



Agape' MCC Newsletter

April 13 2010

Upcoming Events

Thu April 14:

9am Weekly Gardening (to spruce up our gardens & grounds)
7-9pm Easter Music Rehearsal

Sat April 16:

6:30pm Men's Fellowship @ Rusty & David's home- Hamburgers to be served- bring a side dish

Sun April 17:

10:30am Worship Service
12:30-2:30pm Easter Music Rehearsal

Wed April 20:

7pm Centering Prayers & Guided Meditation

Thu April 21:

7pm Prayer Service

Fri April 22:

7pm Good Friday Sve

Sat April 23:

9am Easter Egg Hunt

Sun April 24:

7:30am Sunrise Service
10:30am Easter Celebration
After Service- Easter Lunch

April Statistics

04/03:

Attendance: 88
Offering: \$1,236

04/10:

Attendance: 119

Men's Fellowship this Saturday

Saturday April 16 @ 6:30 p.m.

Men's Fellowship at Rusty & David's home - Grilled Hamburgers provided - You bring a side dish or dessert - Starts at 6:30 p.m.



Questions or Directions? Call Rusty at 817-229-1282

Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

All The Pathways

O God you have come searching for me. You know me inside and out. You know where I rise up and where I fall. Before I think them my thoughts are already clear to you. The track of my journey you discern ahead of me. All the pathways my life shall take are known to you. Indeed before I speak them the meaning of every word is understood by you. I am encircled by your presence, embraced by your hands. These things I can hardly grasp, O my God... ~ from Psalm 139, translated by Lynn C. Bauman



This portion of the Psalms is one of my very favorites...but I suppose it could be read in a number of ways. There was a time when I read it as saying that everything that happened was predestined and ordained by God. I was just along for the ride, but didn't have much of a role to play; the script was already written and ad-libbing wasn't encouraged. Today I read it as saying that all of who I am is known by God, and that I am surrounded by God's presence and that God never lets go of me.

Now I choose to believe that we are co-creators with God. Life doesn't just happen to us, nor is it already written in stone. Rather it is being created moment-by-moment, step-by-step, by you and me and God. I love that the psalmist speaks of "pathways" because I believe our lives potentially hold many possible paths. Each of which await some decision of ours to bring it into being.

Offering: \$2,669

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

Contact Us At:

www.agapemcc.com

817-535-5002

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

We don't need to worry too much about choosing the wrong path. We can't really get lost because God will always come searching for us, encircling us, embracing us, always helping us discern the path ahead. Mostly we just need to start walking...

Prayer: Beloved, your care of me is beyond my comprehension, it takes my breath away, and I am so grateful for it. Give me wisdom to discern and decide which path to take, where we might create today. Amen.

We Need Easter Egg Stuff!!!

Bring These Supplies Soon

Please show your support and gratitude for our children by helping us provide a great Easter egg hunt this year! Next time you are at the store please consider picking up a few bags of **plastic Easter eggs** and some **bags of non melting candy**. We would love to have a big celebration for the children and their parents to show them how much their light means to our church. **We will have a tub in the narthex for us to collect goodies the next couple of Sundays.**



April At Agape'

From Rev. David

While I have always said "when you miss a Sunday at Agape' you've miss a lot!"...you will not want to miss April at Agape' this year! Here's why...

Holy Week will begin with **Passion Sunday** on **April 17**. We will be exploring the Passion of Christ for us and for his message of love and belonging.

We will be re-dedicating our sanctuary as all of our updating and repairs will be complete: paneling is gone; walls are textured and re-painted; old water damage to our ceiling has been repaired and the ceiling completely re-painted; trim is all re-painted and coordinated; new Exit signs, and thermostats are installed; new carpet and tile are installed; light fixtures have been upgraded to eco-friendly solar lighting with additional natural light fluorescent lighting; the exterior soffits that were aging and rotting have all been replaced; exterior lights have been repaired; and all of the exterior trim has been re-painted.

This will be a time to embrace and express our deep gratitude for the past 40 years of our ministry in this space and our excitement and gratitude for the NEXT 40 years! We will also be sending our prayers of thanks to the anonymous donor who made all of this possible...it is a testimony to how much this Saint believes in what we have



done here and what we will do here that they invested so generously in our future.

