



Agape' MCC Newsletter

July 20 2011

Upcoming Events

Wed July 20:

7pm Space In Your Week

Thu July 21:

6am Weekly Gardening Group

4pm Funeral - Rev. Wynn presiding

Fri July 22:

5:30pm Samaritan House Supper Club

Sat July 23:

11am-2pm Healing Touch

Sun July 24:

10:30am Worship Service

Noon Meet, Greet & Eat and Camp Rosales Carwash!

Mon July 25:

5:30pm Worship Team

Thu July 28:

6am Weekly Gardening Gr

Wed Aug 3:

7pm LGBT Grief Support Group

Wed Aug 10:

7pm LGBT Grief Support Group

Wed Aug 17:

7pm LGBT Grief Support

Space In Your Week - Tonight July 20

A Time of Respite

If we are to take seriously the voice of the church in conversation with our world...then we must begin to be a people who speak to the need we all have to slow down, unplug, and take intentional time away for prayer, meditation, listening, and centering. Join us tonight for a time of respite tonight hosted by Rev. David in our sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.



Weekly Meditation

by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Inhabit the Fullness of Spirit

...in the Polynesian creation myth...the Tahitian God, Ta'aora, sleeps in a shell, wakes, and standing, breaks the shell only to create the earth. Not long after, he sleeps and wakes again to find himself in yet another shell, and standing again, he breaks this shell, creating the moon. This continues until all of creation has been born...It is the way the God within sleeps and wakes and stands in each of us, repeatedly breaking what has encircled us in order to birth us into a larger experience of life. We all live this way: co-creating the world by birthing the God within. Like a series of cocoons, each phase of life has its own thinking that must be shed if we are to inhabit the fullness of spirit we are given. Interestingly, the shells once broken are not discarded, but transform into the geography of a larger Universe - only limiting and suffocating if we allow any one to become our entire world. ~ Mark Nepo, "The Exquisite Risk"



There are a number of sea creatures that live their lives in a series of shells...as they outgrow one, they leave it and move into another. We are not so different, except the shells we inhabit are not visible to the human eye. There are the ways we protect ourselves, guard ourselves, defend ourselves. Certainly such shells keep us safe for a time, but at some point what has served us so well becomes constraining, constricting and limiting. We reach

Group

Sat Aug 20:

11:30am-3pm Back to School Bash

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

Fri Sep 30:

8-10pm Suzanne Westenhofer- Sheraton Hotel Ballroom

Sun Oct 30:

12pm Congregational Forum

Sun Nov 6:

12pm Annual Congregation Meeting

Sunday Statistics

06/26:

Attendance: 76
Offering: \$1,334

07/03:

Attendance: 103
Offering: \$1,609

07/10:

Attendance: 94
Offering: \$3,358

07/17:

Attendance: 111
Offering: \$1,614

Quick Links

[Agape' MCC](#)

[Give to Agape' Online](#)

this crucial tipping point of critical awareness. The point where we know something no longer fits us, but we hesitate to vacate the too-small-space because the next home-shell-space is not yet apparent. Being a soft, tender, vulnerable creature scares us and sometimes keeps us in places we have long outgrown.

So here is faith I think...I believe that God will continually break what has encircled us in order to birth us into something larger. Faith believes something larger exists. Faith trusts that life is a progression of phases to be learned from and let go of. Each phase a nurturing cocoon that furthers our on-going transformation, moves us bit-by-bit toward this space that is no-space, in which we inhabit the fullness of spirit, our birthright...

Prayer: Beloved, I can barely imagine what this fullness of spirit might be, but you give me glimpses of it. Help me trust thee inner flashes of sight that you give, let there be no part of me that would hush the voice of your Spirit's call and invitation to move fully into life this day. Amen.

Healing Touch - Saturday March 23

We're Baaaaack! And You're Invited

What: Healing Touch [energy work and massage]

When: Saturday, July 23 from 11 am until 2 pm [no appointment necessary]

Where: Agape' MCC (Social Hall)
4615 E California Pkwy
Fort Worth Texas 76119

Why: To relax, let go, re-balance, heal

And remember it is free of charge, open to all and confidential. Our Ministers of Community Care will also be on hand for you. Mark the date on your calendar as a time for self-care. *Be good to YOU.*

We look forward to seeing you. Contact us if you have questions: 817-832-0038 or yogilindi02@yahoo.com

Peace/Namaste', Linda and Denise

Car Wash Fundraiser This Sunday!

Camp Rosales Fundraiser After Church

Bring your car around (during "Meet, Greet and Eat") after Church this Sunday. Our Youth and Children will wash it while you eat! Donations appreciated and will go toward sending Children and Youth of Agape' MCC to Camp Rosales this summer (make checks payable to



[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 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

Agape' MCC with "camp fund" written on the memo line).

!!Children and Youth be sure to bring water clothes!!

Life Pantry - New Ministry Opportunity

Beginning at Agape' MCC

The Life Pantry is now gathering food and various items for those in need in our community. In August, we will begin a bi-monthly pantry where people from the community who have fallen on hard times or simply cannot afford basic necessities can come to Agape' MCC and receive help in the way of food and other household items. A copy of the suggested donations list are on our website - [click here to see the list](#).



For more information, contact Wren Wynn at wrenqwo@yahoo.com.

Rainbow Room Back Pack Drive

3rd Annual School Supplies Drive

We are collecting monetary donations for BackPacks for The Rainbow Room and CPS. Make Checks out to Agape' MCC and be sure to put "3rd Drive" on the memo line.



Update from Our Treasurer

by Billy Stewart

How Are We Doing?

As we reach the midpoint of 2011 I wanted to take a moment to let you know how our church is doing. As of the end of June our net is \$962.18 over budget which is very good and I pray Spirit will bless us even more.

