



Agape' MCC Newsletter

March 9 2010

Upcoming Events

Wed March 9:

7pm Ash Wednesday Svs

Thu March 10:

9am Yard Work Opportunity!

Fri March 11:

5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

Sat March 12:

10am-2pm Agape' Healing Touch Outreach

6:30pm Fort Worth S.T.E.P.S.

Sun March 13:

Remember- Spring Foward- Set Your Clocks ahead 1 Hour!

Wed March 16:

7pm Gender Identity & the Faith Community

Sat March 19:

6:30pm Men's Fellowship at Rio Mambo

Wed March 23:

7pm Spirit Road: Discover Your Inner Goddess

Sat March 26:

8am Church Spring Cleaning Day!

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead 1 hour this Saturday Night.



Daylight Savings time begins on Sunday, March 13!

Ash Wednesday Service Tonight 7 p.m.

Join Us Tonight, Wed March 9

Join us as we begin the Festival of Lent this year at Agape' MCC. Together we will explore the forty day spiritual journey that leads us through the Festival of Easter.

We start with a contemplative Taize' style prayer and worship experience with stations for meditation, reflection, and receiving ash tonight, Wednesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. For more information about Taize', click here: <http://www.taize.fr/en>



Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Led By The Spirit

Then Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit, to be tempted. ~ Matthew 4:11



The things that tempt us are sometimes blatant but more often they are wily, subtle and nuanced. When Jesus was tempted, the Tempter didn't present him with a naked woman or a basket of gold. Blatant kinds of temptation... No, instead the tests were far more subtle. Things that we also know something about, like the promise of not being hungry, the promise that I won't get hurt, the promise that I can have control over my life and the lives of others.

Hmmm, it doesn't say that the Tempter led Jesus into the desert, does it? It says that the Spirit led him there. Now that is either really scary or really good news. I choose to see it as good news. Temptation is about settling, getting by with the mediocre when we really want the good. It is about bait and switch, drawing us in and then getting us hooked on something we didn't want or need. It is about

Sun March 27:

Noon Meet, Greet & Eat!

Wed March 30:

7pm Spirit Road: Discover Your Inner Goddess

Sat April 9:

8am Race For The Cure- Amazing Grace Team

8pm Dos Fallopia! - OpenDoor Production @ Youth Orchestra Hall

March Statistics

03/06:

Attendance: 122

Offering: \$2,313

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](#)

Business Directory:

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.
www.resolveconflictionline.com

or call 877-9-2agree

distraction from the main thing, keeping us busy worrying where our next meal comes from so we don't ever get around to attending to the sustenance our spirits need. We live by the utterance of God, we breathe by the breath of God.

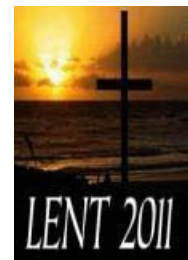
Every time we face a difficulty, a temptation, a painful experience, a crisis we also face a choice. Either we are God's or we are not. Either Spirit is guiding and holding us, or it is not. The events of our lives will continually serve to peel away all the obstacles that would hide God from us. Circumstances are not greater than the One who holds us.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, lead me and help me listen to your voice. Remind me that I am never alone. Never. Amen.

Lenten Series at Agape'

Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places

In our journey toward Easter this ,we are exploring where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, and healing, can REALLY be found. Typically, it is usually not in the "usual" places. Isn't it as true of us today as it was in Jesus' time that we often look for wholeness and happiness (love) in places that offer only temporary "good feelings" and shallow satisfaction? Lent is a wonderfully reflective time to re-assess where we are searching for meaning, for "redemption." We will move with Jesus through the journey to find out who offers the "real deal"...and yes, you will no doubt hear Waylon Jennings and some other country songs...this IS Fort Worth after all!



So come join us beginning Ash Wednesday, March 9, at 7:00 p.m. as we begin looking for love in all the right places.

Property & Gardening Volunteers Needed!

From Board Member Nick Busken:

For those who are interested, we will be starting to **meet each Thursday @ 9:00 a.m. to weed the gardens starting this Thursday the 10th.**



A big **thank you** to the wonderful team that came together to help to tear down the paneling in the sanctuary last weekend. Please also keep Lou & Bailey in your thoughts and prayers.

