



Agape MCC Weekly News

July 15 2009

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu Jul 16:

7pm Spirt Road- Healthy GLBT Relationships

Sun Jul 19:

10:30 Worship Sve

Mon Jul 20:

5:30pm Worship Team Mtg

JULY STATS-

07/05

Attendance- 75

Offering-\$2,137

07/12

Attendance- 97

Offering-\$1,413

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

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FROM THE AGAPE MCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We have heard from our regional Elder, Rev. Lillie Brock, regarding the next steps through our interim pastoral transition to hiring a full time pastor.

To summarize: Rev. Brock is releasing Rev. David Wynn from the requirement that he not apply for the permanent position of Senior Pastor at Agape MCC. And she outlines the next steps to occur if Rev. Wynn chooses to apply for the position when it is time for applications to be accepted.

Please review the attached letter. If you have any questions, please contact members of the Board of Directors. More information will be coming soon!

See Rev. Elder Lillie Brock's letter by [clicking here](#).

SPIRIT ROAD - JULY 16 - Tools for Healthy GLBT Relationships

There are skills that build positive friendship, manage conflict productively and create a meaningful life together. Come learn what works when challenges arise and how to use those challenges to create a healthy relationship!

Joy Allen, LCSW, M.Div. is committed to helping individuals and couples create successful, healthy relationships. She has a private counseling practice in SW Fort Worth, is a Certified Gottman Therapist, and has extensive experience in the LBGT community. For more information: www.JoyAllen.com

Please join us this Thursday, July 16 at 7pm!

SEE DAVID'S LATEST BLOG

You can see Rev. David's latest blog by [clicking here](#).

WEEKLY MEDITATION- July 15, 2009

By Rev. Teri Lubbers

Sheer Being

It's who you are, the way you live that counts before God. Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people God is out looking for: those who are simply and



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honestly themselves before God in their worship. God is sheer being itself - Spirit. Those who worship God must do it out of their very being, their spirit, their true selves, in adoration. - John 4: The Message

You and I live simultaneously in multiple dimensions - at least two. One is the world of form, the other the world of the formless. One is the world of the things we can see and touch, taste and smell; the other is unseen. One is the world of doing; the other is the world of being. These two realities are not antagonists; they are more like the yin-yang symbol; one flows into the other continually. The world of seeing is rooted in what cannot be seen. Our doing - which is meant to be a manifestation and expression of the Divine - is rooted in being.

If you have been to worship at Agape, you know that the reading for the day always ends with the words: *Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.* This is a reminder that our worship is meant, ultimately, to be listening to Spirit, engaging Spirit with our spirit.

The quote above is part of a conversation Jesus had with a Samaritan woman about where people are supposed to worship - at her local mountain in Samaria or at the temple in Jerusalem. Jesus never answers the question she asks, but he answers the question she longs to understand.

Worship is more than place. Worship is more than particular practices. Worship is more than beliefs. Worship is more than an hour on Sunday. Worship - our conscious connection to God - is returning to our Source. It is being simply and honestly who we are before God. No pretense, no holding back. Opening up in all our vulnerability and taking the risk to listen to Spirit. That's the kind of people God is out looking for.

Prayer: God, I want to experience you at the center of my being. Clear away any obstacles to my knowing you and help me to be my true self today. Amen.

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.

PRAISES!

- David D. had successful bypass surgery on Tue - in CCU Wed & Thu - feeling weak but in good spirits! Limited visits for right now, please.

- Tony P. who organized and led the Saturday's clean up day.
- For Tina H. and her help cleaning up landscaping on the road behind the church and taking care of a tree that fell onto our neighbors property.
- For the hard work by all of the folks who helped clean up our landscaping this past Sunday! Thank you: Mary G., Dana S., Teri L., Shari B., Janna B., Pat P., Santa, Wren W., Stacy J., Lisa O., Kathy M., Shawn M.
- For healing for Bill W.'s back.
- For an inspiring rally at the Tarrant County Courthouse last Sunday.
- For Teresa M. and her creative guidance on studying the Book of Ruth.

PRAYERS:

- Gail R.'s brother- diagnosed with prostate cancer
- David D. - for continued healing after surgery earlier this week. And for Rusty for being there for it all.
- Terry B. - who fell this week.
- Stacy J. 's grandmother Lois - fell and broke her hip. She had hip replacement surgery and is in ICU.
- Jade & Thomas- finding new employment.
- Continued prayers for Chad Gibson and the Fort Worth LGBTQA community.
- Tina H.- healing for her poison ivy outbreak.

TOWELS FOR ARLINGTON LIFE SHELTER



Bring Us Clean New or Used Towels and Washclothes

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. Can you help? 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.

If you would like to assist helping set up a new home for homeless individuals, 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.hratexas.org/index.htm> .

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.