



## Agape' MCC Weekly News

Feb 3 2010

### Upcoming Events

#### Wed Feb 3:

6pm Choir Potluck and Rehearsal w Music Director Candidate

#### Thu Feb 4:

7pm Spirit Road- Shamanic Journeying with Your Animal Guides- w Denise Marshall

#### Sun Feb 7:

10:30am Worship Sve

#### Mon Feb 8:

7pm Board Meeting

#### Thu Feb 11:

7pm Spirit Road- Rituals Yesterday and Today w Tiffany Whitley

#### Sat Feb 13:

**8pm Karen Williams in Concert (at Youth Orchestra Hall)**

#### Mon Feb 15:

6:30pm Orientation to Deacon Training

#### Wed Feb 17:

7pm Ash Wed Service

#### Sat Feb 20:

7pm Men's Fellowship @ Rusty & David's home

#### Sun Feb 21:

**Noon-2:30pm New Members Class**

#### Sun Feb 28:

**Chili Cook-Off (after service)!**

### 2009 Contribution Statements Now Available

Get 2009 Contribution Statements at the church on Sunday. Or email Kathy at [katmunn\\_1@hotmail.com](mailto:katmunn_1@hotmail.com) to receive your statement via email.



### Protected From H1N1 This Spring?

Ben Curry, H1N1 Education Specialist with Tarrant County Public Health, will give a brief educational presentation addressing:

- \* the differences between H1N1 and Seasonal Flu,
- \* strategies for protecting your church and family,
- \* and details about H1N1 vaccine, including where to get it for free.

**When: Sunday, March 7, 2010 @ 12:00 PM**

**Where: Agape' MCC**



### Weekly Meditation - Feb 3 2010

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

### Forgiveness

*Each of us is worthy of love, and each of us is doubly blessed when we are able to dig down past our grievances and resentments, no matter how justified we may feel in harboring them, and find within ourselves the recognition of that part of the other person that is and always will be lovable. How better could we learn that we ourselves are eternally and irrevocably lovable than by recognizing that same quality in everyone around us?... Forgiveness is no favor. We do it for no one but ourselves. We simply pay too high a price when we refuse to forgive ... Shame never liberated a single spirit. And self-righteousness never softened a heart. ~ How Alanon Works*

I have been thinking about forgiveness. Sunday night I participated in an informal memorial service for one of my patients. He was only 33.

**Sun Mar 7:  
12pm H1N1  
Presentation**

**January Stats:**

**01/03:**

Attendance: 87  
Offering: \$2,079

**01/10:**

Attendance: 109  
Offering: \$2,199

**01/17:**

Attendance: 107  
Offering: \$1,243

**01/24:**

Attendance: 117  
Offering: \$1,303

**01/31:**

Attendance: 122  
Offering: \$2,793

**Need a book? A Bible?  
A music CD?**

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[Janna Brown, Master  
Photographer](#)  
J3 Photographics

He had shared with me that a co-worker of his had once had a near-death experience. I got to meet her Sunday night and was fascinated by what she said it was like when she "died."

She said there is a life-review of sorts but that what was asked of her was very simple: what did your life teach you about love and forgiveness? Simple. Not, what theological ideas or doctrine did you believe in, but what did you learn about love and forgiveness?

I do not believe in "cheap" forgiveness, although I have offered it up as the real thing more times than I care to admit. Cheap forgiveness is something we do to avoid conflict and confrontation; it's when we say, "oh, that's okay, don't worry about it" when we are really feeling something very different inside: anger, hurt, bewilderment, betrayal. True forgiveness isn't pretending that something painful hasn't happened, or that you are supposed to be a doormat for others to walk on.

Forgiveness affirms that the painful thing that has happened does not get the last word, that the painful thing - no matter how awful - does not have the power to quench love. There is a deep connection between forgiveness and unconditional love. Forgiveness reminds us that we are *eternally and irrevocably lovable*, and so is the other guy.

**Prayer: Creator, release me from all the hurts and resentments I harbor, free me from every critical and judgmental thought. Remind me that I share a common humanity with every person I meet and that you love us all unconditionally. No exceptions. Amen.**

**It's Never Too Late To Plan Early!**

**Comedian  
Karen Williams**

**Healing with Humor Tour!**

For 25 years Karen has been creating laughter.  
If you've missed her on HBO, LOGO,  
Olivia Cruises or at any of her shows  
from San Francisco to NYC to Sydney,  
catch her New Show in Ft. Worth,  
Saturday, February 13, 2010!



