



Agape' MCC Newsletter

September 16 2010

Upcoming Events

Thu September 16:

7pm Spirit Road - on the road @ **1851 Club**, 1851 Division St in Arlington

Fri September 17:

6:30pm Dallas Pride Volunteer Meeting- Please Come!

Sun September 19:

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

Mon September 20:

6:30pm Ministers of Community Care Meeting

Fri September 24:

6pm Samaritan House Supper Club

Sun September 26:

Meet, Eat and Greet (after service) - Our guests eat free!

Wed September 29:

6:30pm New Members Class

Sun October 2:

2pm Pride Parade

Wed October 6:

7pm Spiritual Types led by

Spirit Road This Week

Thu Sept 16

Meet Us @ 1851 Club 7 p.m.

We are out into our community this week. Out into the world where folks need to know that there are spiritual communities that are serious about Jesus' teachings that our goal in this journey is to love God, love each other, and love ourselves without the destructive and divisive doctrine that has for too long left folks "outside" and ostracized from true spiritual community.



We will begin gathering at **7 p.m. to discuss ... "What is connection...and how do you know you've connected?" at the 1851 Club in Arlington...1851 W. Division St. 76012.** So come on out and join us and some folks from The Eucharastrophie, www.theeuc.net, to hang out and explore our journeys.

Dallas Pride March

This Sun Sept 19

Volunteers Needed!

Stacy needs your help, please! We need some volunteers this weekend for the Dallas Pride Event.



Meet with Stacy Jones this Friday

night, Sept 17 @ 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall to prepare for Sunday. Volunteers will load up and head to Dallas at **8 a.m. Sunday morning (to set up in Dallas at 9 a.m.)**. If you can come after church, that would be great, too.

Volunteers need a background check to handle money but no background check is needed to help with merchandise. Stacy needs at least 6 volunteers for set up and tear down.

You may contact Stacy Jones at: simonntig@gmail.com or call her at: 817-680-4083.

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 2

September Statistics

09/05:

Attendance: 131
Offering: \$956

09/12:

Attendance: 87
Offering: \$810

09/19:

Attendance:
Offering: \$

09/26:

Attendance:
Offering: \$

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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:

Meditation Sept 16

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

The Witness of Joy

*Joy is the greatest cleanser, and it is
the greatest testimony to our faith...A
kind face is a precious gift. ~ St.
Francis of Assisi, translation by Daniel
Ladinsky in "Love Poems from God"*



Joy comes in many flavors: delight, happiness, pleasure, bliss, ecstasy, elation, source of pleasure, wonder, and charm. I sometimes think of joy as a state of being happy for no apparent reason, I just am, just being. When I got married many years ago, my wedding music did not include "Here Comes the Bride." I chose instead "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" and people sang it as I came down the aisle. I love the line from that hymn that says: hearts unfold like flowers before Thee. Joy.

Joy as cleanser...my first thought was cleanser like Comet? That seemed a little rough. Then I thought, cleanser like how the air feels and smells after a good rain, like something heavy has been let go of and released, and all is refreshed and renewed. Or how you feel after a good cry, cathartic, emptied, free, and space has been created where joy may live again.

Joy as testimony...I don't care what you say you believe about life, love, God, the universe, if it doesn't make you smile with delight at times then maybe you might want to rethink what you believe. We are not called to be G.D. people of faith - that's grim and determined - our joy should be so apparent and irresistible that everyone wants some of what we have. Practice having a kind face. Practice all day with people you know and people you don't, with people you love being around and people who get under your skin and push all your buttons. Kindness and joy are connected, inextricably linked, inseparable.

Prayer: Creator, may this day bring opportunities to practice kindness and experience joy. Surprise me with joy in unexpected places today. Let laughter bubble up in me like fresh water from a spring. Amen.

From Our Church Treasurer

Church Financial Update

As we begin our preparation for the 4th quarter of 2010, I just wanted to bring you all up to date on where we stand with our Tithes.



We had an amazing tithe commitment drive last year with

Shari Beers
Obrien Real Estate Group

817-996-1631
beershomes@gmail.com
www.Beers-Homes.com

Janna Brown, Master
Photographer

J3 Photographics
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commitments at almost 80% of the overall budget. I wanted to let you know that we our tithes are currently running at 88% of expectation for the year to date. With that data our budget projected us to be at \$100,248.00 in tithe income through August but we have only received \$88,363.83.

We want you to know that we have been working diligently to reduce our spending everywhere possible, while also continuing to help our community through your generosity as folks have hit difficult financial times...thank you!

Your Board of Directors is asking that you prayerfully consider using this time for get caught up with commitments so we can have a strong end to 2010.

Thanks - May God bless and prosper us all.

Billy Stewart
Agape' MCC Treasurer

Music Survey

You Still Have Time to Complete!

Yes, you can still take the Music Survey through next week. To give input to our Worship Team regarding music options at Agape', please click on the link below or click on the link on our agapemcc.com home page.



[Click Here for Survey Link!](#)

New Member Class
29

Sept

Join Rev. David for Class

If you are interested in becoming a member of Agape' MCC, please join Rev. David Wynn on **Wednesday, September 29 at 6:30 p.m.** to hear about where Agape' has been, and where we are going, and where you might be called to in that! .



New Members Class
Wed, Sept 29
Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m.

Open Positions for Election in November!

We need Active Members Willing to Serve as:

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

Please consider prayerfully the positions listed above and contact Rev. David with any questions. Applications are available at the church.

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

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: simonntiq@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.tcgpwa.org/> . If you are interested in working on one of our teams, contact Stacy Jones at simonntig@gmail.com.

Spiritual Types Training 20

Oct 6 &

The Journey Continues

We continue on our journey of discovery - 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.



Our next installment:

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 - please bring your 4 alpha-letter type to the sessions)

Here is the link to the assessment:

<http://humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/JTypes2.asp>

Any questions? Contact Jenny at:

jennycureton@EvolutionsCounseling.com

Prayers

- For Mary C's. sister Elizabeth who was in an accident.
- For healing for Billy S's. sister.
- Continued healing for Pat P.
- For travel mercies for Bob O.
- For Jeramy.
- For healing for Terri N.
- For all of those seeking employment.
- For all of those navigating big life change.
- For everyone celebrating pride in Dallas on Sunday.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- Rev. Teri and her message of joy last week.
- Stephanie L. who gave away her shoes.

- OpenDoor Productions for their dedication and consistent giving.
- Our families.
- For new jobs.
- For true friends.
- Everyone celebrating pride in Dallas on Sunday.
- For those who open their homes and hearts.
- For the healers among us.
- For our children.

*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.