Clear your calendars - we will be hosting a spring cleaning on Saturday March 26th. This will help to trim back trees, fix honey-do issues at church and help to clear things out to get the church ready for the new tile and carpeting. **Please meet at church at 8:00 a.m.**

Any questions? Please email Nick:
operacub1978@gmail.com

Contact Us At:

www.agapemcc.com

817-535-5002

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Thank You from the Fellowship!

Dear David, Rusty, Kathy, Gail, the "transporters," and all the wonderful folks at Agape' MCC

I cannot even begin to express our gratitude for your loving and amazing care of us while we were there at the Intentional Interim Specialist Training. You provided us with great food, blessed transportation, good facilities, and amazing love. You made it possible for us to hold a training session that will put nine more trained Interims into the pool to help facilitate health in our congregations.



I am sure I don't know all who helped make this happen. Please let everyone involved know how much we appreciate them and what they did for us.

Love, Rev. Margaret Walker

Agape' Healing Touch Outreach

Beginning March 12

We are taking the word "outreach" literally here in the form of offering our hands to you. Beginning Saturday, March 12th, from 10 am until 2 pm, practitioners of energy healing will be available in the Social Hall.



You are invited to come and experience a session without charge. Your privacy will be respected and Ministers of Community Care will be offering support as well.

Our goal is to assist you with your quest for wholeness and balance. Come with an open mind and a trusting heart.

S.T.E.P.S. Youth Meeting at Agape'

This Saturday, March 12

**S.T.E.P.S. Meeting @ Agape' MCC
6:30pm - 9:30pm
Invite the YOUTH!!!**



This will be the first S.T.E.P.S. youth meeting. Agape' MCC will be hosting this meeting in an effort to create a safe space for the GLBTQAI youth of Fort Worth and Tarrant Co. to meet and experience the community that is there for them but often goes unseen due to the conservative environment of the area. Please join us in support. If you are a Youth, please come see the community that stands behind you! Tell us what you need. Tell us what you want to do. We are here to listen.

Gender Identity & the Faith Community

Continues Next Wed, March 16

Rev. David Wynn continues the discussion of Gender Identity and the Faith Community on **March 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall**. Explore the diversity of gender expressions we encounter in our faith community and in life and how we can all learn from one another.



Next Men's Fellowship - Sat, March 19

Men's Fellowship - Sat March 19

6:30 p.m.

Rio Mambo

**6125 SW Loop 820
Fort Worth, TX 76132
817.423.3124 Phone**



See you there!

Spirit Road Presents...

Discover Your Inner Goddess

**by Wichita Falls MCC Interim pastor &
Agape' MCC intern, Mary Cantrell**

**Wed, March 23 and Wed, March 30
at 7pm**



Are you someone who will "risk it all" for love? Or maybe you take particular delight in children...have an unusually deep spiritual life...seek upward mobility...or long for a cabin in the woods. We are all uniquely and exquisitely created by God...a fun way to discover all of who we are is by studying the archetypes of the Greek Goddesses - Aphrodite, Hera, Demeter, Persephone, Athena and Artemis!

The original myth is of Zeus dividing the Goddesses into parts to disempower them as whole beings. Living in a patriarchal society we've been lead to a division of our own parts. If you experience powerlessness, shame, guilt, unworthiness, unlovable issues, the Goddesses provide a guide to confront these weaknesses and find new strengths. As you reintegrate these parts, clarity will come and you can feel less of those negative energies. This will be a time to discover all of the exciting and mysterious parts of your self.

Please complete the questionnaire before the first class. The questionnaire may be found by [clicking here](#).

Questions? e-mail Stephanie Lotz eattheredpill@aol.com

Beyond Bullying

An Elephant In The Room Series Forum

**Beyond Bullying: Empowering
Children, Youth & Adults to Win with
Each Other**
Tuesday, March 29, 2011
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



**First Congregational United Church of Christ
4201 Trail Lake Drive, Fort Worth, TX**

"Why does bullying happen? How can victims fight back? The dynamics of bullying and being bullied are complex, but we can address them effectively to prevent and stop bullying. How do we respond? With love. With care. With truth. With faith.

Please join us as we explore the issues that are involved in the dynamics of bullying and how to address them from a faith perspective. Learn how clergy and congregation members can offer help and healing.

