



Happy 11 Year Anniversary Lubbock Acts

A Letter from The Lubbock Acts Editor

When I Attended My First Acts Retreat over 9 Years Ago I experienced The Greatest Gift Of Jesus Love. My Curiosity of How Acts Began in Lubbock made me wonder who brought Acts to Lubbock. In My Heart I wanted to know because I would not be here sharing stories and experiences about how Acts has Impacted and transformed Many who have attended a Acts retreat. In This 11 Year Anniversary which began in April /May of 2004. I would Love to give a Special Thank You for the Walsh Family and those that Set the foundation for Lubbock Acts. I asked Dede to write her experience in bringing Acts to Lubbock Texas. Lubbock Acts continues to grow and this is because God transforms us and uses all the community to spread and live his word.

Thank You

Rudy Bermea

Dede Walsh

My ACTS Experience: The Beginning

I had been experiencing some depression, a darkness that I was unable to escape. My prayer life was nonexistent, and even

though I attended Mass weekly, I felt far away from God. My brother and sister-in-law, John and Sara Walsh, had recently attended ACTS Retreats that the San Antonio group had conducted in Amarillo. They urged me to consider going to the next Women's Retreat in Amarillo. This was in October of 2002. This experience changed my life forever. I came home renewed, reborn, revived, and reconnected to my Heavenly Father. I was a butterfly released from its dark cocoon. The joy in my heart was boundless. As I looked around at Mass, seeing friends and fellow parishioners of St. John Neumann, I couldn't get the thought out of my mind: I want all of these women to experience what I experienced. I just wanted everyone I knew to feel the same joy. ACTS needs to come here!

As I talked to John and Sara about the dream I had of bringing ACTS to Lubbock, they suggested that we first of all, talk to the people at church about attending an ACTS Retreat. Secondly, Amarillo would hold a retreat for women from Lubbock, and thirdly, that we try to establish ACTS in the Diocese of Lubbock. God was with us. After visiting several Lubbock churches, we were able to sign up about 20 women. They attended the next Amarillo Women's ACTS Retreat in February of 2003. We now had an ACTS group in Lubbock.

Gery Franklin arranged for a meeting with the Bishop to talk about ACTS coming to the Diocese of Lubbock. Gery and Dr. Terry and Susan Furguile from Amarillo were at the meeting. The Bishop agreed, and we were on our way!

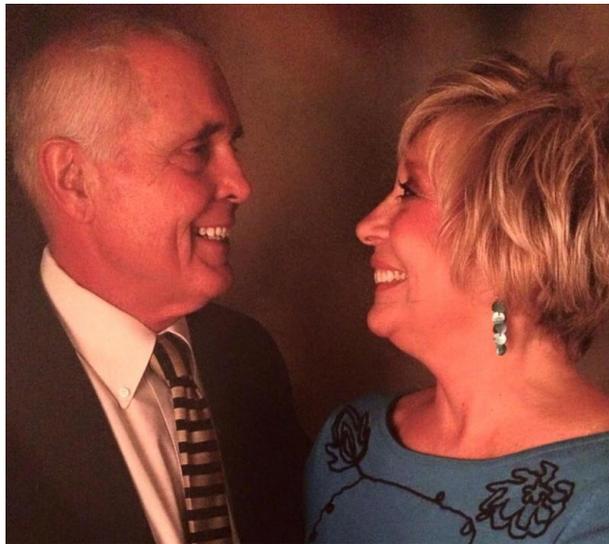
I felt so blessed and so very fearful when they asked me to be the first director. Carrie Lee Franklin and Sara Walsh would be by my side as co-directors. We had our Commissioning Mass at the Mercy Center chapel in Slaton on a snowy Saturday afternoon. The team was made up of half Amarillo women, experienced, and half Lubbock women, mostly inexperienced. What a wonderful, God-filled, joyous, loving group it was! After the mass, we explored and became acquainted with Mercy Center. We all agreed that it was filled with the Holy Spirit, the

Blessed Mother, and hundreds of angels. Their presence could be felt.

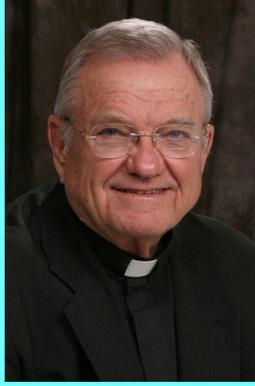
So, we were on our way! To make a long story short, our first retreat in April/May of 2004 was a fantastic success. We had another group of new sisters! Candlelight was full with ACTS Family from the Amarillo Diocese and Lubbock Diocese. What an exciting weekend it was!

Today, when I go to a Send-off or Candlelight, my heart swells with joy. This was a dream that came true. I thank God for his goodness and love. I know that so many people have had life changing experiences through ACTS. Lord, I give you all the praise and glory!

".....we always give thanks to God. When we brought you God's message, you heard it and accepted it, not as man's message but as God's message, which indeed it is. For God is at work in you who believe." 1 Thessalonians 2:13



Dick and Dede Walsh



A Special Thank You for the Beloved soul of Father Curtis Halfmann for his Commitment and dedication to the Lubbock Acts Community.

Lubbock Acts Core



Holy Ground - Sandi Patty (lyric video)



Lubbock Acts Newsletter
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