



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed May 27:

6pm Back Pack Ministry-
Food Bank

7pm Discernment Class-
Part 3

Thu May 28:

7pm Spiritual Road
Training

Sat May 30:

9:30am Discernment
Class- Part 3

Sun May 31:

10:30am Worship

Wed June 3:

7pm Discernment Class-
Part 4

Sat Jun 6:

6-10pm Progressive
Dinner!

Jun 11-14:

Camp Rosales for kids

Sun Jun 14:

OBSERVING PENTECOST THIS SUNDAY

Pentecost....we hear this name every year. We know it happens just before summer arrives. What is it, really?

Consider these images....

- Festival
- Celebration
- People of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, understandings mingling together and understanding one another despite their differences
- Grain and fruit and vegetables in abundance
- Connecting with each other
- Knowing the power of the Spirit as we come together
- Being changed - by sharing a meal, sharing a story, sharing our lives
- Being reminded of who we are, where we came from, and where we are headed

It's a gathering - a gathering of a most unlikely family. Where blood bonds are not as important as the shared journey and shared Spirit that unites us. Where there is bread enough for all.....and then some! Where inspiration and transformation happen in the midst of a most ordinary activity - a family gathering.

On Sunday, as we observe the festival of Pentecost, get ready for a new experience in worship. Our worship team has worked hard to plan an experience of just such a gathering. You will find the usual elements of our worship service, with a few creative twists added.

10:30am Worship
After Sve- Town Hall
Meeting

MAY STATS-

05/03

Attendance- 130
Offering-\$3,222

05/10

Attendance- 90
Offering- \$1,982

05/17

Attendance- 120
Offering- \$1,510

05/24

Attendance- 76
Offering- \$940

Monthly Giving Target:
\$11,790

OUR SPONSORS:

Shari Beers
Obrien Real Estate Group
817-996-1631
beershomes@gmail.com
www.Beers-Homes.com

Bentley A/C and Heating Inc
817-834-5060

Resolve Conflict, LLC
All types of mediation for the
GLBT Community- classes too
www.resolveconflictionline.com
or call 877-9-2agree

Contact us at:
www.agapemcc.com

817-535-5002

Join Our Mailing List!

Come - be with your Agape family - share the meal that reveals the heart of God for all people - and receive your blessing!

WEEKLY MEDITATION - May 27

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

The Manifestation of Spirit

God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is; everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! All these gifts have a common origin, but are handed out one by one by the one Spirit of God. God decides who gets what, and when. - The Message, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11

I have been reading a book about how emotional systems work in churches. How well a church functions reflects the functioning of individuals in that community. It reflects the nature of our maturity and motivation, and also what our response (and sometimes our reaction) is to challenge or change. All living things grow and change. They are not static and there are seasons of sameness and seasons of transformation.

We stand at a threshold of transformation as a church. We are making decisions about who we will be in the coming years, what kind of manifestation of Spirit we will be to one another and to the world. My hope is that the foundation of all these decisions will be listening intently to what Spirit is saying to this church.

Take a deep breath because I have an assignment for you. Here is a list of questions to reflect on as you continue to pray and seek Spirit's guidance in our discernment process (How Your Church Family Works, Steinke, p. 54). Please print them out, pray about them, and then write out your responses and bring them to our Open Forum on June 14th:

1. What would it look like if you were happy, satisfied?
2. What is weakening your resources and strength?

3. Write a sentence to define your problem [if any, with our church]. Then redefine your problem without reference to a single issue or person.
4. Who are the most motivated people in the congregation?
5. Where's your plan? What's your vision?
6. What would it take to have a pastor stay here ten years, twenty years?
7. What would be your own signs of a healthy congregation?
8. Can you imagine this congregation in five years being alive, thriving, etc.? How would you know it happened?
9. How would you be willing to invest yourself in the process of creating the image you defined above?
10. How do you understand what is happening here theologically or biblically?

We have three more small group meetings scheduled and then an Open Forum meeting:

Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 7:00

Saturday, May 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 3, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 14, Open Forum following worship

Prayer: *Spirit, thank you for the many ways you choose to manifest in the world and in me. I want to be more open to you and to your purpose for me. Help me to hear you today. Amen.*

SPIRITUAL ROAD MEETING SCHEDULE



Upcoming Meeting Schedule
Spiritual Road Series
Thursday Nights
7:00 pm

May 28- The Law of Attraction with Cassy Batts & Shari Beers

June 4- The Mormon Faith with Candy Davidson

June 11- "Bibliodrama" with Rev. Teresa Mallott

June 18- Life Experience (overcoming alcohol addiction) with Chris Noe

June 25- Tikva with Mike Cauley

AGAPE MCC PROGRESSIVE DINNER- June 6



Progressive Dinner Rules

Start at Kathy M.'s home - appetizers

Then drive to Kris & Linda's home - grilled kabobs

End up at Pat & Janna's home - for ice cream, short cake, a dip in the pool & watching "Beach Blanket Bingo"!

Get in the mood, wear your "beach attire" and remember your swim suit if you want to dip in the pool.

\$20/person - A "fun" raiser for Agape MCC.

Reserve your spot by calling: 817-568-1432

CALLING ALL YARD & GARDEN VOLUNTEERS!



