



# Agape MCC Weekly News

July 8 2009

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Thu Jul 09:**

7pm Spirit Road- Bibliodrama

### **Fri Jul 10:**

6pm Samaritan House Supper Club

### **Sat Jul 11:**

8-11:30am Yard Work Volunteers!

7pm Mens Fellowship @ Ken & Steve's home

### **Sun Jul 12:**

10:30 Worship Svc

### **Mon Jul 13:**

7pm Board Meeting

## JULY STATS-

### **07/05**

Attendance- 75

Offering-\$2,137

**Monthly Giving Target:**

**\$11,790**

**Need a book? A Bible? A**

## **SPIRIT ROAD - JULY 9 - BIBLIODRAMA**

The Spirit Road series brings you a form of Bible study called Bibliodrama this Thursday Night. Bibliodrama is an approach to Bible study that is experiential and participatory in nature. It assumes that each person brings a unique perspective to the stories we find in the Bible and offers a method by which everyone who wishes to can participate in the dialogue that occurs when these perspectives come together. Bibliodrama is equally meaningful for those who know well the stories in the Bible and for those to whom the Bible stories are still largely a mystery.

Through Bibliodrama, we learn more about the depths of meaning that can be found in Scripture, more about each other, and more about ourselves. Whether you actively participate in the discussion or listen in as others share, you are invited to come and see what meanings you may find in this experience.

*Please join us this Thursday, July 9, at 7pm!*

## **LANDSCAPING WORK DAY, SAT JULY 11**



We need all your help to clean up the landscape so we can "Grow where we are planted."

### **What we are going to do:**

1. Clean up the labyrinth by weeding and laying in new bricks to hold back the mulch.
2. Trim the bushes and hedges around the church.
3. Weeding the old fashioned way between the flower beds.
4. Remove the poison ivy along the fence.

## music CD?

Shop Online at Your Agape MCC Bookstore. Save 20% on most items & get 5% back for our church. Link on our Virtual Store Link:



## SUN. SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!

If you are available to work with our children one Sunday a month please contact Stacy Jones or Deb Beaulieu.

### OUR SPONSORS:

Shari Beers

Obrien Real Estate Group

817-996-1631

beershomes@gmail.com

[www.Beers-Homes.com](http://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.resolveconflictonline.com](http://www.resolveconflictonline.com)

or call 877-9-2agree

### Contact us at:

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

817-535-5002

Join Our Mailing List!

### How you can help:

1. Come and enjoy the fellowship as we take out the week's frustration on the weeds.
2. Come and cheer us on as we bring the labyrinth back to its beauty.

**We need:** shovels (2), trowels (2) hedge clippers, pruning scissors, garden gloves, plastic bags, a wheel barrel / yard cart to move bricks.

**Saturday, July 11 2009, 8:00am - 11:30am**

**Location : Church Grounds**

**Contact : Tony P. at 817-902-7613**

*We'll provide the cold bottled water!*

## AGAPE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**July 11, 2009 7:00pm**

**Ken & Steve's home in North Arlington**

Burgers and Hotdogs will be on the grill - bring a side dish  
Bring you swimming suit and towel.

Live music will be provided and a dive-in movie will be presented.

Directions from Fort Worth - Head east on I-30 towards Arlington. Take the Fielder Exit and turn right (or north) and go about ½ mile. At the first major intersection and light turn left on W Lamar Blvd (the first street is Waterwood - turn right on Waterwood and park anywhere. - There is no parking on W. Lamar Blvd). We are the first and only house on the left side of Lamar Blvd.

**1802 West Lamar Blvd, Arlington, TX 76012**

**Walk back across Lamar Street to our house**

**817 860 1723**

### From Rev. David Wynn

I wanted to take an opportunity to personally invite you to a four week quest to go deeper. I will be teaching a series over the next four Sundays that will explore our individual and communal desire for meaning, purpose, and spiritual connection with God.

It has been said that healing has its foundation in finding meaning and that meaning comes in knowing who we are and remembering our sacred, intimate connection to God.

Each week you will be introduced to and invited to try out a spiritual practice that will open space to experience the mystery and presence of God and to remember your purpose. I hope you will come journey with us...we will keep the air conditioning on for

you!

This Sunday we will begin with Moses and how his life and calling teaches us to start with who and where we are.

## **WEEKLY MEDITATION- July 8, 2009**

By Rev. Teri Lubbers

### **There Is No Interruption**

*The path includes all experience, both serene and chaotic. When things are going well, we feel good. We delight in the beauty of the snow falling outside the windows or the light reflecting off the floor. There's some sense of appreciation. But when the fire alarm rings and confusion erupts, we feel irritated and upset. It's all opportunity for practice. There is no interruption. We would like to believe that when things are still and calm, that's the real stuff, and when things are messy, confused, and chaotic, we've done something wrong, or more usually someone else has done something to ruin our beautiful meditation. As someone once said about a loud, bossy woman, "What is that woman doing in my sacred world?" - Pema Chodron, Start Where You Are*

I am on vacation from my chaplain work this week. Well, almost... I made a commitment to a family a couple of weeks ago that I would conduct a graveside service if the patient died while their pastor was out of town. (I suppose this might be seen as a lack of boundaries on my part; maybe it is. But it felt like the right thing to do at the time.) Of course that means my stay-at-home-vacation is being interrupted ... by death no less.

So I went to sleep last night knowing that today I have to plan a funeral today or tomorrow. It feels like an interruption. It wasn't on my agenda or in my plan for this week off. And yet somewhere inside I know that it's the real stuff - the poignant, often painful, stuff of life. The quote above reminds me that everything in my day, everything in my life can either be seen as an interruption or as an opportunity for practice.