Speakers for the evening include Kathryn Everest - Director of Guidance and Counseling for the Student Support Division of the Fort Worth ISD, co-designer of the It's Not Okay district-wide anti-bullying initiative in place since 2009 and Rev. Cody Sanders - Ordained Baptist minister and a certified counselor through National Board of Certified Counselors. His most recent article, "Why Anti-Gay Bullying is a Theological Issue" was published in the Fall 2010 issue of Religion Dispatches."

The event is sponsored by TACC, Brite Divinity School and First Congregational Church. Cost is \$15. Light refreshments will be served. For more information and to register, please visit their [website](#).

Human Kind Day - April 4



HUMAN KIND DAY
 IT'S ABOUT PEACE.
 IT'S ABOUT TIME!
 APRIL 4, 2011
[HTTP://HUMANKIND.WEBS.COM](http://HUMANKIND.WEBS.COM)

APRIL 3RD: COMMUNITY TRASH CLEAN-UP AFTER CHURCH
 APRIL 4TH: A.M. GROUP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY
 7:00 P.M. KINDNESS ENERGY CIRCLE ON THE
 LABYRINTH

SPONSORS: 

SUPPORTERS: 

 HUMANKINDDAY@YAHOO.COM
 @HUMANKINDDAY
 HUMAN KIND DAY

Race for the Cure - April 9

Coming Soon!

Susan G. Komen
 Race for the Cure

Register or Donate online at:
www.komengreaterfw.org



Amazing Grace Team

April 9, 2011 Ridgemar Mall - Ft Worth TX

Next OpenDoor Production - Sat April 9

See Dos Fallopa on April 9 at Youth Orchestra Hall!
 Tickets: \$20 General * \$40 Reserved * \$25 @ the door
[For online tickets, click here!](#)



Community Bulletin Board

Place Your Ads or Items for Sale Here

From Zac Edwards

- My choir is going to New Orleans, Louisiana, April 14-17. It costs \$475 not including the deposit I have already paid. It will be my last trip with my choir both as a senior and as president. I am willing to "loan myself out" for days that fit both our schedules and work for people in return for help financially. I can be contacted either in person, via email (Zac_Edwards@yahoo.com) or over the phone 817-724-4477.



From Denise LaRae - As many of you know I am in Massage Therapy school at ATI in Dallas. I still need clients to finish my courses. Sooooo....if anyone would like a 50 minute massage and can drive to Dallas...2998 Stemmons Freeway...at the Inwood exit...the cost is \$30. The number to call and schedule massages is 214-989-3001. Just ask for Denise. I do massages from 9 am to- 3 pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday...and will make special appointments (call me personally at 479-285-9899) on weeknights after 4:00 pm if needed.

South Arlington home for rent - with fireplace, 4 bedrooms, 2 full size bathrooms and 2 sky lights in living room with a double car garage. The back yard is a good size and enclosed by a six foot chain linked fence. The living space in the home is approx. 1,400 square feet. Good school district: Ditto Elementary, Young Jr. High and Martin High School. Not far from the major highways 1-20 and 1-30. The rent \$950.00 - very competitive with what homes in this

area are renting for. I am putting it up for rent because my mother is ill and I am having to move in with her on short notice. I can be reached at the following number 817-449-9541 and ask for Dianne.

Rev. David is looking for a flat screen computer monitor for his office. In the spirit of eco-friendliness, if you have one that you are looking to re-source and recycle, please contact him via email revwynn@yahoo.com. Thank you!

Prayers

- Prayers of healing for Lou.
- Prayers of comfort for Bailey.
- Nora's angiogram results.
- Peace in Tori & Riley's Garland home, & peace for Anette.
- An accurate diagnosis & more energy for Rayne.
- Tru & Ashleigh's test results.
- Jenny & Vida's move to Colorado.
- Saturday's launch of Linda's healing touch ministry.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- Praises for the remodeling project and for all who are working diligently to accomplish this.
- Praises for those who "show up".
- Praises for our children and the way they teach us about being real.
- Wren & her Human-Kind Day.
- Melanie filling in for Mickey this Sunday.
- Tonya and her hair ministry.
- Children's worker appreciation lunch at Cheddar's - hosted by Agape'.
- 2 newborn Agape' babies!

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.