



# Agape' MCC Newsletter July 28 2010

## Upcoming Events

- Thu July 29:**  
**No Spirit Road - night off**
- Sun August 01:**  
10:30am Worship Service
- Mon August 02:**  
7pm Deacon Meeting
- Thu August 05:**  
7pm Spirit Road- Meditation & Reflection- Led by Lynn Wolf
- Mon August 09:**  
7pm Board of Directors
- Thu August 12:**  
7pm Spirit Road- Media Night
- Fri August 13:**  
6pm Samaritan House Supper Club

## July Statistics

- 07/04:**  
Attendance: 93  
Offering: \$1,270
- 07/11:**  
Attendance: 95  
Offering: \$6,241
- 07/18:**  
Attendance: 103  
Offering: \$1,377
- 07/25:**  
Attendance: 123  
Offering: \$3,015

## Need a Book? A Bible? A Music CD?

Shop Online at Your Agape' MCC Bookstore. Save 20% on most items & get 5% back for

## Spirit Road

### Summer Fun 2010

#### No Spirit Road this Thursday, July 29!

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



- 1st Thursday**  
(Aug 5) - **Meditation and Reflection Night** led by Special Guest
- 2nd Thursday** (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
- 3rd Thursday** (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** (Aug 26) - **R.A.K. Night Out - Random Acts of Kindness** ~ meets ~ Sundance Square, Museum exhibit, Starbucks game night ...details to come!

## Meditation July 28 by Rev. Teri Lubbers

### It's Not Our Job

***Stop trying so hard to control things. It is not our job to control people, outcomes, circumstances, life. Maybe in the past we couldn't trust and let things happen. But we can now. The way life is unfolding is good. Let it unfold. ~Melody Beattie, "The Language of Letting Go"***



Are you sure it's not my job? Are you sure that life doesn't need my help? Are you sure that the way life is unfolding is good? I am a recovering control freak. I have made some ground, some progress, to the point that I'm loosening my grip on trying to control other people's lives, but I confess that I still try to control anything that might impact my own. Sometimes I call it being proactive, assertive, or prudent but I strongly suspect these are just euphemisms for controlling behavior, for my attempt to choreograph the stage in such a way that I can minimize fear and uncertainty, and create my own version of stability and predictability. Truth is that I have a pretty narrow range in which

our church.

Link on our  
[Virtual Store Link](#)

## Our Sponsors:

### Shari Beers

#### Obrien Real Estate Group

817-996-1631

beershomes@gmail.com

[www.Beers-Homes.com](http://www.Beers-Homes.com)

### Janna Brown, Master Photographer

J3 Photographics

817-657-9882

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

### Resolve Conflict, LLC

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

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

or call 877-9-2agree

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

817-535-5002

### Join Our List

I feel comfortable. Kind of like the temperature control of my apartment in a Texas summer. Pretty narrow range. Like Goldilocks, I like it not too hot and not too cold.

Very different than trusting that life is unfolding just the way it should. Makes you wonder what would happen if we approached life with curiosity rather than fear? If we relaxed instead of tightening up. If our attitude was one of adventure rather than the safety-seeking kinds of behavior that keep shrinking the world we live in until there isn't any place to stand.

We can trust and let things happen. And because we are so loved by God, Spirit will continue looking for ways to break into our lives, to melt the shields we put up, to dismantle the flimsy props of the stage we mistake for the real world. Let your life unfold. Let your life find its voice.

**Prayer: Creator, it makes me nervous to release my sense of control. Help me see that there is no such thing. I never had it in the first place. Ok, show me what you have waiting in wings. Amen.**

## New Bubb Fundraising Program

### Recycle for Agape'

Bubb Fundraising provides innovative fundraising solutions for non-profit organizations. Bubb's recycling program provides a simple, highly profitable, environmentally friendly on-going fundraiser. Their partners currently recycle over 100 different item types.

Agape' is starting to collect items for a Bubb Fundraising Drive. Click [here](#) to see the items you may donate for the church fundraiser. Any questions? Contact Stacy Jones at:

[stacy\\_j9@yahoo.com](mailto:stacy_j9@yahoo.com) or Jimmy Marshall at 682-583-8374.

## Tarrant County Rainbow Room

### Backpacks for Foster Children

Agape' will once again be providing backpacks for foster children in Tarrant County. CPS needs approximately 700 backpacks and our goal is to provide 200. We are collecting funds to purchase backpacks at a wholesale price of \$5.



Please make checks payable to Agape' and note "CPS backpacks" on the memo line on your check. We will be **collecting money through Sunday, August 1**. The order needs to be placed on August 2 to ensure that the backpacks arrive and are filled with supplies before school starts. Thanks to all who support this important ministry!

