



# Agape' MCC Newsletter

September 1 2010

## Upcoming Events

**Wed September 1:**

**7-8:30pm The Journey: Spiritual Gifts** led by Mary Cantrell- Part 1

**Thu September 2:**

7pm Planning Meeting for Spirit Road's new path

**Sun September 5:**

10:30am Guest Speaker- Zac Edwards

Noon General Conference Update by Agape' Delegates

**Fri September 10:**

5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

**Sun September 12:**

**5pm OpenDoor Production- Lisa Ferraro & Erika Luckett** (Heart & Soul Coffee House - Agape')

**Wed September 15:**

**7-8:30pm The Journey: Spiritual Gifts** led by Mary Cantrell- Part 2

**Sun September 19:**

10:30am Worship - Commissioning of Ministers of Community Care

**Sun October 2:**

**2pm Pride Parade**

## The Journey: Spiritual Gifts - Part 1

**Starts This Wednesday!**

We begin our spiritual growth series this fall with 2 sessions in September on Spiritual Gifts. These sessions will be led by Mary Cantrell, M.Div, (who is completing her year of clergy internship at Agape').



Complete the inventory survey before the first class. You can find a copy of the inventory on our website by clicking [here](#).

**Wednesday, September 1, 7 to 8:30 p.m.** Social Hall  
**Wednesday, September 15, 7 to 8:30 p.m.** Social Hall

**Any Questions? contact Mary at [mcantrell@urhcs.org](mailto:mcantrell@urhcs.org) or 940-781-0736**

## General Conference Update -

**This Sun, Sept 5**

**Updates From Our Delegates**

Join us **this Sunday, September 5**, after service to learn of the changes to our denomination, workshop updates and worship experiences from our conference delegates. We will also have a slide show of events, people and places we saw at conference in Acapulco Mexico! See you there!



## Meditation Sept 1

**by Rev. David Wynn**

**Learning To Swim**

*I was tapped this week to cover the devotional for Rev. Teri as she has been away for some R and R...big shoes to fill. As Spirit would have it one of the Saints among you sent this along to me from Iyanla Vanzant's book "Until Today". It is about faith...and right on time! Enjoy! - Rev. David:*



I am faith-filled and fear-free because...I am learning to swim through painful experiences.

If you have ever watched a child learning to swim, you have witnessed faith in action. It is obvious that the child, standing before the pool or

**Wed October 6:**

**7pm Spiritual Types** led by Jenny Cureton, LPC- Part 1

**Sun October 10:**

**Pride Picnic @ Trinity Park**

**Wed October 20:**

**7pm Spiritual Types** led by Jenny Cureton, LPC- Part 2

**Wed November 3:**

**7pm Benedictine Spirituality** led by Rev. Teri Lubbers- Part 1

**Sat November 6:**

**8pm OpenDoor Production-Suede! with Julie Bonk** (Youth Orchestra Hall)

**Wed November 17:**

**7pm Benedictine Spirituality** led by Rev. Teri Lubbers- Part 1

**August Statistics**

**08/01:**

Attendance: 118  
Offering: \$1,369

**08/08:**

Attendance: 123  
Offering: \$4,171

**08/15:**

Attendance: 103  
Offering: \$1,464

**08/22:**

Attendance: 117  
Offering: \$1,180

**08/29:**

Attendance: 137  
Offering: \$1,662

**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.

the ocean, is thinking, "I'm not going in there!" With a little support, the child may eventually stick his toes in the water. If the water is warm, he can be enticed to put one whole foot in the water. That is enough for the first try. On the next try, you might see the child stand in the water up to his knees. If he happens to feel particularly safe or confident, he might let his butt get wet. That is quite enough. Step by step, day by day, with the right kind of support and encouragement, the avid non-swimmer will eventually immerse his entire body in the water. The real test comes, however, when he is knocked down by a wave or when a nearby swimmer splashes water in his face. In that moment, the little swimmer must decide whether or not he can conquer the challenge, the fear, of having water up the nose.

Those of us who are not living fully because we are afraid of the deep waters of heartache are just like the child learning how to swim. We must learn to do it step by step. Should we get knocked down or splashed, we must decide in that very moment whether or not we will continue swimming. Fortunately, faith is the lifeguard on duty. Faith can pull you out of the water. Faith can help you dry off your face. Faith will watch over you as you try again, step by step, until you learn how to swim on your own.

Until today, you may have allowed difficult experiences and painful memories to keep you out of the sometimes turbulent waters of life. Just for today, stick one body part in the water. Do one thing you swore you would never do again. Let faith hold you up as you swim through it.

**Prayer: Holy One help me today to live by faith and open myself to a fuller experience of life!**

**Ministers of Community Care**

**Commissioning on Sun September 19**

Please join us on Sunday, September 19th for worship service when we commission our new Ministers of Community Care.