It's easy to be calm when everything is going the way I want it to. It's easy to be compassionate when everyone is pleasant and polite and smells good. It's easy to feel good about myself when I have done something wonderful and folks are complimenting me right and left. But what about those days when I am running late and get out to the driveway to find a flat tire? What about that annoying person at work who only talks about himself and never uses deodorant? What about when you totally forgot you had a meeting and get a call that they've been waiting on you for almost 30 minutes?

Whatever is irritating you today, whatever makes you feel like chaos just barged into your peaceful abode dressed like a storm trooper, stop and breathe. Spirit hasn't abandoned you. Let the uninvited intrusion be an opportunity for awakening. In fact, instead of going into resistance or attack mode, stop and put out a welcome mat. Imagine that this unwanted situation is a

spiritual teacher and ask what the lesson is today. Patience? Flexibility? Compassion? Humility? Trust? Transformation? Every situation bears Spirit's gift...

**Prayer: God, help me to see through every event of this day as if it were a window directly to you. In the midst of the unexpected remind me to look for you and help me be awake enough to see you. Amen.**

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## TARRANT CO RAINBOW ROOM BACKPACKS



Agape has joined forces with the Tarrant County Rainbow Room to provide back to school backpacks for Tarrant County Foster Children. The Rainbow room estimates the need for 700 backpacks and we are hoping Agape will provide 200 of these needed backpacks.

Envelopes are available in our church pews labeled for this ministry outreach. We will be able to purchase the backpacks at wholesale prices once we have the funds collected. Our goal is to order the backpacks Monday August 9. We are requesting a \$5 donation per backpack.

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## PRAISES!

- For Rev. Robert Myers bringing us the sermon last Sunday.
- For those who have brought towels and other household items for those in need in our community.
- Lisa felling better and her Mom is now driving and in a good place.

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## PRAYERS:

- Tony P.- needs a part time job that will help with his income and debt resoultion.
- Prayers for couple that has recently ended their relationship.
- My brother who needs someone that will help him find a job, that will pay him enough so that he can support himself and his family.
- Prayers for my friend, Jo Ann, a friend from work who lost her son in a traffic accident.
- David's father- bulging disc in his back.
- Billie M. - hospital stay and for a speedy recovery.
- Claudia- for continued healing.
- Pat's niece Sydney- who has chosen to go live with her father, prayers for her mother Rhonda and step dad Trey.
- Gina- healing from her cold.
- Teresa- downsizing and adjustment to the new move.
- Jenny- continued healing for her ankle and prayers for her mother's friend (Mary) who is having dementia problems.

• For those dealing with work dysfunction and drama issues.

## TOWELS FOR ARLINGTON LIFE SHELTER



This note was forwarded to us by a member of our church. It was originally sent by Becky Orander, Executive Director, Arlington Life Shelter (325 W. Division St. Arlington, TX ):

"New or used towels and washcloths are needed immediately at the Arlington Life Shelter. The shelter is operating at emergency capacity due to the triple digit temps. Call Arlington Life Shelter at (817) 548-9885 x 2001 if you need more information. Thanks for spreading the word! B"

Can you help? We would ask you to contact the Shelter with your donations immediately or bring towels and washcloths to Agape MCC, and we will get them to the shelter for you. Thanks in advance for your help in this emerging need in one of our communities!

## HELPING THE HOMELESS IN TARRANT COUNTY

HRA (Helping Restore Ability) is asking for some help this summer:

The City of Fort Worth and its partner agencies are working to make homelessness a rare, short-term and non-recurring experience in Cowtown by 2018 through the Directions Home program.

HRA case managers assist the client to qualify for housing programs, find housing, sign a lease and obtain all the basic necessities to set-up a household. Clients come with nothing but a few clothes. They need furniture, plates, cleaning supplies, paper goods, towels, bedding, everything. Approximately \$1000 worth of dry goods are needed to fully set-up a new apartment for a homeless client who starts over from scratch.

**If you would like to assist, please pick up some of the items listed in this article to help someone start a new life in their new home. Cash donations are also accepted. Bring your donations to Agape MCC and we will gather these for pick-up by HRA staff.**

Here are some suggestions for the needed dry goods:

Set of dishes (4 plates/4 bowls/4mugs), set of silverware, set of glasses (4-6), knives, kitchen towels and rags, set of pans, set of bake ware, mixing bowls, spatula, pancake turner, potato peeler, cooking spoon, can opener, slotted cooking spoon, measuring cups/spoons, grater, set of plastic storage containers w/lids,

small coffee maker, small microwave, trash can, paper towels, trash bags, foil, Ziplock baggies, dishrack, potholders, 4 bath towels, 8 washcloths, 2 hand towels, 1 bath mat, 1 shower curtain/hooks, bathtub grippers, trash can, Bed-In-A-Bag, extra sheet set, 1 blanket, alarm clock, bedroom lamp, coat hangers, bed. nightstand, pillows, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, multi-pack of soap, package of disposable razors, cleaning supplies, toilet brush, toilet bowl cleaner, multipurpose cleaner, glass cleaner, furniture cleaner, dishwashing soap, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, vacuum cleaner, laundry basket, mop, broom, dust pan, scrub brushes, plunger, first aid kit, antacid, pain reliever, vitamins, cold medicine, small tool kit, TV, DVD/VCR, lamp for living room, monthly bus pass (\$25), clothing (\$ for gift card), flashlight, calendar, accordion file folder, ironing board, couch or loveseat, chair, end table, dinette set.

For more information about HRA, go to <http://www.hrates.org/index.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.**

**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.