



Agape' MCC Newsletter September 29 2010

Upcoming Events

Wed September 29:

6:30pm New Members Class

Thu September 30:

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

Sun October 2:

2pm Pride Parade

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 2

September Statistics

09/05:

Attendance: 131
Offering: \$956

New Member Class - Sept 29

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 Member Class

New Members Class

Wed, Sept 29

Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m.

Spirit Road This Week - Thu Sept 30

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 devious doctrine that has for too long left folks "outside" and ostracized from true spiritual community.



We will begin gathering at **7 p.m. at the 1851 Club in Arlington...1851 W. Division St. 76012.** So come on out and join us and some folks from The Euchatastrophie, www.theeuc.net, to hang out and explore our journeys.

Meditation Sept 29 - by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Sense of Integrity

Okay is a blanket word for most of us. It covers all sorts of squirmy feelings; and it frequently signals a loss. We officially feel okay, but do we? At the root of a successful creative recovery is the commitment to puncture our denial, to stop saying, "It's okay" when in fact



09/12:

Attendance: 110

Offering: \$810

09/19:

Attendance: 103

Offering: \$3241

09/26:

Attendance: 112

Offering: \$903

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Link on our
[Virtual Store Link](#)

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***it's something else.* ~ Julia Cameron, "The Artist's Way"**

"How are you today?" "I'm okay."

Sound familiar? Pretty typical exchange? I want to be polite and friendly but I wonder how many of my human interactions are at a pretty superficial level. Frequently there is a gap between what my *official* feelings are what I *really* feel.

When I tell you I am okay, what have I really told you? Have I told you I'm sad, mad, or glad? Have I told you I'm numb, pissed off, scared, or pleased? Have I told you anything other than, "thanks for inquiring but you're not getting close to me today?" Shields up.

Now it's probably good that every thought that pops into my head doesn't come out of my mouth. I'm thankful that most folks are not telepathic or I would live in a constant state of mortification. I also know I am not going to be best friends with everyone I meet. However, it seems like I ought to be able to be authentic and caring of others at the same time. Honesty requires that I break through the barrier of "I'm okay" and look at how I'm really feeling about something. Authenticity requires that I risk sharing it with you, and that involves both gain and loss. I gain my own sense of integrity and congruence. I lose the comfort of illusion and ambiguity.

You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free...

Prayer: Beloved, there are many layers of me. Peel off the ones that are no longer helpful, the ones that hide me from myself, from others, from you. Let your light shine more clearly through me today. 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 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 Closes This Friday

You Still Have Time to Complete!

Yes, you can still take the Music Survey through this Friday, Oct 1. 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 www.agapemcc.com home page.



[Click Here for Survey Link!](#)

Tom Thumb Community Bucks

Earn Gift Cards for Agape'

Those of you who shopped at Tom Thumb in September may have received something called Community Bucks. For every \$50 in groceries purchased, you received a Community Buck for the participating Good Neighbor Charity of your choice (that can be us!).



If you received Community Bucks this month, please bring them to Agape' MCC. As your Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Charity of your choice, we will receive \$1 for every Community Buck in the form of a Tom Thumb Gift Card.

We will use these gift cards for turkeys, hams, food baskets, holiday grocery needs, and more during the upcoming holiday season for those in need. Thanks for your generosity!

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

Spiritual Types Training - Oct 6 & 20

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

Pink Sunday - Oct 17

Breast Cancer Awareness

October 17 is Pink Sunday (Wear Pink). The purpose is to promote Breast Cancer Awareness and to encourage self check breast exams. Informational packets will be available at church and, after service, stick around for a short video of Luci Blue's Breast Exam Project. See you there, and remember... **wear pink!**



Prayers

- Recovery for Sherri's pancreas and pain relief for Nora's back.
- Health & love for Danielle and Linda.
- Jade R. for healing and strength.
- Donna H.'s mom and family for healing for her mom and wisdom in choosing cancer treatment that is right for her.
- Healing for Lisa D.'s back and travel mercies.
- For pain relief and healing for Candy D.
- Comfort for David & Rusty as they grieve the loss of a dear friend.
- Strength for Valarie as she supports her son without rescuing.
- Safe, fast, recovery for Cody and all of the Nelson family.
- Rest for Tori & Riley.
- Compassion for the protesters at Pride events.
- We speak a blessing over the Balderrama home with peace and health.
- Travel mercies and rest for Evelyn and Gail as they set out on vacation.
- For those who are training to be holders for Communion.
- For a powerful Pride Parade.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- Zac's scholarship to Tarleton State University.
- New homes for Denise L. , and for Stacy, Susan & Tiff.
- Dawn & Cheri's special moment on the Labyrinth.
- Courtney's return to the land of communication.
- Kathy's weekend with Mickey Mouse.
- Waynell's progress with little Logan.
- For the great meal provided by Mitzi H. at this month's Meet, Greet & Eat.
- For all the volunteers who helped set up and clean up Meet, Greet & Eat.
- The abundance that we have here at Agape'.
- A pain free week for Jackie G.
- Paul F. and his work with our children.
- Praises for Rev. David for his journeying out into the DFW area to teach others about the LGBT community.

- For the Pride Team and all their work on our float and booths.

*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.