Over the past several months, the Ministers of Community Care have completed several training sessions. This training included meditation and prayer, pastoral care, spiritual gifts and care for those experiencing grief and loss. They have all made a commitment to this ministry, and will provide pastoral care to the Agape' MCC community. They will offer hospital visits, pastoral visits, and a listening ear with the assurance of confidentiality.

Over the next couple of weeks, the members of our community will be contacted by their assigned Minister. The Ministers of Community Care hope to mentor members of these groups and create a community of care. Our new Ministers of Community Care are: Janna Brown, Pat Parker, Stephanie Lotz, Zac Edwards, Tinker Bennett, Lisa Davenport, Linda Gray and Grace Gray.

**Commissioning of New Ministers of Community Care  
Sunday, Sept 19**

**Music Survey**

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.resolveconflictionline.com](http://www.resolveconflictionline.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

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## Coming Soon!

A Music Survey will be emailed in the very near  
future. Keep checking here!



## Notes from our Board and Pastor

### Open Positions for Election this November

**Board of Directors** - 2 three year terms

**Personnel Committee** - 2 two year terms

**Lay Delegates** - 2 three year terms

**Alternate Lay Delegates** - 2 three year terms

We need active members willing to serve our church in the positions  
listed above. Please consider prayerfully and contact Rev. David with  
any questions. Applications will be available soon.

[Click here](#) to read a special invitation from outgoing Board  
Treasurer Billy Stewart.

### Stewardship Pledge Time is Coming

Please also be in prayer about our annual stewardship pledge drive and  
what you may contribute for budget year 2011 by way of tithing. More  
information coming soon.

### Sunday School Teachers are Needed!

We really need some new volunteers immediately for our children's  
Sunday School program. Won't you prayerfully consider participating  
in this valuable ministry? Contact Rev. David or Stephanie L. for more  
information.

### Happy 40th Birthday, Agape'

Next year, we celebrate our 40th birthday as a church! We want to  
start making plans now. If you would like to help, please contact  
Agape' Board member, Lisa D. on Sundays or email her at  
[ladave1961@aol.com](mailto:ladave1961@aol.com).

## Bubb Fundraising for Agape' - Recycle!

### Recycle for Agape'

**Our pick-up date has been extended until  
September!** More information next week.

**We just heard from Bubb that they now take toys**



**and clothing! All donations need to be in boxes (no bags).**

Click [here](#) to see some of the items you may donate for the church fundraiser. Stacy will be glad to come pick up things, meet you at the church, or at the storage unit.

For answers to your questions or to schedule donation pick up -  
Contact Stacy Jones at: [simonntig@gmail.com](mailto:simonntig@gmail.com) or call her at: 817-680-4083.

## 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.tcpwa.org/>. If you are interested in working on one of our teams, contact Stacy Jones at [simonntig@gmail.com](mailto:simonntig@gmail.com).

## Contact Crisis Line

### Volunteer Opportunity



Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that will improve your life as well as help others deal with life's challenges? CONTACT Crisis Line provides a volunteer opportunity that will teach you crisis management techniques, develop your listening skills, and enhance your interactions with family, friends and co-workers. Our crisis line specialists help our callers through some of life's most critical moments by providing a caring human connection, a trained listening ear, and a connection to resources. Also looking for bilingual (Spanish/English) volunteers for our Spanish line. All necessary training provided (40 hour training program). After training, we ask for a minimum of four hours every other week. If you would like more information on how you can create a vision of hope for others by becoming a crisis line specialist, email [thutter@contactcrisisline.org](mailto:thutter@contactcrisisline.org) or call 972-233-0866, ext. 311.

For more information, click here: [www.contactcrisisline.org](http://www.contactcrisisline.org)

## Prayers

- Kim M.'s brother, Brad, who was admitted to ICU for sepsis.
- Linda G. - healing for her eye.
- For those traveling this holiday weekend.
- Jesse B. relationship troubles.
- Kent P. - Michael Trevino and family health & financial hardships.

- Stacy J. sister Jennifer for healing from surgery.
- Shirley S. - loss of father.
- Glenda - loss of partner Susie of over 20 years.
- Donna H.'s mother continued good spirits and upcoming surgery for breast cancer.
- Louise M. - continued healing.
- All those traveling this Holiday weekend

*God, hear our prayers.*

## Praises

- Thanks for Lisa O. for taking such good care in cleaning our sacred space.
- Anna's successful eye surgery.
- David D. and Leigh W. who donated clothing for a man in need.
- Stephanie L. and a great lunch for those who were hungry.
- Amazing worship this past Sunday.
- For the upcoming holiday weekend...let there be rest!
- Sarah R.- for her gentle, fun Spirit.
- For the blessing of watching our children grow.
- Cassy B. - for just showing up.
- Zac E. - for his leadership.
- Lisa O. - for bringing the medicine of the drum.
- Nora and Cheri - for their gifts.
- Linda G. - successful eye surgery.

*Blessed are those who put their trust in God -  
Psalms 40:4*

**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.