



Agape' MCC Newsletter

June 29 2011

Upcoming Events

Wed June 29:

7pm Space in Your Week

Thu June 30:

6am Weekly Gardening Group

Mon July 4:

Church Office Closed

Wed July 6:

No Mtgs Wednesday night

Thu July 7:

6am Weekly Gardening Group

Sun Aug 21:

12-1:30pm Town Hall Mtg
1:30-4pm Leadership Mtg

Sun Oct 30:

12pm Congregational Forum

Sun Nov 6:

12pm Annual Congregation Meeting

June Statistics

06/05:

Attendance: 109
Offering: \$1,956

06/12:

Attendance: 91
Offering: \$2,273

Space In Your Week - Tonight's Special!

We've Got the Beat!

We will meet tonight for Space In Your Week (since we had five Wednesdays in June). Tonight we gather to drum, rattle, and just relax in each other's company! Please plan to join us in the air conditioned sanctuary and see what Spirit has in store!



ALSO...Space in the week **will not gather on the first Wednesday in July (July 6)** for the 4th of July holiday week. We will return to our usual schedule on July 20! Hope to see you there!

New Church Directory

Time to Sign Up!

Kathy Munn will be updating the printed voluntary Church Family Directory by the end of July. See her after service starting this Sunday to check or update (or add) your information for this directory. Or you can email the information you would like to share with other friends and family at Agape'.

To email your contact information to Kathy, send to: katmunn@yahoo.com. Directory information can be as little as names and phone numbers (or email address) or as much as phone numbers, addresses (mail/email) and names of children, spouse.

Updated directories will be available at the church by the end of July or a pdf copy may be emailed to you.

Weekly Meditation Lubbers

by Rev. Teri

06/19:

Attendance: 102

Offering: \$928

06/26:

Attendance: 76

Offering: \$1,334

Quick Links

[Agape' MCC](#)

[Give to Agape' Online](#)

[Metropolitan Community Churches](#)

Follow Us On:



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](#)

Web Bible Resources

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

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

Out In Scripture Archive:

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

Business Directory:

Shari Beers

**Obrien Real Estate Group
817-996-1631**

beershomes@gmail.com
www.Beers-Homes.com

**Janna Brown, Master
Photographer**

[J3 Photography](#)

817-657-9882

janna.brown@sbcglobal.net

Deep Listening

But how do we listen? It is so simple and so hard. So obvious to begin and so elusive to maintain. In this lies the vitality of deep listening. To keep beginning. Over and over. To keep emptying and opening. And simply to keep listening. For to listen is to continually give up all expectation and to give our attention, completely and freshly, to what is before us, not really knowing what we will hear or what that will mean. In the practice of our days, to listen is to lean in, softly, with a willingness to be changed by what we hear. ~ Mark Nepo, "The Exquisite Risk: Daring to Live an Authentic Life"



Listening is risky business. Listening means you could hear something that could change everything. Listening means showing up without an agenda, without preconceptions, without a sense of knowing where this train is going. We often listen selectively, hearing only what we already believe, ignoring what might challenge or change us.

This morning I remembered a verse I memorized as a child, and realized that it is talking about listening: "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me" (Rev. 3:20). It was always a "salvation" verse to me, but now it speaks to me of an on-going process: listening...opening...inviting Presence in.

Presence...is a choice always available to us. But it is a moment-by-moment rather than once-and-for-all kind of thing. We continually choose - in every situation, every encounter, every unexpected circumstance - whether we will open up, the way flowers open to the sun, We continually choose how attentive we will be, and how deeply we will listen...

Prayer: God, I am listening. Help me keep beginning today. Help me be as present to you as you are to me. All day long. Amen.

Ministers of Community Care Training

New Training Group To Begin Soon

We are pleased to announce the start of a training group for those who are called or wish to explore a call to the ministry of pastoral care. Ministers of Community Care (MCCs) are individuals who have been called and gifted by God to journey with those who seek God's presence and guidance in their lives and who offer care, hope and encouragement for people who reach out for support with life's joys and challenges. The Ministers of



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Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

Community Care team is an extension of the pastoral team and serves a vital role in our growing community.

The training program for our MCCs is approximately four months in length and those who participate in this program are asked to commit to full attendance throughout the training. The training program will cover much of the "how to's" of pastoral care ministry, assist participants in deepening their personal spiritual practices, and will include assistance in discerning God's call.

If you are interested in joining the next training group, or for more information about this ministry opportunity, please contact Rev. David (revwynn@yahoo.com) or Rev. Teresa (revtmallott@yahoo.com) to express your interest or to ask questions.