Join Our Mailing List!

## Pride Week 2010

### Set for Oct 3 - Oct 10, 2010

We will be building a float for the Parade this year, as well as getting ready for the Picnic and Parade activities. We are also taking the gift shop to the Pride Festival in Dallas in September this year and will be announcing a gift shop committee meeting soon.



The Parade is on Sunday, Oct 3, and **the Picnic has been changed to Sunday, Oct 10.**

To find out more info about Tarrant Pride Week, go to <http://www.tcgpwa.org/> . If you are interested in working on one of our teams, contact Stacy Jones at [stacy\\_j9@yahoo.com](mailto:stacy_j9@yahoo.com).

## Coming Up at Agape' in Worship

by Rev. David Wynn

As we are making the downhill slide out of Summer...albeit it is a gradual slope...we look forward to the rhythms that come as we go back to school, come home from vacations, and eagerly await the cooler breezes that eventually come to us here in Texas. So plan to be part of our communal worship as a way to stay connected in your larger spiritual journeys.



Beginning August 1st, we will spend the month immersed in "The Prayer of Jesus". We will linger over how Jesus taught us to pray and how embodying this prayer and way of being in the world builds relationship to God, to each other and to ourselves.

**August 1 - "ABBA"**

**August 8 - "On Earth as it is in Heaven"**

**August 15 - "Give Us this Day"**

**August 22 - "As We Forgive"**

**August 29 - "Deliver Us"**

Beginning in September "The Leading Causes of Life...it is possible to live a life that is ABOUT LIFE!"

## The Journey at Agape'

### A Spiritual Development Cycle

Beginning in September, Agape' MCC will be offering a spiritual development cycle called **The Journey**. The purpose of this series of classes and experiences will be to help us each to discern where we are spiritually and understand where we would like to be and then to equip each person to create their own Rule of Life... a planned rhythm for living in which we are gradually transformed into Christlikeness. We understand as



people who follow Christ that all parts of our lives teach us and mold us. While we come together on Sundays to celebrate the work of the people and to worship God, that is only one location on the spiritual map. To really grow spiritually, we must also be intentional about the rest of our lives and engage those things that lead us to centeredness, wholeness, authenticity, service and deep love of Spirit, neighbor, and self. So mark your calendars!

**Spiritual Gifts** led by Mary Cantrell  
(who is completing her year of clergy internship at Agape')

**Wednesday, September 1,** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Social Hall

**Wednesday, September 15,** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Social Hall

*(sign up in August- inventory to complete before time)*

**Spiritual Types** led by Jenny Cureton, LPC

**Wednesday, October 6,** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Social Hall

**Wednesday, October 20,** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Social Hall

*(pre-assessment to be completed online in September)*

**Benedictine Spirituality** led by Rev. Teri Lubbers

**Wednesday, November 3,** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Social Hall

**Wednesday, November 17,** 7 to 8:30 p.m. Social Hall

## Helping Hands

### Prescription Assistance Program for Low Income Seniors

Two of our members wish to pass on a recommendation for this Prescription Assistance Program for low income seniors.

From Mark and Billy: "Tony is a wonderful person and can help explain everything in complete detail. Mark's sister has signed up for Helping Hands and is saving a lot of money on her and her husband's medications. Thought I would pass this along - Tony will come to their home or we may be able to set up a meeting for the church if you see interest in this."



#### "HELPING HANDS"

**TONY BARTOK OFFICE (972)420-0424 OR**

**TONY'S NUMBER IS 214-607-8657**

**650 S. EDMONDS LN #108 LEWISVILLE, TX 75067**

## Prayers

- Mary N.'s niece and her 2 lb. baby.
- Barb - loss of her mother.
- Lois - healing.
- Lilia - surgery 7/31.
- Jimmy M. - upcoming surgery.
- Mitzi H. - upcoming surgery.
- Troy - healing from surgery.
- Terry B. - who is losing his sight.
- Healing for Karen and Jennifer.
- For Jeramie L.
- For Aunt Sheryl.

- For Tommie Lee.
- Those who need employment.

## Praises

- For Evelyn, Gail, Tina and a visitor for yard work done around Agape'.
- The Forest Hill Police Dept. who keep a close eye on our church home.
- The sunflowers on our labyrinth and all the critters (human and otherwise) who are blessed there.
- Praises for the joy of having Ms. Billie and Ms. Anna worship with us on Sundays.
- Michael & Mark served a delicious meal for Meet, Greet and Eat.
- Annie (Michael's sister) provided the great potato salad for Meet, Greet and Eat.
- Stephanie L. who keeps us connected with visitors and the new folks of Agape'.
- Thanks to the ministry teams who schedule and drive Billie M. and Anna R. to worship with us.

**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.