



# Agape MCC Weekly News

May 6 2009

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Wed May 6:**

6pm Back Pack Ministry- Food Bank

### **Thu May 7:**

7pm Spiritual Road Training

### **Fri May 8:**

6pm Samaritan House Supper Club

### **Sun May 10:**

9:30am Choir  
10:30am Worship

### **Mon May 11:**

7pm Board of Directors

### **Wed May 13:**

7pm Membership Class

### **Sat May 16:**

7:30pm Elizabeth

## **REGIONAL CONFERENCE IS OVER!**

What a great regional gathering we had here at Agape last weekend!

We had registrants from nine MCCs from North and NW Texas and Oklahoma. The workshops and evening services were wonderful.

Thanks to all the volunteers who made this weekend possible (see Praises). More conference information next week!

## **WEEKLY MEDITATION - May 6**

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

### **Discernment**

*Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing, there is a field. I'll meet you there. When the soul lies down in that grass, the world is too full to talk about. Ideas, language, even the phrase 'each other' doesn't make any sense. - Rumi*

Two weeks ago, our Regional Elder Rev. Lillie Brock, spoke to our congregation about a process of discernment that we will undertake, one that I will help facilitate. This process is bigger than whether Spirit is calling David Wynn as our permanent pastor. So if you have already made your mind up about that then I invite you to come back to the drawing board. That decision will only become clear as we answer two questions: 1) who are we called to be as the church; 2) what is Spirit calling us to do. And so - like the Julie Andrews song from last Sunday's call to worship - let's start at the very beginning. What is discernment?

### **Discernment IS:**

Perceiving something hidden or obscure.

A process and not a single step.

Openness to the mystery of God.

Actively seeking God's presence and will in my individual life.

Seeking Spirit's direction regarding a significant action being contemplated.

## Wills Concert

**Jun 11-14:**

Camp Rosales for kids

## MAY STATS-

**05/03**

Attendance- 130

Offering-\$3,222

**Monthly Tithing Target:  
\$11,790**

### OUR SPONSORS:

Shari Beers  
Obrien Real Estate Group  
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beershomes@gmail.com

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[www.agapemcc.com](http://www.agapemcc.com)

817-535-5002

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## Discernment **IS NOT**:

Holding a forum where I voice my personal opinion.

Justification or rationalization, or defending a position I already hold.

My ego-conditioning and what it wants or needs.

Attachment to a particular outcome.

Participating in this discernment process means:

Willingness to be vulnerable to God and each other.

Letting go of my cherished ideas of what is the right thing to do.

Listening deeply to Spirit.

Committing my time to prayer and spiritual practice over the next weeks.

More to come on Sunday. But in the meantime, please read the following passages as a starting place for our discernment and reflection: Psalm 139 and Romans 12. Read them in various translations if possible (I especially like The Message) and only read a few paragraphs at a time. Make a note of any word or words that "shimmer" to you as you read.

**Prayer:** *Guiding Spirit, I don't know what you wish to accomplish in and through me. Open my heart to the mystery of your love and relieve me of the bondage of self and my conditioning that I may be a channel of your love and grace. Amen.*

## SURVEY UPDATES - YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

Take a look at what we have learned so far from our congregational surveys:

### Number 1 Congregational Profile

[www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=wNR5GAmAdcVRTgkp90H6grluOO3R VcQDpzP5hN9mZgY\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=wNR5GAmAdcVRTgkp90H6grluOO3R VcQDpzP5hN9mZgY_3d)

### Number 2 Physical Facilities

[www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=dAqIqX8hP9ICj6uVtIsIyr765DpeWb4d UcRX5YUbwMM\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=dAqIqX8hP9ICj6uVtIsIyr765DpeWb4d UcRX5YUbwMM_3d)

### Number 3 Time & Talents

[www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=OxDuND8HPk9A2dYLmQXvwx7KrgKc GlnEs7rS1oFya\\_2f8\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=OxDuND8HPk9A2dYLmQXvwx7KrgKc GlnEs7rS1oFya_2f8_3d) (some folks used paper format so participation numbers look lower)

### Number 4 Pastoral Profile

[www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=wvGvmdlt0th1KVMpgnFSV78RKcux9e VIDWMBkQry4No\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=wvGvmdlt0th1KVMpgnFSV78RKcux9e VIDWMBkQry4No_3d)

**Number 5 Readiness Survey- coming soon!**

## NEXT MEMBERSHIP CLASS - WED. May 13

Interested in becoming a member of Agape MCC or learning more about our church and denomination? Then join Rev. David Wynn at **7pm on Wednesday May 13.**

*Hope to see you there!*

## HEART & SOUL COFFEE HOUSE PRESENTS



## ELIZABETH WILLS

*Singer, Songwriter, Guitarist  
Painting Through Music*

**Saturday - May 16, 2009  
7:30pm**

*Opening Act - David Wilson*

get more information at:

<http://www.opendoorproductionstx.com/default.htm>

## PICK UP THE PHONE...& raise funds for Agape!



Call the Kudlac Insurance Agency at 817-656-0885. Identify yourself as a member or friend of Agape MCC and ask for an insurance quote: home, auto, renters, life, etc.

**Agape MCC will receive a \$25 check  
for your inquiry.**

## PRAISES!

- Tina H. and her work on behalf of our land and facilities
- Kathy M. and her assistance with the journey to making the Reg. conf. a huge success
- Open Door Productions who donated 8 new round tables to Agape

- Billy S. for getting up early and tending to our space...and his computer expertise...and many other things during Reg. Conf.
- Jimmy M. for taking care of recycling, tending our space, and "handlin'" whatever came his way
- Cassy B. for being present, holding space, and filling in where she was needed

Shell S. for being the media and sound guru throughout a challenging weekend

- Trish and Tru for helping, helping, helping
- Stacy J. for all her help to get things rolling on Friday
- Rusty C. for his brilliance in the kitchen
- Barbara B. for contributions to feeding the people
- Dawn D., Mary G., Dana S., Evelyn B., Carlos Z., Mark H., Barb. B., for their help with hosting our conference and creating a welcoming and hospitable energy all around
- Teri L., Gina P, Janna B., Marquette, Robert M., Apostle Byrd, Michelle K., Jennifer Justice, Rev. Elder Lillie Brock, Savannah, Tru, for their help to create worship and sacred space
- Mickey H., Leigh W., Patti S., Trish P., Tru, Sage, Zoe, Cassy B., Wren W., Kay H., Kim W., Wichita Falls Praise Band, for bringing good Medicine through music!
- Rev. Elder Lillie Brock, for her leadership and spirit

The entire body of Agape MCC who continuously give so generously of your time and spirit in this place.

- to Rev David for his outstanding service and leadership during the planning and execution of the conference

## PRAYERS

- Shawn who needs healing this week
- All those who are ill
- All those needing new employment
- Dr & Mrs Gant- loss of their newborn baby
- Friends & family of Rev. Christopher George who just passed away

**Our Mission-** With open hearts, open minds, and open arms, Agape' MCC is a nurturing faith community seeking God's will by celebrating inclusive worship, redefining family, and providing a voice for justice.

**Our Core Values-** We believe that a sacred space: Welcomes and affirms all people; Does not "stand idly by" in the face of inequity and injustice; Communicates the unconditional love of God for all; Improves the spiritual connections between each person and God as she or he understands God.