Agape' Prayer Team Forming

The Spiritual Gift of Prayer

The Agape' MCC Prayer Team is comprised of those who have a spiritual gift of prayer and who wish to participate with others in responding to the prayer needs and prayer requests of our community and the world around us. The Agape' MCC Prayer Team provides peer interaction with others who share this spiritual gift, and embodies the intention to hold our community and our world in prayer at all times.



If you are interested in becoming a member of the Agape' MCC Prayer Team, or if you have questions or would like more information about this new team, please contact Rev. Teresa (revtmallott@yahoo.com) or Lisa Davenport (ladave1983@aol.com).

New LGBT Grief Support Group

You Are Not Alone

VITAS Innovative Hospice Care® offers bereavement support groups to anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. These groups offer understanding, useful information and sharing with others who are grieving.



The next group will be a grief support group specifically intended to meet the needs of the LGBT community, **beginning Wednesday, August 1 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** and continuing for the 5 Wednesdays in August, at Agape' Metropolitan Community Church, 4615 East California Parkway, Fort Worth, 76119. This group will be **led by Chaplain Teri Lubbers.**

To register or for more information, **call the VITAS**

Bereavement Department, 817-870-7070.

Community Bulletin Board

Your Ads or Items for Sale Here

Need a handyman, babysitter, dog sitter, mover, etc? Contact me:
drmline2007@aol.com or 417-225-8288 -
Skye Newkirk



Prayers

- Continued healing for Nora and her brother.
- Prayers for a son who is finding his way.
- Prayers for parents who are struggling to understand.
- Healing for Rev. Teresa.
- For a Vida and Jenny on the journey.
- For a friend with a new beginning.
- Robert R.'s mother, Connie, for healing after surgery.
- Jordan and his fight with brain cancer.
- Dan R. and continued healing.
- Dave H. and continued healing.
- Gary - may he allow God to direct his path.
- All those still needing employment.
- For those who need discernment, may they be still and listen.
- For those who need help in this hot weather.
- For all those who have strayed away, may they find there way back.
- Sam and Patsy G.
- Jim C. stroke rehab.
- Safe travel mercies.
- Lynna and Bev.
- Grace and Linda.
- Kris and Linda.
- Dena and Rosanna.
- Eva and Alli.
- Charlie L. Family.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- Deanie & Letty- celebrating 10th anniversary on July 7!
- Prayers for Rayne's energy level as she continues thyroid treatment.
- Prayers for Agape' moms trying to stimulate & entertain their kids during this hot summer break.
- For those having to cut costs wherever they can.
- Cassy B. - for prayers and peaceful energy.
- For our diverse faith community.
- Deb and Tina's big 5-0 celebration.
- For Celebration Church, Cathedral of Hope, Mid Cities, and all of the affirming, inclusive, and loving

- communities that make space for all people.
- For Paul's reflections on Agape'.
- For Loretta, crowned Queen of the Manilla Iowa, Sesquicentennial Celebration!
- Trish - who was the hands of Christ in generosity.
- Nick...the bead man.
- Cassy, flower bearer and seer of the blooming branches.
- Michael and Mark and all who provided a wonderful lunch this past Sunday.
- Billy - for so many things.
- For opportunities.
- For providing space for CPS for a family visit.
- For providing space for a women's ministry group who is pushing the boundaries.
- For providing sanctuary for all people.
- For Agape love for a grandmother helping her transgender grandchild.
- Family, chosen and bio.
- Skye - house sitting and taking good care of our pups.

*Blessed are those who put their trust in God.
Psalms 40:4*

This Sunday July 3

Order of Worship - July 3, 2011

**The Gathering Song	"Come, Now is the Time to Worship"	Community
Words of Welcome		Rev. David Wynn
Song of Welcome	"Lifesong"	TGFM and Community
Time With Our Children		Rev. Teri Lubbers
A Response	"This Little Light of Mine"	Community
Preparing to Hear the Word	"Word of God Speak"	Community
**Teaching in Scripture	"1 Kings 19: 11-13"	Lisa Davenport
A Response	"Word of God Speak"	Community
A Time of Teaching	"Silence"	Rev. David Wynn
Centering Song	"Hear Our Prayer"	TGFM and Community
Community Prayer		Rev. Teri Lubbers
Prayer Response	"Hear Our Prayer"	TGFM and Community
A Time of Offering		Cassy Batts
Celebration of Holy Communion		Rev. David Wynn
** Sending Forth	"May You Run and Not Be Weary"	Community
**The Sending Forth		Rev. David Wynn

MCC News from Around the World

[MCC Headline News - June 13](#)

[MCC Disaster Relief](#)

Community News and Events

[Path of Empowerment, 3 Part Series - Led by Lynn Wolf, Beginning July 9](#)

[AIDS Outreach Center \(AOC\)](#)

[National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Update](#)

[Samaritan House](#)

[Transgender Education Network of Texas](#)

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.