Wednesday, April 20 at 7 p.m., we will gather in our sanctuary for **Centering Prayer and Guided Meditation**. We will focus on the benefits of relaxation and centering and I will lead us through some guided meditations based on some key events in Jesus' life. Bring pillows, yoga mats, or other soft things to sit or lie down on or feel invited to stretch out or sit in a pew. What better way to prepare our hearts for Easter, Spring, Anniversary and new life!

Thursday April 21, 7 pm your Minister's of Community Care will offer a **Holy Thursday Prayer Service**.

Friday, April 22, 7 pm, Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson will deliver the homily at our Taize style **Good Friday service** based on the Stations of the Cross.

Saturday, April 23, at 9:00 a.m., we will be hosting our annual **Easter Egg hunt** for our children with a special appearance by the Easter Bunny! **Adults and Children- Please come dressed comfortably-** we will also have a **Bounce House** and **Slide**, and will be serving **hamburgers** and **hotdogs** towards the end of these activities!

Sunday, April 24 at 7:30 a.m. we will gather on our **Labyrinth** for our Easter Vigil Sunrise Service with a processional of the Christ Candle into our sanctuary.

At 10:30 a.m., we will have our **Easter and 40th Anniversary Celebration** with our special guest preacher the Moderator of Metropolitan Community Churches, Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson and our Regional Elder, Rev. Elder Lillie Brock, **followed by a celebration lunch on the grounds!**

It is my sincerest hope that you will come and be a part of this transformational time in the life of Agape' MCC. We are going to celebrate and we want to share that with you! Many blessings! *Rev. David*

Easter Time Singers Needed

Calling Easter Week Musicians

You are invited to join us as we prepare special music for Easter. We will rehearse this **Thursday April 14 from 7:00-9:00 and next Sunday after church from 12:30- 2:30** with one more to be scheduled as needed.



Join us as we spread God's love through music. Please email cassybatts@yahoo.com to confirm your hearts desire to participate in this amazing celebration. See you Thursday. Peace, Cassy

Renovation Blessings!

From Our Board of Directors

The Agape' MCC Board wants to extend our thanks for the gifts and blessings of our recent church property renovations. We would like to ask that you, our Church Family, use caution when bringing food or drink items into the Sanctuary and make sure that they are covered to help prevent spillage. Should you bring in a food or drink item and it does spill, please clean it up as best you can and let an usher know so it can be cleaned up properly after church services are over. Please remember that this is God's house and we are all the stewards of it.



Thank you,

Your Agape' MCC Board of Directors

Easter Lunch Info

Bring Your Favorite Dessert!

This year's Easter menu will include fried chicken, baked beans and potato salad to name a few items.

You are asked to provide the desserts! Bring the written recipe along with the dessert - we will collect them use them to publish a special 40th Anniversary Agape' Cookbook later this year!



MCC Global Ministry Easter Offering

A 2nd Offering on Easter Sunday

Greetings Saints, Agape' MCC is proud to join with other MCC Churches in collecting a second offering on Easter Sunday this year. In this place we take very seriously our connections around the world and our mission to tear down walls and build up hope for all! By taking part in MCC's 2011 Easter Offerings for Global Ministries, you make it possible for us to address urgent needs in Russia, the Philippines and Uganda. And these local church offerings represent a new day in MCC. You see, this work is not about North America exporting justice to the world; rather, it's a global MCC impacting our world, including North America, with energy and hope! - from Rev. David

Our Worship Team Recommends

Online Bible Resources

For your study! The worship team at Agape' would like to make some online resources available to you for your personal spiritual explorations. These are resources you can trust as you explore Scripture and for your personal



meditation time. Blessings!

**The Text This Week - Revised Common Lectionary,
Scripture Study and Worship:**

<http://www.textweek.com/>

Out In Scripture Archive:

<http://www.hrc.org/scripture/>

Next Healing Touch Session - April 16

You Are Invited

Are you ready to get some energy circulating? If you would enjoy a session of Healing Touch, Reiki, Massage or a combination of those, please come see us.



Any practitioners who would like to donate time and get some practice in, please join us. We are setting up in the Social Hall at Agape' MCC.

Our first 'clinic' brought out 3 energy practitioners, 2 licensed massage therapists, and several 'clients'. Our goal is to offer the healing arts in answer to the needs of the community. We all need to be whole and well and balanced. We all want to live without pain in body, mind, soul. And we all are worthy ~ we must simply show up.