We are looking for people of the land who feel like they can help with watering and maintenance of our outdoor spaces. If you can spare an hour or two a week to help out please email Rev.

David at revwynn@yahoo.com. Thank you!

NEXT TOWN HALL MEETING- June 14

Join the Agape Board of Directors for our next town hall meeting on **Sunday, June 14**, after the morning worship service. Get the latest updates to keep up with what's going on at Agape' and to ask any questions you may have. *See you there!*

PRAISES!

- For Rev. Robert and the way he shares his gifts with us.
- For Rev. Gina and her Spirit of service and

social justice.

- For everyone who extends love to those around them.
 - For Evelyn B. and the many gifts she brings to Agape.
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PRAYERS

- Friend, Glenda F. - breast cancer.
 - Relative, John A. - mass on thyroid.
 - Friend, Jeri H. - kidney surgery.
 - Stephanie E. & family - father has brain cancer.
 - Tony P's past landlord...to soften her spirit and release his belongings.
 - Sister, Sharon, diagnosed with Bell's Palsy.
 - Friend, Betsy - lost car, home and job.
 - Strength for my Dad.
-

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.**

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS MIXER- May 28

**Hosted by Q Cinema
Thursday, May 28, 2009 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Rose Marine Theater
1440 N. Main Street
Fort Worth, TX 76106
(817) 215-8600**

Tarrant County Business Connections is excited to be a part of the opening night of the Q Cinema International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival (May 28th - 31st)! The mixer will be held prior to the premiere

movie, Fruit Fly, by director H.P. Mendoza. The movie starts at 7:30 p.m. Check out the trailer for the film on the Q Cinema website. If you would like stay for the film festival premiere, you may purchase individual tickets for the movie only (\$10), or a ticket/after-party combination (\$20).

Spend the evening mingling with other GLBT and Allied Professionals in the Tarrant County area. Promote your business, company, and organization. Bring plenty of business cards and please feel free to bring a guest! We will allocate some time during the evening so that those who wish can present a twenty to thirty second commercial about their business, organization, or community events. There will be a cash bar and light appetizers will be served.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 27th, to jana.c.white@ampf.com or RSVP at www.glbtcchamber.org We look forward to seeing you. There is no cost or obligation to attend this event.

TAKE SURVEY AND RECEIVE \$25 CASH!

The Center for Psychosocial Health is working on an extensive study to identify factors that influence health in the LGBT community. We would greatly appreciate the help of anyone who is interested in participating in our study. We have a specific need for transgender and bisexual participants, as these communities are poorly represented in research. If you know of someone who might be interested in participating, please pass along our information.

You can contact us at: cphprojecthealth@gmail.com

Project Health was designed to examine various health behaviors and psychosocial issues in the LGBT community. We are assessing psychosocial factors, such as social support, stress, and coping to gain a better understanding of the diverse LGBT communities. Our research will also identify the basic healthcare needs for the different LGBT communities and potential barriers that may be deterring individuals from obtaining optimal care.

Upon completion of a computerized survey, **you will**

receive \$25 cash, and it will take about two hours to complete. If you are interested, we would like to know where you would like to take the survey.

We have three locations set up, one in Dallas at the **Resource Center on Reagan Street**, and one site located on **UNT campus in Terrill Hall, room 284 (1611 W. Mulberry Street)**, and one on the **UNT Health Science Center campus in Ft. Worth**.

If you would like to participate in this research project, please e-mail us at:

cphprojecthealth@gmail.com, and let us know which location you prefer, and your full availability so that we may schedule you at the earliest convenience.

More information about the Center for Psychosocial Health is available at <http://www.unt.edu/cph/>.

Thank you for your help from all the center members working on Project Health.

Sincerely,
Johnathan Hall

FAMILIES & ROMANTIC PARTNERS OF TRANSEXUAL INDIVIDUALS

Share what the experience of transition of your loved one was like for you in a confidential, in-depth interview

My name is Leslie Guditis, and I am a PhD candidate conducting a qualitative research study for my dissertation. The purpose of this study will be to explore the experience of family members and romantic partners of transsexual individuals who have completed gender transition.

For the purpose of supporting the maintenance of family ties, it is important for mental health professionals to hear about the experiences of the families and romantic partners of a transsexual individual as he or she transitions.

You are invited to participate in this study if you are the family member or romantic partner of a

transsexual person who has already gone through transition, meaning they have had gender/sex reassignment surgery and related hormone replacement. The age of the transsexual is not important. There may be participants who are parents, adult siblings, adult children, adult uncles, adult aunts, or grandparents of individuals who have transitioned. No participant may be under the age of 18.

I want to hear your story, and I will be conducting the interviews myself. All interviews will be completely confidential, and the total time commitment is approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours, with a possible additional ½ hour follow up interview. You may withdraw from the study at any time, if you so choose.

If you are interested in learning more about the study and/or in participating in the study, please contact me, Leslie Guditis, PhD(c) at (940)594-2370 or Lguditis1@twu.edu .

You may also contact my research advisor, Linda Brock, PhD at (940)898-2713 or LBrock@mail.twu.edu .

I would like to talk with you about your experience of transition as a family member or romantic partner of a transsexual person.

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.