



Agape' MCC Weekly News

Dec 16 2009

Upcoming Events

Thu Dec 17:

7pm Spirit Road-
Spiritual Formation w
Rev. Teri Lubbers

Sun Dec 20:

10:30am Worship Sve

**Christmas Coffee
Social (after service)**

Thu Dec 24:

**7pm Christmas Eve
Service**

Sun Dec 27:

10:30am Worship Sve

Dec. Statistics:

12/06:

Attendance: 96
Offering: \$2,013

12/13:

Attendance: 92
Offering: \$2,615

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Christmas Coffee Social this Sunday, Dec 20

The Agape' Board of Directors will provide goodies this Sunday, Dec 20 for a Christmas Coffee Social after morning service. This is our way to thank the congregation for a wonderful 2009. Please join us!



Music Director Job Posting

Agape' MCC is looking for a part-time Music Director (20 hours per week) to coordinate the music ministry of the church. The Music Director will report directly to the Senior Pastor. This is a salaried position.

For a copy of the full job posting and description please go to:

<http://agapemcc.com/pdfdocs/musicdirector.pdf>

To apply, please submit a resume to:

Rev. S. David Wynn

Agape MCC

4615 E California Pkwy

Fort Worth TX 76119

email: revwynn@yahoo.com phone #: 817-535-5002



Weekly Meditation - Dec 16 2009

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Let the Rug be Pulled Out

There was a crazy-wisdom teacher in India named Saraha. He said that those who believe that everything is solid and real are



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yourself as a member or
friend of Agape' MCC
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stupid, like cattle, but that those who believe that everything is empty are even more stupid. Everything is changing all the time, and we keep wanting to pin it down, to fix it. So whenever you come up with a solid conclusion, let the rug be pulled out. You can pull out your own rug, and you can also let life pull it out for you. Having the rug pulled out from under you is a big opportunity to change your fundamental pattern. It's like changing the DNA. One way to pull out your own rug is by just letting go, lightening up, being more gentle, and not making such a big deal. ~ Pema Chodron, "Start Where You Are"

Everything is changing all the time. At the heart of most unhappiness, frustration and drama is a basic reluctance to believe this truth about our existence. I liken it to being at the beach and playing in the sand when my children were young. While the tide was out we would build these elaborate castles and sand cities. Then the tide would turn. Slowly it would creep up, each wave getting closer and closer, to threaten all our hard work. At first we would try to create barricades, barriers to keep the waves from reaching and demolishing our beautiful creations. Barricades never work.

Everything changes. All the time. It's not good, or bad, it's just how it is. But we get to decide whether we will spend our lives frantically trying to pin things down, shoveling sand barriers around us in hopes that we can hold back the sea. We get to decide that another possibility is to fully enjoy - in this present moment - all the amazing things, people, and abilities we have been gifted with. And then when it's time, be willing to relinquish them to the returning tide, release them with grateful hearts, and let them go.

You might say, "But surely some of it's a big deal, some things really matter!" I know it feels that way but none of our "stuff" - whether material, intellectual, emotional, relational, or even our spiritual ideas - is the ultimate thing. Letting go of all our constructs, all our "have to's", all our big deals gets us a little closer to the ultimate thing. The tide always returns to carry us - in our vulnerability and transparency - back to the One who is the Ultimate thing, in whom we live and move and have our being.

Prayer: Beloved, give me a new perspective today. Let me see my life, my world, everything, through your eyes. Help me to live with gentleness today, for those around me and for myself. Amen.



A Christmas Celebration! Dec 18

**Mansfield Wind Symphony in Concert with
Tim Zimmerman's King's Brass
Friday, Dec 18 2009
St. John's Lutheran Church, Mansfield Texas
Dinner served at 6:30 pm
Concert at 7:45 pm**

**Meal and Concert - \$25 / Concert Only - \$10
Purchase 3 tickets by Dec 7, get the 4th free!**

Tickets available at:



Ways to Help Agape'

Looking for ways to help our church or members and friends of Agape' MCC this Christmas season?

We have a small Christmas tree in the church lobby with a variety of needed building and office supplies we can always use around the church - and gift cards to Office Depot are always welcomed!

Additionally, our church Benevolence Fund is depleted and needs to be refilled. Our Benevolence Fund is used to provide members and friends with funds for food and other supplies when times are tough. As you can imagine, the fund has been highly used in 2009. Won't you consider providing a special gift for those in need? It will be greatly appreciated!



Bring a Bear to Church!!

Agape MCC is once again collecting teddy bears for the Warm Place in Fort Worth.

We will collect bears in the sanctuary **until Christmas Eve** when we will bless the bears and send them on to do their own special ministry for children who have experienced the death of a parent or guardian.

Please bring only new or very gently used teddy bears. For more information contact the church office 817-535-5002 or Rev. Gina at 940-367-6124.



Agape' MCC Angel Tree is Here!

Agape' is once again partnering with Child Protective Services to bring holiday cheer to Tarrant County foster children this Christmas season. We have adopted 25 children who's wish lists are now located on the ornaments on the angel tree in the lobby.

If you choose to buy for a child this year, please pick up an information sheet located by the tree; this has information on it about the program and instructions for "packaging" gifts. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Patti Stephens at 817-501-2514 or via e-mail at pattiandleigh@sbcglobal.net.



Community Policing Forum

Lee Zollinger, President of Fairness Fort Worth, is passing along the invitation to everyone for the upcoming Community Policing Forum to be held at Lan Gran Plaza on Tue, Jan. 26 at 7pm.

This forum will be conducted to:

- Build a better verbal dialogue between the community and the police department
- Maintain a continuous working relationship and address the various concerns of the community

In this meeting, community groups and residents will have the opportunity to hear about the latest projects and programs, ask questions and give feedback to numerous police officials. For more information about the forum, [click here](#).

You are also invited to the next Fairness Fort Worth Meeting in January. Mark your calendars now. Thursday, January 14. 7:30pm Celebration Church. You can get on the Fairness Fort Worth email list by contacting Lee at: lzollinger@casham.com

Prayers:

- For Cynthia, Aaron's mom who is dealing with cancer
- For healing for Terri N.
- For healing for Louise's son Wayne
- For Rev. Gina's health and the journey through CPE
- Continued healing for Carrie
- For healing and health for Kris and Linda's dog Jordan
- For everyone dealing with health concerns
- For all who are grieving

Praises!

- For our wonderful Christmas Pageant and Talent Show
- For Lisa G. who coordinated and Emceed the show
- For the Dykeclones 20th Anniversary
- For our plumbing repairs being almost done and the heat to come
- For Leon and his son and their gifts as plumbers
- For Carrie's good news on test results
- For all of the financial help this congregation has provided for one another this year
- For all the spiritual support this family has provided this year
- For Jimmy M. and Sheri C. who are completing their terms as Board Members...well done!!
- For a new day and a new year
- For Grace and her gifts as a leader

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.