



Agape' MCC Newsletter

July 6 2011

Upcoming Events

Wed July 6:

7:30pm Wheelers & Walkers
at Gateway Park

Thu July 7:

6am Weekly Gardening
Group

Fri July 8:

5:30pm Samaritan House
Supper Club

Wed Aug 3:

7pm LGBT Grief Support
Group

Wed Aug 10:

7pm LGBT Grief Support
Group

Wed Aug 17:

7pm LGBT Grief Support
Group

Sun Aug 21:

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

Wed Aug 24:

7pm LGBT Grief Support
Group

Wed Aug 31:

7pm LGBT Grief Support
Group

Wheelers & Walkers - Tonight!

**Wheelers & Walkers
Tonight - Wed July 6
@ Gateway Park
7:30 pm**



More information at:

<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=225324980833396>

Saying Goodbye to Jenny & Vida

After Service This Sunday

Vida T. and Jenny C. will be moving out of state later this month. Please come to the Fellowship Hall after Sunday morning service to share a piece of cake and to wish them well and safe journeys.

BEST WISHES
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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

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Sun Oct 30:

12pm Congregational Forum

Sun Nov 6:

12pm Annual Congregation Meeting

Sunday Statistics

06/12:

Attendance: 91

Offering: \$2,273

06/19:

Attendance: 102

Offering: \$928

06/26:

Attendance: 76

Offering: \$1,334

07/03:

Attendance: 103

Offering: \$1,609

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:

Longing For The Ocean

Now I understand that, despite our pressing busyness and endless worry, we need that stillness from which all things grow. Despite our distorted want to be the sun, we are more like plants growing toward the light. Despite our secret want to be in control, we need the armless surrender of a drop longing for the ocean. ~ Mark Nepo, "The Exquisite Risk"



Now, your waterbead lets go and drops into the ocean, where it came from. It no longer has the form it had, but it's still water. The essence is the same. This giving up is not a repenting. It's a deep honoring of yourself. ~ Rumi, "The Essential Rumi"

I know something about longing for the ocean. It has been a bit of hardship living landlocked in North Texas. I grew up within an hour's drive of the ocean. For years when my children were in school, our family would make an annual pilgrimage to the Atlantic Ocean from wherever we lived. As we would drive across the causeway that connected the mainland of North Carolina with the barrier island, something would open up in me, some new kind of expansiveness, an excitement and anticipation of seeing the vastness of ocean for the first time again. What it always felt like was coming home.

There are many things that press us, that worry us, that drain our precious time and energy and attention. We worry about children and parents, partners and co-workers and bosses, money and houses and cars, health and love and purpose. But in the midst of all of that there is a stillness, a quiet place of light that we are growing into. An ocean that all our little drops are longing for. We are longing for home.

How curious that the things we most long for sometimes are out of reach because we are not willing to surrender. What do we need to surrender? All the shoulds, oughts, musts with which we saddle ourselves regularly. Usually we stop only when we are physically, emotionally and spiritually exhausted. What if we started surrendering before we reached that point of exhaustion?

So, just for today, I will be a small plant, content to reach for the light. Just for today, I will be a small waterbead, content to flow into the ocean. Just for today...

Prayer: Maker of all-that-is, I surrender into you. Be the sound of ocean to my ear, the light of sun to my eye, and the taste of salt on my tongue. Amen.

Ministers of Community Care Training

<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 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!](#)

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 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 3 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

- Kathy M. - loss of her dog Chia last week.
- For all those experiencing loss.
- Increased healing for those recovering from illness or surgery.
- Peace for troubled times.
- Safe journeys for friends and family who are traveling.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- For our church family.
- A happy birthday this week for Rev. David.

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

This Sunday July 10

Order of Worship - July 10, 2011

****The Gathering Song**

"Step By Step"

Community

Words of Welcome

Rev. Robert Myers

Song of Welcome

"Lifesong"

TGFM and Community

Time With Our Children

Trish Penland

A Response	"This Little Light of Mine"	Community
Preparing to Hear the Word	"Word of God Speak"	Community
**Teaching in Scripture	"Micah 6:8 & Romans 10:14-15"	Mark Howell
A Response	"Word of God Speak"	Community
A Time of Teaching	"Journey"	Rev. Robert Myers
Centering Song	"Hear Our Prayer"	TGFM and Community
Community Prayer		Rev. Teresa Mallott
Prayer Response	"Hear Our Prayer"	TGFM and Community
A Time of Offering		Cassy Batts
Celebration of Holy Communion		Rev. Teri Lubbers
**Sending Forth	"We Are Called"	Community
**The Sending Forth		Rev. Robert Myers

MCC News from Around the World

[MCC Headline News - July 5](#)

[MCC Disaster Relief](#)

Community News and Events

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

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

[The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation \(GLAAD\)](#)

[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.