



## CELEBRATE, REMEMBER, FIGHT BACK

March 2011

***Grace for Life*** is officially registered as a participant in this year's Relay for Life of Greater Flemington scheduled for June 24 – 25 at Health Quest.

Relay began in 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt, a colorectal surgeon in Tacoma, Washington, ran and walked around a track for 24 hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Since then, Relay has grown into the world's largest movement to end the disease. Each year, more than 3.5 million people in 5,000 communities in the U.S. and 19 other countries gather to raise money and awareness to save lives from cancer. Volunteer organizing committees with one coordinator from ACS make these community events possible.

No matter who you are, there is a place for you at Relay.

Here is how it works. Relay begins at 6 pm on Friday evening with a survivor's lap. The survivors are invited to a dinner in their honor, and Team members take turns walking around the track. The atmosphere is celebratory. There is music, and there are activities all night long. Approximately, 9 pm there is a luminaria ceremony, a very touching remembrance.

Because cancer never sleeps, Relays are overnight events. As a practical matter, team members are not expected to stay overnight. That said team members are not precluded from camping out to help keep the vigil.

The registration/commitment fee is \$10 to be part of the team. Team members are encouraged to raise funds to fight back against this dreaded disease. I am always amazed at how much money is raised \$10 at a time, the cost of a luminaria in memory or in honor of someone. We are grateful for each and every donation. If you happen to work for a company, please inquire whether they do matching donations. What a wonderful way to double the value of your gift. It's easy to go to the website and donate online, or if you prefer I will be happy to accept a check on behalf of the team and the ACS.

If you're not a walker, please consider dropping by to lend your encouragement to the walking team members.

Everyone's reason to Relay is as unique as their own personal story. I Relay because I can. This is my 11<sup>th</sup> year.

This is a fun and moving event.

Please contact me if you have any questions. If you have a fund raising idea for the team, let me know.

*Alice Oldford*, Team Captain

Grace for Life 2009 Team

