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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 13, 2012

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YMCA's 18th Annual Celebration of Prayer to feature Virginia "Gigi" Graham

*YMCA Prayer Breakfast Brings Together Residents and Leaders to Strengthen the Spirit of
the Community during Holy Week*

ORLANDO, FL – The YMCA of Central Florida brings Virginia "Gigi" Graham to Orlando on Thursday, April 5, to share her inspirational message of faith and unite nearly a thousand community residents and leaders at one of the largest prayer breakfasts held in Central Florida during Holy Week. The YMCA's 18th Annual Celebration of Prayer takes place from 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. at the First Baptist Church of Orlando located at 3000 South John Young Parkway.

Award-winning author and influential guest speaker Gigi Graham is the eldest daughter of world-renowned evangelists Billy and Ruth Graham. She is the mother of seven children and the grandmother of 19. Drawing from her life experiences, she speaks at various churches and conferences across the United States, Canada and Europe. She currently serves as Ambassador of the Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove. Gigi's most notable books include *Currents of the Heart*, *For Women Only: Keeping Your Balance in a Changing World*, *A Quiet Knowing* and *A Search for Serenity*.

"Celebrating the 'C' in YMCA, the Celebration of Prayer, held each year to mark the arrival of Easter, is a unique opportunity to celebrate the YMCA Christian heritage and mission that has guided our organization for over 150 years," says YMCA of Central Florida President and CEO Jim Ferber. "We are committed to our cause to strengthen the community by connecting residents, inspiring leaders and providing solutions through spiritual enrichment."

The breakfast is open to the entire community and welcomes people of all faiths, ages, incomes and backgrounds. Tables are available for \$250 and individual seats for \$35. Please contact (407) 895-4296 or dkorba@cfymca.org to reserve your ticket or visit www.ymcacentralflorida.com.

About the Y

The [YMCA of Central Florida](http://www.ymcacentralflorida.com) is one of the area's largest nonprofits committed to strengthening the local communities it serves. It is a diverse organization of men, women and children joined by a shared commitment to nurturing the potential of kids, promoting healthy living and fostering a sense of social responsibility. Each day 25,000 Central Florida residents are impacted by the Y when a mentor inspires a child, individuals make healthy choices and a community comes together for common good. In 2010, this YMCA Association of over 1,600 employees across 6 Florida counties impacted over 225,000 residents and invested, during a down economy, \$10.2 million in its local communities through neighborhood improvement projects. Also, this Y provided \$9.2 million in financial assistance to children and families that resulted in lasting personal and social change.

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