As I announced during the Congregational Meeting, we set the budget at a minimum level "to maintain" and that we would leave it to the spirit of our congregation to add growth. As we go through the remainder of the year, I encourage each of us to vision where we are and where you would like our church to be and allow Spirit to lead your giving. The economy is still challenging for many of us, but by the Grace of God who hears our prayers and knows what is in our hearts, we can still grow and achieve new goals.

I invite you to a time of intentional prayer around Agape's growth and opportunities. May God bless you and your family which in turn blesses our church home.

New Church Directory

Time to Sign Up!

Kathy Munn will be updating the printed voluntary Church

Join Our Mailing List!

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.

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.**

Back to School Bash - August 20

Come Join the Fun

- When- Saturday 8/20
- Time- 11:30am ~ 3 pm
- Where- Agape' back yard
- What-
 - Cookout
 - Music
 - Fun Activities



Stay Tuned for More Information Soon!

OpenDoor Productions Presents:

Celebrating 30 Years of **GAY PRIDE**
in **Tarrant County!**

OpenDoor Productions Presents:



A COMEDY NIGHT
with

**SUZANNE
WESTENHOEFER!**

SEMI-SWEET

Friday

Sept. 30, 2011

8:00pm-10:00pm

Sheraton Hotel Ballroom
1701 Commerce Street
Fort Worth, TX

Followed by a **DANCE**
10:30pm - 2:00am

TICKETS:

Comedy Show & Dance

General Seating: \$25

Reserved Seating: \$45

At the door \$30

Buy Tickets: OpenDoorProductionsTX.com
Information: 817-637-8263



Order Tickets online by [clicking here](#)

Community Bulletin Board

Your Ads or Items for Sale Here

Rev. Teri is looking for a **temporary (4-5 months) or permanent home for her dog Lola**. Lola is an 80 pound black lab mix, well-trained in the house, loves people, sometimes loves other dogs.



Also from Teri: Anyone **need a working washer and dryer? Available for pick-up July 30 or 31.**

Contact Teri at tlubbers@yahoo.com or 817-300-7648.

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

Need Help.. I need help with my swimming pool. I am unable to get it maintained.. Help.. Call me at 817-996-8152
Thanks! Mitzi: westieluvnlady@yahoo.com

For Sale: Home - 1902 Delta, Arlington TX - Awesome location! 4BR, 3Bath, Laundry Room and 2 car garage with work space. One owner home built in late 70's or early 80's. Mature trees, fenced back yard. Patio access from master bedroom. This is the last step needed to close out my mother's estate. The house has great energy and lots of potential. New A/C, refrigerator, washer and dryer included. \$150,000. Call Mike (realtor) 817-548-6000.

Prayers

- For Andre who is living with AIDS.
- Healing for a co-workers wife, Sarah who has been diagnosed with a brain tumor.
- Chris and Sunshine - looking for employment.
- Teresa M.'s brother - hospitalized with severe dehydration and respiratory distress; and for his family.
- For a girlfriend going through a divorce and custody decisions around children.
- Ex-soldier Richard W. - who is healing from wounds of war.
- Kendal - who needs a liver.
- Rico and wife - who both need healing.
- Peace for Val worried about her son.
- Comfort for Trish's neighbors as they grieve the loss of their baby.
- Healing for Lou who has Parkinsons disease and comfort and strength for her partner Joyce.
- Cool breezes for Dawn & Cheri as they endure broken AC - again.
- Restoration for Larissa after a hard week.
- Healing for Jeff's (Tonya's brother in law) kidney failure - got dehydrated working in this heat.
- For Vida & Jenny as they start their new life in Colorado.
- For Spirit's "Healing Touch" to flow thru Linda & Denise this Saturday.
- Stamina for Agape' moms & dads - 5 more weeks till school starts.
- Healling for Kris and Linda's dog L.E.
- For badly needed RAIN.
- For all who are traveling.

God, hear our prayers.

Praises

- For Rev. Teresa and Skye on drums last Sunday.
- Trish and Amy and the gift of music and sign.
- For a community who cares.
- Nick - Master of the Beads.
- Kathy and Nick with hammer and creamer...yes the Hazelnut creamer is now dispensing.
- For our children and their spirals.
- For Sarah and what she brings to our pre-school children.
- Kim M.'s new & hopefully better job.
- The Trans-cendence kick off concert & for all who helped.

- For the struggles that strengthen our wings.
- For those who have found their way back home to Agape'.

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

This Sunday July 24

Order of Worship - July 24, 2011

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| **The Gathering Song | "Tis a Gift to be Simple" | Children and Community |
| Words of Welcome | | Rev. David Wynn |
| Song of Welcome | "Gather Us In" | TGFM and Community |
| Time With Our Children | | Paul Fucile |
| A Response | "This Little Light of Mine" | Community |
| Preparing to Hear the Word | "Word of God Speak" | Community |
| **Teaching in Scripture | "Matthew 6: 25-26, 28-29, 33-34" | Evelyn Brown |
| A Response | "Word of God Speak" | Community |
| A Time of Teaching | "Pathway of Simplicity" | 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 | | Rev. David Wynn |
| Celebration of Holy Communion | | Rev. Robert Myers |
| **Sending Forth | "We Are Called" | Community |
| **The Sending Forth | | Rev. David Wynn |

MCC News from Around the World

from Lay Delegate Kathy Munn

[MCC Headline News July 19 2011](#)

[MCC Two Opportunities for Young Adults](#)

[MCC New Organizational Structure](#)

[MCC Disaster Relief](#)

Community News and Events

from Lay Delegate Kathy Munn

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

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

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

[Samaritan House](#)

[Trans-cendance / Trans Support Center of Fort Worth](#)

[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.