



Agape' MCC Newsletter

November 3 2010

Upcoming Events

Wed November 3:

7pm Benedictine Spirituality

led by Rev. Teri Lubbers- Part 1

Thu November 4:

7pm Spirit Road @ Club 1851
in Arlington

Sat November 6:

**8pm OpenDoor Production-
Suede! with Julie Bonk**

(Youth Orchestra Hall)

Thu November 11:

7pm Spirit Road

Fri November 12:

5:30pm Samaritan House
Supper Club

Sat November 13:

10am Perata Memorial Service
1pm Christmas Pictures
Fundraiser

Sun November 14:

12pm Annual Congregational
Forum

Wed November 17:

7pm Benedictine Spirituality

led by Rev. Teri Lubbers- Part 2

Thu November 18:

7pm Spirit Road

Sun November 21:

12pm Annual Congregational
Meeting

Fri November 26:

5:30pm Samaritan House
Supper Club

Sun December 5:

10:30am Worship Service
11:45am Holiday Potluck
Dinner

Sat December 11:

**6-8:30pm Annual Christmas
Talent Show**

Fri December 24:

Benedictine Spirituality - Tonight Wed Nov 3

Led by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Beginning **November 3 at 7:00 p.m.**
and continuing on **November 17** at
7:00 p.m. in the Agape' Social Hall, Rev.
Teri Lubbers will be leading an
introduction to Benedictine Spirituality.



Based on the teachings of Benedict of Nursia, we will be focusing on The Rule which has four aspects: respect for all persons, stability by surrendering to Spirit and openness to change, an orientation to forgiveness, and achieving balance between being silent and active...being alone and in community. Come join us as we engage this beautiful monastic practice and see what this ancient way of Spiritual Formation is still teaching us.

OpenDoor Production - Nov 6, 8 p.m.

See a clip re: Suede by [clicking here!](#)



simply extraordinary music

SUEDE!

with Julie Bonk on piano

If you've not heard Suede
at a women's festival or on a cruise,
she's a pop-jazz-blues vocalist like
Natalie Cole meets Diana Krall meets Bette Midler.
Suede's sassy, classy & FUN!

25th Anniversary tour & a new album

Sat. - Nov. 6 - 8PM
Youth Orchestra Hall, Ft. Worth

Check her out at
suedewave.com

Tickets at www.opendoorproductionstx.com

[Youth Orchestra Hall](#)

4401 Trail Lake Drive
Fort Worth TX 76109
Show starts at 8 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$25

7pm Christmas Eve Service

October Statistics

10/03:

Attendance: 99
Offering: \$1,633

10/10:

Attendance: 89
Offering: \$1,409

10/17:

Attendance: 115
Offering: \$1,765

10/24:

Attendance: 97
Offering: \$849

10/31:

Attendance: 100
Offering: \$2,220

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:

Shari Beers

Obrien Real Estate Group

817-996-1631

beershomes@gmail.com

www.Beers-Homes.com

**Janna Brown, Master
Photographer**

J3 Photographics

817-657-9882

janna.brown@sbcglobal.net

Resolve Conflict, LLC

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

Spirit Road - This Thursday

Join Us at 1851 Club

We will gather at 7 p.m. to discuss "What is YOUR spirit road?" How you personalize spirituality to make it your own at the 1851 Club in Arlington - 1851 W. Division St. 76012.



Pink Sunday Update

Check Out Our Pictures

We had a great time on Pink Sunday, October 17. Check out some photos of the day by [clicking here](#).

And thanks to Grace Gray for organizing the day and for the materials and video she shared.

Native American History Month

We Celebrate in November

What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose. Here at Agape', we are honoring the contributions of the Native American community with spiritual symbols from that culture in our worship space. Please join us in celebrating their contributions this month.



