



Agape' MCC Newsletter

June 23 2010

Upcoming Events

Thu June 24:

7pm Spirit Road: R.A.K. Night Out

Fri June 25:

6pm Samaritan House Supper Club

Sun June 27:

10:30am Worship Service
11:50am Meet, Eat and Greet! **12:30pm Town Hall Meeting**

Thu July 1:

7pm Spirit Road: Meditation and Reflection

Sun July 4:

10:30am Guest Speaker - Chief Master Sergeant Dave Guy-Gainer

Sat July 10:

7pm Susie Brenner/Shawn Thomas Concert

June Statistics

06/06:

Attendance: 118
Offering: \$1,167

06/13:

Attendance: 111
Offering: \$1,938

06/20:

Attendance: 109
Offering: \$1,527

06/27:

Attendance:

Next Town Hall Meeting June 27

What's Happening at Agape'

Town Hall Meeting

Sunday June 27

12:30 p.m.



Come one. Come all. Let's share a little about what is happening in the life of Agape' MCC.

Enjoy the monthly Meet, Eat and Greet lunch provided this month by the Deacons. Then find out what's happening at Agape' and participate by sharing your thoughts and ideas for our church family.

For more information, speak with Rev. David or one of the members of the Board of Directors.

Come join us!

Weekly Meditation- June 23

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Absolutely

There isn't something called the absolute that is greater than the relative. They are just two sides of the same coin. The phenomenal world of people, trees, and rugs, and the absolute world of pure unknowable nothing, of energy, are the same thing. Rather than pursuing a one-sided ideal, we need to bow to the absolute in the relative, as well as the relative in the absolute. We need to honor everything. ~Joko Beck, "Nothing Special: Living Zen"



I confess I live in an either/or world. I routinely think in either/or terms. I frequently construct my understanding of existence in either/or frames of reference. Not sure who originally decided to frame things in this binary way, things like: male/female, good/bad, light/dark, black/white, happy/sad, body/spirit, work/play, secular/spiritual. I think, like other human social constructions, we just find it easier to deal with two things at a time rather than the infinite possibilities of the Reality spectrum. Comfy pigeon holes.

Offering: \$

Need a Book? A Bible? A 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](#)

Our Sponsors:

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Resolve Conflict, LLC

All types of mediation for the GLBT Community-classes too.

www.resolveconflictonline.com

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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 quote: home, auto, renters, life, etc.

Agape' MCC will receive a \$25 check

for your inquiry.

Contact Us At:

www.agapemcc.com

When I was a teenager all I wanted was to be done with this sad, painful physical existence and go home to be with Jesus where I was certain I would live happily ever after. In my 20's and 30's I shifted consciousness a bit and decided, well maybe I don't have to die to escape this life, maybe I can just go somewhere else in my spirit (and head) and live happily ever after. In my 40's I started thinking maybe I could learn how to be a bit more comfortable in my own skin and hang around here for a while. Now in the last half of my 50's decade it's just beginning to dawn on me that everything I never knew I always wanted is all right here in front of me.

Joko Beck calls this the absolute in the relative. There's no getting around it. Whether we like it or not, whether we notice or not, Spirit is everywhere. Take a breath with its hint of magnolia, watch a bird in flight, listen to the sound of water falling, taste the salt on the skin of a lover, feel the heat of the summer sun penetrate your being, and your heart begins to echo the psalmist's words: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Heaven and earth. God is all and in all. The table is set...all we have to do is show up for dinner.

Prayer: Creating Spirit, give me eyes to see, be the air I breathe, let my heart reveal your beauty. In every breath I take, help me be awake to the wonder of your being. Amen.

Spirit Road

Summer Fun 2010

Spirit Road is taking a turn for Summer Fun 2010 with a little bit of a different pace!



This Thursday, June 24: R.A.K. Night Out- Random Acts of Kindness ~ meets ~ Sundance Square.

We're meeting at the **Barnes & Noble 401 Commerce:** corner of 4th & Commerce.

Meet up in the **cafe at 7pm,**

We'll go out from there to perform random acts of kindness at "**Stars under the Stars**" outdoor movie, and engage with our culture at various other places.

The rest of the summer's schedule goes something like this:

1st Thursday (July 1 & Aug 5) - **Meditation and Reflection Night** led by Special Guests

2nd Thursday (July 8, Aug 12) - **Media Night**...we will show a movie, documentary or TV show with spiritual meaning and discussion to follow (some of these nights may begin earlier or go a little later! We'll let you know)

817-535-5002

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

3rd Thursday (July 15, Aug 19) - **R.A.P. Night = Rhythm. Art. Poetry.** Share your fave song, play your guitar, work on your art project, read a poem.

4th Thursday (June 24th, July 22, Aug 26) - **R.A.K. Night Out - Random Acts of Kindness** ~ meets ~ Sundance Square, Museum exhibit, Starbucks game night ...details to come!

