandoned. I also prayed, Lord, please never do that to me!

And then I wondered how many of us do the same thing? How many forget the water of life available to us in this ministry? I believe with Paul that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ, but I know that we can separate ourselves. We need each other to BE the body of Christ with his joy and presence in the world. See you at the next Gathering?

In Christ,

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I had an interesting phone call the other night that made me stop and think. The caller wanted to sponsor a pilgrim but was hesitant for fear that he would not do a good job. He said that there had been so much discussion about being a good sponsor but he was still unclear on what that meant. I hope that all of our emphasis on sponsorship has not caused you to hesitate on sponsoring a pilgrim. We need good pilgrims with GOOD sponsors!!! So, if you are wondering just what makes a good sponsor.....here goes:

1. A good sponsor prays and seeks God's direction on who to sponsor. Then asks the prospective pilgrim about the walk and provides them with an application. (You can get one off the website)
2. A good sponsor contacts people about writing letters of encouragement for the pilgrim. Examples: parents, friends, family, and clergy.
3. A good sponsor meets with the pilgrim to answer questions and ease anxieties before the walk.
4. A good sponsor brings the pilgrim to send off.
5. A good sponsor prays for the pilgrim, his or her family and the Walk.
6. A good sponsor attends sponsor hour and candlelight.
7. A good sponsor attends closing on Sunday afternoon.
8. A good sponsor brings the pilgrim to Follow-up.
9. A good sponsor encourages the new pilgrim to become involved with Gatherings, Walks and reunion groups.
10. Finally, a good sponsor becomes a good friend, a new brother or sister in Christ.

**GOOD SPONSORS + GOOD PILGRIMS = A GREAT EMMAUS COMMUNITY!!!**

Your brother in Christ,

Pat



**ATTENTION, ATTENTION, ATTENTION!!!  
CHANGE IN PLANS**

**Our October Gathering date has been changed!! Please mark your  
calendars and plan to attend the October Gathering on**

**Saturday, Oct. 13 - Bright Star UMC, Douglasville  
As always - we Graze at 6:00 pm and  
Praise HIM at 7:00 pm**

**Directions to Bright Star UMC in Douglasville  
3715 Bright Star Road**

**From Atlanta area:** Take I-20 West to exit #34. Go left on Hwy. 5 and then right onto Douglasville Blvd. Go almost a mile and turn left onto Bright Star Road. The church is approximately one mile down.

**From Carrollton area:** Take Hwy. 166 out of Carrollton. Go about 10 miles and turn left onto Hwy. 5. Go approximately 7 miles and make a slight left at Bright Star Rd. Church is 1/2 mile down the road.

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# Time to Vote!!



Time to vote for your new board members! Please cut these ballots out, fill them out, (one ballot per person) and bring to the next Gathering on **October 13 at Bright Star UMC in Douglasville** - OR - mail to **Terri Henkel, chair of the nominations committee, at: 206 Kent Lane, Douglasville, GA 30134**. Ballots may also be mailed to **Judi Rainey at P.O. Box 7046, Douglasville, GA 30154**.

Please vote for one clergy member, two males and two females. Place a check mark by your choices.

## Nominations

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frank Boone, clergy | <input type="checkbox"/> _____            |
| .....  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donna Grenier       | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Standridge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debbie Beck         | <input type="checkbox"/> Calvin Waddell   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____               | <input type="checkbox"/> _____            |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> _____               | <input type="checkbox"/> _____            |

## Donations!!

Your board of directors has voted to purchase phone tree software to be used to remind community members of upcoming dates: Gatherings, Walks, Candelights, Closings, Follow-Ups, etc. If you would like to help off-set this expense, please consider making donation to the NWGWTE Community. Mark your tax deductible check "**phone tree**." Your donation will be great appreciated!





The Boys Chrysalis flight will be July 17 - 20, 2008 and the Girls will be July 24 -27, 2008. Becky Davis will be the Lay Director for the girls. She be reached via email or phone, [becky@daviscore.com](mailto:becky@daviscore.com) 706-777-3364. Please be in prayer for Becky as she has started praying about the team that God would have for the summer. If you love youth and love to see amazing changes give Becky a call or email her and let her know that you would like to work the weekend. The Boys Lay Director for July 17—20, 2008 will be Larry Mahle. His information is as follows: [ljmahle@bellsouth.net](mailto:ljmahle@bellsouth.net) and his phone number is 770-489-2998. We also have open board positions if you are interested in serving God in this way please let me know.

DeColores ~ Fly With Christ  
 Judi Rainey, Chrysalis Community Lay Director  
 P.O. Box 7046  
 Douglasville, GA 30154  
[jamship@yahoo.com](mailto:jamship@yahoo.com) 678-416-9440

**Agape!**



**Agape!**



**Agape!**

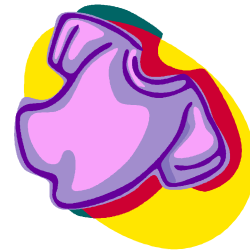


It's that time of year again when we are in need of your Agape items!! If you have things you would like to donate but can't get it to the camp let me know and I'll be happy to pick it up. We need handmade items, candy, chocolate, brownies, cakes, cookies, sugar free stuff, and bottled water (smaller bottles work best).



We also need to replenish our book table from the last set of Walks. Please look through your shelves and choose slightly used or brand new books you could donate. Bring them to any Gathering or Team meeting. Again, I'll be happy to pick them up from you if you can't get them to us.

As winter approaches if you are interested in a shirt please let me know. We have other items available for sale as well.



DeColores ~ Fly With Christ  
 Judi Rainey ~ Agape ~ Training Chair Emmaus

## Thoughts to ponder....

The root of the word **integration** is the same as the word **integrity**. When the words in your mouth and the actions of your hands and the feelings of your heart are one and the same, you've integrated and there's integrity in your life.

### On the Other Side

**A** sick man turned to his doctor, as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side."

Very quietly, the doctor said, "I don't know."

"You don't know? You, a Christian man, do not know what is on the other side?"

The doctor was holding the handle of the door; on the other side of which came a sound of scratching and whining. As he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness. Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing...I know my Master is there and that is enough."



The greater your spirit grows,  
the less any of the stuff of the world will matter.

### Good Sermon

The average person's idea of a good sermon is one that goes over his head and hits a neighbor.



## **EXCEEDING GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES - 2 Peter 1:4**

Never again will I confess I can't, for "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil. 4:13

Never again will I confess lack, for "my God shall supply all my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19

Never again will I confess fear, for "God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." 2 Tim. 1:7

Never again will I confess defeat, for "God always causeth us to triumph in Christ." 2 Cor. 2:14

Never again will I confess the domination of sickness over my life, for "with His stripes we are healed," Isa. 53:5

Never again will I confess worries and frustration, for "I am casting all my cares upon Him for He careth for me." 1 Peter 5:7

Never again will I confess bondage, for "where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty," and "my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit." 2 Cor. 3:17 1 Cor. 6:19

Never again will I confess condemnation, for "there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." Rom. 8:1

Never again will I confess I am alone, for the Lord said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." Heb. 13:5