Weekly Meditation - Nov 3 by Rev. Teri Lubbers

An Open Heart

The hardest thing about staying open, for me, is getting back into my heart after I've shut down to survive. Feeling whatever made me want to shut down is a challenge too. Taking care of myself while I'm open is tough. I either get so soft and mushy that I'm an easy target, or I turn into a pit bull. Or sometimes I just get scared of being that vulnerable. I wear myself out, running back and forth between my head and my heart. ~ Melody Beattie, 52 Weeks of Conscious Contact



When I interviewed for CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) as a hospital chaplain they asked why I wanted to do it. I told them that I needed help making the journey from my head to my heart. Logic and all things rational feel so much safer. Risky, vulnerable, scary is how it feels to have an open heart. Who knew it could be such a long journey!

www.resolveconflictionline.com

or call 877-9-2agree



Contact Us At:

www.agapemcc.com

817-535-5002

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

I know how to do the analytical stuff...I am a master in fact. I know how to bracket and compartmentalize (just noticed that word has "mentalize" in it!) in order to function at really high levels. But sometimes those self-made walls start dissolving - without my permission mind you - and my heart insists on having its way. Sometimes the heart says: honey, we can't live in survival mode forever, let's try a new path. Because sometimes the old paths just don't know the way home.

My mom died a couple of weeks ago. It has been a really hard year for my heart. Lots of losses, big and small. Some good advice came in a condolence card I received (and how fitting that the words should come from my teacher, Rumi): Dance when you're broken open. I can't dance yet but, with the love of many, I am standing.

Prayer: God, you draw near with tenderness to all who cry in pain. You do not shy away from my brokenness. Heal my shattered heart and teach me to dance. Amen.

Memorial for Mary Perata - November 13

Rev. Teri's Mom

Please join us for a time of celebrating the life of Mary Perata who passed away on October 16 in Lewiston, Idaho. Mary spent time with us here at Agape' over the years and considered this her spiritual home in Texas. As it was noted in her obituary, *"Mary lived a very colorful and active life (an understatement!). She was compassionate, intelligent, opinionated, articulate, an avid reader and writer with a contagious sense of humor. She was a perfectionist about some things and couldn't care less about others. She was a friend to many, and a courageous advocate for others all her life."* She was clearly one of our people!



Memorial Service at Agape' MCC for Rev. Teri Lubber's mom, Mary Perata, on **Saturday, November 13 at 10:00 a.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.

Holiday Potluck - Sunday December 5

Sign Up Soon!

We will have an **Agape' Family Holiday Potluck on Sunday, December 5**, after morning worship service.



Rusty will be giving more information in upcoming weeks. Look for the sign-up sheets in the church lobby!

Christmas Talent Show - December 11

Come Join Us!

The 2nd Annual Agape' Christmas Talent Show will be held on Saturday, December 11th from 6pm until 8:30pm.

This will consist of a talent show in the sanctuary with treats and fun to follow in the Fellowship Hall. There may even be a visit from Santa! ALL are welcome to attend this free event and if you have a talent you'd like to share in the show that evening, please email Lisa O'Grady at amoreaux2000@juno.com.



Bring your friends and family and join your Agape' MCC family for some holiday FUN!

Bubb Fundraising - Update!

You Still Have Time to Recycle!

We will accept donations till the end of November. WE REALLY MEAN IT :). We will be contacting Bubb regarding a pick-up date at the end of this month.



Bubb now take toys and clothing! All toys and clothes MUST be in boxes (no bags).

Click [here](#) to see list of 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.

Prayers

- For patience, courage, persistence, and clarity for Tommy B.

- Good outcome for Anna R. after surgery.
- Jimmy M.'s sister-in-law who lost most of her material possessions in a house fire last week.
- Jimmy M. who is in his first week on full duty since surgery; plus dedicating most of his week to helping his sister-in-law.
- Gail G. - relief of pain.
- For Rayne's thyroid test results.
- Jamie - big test in Philadelphia.
- Peace in Tori and Riley's house in Garland.
- Lee's certification and externship.
- Stamina for Patti and Sarah as they teach our toddlers.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- Divine Spirit which gave Gail G. patience to show a teen & her mom how to respond after a vehicle accident.
- The people of Agape' who helped bring us the fall gardens and outdoor worship spaces.
- Mistakes, life lessons while trying to be the authentic self.
- Grownups and youth who make Trunk or Treat succeed even in tricky weather.
- Our hard working Fundraisers.
- Our newest welcome sign information.
- The privilege to know Tommie Lee and Homer.
- Excellent medical attention.

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.