**Agape' Healing Touch
4615 East California Parkway Fort Worth, TX 76119
11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
Saturday, April 16, 2011**

(and each 3rd Saturday of the month after)

If you have questions or would like more info, please call me - Linda Crear - @ 817-832-0038.

What happens in a Healing Touch or Reiki session?
"...the individual will lie fully clothed on a massage table while the provider gently places their hands slightly above or on the individual. The session generally lasts 40 to 60 minutes, and people frequently report feeling deeply relaxed and peaceful during and after the session." - HealingTouchInternational.org

There is no charge for this outreach and any donations you might wish to make should be directed to David Wynn, Pastor - Agape' MCC.

Sanctuary Lights For You!

This Little Light

If you would like to reclaim a lighting fixture from the church, please see Nick. We are requesting a suggested donation of \$100.00 for each sanctuary light.



Each light still works and we also have the current shades and the original milk glass filters. Any questions do not hesitate to contact Nick at operacub1978@gmail.com.

Community Bulletin Board

Your Ads or Items for Sale Here:

Dear Members, I have been unemployed for the past 7-8 months. If anyone knows of an employment opportunity, please, please, let me know. I live in Weatherford, on west side of Ft. Worth. I have been in property management for the past several years and have also recently been attempting to start a Farmers Agency, however I am not limited to these... please let me know if you hear of anything or have any suggestions. I can be reached at 214.952.8859 ... this is my cell or my email frank.marino96@gmail.com Thank You, Thank You, Thank You ~ Frank Marino



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.

Volunteers needed with good organizational skills, and a strong back. Linda, and I are down sizing in 3 months. I have to have several garage sales over that time period. I am going to need a lot of help sorting and moving things. Lucky for Linda she will be out of town for most of it. If you are interested in helping please call me at 972-366-8034 or 817-487-7283 and we can work out dates and times. Thank you in advance, Janet.

For sale this month antiques! I have 2 wash stands, 2 very small desks, a bar mirror, a small leaded glass bookcase, an ice cream stool, a metal industrial stool that

is so cool. Tons of what knots, most of them are Pegasus in nature, and a few pictures of that animal too. oh and glass bowls. Last but not least a wedding band quilt made in 1890 that is in excellent condition. If you want pictures or are interested in anything please call me at 972-366-8034 or 817-487-7283. Thanks, Janet.

Independent Adoption Center

Interested in Adopting?

Independent Adoption Center (IAC) is a nationwide non-profit domestic infant open adoption agency. The agency began in California and has been around for almost 30 years. The Texas branch, which just opened an office at the beginning of the year, is looking to connect with members of the Texas community that might be able to benefit from having their information.



Information sessions will be held in Houston starting in March and weekend intensive sessions starting in April. Information sessions may also be held over the phone.

IAC websites:

Main: <http://www.adoptionhelp.org/>

Information specifically for LGBT families:

http://www.adoptionhelp.org/gay_lesbian_adoption/

Newsletters:

<http://www.adoptionhelp.org/news/newsletter.html>

New website for birth mothers:

<http://www.iheartadoption.org/>

Prayers

- Leigh's Mom Pat for healing.
- For Mitzi's continued healing.
- Continued healing for Tru and her noggin.
- For all who are caring for aging parents.
- For Jessica, Teri, and Aaron, peace in the journey.
- Healing for Barry.
- Linda G - continued healing and relief of pain.
- Lou N - continued healing and strength.
- Peace for Tammy.
- Strength and energy for Anna.
- For a dear friend who is struggling with relationship.
- Travel mercies for Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson next week.
- Energy and peace for all who are preparing for Holy Week.
- All who are seeking employment.
- For a home.
- For those who teach and love our children.
- For peace in the journey.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- For those who love and care for our church home.
- For those who helped wipe down pews and windows this past Sunday.
- Nick and Paul - masters of the sign.
- Rev. Teresa and Stephanie - their leadership in Creating a Life that Matters.
- Kathy M - and her work in capturing our history here at Agape'.
- All who step up and help hold our vision of community for all.
- For Nikki's rainbow hair.
- Our Healing Touch ministry.
- For celebrating 40 years of Tearing Down Walls and Building up Hope.
- Our Board of Directors...leaders and servants.
- Paul - and his gifts to our children.
- Jessica - and her gifts of hospitality.
- Bob - the "Baby Whisperer".
- Ms. Billie - leader of Guest Relations.
- For Anna and her mark on Agape.

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.