**Comedian Karen Williams**

**Sat, February 13**

**8 p.m.**

**Youth Orchestra Hall**

**4401 Trail Lake Dr / Fort Worth Texas 76109**

**Tickets: \$40 Reserved / \$20 General (\$25 at the Door)**

**Purchase Online at:**

817-657-9882

[janna.brown@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janna.brown@sbcglobal.net)

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

**Contact us at:**

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

817-535-5002

Join Our Mailing List!

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



### We Need Office Volunteers!

Several of our office volunteers here at Agape' have been blessed with some changing life events that have required them to step down from volunteering.

So we are looking for a group of folks who can share the "job" of helping out with administrative tasks as well as the daily activities of helping with phone calls, visitor letters, gathering Sunday's stats, etc....

If you are available to help out one day a week or every other week for a couple of hours, please email Rev. David at [revwynn@yahoo.com](mailto:revwynn@yahoo.com) or phone the church at 817-535-5002. Thank you!



### Deacon Training

Agape' MCC trains and equips a team of Deacons whose role it is to provide a spiritual presence to those experiencing illness, loss, stress, change and crisis. If you feel a calling to be a part of this team, please contact Rev. David at [revwynn@yahoo.com](mailto:revwynn@yahoo.com) or 817-

535-5002.

We will have an **Orientation to Deacon Training on Monday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Social Hall to discuss what will be involved in and required in this intensive training.



New Member Class

### New Member Class, Feb 21

If you are interested in seeing what being a member of Agape' is all about and interested in joining the church, plan to attend our New Member Class on **Sunday, February 21st, from noon until 2:30pm** in the Social Hall. Rev. David will lead the class.



### It's Time for the Agape' Chili Cook-off!

Yee-haw! It's that time of year... the annual Agape' MCC Chili Cook-Off and Brownie Bake-off: great competition, great food and great fun!

If you wish to compete, complete a registration form (found in church lobby), pay \$10 fee per entry- **deadline for entry is Feb 14 (fees are due by Feb 21).**

We have 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in the categories of Best Chili

and Best Brownies. Winners are chosen by the number of "votes" (in the form of dollars) raised by those tasting the entries. The winners will be the entries in each category raising the highest amount of money by the end of the contest.

**The contest will take place next month on Sunday, Feb 28 after service.** Please return contest entry forms and fees to Rusty Cuniff.

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## We Want Your Stories & Ideas!

During the Season of Lent, we will be focusing on "Making Sense of the Journey...the Risk of Real Community". **We are gathering people's stories** about a time or event in your life that was transformational, epiphinal, greatly successful, a huge failure, or just a great teacher, to share with the community. These can be named or anonymous. We will be using these in a number of ways...in Updates, in special Services, etc... **Please keep your story to one page, approximately 150 words, 12 point font, and submit them to [revwynn@yahoo.com](mailto:revwynn@yahoo.com) or [agapemcc@aol.com](mailto:agapemcc@aol.com) by February 21st.**

We also want to extend our experience of community and are asking for folks to **suggest places or events where we might be of service** like:

a work day in a local animal shelter or with an animal rescue group, a service project or worship service in an area nursing home or retirement center, a project with a local daycare or school, a project with Habitat for Humanity or other housing and homeless organizations, work with the food pantry, etc... You might consider joining our group that provides meals at the Samaritan House on the second and fourth Fridays of each month.

So, tap into your connections and email suggestions or options to [revwynn@yahoo.com](mailto:revwynn@yahoo.com) or [agapemcc@aol.com](mailto:agapemcc@aol.com). It is our hope that as you make suggestions you will be available to also facilitate and lead the project, we will makes sure the volunteers are ready!

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## Prayers:

- For Lisa O.'s friend's granddaughter- Sonya A. - recently found tumors on pituitary glands. Will need surgery -very serious situation.
  - For Cassy's boss' son - Joey R. - tumor on salivary glands - needing surgery.
  - Strength for Leon and Beverly S. and family.
  - Healing for Bailey.
  - Ellen- home with bronchitis last week.
  - Cassy- health and healing.
  - Healing for Bobby W.
  - Healing for Rosemary.
  - For children who are in need.
  - For our Music Director Candidate Eli.
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## Praises!

- A brand new beginning for Dawn D.!
- For our children and all who work with them.
- For those who offer up hospitality with open hearts.
- For our Board of Directors.
- For our Deacons.
- For Evelyn B. who keeps up with so much.
- For abundance.
- For our leadership.
- For all who helped with Rev. Teri's move.

**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.