Special Guest Speaker on July 4

from Rev. David Wynn

Chief Master Sergeant Dave Guy-Gainer to preach on July 4th at Agape' MCC.



Agape' MCC is proud to host Chief Master Sergeant Dave Guy-Gainer, USAF (Retired) who will be bringing our message this July 4. As a gay man who has served our country, Dave has worked tirelessly in the effort to repel "Don't Ask, Don't Tell", the act that prohibits any homosexual or bisexual person from disclosing his or her sexual orientation or from speaking about any homosexual relationships, including marriages or other familial attributes, while serving in the United States armed forces. Dave is a resident of Forest Hill and is also active in our local city governance.

Veterans and active Service Members- we would like to invite you in honor of the holiday and CMSgt Guy-Gainer's visit **to wear your uniform or something from your uniform for this special day.**

Hawn Renewal of Vows

Candice and Mitzi Ceremony Last Week



Well, we got to laugh and cry at the Hawn's Renewal of Vows ceremony last Sunday afternoon. Zak played the flute to begin the service, Rev. David led Mitzi and Candice through their vows. Candice and Mitzi read personal notes to each other (thus the crying and laughing). Then we all met in the Fellowship Hall for beef and chicken tacos, rice and beans, and delicious cakes (prepared by Rusty). Check out some pictures of the fete on our [web site](#).

Congratulations again, you two!

Summer Concert at Agape' July 10

Susie Brenner & Shawn Thomas

Susie Brenner and Shawn Thomas will be performing at Agape' MCC on **Saturday, July 10th at 7:00 p.m.** Come and join us for an evening of inspiring music. There is no charge for the concert but we will receive a love offering for Susie and Shawn and they will have CD's for sell!



See you there!

Shaman Class To Be Offered

A Spirit Moon Workshop

Explore personal healing, transformation and empowerment from a shamanic perspective in a small community setting. Learn about the three worlds of the shaman, the healing attributes of the directions on the medicine wheel and the elements of nature, and learn how to integrate shamanic techniques into your spiritual practice and day-to-day life.



Basic Shamanic Techniques for Personal Healing and Transformation Saturday and Sunday, August 7 and 8 from 10am-5pm both days Meeting Saturday at Agape' MCC, Sunday meeting TBA \$75 workshop fee

This workshop series will be held in Fort Worth at Agape' MCC. Register by contacting Lynn (workshops@turtlemedicine.net or 214-868-2049)

or by sending workshop fee via PayPal (workshops@turtlemedicine.net) by Monday, July 26

Cash and checks are acceptable as well.

Register by Monday, July 26 to reserve your place in the workshop.

Workshop is limited to 12 participants.

We Need Pictures!

Updating Home Page Logo Banner

Our web manager, Kathy, wants to update our home page with new family, friends and community pictures. Please attach one (or more) of your recent favs and send to Kathy at:

katmunn_1@hotmail.com



To look at the current slideshow, go to www.agapemcc.com and look at the flash banner. Your help is appreciated!

P.S. - your voluntary sending of these pictures acknowledges your permission to publish your images on the website banner.

Free Self Help Recovery Group

Self-Management & Recovery Training

Almost everyone knows someone who is affected directly or indirectly by a harmful addiction.



SMART Recovery is an alternative recovery group for people seeking independence from addictive behaviors including alcohol and other drugs.

SMART Recovery helps you learn tools to stop abusing alcohol and other drugs.

**Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
beginning Tuesday, July 6, 2010
in the First Floor Conference Room
at the AIDS Outreach Center**

**AIDS Outreach Center
400 N. Beach St.
Fort Worth, TX 76111
817-335-1994**

**Facilitator: Leslie Guditis, 817-916-5235
LeslieG@aoc.org**

<http://www.smartrecovery.org/>

Prayers

- Death of Ray Alexander (attended Agape' at Hemphill address) - Father of Jimmy M.'s sister-in-law. Prayers for the family.
- Jelena, Ollie, Dan and children Isabel, Gabriel, and Claudia- deportation concerns.
- Pat W. (Leigh's mom) - heart problems.
- For Mark H. sister who is in serious condition following a car accident and whose husband did not survive the accident. Prayers for healing on many levels for her and the whole family.
- Prayers for Linda G. and family as they care for mom.
- Healing for Jaci.
- Healing for Aaron.
- Healing for Shawn.
- For Terry B.
- For families in transition.
- For those struggling financially.
- Gail R. as she cares for her father in rehab following a stroke and for her mother with Alzheimer's.
- The deacons moving toward their commitment to serve the church and each other.
- Travel mercies and safety for everyone heading to conference this weekend.
- For decisions made at General Conference.

Praises

- For new jobs.
- For Candice's and Mitzi's 25 years as a couple.
- For friends who help us celebrate life.
- For our children!
- For those who bring the gift of music.
- For Mickey and his Spirit.
- For those who make up our village.
- For all the "father figures" in our lives.

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.