



Agape' MCC Weekly News

April 14 2010

Upcoming Events

Wed Apr 14:
Choir Rehearsal

Thu Apr 15:
7pm Spirit Road-
Catholicism The
Unpredictable Rise of
Rome

Sun Apr 18:
10:30am Worship
Service

Mon Apr 19:
7pm Deacons Mtg

Wed Apr 21:
7pm Choir Rehearsal

Thu Apr 22:
7pm Spirit Road:
Orthodoxy- From Empire
to Empire

Fri Apr 23:
6pm Samaritan House
Supper Club

Sat Apr 24:
**7:30pm OpenDoor
Productions- Tret Fure
@ Heart & Soul Coffee
House- Agape'**

Sun Apr 25:
10:30am Worship
Service
**11:45am Meet, Greet &
Eat**

Sat May 1- Sun May 2:
**8am-3pm Church
Garage Sale @ Jennifer
N.'s house-Arlington**

The History of Christianity at Spirit Road

Please join us, as we continue our series on the History of Christianity. This is a DVD series presented by gay Christian Historian Diarmaid MacCulloch who is faculty at Oxford. There will be time for discussion. Remaining presentations are:

April 15 - Catholicism: The Unpredictable Rise of Rome
April 22 - Orthodoxy: From Empire to Empire
April 29 - Reformation: The Individual Before God
May 6 - Protestantism: The Evangelical Explosion
May 13 - God in the Dock



Weekly Meditation, April 14, 2010 By Rev. Teri Lubbers

What We Long For

It doesn't interest me what you do for a living. I want to know what you ache for, and if you dare to dream of meeting your heart's longing. I have faith in longing, wherever it finds me. And often it finds me at unpredictable and inconvenient moments. It's like a door that suddenly opens. I am never prepared. There is no preparation for the way it takes me and leaves me, for the fierceness of the ache. It is the voice of the parts of myself I have left behind in the deals I have tried to make with life, trying to trade pieces of my dreams for promises of safety. ~ Oriah, The Invitation

Don't know about you, but this quote touches me to the very core of my being. I have made so many "deals" over the course of my life, most of which promised me one of the three S's: safety, stability, security. I have looked the other way, talked myself out of dreams, said to myself, "it's not so bad", and tried many other tactics to avoid answering the persistent call of longing. I have also experienced times when I lived into my own courage and chose what I longed for. Powerful...

We get to decide, you know. We get to choose. We think we don't, but we really do. What I think happens is that we automatically put some choices on the shelf because we are afraid we won't be able to live with the consequences, or because they annihilate the tidy images of ourselves we work so hard to maintain. Sometimes we blame someone else for denying us some choice or other. Sometimes we

April Stats:

04/04:

Attendance: 162
Offering: \$7,428

04/11:

Attendance: 124
Offering: \$8,350

04/18:

Attendance:
Offering: \$

04/25:

Attendance:
Offering: \$

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soothe ourselves with stories of how long-suffering, or self-sacrificing, or altruistic we are. But the truth is that we are choosing - every day, every moment, every breath.

But if we stopped and sifted and sifted through the sands of our lives, once we shook out all the unneeded stuff, there in the bottom of our sifting screen would be these little nuggets that we never saw before; the precious metals of our desires and dreams and shy souls. Oriah encourages us: "Speak the unspeakable, hear what your heart and soul most long for, without judgment. Surprise yourself. Tell yourself something you do not already know." What I REALLY want is...

Prayer: God-Who-Is-Spirit-In-All-Things - the psalmist reminds me to "trust in God ... and God will give you the desires of your heart." I pray your Spirit will help me see what I truly long for. I don't want to trade it for the illusions of safety and security. Give me courage today. Amen.

TRET FURE IS....
More than a Tomboy Girl!
Singer/songwriter = folk + pop + rock + country
Musician + Poet = life & love, peace & social justice = US
Guitar player/teacher Sound Engineer
Storyteller Musician Union Leader
New songs for CD #13
Come to the Show >> **April 24**
Then write your own description!
www.tretfure.com

Don't Miss the Next OpenDoor Production!

Tret Fure

Agape' Heart and Soul Coffee House

Saturday, April 24

7:30 p.m.

Ticket Price: \$15 in advance / \$18 at the door
tickets online at: www.opendoorproductionstx.com

Susan G. Komen Race for the Care

Register or Donate Online at:

www.komentarrant.org
Grace Gray - Captain

April 24, 2010
Downtown Fort Worth at Sundance Square

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.

Contact us at:

www.agapemcc.com

817-535-5002

Join Our Mailing List!



From Stacy, our Garage Sale Coordinator!

Jen and I have decided to do a garage sale pick up day on **April 24 from 10 AM to 1PM at the church.**

We will pick things up or meet people and they can follow us to the house to drop off especially if they have large furniture.

The house is in Arlington so it is not a long drive. Please put this date on your calendar. And remember:

Church Garage Sale

May 1-2

8am - 3pm

at Jennifer N.'s house in Arlington!

Prayers:

- Carol S. - having surgery this week
- Healing for Troy
- Tom - on the death of his father
- Bobby - on the death of a child
- For all of those seeking employment
- For those who struggle with chronic physical challenges
- For those searching for peace
- Jaci and Jessica as they journey through puzzling illness and await results of Jaci's imaging and testing.

Praises!

- For Suzanne Westenhoeffer and Open Door Productions...they bring community and laughter...very healing!
- For Lou who saw a need and met it
- Eli, Mickey and the Agape choir for the Holy Week music that continues to resound in our hearts
- For a new office volunteer, Denise L., starting next week!
- For all of our Sunday School Teachers
- For those beginning new jobs
- For all of the Deacons in training
- Grace's mom is doing well
- For messages received

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.